John Bozzo

From:	John Bozzo
Sent:	December 1, 2017 9:26 AM
To:	##Clippings_Distribution_List
Subject:	Morning News Summary - Fri. Dec. 1, 2017

d\plainGood morning,

d\plain

d\plainHere is your morning news summary.

d\plain

d\plainCTV News Toronto: Ont. Liberals accused of campaigning in new hydro bills (1:45 clip)

δ∴λι720∴φι−360∴πλαιν• The NDP are accusing the government of using Hydro One's new bill design as a political tool to highlight the Fair Hydro Plan.

δ∴λι720∴φι−360∴πλαιν• The second largest asset on the bill is about how much the ratepayer has saved because of the FHP.

d\plain

d\plainThe London Chamber of Commerce is promoting the OEB's day in London next Tuesday, Dec. 5th. They provide a link to the "More Power To You" ad on their website.

d\plain

d\intbl\plainCanadian News Wire: Energy Professionals denounce call for hydro privatization

δ∴ιντβλ∴λι720∴φι −360∴πλαιν• The Society of Energy Professionals has rejected the Toronto Region Board of Trade's report (released Wednesdat – covered by the Globe in yesterday's clips) to privatize publicly owned hydro utilities.

δ∴ιντβλ∴λι720∴φι −360∴πλαιν• Data shows that privately owned local hydro utilities are more expensive and do not actually provide better service to consumers.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainMorning News Clippings

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainDate: Friday, December 1, 2017
Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Contact Editor

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat6\plainClippings Summary

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat6\plainNews - 14 Results

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain CTV News | News Video - Top National News Headlines - News Videos

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainwww.ctvnews.ca - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Neutral
Permalink

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Alice in Ontarioland | Friends of Science Calgary

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainblog.friendsofscience.org - Thu Nov 30 2017
Tone: Neutral
Permalink

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat12\plainPaul Crawford noted on Thursday, November 30, 2017
OEB is mentioned.

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainLewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, spellbound his readers by writing a story in which everything seemed topsy-turvy and counter to the ways people think things generally should be. Even Lewis Carroll, however, could not have imagined ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Ontario Energy Board Open House - London Chamber of Commerce, ON

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainwww.londonchamber.com - Thu Nov 30 2017
Tone: Neutral
Permalink

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainDid You Know? • There is more help for lower-income households • You have rights as an energy consumer • You have the power to be heard • The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) works to protect consumers' interests

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THE TRIBUNE

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat6\qr\plain

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Hydro rates hurting hospitals

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainWelland Tribune - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Grant Lafleche

Ad Value: $1,324
Reach: 13164 **Page:** A5

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainIf Jane Rufrano can count on anything, it's that her **hydro bill** will rise each year like clockwork. Many **Ontario** residents know the pocketbook pain of paying more for **electricity**, but for the chief ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Minister urged to reject nuke waste

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainOttawa Sun - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Colin Perkel

Ad Value: $904
Reach: 45442 **Page:** A6

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainMore than 100 mayors and other elected officials on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border are urging Environment Minister Catherine McKenna to put the kibosh on a proposed nuclear-waste bunker near Lake **Huron**. In an open letter to McKenna ...

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d\intbl\itap2\cbpat6\qr\plain

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Good Editorial

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainToronto Sun - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Robert Brownlie

Ad Value: $471
Reach: 171076 **Page:** A16

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainRe "Pre paid **Hydro** **plan** repugnant" (Editorial, Nov. 24): While I was reading this editorial, I thought "what a thoughtful and well-written piece." You have encapsulated the arrogance and hard-hearted attitude of this present ...

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d\intbl\itap2\cbpat6\qr\plain

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Grandma's hydro plan

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainLondon Free Press - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Steve Mcglennon

Ad Value: $390
Reach: 70995 **Page:** A5

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainRegarding the Point of View Pre-paid **hydro** **plan** morally repugnant (Nov. 25) Growing up in england, my grandmother had a box on the wall. it was a pre-paid "lecky box" in which we would insert 10-pence coins in order to have ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Hydro One Executive Salaries Ludicrous

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainDaily Miner & News (Kenora) - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Roy Dawson,

Ad Value: $248
Reach: 3206 **Page:** A5

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainDear Editor It appears that the recent lowering of **Hydro**

