MYAP Watch List – November 27, 2017

1. Autism
2. Basic Income
3. Income Security Reform
4. Seniors
5. Cap and Trade/ GreenON
6. LTEP / Fair Hydro
7. Corrections /SSO
8. NAFTA
9. Cannabis
10. Federal-Provincial Infrastructure
11. Transit and Transportation
12. Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs

Autism

School-Based Pilots

- In-school autism therapy pilots are proceeding, with some modifications based on feedback from the Ontario Autism Program Advisory Committee:

Feedback from Committee	Change in Approach
EDU should consider an alternative to the Geneva Centre for Autism as the provider for Education Assistant training.	Proceed with Geneva Centre for Autism as the training provider for the pilot duration, but require the independent evaluator of the pilot explore alternatives for future roll-out.
Should be more expertise/support from certified professionals in schools during pilots.	Include 1 Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA) or equivalent in each pilot board.
A separate, dedicated space for the delivery of therapy may stigmatize students with autism.	Require boards (through transfer payment agreements) to report back on how they are promoting equity, inclusion and access to services as part of the pilots, to reduce the stigma from the dedicated space model.

- OAP advisory committee members expressed support for the revised approach.

- EDU sent memos to OAP Advisory Committee, the Council of Ontario Directors of Education, and EDU's Initiatives Committee (unions/federations) on Oct 3rd outlining the changes

- All 18 pilot boards confirmed ongoing participation following these modifications.
    - boards with dedicated space (11 boards) will begin implementing immediately
    - EA training and new BCBA oversight aspects of the pilots (all 18 school boards) begin 2nd semester (January/February for most)

Ontario Autism Coalition Protest

- On October 5, 2017, the Ontario Autism Coalition (led by Bruce McIntosh, who is on the Ontario Autism Program Advisory Committee) announced it will be organizing an "Autism Doesn't End At School

Protest" on October 26. Please see below for a description of the protest from the Facebook event page:

> "Join us at Queen's Park as we send a loud message to the Premier and the Minister of Education that the current special education system in Ontario is failing our kids--and kids with other exceptionalities, too. We'll shine a light on the urgent need for **intensive ABA in classrooms, better teacher training, and the lack of accountability for the spending of special education money**. We want to call attention to the damage caused to our kids by the lack of sufficient EA support, the need for better EA training, and **the urgent need for an Education Accessibility standard**. Hear from prominent disability activists, students on the spectrum, political leaders and parents. It's time to get loud!"
>
> https://www.facebook.com/events/352371458538124/

- CO has followed up with EDU on its issue management plan in response to this protest, and will advise. EDU MO is in conversations with the OAC at present.

ABA Oversight

- MCYS tracking a report back on options to guarantee the qualifications of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) practitioners to October 17 HESP.
  - These measures could help ensure that the public has access to safe, quality autism services; help improve outcomes for children; and facilitate potential integration of ABA practitioners into schools in the future.

- MCYS have asked that the report back be delayed to 2018, to accommodate advice from the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council (HPRAC).
  - HPRAC will be reviewing options on how/whether to regulate ABA practitioners, and will be asked to submit their recommendations to the Minister of MOHLTC on January 31, 2018.

Basic Income

Phase 1 Enrollment/Implementation

- Ministry targeting enrolment of 400 in Hamilton and Thunder Bay during Phase 1 (Spring-Fall)
    - As of Oct 5, 2017, 365 individuals were enrolled in the pilot and are expected to receive an October 25th payment
    - This was an increase over the September payment, which included 247 individuals.
    - The ministry is implementing a plan to improve BI enrollment, which includes targeted public outreach and streamlining the enrollment process.

- On October 4th, Ministers Jaczek and Milczyn provided a public announcement on current status of BI, noting:
    - 400 people will receive basic income in October
        - *NOTE: this is a forecast of the ministry's enrollment expectations. As noted above, BI Pilot currently has 365 individuals enrolled for payment in October*.
    - Governance structure in place
    - 3rd party evaluator selected
    - Lindsay Pilot starting enrollment next week

Phase 2

- MCSS-PRSD working towards target of 2,000 recipients plus 2,000 individuals in the control group, evenly split between Ham/TB. PO/CO monitoring given Phase 1 experience.

