

Infomart Newsletters

From: Infomart Newsletters
Sent: January 15, 2018 7:31 AM
To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Monday, January 15, 2018

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Monday, January 15, 2018
 Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 13 Results



The Tom McConnell Show

www.iheartradio.ca (NewsTalk 610, St. Catharines) - Fri Jan 12 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Friday, January 12, 2018
 OEB is mentioned.



Wawa will 'walk the walk' with LNG: CAO; Town will consider hooking up buildings, services to save money, set example

The Sault Star - Mon Jan 15 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Jeffrey Ougler

Ad Value: \$1,347

Reach: 17077 Page: A1 / Front

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Concerns over Hydro One spending | (CKCB FM) The Peak

www.thepeakfm.com - Fri Jan 12 2018

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spent nine million dollars to redesign its bills and then proposed spending another six million. Energy critic Peter Tabuns says the 15-million-dollar total is ridiculous.



Help Us, Ontario!

Toronto Sun - Mon Jan 15 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Pamela Walsh

Ad Value: \$710

Reach: 171076 Page: A14

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Bisson to run in new Timmins riding

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Liberal Madness

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Byline: Greg McLachan

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Schools get \$200M for energy efficiency

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Full Articles



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Wawa will certainly consider taking a lead role in tapping into liquid **natural gas** to **power** municipal buildings and services, both to save money and set standards, said Chris Wray, Wawa's CAO and clerk/treasurer.

Between eight and 10 per cent of a "typical" municipal budget is "related" to **energy**, Wray said. This translates into about \$1 million for the town, 230 kilometres **north** of Sault Ste. Marie.

"That's pretty expensive," Wray told The Sault Star. "If you can take a chunk out of that, then those monies can be either be given back to the **ratepayers** through reduced tax **rates** or used to supplement other services that are costing you more money."

Most municipal buildings in Wawa currently use **electric** heat.

"It's certainly something we would have to consider any time you have something like that in front of you ... you have to look at it," Wray said.

The second reason would be to take a leadership role.

"Not only are we promoting this and talking the talk, but we're walking the walk, as well," Wray said.

Despite earlier setbacks, it appears now that Wawa, and a number of other small, **northern** municipalities, will have access to **natural gas**.

A bid from **Toronto**-based Northeast Midstream is geared to see **natural gas** taken off the main TransCanada pipeline, and sent to an LNG plant near Nipigon, Ont., yet to be constructed.

The Sault Star reported last May negotiations that would see a pipeline to Wawa, Marathon, Schreiber, Manitouwadge and Terrace **Bay**, were going slowly.

Northern Ontario leaders were left fuming earlier in 2017 over the province's decision to pull the plug on a loan program geared to help their communities access **natural gas**. The potential vendor, Northeast Midstream, had worked with the communities, not currently served by traditional pipelines, for more than two years on a liquefied **natural gas** (LNG) **distribution** project.

Affected municipal leaders contended earlier that the viability of that project had

been put "in jeopardy" given the province's decision to cancel the \$200-million, interest-free **Natural Gas** Access Loan program, and replace it with the \$100-million **Natural Gas** Grant Program.

Wray said at the time he was "incredibly disappointed" by the province's decision that "shrinks" the original **plan** - \$200 million in loans and \$30 million in grants - to a \$100-million grant. He said the **Natural Gas** Access Loan program was going to finance a "creative solution" to connect communities and businesses to **natural gas**, grow the **Northern** economy, support economic development and create jobs.

A **Northern Ontario** Heritage Fund Corp., study suggested **natural gas** would yield savings of more than \$6 million per year for homeowners, businesses and municipalities.

A request to Northeast Midstream for comment was not responded to.

Currently, most residents of these communities rely on **electricity**, heating oil and propane, which are much more costly than **natural gas**.

Wray said it will be up to municipalities to produce infrastructure to distribute **gas** from a plant in each community to customers.

"There is a lot of work that has to be done between now and the time any **natural gas** would flow," Wray said. "So, we're in that planning stage right now, planning mode, if you will."

Co-ordinating, which will include drafting reports to council, will be interrupted in the short-term because of municipal budgets, he added.

Wray said it would be "unfair" to pitch a timeframe for completion.

"There will be significant advancement this year in terms of the planning aspect of it," he said. "From my perspective, it's still a live issue and one we're going to be taking a hard look at in partnership with the other communities."

Wawa did not have to commit to Northeast Midstream, other than to indicate "we would like to do this," Wray said.

