

Fw: For Caucus

From: "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <"o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=mackenzie, rebecca (opo)7a8">
To: Rebecca Mackenzie <rebecca.mackenzie@live.ca>
Date: Mon, 12 Sep 2016 10:10:42 -0400

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Moulton, Dan (ENERGY) <Dan.Moulton@ontario.ca>
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 9:59 AM
To: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: For Caucus

Yep. We intend to share with caucus this afternoon, just KMs and a few high-level Q's. Tomorrow morning we will share our more comprehensive KMs/QAs document (see attached first draft). Tomorrow late afternoon we will share our MPP echo tool kit with products for echoes.

From: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Sent: September-12-16 9:58 AM
To: Moulton, Dan (ENERGY); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: Re: For Caucus

Hi, to confirm, these are going to caucus today?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Moulton, Dan (ENERGY)
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 9:56 AM
To: Bossin, Bryan (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: For Caucus

Thanks, Bryan. Updated:

Key Messages:

- As announced in today's Speech from the Throne, Ontario is taking action to reduce the cost of electricity bills for families and businesses (small and large); and will reduce northern, rural and remote bills even further.
- Over the last decade we've build a clean and reliable system; and now are ready to take the next step and ensure Ontario's electricity bills as affordable as can be.
- Our government has heard from Ontarian's that they're not all feeling the impact of the economic recovery when they go to pay the bills each month; so we're committed to helping where we can with the cost of everyday living.

- And after many years of careful fiscal management are leading to a balanced budget in 2017-18, and we believe that Ontarians should be the first to benefit.
- Through a three point plan, our government will reduce the cost on electricity bills across the board, including:
 1. Families, farms, and small businesses rebated Ontario's portion of the HST on their bills; leading to savings of 8% - or \$130 annually.
 2. Eligible northern, rural and remote family bills reduced by 20% - savings of \$540 annually - a necessary relief to help offset the higher cost of supplying power (delivery charge) to these areas.
 3. More businesses will be empowered to receive approximately 34% in savings as a result an expanded Industrial Conservation Initiative.
- Taken together, this plan represents one of the single largest actions to reduce costs for electricity consumers in the province's history. It will provide needed assistance to consumers of all sizes, and it targets support to those that need it most.
- This plan builds on our government's commitment to provide affordable access to energy, including providing support for low-income families, expanding natural gas to more communities, and grid-connecting remote First Nations communities.

If asked about

Why today and not last week or two months ago:

The new Minister of Energy was appointed to his position to take action on prices, and since being appointed in June, that's exactly what he's done.

Work on this project has been undertaken over the course of the last three or four months, and the results of that were included in today's throne speech.

Our government has heard from Ontarians and is committed to helping them with the cost of everyday living. Through this three point plan, our government will reduce the cost on electricity bills across the board.

Families, farms, and small businesses will be rebated Ontario's percentage of HST on their bills which is a savings of 8% - a significant saving

Manufacturers will receive approximately 34% in savings as a result of the Industrial Conservation Initiative - which is a benefit in return for their continued commitment to meeting conservation targets.

Northern, rural and remote communities will be rebated 20% - a necessary relief for families to help offset the cost of supplying power (delivery charge) to these areas.

Is this because Ontario's electricity rates are skyrocketing?

Our government has heard from Ontarians and is committed to helping them with the cost of everyday living. We've heard from Ontarians about their concerns, and so we're acting to help where we can. Through this three point plan, our government will reduce the cost on electricity bills across the board.

In a recent report, the independent Financial Accountability Officer refuted many of the claims made about energy policy, and confirmed that the average family in Ontario spends less money on electricity than in every other province, except British Columbia. It also confirmed that total home heating and cooling costs are in the middle of the pack when compared to the other provinces.

Ontario's electricity prices are in line with comparative jurisdictions; and Ontario's prices are nearly half of

what they are in American cities like Chicago, Boston, New York, and Los Angeles.

What's really remarkable about comparing Ontario to other provinces/states is that we've already done the heavy lifting in rebuilding our system and getting off dirty/cheap coal. While other provinces/states still need to undertake that work, Ontario will benefit from our leadership.

