

RE: Patrick Brown Editorial toronto Sun - March 1, 2017

From: "Forgione, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.forgione@ontario.ca>
To: "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <rebecca.mackenzie@ontario.ca>
Date: Wed, 01 Mar 2017 14:56:50 -0500



From: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Sent: March-01-17 2:56 PM
To: Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Cc: Bevan, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: Re: Patrick Brown Editorial toronto Sun - March 1, 2017

But not send fact check till tomorrow am

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Cc: Bevan, Andrew (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Subject: RE: Patrick Brown Editorial toronto Sun - March 1, 2017

Will do.

From: Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Sent: March-01-17 2:55 PM
To: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Cc: Bevan, Andrew (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Subject: Fw: Patrick Brown Editorial toronto Sun - March 1, 2017

Forgie,

Let's fact check this.

From: Joseph Uranowski <juranowski@liberal.ola.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 2:51 PM

To: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO); Andrew Rudyk; cbanas@liberal.ola.org; Codd-Downey, Beckie (GHLO); McPhail, Blane (OPO); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Foerster, Carly (OPO); Walsh, Chad (OPO); McEachern, Gillian (OPO); jgomez@liberal.ola.org; Lazarus, Jordan (OPO); Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO); Richardson, Kyle (OCOC/GHLO); Swaraj Mann; Rowe, Mary (OPO); McIntyre, Moira (OPO); Fleur Nouvelot; Appave, Priscilla (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Ahluwalia, Ron (GHLO); Le Guern, Ronan (OPO); Joseph Uranowski

Subject: Patrick Brown Editorial toronto Sun - March 1, 2017

<http://www.torontosun.com/2017/03/01/liberals-will-raise-your-taxes-to-offset-hydro-costs>

Liberals will raise your taxes to offset hydro costs

Toronto Sun

March 1, 2017

Patrick Brown

Kathleen Wynne and her Liberal government will try to make you believe they are fixing this electricity mess, but every time they touch it, they make it worse.

Don't be fooled by them: The Liberals will pay for their scheme by raising your taxes, and your electricity rates will increase again the moment they have the chance.

Their plan will only end up punishing Ontarians by putting us on the hook for their colossal failure that has led to skyrocketing electricity prices.

Ontario once had some of the most competitive electricity rates in North America. We've plummeted to having some of the highest and fastest rising.

The cost of electricity when the Liberals took power was 4.3 cents. It's now gone up to 18 cents, or in other words a 400% increase — the fastest rising rates in North America.

Don't forget, it was this Liberal government that caused this problem. They introduced the Green Energy Act, otherwise known as the Bad Contracts Act.

The global adjustment, otherwise known as Wynne's mismanagement cost, was also introduced by Liberals and has magnified the cost of hydro to new heights. This pays for the cost of their bad contracts.

Since 2009, we've given away \$6 billion in surplus energy as a result, to places like Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York.

It has only been the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party to call for the repeal of this act. We will not sign any more of these contracts, and we will dig into each one of these contracts for exit clauses.

We will also review and rein in exorbitant executive salaries in the electricity sector, which the Liberals defend while Ontarians suffer financially month to month. The Hydro One CEO should not make \$4 million a year.

And we will stop the fire sale of Hydro One because it means we will lose control of rate increases in the future.

Wynne admitted that she made this mistake last fall, and this was echoed last week by her energy minister.

However, they never felt a hint of regret when they collected enormous political donations from wind and solar companies. Between 2009 and 2016, the Wynne Liberals shelled out 30 green energy contracts to companies that collectively have donated \$1.3 million to the Ontario Liberal Party.

Ontarians cannot be fooled: The Wynne Liberals will negotiate more of these bad, overpriced wind and solar contracts with their donor friends, and it will come at a huge cost to taxpayers.

Your rates will go up again. Your taxes will go up.

The Liberals don't have a history of listening to ratepayers, or our auditor generals, on this issue. They snubbed the auditor general in 2011 who warned these bad contracts would rapidly escalate electricity rates. They snubbed the auditor general in 2015 who pegged the cost to Ontarians at \$37 billion in overpayments, with a price tag of \$133 billion by 2032. And they have snubbed every ratepayer who has been suffering with hydro bills for years.

The Liberals had a chance to exit the very costly Samsung wind energy contract and save taxpayers

billions, but instead rejected that option.

Ontario's energy system is not the envy of North America. We are the laughing stock, and businesses across the province will tell you why this is damaging our province.

Don't let them say to you that this is a commitment to green energy. We aren't running our hydroelectricity plants at full tilt, including Niagara Falls and plants in Northern Ontario. This is very reliable and underused green energy.

The Wynne Liberals are only concerned about this crisis because they want to get re-elected in 2018. This is why they didn't act years ago.