# Re: Premier's comments on Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel

**From:** EJS (TBS) <"/o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=ejs (tbs)67a">
**To:** "Ostergard, Matt (TBS)" <matt.ostergard@ontario.ca>
**Date:** Tue, 07 Feb 2017 16:16:31 -0500

Great avail. I'm glad P mentioned qualifications
Liz

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

**From:** Ostergard, Matt (TBS)
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 12:41 PM
**To:** EJS (TBS); @TBS-L-O-Minister's_Office
**Subject:** Premier's comments on Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel

Below are the Premier's comments to Robert Benzie (questioner) and others on the Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel at a media availability this morning.

TRANSCRIPT:

Q: [Inaudible] Auditor General [inaudible] pension surplus should not be an asset on the government's book. It appears this independent panel that set up to adjudicate has basically ruled in the government's favour [inaudible] should be counted as an asset on the books. That would mean $1.5 billion [inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: You'll have to talk to the Auditor General about her position. But we put in place, there was a disagreement – obviously that was apparent. We asked an objective, independent panel to weigh in on this and to give us advice and we're going to take that independent advice very very seriously. And I just want to – I anticipated this question. And I am I brought along the list of people on that panel. And I just want to briefly say who they are and what their qualifications are: Tricia O'Malley was the chair. And Tricia has been a member of the Canadian Actuarial Standards Oversight Council since 2012 and she has served as the chair since 25th January 2015. She's also been a member of the Canadian Accounting Standards Oversight Council since 2013. Murray Gold has been the lead counsel for Koskie Minsky in regard to pension reform initiatives and litigation in Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Ontario, Alberta and he has worked on health benefit plan reforms in Ontario and British Columbia. Uros Karadzic is a partner at Ernst and Young. He's part of the people advisory services reward practice, which includes pension benefit and compensation consulting. And the final member, Paul Martin, is a controller with the government of New Brunswick and previously a partner with the national accounting firm of Grant Thornton LLP. So we asked these four people who have vast experience in this area to weigh in on this issue. And as they say we will take their independent case very serious.

Q: Do you think that's enough to [inaudible] court of public opinion [inaudible]

PREMIER WYNNE: What we have to do as government is get the best advice that we can. There was a conflict between the advice that the Auditor General is giving us and the advice that our officials were giving us. We sought independent third party advice and you know we have to take that independent advice very seriously.

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