Why will this take until January? What will people do until then?

The start of the next tax year begins January 1st. This is an aggressive timeline, and we are taking action to reduce the cost of electricity bills for families, businesses both small and large and reducing northern, rural and remote bills even more.

Our government currently has programs in place to assist low-income families, or families in a crisis, including the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) and the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP). I encourage customers to contact their local utility to find out what programs are available to them.

Program Names:

- Ontario Energy and Property Tax Credit
- the saveONenergy Home Assistance Program
- the Northern Ontario Energy Credit
- Ontario Electricity Support Program
- Low Income Energy Assistance program (LEAP) - provides emergency financial support to families and individuals up to \$600

Can you predict where prices will go now?

Ontario's government does not set electricity rates. Rates are set by the independent Ontario Energy Board.

As well, no utility, distribution company, government can predict the future; but our long term energy plan recognizes that electricity costs will rise in every part of Canada. Though, recently the FAO noted that prices in Ontario have increased at a slower pace than other provinces – including Quebec.

But, our government has heard from Ontarian's and is committed to helping people with the cost of everyday living. So, we're taking action; we are reducing the cost of electricity bills for families, businesses both small and large and reducing even more for northern, rural and remote communities. We currently offer many programs, for example the Ontario Electricity Support Program and now can add another benefit for Ontarian's.

This next step is a billion dollars in taxes that we are giving back to Ontario families. The people of Ontario deserve to be the first to benefit from the hard work we have put into balancing our budget and meeting our fiscal targets.

From: Bossin, Bryan (OPO)

Sent: September-12-16 9:47 AM

To: Moulton, Dan (ENERGY); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO)

Subject: RE: For Caucus

Hi Dan,

On the three point plan/cost reductions, can you please ensure messaging is aligned with narrative from speech, specifically incorporating the dollar figures for savings.

The 'can you predict where prices will go' I think needs a line at the top noting that government doesn't set energy rates.

Also, think this answer needs to reference fact that we've listened and understand concerns people have as principle reason for why we are taking action:

Is this because Ontario's electricity rates are skyrocketing?

In a recent report, the independent Financial Accountability Officer refuted many of the claims made about energy policy, and confirmed that the average family in Ontario spends less money on electricity than in every other province, except British Columbia. It also confirmed that total home heating and cooling costs are in the middle of the pack when compared to the other provinces.

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From: Moulton, Dan (ENERGY)
Sent: September-12-16 9:21 AM
To: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: For Caucus

Hi All,

Just wanted to let you know that today we intend to share with caucus the KMs and very high level QA below.

Tomorrow morning we will share our more comprehensive KMs/QAs document (see attached first draft). Tomorrow late afternoon we will share our MPP echo tool kit with products for echoes.

Let me know if you have any thoughts or if you think we need to add any other q's.

Key Messages:

- As announced in today's Speech from the Throne, Ontario is taking action to reduce the cost of electricity bills for families and businesses (small and large); and will reduce northern, rural and remote bills even further.
- Over the last decade we've build a clean and reliable system; and now are ready to take the next step and ensure Ontario's electricity bills as affordable as can be.
- Our government has heard from Ontarian's that they're not all feeling the impact of the economic recovery when they go to pay the bills each month; so we're committed to helping where we can with the cost of everyday living.
- And after many years of careful fiscal management are leading to a balanced budget in 2017-18, and we believe that Ontarians should be the first to benefit.
- Through a three point plan, our government will reduce the cost on electricity bills across the board, including:
 1. Families, farms, and small businesses rebated Ontario's portion of the HST on bills, leading to savings of 8%.
 2. Northern, rural and remote family bills reduced by 20% - a necessary relief to help offset the higher cost of supplying power (delivery charge) to these areas.
 3. More businesses will be empowered to receive approximately 34% in savings as a result an expanded Industrial Conservation Initiative.

- Taken together, this plan represents one of the single largest actions to reduce costs for electricity consumers in the province's history. It will provide needed assistance to consumers of all sizes, and it targets support to those that need it most.
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