

Infomart Newsletters

From: Infomart Newsletters
Sent: February 2, 2018 8:00 AM
To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Friday, February 2, 2018

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Friday, February 2, 2018
 Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 14 Results



Opinion | City of Guelph sold short on hydro merger | GuelphMercury.com

www.guelphmercury.com - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Friday, February 2, 2018

OEB is mentioned.

I agree with Robert Telford's Jan. 25 letter to the editor and the concern that the Alectra Merger process was one sided.



Anyone but Wynne for Ontario premier

Toronto Sun - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value:\$1,857

Reach: 171076 Page: A16

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Elections are about who you trust

The Sachem - Thu Feb 1 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value:\$62

Reach: 6967 Page: 1

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Thibeault's lack of self-awareness

Toronto Sun - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Bruce Forsyth

Ad Value: \$3,824

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Let's be honest about Kathleen Wynne's 'town halls' - this is campaigning on our dime

National Post - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: National Post

Reach: 607500

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Program helps club reduce energy costs

Sudbury Star - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Ad Value: \$902

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

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Hydro-Québec line nixed by regulators in new hampshire

National Post - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$1,623

Reach: 159480 Page: FP3

Regulators in the state of New Hampshire have rejected a major **electricity** project being piloted by Quebec's **hydro utility** and its American partner, Eversource. Members of New Hampshire's Site Evaluation Committee ...



Hydro-Quebec's massive deal with Massachusetts hits snag | CTV Montreal News

montreal.ctvnews.ca - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

There's a new problem for the multi-billion-dollar contract announced by Hydro-Quebec last week with Massachusetts.



Nickel and dimed to death

LaSalle Post - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Peter J. Middlemore Sr.

Ad Value: \$167

Reach: 11120 Page: A4

The Jan. 19 editorial commentary "**Ontario** wishes you a petty new tax year" basically tells us, what we've known for years - we are being nickel and dimed to death. Like Christine Van Geyn states, Queen's Park is slowly making life in ...



How we can resolve Canada's pipeline wars

The Globe and Mail - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: THOMAS GUNTON

Ad Value: \$15,906

Reach: 309154 Page: B4

Director of the resource and environmental planning program at Simon Fraser University and a former B.C. deputy minister of environment who helped resolve the province's 'war in the woods' B.C.'s recent decision to introduce regulations on bitumen ...



Pipelines, not carbon taxes, bigger factor in energy competitiveness: report; Canada losing ground due to struggle over pipeline expansions

Waterloo Region Record - Fri Feb 2 2018

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Byline: Mia Rabson The Canadian Press

Ad Value: \$4,023

Reach: 63465 Page: E2

Canada's oil and **gas** producers are struggling to stay competitive with their U.S. counterparts because of the struggle to expand pipeline capacity, says a new report from the C.D. Howe Institute. The analysis by associate director of ...



GUNTER: Trudeau's on Alberta's side, sort of | Edmonton Sun

edmontonsun.com - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

Paul Crawford noted on Friday, February 2, 2018

Energy East is mentioned.

I'm glad Prime Minister Justin Trudeau got a second chance to clarify where he stands on the Trans Mountain pipeline extension, because his first effort didn't inspire much confidence.



Tim McMillan: Pipelines needed to support Canada's economic future | The Province

theprovince.com - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

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Energy East is mentioned.

The day Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stood before the nation and declared the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project was in the best interest of all Canadians, was the day our country took control of its energy future.



A way forward: How we can resolve pipeline wars - The Globe and Mail

www.theglobeandmail.com - Thu Feb 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

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B.C.'s recent decision to introduce regulations on bitumen to protect its environment – followed by Alberta's threats of economic retaliation – are a significant escalation of the growing conflict over proposed pipeline projects.

Clippings Summary

Full Articles



Opinion | City of Guelph sold short on hydro merger | GuelphMercury.com

www.guelphmercury.com - Fri Feb 2 2018

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Anyone but Wynne for Ontario premier

Toronto Sun - Fri Feb 2 2018

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In the chaos following the bombshell sexual misconduct allegations that felled PC leader Patrick Brown and party president Rick Dykstra, **Ontario's** Progressive Conservative Party took constructive steps this week to put its house in order.

