

CO Top Issues for December 13, 2016

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Top Issues

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TOP ISSUES

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Issue: Province To Handle Contaminated Land at Stelco

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FRONT PAGE HEADLINES (GTA NEWSPAPERS)

TV NEWS SUMMARY (6:00 P.M. EDITION)

RADIO NEWS SUMMARY (6:30 A.M. EDITION)

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in these summaries are those of the media cited and

do not reflect the views and opinions of the Ontario Public Service.

CALENDAR

December 13, 2016

Premier Kathleen Wynne to speak to the Canadian Club of Toronto

8:00 a.m. / Toronto: Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne speaks to the Canadian Club of Toronto about "A Balanced Plan to Build Ontario Up for Everyone." Livestream available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/premierofontario>. (Fairmont Royal York, Canadian Room, 1st floor, 100 Front St. W.)

Minister Ballard to make an announcement

9:00 a.m. / Toronto: Chris Ballard, minister of Housing and minister responsible for Poverty Reduction, makes an announcement. (360 Degrees Kids Youth Hub, 10415 Yonge St, Suite D)

Minister Duguid to make an announcement

11:00 a.m. / Toronto: Economic Development and Growth Minister Brad Duguid makes an announcement regarding support for new jobs and investment in Ontario's digital media sector. (Stereo D, 2 Fraser Ave.)

Attorney General Naqvi to make an announcement

12:30 p.m. / Toronto: Attorney General Yasir Naqvi will be joined by Russell Silverstein of Innocence Canada to make an announcement about improving access to justice. (111 Peter Str., Suite 408)

Minister Hunter to make an announcement

1:30 p.m. / Hamilton: Ontario Education Minister Hunter makes an announcement. She will be joined by Ted McMeekin, MPP for Ancaster-Dundas-Flamborough-Westdale, and Eleanor McMahon, MPP for Burlington. (Hamilton City Hall, 2 floor foyer (outside Council Chambers), 71 Main Street West)

Minister Lalonde to make an announcement

1:30 p.m. / Toronto: Government and Consumer Services Minister Marie-France Lalonde, Richard Smart (president and CEO, Travel Industry Council of Ontario) and Beaches-East York MPP Arthur Potts make an announcement about strengthening consumer protection for travellers. (Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, Island Atrium, 2 Eireann Quay)

TOP ISSUES

Issue: Ontario Pitches New Long-Term Health Deal

☐ The province is proposing a new 10-year federal health spending plan, which would include Ottawa increasing federal health transfers by 5.2 per cent every year in exchange for provincial commitments to spend on "mutually agreed-upon priority areas," such as mental health and home-care services.

☐ The plan proposes that the \$3 billion the federal government intends to allocate to mental health and home-care services over the next three years be put into the 10-year federal health transfer instead, giving provinces the ability to plan properly instead of seeing money dry up after a few years.

☐ The Ontario government's proposal is based on the Conference Board of Canada's estimate that health costs will grow around 5.2 per cent per year from 2015 to 2035.

☐ While the Ontario government is proposing yearly increases in health transfers that are much higher than the three per cent the federal government is planning on delivering, it is still less than the six-per-cent annual increases provinces had been receiving since 2004 that

premiers had hoped to reinstate.

☐ A document obtained by the Toronto Star also found that Ontario warns that a reduction in federal transfers will take more than \$1 billion out of the health system in 2017-18.

☐ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau suggested that Ottawa will discuss Ontario's proposal at next Monday's meeting of finance ministers. "I think people expect us to act in a measured way but also in an immediate way on the health file," he said.

Newspapers: "Ontario pitches new long-term health deal," The Toronto Star, Tonda MacCharles, A1

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Ottawa Supervised Injection Site Seeks \$1.4 M

☐ The Ottawa Citizen reports the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre has asked the province for \$1.4 million a year to operate a supervised injection site seven days a week, 12 hours a day in downtown Ottawa.

☐ The estimated cost for the injection site has more than quadrupled since a plan for the service was unveiled earlier this year.

☐ Rob Boyd, director of the health centre's harm reduction program, said costs have gone up as the service model changed in response to the public's feedback and to keep pace with the opioid epidemic in the city.

