

Queen's Park Today – Daily Report October 20, 2017

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Quotation of the day

“Forcing people to show their faces when they ride the bus, banning women from wearing a niqab when they pick up a book from the library will only divide us.”

Premier Kathleen Wynne rises in the House to denounce Quebec's Bill 62

Today at Queen's Park

On the schedule

MPPs are adjourned until 10:30 a.m. on October 23.

Debates and proceedings

MPPS convened at 9:00 a.m. to continue second reading on **Bill 166**, Strengthening Protection for Ontario Consumers Act.

Before question period, representatives from all three parties, including Premier **Kathleen Wynne**, rose to condemn Quebec's passage of **Bill 62**, which requires people to uncover their faces when receiving public services, including riding public transit. The bill is intended to “foster adherence to state religious neutrality.” NDP MPP **Peggy Sattler** pointed out the bill disproportionately affects minority women.

Later in question period, Liberal MPP **Shafiq Qaadri** referred to **Bill 62** as the “latest example of Trumpism in the province of Quebec.”

Liberal MPP **Lou Rinaldi** introduced **Bill 170**, Child Abuse Prevention Month Act.

Three bills were debated during private members' business in the afternoon:

- Liberal MPP **Mike Colle**'s legislation, **Bill 162**, Insurance Amendment Act (Life Settlements), passed by voice vote and was referred to the Committee of the Whole House.
- Liberal MPP **Arthur Potts**'s legislation, **Bill 167**, Fairness in Consumer Reporting Act, passed by voice vote and was referred to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy.
- Liberal MPP **Cristina Martins**' legislation, **Bill 168**, Putting Your Best Foot Forward Act, passed by voice vote and was referred to the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills.

Wynne to co-host Great Lakes conference

Premier **Kathleen Wynne** heads to Windsor on Friday alongside Michigan Governor **Rick Snyder**. The two leaders are co-hosting the Conference of Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers Leadership Summit.

Wynne, Snyder and the heads of Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Québec and Wisconsin will meet Friday in the Art Gallery of Windsor and on Saturday and Sunday in Detroit. Environment and Climate Change Minister **Chris Ballard** will also attend and speak on a panel about the circular economy.

While the bilateral conference, which formed in 2015, traditionally focuses on issues such as marine transportation, trans-boundary environmental impacts, invasive species and water stewardship. This year's theme is "Creating the Future" with a focus on regional competitiveness, transportation and infrastructure, the environment and tourism.

Amidst tense NAFTA renegotiations this year's event carries special weight. In a statement on NAFTA auto talks released earlier this week, Wynne said the summit will "be another great opportunity to strengthen our partnerships at the state and provincial level so that we can defend our workers' interests in these ongoing trade negotiations."

Topics of conversation

- In Wednesday's meeting of the Standing Committee on Estimates, which is studying the Ministry of Energy, NDP MPP **Peter Tabuns** put forward a motion requesting the IESO, OPG, OEB and the MOE produce all documents related to the Fair Hydro Plan in a searchable PDF format within 10 days. The Liberal members of the committee voted to defer consideration of Tabuns' motion.
- Here is the Toronto region's [official submission](#) to the Amazon HQ2 RFP.
- Reuters reports that New Jersey is offering Amazon \$7 billion in tax credits to locate its second campus in their jurisdiction. California is offering up to \$300 million.