One rates this year, mainly due to political pressure and public outrage, is nothing more than a short term reprieve implemented by Premier Wynne to ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Neo-liberalism is a spent force and Patrick Brown knows it

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainToronto Star - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Rick Salutin

Ad Value: $14,612
Reach: 361323 **Page:** A17

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainWhat accounts for the "progressive," activist, pro-government, even leftish tone of Patrick Brown's platform for Ontario's Progressive Conservatives in the coming June election: more transit, more for mental health, etc.? A) Someone bodysnatched ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain No hidden agenda, Brown's a Red Tory

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainNorthern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Ad Value: $189
Reach: 5917 **Page:** A4

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainOntario Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown's "People's Guarantee" election platform is a strategic political document that helps him in two key ways. First, by releasing it seven months before the vote, Brown has kept his ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Energy Professionals denounce call for hydro privatization

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainwww.newswire.ca - Thu Nov 30 2017
Tone: Neutral
Permalink

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainThe Society of Energy Professionals is denouncing Toronto Region Board of Trade's proposal released yesterday to privatize publicly owned hydro utilities. Data shows that privately owned local hydro utilities are more expensive and provide no better ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Phase Out Coal

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainToronto Sun - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Dr. Courtney Howard

Ad Value: $1,017
Reach: 171076 **Page:** A16

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain"Abandoning coal will betray the poor" presents a false choice between coal **power** and household biomass (Germain Belzile, Nov. 25). The poor need not exchange deaths due to choking indoor air pollution from poor-quality biomass cookstoves ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Parry Sound's new generating station up and running

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainParry Sound North Star - Thu Nov 30 2017
Tone: Neutral **Reach:** 22412 **Page:** 1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainPARRY SOUND - The Cascade Street Generating Station is up and running. Aside from a few minor items to complete including its testing phase, the facility is ready to produce **electricity**. Fully computerized, the $17.5 million station ...

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Why Enbridge plans to sell assets, shares: Investors fret about its debt

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainThe Globe and Mail - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: TIM KILADZE, JEFF LEWIS

Ad Value: $22,500
Reach: 309154 **Page:** B1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainFor the past few weeks, the burning question swirling around Enbridge Inc. has not been whether to raise cash, but how: Sell assets or sell new shares? The surprising answer came from management late Wednesday: We'll do both. The company's shares ...

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d\intbl\itap2\cbpat6\plainClippings Summary

Full Articles

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain CTV News | News Video - Top National News Headlines - News Videos

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainwww.ctvnews.ca - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Neutral

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Alice in Ontarioland | Friends of Science Calgary

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainblog.friendsofscience.org - Thu Nov 30 2017
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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainLewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, spellbound his readers by writing a story in which everything seemed topsy-turvy and counter to the ways people think things generally should be. Even Lewis Carroll, however, could not have imagined how the province of Ontario sells electrical energy to its export customers in New York and Michigan.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Ontario Energy Board Open House - London Chamber of Commerce, ON

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THE TRIBUNE

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Hydro rates hurting hospitals

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainWelland Tribune - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Grant Lafleche

Ad Value: $1,324
Reach: 13164 **Page:** A5

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainIf Jane Rufrano can count on anything, it's that her **hydro** bill will rise each year like clockwork.

Many **Ontario** residents know the pocketbook pain of paying more for **electricity**, but for the chief executive officer of Hotel Dieu Shaver Rehabilitation **Centre** in St. Catharines the issue is more complicated than it can be for homeowners.

It's the math that becomes a problem.

The rehab **centre** has an annual budget of about $32 million. Of that, some $21 million is consumed by salaries and benefits, In the past several years, **hydro** costs are eating an increasingly larger part of that $11 million.

In 2011, Hotel Dieu Shaver paid $296,240 for **hydro**. By 2016, that bill was $497,803.

"It is an issue because we don't have a lot of flexibility in our budget," Rufrano said recently.

To cope with the rising cost of **power**, Hotel Dieu Shaver had to be creative, Rufrano said.

In 2015-16, she said, Horizon **Utilities** said it had under-billed Hotel Dieu Shaver in the past and so the rehab **centre** owed the **utility** $240,000.

