

Message

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Sent: 2017-04-03 1:35:34 PM
To: Terry Young [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=872fa3f6e61a48709b11458c0c3b6ca6-Terry Young]
Subject: Queen's Park Update - Monday, April 3, 2017

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Monday, April 3, 2017

In the News

Today, Deputy Premier and Advanced Education Minister **Deb Matthews** announced \$50 million for Ontario's colleges to mark 50 years since the founding of the Ontario college system. The Deputy Premier noted that the funding will enhance student learning by enabling colleges to buy teaching software, new lab and shop equipment and classroom technology.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister **Charles Sousa** will introduce legislation that would allow self-regulatory organizations (SRO) to fine investment advisers who break rules at a detriment to their clients. A report by a panel led by **Malcolm Heins**, former CEO of the Law Society of Upper Canada, advised that financial advisors require more oversight, with Minister **Sousa** adding that current financial planning regulations need reform. Last year, Minister **Sousa** introduced the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario to strengthen regulations surrounding provincial pension plans, mortgage brokers, credit unions and Ontario-registered insurers.

On Friday, Environment and Climate Change Minister **Glen Murray** announced the elimination of the \$30 Drive Clean test fee for light-duty vehicles. The move will make Ontario's Drive Clean Program, which tests vehicle emissions, free for users of most cars, vans, SUVs and light trucks.

Meanwhile, the government published salaries of 123,410 public servants earning over \$100,000 in 2016, representing a growth of 6.9 percent. The top earner on the list was Jeffrey Lyash, who earned \$1.16 million as Ontario Power Generation's president and CEO. PC Finance Critic **Vic Fedeli** criticized the government for taking Hydro One off the salary disclosures list after the utility's partial privatization.

Health and Long-term Care Minister **Eric Hoskins** said that a new service for individuals seeking medically-assisted death will be available as early as May. The service will allow patients to connect directly with health-care providers prepared to assist with doctor-administered suicide if a patient's current health-care provider objects on grounds of conscience. This comes approximately one year after doctor-assisted suicide was legalized in Canada. In June, the Ministry of Health set up a line for physicians to call when a patient requests assisted death, but doctors with moral or religious objections told the provincial government that they view calling the line as participating in their patient's suicide. Dying With Dignity CEO **Shanaaz Gokool** said the new service would be an improvement on the existing

model, but hoped the provincial government would repeal legislation that permits religious organizations to opt-out of participating in doctor-assisted suicide entirely.

The results of Ontario's first cap-and-trade auction will be unveiled today. Ontario's cap-and-trade system caps the amount of pollution businesses can emit, with the limit reducing each year.

Opinion Highlights

- Ontario's top power couple are odd teammates. (Martin Regg Cohn, *Toronto Star*)
 - Ontario a free-trade champion? More like a victim of protectionism. (Chris Selley, *National Post*)
 - Wynne's shell game not fooling Ontarians. (Joe Warmington, *Toronto Sun*)
 - Grits enjoy spending Ontarians' cash. (Todd Smith, *Toronto Sun*)
 - When big companies chase tax cuts, small towns suffer. (John Michael McGrath, *TVO*)
-

Question Period Highlights (April 3)

Executive compensation

- PC Leader **Patrick Brown** said it was unacceptable for energy executives to make million-dollar salaries while Ontarians were struggling with energy bills. Brown asked the government to justify the "completely out-of-control" salaries.
- Premier **Kathleen Wynne** countered that the government understands that Ontarians are struggling with their hydro bills, and highlighted the Fair Hydro Plan will reduce hydro bills by 25 per cent.

Hydro One

- PC Leader **Patrick Brown** noted that the Hydro One CEO is paid more relative to all other jurisdictions. **Brown** also noted that the government took Hydro One off the salary disclosures list when the company was partially privatized.
- Premier **Kathleen Wynne** noted that the partial privatization has resulted in \$60 million in operational cost savings at Hydro One.
- Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** claimed that the executive salaries make up less than 0.01 per cent of Hydro One's budget. Minister **Thibeault** then accused **Brown** of having no plan to bring down hydro rates.

Salary disclosures

- NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath** noted that the partial privatization of Hydro One has resulted in sky-high salaries for executives and skyrocketing hydro prices. **Horwath** noted that the government took Hydro One off the salary disclosures list when the company was partially privatized and accused the Premier of putting a "blanket of secrecy" on the issue.
- Premier **Kathleen Wynne** criticized Horwath for conflating the partial privatization and hydro rates. The Premier then touted the government's Fair Hydro Plan.

Today in the Legislature

Government Business

Bill 87 - An Act to implement health measures and measures relating to seniors by enacting,

Private Members' Business

No private member's business.