☐ Community members, Boyd said, made it clear they want drug users to be able to access the centre's medical, social and counselling services whenever they visit the injection site.

☐ Boyd said, "(The community) felt we needed to be open as many hours as possible; that this was not going to be a Monday to Friday, nine to five service. What that does is scale up the cost of doing this."

☐ Boyd made the comments as federal Health Minister Jane Philpott announced Friday that the federal government will be making it easier for local agencies to open supervised injection sites in Canada.

☐ Minister Philpott said the government will introduce legislation to streamline the current approvals process and agencies will have to meet five criteria to open a new supervised site instead of 26.

☐ Boyd noted the newly announced legislation has come too late for Sandy Hill's proposal, as the centre is now finalizing its application based on the 2015 system introduced by the former federal Conservative government.

☐ Boyd said he expects to submit a license application to Health Canada by the end of the year and wants to open the supervised injection site in the spring.

☐ The Citizen noted that earlier this year, Ontario Health Minister Eric Hoskins suggested Ottawa city council will have to vote for a supervised drug injection site before the province funds it.

☐ Boyd argued that municipal approval is an unnecessary step, particularly with fentanyl already on the streets of Ottawa, and carfentanil likely on the way. “We really can’t get opened fast enough in order to prevent a number of deaths,” Boyd said.

A1 Newspapers: “Supervised injection site seeks \$1.4 M,” The Ottawa Citizen, Andrew Duffy,

Television: None

Radio: CFRA - 7:30 AM (1)

Issue: Sick Kids Urged to “Step Up” On Motherisk Scandal

☐ The Toronto Star reports Children’s Aid Societies are calling on the Hospital for Sick Children to “step up” and own the role it played in the Motherisk scandal that saw faulty drug and alcohol hair tests used in thousands of child protection cases.

☐ Mary Ballantyne, executive director of the Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies (OACAS) said Sick Kids, which housed the discredited Motherisk Drug Testing Laboratory, should do more to assist in the significant efforts underway to deliver justice to those affected.

☐ Sick Kids, which had previously defended the reliability of Motherisk’s hair tests, issued a public apology in October 2015 for “unacceptable” practices at the lab after completing an internal probe.

☐ Soon after, retired Justice Susan Lang’s independent review of Motherisk found the hospital failed to provide meaningful oversight of Motherisk, and the lab’s drug and alcohol hair test results were “inadequate” and “unreliable” for use in child protection and criminal cases.

☐ Established on Lang’s recommendation, the Motherisk Commission of Inquiry is now reviewing high-priority child protection cases, to see if positive Motherisk tests played too significant a role in decisions to remove children from families.

☐ The review efforts depend heavily on children’s aid societies, which spend between eight and 20 hours on each file, according to the OACAS.

☐ The Ministry of Children and Youth Services has given \$1.5 million in additional funding to OACAS. In terms of Sick Kid’s involvement, Ballantyne criticized, “The costs that are involved in doing this work are significant, so what role are they and can they be playing in these costs?”

☐ Sick Kids declined to make CEO Michael Apkon available for an interview on Monday, however, in a response to an email from the Star, hospital spokeswoman Matet Nebres said that “the hospital continues to co-operate with (the) ongoing review, and to provide support if and when requested, in order to address the concerns of families who believe that they may have been negatively affected by the Motherisk Drug Testing Lab.”

Newspapers: “Sick Kids urged to ‘step up’ on Motherisk scandal,” Toronto Star, Rachel Mendleson, A1

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Companies Plowing Ontario Highways Owe \$2.5 Million in Fines

According to new figures from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, the province levied \$3.25 million in fines against highway maintenance contractors for poor performance during winter 2015-16. So far, the province has only collected \$693,000 of the money.

However, the companies' contracts give them the opportunity to dispute the fines, a process that takes time, said Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca. "We asked them to consider short-circuiting what's in their contract and going directly to binding arbitration ... They've considered it, they rejected that," Del Duca said.

Ontario Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk found last year that winter highway maintenance was not being carried out nearly as effectively as it was before 2009, when the ministry made changes to how it contracts out the work, prioritizing the lowest bidders with slight regard for ability to do the work.

