Afternoon Media/tweet Scan w/ Premier's Remarks, Avail, and Opposition Scrums - Thursday March 2, 2017

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Date: Thu, 02 Mar 2017 15:15:56 -0500
Attachments: 20170302 - Premier Wynne's Remarks At Ontario Fair Hydro Plan Announceme....docx (24.86 kB); 20170302 - Premier Wynne's Avail At Ontario Fair Hydro Plan Announcement....docx (29.95 kB); Mar. 2 - Scrums After Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan Announcement.doc (102.91 kB)

CFTO (Toronto)
Premier Kathleen Wynne has announced a total 25 per cent cut to hydro rates, but it may come at a cost to the next generation. The Premier compared the plan to refinancing a mortgage, which gives you lower monthly payments by stretching out the term.

GLOBAL (Toronto)
The Liberals have announced a plan to reduce hydro rates by 25%, Includes a video of Kathleen Wynne announcing the plan this morning. The opposition has criticized the plan for passing on the costs to future generations.

CJOH (Ottawa)
Responding to complaints and plunging poll numbers, Ontario's Premier announced a total 25 per cent cut to hydro bills, but it may come at a cost to the next generation.

MCTV (Sudbury)
This morning Premier Kathleen Wynne announced a 17-per-cent cut to hydro rates, on top of the 8-per-cent cut announced in January. Critics say today's cuts simply amount to re-mortgaging your house and taxpayers will have to pay in the long run.

AFTERNOON CLIPS

Hydro Relief Announcement

Hydro rate increases will be held to inflation after 25% cut

thestar.com - Thu Mar 2 2017
Byline: Robert BenzieRob Ferguson

Ontario's plan to slash hydro rates to cost billions in long term; Plan will shift $2.5-billion in electricity costs over three years to the province's general budget

theglobeandmail.com - Thu Mar 2 2017, 9:35am ET
Byline: SHAWN McCARTHY

Ontario hydro cut means billions in interest costs

torontosun.com - Thu Mar 2 2017
Byline: Shawn Jeffords Political Bureau Chief

Kevin Libin: Kathleen Wynne's sleazy, desperate hydro ploy to fool Ontarians is, well, brilliant

Financial Post - Thu Mar 2 2017
Byline: Kevin Libin

Government's hydro bill reduction plan a cynical shell game, says CUPE Ontario president

Marketwired - Thu Mar 2 2017

Ontario cuts hydro bills by 17%, but ultimately it will cost ratepayers $1.4 billion a year more

Financial Post - Thu Mar 2 2017
Byline: The Canadian Press

Bank of Canada

Bank of Canada won't budge on interest rate

Star Touch - Thu Mar 2 2017
Byline: Andy Blatchford

Housing Affordability

Soaring rents still cheaper than owning a house; There are no easy answers to the question of how to live in Toronto in 2017 without blowing up your personal finances

theglobeandmail.com - Thu Mar 2 2017, 11:57am ET
Byline: Rob Carrick

Vancouver home sales plunge more than 40%, as new listings drop to 14-year low | Financial Post

business.financialpost.com - Thu Mar 2 2017
Byline: Garry Marr

Permalink

TWEETS

Premier's Hydro Bill Relief Announcement

Kathleen Wynne Verified account @Kathleen_Wynne 35s36 seconds ago
We're providing hydro bill relief that is designed to last. Your bill won't increase beyond the rate of inflation for at least 4 years.

Charles Sousa Verified account @SousaCharles 8m8 minutes ago
Ontario residential hydro bills will drop by an average of 25%, starting this summer. http://Ontario.ca/FairHydroPlan

Steve Paikin Verified account @spaikin 2m2 minutes ago
All measures announced today are in addition to the 8% HST reduction already implemented, which costs the treasury $1b/yr. #onpoli

Essentially, today's announcement will move some of the costs of electricity generation & transmission from ratepayers to taxpayers #onpoli

Here we go: the new "fair hydro plan" will move billions from ratepayers to taxpayers. Govt insists this won't affect balanced budget plans.

"There were decisions made that just needed to be fixed. This won't help people for a year. They're sustainable, structural changes."

.@OntarioNDP unveiled its electricity plan earlier this week. Now @OntLiberal party. How about @OntarioPCParty? When will we see theirs?