"It's not like we're on the hook for a bunch of money or in-kind services or anything like that," he added. "I think everybody recognized the fact that the only fuel we can't use is **natural gas**. The cost delta between that and fuel oil or propane is so large, it's something you have to look at."

Natural gas would be a boon to many Wawa residents, many of whom are seniors on fixed incomes, the CEO said.

"Last winter, we got away lucky because it was so mild ... But this winter, not so much," said Wray, adding **Algoma Power** was recently "successful" at the **Ontario Energy Board** in getting a **rate** increase.

"What's that leave you with?" Wray said.

Fuel oil, he said, is "expensive" and not as efficient as **electricity**. Propane is "fairly efficient" but expensive. Wood, Wray said, is "inexpensive, if you can get it."

"If you're elderly, you're not going to be getting a big load of wood and stacking it up," he added. "So, it's high maintenance and it's very inefficient."

"Those are the choices that we're left with. It's unfortunate because, in amongst that, the cost of municipal **service** is going up, food, **gasoline** ... everything."
jougler@postmedia.com On Twitter: @JeffreyOugler

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Concerns over Hydro One spending | (CKCB FM) The Peak

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Tone: Neutral

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PAMELA WALSH A FED UP TAXPAYER IN

CALGARY

(Deal!)

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Bisson to run in new Timmins riding

Northern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) - Mon Jan 15 2018

Tone: Neutral

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Reach: 2981 **Page:** A2

Guy Bourgouin, president of the United Steelworkers Local 1-2010, announced his intention to seek the nomination as the provincial New Democratic Party candidate for the new riding of Mushkegowuk-James **Bay** in the provincial election this spring.

Bourgouin said he added his name to the nomination because he wants to fight for change in the province.

"I've been fighting for workers for many years and when I want to see changes, I do something about it - I go back to the table to fight for what's right. That's why I'm putting name forward to run as a New Democrat. The NDP has a **plan** that offers hope to **northern Ontario** families. Hope that their **hydro** bills will finally come down and their loved ones will finally get access to health care that they can count on."

Bourgouin, who was born in Dubreuilville and is of Métis decent, has lived in

Kapuskasing for 22 years with his wife, Manon, and two kids Anabel and J  r  my.

According to a release issued by the NDP Thursday morning, Bourgouin "has been fighting for workers with the United Steelworkers for 22 years and has been the president of the local for 15 years. Bourgouin has spent most of his career advocating changes to help for working families at all levels of government."

Through his local, Bourgouin represents workers from different sectors across **Northern Ontario**, from **Sudbury** to the Manitoba border, such as woodlands, sawmills, plywood plants, health care services, hardware stores, janitorial services and social services.

NDP MPP Gilles Bisson said he is sad to no longer represent the people along the Highway 11 corridor and the James **Bay coast** but he is confident Bourgouin will be a great addition to Queen's Park.

"Guy has been representing workers in **Northern Ontario** for many years and will be an excellent MPP," Bisson said. "He knows the area; he works closely with the community and surrounding First Nations. Guy is fully bilingual, and brings with him an enthusiastic and committed team of volunteers ready for the upcoming election. I look forward to working with him next fall."

Bisson, who has represented the area since 1999 when the riding of Timmins-James **Bay** was created, will be running for reelection in the new riding of Timmins.

"This was a very difficult decision for me. I have served the people of Highway 11 and the James **Bay coast** for nearly 20 years so having the riding split up is like losing a part of the family," Bisson said.

"I have built many lifelong friendships with people in the **Northern** and Western part of my riding and I thank them for giving me the honour of serving and working with them."

In October, the Representation Statute Law Amendment Act passed unanimously, dividing the ridings of Timmins-James **Bay** and **Kenora Rainy-River** into four ridings that will be contested in 2018 - Kiiwetinoong, Mushkegowuk-James **Bay**, Timmins, and **Kenora-Rainy River**.

Bisson said that one of the main factors affecting his decision to run in Timmins riding was that he lives in Timmins.

"I was born and raised in Timmins. My wife and I raised our daughters in Timmins, so Timmins is our home."

Bisson said his work is not done at Queen's Park, noting that winter highway road conditions, **hydro rates**, long-term care, and health care are among his top priorities. New Democrats have announced plans for Canada's first universal pharmacare **plan**, a **hydro plan** to bring **Hydro** One back into **public** hands and **rates** down by up to thirty per cent for residents and businesses, a "find-and-fix" **public** inquiry into long-term care and hospital funding that matches or exceeds inflation, population growth and the unique needs of each community in order to end chronic overcrowding "I am very happy that **Northern Ontario** will be gaining two new voices at Queen's Park and I'm ready to represent the people of Timmins once again" Bisson said.