- Independent MPP **Jack MacLaren** sponsored a press conference with the Campaign Life Coalition in the Queen's Park media studio on Thursday afternoon following the organization's appearance at the Standing Committee on General Government's hearings on **Bill 163**.
 - Well-known white supremacist **Paul Fromm** was also scheduled to appear in front of the committee on **Bill 163**.
 - Attorney General **Yasir Naqvi** told reporters Fromm was not invited by any of the parties; witnesses on **Bill 163** were selected on a first-come first-serve basis. The committee later voted to remove him from the speaker list ahead of his scheduled time.
- Following the death of a cyclist in Parkdale on Wednesday, NDP MPP **Cheri DiNovo** is calling on the government to enact **Bill 158**, Protecting Vulnerable Road Users Act, "swiftly and without delay." **Bill 158** increases penalties on motorists that commit dangerous driving offences.
- Advocates are [warning](#) that Nestlé is extracting about five million litres of water per day from sites in Aberfoyle and Erin even though its water-taking permits have expired. The Ministry of the Environment told *Vice News* the permits remain in effect while new permits are being processed to meet "new technical requirements."
- The Ontario PC Party will host a province-wide door-canvassing spree on Sunday.

Today's events



October 20 at 9 a.m. — Oshawa

Transportation Minister **Steve Del Duca** will be joined by representatives from Metrolinx and Via Rail Canada to make an announcement at the Oshawa Go Station.



October 20 at 12 p.m. — Brampton

Unifor will hold a NAFTA renegotiation rally outside Liberal MP **Ruby Sahota's** office. The union is arguing for a deal that helps auto sector workers in all three countries covered by NAFTA.



October 19 – 20 — Edmonton

The annual gathering of provincial, territorial and federal health ministers will take place in Edmonton. The meeting is expected to focus on opioid addiction and cannabis legalization.

News briefs — Governmental

Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services

The ministry held its first Cannabis Legalization Enforcement Summit on Thursday. The event brought together police officers and public health officers to discuss the enforcement of incoming cannabis laws, including drug-impaired driving. In a joint statement Attorney General **Yasir Naqvi** and Community Safety Minister **Marie-France Lalonde** pledged to ensure Ontario's police services "have the support, tools, and resources they need to keep our roads and communities safe."

The ministers also committed to making sure all illegal cannabis retail stores and dispensaries "are shut down as quickly as possible."

Ministry of International Trade

The ministry released Ontario's Global Trade Strategy on Thursday afternoon. The 28-page [document](#) outlines actions the government is taking to "boost the province's international trade performance" and "deepen Ontario's footprint in key international markets." Notably, the trade report contains only one mention of NAFTA amid a flurry of discussion on "new markets" and "new opportunities for global partnerships."

Funding announcements

- The **Ministry of Economic Development and Growth** announced \$2.8 million in funding to help BioLab Pharma Ltd. retrofit its first Canadian hub. Located in Mississauga, the Brazilian pharmaceutical company is building a 13,000 square foot research development and innovation facility.
 - The investment is expected to create 40 "highly skilled jobs."

News briefs — Non-governmental

FAO long-term budget outlook

Financial Accountability Officer **J. David Wake**'s [long-term fiscal outlook](#) for Ontario projects "substantial long-term budgetary challenges" as the debt, and the resulting interest payments on debt, continue to rise. Looking forward to 2050, LeClair projects the baby boomers' shift out of the workforce and increased demand for healthcare will result in the debt-to-GDP ratio reaching 63 per cent by 2050-51.

The net debt-to-GDP ratio currently hovers around 37 per cent. Finance Minister **Charles Sousa** has set the goal of reducing it to 27 per cent by 2029-30, but the FAO says it will take more than balanced budgets to reach that target.

A shrinking workforce will lead to slower growth than the province has seen since the 1990s, straining revenues and the province's ability to pay for services.

To combat this, the FAO said the government must either increase revenues or lower spending by 0.75 per cent of the GDP, or the equivalent of \$6.5 billion in 2018-19. This is the equivalent of removing funding for 40 per cent of the province's hospitals or increasing the HST by two percentage points. The FAO said this level of taxation increase will be "challenging" for the economy to absorb, but suggested it could be done.

The report recommends the government generate annual budget surpluses from now until 2030, which should be used to pay down the debt. Otherwise the millennial generation will be forced to pay off the boomers' debt burden, with interest.