"I told them we couldn't afford that, so they reduced it to a $150,000 payment, which I told them was still too much," Rufrano said.

She eventually negotiated the **utility** down to $76,000 which is being paid in $25,000 instalments over three years on top of annual per kilowatt-hour **rate** increases.

The rehab **centre** is doing what it can to make its facility more energyefficient, Rufrano said, including by installing LED lights and other measures. But ultimately, rising **rates** continue to take a bite out of operational costs that would otherwise go toward patient care.

The situation is similar, albeit less dire, at **Niagara** Health, which has seen **hydro** bills rise from $3 million in 2011 to $6.4 million in 2016.

Angela Zangari, **Niagara** Health executive vice-president, finance and operations, said the increase is due in part to rising **rates** - she said the hospital system had faced a 26 per cent increase in **hydro** **rates** from an average of $0.12 to $0.16 per kWh across all their sites - but also because of **energy**-intensive equipment.

The St. Catharines hospital's radiation machines for cancer treatment use an enormous amount of **power**, which will naturally drive up the institution's bills.

Zangari said a large hospital system will feel the sting of rising **hydro** **rates** less than a smaller institution such as Hotel Dieu Shaver simply because of its scale. **Niagara** Health's annual budget is about $500 million, with some 62 per cent going to salaries and benefits.

"We face several inflationary costs each year, and **hydro** is one of them. But is it the largest or most important? No," said Zangari, noting the increases in the costs of drugs, equipment and supplies can outpace **hydro** **rate** increases.

It's why hospitals co-operate via bulk purchasing agreements that can reduce some costs, she said.

The hospital system also benefits from having the relatively new St. Catharine site, which despite being significantly larger than the older Garden City hospitals it replaced, is a more modern, **energy**-efficient building. **Niagara** Health has also upgraded its older facilities.

The impact of **Ontario**'s rising **hydro** **rates** has become part of the **Canadian** Taxpayer Federation's campaign against high **energy** costs. Last week the organization issued a news release about Hotel Dieu Shaver's costs as part of a series of freedom of information requests on hospital budgets it made this year, said spokesperson Christine Van Geyn.

Rufrano said the federation's release is accurate save for how many beds the rehab **centre** could buy. The release said the rehab **centre** could buy 156 patient beds for the difference in its 2011 and 2016 bills. Rufrano said in reality Hotel Dieu Shaver could buy 40 beds for the more than $200,000 difference.
glafleche@postmedia.com

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Minister urged to reject nuke waste

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainOttawa Sun - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Colin Perkel

Ad Value: $904
Reach: 45442 **Page:** A6

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainMore than 100 mayors and other elected officials on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border are urging Environment Minister Catherine McKenna to put the kibosh on a proposed nuclear-waste bunker near Lake **Huron**.

In an open letter to McKenna on Thursday, the officials say they speak for 16 million people who want the **Ontario Power Generation** proposal shelved as a potential eco hazard.

"We are deeply concerned that **Ontario Power Generation** (**OPG**) is proposing to bury nuclear waste in close proximity to the Great Lakes," the letter states. "We find it irresponsible and deeply troubling that **OPG** failed, and continues to refuse, to investigate any other actual sites."

The 104 signatories include mayors, wardens and reeves in **Ontario**, among them Keith Hobbs, of **Thunder Bay**, Maureen Cole, of South **Huron**, Heather Jackson, of **St. Thomas**, and Pat Darte, from **Niagara**-on-the-Lake.

American signatories include mayors Ron Meer, of Michigan City, Ind., Stephen Hagerty of Evanston, Ill., and Mike Vandersteen, of Sheboygan, Wisc.

A covering note from Mayor Mike Bradley of Sarnia says the message in the letter is clear.

"We oppose the risk to our precious fresh water," Bradley writes.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Good Editorial

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Tone: Negative
Byline: Robert Brownlie

Ad Value: $471
Reach: 171076 **Page:** A16

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainRe "Pre paid **Hydro plan** repugnant" (Editorial, Nov. 24): While I was reading this editorial, I thought "what a thoughtful and well-written piece." You have encapsulated the arrogance and hard-hearted attitude of this present government. As story after story unfolds in the pages of the Sun revealing a government more and more out of touch with the people of the province, a passage from Shakespeare came to mind (modified somewhat): Now is the Wynne terror of our discontent made summer by this "Sun of York"!