Lysyk recently released a follow up to her finding, in which she said the province has implemented eight of her recommendations on the issue and is in the process of implementing another eight.

One of these recommendations includes adding 19 inspectors to monitor the quality of the snow-clearing during storms, which the province has acted on. But, the auditor pointed out that the province has not acted on her recommendation to improve its selection of contractors by evaluating bidders' ability to clear the highways adequately.

Despite this, Del Duca said he believes Ontario highways will be cleared properly this year. "I think we're in a much stronger position certainly than we were a year or two ago and we'll continue to push as hard as we can to make sure we have a winter maintenance system that's functioning properly."

Newspapers: "Companies plowing Ontario highways owe \$2.5M in fines," CBC News, Mike Crawley

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Families of Pedestrians Killed by Motorists Plead for Tougher Penalties

Pedestrians and cyclists are dying from being hit by motorists at an alarming rate on Toronto streets, with 40 deaths occurring so far this year. Safety advocates are now demanding reforms to lax dangerous driving penalties in the province in the hope of saving lives.

Erinn Davis and Alex Tushingham's father was hit and killed by a motorist in 2013. Yet, the motorist was charged only with unsafely leaving a Markham roadway and fined \$500. Davis said, "The charge was no different if she hit a mailbox, or nothing, or killed my dad. There's no part of the charge that relates to the outcome, which is the crazy part."

Currently, motorists can face up to 10 years in jail under a criminal charge of dangerous driving causing injury, up to six months in jail and a fine of \$2,000 for the provincial offense of careless driving.

However, courts rarely issue the maximum penalties and there are examples of

motorists paying under \$1,000 for actions that killed a person.

☐ Patrick Brown, a Toronto lawyer, said that careless driving is like turning a car into a weapon and “if you use any other weapon to kill someone, like negligent discharge of a gun, you will face very severe penalties.”

☐ Between 2008 and 2012, over 10,000 Toronto cyclists and 5,000 pedestrians have been killed or injured by motorists. And a city staff analysis showed that the vast majority of pedestrians had the right of way.

☐ Friends and Families for Safe Streets (FFSS), a group working to end traffic violence in Toronto by changing laws, has proposed that the province needs to adopt “vulnerable road user” laws, which include much tougher penalties for careless driving. The group is calling for reckless drivers who hit and kill a pedestrian to be charged with charges of around \$50,000.

☐ Last June, Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca said that he was “open-minded” about creating additional penalties or fines for driving causing death or bodily harm.

☐ Del Duca added, “I don't mind continuing to work on this, that doesn't bother me in the least, it is part of my responsibility, but I want to make sure if we're going to go forward and we have a plan, it's a plan that is more likely to work than not, and I think that requires a little more time. I completely respect the frustration and the impatience that some people are feeling and we'll have more to say, I think, in the relatively near future.”

Newspapers: “A fine mess,” The Toronto Star, David Rider, A1
“A look at how the courts penalize drivers in Ontario,” The Toronto Star, David Rider, A1

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: OEB Rejects Auditor’s Call For More Transparency on Hydro Bills

☐ The Hamilton Spectator reports the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is rejecting a call from the province’s auditor general to clarify the global adjustment charge on electricity bills.

☐ The global adjustment is an extra charge that is levied to cover the gap between the guaranteed prices the government promised electricity generators in 20-year contracts and the actual market rates.

☐ It is added to the time-of-use electricity rates for consumers and businesses, but at different percentages for peak, mid-peak and off-peak hours.

☐ Auditor general Bonnie Lysyk estimated the global adjustment accounted for 70 percent of consumer's electricity rates in 2013, and said in her 2016 annual report this month that it should be much clearer for consumers.

☐ Lysyk wrote, “The significant impact of the global adjustment on time-of-use rates was not transparent to ratepayers. Between 2006 and 2015, the 10-year accumulative actual and projected global adjustment totalled about \$50 billion.” Lysyk recommended hydro bills be changed to separately disclose the components of pricing, which includes the electricity market price and the global adjustment.