"The cost of eventually bringing down the debt will get more expensive in the future," said **David West**, chief economist for the FAO. Debt is rising over time and the growth in debt-to-GDP ratio will start to really increase by the late 2020s, accounting for rising debt interest rate payments.

To put Ontario's debt in context with other provinces, B.C.'s debt-to-GDP ration is around 16 per cent.

Healthcare spending growth will increase between now and 2020, the result of the past five years of restraint. Growth will slow by the 2040s once the baby-boomers have "expired" and no longer need health care. Education spending is expected to grow during the 2020s and 2030s, dropping off in the 2040s when the "boomer echo generation's" children reach university.

In a statement, Sousa said changing demographics will affect the economy of most OCED countries, as well as Ontario's, which is why the government pushed for CPP reform and increases to federal healthcare transfers. He said the government will continue to use a "steady and balanced approach" to manage the province's economy.

He told reporters he is very sensitive to the amount of debt the province holds, but added, "In all of Ontario's history — for that matter in all of Canada's history — very little has ever occurred in terms of reduction in actual debt."

"I do not mind borrowing for capital investments that create returns for the province. That's the kind of debt we want," said Sousa. "What we need to do is foster ways to manage that debt."

Ontario has not released its own long-term fiscal outlook since 2005.

Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario

PC leader **Patrick Brown** released a threefold strategy to pursue an investigation into the Liberal government's "Unfair" Hydro Plan, as detailed in the Auditor General's special report.

- The PC Party is calling on the Information and Privacy Commissioner to investigate why the Wynne Liberals have delayed or refused to hand over emails related to the design of the plan to the Auditor General;

- The party is requesting the IESO to appear before the Standing Committee on Justice Policy to explain the directions it received from the government on the accounting methods behind the hydro plan; and
- Brown's chief of staff **Alykhan Velshi** wrote an [open letter](#) to Cabinet Secretary **Steve Orsini** to ensure that all emails and correspondence related to the Fair Hydro Plan are preserved.

Brown also raised concerns that a member of the media had his Freedom of Information requests [rejected by the AG](#) when seeking government correspondence between her office and the public service earlier this year.

Meanwhile, the **New Democratic Party of Ontario** is raising the alarm bell that, if elected premier, Brown would leave the Fair Hydro Plan in place. PC MPP **Todd Smith** told reporters Wednesday that the PCs would keep the plan in place while the party looked for efficiencies.

Horwath held a live [Facebook town hall](#) on Wednesday night.

Question period

PC lead-off

Fair Hydro Plan emails

- PC leader **Patrick Brown** asked why the Ministry of Energy paid a law firm \$500,000 to help it compile emails for the Auditor General, but only provided her office with 13,000 of the two million emails that were identified — less than one per cent in 141 days.
 - Alluding to the ongoing gas plants trial, Brown said it only cost \$10,000 to get **Peter Faist** to work his email magic.
- Brown asked if the premier's office instructed the Ministry of Energy to block or delay the release of these emails: "Who ordered the obstruction? Was it the Premier's office, or was it the Minister of Energy's own decision?"
- Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** said not all of the emails applied to the AG's actual search request. He committed to providing all additional records to the auditor by November 1.

FAO report

- PC MPP **Vic Fedeli** asked about the FAO report, calling the government's debt reduction targets "\$6.5 bill off the mark." He said this is another fiscal claim of the government's that has been discredited by a legislative officer this week.
 - Fedeli said, "perhaps worse of all," the FAO's report shows the province is shifting the "fiscal burden from baby boomers to younger Ontarians."
- Financial Minister **Charles Sousa** said he accepts the FAO report but stressed the problems it outlined are a problem in many jurisdictions other than Ontario.

NDP lead-off**AG report**

NDP MPP **Peter Tabuns** asked about the extra \$4 billion Ontarians will have to pay on their hydro bills to “hide the devastating effect of [the Liberals’] \$40-billion hydro borrowing scheme from the public.”