ROBERT BROWNLIE ANCASTER

(Love it)

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Reach: 70995 **Page:** A5

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Steve McGlennon

Midland

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Hydro One Executive Salaries Ludicrous

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainDaily Miner & News (Kenora) - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Roy Dawson,

Ad Value: $248
Reach: 3206 **Page:** A5

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainDear Editor It appears that the recent lowering of **Hydro** One **rates** this year, mainly due to political pressure and **public** outrage, is nothing more than a short term reprieve implemented by Premier Wynne to help quieten the thousands of frustrated customers of this bureaucratic, inept government organization, because we have 2018 of 4.8 per cent.

What I find interesting, frustrating about this announcement is that it is a "no-brainer" that **Hydro** One applied for this increase in order to pay for increased expenses in running the **utility** for the coming year, and even though Prime Minister Wynne sold off 30 per cent of **Hydro** One in order to raise $9 billion to apparently pay down some debt and to fund **public** transit, there is no men-tion of any adjustment to the salaries of any of **Hydro** One upper management so that the company could trim its operating expenses in order to save further **rate** increases.

As an example in 2016 the CEO Mayo Schmidt was paid 4.5 million 2016! In one word this compensation amount is ludicrous and reality this Liberal government is just shows how out of touch with when using taxpayers money! Further research also shows that former CEO Tom Mitchell who retired in 2015 received a payment of $563,000 last year which was on top of the $1.59 million he received in 2015! Maybe someone can tell me how he deserves that kind of compensation when the 119 ombudsman called "In the page report from the **Ontario** 2015 chastised **Hydro** One in no Dark" which was published in uncertain terms about its terrible **customer** **service**.

Speaking of which, **Hydro** One customers should be aware that as 10,000 were recorded) about the take their complaints (over which Bill 91 which paved the way for **utility** to the Ombudsman due to partial privatization of the company, Bill 91 specifically removes the **utility** from jurisdiction of the **independent** office of the legisla-tor, which includes the Ombudsman, Auditor General and the Information & Privacy Commissioner.

Now customers with complaints will have to deal with **Hydro** One's in house complaint mechanisms.

Based on past experience of dealing with **Hydro** One… Good Luck! In summary and to put the above noted (nauseous) salaries into perspective, research shows that the top Neurosurgeon in Canada earns a total of up to $560,773.00 per year, and to keep his/her job has to perform! And in my books this income is certainly justified! Thank you, Roy Dawson, Keewatin, On

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Neo-liberalism is a spent force and Patrick Brown knows it

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainToronto Star - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Rick Salutin

Ad Value: $14,612
Reach: 361323 **Page:** A17

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainWhat accounts for the "progressive," activist, pro-government, even leftish tone of Patrick Brown's platform for **Ontario**'s Progressive Conservatives in the coming June election: more transit, more for mental health, etc.?

A) Someone bodysnatched the former Harperite MP and replaced him. B) He's an unprincipled politician who believes nothing except what focus groups tell him. C) He has returned to Bill Davis's inclusive Red Toryism that predated the Mike Harris/Tim Hudak eras and dominated the postwar decades.

My own answer? As a young lad of 39 (Brown qualifies as what Niki Ashton calls an "early millennial"), he grew up under neo-liberal assumptions: free trade deals are the coolest, government sucks and business must be unleashed. But as a callow youth absorbed by politics, he also noticed the crash of '08 and how those promises turned out false. So neo-liberalism is a spent force, electorally.

In their early days, around the time Brown was born, those ideas sounded fresh and there was nothing to test them against. Now there is declining pay, failing social programs, and, above all, the crash of 2008, from which the rich learned nothing while most leaders, like Obama, continued catering to them. That was a watershed, especially for those who once hoped for better lives and now live in despair over their **student** debt, their dashed dreams of owning a home or even just being able to rent in a decent downtown area.

In other words, Brown has noticed the zeitgeist. So have others, like U.K. Conservatives, who suddenly "recognize the good that government can do." It's even permissible to advocate "socialism" (Corbyn, Sanders, Podemos in Spain, the Frente Amplio in Chile's recent election). The alternative is no longer neo-liberalism; it's Trumpian racist populism, probably a non-starter in Ontario.