Bisson was first elected to the Legislature in 1990 as the Member of Provincial Parliament for the former riding of Cochrane South and has held the seat for the Timmins-James **Bay** riding since its creation in 1999. He has also served as House Leader for the **Ontario** NDP at Queen's Park since 2011. Ebat, norum clabemo

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Horwath pushes further to left

Sarnia Observer - Mon Jan 15 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Randy Richmond

Ad Value: \$870

Reach: 12173 Page: A3

Facing a squeeze play between left-looking Liberals and new-look Progressive Conservatives, **Ontario** NDP Leader Andrea Horwath pummelled Kathleen Wynne's personal unpopularity and Patrick Brown's policies Sunday in **London**.

Horwath used a lively and crowded nomination meeting in a riding held for 15 years by the Liberals to launch a campaign-style attack on her rivals, with the provincial election only five months away.

"People are very very disappointed with (Liberal Premier) Kathleen Wynne," Horwath said.

The laughter that followed from about 150 **London North Centre** NDP members prompted Horwath to amend her remarks.

"When I come to places like **London**... people are more than disappointed. They are downright angry. They are ticked off at this government. I'm being polite and I talk in **Toronto** talk when I say people are disappointed with Kathleen Wynne. This premier said she was going to be so much different than she turned out to be. Now is the time to change that."

But the next election isn't only about defeating Wynne, Horwath warned: "The next election is about what choosing what comes next for **Ontario**. We know that Patrick Brown and the Conservatives are not the answer."

The last time the Progressive Conservatives were in **power** in **Ontario**, they fired 6,000 nurses, shut down 7,000 hospital beds and closed 28 hospitals, Horwath said. Brown is promising \$6 billion in cuts that will have to come from health care and social services, she said.

"Is that what **Ontario** needs right now?" Horwath asked, to a resounding no from a lively **crowd**.

Speakers at the nomination meeting, held at the Victory Legion in east **London**, made note of the large **crowd**, perhaps a sign of four quality candidates and perhaps a sign there's a sense among New Democrats the riding can be taken.

Thames Valley District school board teacher Terence Kernaghan won the nomination.

London North Centre has been firmly in the grip of Liberal MPP Deb Matthews, who has held various key cabinet positions and is deputy premier, but is leaving provincial politics.

Matthews and the Liberals have faced a rough ride recently in a city where hospital patients line up in hallways for days, where mental health care services can't keep up with demand, where jail deaths are on the rise and where social housing and social services show signs of strain.

The riding is bordered by two others held by New Democrats - **London West's** Peggy Sattler and **London-Fanshawe's** Teresa Armstrong - who regularly pound away at the impact of Liberal policies on city residents in the **Ontario** legislature.

"Your community is ground zero for the hospital cuts that have occurred in this province. **London** was the canary in the coal mine in my opinion for years now,"

Horwath said.

But the NDP has its work cut out for them. The latest Campus Research polls released Friday show support for the Liberal's NDP-style policies of giving free prescription drugs to people under 25 and boosting the minimum wage.

Those polls also showed the Progressive Conservatives and Liberals tied at about 35 per cent of support with the NDP holding steady at 23 per cent. Horwath outlined an NDP platform more socially progressive than the Liberals, including the return of **public** ownership of **Hydro**. One and more funding for hospitals, social housing, **public** transit and a universal pharmacare **plan**.

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What will grits do to cling to; As June election nears, the answer is: Just about anything

Toronto Sun - Sun Jan 14 2018

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Ad Value: \$5,600

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In just under five months, Ontarians will head to the polls. And though much of the chatter is focused on Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government being wildly unpopular, there is still a very real possibility they could be re-elected.

It's hard to imagine one of the most politically corrupt governments **Ontario** has ever had rewarded with another term, but they have survived so many scandals, which would not only have buried any other government, it would keep that political party out of office for years to come.

The ever-growing list of financial debacles, the deleted emails trial (under Dalton McGuinty's watch), the bribery trial in **Sudbury** - where Wynne, herself, had to testify - billions of taxpayers' dollars wasted on misguided green **energy** policies. Any other premier would have been shown the door - if not by demand from the **public**, then by their own caucus members.

Yet, Wynne endures. She picked a fight with Tim Hortons after her government's unreasonable 31% hike (over 15 months) in the minimum wage and didn't necessarily win the argument, but it showed Wynne still has it in her for a battle.