☐ The OEB said it considered Lysyk’s recommendation, but has decided not to

implement it. The OEB maintains that breaking down the global adjustment would not clarify prices for consumers but would likely create more confusion.

☐ Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault's office said the government would not order the OEB to separate out the global adjustment charge on bills.

☐ Dan Moulton, spokesperson for Minister Thibeault said, "The government respects the independence of the Ontario Energy Board as the province's quasi-judicial regulatory."

☐ The OEB said instead of showing the global adjustment as a separate line item on bills, it would rely on the Independent Electricity System Operator to publicly report the breakdown of the charge by business and consumer categories.

☐ The OEB also said that it would conduct pilot projects to assess other potential changes to make electricity bills easier to understand, such as renaming the time-of-use periods and providing better information on the amount of power certain appliances consume and the cost of that electricity.

☐ A recent study commissioned by the OEB found time-of-use pricing had "only a modest impact on reducing peak demand among residential ratepayers, a limited or unclear effect on small businesses, and no impact at all on conservation," despite the province having spent \$2 billion to install 4.8 million smart meters to enable time-of-use pricing.

Newspapers: "Clarify hydro bills? No, says OEB," The Hamilton Spectator, Keith Leslie, The Canadian Press, A12
Television: CFTO - 6:00 PM (12); CHCH - 6:00 PM (15)
Radio: None

Issue: "Epidemic" of Young Girls Being Forced Into Prostitution" Toronto Police

☐ The head of the Toronto police's Human Trafficking Enforcement Team, Det.-Sgt. Nuncio Tramontozzi said there have been 77 arrests so far this year in connection with human trafficking crimes. Tramontozzi said that horrific crimes against young girls that include controlling them through threats, drugs and violence have become "an epidemic in Canada."

☐ Tramontozzi added, "Pimps are recruiting girls out of high school and middle school. They are predators and master manipulators. They see the vulnerable side to these girls and exploit it. And once these girls are in the game, it's very hard to get out."

☐ Human trafficking brings in large amounts of money for pimps, said Tramontozzi, where some have five to 10 women in their "stable" and each can earn about \$250,000 per year.

☐ "And these guys understand that police need the girls to testify against them in court. Without that, they'll never be convicted ... And these girls are broken so bad they don't want to testify ... And there are men who want to have sex with girls who are 13 or 14 years old," Tramontozzi said.

☐ Some pimps are affiliated with gangs, but many of them surf the internet to look for lonely young girls who will respond to flattery and attention. Sixty per cent of the 62 victims Tramontozzi encountered this year were 16 or younger.

☐ The police have made partnerships with Covenant House and other agencies to get specialists working with the victims, helping both the women and the police.

Newspapers: "An Epidemic in Canada," The Toronto Sun, Liz Braun, A8

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Sexual Assault Victim Settles Human Rights Complaint with York U

☐ The Toronto Star reports a human rights complaint claiming York University failed to support a student who was sexually assaulted has been settled.

☐ Mandi Gray, a PhD student at York, alleged the university's policies and protocols for when a student is sexually assaulted by another student or staff member were unclear and insufficient.

☐ A joint statement released Monday by the university states that the application has been settled with no admission of liability by York, or concession by Gray.

☐ The statement read, "Although the parties were unable to reach an agreement on many issues, part of the resolution of the (Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario) application is that the university will collaborate with sexual assault centres to provide specialized counselling to sexual violence survivors from the York community."

☐ In an interview, Gray would not comment on the terms of the settlement, but she said there are larger questions to be asked about what can be achieved through litigation versus activism.

☐ Since Gray's complaint in June 2015, York University has released new interim guidelines for responding to sexual violence including a Sexual Violence Response Office. Consultations with campus groups are ongoing.

☐ Gray has criticized the guidelines for not going far enough to support sexual assault survivors.

☐ Her attacker, Mustafa Ururyar, was found guilty of sexual assault earlier this year and is appealing his conviction. The appeal hearing is set for next year.

Newspapers: "Sex assault victim settles complaint," Toronto Star, Alyshah Hasham, GT2

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Province To Handle Contaminated Land at Stelco

☐ The Hamilton Spectator reports the provincial government has said it will assume the environmental legacy of hundreds of hectares of contaminated Stelco land in the north end of Hamilton.

