

Deputy Imbrogno's Town Hall Remarks

Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Event time: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Victoria College Chapel, 2nd Floor, Victoria College, 91 Charles Street West

[Slide 1 – Title slide]

- Good morning, everyone.
- Thank you very much for being here and welcome to today's town hall.
- I would like to thank the Secretary of Cabinet, Steve Orsini, for joining us today.

Pause [Applause]

- Before I speak about some of our accomplishments at the Ministry, I want to give Steve some context on electricity policy in Ontario.

[Slide 2 – Title slide of overview deck]

- I am often called to Steve's office to explain some of the more perplexing issues in the energy sector. I have some slides today, which were prepared for the Ministry by a consultant, that demonstrate that most of these issues predate my time at the Ministry of Energy.

[Slide 3 – Hydro Circus]

- The Hydro Circus. Although the title can describe many things about our sector, the slide focusses on the issue of surplus power in 1912 and ways to increase demand. In this case, Beck organized a tour across the province to show people the latest in electrical appliances.

[Slide 4 – Clarkson Report on Finances]

- The next slide shows that in 1920 an independent auditor was brought in to sort out financial matters between Hydro and the Province. It shows that finances and accounting issues have always been part of the electricity sector.

[Slide 5 – Sir Adam Beck]

- The next slide talks about the death of Sir Adam Beck and his famous death bed quote:
- “I wish I could have lived long enough to build a band of iron around Ontario Hydro to keep it safe from the politicians.”
- Of course this shows that electricity policy and politics, were, and will always be, inextricably linked.

[Slide 6 - OFHP]

- I hope you’ve enjoyed your tour of history because now I’d like to talk about energy today.
- And more specifically, I’d like to thank everyone in the Ministry of Energy for the work that has been accomplished over the past year.
- I think we can all agree that we’ve been very busy.
- From launching Ontario’s Fair Hydro Plan...

[Slide 7 - LTEP]

- To releasing the 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan...
- Along with many other projects, announcements and initiatives...

[Slide 8 – Ministry accomplishment collage]

- Here are some of the highlights:
 - ADM Steen Hume and his team at ESP successfully led the work overseeing the Darlington Refurbishment, helping to draft the first Fuels Technical Report, and conceptualizing and modeling the Global Adjustment refinancing.
 - SNAP also had a busy year with ADM Carolyn Calwell and her team securing \$1.6 billion dollars in federal funding for the connection of remote First Nations to the grid. In addition, the

- Indigenous Community Energy Symposium was a huge success with 300 attendees from First Nation communities across Ontario.
- And at CRED, ADM Kaili Sermat-Harding and her team made enhancements to Ontario's net metering regulation, implemented the Affordability Fund in record time, and secured Ontario's next round of energy efficiency regulations.
 - Everyone in the ministry contributed to these and other accomplishments.
 - Communications did an excellent job with the marketing campaign for the Fair Hydro Plan and improving the ministry's public profile on social media by creating Facebook and LinkedIn accounts that complement the ministry's Twitter handle.
 - CSD delivered the ministry's 2018-19 Program Review, Renewal and Transformation submission, launched several initiatives supporting inclusion and mental health awareness within the ministry as part of the Engagement Action Plan, and upgraded the entire digital hardware inventory – moving us from desktops to laptops. And I'm also proud that our FOI team achieved an 89 percent compliance rate.
 - Legal also played a significant role in a number of initiatives including supporting net metering enhancements, drafting the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan Act, supporting the MOU for the Watay transmission project, and the wind-up of Brampton Holdco.
 - And of course, I'm grateful to everyone in my office who contributed to making all these important projects a success.

[Slide 9 – Charitable work]

- I also want to recognize that we are a ministry with a big heart. Whether it's contributing to the OPS wide food and toy drives, or coming out to

support the United Way and Federated Health charity campaigns, your generosity does not go unrecognized.

[Slide 10 — What's Next?]

- I'm proud of our team here – the high-profile work that we do touches each and every Ontarian in some way.
- We've grown from a 139 million dollar ministry to an almost 2 billion dollar one – with a corresponding increase in the scope and complexity of our files.
- We've demonstrated that people have confidence in us and our ability to manage a healthy, robust and reliable electricity system.
- Thank you all for your commitment and dedication to public service.
- Over the coming weeks, I know we'll all be busy preparing for transition – creating foundation decks, issues notes and other materials – as we look toward the future and the upcoming election.
- Because no matter who our minister is, the minister's office will continue to look to us for advice.
- I am confident that this professional, experienced team will serve them well and develop a strong, positive working relationship.
- And I want to thank you in advance for the work ahead.

[Slide 10 – OPS of the Future]

- Now, I'd like to switch focus to the OPS.
- We are very lucky to have the Secretary of Cabinet and Head of the Ontario Public Service, Steve Orsini, with us this morning to speak about the OPS of the Future project.

[Slide 11 – SoC]

- We all know Steve as a great champion of ministries embracing transformation
- And today, he's here to tell us more about a project that is creating a shared, unified vision – one that will help drive positive change in the OPS.
- Please join me in welcoming Secretary Orsini.