- Launch of the Lindsay BI site in November 2017 (enrollment starting next week). Payments beginning to flow in December, targeting an additional 2,000 recipients.

First Nations Pilot

- Pilot to be implemented by February 2018; co-creation process, proposed approach and site location in development
    - Targeting 300 participants

- Tracking to Dec 7 MTPRSI / Dec 13 Cabinet
- Chiefs of Ontario (COO) advised that the Joint MCSS-First Nations Table was unable to meet on September 28-29, 2017 to discuss the First Nations Basic Income Pilot due to scheduling conflicts.
- MCSS-PRSD will set up a face-to-face meeting with the JMCSS-FNTSS members (Date TBC).

Income Security Reform

Working Groups' Report and Plan for Release

- MCSS has received a draft final copy of the ISR Working Groups final report:
  - outlines the Working Groups' recommendations for reform, significant investments/transformation and a proposed sequence for implementation over 10 years
  - There was a meeting this week with George Thompson that included senior PO, the P, the Minister and MO. CO understands there was discussion and agreement on the issues the report is trying to resolve and acknowledgement of a phased response.

- MCSS tracking to MT:PRSI on October 16 to seek approval to release the report. MCSS will be directed to report back in December/January with detailed analysis and an implementation plan.
  - MCSS working to develop phased implementation plan, outlining the short-, medium-, and long-term phases of reform.
  - Short-term phase to focus on modest investments that could be taken within the first three years that will have an impact on clients (expected to include cost estimates over the long-term)
    - MCSS has shared an initial phased approach, costed at $210M, $880M and $1.40B over next three years (in comparison to ISR Roadmap recommendations of $810M, $2.4B, $3.2B over first three years)

- Next Step to confirm approach for releasing the report (e.g. "receive" vs. "accept").

Seniors

Recent Developments

- During the week of Oct 2nd, Premier's Office provided updated direction on the release of a Seniors Strategy in Fall 2017:
    - MSA and MOHLTC are to collaborate on a discussion paper that highlights government's overarching goal: a commitment to supporting seniors at all stages as they age, by providing the supports and tools they need to stay independent, connected, healthy and safe.
    - The discussion paper will be released a few weeks in advance of FES (targeting end of October).
    - The discussion paper will include announcing some new investments, but significant new investments in LTCHs will be deferred to a later date.
    - MSA will proceed direct to Cabinet on Oct 18th for approval to release the discussion paper and the new initiatives to be included.
- This direction has been relayed to MSA and MOHLTC.
- CO convened multicorners with MSA, MOHLTC, TBS and MOF to finalize the list of new initiatives to be included in the discussion paper, subject to final confirmation from TBS/MOF about availability of room in fiscal plan.

Next Steps

- PO to confirm support for a small number of remaining potential initiatives under consideration.
- CO to continue to engage PO, TBS and MOF to confirm list of initiatives to be announced and funded through FES.
- MSA to finalize updated Cabinet deck and circulate to ministries for final confirmation of support- week of October 10th.
- CO to finalize proposed minute and circulate to partner ministries, PO for support.
- MSA and MOHLTC continue to work with CO/PO Comms on the development of a discussion paper

- CO to convene another multicorners with MOHLTC week of Oct 10th to discuss ongoing modelling regarding a potential wait list guarantee for LTCHs, to inform potential wording in the discussion paper about future investments.

Key Risks

- Timing: limited time to finalize Cabinet materials in advance of October 18th, and limited time to draft, finalize, translate public-facing discussion paper. CO is working closely with MSA, MOHLTC, and PO to support expedited development of materials.
- Financial approvals: Final confirmation still required on whether financial resources are available to support proposed new investments. CO is actively working with TBS and MOF to analyze financial impacts and confirm which initiatives can be funded.

Cap and Trade / GreenON

GreenON

- Installations and Support – funding for an additional 50 000 installations pending TB/MBC approval in early December.
- GreenOn Industries (Target GHG+), Low-carbon Tech Incentives and Agri-food Sector programs – launch/announcements early December.
- Market Transformation (GreenOn Accelerates) – tracking to TB/MBC early December for program design approval (launch in January 2018).

