

Draft FSMIO

From: "McPhail, Blane (OPO)" <blane.mcphail@ontario.ca>
To: "Forgione, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.forgione@ontario.ca>
Cc: "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" <bill.killorn@ontario.ca>
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New (Interim) Leader, Same False Claims

The Ontario Conservatives have a new (interim) Leader but they're still stuck in their old ways. They still have plans to roll-back the increase in the minimum wage. They still want to make billions of drastic cuts to health care, education and the services Ontarians depend on. And now they are walking from any action on climate change.

Despite having a new (interim) Leader, the Conservatives can't hide from the truth. As always, they need to remember that Facts Still Matter in Ontario.

He claimed: *"Under the Wynne Liberals hydro bills have skyrocketed"*

Fact: Our Fair Hydro Plan is lowering bills by 25% on average for families and as many as half a million small businesses and farms. Low-income families and those in rural and remote areas will see a decrease as high as 40 – 50 per cent.

Vic Fedeli and his fellow Conservatives voted against lowering hydro bills for Ontario families and businesses.

(Source: http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/house-proceedings/house_detail.do?Date=2017-5-31&Parl=41&Sess=2&locale=en#para862)

He claimed: *"Far too many families, seniors and youth have been left behind"*

Fact: With a \$15 minimum wage, free pharmacare for everyone under the age of 25, free tuition for hundreds of thousands of students and better, more affordable child care, we are making Ontario a fairer, better place to live for everyone.

Vic Fedeli and his fellow Conservatives voted against all of these progressive measures too.

(Source: http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_current.do?locale=en)

He claimed: *"Anything they promise in the coming months will be nothing more than a costly re-election ploy they have no intention of keeping...there are many examples including the Ring of Fire"*

Fact: We have reached an agreement to build a road into the Ring of Fire. The first phase is the environmental assessment and the initial work on it is already underway. The plan is then to get preliminary construction started in 2019.

(Source: <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2017/08/ontario-et-les-premieres-nations-progressent-dans-le-projet-de-construction-dune-route-pour-le-cerc.html>)

He claimed: *"Jobs have been lost 51,000 in January alone"*

Fact: Since the recession nearly 800,000 new jobs have been created and in fact analysts at Scotiabank recently put out a report stating that "there is no discernible evidence of a minimum-wage impact on hours worked in Ontario so far."

(Source: Stats Canada; http://www.gbm.scotiabank.com/scpt/gbm/scotiaeconomics63/2018-02-16_I&V.pdf)

He claimed: *"Taxes and fees have ballooned"*

Fact: The Government literally just lowered taxes for all small businesses in Ontario lowering the rate from 4.5% to 3.5%.

(Source: <https://assets.kpmg.com/content/dam/kpmg/ca/pdf/tmf/2017/ca-ontario-drops-small-business-rate-for-2018v2.pdf>)