The party's executive, newly led by long-time party supporter and activist Jag Badwal, has endorsed a March 10 leadership campaign that will let grassroots members decide who replaces Brown.

Vic Fedeli, the straight-shooting MPP from **North Bay**, set aside his own leadership aspirations to help ensure the party addresses "any rot" before taking on Kathleen Wynne's Liberals, largely referring to the dull but necessary detail of membership lists, internal checks, balances and party structure required to win.

For the Conservatives, Brown's resignation, coming mere months before the June 7 vote, presents both a crisis and an opportunity.

How the party responds to that crisis, the resolve and unity it displays in dealing with such a body blow, will communicate a broader signal to voters that

conservatives are ready and able not only to govern **Ontario**, but to clean up the toxic mess that's been created by a decade-and-a-half of Liberal rule.

Which is the question Ontarians fundamentally will have to answer when they vote - are we better off today than we were in 2003 when the Liberals first took **power**.

Resoundingly, we are not. The Liberal legacy includes record-high, job killing **hydro** disaster that kicks debt onto future generations. As too does record debt that made **Ontario** the world's most indebted sub-sovereign borrower. Our manufacturing and auto sector is perishing under the combined burden of Liberal indifference, ineptitude, red tape and taxation. Our health care system is failing, bureaucratic and in crisis. And none of that addresses parade of self-serving and ideological schemes and scandals that hang like a cloud of stink over **Ontario's** Liberal Party.

There are four candidates expected to contest the Conservative leadership in March - Doug Ford and Christine Elliott while Caroline Mulroney and Rod Phillips are expected soon to formally declare.

All four are exceptional candidates with unique strengths and leadership attributes. Card-carrying conservative party members will decide who best represents their interests.

For **Ontario** voters, any of the four represent real and desperately needed change.

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Elections are about who you trust



The Sachem - Thu Feb 1 2018

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Reach: 6967 Page: 1

The ongoing provincial-municipal relationship has surfaced of late during testimony before pre-budget hearings and at the recent convention of ROMA, the Rural **Ontario** Municipal Association.

Discussions are dominated by the fact it's an election year on both provincial and municipal fronts. The provincial contest is in June, with municipal following in October.

Municipal election promises are relatively restrained compared to those coming from provincial leaders. Municipalities don't have much room to make sweeping changes.

As AMO (Association of Municipalities of **Ontario**) President Lynn Dollin explained at ROMA, "We'll promise to get at those pot holes. We will promise to pave roads and replace culverts. We will promise to look after the things that most people want to forget about - like toilet flushes, garbage and snow. We will promise to deliver safe drinking water. If you need help, we will send it: police, fire and paramedics."

People in **Ontario** live and breathe their local experience on a daily basis. They understand the challenges their local governments face.

Municipalities are particularly worried about their ability to finance and maintain infrastructure due to a growing need and the insufficiency of municipal revenue sources to finance large, multi-year projects.

Municipal governments cannot run deficits. They need to make ends meet.

We're told the total cost of delivering municipal services is growing by a billion dollars a year - to now well over \$50 billion annually across **Ontario**, through 444 municipal levels of government.

Many worry that municipal finances are not sustainable given cost pressures and revenue constraints.

The **public** and many groups continue to sound the alarm about the cost of infrastructure - to fix it, replace it and to expand it.

For example, municipal insurance costs are increasing. In the event of an accident, we've seen municipalities forced to pay a far **greater** portion of settlement than they are responsible for - leaving them on the hook for massive damage settlements. For taxpayers, this is a lose-lose. We must reform joint and several liability insurance to make municipal operations more affordable.

Those in **power** know our local governments are being squeezed. Inexplicably, the reaction from the provincial government has been to cut the **Ontario** Municipal Partnership Fund by \$70 million over the past five years. These cuts create even more pressure to raise property taxes, or reduce services.

Red tape is another huge problem - most municipalities submit between 90 and 200 reports each year to the province.

We have 95 municipalities today that are unwilling hosts to new **wind turbine** construction. **Green Energy Act** contracts have resulted in overpriced **energy** that **Ontario** doesn't need, that we sell off at a loss, and that we're wasting. Yet the provincial government continues to approve more projects. It's time to restore local planning authority over **renewable energy** projects. And it's time to repeal the **Green Energy Act** once and for all.