Cap and Trade

- Linking agreement with Quebec and California signed at Joint Cabinet meeting in late September 2017. MOECC received approval for related regulatory amendments on November 20; markets will be linked as of January 1, 2018 with first joint auction planned for February 2018. 2018 auction dates to be released Dec 1 (TBC) and February 2018 auction notice Dec 15.
- MOECC's Cap and Trade administrative monetary penalties and offset credits regulations tracking to LRC December 11, 2017.
    -
    - Fourth Auction planned for November 29, 2017 – release from holdback tracking to TB/MBC January.
- 2018/2019 GHGIP tracking to TB/MBC January
- Continued heightened stakeholder interest, including from the Auditor General and the FAO, in how government invests cap and trade proceeds. ECO report release expected in the coming weeks.

LTEP Release

- IESO and OEB Implementation Plans due to Minister of Energy January 31, 2018 for approval.
- LTEP initiatives continue implementation including Green Button and Net Metering legislation included in FES.

- Energy is tracking to LRC Dec 11 with additional instruments to implement LTEP commitments such as extending OEB regulatory oversight to unit sub-meter providers.

- Risks: AG report on Fair Hydro Plan (October 2017) may place additional scrutiny on the LTEP and outlooks. Need for continual alignment between LTEP and CCAP work.

Fair Hydro Plan

- OIC authorizing the Ministers of Energy and Finance to issue the provincial guarantee under the plan was approved by Cabinet on September 27. All major elements of the proposed agreement have now been addressed and drafing is being finalized. Briefing of Ministers of TBS, MOF and ENERGY expected to take place week of Nov 27 or December 4^{th}.
- OPG planning to be in market in December 2017or January 2018. This decision will be based on analysis of ultimate credit rating of the debt and optimal market timing. Week long marketing exercise would be followed by 3 day closing period. Energy assessing need for possible technical briefing after completion of this tranche.
- Hydro One pilot on Fair Hydro Plan bill presentment expected to start in November.
- ENERGY recieved LRC/Cabinet November 20 with a regulatory amendments related to fair hydro implementation, required to support OPG going to market in the near term.
- ENERGY is tracking to LRC/Cabinet December 11 with a regulatory amendment on Fair Hydro Plan bill presentment for non-Hydro One customers, and further regulatory amendments to address implementation issues such a OESP transition to to government revenues.
- Ongoing work with agencies, LDCs and partners (including TBS/MOF/CO) on implementation requirements continues (biweekly meetings).
- Risks: AG report on Fair Hydro Plan may place additional scrutiny on the Fair Hydro Plan generally.

Corrections and Strategy for Safer Ontario / Police Oversight Reform

Sapers Report/Corrections

- In 2017, the Independent Advisor on Corrections Reform (Howard Sapers) provided 125 recommendations on segregation and long-term corrections reform, including healthcare.
- On September 26, the OHRC filed an application with the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal, alleging that the Ontario government breached the *Jahn* settlement. On November 28, MCSCS shared revised minutes of settlement with the OHRC and received TB/MBC approvals related to *Jahn.* MCSCS has committed to seeking government approval by December 15 to comply with the OHRC's remedies.
- MCSCS has agreed to report back to the Ombudsman every six months on its progress in addressing the *Out of Side, Out of Mind* report recommendations. MCSCS submitted its first report back on October 20.
- TB/MBC and LRC approvals for the new corrections legislation are tracking for January/February 2018.
- MOHLTC will report back on a long-term healthcare transformation strategy in spring 2018.
- PO, CO, MCSCS, TBS, and Leg Counsel meet weekly, and monthly with MOHLTC, to discuss progress on the corrections reform agenda.

Strategy for a Safer Ontario/Reform

- On October 18, MCSCS and MAG received Cabinet approval on a policing omnibus bill, which includes new legislation to address Strategy for a Safer Ontario (SSO), police oversight, missing persons, and forensics oversight, as well as legislative amendments to the *Coroners Act.*
- Bill 175, *Safer Ontario Act, 2017*, was introduced on November 2. The bill is expected to be referred to committee after second reading. Committee deliberations are expected to take place in February 2018.
- MCSCS continues to engage the IPC Office regarding data collection provisions in the bill.