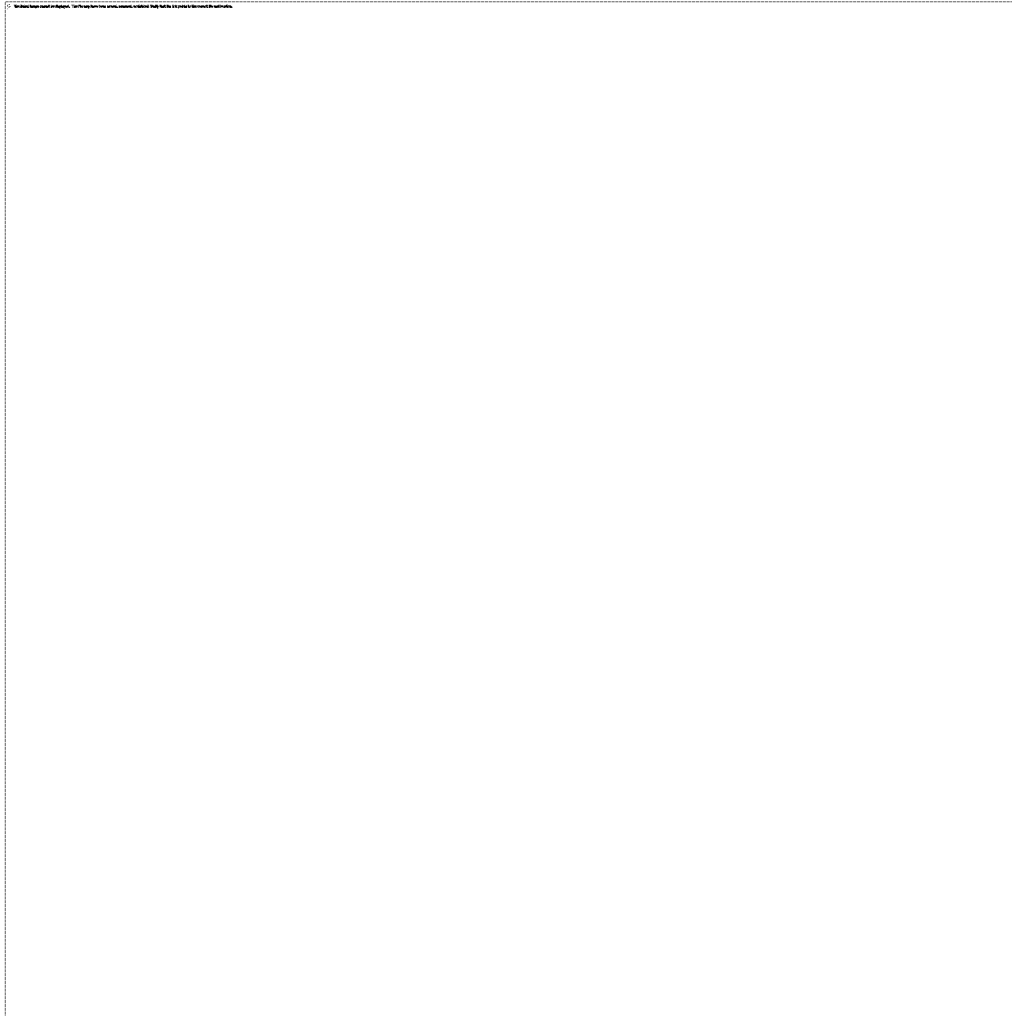
Committee Meetings

2:00 p.m. - **Standing Committee on Social Policy** will meet to consider **Bill 68**, An Act to amend

amending or repealing
various statutes, second
reading.

various Acts in relation to
municipalities.

Social Media Snapshot



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Events at a Glance

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca will outline the reasons behind the province's foundational investments in transit and other modes of transportation by outlining the challenges inherent in building a modern, adaptable infrastructure in a time of enormous technological disruption.

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front Street West, Toronto

RSVP: <https://www.canadianclub.org/Events/EventDetails.aspx?id=3346>

Thursday, April 13, 2017

Finance Minister Charles Sousa will outline the government's Path to Balance.

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Arcadian Court, 401 Bay Street, Toronto

RSVP: <https://www.empireclub.org/events/honourable-charles-sousa-ontarios-minister-finance/>

Monday, May 29, 2017

Health Minister Eric Hoskins will outline the government's vision for transforming health care.

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Canadian Room, Fairmont Royal York Hotel, 100 Front Street West, Toronto

RSVP: <https://www.empireclub.org/events/honourable-eric-hoskins/>

Queen's Park Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Question Period	Question Period Caucus Meeting	Question Period Cabinet Meeting	Question Period Private Members' Business	No Business

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