He asked whether the premier personally green-lit the \$4 billion accounting trick.

Air quality

- Tabuns said an application was filed Thursday with the Environmental Commissioner calling for an investigation into alleged violations of the Environmental Protection Act related to a “sour gas” industrial leak in Sarnia’s Chemical Valley.
 - He said the government is being accused of not properly notifying residents or local fire authorities of the leak, which occurred on February 23, 2017, nor did it publicize what chemicals people were exposed to.
- Environment Minister **Chris Ballard** said he recognizes the need to better coordinate the reporting and communication of chemical spills to the public in affected areas.

Worker compensation

- NDP MPP **Cindy Forster** asked about the workers from GE’s Peterborough plant that are still waiting for WSIB compensation for years of exposure to cancer-causing chemicals.
 - Forrester said the labour minister committed months ago to helping these families, but they were at the legislature on Wednesday because they have still received nothing.
- Labour Minister **Kevin Flynn** said he is putting together a dedicated review team that is going to “do nothing but look at claims that come out of the GE plant in Peterborough.”

NDP MPP **Wayne Gates** also asked about the dumping of raw sewage on the New York side of the Niagara River, caused by overflow at the state’s sewage treatment plants. Gates said there has been five new incidences of sewage dumping since he last wrote to the government about this.

New lobbyist registrations

New lobbyist registrations from October 12 – 19, 2017

Client — WeWork

Consultant — Alex Chreston

Firm — Crestview Strategy

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Introduce WeWork to the Premier, Ministers and MPPs, and discuss the innovation economy and the startup ecosystem.

Client — Porter Airlines Inc.

Consultant — Michael Diamond

Firm — Upstream Strategy Group

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Securing funding under the Northern Heritage Fund to support an aircraft line maintenance facility

Client — Mental Health Research Canada

Consultant — Matthews Henley

Firm — Wellington Dupont

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- The client seeks funding partnerships with the government of Ontario through budget 2018.

Client — Notarius Inc.

Consultant — Saad Baig

Firm — StrategyCorp Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Arranging and attending meetings with clients to discuss digital document security, electronic signatures and Ontario's approach to digital identity. These engagements are also designed to educate the government on procurement opportunities that might improve the efficiency and effectiveness of official documents.

Client — Microsoft Canada Inc.

Consultant — Saad Baig

Firm — StrategyCorp Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To brief staff on new and emerging IT activities, including cloud based technology opportunities and to discuss broad IT policy initiatives.

Client — Ontario Retirement Communities Association

Consultant — Saad Baig and Andrew Steele

Firm — StrategyCorp Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Propose amendments to Ontario **Bill 148**: Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act to reduce the impact of minimum wage statutory holiday pay on retirement homes.

Organization — Coach Canada

Consultant — John Crawley and John Emberson

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Lobbying with respect to public and private transit issues in Ontario.
- The lobbying goal is to make the government aware of the services Coach Canada presently offers and their willingness to partner with the government to help them reach their transit goals.

Client — SEIU

Consultant — Peter Cleary

Firm — Santis Health Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Santis support's SEIU advocacy at the government level. This includes advocating for the interests of the PSW work-force, including fair and equitable wage and benefit policies across the health system.
- Current areas of focus include: implementing the PSW minimum wage, wage and benefit harmonization across the community sector, reforming the PSW registry and implementing new models of home care.

Client — Playwrights Guild of Canada

Consultant — Philip Gillies

Firm — Enterprise Canada

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To secure continuation or enhancement of Ontario Government support for the Playwright Guild and its members. To ensure our political parties, MPPs and officials recognize the importance of the culture sector in our communities.

Client — Vivid Seats LLC

Consultant — Rod Elliot

Firm — Global Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Vivid Seats wishes to engage the government on the Ticket Sales Act and consumer affairs to ensure their interests are represented in the review process of the piece of legislation through amendments and committee review.