NAFTA

Recent Developments

- Round Five of NAFTA modernization talks concluded in Mexico City on November 21, 2017.
  - Parties released a very basic joint statement acknowledging the completion of the Round, highlighting that progress was made and negotiations will continue moving forward.
  - According to GAC, a key element of Canada's communications plan is to emphasize that negotiations continue to proceed on two tracks: 'traditional' negotiating areas where progress can be made, and 'unconventional' U.S. proposals that are unacceptable and do not allow for engagement.

Next Steps

- The next discussions will not be a formal "Round", rather an 'inter-sessional' discussion in December in Washington, D.C. Topics will focus on trying to close certain chapters, including: Digital Trade, Telecommunications, Technical Barriers to Trade, Sectoral Annexes, and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
- Additional negotiating rounds will be scheduled in 2018.
- Cabinet report back in January (tbd) with update, and any adjustments to the negotiating mandate (as required).

Key Risks

- On November 10, 2017 Canada reached an agreement in principle with eleven other countries in the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP11). The agreement, now called the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) came forward without the US during the 2017 Asia Pacific Economic Co-Operation (APEC) summit held in Vietnam.
  - As NAFTA discussions are ongoing, Ontario remains concerned about the intersection of these two agreements. For example, the potential cumulative impact of further supply management concessions, Rules of Origin provisions which do

not reflect Ontario’s auto supply chains, as well limiting flexibilities to provide cultural supports across all agreements could impact Ontario’s businesses from fully benefiting from both agreements

- MIT continues to lead development of policy options and actions should NAFTA renegotiations not yield positive benefits to Canada and/or Ontario.
- NAFTA renegotiation involves existing trade rules within North America, creating a higher level of risk compounded by the greater level of uncertainty that surrounds these negotiations.

Cannabis

Recent Developments

- On November 21, 2017, the federal government released a consultation paper to seek input on its proposed cannabis regulations. The proposed regulations address matters such as:
  - Licences, permits and authorizations;
  - Establishing a system to track cannabis throughout the supply chain;
  - Rules and standards related to cannabis products (e.g., oil, seeds);
  - Requirements for packaging and labelling; and
  - Maintaining current legal provisions related to medical cannabis, with proposed adjustments (e.g., to improve patient access).

  The deadline to provide written comments and responses is January 20, 2018. The Cannabis Secretariat (MAG) is working with partner ministries to analyse the regulatory proposals against Ontario's policy goals and consider Ontario's response.
- On November 3, the LCBO announced the first 14 cities that will receive retail stores. MOF and LCBO have now met with the majority of these municipalities:
  - Barrie
  - Brampton
  - Hamilton
  - Kingston
  - Kitchener
  - London
  - Mississauga
  - Ottawa
  - Sault Ste. Marie
  - Sudbury
  - Thunder Bay
  - Toronto
  - Vaughan
  - Windsor
- On October 27, letters were sent to all municipalities in Ontario to share the next steps for establishing retail stores. The process will be led by the LCBO, working closely with the government and local communities.
- On October 19, MCSCS had over 100 law enforcement and public health experts along with First Nations representatives and the

federal government participated in a Cannabis Legalization Enforcement Summit.

- On September 20, the Minister of Finance indicated that potential uniformity of pricing and taxation across Canada is being considered. A potential price point of $10 per gram was noted in media reports.

Framework Implementation

- The legislation was approved by LRC and Cabinet on October 30, 2017. It was introduced in the Legislature on November 1, 2017.
  - Time allocation issued on November 22, 2017
  - Second reading carried on November 23, 2017; bill was referred to Standing Committee on Justice Policy