The next municipal and provincial elections will be about who you trust to look out for you, your family and your community. It will be about who you can depend on to work with, as well as respect, rural and small town **Ontario**. There has to be recognition of the need for change and a **plan** to make life more affordable.

Toby Barrett is Haldimand-Norfolk MPP

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Thibeault's lack of self-awareness

Toronto Sun - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Bruce Forsyth

Ad Value: \$3,824

Reach: 171076 Page: A17

Minister **Glenn Thibeault** demonstrates an incredible lack of self-awareness when he states in his first paragraph that, "PC MPP Rick Nicholls'column is proof that his party will say anything to get elected."

That's rich, minister. Minister Thibeault's next point is to say "...let's get some facts straight," and then launches into extolling the reductions in the **Fair Hydro Plan**.

Well, the facts are this "reduction" is being paid for with borrowed money that will end up costing Ontarians more in the long run, while failing to address the root cause of why the **rates** are so high in the first place, mainly because of the disastrous **Green Energy Act**.

This is merely a shell game whose bill will have to be paid back, with interest, by my children and grandchildren. Even celebrated **Canadian** politician and "Father

of socialized medicine" Tommy Douglas, a socialist, understood that debt is bad because the interest that must be paid takes money away from much needed social programs.

Minister Thibeault's next point is to evoke the name of the "great Satan" of **Ontario** politics, Mike Harris, in saying that he created a crisis in education and health care, cuts that were made even more necessary after the disastrous NDP government of Bob Rae.

Minister Thibeault, your government has been in **power** for almost 15 years. What has your government done to correct these "harmful" cuts? Oh, that's right; you did nothing.

In regards to the minimum wage, no one is arguing that people shouldn't be paid a decent wage, but the real problem is not a \$15 wage, but the speed at which your government is raising it; a 31% increase over 15 months. Even our **public** sector unions don't have the chutzpah to ask for such an increase.

It also deserves to be said that most workers in all professions don't stay at the minimum wage, but will eventually rise up through the pay scales either through hard work or promotion to a higher wage job.

Minister Thibeault next notes that his government is providing free prescriptions to kids and young adults under 25. Most of the under 25 **crowd** would still be covered under their parents workplace health plans or for the lucky ones, under their own workplace **plan**. What you are really doing, Minister, is shifting the cost of these prescriptions from private businesses onto the taxpayer.

How about extending health benefits to seniors instead, most of whom have to buy supplemental insurance unless their unions have negotiated "benefits for life."

Finally, your claim of 40,000 jobs in the **renewable energy** industry is greatly exaggerated, along with the fact that for every one job created (mostly temporary construction jobs), two have been lost due to your government's disastrous handling of the **energy** file.

Minister Thibeault, I too would encourage my fellow Ontarians to be weary of anything "...that sounds too good to be true..." From your government, that is.

Forsyth is a freelance writer and the webmaster of militarybruce.com

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Let's be honest about Kathleen Wynne's 'town halls' - this is campaigning on our dime

National Post - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: National Post

Reach: 607500

Following in the footsteps of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Kathleen Wynne has been roaming **Ontario** to "practice democracy" by letting everyday citizens voice their concerns directly to the leader of their government. Cynics could say a sitting leader doing a town-hall tour is little more than a taxpayer-funded PR stunt intended to change the channel on negative press and to curb slumping popularity.

They're not wrong, mostly, but a politician answering to constituents, even the dissatisfied and disgruntled ones, is a breath of fresh air from the staid status quo of **Canadian** politics, where politicians typically only leave their cloistered bubble at the legislature to glad-hand, fundraise, trumpet government projects

and campaign. Of course it's also true that for the deeply unpopular Wynne, these town halls are a thinly veiled excuse to do pre-election campaigning - on the taxpayer dime - in Liberal-held areas where seats are threatened ahead of this June's election.

These events are never entirely as they appear. The town halls are billed as if Wynne is omniscient, willing and able to thoroughly answer everyone's questions about anything. In reality, just a lucky handful of attendees get selected to ask questions, with no opportunity at rebuttals, and the answers given are usually unsatisfactory. Wynne often trots out typical talking points. Other times she defers attendees' questions to the ministers in charge of the files, telling them they'll do followup. The vast majority of attendees leave without answers.

