

Briefing for June 29, 2017

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Your morning briefing

29.06.2017 Sabrina Nanji O

Headlines

Top brass at Hydro Ottawa are apparently too electrified by the political fracas over hydro prices to sleep, the *Ottawa Sun* reports.

After a brief lull in Tory nomination drama, chaos has returned. *CTV* has obtained a video that shows a heated confrontation with police at a rowdy candidate nomination meeting in Scarborough.

Transportation Minister **Steven Del Duca** says this year's subsidy for the Union Pearson Express is \$30 million, rounding out the cost to taxpayers at \$69 million since its 2015 debut, the *Toronto Sun* reports.

Del Duca also told the *Sun* the province will spend a total \$385 million to rollout transit agency Metrolinx's Presto system, millions more than initially budgeted.

Meanwhile, Metrolinx's board has approved a three-per cent fare hike for longer trips on GO Transit and UP Express this September.

Our stories from Wednesday:

- Seen: PCs pick challenger to ex-Tory Jack MacLaren in Kanata-Carleton
- AMAPCEO latest public-sector union to agree to deal with government
- NDP wants serial-killer nurse inquiry expanded to 'systemic problems' in long-term care
- Hunter halts school closings amid overhaul of review process
- Heard: Testing agency appoints veteran educator as CEO
- Province pitching in \$417 million for Port Lands patch-up

Star environmentalist David Suzuki is cheering the province's \$85-million mercury cleanup announcement for Grassy Narrows, the *Toronto Star* reports.

Nine out of 10 Catholic school teachers have had to deal with violence in the classroom, according to a survey done by the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association, *CBC* reports.

A new report commissioned by the Toronto Police Accountability Coalition suggests almost half of all criminal charges in Ontario are withdrawn or thrown out, and that pre-screening cases could help unload the overcrowded and sluggish court system. *CBC* reports.

OPP reports speed-linked deaths on provincial roads are up 76 per cent so far this year compared to the same period last year.

In the opinion pages:

- They've made a huge mistake, selling off Hydro One, writes Martin Regg Cohn
- The \$15 minimum wage is also a slip-up, argues Ben Eisen

Events

8:45 a.m.

Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure, and Karen Pitre, Special Advisor on Community Hubs, will make an announcement. St. James Town Community Corner, 200 Wellesley St. E., Toronto.

10:15 a.m.

PC MPP Todd Smith will hold a media availability with the Ontario Society of Professional Engineers to discuss Ontario's hydro system. Queen's Park media studio.

11:30 a.m.

Premier Kathleen Wynne to deliver remarks and participate in a roundtable discussion at Centre for International Governance Innovation. Ontario Investment and Trade Centre, 35th Floor - Collaboration Room, 250 Yonge St., Toronto.

1 p.m.

Granville Anderson, MPP for Durham will make an announcement in Oshawa on behalf of Dr. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Community and Social Services. He will be joined by Tracy MacCharles, MPP for Pickering-Scarborough East and Joe Dickson, MPP for Ajax-Pickering. Catholic Family Services of Durham, 115 Simcoe St., S., Oshawa.

5 p.m.

Premier Wynne to meet with Sergio Mattarella, President of Italy, Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 181 Wellington St. W., Premier Wynne to deliver remarks at a reception for Eid. Queen's Park.