And with an approval rating of 15%, she really has nothing to lose, calling out the coffee chain, though most reasonable people understand why some Tim's franchise owners did what they needed to.

Over the course of the next few months as we lead up to the provincial budget, we can expect Wynne's Liberals will continue to use the **public** purse to shore up their electoral fortunes.

The recently implemented OHIP+ program - which they took right out of the NDP's playbook - is just one of many examples of large and costly programs coming to fruition before election day in June.

Come March, the Liberals are creating a new provincial agency (read: bureaucracy) to provide home-care services.

In documents obtained by CBC, it was revealed personal support workers (PSWs) will become provincial employees and the province will now be in the business of providing home-care services directly.

Sounds nice, except there are significant challenges with this, not the least of which is every aspect of **public** policy the Liberals touch seems to turn into a

boondoggle.

But this **plan** is exactly the type of strategy the Liberals employ - make government bigger by creating unionized employees whose livelihood depends on the Grits staying in office. Translation: votes.

And let's not forget the Liberals' **Fair Hydro Plan** kicked in just in time for election year.

After years of screwing up our **energy** policy, the Liberals have concocted this new scheme which **Ontario's** Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk says will cost taxpayers nearly \$40 billion over 30 years.

Residential **electricity rates** have doubled over the last 10 years under the Liberals. Their "**plan**" temporarily drops **rates** with the biggest impact coming - conveniently - in 2018.

What other plans will Wynne and her team hatch to cling to **power**? Well, likely in the coming weeks, there will be policies geared directly for women, money for education, countless re-announcements of policies to make them sound new, and who knows how much taxpayers' money will be doled out to every special interest group that feels aggrieved by something.

Yes, this is a cynical ploy. But it can work. It has helped the Liberals in the past get re-elected and if we don't pay attention, it will happen again.
 abatra@postmedia.com @AdrienneBatra

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Liberal Madness

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GREG MCLACHAN

LONDON, ONT.

(It's what the Liberals always do - create a crisis and then claim to have fixed it. For example, Wynne's **Fair Hydro** (Borrowing) **Plan**)

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Schools get \$200M for energy efficiency

Toronto Star - Sat Jan 13 2018

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Ontario schools are getting \$200 million from the proceeds of the provincial **cap-and-trade** program, aimed at fighting greenhouse **gases**, to become more **energy** efficient.

Education Minister Mitzie Hunter made the announcement Friday at Kensington Community School, which got \$358,000 toward two high-efficiency hot water boilers to heat the building near College and Bathurst in **Toronto**.

"It's reducing **energy** use by 80 to 90 per cent just by that one system," Hunter said in the school's library after reading a popular environmentally themed book, *Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth*, to kindergarten **students** with teacher Valerie Elliott.

School staff can now adjust temperatures in different classrooms more easily as needed.

The \$200 million is being used for upgrades, such as **solar** panels and LED lighting systems, in about 600 schools across the province.

The money is part of the \$1.4 billion that schools have been given this fiscal year for school repairs, addressing a larger backlog of much-needed work estimated at \$15 billion.

"We know more is needed in school repair," Hunter said when asked if schools can expect more help in the looming provincial budget, the Liberal government's last financial blueprint before the June 7 election.

Improving **energy** efficiency in schools will help **Ontario** meet its target of cutting greenhouse **gas** emissions to 15 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, Hunter said. The goal is reducing them 80 per cent by 2050.

Under the **cap-and-trade** program, the province sets emissions limits for certain industries, which can exceed those limits only if they buy allowances at auction from other companies that are under their limits.

The system gives companies an incentive to come in under their limits, because they can make money by selling their carbon allowances.

Ontario entered a larger **cap-and-trade** market with Quebec and California - a state that is the world's sixth-largest economy - on Jan. 1.

Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown has promised to scrap the **cap-and-trade** accord if his party topples Premier Kathleen Wynne's government, saying the deal "does nothing to protect the environment." Brown has pledged to replace it with a carbon tax.

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The Otter Creek **wind** farm proposed for **north** of Wallaceburg will begin installing and testing piles at three **turbine** locations starting next week.

The pile testing makes residents in the Wallaceburg area nervous because many people believe piledriving vibration in other areas in Chatham-Kent during **wind turbine** construction has led to a large number of water wells becoming black with turbid water and contaminated with heavy metals.

Pile testing is set to take place outside of Wallaceburg at three different locations, Otter Creek **Wind** Farm officials confirmed Friday.

The testing piles will start Monday and likely take place over the next week.

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