Other Provinces/Municipalities

- New Brunswick: announced that it has created a new Crown corporation to oversee the sale of recreational marijuana, and signed deals with two suppliers; NB Finance Minister signed MOUs with Organigram and Canopy Growth Corp. to secure a supply for the NB market in time for the July 2018 launch.
- Alberta: has yet to make a decision but has narrowed options to **government-owned and operated stores**, which would be consistent with Ontario or licensed and **regulated private sales** where the government would license and regulate private retailers. Alberta has extensive experience with this approach as it's consistent with how alcohol is sold in Alberta.
- These are the only provinces that committed to or signaled a retail approach publicly.
- September 18, media reports that the City of Toronto's Licensing Committee is expected to recommend Council support the plan announced by Ontario and request support for enforcement and consult on issues including home grow

Federal-Provincial Infrastructure

Recent Updates

- On November 22, 2017, the federal government announced its 10-year, $40 billion National Housing Strategy. This includes a commitment to create up to 100,000 new housing units and repairing or renewing 300,000 housing units across the county.
    - Analysis is underway by Ministry of Housing officials to determine the strategy's potential impact on Ontario.
- Week of November 20: a joint letter from the lead ADMs at MTO and MOI was sent to the 98 Ontario municipalities with public transit systems, indicating that the Province would be seeking their input over the coming weeks on how to prioritize the forthcoming $8.3 billion in federal transit funding. This would support the province's negotiations with the federal government and ensure that the bilateral agreement between Ontario and Canada optimizes the benefits of the federal investment.

Current Status

- On July 6, 2017, the Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities sent letters to all PT Infrastructure ministers, as well as to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to provide additional details about the federal government's long term infrastructure plan and to open negotiations to reach bilateral agreements with each province/territory. Funding for Ontario, contingent on cost-sharing from the province, includes:
    - $8.34 billion for public transit;
    - $2.85 billion for green infrastructure;
    - $0.4 billion for community, culture and recreation infrastructure; and
    - $0.25 billion for rural and northern communities infrastructure.
- To date, Ontario has committed $1.5 billion of this funding:
    - $1.1 billion to Stage 2 of the Ottawa LRT
    - $417 million for the Port Lands Flood Protection Project to help revitalize Toronto's waterfront.
- MOI is working with officials at Infrastructure Canada to make recommendations on the design of Phase Two programs to ensure

alignment with Ontario’s priorities, and is working with AMO and the City of Toronto to develop a common understanding of the federal terms and conditions and where possible, a common approach to negotiations.

- A final bilateral agreement between Ontario and Canada is targeted before March 31st, 2018.

Transit and Transportation

RER procurement

- Procurement for enabling works ongoing until early 2018 (13 AFP procurements and several traditional procurements).
- On June 14, 2017, Metrolinx issued the Notice of Commencement for the GO Electrification Environmental Assessment Transit Project Assessment Process.
- The second RER procurement package will include the design and construction of 12 new stations (6 RER and 6 SmartTrack), along with major renovations to several existing GO stations. The work will be procured using an AFP procurement approach. Pending TB/MBC approval, the RFQs would be released in spring 2018.
- On July 21, 2017 Metrolinx issued an RFQ for RER operation and maintenance services. On September 15, 2017, Metrolinx issued a notice that outlines possible changes to the RER Operations and Maintenance Request for Qualifications process, as Metrolinx is now recommending a design/build/ finance/operate/maintain ("DBFOM") project delivery model.
- MTO intends to seek Treasury Board approval of this procurement approach in December 2017. Upon approval, Metrolinx intends to issue an RFQ in spring 2018; an RFP in late 2018; and to achieve financial close in late 2019 or early 2020.
- MTO will be providing an update on RER Procurement to Fiscal Prep Committee on November 29, 2017.

Hydrogen

- MTO/Metrolinx updating RER procurement strategy and explore viability of alternative propulsion technologies (TB/MBC Fall 2017).
- On September 15, 2017, Metrolinx released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for concept design work to show how a hydrogen fuel cell system could be integrated into a Bi-level Electric Multiple Unit train. The Hydrail Feasibility Study is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2017.

- MTO and Metrolinx held a Hydrogen Symposium on November 16, 2017, which gathered industry leaders together to discuss the potential application of hydrogen fuel cell technology to electrify the GO rail network.