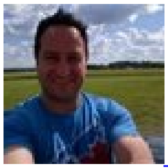
Massive media contingent reflects how important this issue is in public's consciousness & to parties' electoral hopes. #onpoli

"Because of Ontario's economy, this is the time to do this. These are essentially social prgms. Only fair to be borne by all of us." #onpoli

"It's like a mortgage. We've been paying it down v quickly. But ppl today shouldn't pay disprop. amnt for assets that'll last a long time."

Wynne asks: "why did it take so long for me to get to this point? The policy was wrong. I have obligation to get policy right." #onpoli

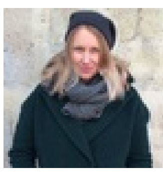
.@Kathleen_Wynne says these multi-billion measures will make it harder to balance the books, but it will still be done. #onpoli


Paul Bliss @blissblogs 8s8 seconds ago
It's the largest reduction in electricity prices in Ontario history says Premier.She adds..it's the right thing to do


David ReevelyVerified account @davidreevely 9m9 minutes ago
Glenn Thibeault explains that in downtown Toronto, say, you get 500 customers on 1 pole. In remote areas, you might get 500 poles/customer.

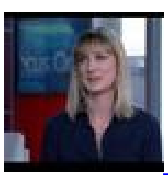
"Everyone in the province, in terms of distribution charge, will pay around the same amount."

800,000 more remote customers will get a break on delivery charges. "Electricity is a necessity," KW says, so it's only fair we all pay.


Allison Smith @QueensParkToday 15m15 minutes ago
Rates will only be linked to inflation for 4 years but ratepayers will be repaying refinanced debt for 30 years. No rate outlook beyond 2021

Wynne says it was wrong to ask ratepayers to pay for social programs lowering Hydro bills for low-income Ontarians. Shifting to gov subsidy

"Over time it will cost more. It's true. It will take longer to pay off. It's true. But it's more fair." - Wynne


Allison JonesVerified account @allisonjones_cp 58m58 minutes ago
Further 17% hydro relief coming this summer. But comes w up to $1.4B/yr in extra interest costs - to be borne by future ratepayers #onpoli

"Over time it will cost a bit more. That's true. And it will take longer to pay off...But it is fairer." - @Kathleen_Wynne #onpoli

Wynne is asked if this will help her popularity: "I don't expect a celebration as we make these announcements today." #onpoli


Mike CrawleyVerified account @CBCQueensPark 43m43 minutes ago
"I don't expect a celebration" over today's hydro announcement says Kathleen Wynne

Wynne uses the word "mistake" or "mistakes" at least 6 times in her speech about hydro

Adrian Morrow @AdrianMorrow 25m25 minutes ago

What I don't get is how it didn't occur to the Liberals that this would be the headline on their hydro announcement http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/ontario-wynne-slashes-hydro-rates/article34183180/ …

You tell someone you're saving money by stretching the timeframe on a payment, the obvious question is: How much more will it cost overall?

Maybe they realise that. But it's a strange comms fight to pick. Everyone who sees the "25% off" sticker will want to know what the catch is

Green Bonds / Finance

Bank of Canada Verified account @bankofcanada 3m3 minutes ago

Lane: Green finance faces challenges but could be part of mainstream finance. Green bonds issued globally in 2016: a record US$81 billion

Think Tanks / Research

The Fraser Institute @FraserInstitute 3h3 hours ago

Fraction of Ottawa's $100 billion infrastructure spending likely to spur economy http://bit.ly/2mfVrol #cdnpoli

Economy

National Post Verified account @nationalpost 4m4 minutes ago

Canada’s economy just blew forecasts away with 2.6% GDP growth http://business.financialpost.com/news/economy/canadas-economy-blows-away-forecasts-with-2-6-gdp-growth … #business

U.S. Economy

The Agenda | TVO Verified account @TheAgenda 11m11 minutes ago

More than 7 million American men are not only jobless, they are no longer even looking for work http://tvo.org/video/programs/the-agenda-with-steve-paikin/wither-the-work-ethic-of-american-men …

Global Economy

EU_Eurostat Verified account @EU_Eurostat 4h4 hours ago
January 2017: euro area unemployment rate stable at 9.6%, EU at 8.1% #Eurostat
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-press-releases/-/3-02032017-AP …

Top of the Document