

Minister Thibeault Bullets | North Bay Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) Event
Canadore College | Monday, August 28, 2017

- Good morning everyone
- Thank you **Your Worship** [*Al McDonald, Mayor, North Bay*] for that kind introduction
- I want to acknowledge our partners at North Bay Hydro, and thank **Todd** [*Wilcox, President & CEO, North Bay Hydro*] and the team for their commitment to keeping the lights on for families and businesses across the region
- It's a pleasure to be at Canadore College this morning
- Thank you for hosting us **George** [*Burton, President, Canadore College*]
- As many of you know, Canadore has a very special place in my heart...
- Because I graduated from the developmental services worker program here, a few moons ago...
- I feel personally grateful...

- And I imagine the many students that have come after me are also grateful for the high-quality education they've received from faculty and the top-notch facilities we were provided with by leadership and support staff
- Like North Bay families and businesses...
- Canadore College has seen its electricity bills increase
- And where Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan is delivering a reduction of 25 per cent off on average for all residential households and as many as half a million small businesses and farms across the province
- Including all of North Bay Hydro's residential customers and hundreds of local small businesses...
- Our government has also taken a number of significant actions to support our large electricity consumers
- For example, in June we announced up to 25 per cent in electricity savings through the improved Northern Industrial Electricity Rate program...

- This program supports the biggest job creators in Northern Ontario...
- Including mining and forestry companies, to boost their competitiveness and help them continue to grow
- Additionally, to ensure greater fairness for businesses and organizations of all sizes...
- Through our Fair Hydro Plan, we're taking social programs, like the Ontario Electricity Support and the Rural or Remote Rate Protection plans
- And offloading the payment for the cost of these programs from ratepayers onto the provincial treasury
- This will take approximately two to four per cent off of electricity bills of all ratepayers, including businesses large and small
- Another program for non-residential electricity consumers is the Industrial Conservation Initiative
- This very successful program is specifically what brings us together this morning

- The Industrial Conservation Initiative provides an incentive for large North Bay Hydro customers and large energy consumers across the province to conserve electricity during peak hours of consumption
- And in combination with these conservation measures by electricity customers, the province and all its ratepayers benefit...
- Because we're able to defer the need to build expensive new peaking generation facilities in the long term
- These peaking facilities only generate and supply electricity when they're needed – and sit idle when they're not
- To paint a picture of the benefits...
- Last year, independent studies showed that program participants helped lower peak electricity demand in Ontario by 1,300 megawatts
- With the many successes of ICI already a reality...
- Our government made the decision to expand eligibility for the program

- Starting last month (July), all electricity consumers with average monthly peak electricity demand greater than 1 megawatt that opt-in to the program...
- Will see savings on their electricity bills of up to one-third
- This includes significant savings for your local college
- And when their electricity bills arrive, they will have more flexibility with their budget...
- To direct these savings to other priority areas of their operations
- The ICI is really a **win-win-win**
- A win for Ontario's electricity system...
- A win for the province's ratepayers...
- And a win for Canadore College and its students
- Thank you again for joining us here this morning

- I would now like to introduce Brian Vaillancourt, VP of business development, to speak on behalf of College Boreal