Kathleen Wynne speaks during a town hall meeting in **Ottawa** on Jan. 18, 2018.

Then there's the locations. Wynne's first three town halls were held in the electoral districts of University-Rosedale (en.wikipedia.org) (a new district formed from parts of two other districts), Brampton **Centre** and **Ottawa West-Nepean**. All are Liberal turf. Trudeau can still rely on his legion of young fans to show up in droves when he strategically visits schools. In contrast, Wynne's town halls reflect the polls showing her approval ratings flatlining in the teens. Her first three town halls, while held on Liberal-friendly territory, have nevertheless been notable for pointed questions from disgruntled or disappointed Ontarians on such hot-button issues as rising **hydro rates** and housing costs, health-care deficiencies and provincial debt.

Wynne's aides have come up with some clever ways, on top of strategic location choices, to try to protect the premier. First off, the town halls have only had seating for a few hundred attendees. This ensures the **crowd** doesn't get too large and raucous (or maybe Wynne isn't much of a **crowd** draw). In contrast, Trudeau's PMO picks larger venues, like gymnasiums full of people, and when a negative question or a heckler interrupts the PM he can rely on the majority of them to have his back.

Second, in the past, the location of Wynne's town-hall events have been announced only about a week or so before they happen - whereas Trudeau's people released his entire schedule on Jan. 5. The promotion of the town halls are left mainly to Wynne's social media accounts (i.e. targeting Liberal supporters) and a government website.

Finally, it's interesting to note the preferential treatment given to some attendees at these events, even though these town halls are supposed to be non-partisan, official government events. They are certainly open to the general **public** (limited space aside). However, my conversation with a couple of attendees at the Brampton event raises a possible red flag.

A curious sight at three recent town halls was that a couple dozen attendees wearing special coloured paper bracelets given only to them were sitting as a backdrop behind the premier and moderators. One of Wynne's aides at the Brampton event asked Barbara Captjin - a **consumer** advocate critical of the province's home warranty program - to fill an empty seat in this preferential seating area. Captjin says she was under the impression the other attendees sitting in the special seating area were associated with the **Ontario** Liberal Party and saw them escorted in by Wynne's aides. She also noted that a girl and her father were moved by aides to several different spots in the backdrop area before the event started. Wynne would go on to choose the young girl to ask a question midway through the event, right after Captjin asked a pointed question, helping to lighten the mood and give the premier some relief from answering tough questions. Similar softball questions came from preferential seating areas in **Ottawa** and **Toronto** (yellow bracelets that time), where some attendees had to watch in an overflow room, unable to get a seat in the smaller venue.

Kelly McParland: Brown's darkest hour has let the sun shine for **Ontario** Liberals (nationalpost.com.)

Lawrence Solomon: Who's helping more people, Kathleen Wynne or Trump? (Hint: it's not Wynne) (nationalpost.com.)

A friend of mine who attended the Brampton event said he went up to one of the white bracelet wearers at the end of the event and asked them how they got a bracelet. The bracelet wearer, uncomfortable with the question, walked off without answering. My friend then asked the moderator, who said they're given to "local associations" and then passed him off to a Wynne staffer who wouldn't elaborate on whether or not they were local Liberal riding associations. When I asked Wynne's office about the people in bracelets, spokesperson Jennifer Beaudry replied via email that "The questions and attendees are not vetted in advance," without directly speaking to the question. But after I asked, things changed at the **Ottawa** event: Now all attendees were given bracelets, except the ones in the backdrop had green ones while the rest of the **crowd** had white ones.

And coincidentally or not, after I asked Beaudry about why the town halls were announced with such short notice, the latest one - held last Wednesday in **Thunder Bay**, a city with two seats, both Liberal - was announced slightly further in advance: two weeks ahead of time. No more town halls have been announced, but Beaudry said the premier intends to continue holding them "across the province in each region ... As the Premier has said, it is important for people across the province to be able to participate in the democratic process and be able to question her on issues that matter most to them." The commitment to democracy and voter accountability would be more convincing if those stops included ridings not predisposed to vote Liberal, with questions and questioners not picked out in advance. It would also look a lot less like political campaigning on the taxpayer's dime.

