

QP Newsletter: QP Briefing and Queen's Park Today

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Attachments: September 29, 2016 — Daily Report.pdf (150.72 kB); Briefing for September 29.pdf (524.85 kB)

Please find attached the September 28, 2016 issue of QP Briefing and Queen's Park Today

QP Briefing :

- **(p.2) Your Morning Briefing**
- **(p.2) Article:** Thibeault defends decision to end new green power procurement, keep nuclear plants running

Queens Park Today

Quotation of the day

- o "Is the premier hoping to distract from her decision to sell off Hydro One by helping to privatize local utilities like Toronto Hydro?"

§ (p.1) NDP deputy leader Jagmeet Singh asks about the premier's role in

Toronto Hydro privatization talks during question period

Today in Queen's Park

o Debates and proceedings

§ In the morning, MPPs continued debate on the time allocation motion on Bill 13, Ontario Rebate for Electricity Consumers Act. The motion was voted on and passed with Liberal support (Ayes 50; Nays 38).

Question period

o PC questions

§ (p.2) PC leader Patrick Brown asked why the premier said in a radio interview that high hydro prices are “worth it?”

§ (p.2) Brown asked whether high rates are “worth it” if small businesses are being forced to close because they are paying upwards of \$13,000 per month for energy.

§ (p.2) Premier Kathleen Wynne said the province no longer has smog days and the rebuilt system is 90 per cent clean, so “It’s worth it.”

o NDP questions

§ (p.2) NDP deputy premier Jagmeet Singh asked whether the premier is helping Toronto City Council prepare for the sell-off of Toronto Hydro.

§ (p.2) Singh said Wynne denied making behind-the-scenes plans to sell off Hydro One in 2014 and is now dodging simple questions about Toronto Hydro in the same way.

§ (p.2) Wynne said Singh will have to talk to elected officials in Toronto for answers to questions about Toronto Hydro.

§ (p.2) NDP MPP Peter Tabuns asked why the Liberals are abandoning renewable energy when the reason hydro bills are going up is because of hydro privatization.

§ (p.2) Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault said the province isn’t abandoning renewable energy, citing the ongoing FIT program and microFIT program and the incoming net metering program.

In the Park

- o (p.3) The Canadian Propane Association held an advocacy day and reception at Queen’s Park.**

Topics of conversation

- o (p.3) Rural municipal leaders are “ **thrilled** ” the government suspended further green energy projects.
- o (p.3) The Ontario Energy Board **ruled** this week that beginning with the roll out of the cap-and-trade program on January 1, 2017, natural gas companies must provide a breakdown of the costs related to cap-and-trade on tariff sheets on their websites.
- o (p.3) As announced in June, the cost increases will not appear as a line item on customers’ bills.

Today’s events

- o September 29 at 10:00 a.m. — *Waterloo*
 - § (p.4) NDP leader Andrea Horwath and MPP Catherine Fife will meet with a Waterloo resident to discuss the unaffordability of her hydro bills.

Polls

- o *Polls split on impact of Liberal throne speech*
 - § (p.5) *Polling data from Innovative Research Group, commissioned by the Ontario Energy*
 - § (p.5) *Association and **published** in the National Post, found Ontarians “have never been this angry.” The majority of those polled “strongly disagreed” with the statement “Consumers are well-protected with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service in Ontario.*