Client — Genworth MI

Consultant — Ron McLaughlin

Firm — McLaughlin Advisory Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Ongoing relationship maintenance with officials regarding policies affecting residential mortgage insurance.

Organization — Ontario Fur Breeders Association

Consultant — Nancy Daigneault and Tanice Jones

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To provide MPPs with information on fur farming - the issues facing our sector including - contracting markets, animal welfare, animal nutrition, anti-fur farming activities, farm security, animal husbandry, biosecurity, attacks against fur farmers by animal extremists, economic activity, sustainability of fur farming, fur farming certification, environmental issues, traceability of product.
- The goal of the activities will be to ensure MPPs continue to support our industry in Ontario, despite attempts by a small group of animal rights extremists who are seeking to ban fur farming in Ontario. Once all information has been provided to MPPs, it is the OFBA's hope that the Ontario government will continue its current level of support and reject calls for an end to fur farming.

Organization — Ignite Infrastructure Association Inc.

Consultant — Walter Manitowabi and Roland Kielbasiewicz

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- The goal is to explore which Government of Ontario programs can support First Nations communities to acquire renewable energy power sources.

Client — STEMCELL Technologies Canada Inc.

Consultant — Keith Serry

Firm — Conseil Keith Serry Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Engage with Ontario Investment Office officials and others to examine possible funding mechanisms under the Jobs and Prosperity Fund for the possible construction of a production facility in Ontario.

Client — Ontario Racing

Consultant — Troy Ross

Firm — TRM Public Affairs

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To promote and further the interests of horse racing in the province by fostering a trusted partnership with government and by championing and advocating for public policy that supports industry self-determination and that creates and sustains a vibrant and financially sound horse racing industry.

Organization — SEIU Healthcare

Consultant — Various in-house lobbyists

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Personal Support Worker (PSW) Registry: Renew the PSW Registry to improve public safety by providing a comprehensive and transparent reporting of all PSWs providing publicly funded home and community care services.
- Education and Training for healthcare workers: Provide adequate training so healthcare workers can meet the changing needs of their patients and assume new roles and responsibilities where they work in hospitals, long-term care homes and in the community.
- Workplace Violence Reduction: Work with the provincial government to determine the most effective ways to better protect healthcare workers on the job and reduce the incidence of workplace violence.

Client — Sonder

Consultant — Ginny Movat

Firm — Crestview Strategy

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To advocate for modern housing and hotel policy designed to account for new technologies and current tourist demand.

Client — Superior Propane

Consultant — Ginny Movat

Firm — Crestview Strategy

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To advocate for propane in the context of Ontario's Long Term Energy Plan, Ontario Green Commercial Vehicle Program and Natural Gas Expansion and to promote new policies around propane micro-grids and home retrofit incentives.

Client — Don Mills Surgical Unit Limited

Consultant — Francesca Grosso

Firm — Grosso McCarthy Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To understand **Bill 160** (Strengthening Quality & Accountability for Patients Act) in the context of the Private Hospital's Act and to advocate against any negative impacts to the Don Mills Surgical Centre.

Client — York Education Company ULC

Consultant — Philip Gillies

Firm — Enterprise Canada

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- The client wishes to determine the posture of all Ontario political parties with respect to private post-secondary education, and to encourage support for private degree-granting institutions in the province.\

Client — Domtar Inc.

Consultant — Devan Sommerville and Caroline Pinto

Firm — Counsel Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Explore opportunities for capital funding support available for the refurbishment and modernization of facilities, in support of long-term economic stability and GHG emissions reduction.

Client — SailPoint Technologies Inc.

Consultant — Kenneth Stewart

Firm — The Capital Hill Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- SailPoint is interested in raising its profile vis-à-vis the Government of Canada. Among others, they are interested in pursuing an upcoming Request for Proposals for Privileged Credential Management and Identity Governance.”