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Program helps club reduce energy costs



Sudbury Star - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Ad Value: \$902

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

Thanks to some financial help from **Greater Sudbury Hydro**, the Capreol Curling Club will save on **energy** costs while celebrating its 90th anniversary.

"Curling clubs across Canada are facing closure for many reasons, partly due to **energy** costs and aging equipment," club president Susanne Aylward said in a release. "Our club was struggling with the high cost of **hydro** and a failing chiller. **Greater Sudbury Hydro** helped us access incentive money from the Save On **Energy** program, so we were able to have a new chiller installed by Metal Air.

"Capreol is celebrating its 100th anniversary and the curling club is celebrating its 90th anniversary. Without the financial support, we would not be able to provide this form of recreation to people in the community and outlying areas."

As prices have spiked in recent year, **energy** costs have been an issue for some curling clubs in the **Sudbury** area and across **Ontario**. The Copper Cliff Curling Club almost shut down earlier this year in part because of rising **hydro** bills, while the Falconbridge Curling Club opted to shutter its doors.

The Capreol Curling Club received more than \$8,000 from the program, which represents about half of the total project cost. With the new **energy** efficient equipment, club members expect to reduce their annual **energy** consumption by nearly 80,500 kilowatt-hours, saving about \$12,000 a year.

Aylward said members are especially happy that their investment in new equipment will be paid back in less than a year of operation, which means more money for the club to make other upgrades to better serve members and keep membership fees as low as possible.

"We were pleased to work with Susanne and the Capreol Curling Club on this project," said Kristen Kulmala, **Energy** Conservation Coordinator at **Greater Sudbury Hydro**. "It's a perfect example of how the Save On **Energy** programs can really benefit smaller organizations.

"By cutting costs and helping them be more **energy** efficient in their operations, the Capreol Curling Club can keep its doors open and continue serving their community."

Greater Sudbury Hydro's EnergySavers Conservation team works with business and institutional customers to help find opportunities to save **energy** and access Save On **Energy** program funds. Its assistance is free by calling 705-675-0517 or energysavers@sudburyhydro.com.

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Hydro-Québec line nixed by regulators in new hampshire

National Post - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value:\$1,623

Reach: 159480 Page: FP3

Regulators in the state of New Hampshire have rejected a major **electricity** project being piloted by Quebec's **hydro utility** and its American partner, Eversource. Members of New Hampshire's Site Evaluation Committee unanimously denied an **application** for the **Northern** Pass project Thursday. The project had been approved by the state of Massachusetts at the end of January but needed the green light from New Hampshire as well. **Northern** Pass proposed to bring up to 9.45 terawatt hours of **electricity** per year from Quebec's hydroelectric plants to Massachusetts, and was to be the biggest export **contract** in **Hydro-Québec**'s history. The project was estimated to generate up to \$500 million in annual revenues for **Hydro-Québec**.

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Hydro-Quebec's massive deal with Massachusetts hits snag | CTV Montreal News

montreal.ctvnews.ca - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

There's a new problem for the multi-billion-dollar contract announced by Hydro-Quebec last week with Massachusetts.

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Nickel and dimed to death

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Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Peter J. Middlemore Sr.

Ad Value:\$167

Reach: 11120 Page: A4

The Jan. 19 editorial commentary "**Ontario** wishes you a petty new tax year" basically tells us, what we've known for years - we are being nickel and dimed to

death.

Like Christine Van Geyn states, Queen's Park is slowly making life in **Ontario** more costly. First it was their higher **hydro**, **gas** prices, the \$120 licence sticker, now it's Liberals raising government fees in incremental amounts, squeezing the life out of Ontarians.

We often see our **gasoline** prices rise 14 cents a litre in just one day, then cars lining up at vendors still advertising the lower **gasoline** price. How sad! Many Ontarians shop at multiple grocery stores for products on sale, looking to save a buck due to all of **Ontario's** increased costs that never seem to end. Even product packaging has changed in size and we get less for the same cost.

Many -due to higher **hydro** or **gas** bills-reduce their thermostat setting while also having to worry about a possible home insurance increase due to Windsor's recent basements flooding.