Rail Rationalization

- Negotiations between Metrolinx and CN for Master Agreement on rail rationalization starting in Fall 2017 (TBC).
- EA for rail rationalization to begin in June 2018 (TBC).
- Discussions to be held between MOF and MTO on emerging tax issues related to CN

Regional Transportation Plan

- On September 14, 2017, the Metrolinx Board of Directors adopted and published a draft 2041 updated Regional Transportation Plan. MTO is coordinating inter-ministerial feedback in the draft RTP.
- At its Board meeting on December 7, 2016, Metrolinx plans to provide an update on feedback received on the draft and proposed next steps. An updated draft plan would be presented to the Board in February 2018 (TBC).

High Speed Rail

- On October 17/18, 2017, MTO received TB/MBC and Cabinet approval to:
  - Proceed with Stage 1 (Planning) for High Speed Rail (HSR) with an estimated cost of $147M to $212M over six years, proposed to be offset from unallocated funding for the Outside Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (OGTHA) component of the Moving Ontario Forward plan; and
  - Establish a short-term (up to three years) HSR Planning Advisory Board to provide strategic advice, engage with the private sector, build partnerships and raise the profile of HSR in Ontario and around the world.
- The HSR Planning Advisory Board will consist of 9-member board (including a Chair and Vice Chair).

- The HSR Planning Advisory Board would be established in late 2017 with the Chair being appointed first and the members shortly after.
- On October 23, 2017, the Premier spoke at the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce and announced the establishment of the HSR Planning Advisory Board to provide strategic support to HSR.
    - The news release also announced the launch of a website with details of what high speed rail will mean for people in Southwestern Ontario and across the province, and how people can provide feedback and input. Consultation dates and other input opportunities would be posted on this website as they are scheduled.

GTA West

- On May 29, 2017, the GTA West Advisory Panel provided its final report to the Minister of Transportation.
    - The Advisory Panel recommended not proceeding with the existing EA for a new highway corridor in the Northwest GTA.
- In response to the panel's recommendations, MTO, partnering with MMA and MOECC, is recommending an interim approach to corridor protection, together with a commitment to develop and propose a longer-term approach.
    - A 9-12 month joint corridor study (led by MTO and the Independent Electricity System Operator) for protection of a multipurpose infrastructure corridor. The study would identify lands that should be protected to allow for future infrastructure planning and EAs.
    - Upon conclusion of this study, the ministries would bring forward a proposed corridor and longer term protection approach.
- Cabinet approved the ministry's proposed approach on November 15, 2017. The Minister will publicly announce this approach in late November/early December 2017 (TBC).

Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs

Bill 148-*Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017* (FWBJA)

- Bill 148 was passed on November 22, 2017. Royal Assent is potentially scheduled for November 27, 2017 (TBC). LRA and most ESA changes will come into force as of January 1, 2018 except minimum wage (see section below), equal pay (April 1, 2018), Scheduling (January 1, 2019) and exclusions (January 1, 2018 / January 1, 2019).
- MOL is proposing a package of transitional, consequential and substantive regulations for LRC approval on December 11, 2017, with a proposed coming into force date of January 1, 2018. MOL also plans to seek approval for additional regulations in early 2018 with proposed coming into force dates of April 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019.
- The exemptions review was launched on October 18th by way of news release and postings to the Regulatory Registry. Phase 1 of the review includes eight occupations under the ESA. Phase 1 consultations will continue until December 1, 2017 and analysis will be conducted from December 2017 to February 2018. MOL is planning to launch a second phase of the review in January 2018.

Minimum Wage

- October 1, 2017 the general minimum wage increased to $11.60 per hour following the Consumer Price Index (CPI) model.
- The general minimum wage will increase to $14 per hour on January 1, 2018 and $15 per hour on January 1, 2019. Special minimum wage rates will increase by the same proportion.
- Ministries, TBS and CO are working on assessing the impact of the minimum wage increase on the OPS and BPS, as well potential venues for resolution of any implementation issues. Most ministries had started compiling this information for their PRRT submissions.
- EDU received TB/MBC October 17 / Cabinet October 18 approval for $12.7 million in funding to address 2017-18 minimum wage impacts in the child care sector.

Key Risks

- Potential for unforeseen or unintended impacts given the scope of measures, timing of the implementation and lack of full stakeholder input on some aspects of the proposal (such as, minimum wage).