Client — Accerta

Consultant — Jordan Angus and Yash Dogra

Firm — The Capital Hill Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- The goal is to help Accerta raise their profile by engaging the Government of Ontario to showcase their products and services.
- Accerta is aiming to meet with senior officials in the Premier’s Office, Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Ministry of Health and Long-term Care, Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ministry of Senior Affairs, Ministry of

Finance and MPPs across the province to provide an overview of their services, build relationships and influence policy decisions around Healthy Smiles.

Client — Amazon Corporate LLC

Consultant — Joanna Carey

Firm — Joanna L. Carey

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Amazon LLC wishes to seek advice to develop a literacy program. Amazon wishes to promote the benefits of Amazon's operations in Ontario, and to advocate for government understanding and support of Amazon's operations in the province pertaining to jobs and the economy.

Lobbyist re-registrations and amended registrations

New lobbyist registrations from October 12 – 19, 2017

Client — Scalar

Consultant — David Angus

Firm — The Capital Hill Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Scalar is hoping to raise their profile within the Government of Ontario. Scalar is also hoping to work with the Government of Ontario to identify and seek procurement opportunities.

Client — Rycom

Consultant — David Angus

Firm — The Capital Hill Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Rycom would like to raise their profile by engaging the Government of Ontario.
- Ultimately, Rycom would like to work with the Government of Ontario to identify and seek out procurement opportunities for their products and services.

Client — Nestle Waters Canada

Consultant — Katlyn Harrison

Firm — Summa Strategies Canada Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Seeking approval of permit renewal application for Nestlé Waters' Ontario facilities. This will include arranging meetings to discuss the scope of Nestle Waters' economic impact in the province.

Client — Group of Gold Line

Consultant — David Angus

Firm — The Capital Hill Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Group of Goldline (GL) is looking to raise their profile by engaging the Government of Ontario and showcasing their innovative technology products and services.
- GL is looking to the Ontario Government for assistance in identifying and seeking out opportunities which would enable them to supply the government with their products and services.

Client — Biogen

Consultant — Laura Greer

Firm — Hill+Knowlton Strategies

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Build awareness of Biogen brand, programs and product offerings with key government contacts. Share information about Biogen investments in research and innovation with government officials and explore partnership opportunities.

Client — Royal Canadian Steel Inc.

Consultant — Ralph Palumbo

Firm — The Hillcrest Consulting Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Royal wishes to secure provincial funding - loans and grants under provincial funding programs - for an expansion of its physical premises, the purchase of equipment and the manufacturing of steel pipes for the domestic and export markets.
- Discussions with the government pursuant to the Jobs and Prosperity fund are ongoing.

Client — CGI Information Systems and Management Consultants Inc.

Consultant — Zak Paget

Firm — Fleishman-Hillard Canada Corp.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Meetings regarding company's offerings and services.
- Meetings to identify areas in which information technology can play a role in meeting government needs.
- General meetings, many of which would be more introductory in nature, introducing contacts to CGI's offerings and discussing how those offerings can help government overall.

- The ultimate aim is to identify areas of interest to the government and ensure contacts are aware of CGI's pertinent offerings.

Client — Algonquin Power Corp.

Consultant — Chris Benedetti

Firm — Sussex Strategy Group

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Matters related to the Renewable Energy Approvals process - Ontario Regulation 359/09, under the Environmental Protection Act, particular to the approval of the Amherst Island Wind Project.
- The objective of the undertaking is to provide support to enable to commercialization of the Amherst Island Wind Project.

Client — Enwave Energy Corporation

Consultant — Joanna Carey

Firm — Joanna L. Carey

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Enwave wishes to stay involved in the ongoing discussions about the cap and trade program in Ontario, which was implemented by regulation in 2016, as well as participate in the broader development of the province's Climate Change Action Plan.
- The focus will be specific to Enwave's district energy system, and its deep lake water cooling innovation.