Municipal taxes usually rise year after year, while many retired persons, living for decades in the same home, might face a higher home value assessment, causing a **greater** than normal, increase in property tax.

Now, there's this minimum wage increase, another fly in the ointment, with many businesses signaling their intention to raise prices.

We all know that it doesn't matter what we do or say, we the people will pay the price. Sadly it's our destiny.

Our elected Liberals, have no qualms about nickel and diming Ontarians, many whom are already living from paycheque to paycheque, with little left for their enjoyment of life's simple pleasures.

Peter J. Middlemore Sr.

Windsor

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How we can resolve Canada's pipeline wars

The Globe and Mail - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: THOMAS GUNTON

Ad Value: \$15,906

Reach: 309154 Page: B4

Director of the resource and environmental planning program at Simon Fraser University and a former B.C. deputy minister of environment who helped resolve the province's 'war in the woods'

B.C.'s recent decision to introduce regulations on bitumen to protect its environment - followed by Alberta's threats of economic retaliation - are a significant escalation of the growing conflict over proposed pipeline projects.

The cost of this type of conflict is well illustrated by the "war in the woods" battles in British Columbia in the 1990s, which included large-scale protests, mass arrests and costly court battles that sullied Canada's reputation and left all Canadians worse off. Fortunately, the war in the woods was solved by creative conflict-resolution techniques that can also be applied to the pipeline dispute.

The first step is to look at the underlying interests of supporters and opponents of pipelines. Alberta's interests are to ensure that its oil is sold at world-market prices. Opponents' interests are to reduce greenhouse **gas** (GHG) emissions and avoid the adverse environmental effects of transporting oil, particularly by

tankers along B.C.'s pristine coastline.

The Alberta and federal governments are attempting to meet the interests of pipeline opponents by implementing new measures to reduce GHG emissions through carbon taxes and other measures. While pipeline opponents would like to see even more aggressive measures, we are clearly moving in the right direction.

But while these policies will slow the growth in oil production and emissions, some expansion will still occur as projects currently under construction come on stream. Not surprisingly, Alberta and the oil sector have a strong interest in ensuring this new production can be shipped to world markets, while critics want to minimize the adverse impact of doing this.

The second step in conflict resolution is to find alternatives that meet the objectives of both sides. The recent approval of the Keystone XL pipeline by the United States may provide the remedy.

Keystone XL is already largely built, and the decision by Nebraska to put the remaining portion along the existing right of way to avoid environmentally sensitive areas, and the fact that the project does not require any tanker traffic along vulnerable coasts, minimizes its environmental impact relative to alternative pipelines.

Keystone will add more than 830,000 barrels a day (b/d) of new capacity, which is more than enough to accommodate the 500,000 b/d of new production under construction and meet Alberta's needs to 2025. Adding Enbridge Line 3 will increase capacity to 1.2 million b/d, more than sufficient to meet even the most optimistic forecasts for oil production.

And both of these pipelines connect to the largest refinery complex in the world (the U.S. Gulf), thereby ensuring that Alberta receives world prices for its oil.

The good news is building Keystone XL means the more environmentally risky pipelines - Trans Mountain and **Energy** East - would not be necessary. TransCanada has already wisely decided to cancel **Energy** East, avoiding conflict between Quebec and Alberta. The next step is to figure out a way of shelving Trans Mountain or examine alternatives such as a version that bypasses Vancouver and avoids using tankers by shipping the oil to Washington State refineries.

Opponents of pipelines would not be fully satisfied with the solution because some pipeline expansion would still occur. Proponents of pipelines, particularly Trans Mountain, would also not be happy. But escalating a conflict to build a pipeline through the middle of a major city and jeopardize B.C.'s **coast** when alternatives can meet the same objectives of accessing world markets with fewer environmental risks does not make a lot of sense.

Conflict resolution always involves compromises. No party gets everything they want. But there is a compromise to the pipeline war that can go a long way toward meeting everyone's interests and is far better than the current acrimonious trajectory that will leave us all worse off.

The task for governments is to take advantage of this opportunity that has been provided by the United States' approval of Keystone and the challenges to Trans Mountain to organize a collaborative dialogue to reach an agreement that avoids an unnecessary conflict and leaves us all better off.

