

Message

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Subject: Hansard: Yakabuski (Smith) to Flynn (Thibeault) -- Government Record

INSTANT HANSARD

>>MPP Yakabuski: Thank you, Speaker. My question is for the **Premier**. Sadly this Christmas, we have really bad news. Santa's elves and his reindeer can't work all night through. With so little time and joyful children at stake, will you give Santa an exemption to bill 148?

>>Minister Flynn: Well, Speaker, this is -- it's going to be a lot of very happy families this Christmas, Speaker -- because their mothers and their fathers will be earning even more money. These are people that have been earning \$11.60 an hour, trying to raise families, trying to buy food, Speaker, trying to buy Christmas presents. Trying to buy a Christmas tree, Speaker. All the normal things that we want for each and every one of our families is contained in bill 148. Everything we try to do for the people we care about when we work and come home, Speaker, is in bill 148, and the grinch across the aisle voted against it, Speaker

>>MPP Smith: Speaker, Santa will know who's been naughty and nice. For he has his list and he's checking it twice. The bad ones get coal, but I'm told last year he missed you. But this year he won't. Will he get his coal from evista?

>>Minister Thibeault: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas everywhere we go. You know, Mr. Speaker, you look in Ontario. You've got clean air. You've got clean electricity, you know. I can't make it rhyme, Mr. Speaker. I was trying. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. That's all I had. But really, at the end of the day, Mr. Speaker, you know Hydro One has been working hard in this province to be a better-run company and they're doing just that, Mr. Speaker. Winter disconnections have ended. You know, Mr. Speaker, they're actually going to continue to work hard to continue to be a better company and what we've done through our fair hydro plan is allow them to actually give a reduction to all of their customers in rural and northern parts of our province of anywhere between 40 and 50%, Mr. Speaker. And on that, that is good news, Mr. Speaker, because that is more money in the pockets of these people and like the Minister of label said earlier. That they can do other things with that, maybe buy more Christmas presents for their kids, Mr. Speaker.

N.B.: Transcripts are captured by a closed captioning system and may contain errors.