One sign that Brown has gauged this situation correctly is that Premier Kathleen Wynne is attacking him not for what he says he'll do but for being naive: How ya gonna pay for that, buddy? - a hoary jibe traditionally spewed at the NDP.

It's not a simple return to Davisism, because Bill Davis was also responding to the zeitgeist of his time: the postwar consensus. Respectable conservatives like him could still smell the stench of two world wars, a depression, the Holocaust; they realized the old order was no longer acceptable. They weren't leftists, but their perspective had shifted, partly in response to horrors they'd seen with their own eyes, partly from political realism. When the moment is past, its effects tend to fade, no matter what memorials or testimonials are shown to later generations. What Brown's eyes beheld was the folly of 2008.

There's nothing deep going on here, but there's nothing wrong either. People are allowed to change their minds, including for career reasons. Not all politicians can be Sanders or Corbyn, who stayed consistent when the zeitgeist left them behind, then rejoined them again while they remained where they'd always been.

Wynne should be in a strong position here. When she ran five years ago she said, "Anyone who knows me, knows I'm about social justice"- and sounded like she meant it. But she lost her footing, especially in selling off Hydro One. It wasn't just Hydro's near-mystical status in Ontario; she also embraced one of neo-liberalism's core tenets: privatization of public goods, under the hideous Orwellism of "broadening" its ownership. You never hear business say: Let's sell some of this great business we've got to government.

Wynne has since re-emerged as the person she was supposed to be then. Her government's new workplace law is pretty impressive, both for doubling the number of enforcement officers - business had grown casual about breaking the law, knowing they wouldn't be inspected, much less charged - and perhaps even more for imposing equal pay for part-time precarious workers. I'm not sure even the dreamers expected that. There's also the $15 minimum wage, which Brown has committed to, though more slowly. So who was that premier who sold off Hydro One and refused to raise taxes instead, or let Toronto do so?

But the party leader in the weirdest position now is NDP Leader Andrea Horwath. Whatcha gonna do when you're a socialist, or social democrat, or whatever she calls it, and you're in danger of being outflanked on your left not just by those damn Liberals but by Stephen Harper's former backbencher?

Rick Salutin appears on Friday.

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Northern Daily News

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain No hidden agenda, Brown's a Red Tory

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainNorthern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) · Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Ad Value: $189
Reach: 5917 **Page:** A4

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainOntario Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown's "People's Guarantee" election platform is a strategic political document that helps him in two key ways.

First, by releasing it seven months before the vote, Brown has kept his promise that Ontarians would have plenty of advance notice about what a government under his leadership would do.

Second, Brown has defined himself before his opponents could - as a red Tory in the tradition of former **Ontario** premier Bill Davis, not a "common sense revolutionary" like former premier Mike Harris.

This has effectively blunted attempts by Wynne and her union allies to portray him as a **Canadian** Donald Trump with a "hidden agenda."

On issues ranging from tax cuts for the middle class, to financial help for young families, to lowering **hydro** bills, to almost non-existent debt reduction, Brown's platform could have been written by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

It could almost have been written by Wynne.

Not only will Brown keep Wynne's 25 per cent reduction in **electricity** **rates** - which he denounced when it was passed as fiscal flimflammery based on massive borrowing - he's promising to reduce them 12 per cent more.

Nowhere in Brown's 147 promises is there anything for social conservatives.

For example, no mention of reforming Wynne's sex-ed curriculum, which Brown floated when he was running for PC leader.

To his credit, Brown has tackled the third rail of politics for Conservatives - manmade **climate** change - saying he will cancel Wynne's $6-billion **cap-and-trade** political slush fund and replace it with a revenue neutral carbon tax, verified by the auditor general, based on Trudeau's compulsory carbon prices.

Brown's promise to quit after four years if he hasn't fulfilled five key promises is unnecessarily gimmicky. What if he wins a minority and the Liberals and NDP combine forces to stop him, for example? We don't think Brown is being forthright enough with voters about the economic pain Ontarians will have to endure to undo the economic damage caused by 14 years of Liberal rule that has left the province as the world's most indebted sub-sovereign borrower.