☐ A source close to negotiations between the American investment fund Bedrock Industries, U.S. Steel Canada (Stelco) and the provincial Ministry of Finance says Bedrock was not interested in a deal that could leave the company with astronomical cleanup costs at a future date.

☐ Bedrock was willing to put forward \$80 million in a one-time payment to help out with the cleanup of a portion of the land, but did not want to subject itself to the environmental

responsibility from more than a century of steelmaking, the source said.

☐ Under the proposed plan, all 325 hectares of the contaminated land would be turned into a land trust administered by the province, union representatives and other parties such as the city and the Hamilton Port Authority.

☐ The land trust would then lease 120 hectares back to Stelco, and the company would then be able to operate without fear of costs associated with the contaminated ground it is operating on. The remaining hectares would then be remediated to an industrial use standard with the contribution from Bedrock and potentially other funds. The land would then be sold or leased.

☐ Profits from the sale or lease would then be used to assist in funding pensions and benefits for Stelco workers.

☐ The land proposal is part of a larger deal that will be heard in a Toronto courtroom on Thursday as part of U.S. Steel's Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act proceedings, which have been continuing for two years.

☐ If approved by the judge overseeing the process, Stelco will emerge from creditor protection under Bedrock ownership.

☐ Gary Howe, the president of United Steelworkers Local 1005 said far more money is needed from Bedrock for the underfunded pension plan for retirees and pensioners from union and non-union retirees in both Hamilton and Lake Erie.

☐ Howe claimed the province was using “smoke and mirrors” to try to pass on the pension funding issue to a future company and for a future government to deal with.

☐ Hamilton mayor Fred Eisenberger said he was concerned that the deal was being negotiated without the involvement of the city of Hamilton. Eisenberger said, “Planning about us, without us, is never a good thing. Our concerns are that we get our tax dollars... is this going to lead to the best benefit for pensioners and is it going to lead to land value and land uses that will fix with our future economic development initiatives?”

Newspapers: “Province to handle contaminated land at Stelco,” The Hamilton Spectator, Mark McNeil, A1

Television: CHCH - 6:00 PM (2)

Radio: None

Issue: Column Says Auditor General Missed the Mark on Climate Change

☐ A column in the Toronto Star written by Stewart Elgie, Dave Sawyer and Scott Vaughan argues that Ontario Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk’s November 30th report on climate change contained “factual flaws and unbalanced analysis that paint an inaccurate picture of the province’s new climate policies.”

☐ An example of a “factual flaws” includes, the audit saying that less than 20 per cent of the emission reductions required to meet the province’s 2020 will be achieved. However, the column argues, that “this finding only counts the in-province reductions that will come from ... cap-and-trade ... It dismisses the addition 9.8 Mt of reductions from Ontario’s Climate Action Plan, as well as further reductions from emission offsets in Ontario.

☐ The column says that this mistake in the audit “cascades through the report, and undermines a second major audit finding that small emissions reductions in Ontario are expected to come at a high cost to businesses and households.”

☐ Additionally, the column points out that the audit says Ontario will have trouble meeting its emissions targets due to its carbon trading partnership with Quebec and California. “This is a perplexing claim,” the column says. “It suggests a misunderstanding of emissions trading

systems.”

☐ Since carbon emissions have the same impact on the environment no matter where they are released, emission trading among jurisdictions is widely acknowledged as a smart way to reduce pollution at a lower cost, the column says.

☐ The column concludes by arguing that Lysyk’s report “does not reflect the kind of informed, objective analysis one expects from an auditor general.”

Newspapers: “Auditor general misses the mark on climate change,” The Toronto Star, Stewart Elgie, A13

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Column Says Province Needs to Reform Policy to Assist Municipalities

☐ A column in the National Post by Sault Ste. Marie mayor Christian Provenzano argues that “to be fiscally stable over the long term, Ontario cities are going to need help from the provincial government,” which includes reforming provincial policy, such as Ontario’s “broken” interest arbitration system, that will assist municipalities in controlling costs.

