

QP Newsletter: QP Briefing and Queen's Park Today

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Please find attached the September 13, 2016 issue of QP Briefing and Queen's Park Today.

QP Briefing :

- * (p.2) Your Morning Briefing
- * **Headlines**
 - * (p.2) Not all Grits, apparently, are pleased with some of the content of The Big Speech, as [the Toronto Star](#) notes.
 - * (p.2) A hot sauce maker in North Bay is turning the heat up on Premier **Kathleen Wynne** by plastering her "snarling" caricature on to hydro-themed labels. [As the Nugget reports](#)
- * In the Opinion Pages
 - * (p.3) [David Reevely thinks](#) the hydro sales tax rebate is an attempt to appease the voter-gods.
 - * (p.3) [Martin Regg Cohn says](#) "everyone loves a tax cut. Even a pretend one."
 - * (p.3) [Margaret Wente dubs](#) the Premier a reverse-Robin Hood.
 - * (p.3) [Matt Gurney reminds](#) readers the Liberals spend a lot of time fixing Liberal solutions
 - * (p.3) [Christina Blizzard isn't](#) convinced by so-called provincial white knights.
- * Events
 - * (p.4) 10 a.m. **Glenn Thibeault**, Minister of Energy, will make an announcement on reducing electricity costs for families and businesses in rural and northern Ontario. Greater Sudbury Utilities

Queens Park Today

- Today in Queen's Park

- o **Throne speech**

- § (p.1) The government will introduce legislation this fall to provide residential, farm and small business electricity ratepayers with a rebate equivalent to the provincial portion of the HST, beginning January 2017.

- § (p.1) Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** said the rebate will cost the government approximately \$1 billion per year.

- § (p.2) The government will also expand the Industrial Conservation Initiative program, which provides medium and large-sized companies with financial incentives to use electricity during off-peak hours.

- **Today's events**

- o (p.2) Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** will make an announcement on reducing electricity costs in rural and northern Ontario at Greater Sudbury Utilities

- **News briefs – Non-governmental**

- o **Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario**

- § (p.3) PC leader **Patrick Brown** said the removal of the provincial portion of the HST from hydro bills is a "Band-Aid solution" because the Liberal Party's failed energy policies will continue to drive electricity rates up.

- o **New Democratic Party of Ontario**

- § (p.4) Andrea Horwath said, rather than offering an eight per cent rebate to ratepayers, the government needs to permanently remove the HST off of hydro bills:

- § (p.4) Horwath campaigned on eliminating the HST from hydro bills in the 2010 election against former premier **Dalton McGuinty**

- **Green Party of Ontario**

- o (p.4) Green Party leader **Mike Schreiner** called the hydro subsidy a "bad policy" and accused the Liberal Party of using taxpayer dollars to buy votes.
 - o (p.4) The Green Party said the government should focus on policies that provide support for people to "save money by saving energy."

- **Canadian Taxpayers' Federation**

- o (p.4) The Canadian Taxpayers' Federation said Wynne's throne speech fails to "tackle the root causes of Ontario's energy crisis."
 - o (p.4) CTF Ontario director **Christine Van Geyn** said the hydro subsidy "provides the government with political relief instead of providing Ontarians with real relief for their hydro rates."