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Pipelines, not carbon taxes, bigger factor in energy competitiveness: report; Canada losing ground due to struggle over pipeline expansions

Waterloo Region Record - Fri Feb 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Mia Rabson The Canadian Press

Ad Value: \$4,023

Reach: 63465 Page: E2

Canada's oil and **gas** producers are struggling to stay competitive with their U.S. counterparts because of the struggle to expand pipeline capacity, says a new report from the C.D. Howe Institute.

The analysis by associate director of research Benjamin Dachis is the first in what he says will become an annual comparison of Canada's oil and **gas** sector with its **North** American equivalents.

The report comes just days before the federal government is expected to unveil how it plans to overhaul the environmental and regulatory **review** process for major **energy** projects.

Industry expects that overhaul to be the make-or-break **plan** for future pipeline projects, and Dachis says the lack of pipelines to transport oil and **gas** to market remains the biggest factor affecting the industry's competitiveness with the U.S.

"If **Canadian** governments allowed pipelines to be built expeditiously, the competitiveness of western **Canadian** oil producers would be greatly improved," he wrote.

While carbon taxes are getting the lion's share of political and **public** attention, they're having little negative effect, Dachis said - and indeed, if they are well-designed, can actually create an incentive to cut emissions without affecting competitiveness.

A lack of pipeline capacity for getting product to market, on the other hand, has a significant impact, Dachis said, with estimates that the bottleneck cuts about \$5 off the profits of every barrel of oil produced in an average western **Canadian** well.

The analysis looks only at conventional oil and **gas** wells and not the oilsands, the economics of which are far different and don't compare to conventional oil wells in the U.S., he said.

"This is where a lot of emerging oil and **gas** investment is going," said Dachis. "It's where the magic is happening."

Canada has watched several pipeline projects evaporate in the last year, including TransCanada's **Energy** East pipeline between Alberta and the east **coast**, the Mackenzie Valley **gas** pipeline from the Beaufort Sea, and the Northwest LNG project in B.C.

Proponents in all three cases cited regulatory holdups as one of the reasons for the demise of the projects, although regulation was only one factor.

"The regulatory process sure didn't help, but at the end of the day, market forces probably made the decision," Dachis said.

The plummeting price of **natural gas** made new pipelines less economical. In the case of **Energy** East, the arguments for it became less forceful when the U.S. revived the once-moribund Keystone XL pipeline.

Dachis said Keystone, the Trans Mountain expansion between Alberta and B.C. and the Enbridge Line 3 replacement comprise a lot of new capacity that would

make the argument for **Energy** East a lot tougher to make.

Trans Mountain's expansion, which would triple the capacity of the oil pipeline, is in question again after the B.C. government proposed new limits on shipments of bitumen through the province.

The regulations could block the expansion altogether. The B.C. government opposes it, but Alberta Premier Rachel Notley has said she will sue B.C. over the regulations. Notley said B.C. is overstepping its authority and that the regulation will hurt the **Canadian** economy.

Federal Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr restated his government's support for the project earlier this week. The Liberal government approved the project in 2016.

The federal Liberals have spent the last two years consulting on how to overhaul the regulatory and environmental reviews for major **energy** projects, arguing the process needed to be more transparent and more **fair**.

Legislation is anticipated next week on the matter.

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GUNTER: Trudeau's on Alberta's side, sort of | Edmonton Sun

edmontonsun.com - Fri Feb 2 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

I'm glad Prime Minister Justin Trudeau got a second chance to clarify where he stands on the Trans Mountain pipeline extension, because his first effort didn't inspire much confidence.

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Tim McMillan: Pipelines needed to support Canada's economic future | The Province

theprovince.com - Fri Feb 2 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

The day Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stood before the nation and declared the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project was in the best interest of all Canadians, was the day our country took control of its energy future.

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A way forward: How we can resolve pipeline wars - The Globe and Mail

www.theglobeandmail.com - Thu Feb 1 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

B.C.'s recent decision to introduce regulations on bitumen to protect its environment – followed by Alberta's threats of economic retaliation – are a significant escalation of the growing conflict over proposed pipeline projects.

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