That said, Brown is clearly preferable to the politically corrupt Liberals, who drove us into that ditch by repeatedly doubling down on fiscally reckless, billion-dollar boondoggles like their green-**energy** disaster.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Phase Out Coal

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainToronto Sun - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Dr. Courtney Howard

Ad Value: $1,017
Reach: 171076 **Page:** A16

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain"Abandoning coal will betray the poor" presents a false choice between coal **power** and household biomass (Germain Belzile, Nov. 25). The poor need not exchange deaths due to choking indoor air pollution from poor-quality biomass cookstoves for deaths from outdoor air pollution due to coal **power** - currently numbering more than 800,000 per year worldwide.

Phasing out kerosene and household coal and introducing next-generation cook stoves and **solar** photovoltaics helps families breathe easier indoors. Phasing out coal - recommended by the recent Lancet Countdown on **Climate** Change, the **Canadian** **Public** Health Association and the **Canadian** Medical Association - reduces greenhouse **gases** and deaths from outdoor air pollution, which is why I was happy to speak in support of the Powering Past Coal announcement at COP23. **Climate** change is the biggest health threat of the 21st century and disproportionately impacts women living in poverty. Treating **climate** change with coal phase-out is a critical prescription for a healthy planet now - and in the future.

DR. COURTNEY HOWARD PRESIDENT **CANADIAN** ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

(Studies calculating deaths due to fossil **fuels** while failing to calculate lives saved due to fossil **fuels** - for example through the provision of reliable **electricity** - are suspect from the start)

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Parry Sound's new generating station up and running

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainParry Sound North Star - Thu Nov 30 2017
Tone: Neutral **Reach:** 22412 **Page:** 1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainPARRY SOUND - The Cascade Street Generating Station is up and running.

Aside from a few minor items to complete including its testing phase, the facility is ready to produce **electricity**.

Fully computerized, the $17.5 million station can be controlled in Parry Sound, or remotely.

"We have the ability to control it in manual (setting), or by kilowatt set point, or level," said Bryan Ingram, Bracebridge Generation Ltd. operations manager. "Where we're running at right about now is about 92 per cent efficient in extracting the potential **energy** into kinetic **energy**. And at peak, which is about two thirds of what it's capable of producing … at the peak efficiency is about 94 per cent."

Instead of guess work and trial and error, the system can take a number of factors into account and make changes immediately.

"It's pretty neat to see that the whole Parry Sound Seguin system was kind of run by driving around and looking at the water level and making a change. The old facility was all manual and basically the guys would stop in the morning, look at the water level, adjust the machine based on instinct - trying to balance the water level with the machine output and then at the end of the day checking in and see where they were," Ingram said. "This automated system basically keeps this system right where it needs to be and it will open and close the gates, if there's a disturbance on the grid like a **power** outage a protection system sees it and turns off the machine and sends us an email."

Ingram said for those living along the waterways upstream and downstream of the facility, they will likely see more consistent water levels with the new station.

"During a rainstorm - for example - the system will automatically see it and start to increase and use the water that comes down the system. It's highly efficient in using what water is there."

Performance testing of the station should be complete within the next month with landscaping finished in the spring of 2018 and an official grand opening in the summer.

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THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plain Why Enbridge plans to sell assets, shares: Investors fret about its debt

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainThe Globe and Mail - Fri Dec 1 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: TIM KILADZE, JEFF LEWIS

Ad Value: $22,500
Reach: 309154 **Page:** B1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat6\plainFor the past few weeks, the burning question swirling around Enbridge Inc. has not been whether to raise cash, but how: Sell assets or sell new shares?

The surprising answer came from management late Wednesday: We'll do both.

The company's shares jumped 5.8 per cent Thursday after it announced plans to shed $3-billion in assets in 2018 and said it would sell $2-billion in shares immediately - $1.5-billion by the parent company and $500-million by subsidiary Enbridge Income Fund Holdings Inc.

The company is also throttling back dividend growth. Enbridge said the quarterly payout would jump by 10 per cent next year, and by the same **rate** through 2020. It had previously targeted annual increases of 10 per cent to 12 per cent through 2024.

The moves are aimed at allaying concern about the firm's ability to fund increasing payouts to investors while at the same time completing $22-billion in major growth projects. Before releasing results of its strategic **review**, shares were down 7 per cent since its last earnings release in early November.

The stock had dropped about 19 per cent since it acquired rival Spectra **Energy** for $37-billion in September, 2016.

