

Fw: Statement responding to Opposition press conference

From: "Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)" <colin.nekolaichuk@ontario.ca>
To: "@OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management" <opo-mediarelationsandissuesmgmt@msgov.gov.on.ca>, "Berry, James (ENERGY)" <james.berry5@ontario.ca>
Date: Wed, 29 Mar 2017 11:55:46 -0400

Sent, forgot to copy you.

Colin Nekolaichuk | Press Secretary
Office of the Hon. Glenn Thibeault | Minister of Energy
T: 416-325-2690 C: 647-504-4928
colin.nekolaichuk@ontario.ca

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY) <Colin.Nekolaichuk@ontario.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 11:48 AM
To: Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)
Subject: Statement responding to Opposition press conference

Good morning,

Here is a statement responding to the Opposition presser this morning:

Ontario was the first and remains the only jurisdiction in the entire country that has legislation to prevent partisan advertising. While partisan advertising is now banned, it's still permissible and important for the government to inform the public about initiatives that impact their lives like getting the flu shot, updating the sex-ed curriculum or raising awareness about organ donation.

Letting families and businesses know about our Fair Hydro Plan is important too. Through our plan, we're cutting electricity bills by 25 per cent and low-income families in rural and remote areas will see a decrease in their bill by as much as 40 – 50 per cent. Our plan will also keep rates predictable, holding them to inflation over the next four years.

We have a responsibility as a government to inform Ontarians that relief is coming so they can plan their household budgets. Our plan helps every family across the province including those who are most vulnerable. That's why it's so important for families to know about this cut as well as other programs, like the expanded Ontario Electricity Support Program and the new \$200 million Affordability Fund.

If Ontarians aren't aware of these programs then they can't apply for them. That's why it's so critical that the ads direct people to <https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-fair-hydro-plan> – so they can learn how they can further reduce their bill.

Colin Nekolaichuk | Press Secretary

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