☐ Interest arbitration is used by municipalities when they cannot conclude collective agreements with unions representing emergency services personnel, such as firefighters, police officers, and EMS workers.

☐ Provenzano argues that interest arbitration usually results in “generous awards going to police and fire unions with little regard for how they will impact local finances. This unbalances approach has led to escalating salaries and benefits, driving the cost of policing and firefighting higher.”

☐ The Association of Ontario Municipalities shows that, between 2010 and 2014, police officers and firefighters have received \$485 million more in compensation increases than their municipal colleagues.

☐ Provenzano says that while he respects police officers and firefighters, “we also have to be able to afford them. This is becoming more and more difficult in large due to the interest arbitration system.”

☐ Peterborough, for example, is finding it increasingly difficult to pay for its firefighters, with Councillor Dan McWilliams suggesting the council should write to the province to say they are unhappy municipalities are being asked to pay more than ever for emergency services. Councillor Lesley Parnell said, “We aren’t alone, in the city of Peterborough, in worrying about this.”

☐ Provenzano also noted that the province could help municipalities by “ensuring legislation provides for a fair and open tendering process for construction projects.” He is calling on the province to amend the Ontario Labour Relations Act to specify that municipalities and school boards are not construction employers, so that limits to competition on local construction projects can be lifted.

Newspapers: “Laws that make cities poorer,” The National Post, Christian Provenzano, F7
“Four-year deal for firefighters,” The Peterborough Examiner, Joelle Kovach, A2

Television: None

Radio: None

Issue: Sarnia-Lambton Oversized-Load Corridor Has Economic Potential: Study

☐ The Sarnia Observer reports a recently completed business-case study confirms that creating a dedicated route for metal fabrication shops in Sarnia-Lambton to truck oversized loads of industrial components through the city to Sarnia Harbour would have significant economic benefits for the local economy.

☐ The study is expected to build support for federal and provincial funding for a proposed project to upgrade Sarnia Harbour and make improvements to roads leading from the city's industrial district, including permanently raising utility lines along the route.

☐ The estimated cost for constructing the dedicated oversized-load corridor is estimated at \$11.4 million.

☐ Sarnia-Lambton MPP Bob Bailey said he is going to make sure the oversized-load corridor gets on Ontario's infrastructure spending priority list.

☐ The Observer said that a group from the Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce recently met in Toronto with Ontario Infrastructure Minister Bob Chiarelli to push for support for the corridor project.

☐ A report prepared for city council by Peter Hungerford, the city's director of economic development and corporate planning, says if the project receives two-thirds funding from the provincial and federal governments, it is expected the city would be required to contribute \$1 million annually for four years.

☐ The recent business-case study follows an earlier engineering study that identified a route and estimated the cost of the work.

☐ Preparing those studies has cost just under \$300,000, with contributions from the city, county, local industries and other sources.

☐ Sarnia-Lambton is home to a well-established cluster of small and medium-sized fabrication, engineering and industrial service companies. The latest study suggests markets linked to petroleum and petrochemical markets in Atlantic Canada, and to a lesser extent the U.S. East Coast, Mexico and the Middle East, have the highest level of potential business for local fabricators.

Newspapers: “Oversized-load corridor an economic winner, says study,” The Sarnia Observer, Paul Morden, A1

Television: None

Radio: None

FRONT PAGE HEADLINES (GTA NEWSPAPERS)

December 13, 2016

TORONTO STAR

- * Sick Kids urged to 'step up' on Motherisk scandal (with photo)
- * A fine mess (with photo)
- * Trump's transition in 12 takeaways (with photo)
- * Ontario pitches new long-term health deal
- * Let it grow... (with photo)

TORONTO SUN

- * 'Epidemic' (with photo)
- * Council talkin'... road tolls (with photo)

GLOBE AND MAIL

- * Trudeau concedes government business discussed at fundraisers (with photo)
- * Republicans, Democrats back probe into U.S. election interference
- * Russia doesn't mind any suggestions it has friends close to Trump
- * Ottawa tables bill to crack down on illegal shipments of opioids
- * Team Trump takes shape (with photo)

