

Re: Timmins Pre Avail Issues

From: "Singh, Gurminder (OPO)" <gurminder.singh2@ontario.ca>
To: "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <rebecca.mackenzie@ontario.ca>, "Forgione, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.forgione@ontario.ca>, "@OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management" <opo-mediarelationsandissuesmgmt@msgov.gov.on.ca>, "Bevan, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.bevan@ontario.ca>
Date: Thu, 25 May 2017 08:02:19 -0400

Will do. Thanks!

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2017 7:52 AM
To: Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Singh, Gurminder (OPO); @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management; Bevan, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: Re: Timmins Pre Avail Issues

Also add ombudsman on license suspension as fyi. Thx

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2017 7:51 AM
To: Singh, Gurminder (OPO); @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management; Bevan, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: Timmins Pre Avail Issues

Hi Gurminder – suggested messaging below. We added in Tembec as FYI and will brief on call.

Ring of Fire

- We are absolutely committed to developing the Ring of Fire, including investing up to \$1 billion for the necessary transportation infrastructure.
- Nobody in the province wants shovels in the ground more than I do and I'm committed to working with local communities to make that happen.
- **This commitment was already included within the broader budget and remains so today.**
- **This is an incredibly important opportunity for the region, including First Nations communities, and we're actively doing the work to move it forward.**
- **This includes working directly with those communities on community access roads, on-reserve infrastructure as well as skills development and training.**
- **But the broader transportation infrastructure is what's needed and we're going to continue working to get this done.**

Noront smelter

- **I know a number of communities – including Timmins – are interested in hosting Noront's smelter.**
- **The company is doing their due diligence and we need to let that process unfold.**
- **What's important now is for us to get shovels in the ground and work with the local**

**communities to get moving on the Ring of Fire.
FAO report on hydro plan**

- **We've been working very closely with the Financial Accountability Officer to provide information and analysis on our proposed Fair Hydro Plan, and now we welcome his report.**
- **If passed, our government's plan will bring significant and sustained relief on electricity bills for Ontario families starting this summer.**
- **The FAO's analysis of future rates reflects a point-in-time estimate that demonstrates how we can ensure greater fairness and affordability in the short and medium term.**
- **Later this summer, we will release the next Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP), which will take additional costs out of the system and address affordability over the long-term.**
- **We've always said that the proposed Fair Hydro Plan will cost more over the long-term, but it will share the costs of our investments more fairly over a longer period of time, and lower bills by 25% on average starting this summer.**
- **The FAO report confirms the foundation of the Fair Hydro Plan - a cut in electricity rates by 25% on average for all residential consumers and as many as half a million small businesses and farms across the province.**
- **Families in the province have asked for real and immediate relief on their electricity bills and that's why we are working to deliver the largest rate reduction in Ontario's history if the legislation passes.**

On Accounting:

- **It took time to work on our plan to ensure families and businesses receive immediate, sustained relief.**
- **Over the past several months, we worked carefully and thoughtfully with external and government legal and accounting firms, including KMPG, the Provincial Controller and other experts to ensure our proposed legislation would deliver the savings that we committed to, in the fairest way possible, and to ensure that accounting requirements have been met.**
- **External accounting experts confirmed that 18 other jurisdictions in North America utilize similar accounting practices in the electricity system, offering strong legal and financial frameworks to guide Ontario's own proposal.**
- **Additionally, the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) does not provide specific guidance on this type of accounting, but it does allow for guidance to be followed from other frameworks.**
- **That's why accounting experts used U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) to guide our practice, and we are very confident in our approach.**

Northern Livestock Pilot Project

- **Our government is identifying opportunities to support sustainable livestock expansion in Northern Ontario by establishing pilot sites to support viable agriculture for the North.**
- **As part of the Northern Ontario Agriculture, Aquaculture and Food Processing Strategy, the Northern Livestock Pilot will support access to local food, promote jobs, growth and diversification of Northern Ontario's economy.**

- **Pilot sites were identified by locations that were:**
 - o **Within municipal boundaries in the study area (Cochrane to Hearst)**
 - o **Had agricultural capability**
 - o **Adjacent to roads**
 - o **Had concentration of lands to allow for potential establishment of livestock farms in close proximity to each other, so that farmers can help and support each other.**

Thunder Bay Police Chief

- **We are aware of the charges that have been laid against the Thunder Bay Chief of Police.**
- **Further questions regarding the charges should be directed to the OPP.**
- **It would be inappropriate to comment any further as these are matters now before the courts.**

Autism support in the North

- **Our government is giving families of children with autism more options by offering a new, permanent direct funding option**
- **Through the new Ontario Autism Program this will be in place by the end of the year**
- **It will allow all families to choose between receiving direct service or receiving funding to purchase services for their child.**
- **Last year we announced that we'd be investing an additional \$500 million to improve autism services in Ontario.**
- **Through this historic investment we are;**
 - o **Creating 16,000 new spaces**
 - o **dramatically reducing wait times**
 - o **delivering diagnosis earlier so children can access services sooner**
- **In Timmins and Northeastern Ontario these services will be provided by Hands the Family help network**

LCBO workers

- **Let's be clear. We are not privatizing the LCBO.**
- **What we are doing is improving customer convenience and choice by allowing for beer and**

wine to be sold in grocery stores.

- We're improving the consumer experience while maintaining social responsibility and still generating almost \$2 billion per year for important government priorities like health care, education and infrastructure.
- We know that these initiatives boost economic growth, preserve jobs in Ontario's wine, agriculture and tourism sectors and help people in their everyday lives.

FYI – Tembec acquisition (will brief on call)

From: Singh, Gurvinder (OPO)

Sent: May-25-17 6:34 AM

To: @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management; Bevan, Andrew (OPO)

Subject: Timmins Pre Avail Issues

Hey,

Here's what I have so far. Might not be able to speak to media prior to the briefing because of timing but will update if possible.

Ring of Fire

Noront smelter

FAO report on hydro plan
Northern Livestock Pilot Project
Thunder Bay Police Chief
Autism support in the North

LCBO workers