

[NOTES] PC response to the Auditor General report - December 6, 2017

From: Clare Buckley <cbuckley@liberal.ola.org>

To: "Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)" <jennifer.beaudry@ontario.ca>, "Ernesaks, Andrea (OPO)" <andrea.ernesaks3@ontario.ca>, "Bevan, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.bevan@ontario.ca>, "Rudyk, Andrew (MAG)" <andrew.rudyk@ontario.ca>, "Forgione, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.forgione@ontario.ca>, cbanas@liberal.ola.org, "Codd-Downey, Beckie (GHLO)" <beckie.codd-downey@ontario.ca>, "McPhail, Blane (OPO)" <blane.mcphail@ontario.ca>, "Bossin, Bryan (OPO)" <bryan.bossin@ontario.ca>, Clare Buckley <cbuckley@liberal.ola.org>, "Foerster, Carly (OPO)" <carly.foerster@ontario.ca>, "Walsh, Chad (OPO)" <chad.walsh@ontario.ca>, Jack Davidson <jdavidson@liberal.ola.org>, "Davidson, Drew (MCYS)" <drew.davidson@ontario.ca>, "Tomney, Genevieve (OPO)" <genevieve.tomney@ontario.ca>, "McEachern, Gillian (OPO)" <gillian.mceachern@ontario.ca>, "Rivers, Grahame (OPO)" <grahame.rivers@ontario.ca>, "Singh, Gurvinder (OPO)" <gurvinder.singh2@ontario.ca>, "Pattillo, Ian (OPO)" <ian.pattillo@ontario.ca>, "Singh, Jagtaran (GHLO)" <jagtaran.singh@ontario.ca>, jgomez@liberal.ola.org, "Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)" <jordan.lazarus@ontario.ca>, "McLarnon, Joshua (MOHLTC)" <joshua.mclarnon@ontario.ca>, "Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)" <kate.moseley-williams2@ontario.ca>, "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" <bill.killorn@ontario.ca>, "Richardson, Kyle (OCOC/GHLO)" <kyle.richardson@ontario.ca>, Swaraj Mann <smann@liberal.ola.org>, "Rowe, Mary (OPO)" <mary.rowe@ontario.ca>, Pranavie Mayooraan <pmayooraan@liberal.ola.org>, "Salmons, Meaghan (GHLO)" <meaghan.salmons@ontario.ca>, "Jancik, Mike (OPO)" <mike.jancik@ontario.ca>, "McIntyre, Moira (OPO)" <moira.mcintyre@ontario.ca>, Warda Nasir <wnasir@liberal.ola.org>, "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <rebecca.mackenzie@ontario.ca>, "Ahluwalia, Ron (MOI)" <ron.ahluwalia@ontario.ca>, "Le Guern, Ronan (OPO)" <ronan.leguern@ontario.ca>, Jonathan Scott <jscott@liberal.ola.org>, "Anderson, Sinead (MOF)" <sinead.anderson@ontario.ca>, Joseph Uranowski <juranowski@liberal.ola.org>, Holden Wine <hwine@liberal.ola.org>

Cc: "Rubin, Jack (TBS)" <jack.rubin@ontario.ca>, "Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY)" <kevin.denheijer@ontario.ca>, "Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF)" <sophia.koukoulas@ontario.ca>, "Whittington, Margot (MOECC)" <margot.whittington@ontario.ca>, "Festeryga, Katherine (MEDG)" <katherine.festeryga@ontario.ca>, "Benac, Alex (MOI)" <alex.benac@ontario.ca>, "Kiteley, Alana (MTO)" <alana.kiteley@ontario.ca>, "Wereley, Neil (MAESD)" <neil.wereley@ontario.ca>, "Powell, Ryan (EDU)" <ryan.powell@ontario.ca>, "Najdovski, Dorijan (MCSCS)" <dorijan.najdovski@ontario.ca>, "Caldwell, Zachary (MAG)" <zachary.caldwell@ontario.ca>, "Power, Mary-Elizabeth (MHO)" <mary-elizabeth.power@ontario.ca>, "Doyle, Amanda (MOHLTC)" <amanda.doyle@ontario.ca>, "Heelis, Katie (MOHLTC)" <katie.heelis@ontario.ca>, "Gallant, Laura (MOHLTC)" <laura.gallant@ontario.ca>

