

Chinese oress summary

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Hi folks,

They all played the numbers even though the approach differed one from another.

Sing Tao was alarmist. The cost could spiral to \$69 billion if Ontario continues to borrow to implement its 25% cut in hydro bills. In the next 29 years, the actual cost of \$45 billion minus the \$24 billion savings for Ontarians will be \$21 billion. With files from its parent paper the Star, Sing Tao had its focus on the report by Financial Accountability Officer (FAO). The comparison of a remortgage loan and the introduction of the LTEP this summer by Minister Thibeault was placed in the second and third last paragraphs. PC's repeat of the whistle blower revelation, one paragraph, was carried by the end of the story. Sing Tao ran the news item as its city lead.

Ming Pao pointed out directly in its heading the Ontario Fair Hydro plan is a short-term gain but a long-term pain. It is expected hydro bills will see a 6.8 % increase annually four years after the 25% relief is put in place. With data from the FAO report, the paper turned the foreseeable increased rate into actual numbers -- \$22 more a month from 2028 to 2045. The cost could go up much more if Ontario is plunged into deficits. Like Sing Tao, the major part of the story was the report by the FAO followed by Minister Thibeault's immediate echo that the FAO assumptions will highly unlikely happen. The PC reaction and that of the NDP, one paragraph each were included by the end of the story, prominently played in page2/3.

The crying boy in short pants did it again. With files from the Star, Sing Tao reported straight

forwardly mayor Tory was handing out pamphlets at the Pape Station urging Torontonians to call the Minister of Transport for Ontario funding to get the downtown subway relief line on track. The reaction by Minister Duca, that some \$150 million have been provided to get the project moving and that transport funding for Toronto has never been better was placed by the end of the story.

Ming Pao did not give the Tory show the way he wanted it to be. Speaking from Minister Duca's point of view in its heading and intro, the paper said Duca hits back at Tory over Ontario transit funding. The present Liberal government gave more to the city than any previous governments. The \$150 million was close to three times more than the city pays in the project. As well, the provincial government has contributed \$55 million to the Yonge north extension line. In addition, the province has invested more than \$10 billion in the Toronto LRT, Scarborough subway extension, Spadina Subway Extension and UP Express. And of course, there is the bigger sharing of the gas tax too. All these shut up the Tory argument.

Both Sing Tao and Ming Pao had the Duca vs Tory their city leads. Fairchild carried the news as the top story in the second half of its hourly broadcast last evening echoing the FAO alarm but surprisingly without the Opposition comments.

The campaign to make a date in December as the Nanjing Massacre Memorial day is gathering momentum. In a full front page ad, Today Commercial announced the paper fully supports the passage of Ontario Bill 79. An assembly of 1,000 supporters in front of Queen's Park will be held May 29 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

That's it for this morning. Thanks.

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