Client — Trillium Automobile Dealers Association

Consultant — Bob Lopinski

Firm — Counsel Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Advocate for the passage and royal assent of **Bill 3**, Cutting Red Tape for Motor Vehicle Dealers Act.

Organization — Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Consultant — Various in-house lobbyists

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Legislation that OPSBA is currently monitoring includes:
- **Bill 142**, Construction Lien Amendment Act
- **Bill 148**, Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act For each of these bills, we would review with members and submit comments on their behalf making sure that OPSBA's education goals are reflected in the legislation.

Organization — Rogers Communications Inc.

Consultant — Various in-house lobbyists

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Encouraging the Government of Ontario to support the simplification of existing 'Canadian content' funding mechanisms (by supporting the creation of a simplified tax credit system that will benefit all content creators, regardless of the platform they use);
- Encouraging the Government of Ontario to support changes to the federally-administered Capital Cost Allowance (CCA) rate for certain depreciable equipment;
- Encouraging the Government of Ontario to support a more investment-friendly provincial/federal tax environment, thereby facilitating greater investment in capital intensive businesses (such telecommunications).

Organization — Ontario Chamber of Commerce

Consultant — Various in-house lobbyists

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Seeking legislation, regulation, and policies related to Ontario's economic competitiveness and prosperity of our membership and their communities. Issues surrounding a competitive tax and regulatory environment including pursuing a simplified tax system and improve transparency in regulation.

Client — KWG Resources Inc.

Consultant — Stew Kiff

Firm — Solstice Public Affairs

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Ring of Fire Proposed Mining and Transportation Initiative. Raising awareness of the KWG vision for the Ring of Fire and its operations.
- Support for a transportation corridor to the Ring of Fire for the transportation of raw materials as well as potential funding for development activities.

Client — L'Assemblée de la francophonie de l'Ontario

Consultant — Stew Kiff

Firm — Solstice Public Affairs

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Liaising between l'Assemblée de la francophonie de l'Ontario and the Minister of Francophone affairs, and other French speaking MPPs at Queens Park to promote the French speaking community at Queens Park.

- Including advocating for a French Language University in Ontario, the inclusion of French Language rights of the minority in Ontario in the Canadian Constitution and advancing health services in French in Ontario.

Organization — Ontario Printing and Imaging Association

Consultant — Tracey Preston

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Continuation of work with the Ministry of Labour regarding machine guarding compliance and Codes of Practice amendment pertaining to Sections 24 & 25 of Regulation 851 - Industrial Establishments of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- Lobby efforts include information sharing regarding the printing industry to elected officials and administration. Assisting the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change with the collection of data regarding Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) emissions study. Machine guarding technical table for the printing industry.

Client — Portage Ontario

Consultant — Andrew Retfalvi

Firm — Global Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Increase awareness of Portage Ontario among key selected decision makers and to raise importance of funding for Portage programming.

Client — Beef Farmers of Ontario

Consultant — Bob Lopinski

Firm — Counsel Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Continued support and advocacy for additional funds for the Business Risk Management Program and ensuring that RMP remains predictable and bankable for Ontario's beef farmers; helping to arrange meetings and sharing information to create a better understanding of agricultural industries and their business opportunities, and the challenges that they face. Advocacy to support the use of crown land in the Great Northern Clay Belt to help establish a larger Ontario beef industry.
- Working with Ontario beef farmers to advance the role of Foodland Ontario's responsibilities through expanding brand recognition, advocacy for local food, and ensuring investments in results-based agriculture is recognized by the Ontario government.

Client — Intercept Pharma Canada Inc.

Consultant — Rod Elliot

Firm — Global Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To introduce Intercept Pharma Canada as a new entrant in the Canadian biopharmaceutical sector to key government officials, and to raise awareness of progressive non-viral liver diseases.
- Discuss policies and programs related to drug approvals, drug listings and reimbursement under the Ontario Public Drug Programs, specifically for primary biliary cholangitis.