The megadeal marked an expensive bet by chief executive officer Al Monaco to diversify the company away from its main oil-pipeline business by adding more **natural gas** infrastructure to its portfolio - at a time growth prospects in the oil sands have slowed considerably.

Early on, investors appeared to like the deal, but they grew concerned about the dividend and cash flow, especially as bigticket projects in the company's hefty backlog face pushback from environmentalists and regulators.

Delays to its marquee pipeline projects could undermine rosy cash-flow projections, making it harder to sustain future dividend increases through organic growth alone, said Samir Kayande, analyst at RS **Energy** Group.

In September, the company said costs for just the U.S. portion of its Line 3 oil pipeline replacement have jumped 12 per cent from earlier estimates to $2.9-billion (U.S.). The project is awaiting final clearances from regulators in Minnesota.

"The one thing that I would be concerned about is: What is the line of sight to the cashflow harvest that's going to be coming?" Mr. Kayande said Thursday. "If you need to issue equity in order to increase your dividend, that's just a little bit weaker than counting on internally generated cash flow."

Enbridge had also diluted existing shareholders a number of times in the past few years, mostly with the all-stock purchase of Spectra, but also with equity raises. The company sold $2.3-billion (**Canadian**) of new shares in early 2016.

The alternative was to divest more assets. As of early November, Enbridge had already unloaded $2.6-billion of them this year. Some research analysts believed more could be sold, a preferred option over raising more equity because the assets have been getting premium prices.

"We continue to believe that selling mature assets at elevated multiples and redeploying that capital into growth initiatives is an attractive way to drive 'per share' growth," RBC Dominion Securities analyst Robert Kwan wrote in early November.

"We prefer asset sales over a large equity issuance at [Enbridge]," BMO Nesbitt Burns analyst Ben Pham wrote a few weeks ago, adding that recent weakness in the stock price presented a "once in a multi-year buying opportunity."

As part of its strategic **review**, Enbridge is taking their advice, putting a for-sale sign on $10billion in assets it deems "noncore" to its business. They include unregulated onshore **renewable-energy** projects and some **natural gas** processing infrastructrue.

But management decided asset sales weren't enough, adding in the big equity issues. The parent company is now selling new shares at a weaker level, making the deal more dilutive than it would have been a few months back.

Yet if there's one thing **energy** companies have had to learn since the oil price started to crash in September, 2014, it's the need to get ahead of any foreseeable problems. Investors will hammer them if they don't.

Indeed, debt is starting to form a bit of a cloud over Enbridge, and it isn't some theoretical problem. DBRS Ltd.

pegs consolidated debt, including Enbridge's subsidiaries, at $62.5-billion. The company said Wednesday it is targeting debt reduction of $4-billion in coming years.

But delays to major pipelines or hiccups selling assets could slow those plans, said Michael Rao, managing director with the rating agency.

"One of the biggest issues with Enbridge is the size of their capital program and how much funding they need to do over a relatively short period of time," he said.

"To the extent that projects get delayed, obviously that would not be helpful [in terms of] getting the balance-sheet reduction at the end."

Such concerns were spelled out by Moody's Investors **Service** in October. It downgraded subsidiary Enbridge Income Fund to Baa3 from Baa2, reflecting "very high levels of leverage and ongoing execution risk on the Line 3 Replacement project," the agency wrote. "The negative outlook remains in place until the company achieves a ratio of debt-to-earnings before income, taxes, depreciation and amortization below six times on a sustained basis." The ratio at the time of the downgrade was 6.7 times.

Moody's also has a negative outlook on the parent company, partly because debt was added through the Spectra acquisition. Although this outlook doesn't necessitate a looming downgrade, it's enough to make management concerned - especially because Enbridge really values its investment grade rating.

"We fully appreciate the cost of capital benefit that comes with four strong investmentgrade credit ratings at the parent company," chief financial officer John Whelen said on a conference call in early November.

Now, Enbridge is selling $1.5billion in new shares by way of a private placement to three institutional investors, and the subsidiary income fund is also raising $500-million in equity.

Maybe it isn't necessary in the long-run, but the deals will help to stave off any short-term fears, as the company takes the steps necessary to keep those dividend increases coming.

ENBRIDGE (ENB) CLOSE: $48.65, UP $2.90

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