

RE: Interview request: Scott Thompson

From: "McLean, David (MOF)" <david.mclean@ontario.ca>
To: "Thompson, Scott (MOF)" <scott.thompson@ontario.ca>
Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2018 15:08:09 -0400

Deputy – Scott B has suggested a response to the Globe reporter below. I have made some edits and added additional content (in red). The language about the statement of responsibility is lifted directly from the statement itself. Please let me know if you have any other suggestions, or if you're uncomfortable at all with this response.

From: Blodgett, Scott (MOF)
Sent: April 16, 2018 1:36 PM
To: McLean, David (MOF)
Subject: RE: Interview request: Scott Thompson

David – I have heard back from Energy. This reporter did request an interview with DM Imbrogno – and they have declined. However, in conjunction with their MO they are answering some questions for this reporter – and are in the process of getting approved responses now – and those responses will be emailed back to the reporter.

After we spoke, I did check Public Accounts and yes, Scott Thompson's name is there along with Helen Angus and Cindy Veinot.

Therefore, my recommendation would be to get back to him saying something like this:

Hi Matt –

Yes, Deputy Minister Thompson 's-signs a Statement of Responsibility as part of the name-is-on-the Public Accounts process, along with Helen Angus (Deputy Minister of Treasury Board) and Cindy Veinot (Provincial Controller).

He signs off solely in his capacity as the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Finance to provide reasonable assurance that transactions recorded in the Consolidated Financial Statements are within statutory authority, assets are properly safeguarded and reliable financial information is available for preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements, from the Ministry of Finance perspective.

However, As I said in my previous email, the Public Accounts are overseen by Treasury Board and the Fair Hydro Plan is overseen by the Ministry of Energy . Therefore if you have any further questions about Public Accounts or the Fair Hydro Plan , we would respectfully request that you contact that-those ministr ies

I hope this helps.

*Regards,
Scott*

David, let me know if this might work for you and the Deputy – or if you have a better one-liner that we can use to explain why he does sign-off....please feel free to put it in. Also, you will notice that I am staying away from saying Deputy Thompson will decline an interview – then, he can't say we refused to talk to the reporter.

Thanks

Scott

From: McLean, David (MOF)
Sent: April-16-18 12:31 PM
To: Blodgett, Scott (MOF)
Subject: RE: Interview request: Scott Thompson

Is he also seeking interviews with DM Imbrogno and DM Angus?

From: Thompson, Scott (MOF)
Sent: April 16, 2018 11:46 AM
To: McLean, David (MOF)
Subject: FW: Interview request: Scott Thompson

From: McClearn, Matthew
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 11:46:17 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Blodgett, Scott (MOF); Thompson, Scott (MOF)
Subject: RE: Interview request: Scott Thompson

Scott:

Mr. Thompson has testified before the Public Accounts Committee that “the Ministry of Finance worked very closely with the Ministry of Energy on this.” His signature appears on the Statement of Responsibility on the Public Accounts. His name will be referenced in the story. I’d love to chat with him. I think our readers would want to hear from him on this.

Matt.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Blodgett, Scott \(MOF\)](#)
Sent: April 16, 2018 11:31 AM
To: [McClearn, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Demetriades, Natasha \(ENERGY\)](#); [Vrancart, Kate \(TBS\)](#)
Subject: RE: Interview request: Scott Thompson

Good morning, Matt – thank you for your email.
With regards to the issue of the Fair Hydro Plan and Public Accounts: questions on this should be directed to my colleagues at the Ministry of Energy and the Treasury Board Secretariat.
I have copied my counterparts at these ministries, Natasha Demetriades (Energy) and Kate Vrancourt (TBS) on this email.
Regards,
Scott

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From: McClearn, Matthew [<mailto:MMcClearn@globeandmail.com>]
Sent: April-16-18 11:11 AM
To: Blodgett, Scott (MOF)
Subject: Interview request: Scott Thompson

Scott:

Good morning. I'm working on a piece about the financial and accounting structure of the Fair Hydro Plan and its impact on the Public Accounts, and I wanted to request an interview with Deputy Minister Scott Thompson this week. Please let me know if he's available. My own schedule. Thanks and regards,

Matt.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Blodgett, Scott \(MOF\)](#)
Sent: April 11, 2018 11:38 AM
To: [McClearn, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Vrancart, Kate \(TBS\)](#)
Subject: Pre-Election Report

Good morning, Matt – it was very nice speaking with you a few moments ago.
As promised, here is the link to the Pre-Election Report: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2018-pre-election-report-ontarios-finances>
If you have any further questions, you can contact my counterpart at Treasury Board Secretariat, Kate Vrancourt who has been copied on this email.
Regards,
Scott

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