NATIONAL POST

- * Foundational questions (with photo)
- * Trudeau charity may face probe
- * No trial, but doctor is guilty, judge rules
- * Liberal rules should be law
- * Firefighters loosen moose from icy river
- * Friends/Enemies (with photo)
- * How arrested development is hurting the North

TV NEWS SUMMARY (6:00 P.M. EDITION)

Stations surveyed: Global, CFTO, City TV, CJOH, CHCH, CFPL

Disclaimer

December 12, 2016

GLOBAL – 5:30 PM (Toronto)

- 1) Winter weather arrived in Toronto with 13 centimetres of snow.
- 2) Winter storms have also swept across the northeast United States.
- 3) Weather.
- 4) A study by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives shows that child care costs continue to rise and parents are struggling to keep up with the costs.
- 5) A man who shared his story of a fire on board an Oceania cruise ship discovered he's been banned for life from the cruise line.
- 6) President-elect Donald Trump challenged the CIA's findings about Russian interference in the election, and tweeted about saving money on military purchases.
- 7) There is one more shopping weekend before Christmas.
- 8) Global News joined the Nutcracker ballet as the cannon dolls this past weekend.

9) Firefighters saved a moose from the ice in a frozen river in New Brunswick.

10) Entertainment Update.

13) More details on the rising cost of child care in Toronto.

GLOBAL – 6:30 PM (National)

1) Winter storms are affecting travel across Canada.

2) Weather.

3) Winter tires are mandatory in Quebec. Some are questioning if other provinces should follow suit.

4) Parts of the United States are being hit by a major winter storm.

5) Child care costs are rising across Canada.

6) Prime Minister Justin Trudeau reflected on his first year in office and spoke about political fundraisers.

7) The son of Lyle and Marie McCann spoke at the sentencing hearing for their killer.

8) President-elect Donald Trump continues to struggle with foreign diplomacy.

9) A tweet by Trump about the cost of the F-35 program sent shockwaves through the market

10) The federal government unveiled new legislation to fight Canada's opioid crisis. They are scrapping the previous government's anti-drug strategy and making it easier for communities to approve safe injection sites.

CFTO – 6:00 PM (Toronto)

1) Toronto was hit with its first major snowfall, with 17 centimetres of snow.

2) Many residents enjoyed the snow at Riverdale Park and embraced the season.

3) A pedestrian was struck in one of several reported collisions in Toronto and Peel Region.

4) An 18-year-old man suffered life threatening injuries in a collision in East Gwillumbury.

5) There were more accidents across the GTA, including tractor trailers and a TTC bus.

6) TTC service was suspended for hours on Line 1 this morning due to multiple incidents.

7) Many flights were cancelled or delayed at Pearson airport due to the winter storm.

8) Weather.

9) The ski season is now underway at ski resorts in the area.

10) Child care costs are rising at three times faster than the rate of inflation, with the GTA seeing the highest child care costs in the country according to a new report.

11) There is a long waiting list for licensed daycare spots in Toronto. A study found 89 percent of daycare centres in Toronto have wait lists. The province has promised to add 100,000 child care

spaces. A public consultation will be held this week.

12) The Ontario Energy Board rejected the Auditor General's request to show the cost of the global adjustment charge and carbon tax on ratepayers' hydro bills.

25) Ontario pharmacies will begin offering common travel vaccines as of Thursday.

City TV – 6:00 PM (Toronto)

1) City Council will be discussing bike lanes rules this week.

2) There are calls for the SIU to re-open an investigation that cleared Peel Police of any wrongdoing in a case dating back to March 2015. This comes after Peel Police Chief Jennifer Evans was named a multi-million lawsuit.

3) More than 30 cases are still before the courts related to the marijuana dispensary raids that took place over this summer.

4) TTC commuters expressed frustration over this morning's delays.

5) Torontonians react to the aftermath of last night's storm.

6) Weather update.

7) Mayor John Tory's road toll plan will be up for discussion tomorrow at city council.

8) A look into whether the allegations made against Peel Police Chief Jennifer Evans in the multi-million lawsuit were ever investigated.