Date: Wed, 06 Dec 2017 13:59:56 -0500

Media: Giovanetti, Morissette, City TV, Reynolds, Smith Cross, Haines, Carter, Smith, Artuso, Benzie, Ferguson, McGrath, Lamoureux, Crawley, 2 unidentified

MacLeod:

- Auditor plays critical role to hold government accountable

- Pleased that auditor endorsed ideas included in our platform
- Over \$1B in potential Savings in this report alone
- Families struggle
- Liberals dish out \$50M to hand pick friends for infrastructure contracts
- \$900M contract with infrastructure company has done poorly
- We're lying on plans from 2009
- Driving up hydro bills
- Liberals hand pic committee to fix gaps in energy sector
- We already know about Goreway
- Wynne must immediately release names of individuals and if they remain in the working group
- Display of waste that makes taxpayers cringe
- Wealthy power executives were expensing car washes
- Liberals are untrustworthy
- After 14 years they won't ever change
- We will guarantee an end to stop wasting

Benzie: \$2.8B deficit, AG says liberals numbers are wrong, then you get \$7.3B deficit

Fideli:

- We started with Liberal Numbers so people can easily prepare
- Kevin Page said that's reasonably

Benzi; seems to me you guys will say is actually \$7.3B once in office

Fideli:

- fair hydro plan was a scheme
- Forced OPG into the scheme
- A lot that Liberals kept secret

MacLeod:

- VFM plan in place
- Easily achievable to find savings
- Government advertising has grown highest in 10 years
- \$20M is in partisan ads
- Taxpayers deserve to know where there money is going

Crawley; Todd how did you react to parkas and landscaping?

Smith:

- I was surprised
- Alarm bells should've been going off earlier
- OEB warned them
- Example of how we can remove money from bills by responding to these alarms from IESO
- Warning signs out there for years
- 2 different premiers all ignored it

Jeff, What concerns you the most of health care audits?

Yurek:

- lack of oversight
- Stem cell issue that government didn't act on t
- They ignored it until high profile cases
- Number of people have to leave province to get treatment
- \$35M to alleviate but if acted upon earlier, it would've been easier

Carter: teacher sick days?

MacLeod:

- teachers work very hard
- But it's minister responsibility if it's being exploited

Carter: Minister didn't see a problem with teachers sick days when they're not sick

MacLeod:

- A big line in the budget
- It's redeployed from programs
- If it's in AG Report
- It's generally a problem

Crawley: What do you propose they do, doctors notes?

MacLeod:

- well I mean I can't comment on individual cases
- Minister has resp. To work with boards
- When you look at other areas of math scores, Wynne's competence shines through
- This government prides itself on education yet we see failures

Benzie: Mistake when banking sick days?

MacLeod:

- Not sure
- Should ask AG
- Brings me to another point she had two volumes in this report
- 14 programs she reviewed
- Second was about follow ups
- There was no follow ups

Billions in savings like illicit drugs cannot be done overnight. How much savings that can be done short term?

MacLeod:

- Government expenses things that are ineligible
- Going to energy bills

- Palliative care follow up is another area

Jeff Yurek:

- Working towards expediting stem cell treatment centres
- Costs than 5 times more to treat someone in USA rather than at home in Ontario
- We can do those immediately

Lamoureux: [french]

Todd Smith:

- [french]
- Things like coats should not be eligible expense
- Government knew this
- They warned about this
- Now they acknowledge it
- But it took an AG Report and fine journalism to shine light on this issue
- This is the natural gas sector
- We knew about all costs from renewable sector, now natural gas
- Is this the reality of cash for access
- Reducing electricity costs there are ways to do it
- Government doesn't do it

Smith: lower electricity rates for manufactures, being offset by residential builders now

Todd Smith:

- Reviewing all conservation programs to make decisions