Client — LIUNA

Consultant — Philip Dewan, Grant Gonzales, Devan Sommerville and Bob Lopinski

Firm — Counsel Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- To establish introductory meetings and communicate with government decision makers about current and potential legislation, regulations and policies affecting collective bargaining in the construction sector, including compulsory trade certification, the role and function of the Ontario College of Trades, the ongoing Changing Workplaces Review, and general workplace safety and inspection. The goal is to inform government of these issues from LiUNA 183's perspective.

Client — Ontario Chiropractic Association

Consultant — Philip Dewan and Grant Gonzales

Firm — Counsel Public Affairs Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- The goal is to participate in the consultations related to modernization of the Healing Arts Radiation Protection Act, and other related Acts such as the Regulated Health Professions Act to ensure that chiropractors' interests are reflected.
- To participate in any future review of the sexual abuse provisions of the Regulated Health Professions Act.

Client — Ontario Catholic School Trustees Association

Consultant — Jim Burnett

Firm — Pathway Group Inc.

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Participate in discussions re: remedies related to Putting Students First Act, 2012 Changes (Bill 115). Participate in School Boards Collective Bargaining Act Review Process.

Client — Township of North Glengarry

Consultant — Warren Kinsella

Firm — Daisy Consulting Group

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Seeking the appropriate funding required to address this water crisis in northern Ontario.

Organization — Ontario Road Builders' Association

Consultant — Andrew Hurd

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Procurement and administration of construction services with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO), Metrolinx and Infrastructure Ontario (IO): Attend regular meetings and consultations with MTO, Metrolinx, IO and other ministries regarding procurement practices, standards, and innovation and improving the delivery of construction and maintenance services.
- Construction Action Plan for Health & Safety: Attending meetings, and consultations with the Ministry of Labour and the Chief Prevention office regarding the development of a province-wide strategy.
- Streamlining of Approvals Process within the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC): Participating in consultations regarding modernization of environmental approvals processes for permits to take water with MOECC.
- Participating in industry consultations regarding the Environmental Bill of Rights Soil Policy Review for the movement of construction soils.
- WSIB Rate Frame Work Review: Providing feedback through WSIB's consultation process on industry impact to proposed new rate framework.
- Commercial Vehicle Operators Registration (CVOR): Advocating for modifications to MTO's new kilometric CVOR model to reduce undue regulatory burdens on local operators.
- College of Trades and Compulsory Certification of Trades: Monitoring implementation of recommendations from the Tony Dean Review of operations within the College of Trades with respect to ratio reviews, trade status reviews, scopes of practice and enforcement. Attending consultations meetings as invited.
- Construction Lien Act Review: Attending meetings, and consultations with regards to the Government's review of the Construction Lien Act.

Organization — Ontario Nurses Association

Consultant — Various in-house lobbyists

▪ **Name or Description of Policy, Program or Decision:**

- Engage in ongoing dialogue regarding funding in all sectors for nursing supply and nursing initiatives, including late career initiatives and new graduate guarantee as well as implementing a moratorium on cuts to/replacement of Registered Nurses positions in hospitals.
- Engage in ongoing dialogue related to workplace health & safety initiatives, including enforcement policy and reform proposals for workplace violence, psychological injuries and WSIB policies on chronic and traumatic mental health injuries.
- Engage in ongoing dialogue related to labour and health policies and programs; legislative proposals; bills or regulations including, but not limited to: funding for long-term care and a regulated minimum staffing standard; funding hospital reform initiatives such as proposals to transfer hospital procedures to community-based settings, hospital funding policy reforms, and the legislative implementation of the Changing Workplaces Review.
- Engage in ongoing dialogue related to funding for home care and engagement in the transition of home care policy and funding to LHINs.
- Goal to have nurses included in the PTSD presumption under section 14 of WSIA.
- Goal to achieve ongoing funding for compensation enhancements for Nurse Practitioners and Registered Nurses in the community and primary care sectors.

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