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March 19, 2017

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CHINESE COMMUNITY MEDIA

March 19, 2017

SING TAO: MARCH 17, 2017

- **The Ontario government will review the Residential Tenancies Act (A2)**
New Democrat MPP Peter Tabuns says he will introduce a private members' bill Monday to close a "loophole" that exempts buildings constructed since 1991 from annual rent-control guidelines set by the province. Currently, annual rent increase caps only apply to residential buildings or units constructed before November 1991. This year the rent for those tenants could be increased by up to 1.5 per cent without the landlord applying to the Landlord and Tenant Board. Ontario Housing Minister Chris Ballard said its "unacceptable" that many Ontarians are seeing dramatically increasing housing costs. "My staff are already developing a plan to address unfair rises in rental costs by delivering substantive rent control reform in Ontario as part of an ongoing review of the Residential Tenancies Act," Ballard said in a statement.

MING PAO: MARCH 17, 2017

- **The Ontario government will unveil new "rent controls" over the next few days (A2)**
The Ontario housing minister vows that the province will soon unveil new "rental controls" to address the skyrocketing cost to lease a home in and around Toronto. Minister Chris Ballard spoke about the upcoming changes on Thursday, following the announcement of an NDP private member's bill promising much the same thing. "It's absolutely unacceptable that renters are facing the pressure that they're facing today," Ballard said in an interview. "So we'll be bringing forward legislation that expands on the rent controls that are currently in place." Ballard's comments came a few hours after NDP MPP Peter Tabuns said he would table a private member's bill that calls for an end to the so-called 1991 rule, which exempts property built after Nov. 1, 1991 from provincial rent control.
- **The Ontario government plans to implement a basic income pilot project this spring (A9)**
Ontario is releasing a report that summarizes the feedback gathered from thousands of people across the province on how to design and deliver a basic income pilot. Basic income is a payment to eligible families or individuals that ensures a minimum income level. More than 35,000 people and organizations shared their ideas on a range of topics; including who should be eligible for a basic income, which communities to include, how a basic income should be delivered and how the pilot should be evaluated, during the consultations. A provincial discussion paper last fall by long time guaranteed annual income supporter Hugh Segal, suggested a minimum monthly payment of \$1,320 for a single person. People with disabilities would receive an additional \$500 a month.
- **A judge has quashed a wrongful dismissal lawsuit by Ontario's former ombudsman against the legislature and his former office (A12)**

MING PAO: MARCH 17, 2017

A judge has quashed a wrongful dismissal lawsuit by Ontario's former ombudsman against the legislature and his former office. Andre Marin was not reappointed in 2015 after serving two five-year terms and alleged in a lawsuit that he was fired without cause and without notice, he said a two-year notice period would have been "reasonable." He alleged that Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Liberals "orchestrated" his removal from public office because he was so critical of them. When contacted by The Canadian Press, Marin said he had no comment because he had not yet read the decision. Attorney General Yasir Naqvi said in a statement that the all-party process of appointing the new ombudsman, Paul Dube, was a "fair and impartial one." "The hiring committee was made up of all three parties where no party had a majority," Naqvi wrote. "We had over 60 applications for the position and all were given a fair opportunity."

■ **An Ontario student has been fined \$25,000 for accessing personal health information (A13)**

An Ontario student has been fined \$25,000 for accessing personal health information, which provincial officials say is the highest penalty of its kind ever in Canada. The Information and Privacy Commissioner's office says the masters of social work student; was on an educational placement with a family health team in Central Huron when she accessed the information without authorization. A statement says the student, who was not named, pleaded guilty to accessing the personal health information of five individuals contrary to the Personal Health Information Protection Act. The commissioner office calls the \$20,000 fine and \$5,000 victim surcharge handed to the student the highest fine to date for a health privacy breach in Canada, and Ontario Privacy Commissioner Brian Beamish hopes it sends a message. "Health care professionals need to know that this kind of behaviour, whether it's snooping out of curiosity or for personal gain, is completely unacceptable and has serious consequences," Beamish said in a statement. "Patient privacy is vital if Ontarians are to have confidence in their health care system."

TODAYCOMMERICALNEWS.COM: MARCH 17, 2017

■ **No relevant news.**

OMNI NEWS (CANTONESE EDITION): MARCH 16, 2017

■ **Ontario releases a report that summarizes the feedback gathered from thousands of people across the province on how to design and deliver a basic income pilot (1)**

Today, Ontario released a report that summarizes the feedback gathered from thousands of people across the province on how to design and deliver a basic income pilot. More than 35,000 people and organizations shared their ideas on a range of topics; including who should be eligible for a basic income, which communities to include, how a basic income should be delivered and how the pilot should be evaluated. Consultation feedback supports a basic income pilot that includes Ontario residents aged 18-64 living in socially and economically diverse communities.

OMNI NEWS (CANTONESE EDITION): MARCH 16, 2017

- **The NDP will introduce a private member's bill that will expand rent control (2)**
New Democrat MPP Peter Tabuns says he will introduce a private members' bill Monday to close a "loophole" that exempts buildings constructed since 1991 from annual rent-control guidelines set by the province. Currently, annual rent increase caps only apply to residential buildings or units constructed before November 1991. The Ontario Liberal government says it will consider all options to control rent prices.

SOUTH ASIAN COMMUNITY MEDIA

March 19, 2017

CANADIAN PUNJABI POST: MARCH 17, 2017

- **No relevant news**

MIDWEEK: MARCH 14, 2017

- **Ryerson university to expand campus to Brampton (6)**
Deb Matthews, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Development, confirmed that Ryerson has submitted a formal expression of interest in partnership with Sheridan College to expand its campus into the city of Brampton.
- **Ontario strengthening relationship with Vermont (7)**
Premier Kathleen Wynne met with Vermont Governor Scott to discuss opportunities for collaboration in trade, innovation and postsecondary education. In a media release, she said Vermont and Ontario have a strong relationship grounded in shared priorities.
- **Lower Hydro bills for households and small businesses across Ontario (7)**
Premier Kathleen Wynne was in Guelph to highlight how Ontario is lowering electricity bills by 25 per cent on average for households and small businesses. Premier Wynne visited two small businesses in Guelph that will benefit from Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan.

HAMDARD : MARCH 17, 2017

- **Ontario's 300 schools considered for closure (C-1)**
Education Minister Mitzi Hunter said hundreds of schools in Ontario are either under-utilized or in dilapidated conditions. While many are being considered for closure, not all will be closed. She said only 19 schools were closed across the province last year.

PAKISTAN POST: MARCH 16 TO MARCH 22, 2017

- **Ontario announces 25 cut to hydro bills (Section-B, Page-B)**
The Ontario government has announced a 25 per cent cut to hydro bills for households and small businesses. Starting this summer, the cut will help the consumers across the province.

JANG CANADA: MARCH 16 TO MARCH 22, 2017

- **No relevant news**

URDU POST: MARCH 16, 2017

- **Premier Wynne and Governor Snyder reaffirm strong partnership between Ontario and Michigan (10)**
Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne and Michigan Governor Rick Snyder released a joint statement following their meeting in Detroit. It stated that Ontario and Michigan are strong partners with deeply integrated economies. The two discussed opportunities for collaboration in different areas. Ontario is Michigan's top customer worldwide with nearly \$21 billion in exports in 2016.

SUNDAY TIMES: MARCH 16 TO MARCH 22, 2017

- **No relevant news**

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY MEDIA

March 19, 2017

EQUALITY NEWS: MARCH 16, 2017

- No relevant news

TORONTO CARIBBEAN: MARCH 8, 2017

- No relevant news