9) Defence lawyers are calling on the federal government to legalize recreational marijuana immediately.

10) An overhaul of Canada's drug policy has just been announced in Ottawa.

CJOH – 6:00 PM (Ottawa)

1) There were several flight cancellations and delays as a result of last night's snow storm.

2) Ottawa received roughly 15 centimetres of snow last night.

3) Environment Canada issue weather alerts for all of Atlantic Canada. 20 centimetres of snow is expected for the Maritimes by tomorrow.

4) Two men are dead after separate homicides.

5) The Ontario government has announced \$3 million in funding for the building of the new Civic hospital.

6) A fundraising campaign has been launched in an effort to send the body of homicide victim Leslie Mwakio home to Kenya.

7) Ottawa Police are investigating the city's 66th shooting of the year.

8) The federal government is making it easier to set up supervised drug injection sites in Canada.

9) Prime Minister Justin Trudeau met with reporters today to discuss his party's progress over the

past year.

10) TV personality Kevin O’Leary met with Conservative MPs in Ottawa today.

CHCH – 6:00 PM (Hamilton)

1) A young Ontario girl who was the subject of an Amber alert earlier this month has been found.

2) A proposed deal to sell Stelco the Bedrock Industry is facing opposition by the local union representing Hamilton steelworkers. The union says they want more money going into the pension deficit than what is being promised.

3) Hamilton police are investigating a suspicious fire.

4) On Saturday, police responded to three separate overnight fires that they believe are connected

5) McMaster university is investigating after a McMaster KKK meeting was scheduled for a library study room.

6) A playground in Burlington has been learned up after it was vandalized with swastikas and racist slurs.

7) A new study says some Canadian families can end up paying more than \$12,000 a year in some cities to put one child in daycare.

8) Police have made an arrest in connection with a carjacking.

9) A sentencing hearing began today for Travis Vader, the man convicted of two counts of manslaughter in the deaths of St. Albert, Alta. couple Lyle and Marie McCann.

10) Tips on how to prevent injuries during snow shovelling.

15) The Ontario Energy Board is rejecting a call from the province's auditor general to clarify the so-called global adjustment charge on electricity bills.

CFPL – 6:00 PM (London)

1) A mistrial has been declared in the scalding death of a 20-month-old toddler.

2) The city of London is reporting that all major and secondary roads clear at this hour.

3) Weather.

4) The fire marshal’s office is investigating tonight after the second fatal fire in a week in the community of Woodstock.

5) Police have charged a London man in connection with two robberies.

6) Kingsville's fire chief is facing charges of sexual assault against a young person.

7) The environmental assessment into the conversion of Dundas Street into a pedestrian flexible space was presented before city council.

8) The Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program, which provides families in need with food and toys, begins today. Organizers say there is shortfall in children's gift.

9) The federal government has punted a decision on whether to allow an underground storage bunker to house nuclear waste near Lake Huron.

10) The Golden Globe nominations were announced today.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in these summaries are those of the media cited and do not reflect the views and opinions of the Ontario Public Service.

RADIO NEWS SUMMARY (6:30 A.M. EDITION)

December 13, 2016

CBC Radio (Toronto)

1) In their last meeting of the year, Toronto city councillors will convene today to debate road tolls. Mayor John Tory supports tolls to help pay for new transit, but is expected to face opposition from some corners of council.

2) The province has handed out more \$3 million in fines last winter to poor performances companies that clear Ontario highways. According to new figures obtained by CBC Toronto, the government has collected only one fifth of that amount because the snow clearing companies have the right to appeal the fines. Transportation Minister Del Duca says the appeal process can be lengthy.

3) A woman was struck and injured as her car was stolen last night.

4) The TTC is apologizing for delays to yesterday's commute. A single electrical cable, melting snow, and a small pile of debris are to blame for hours of TTC delays at the peak of rush hour.

5) Expanding safe injection sites is included in the federal government's sweeping changes to its policy on drugs. Toronto city council has already voted in favour of the sites, but are still waiting on approval and funding. City councillor Joe Cressy who supports the sites, says it's now up to the federal and provincial governments to make it a reality.