Infomart Newsletters

From: Infomart Newsletters
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To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Tuesday, March 6, 2018

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Morning News Clippings

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Date: Tuesday, March 6, 2018
Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

Contact Editor

Clippings Summary

News - 10 Results

Ontario PC leadership hopefuls stop in Windsor | CTV Windsor News

windsor.ctvnews.ca · Mon Mar 5 2018
Tone: Neutral
Permalink

Windsor-Essex has become a busy stop as candidates seek votes for the Ontario PC leadership.

Few viable alternatives to Conservative party

Stratford Beacon-Herald · Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Negative
Byline: Jim Merriam

Ad Value: $426
Reach: 10143 **Page:** A5

One question looms large over the boondoggle that is the Ontario Progressive Conservative leadership race: Is this any way to choose a premier? There's every likelihood that the winner, to be announced Saturday, will be the next premier ...

Mulroney draws overcapacity crowd; Turnout far exceeds expectations as Ontario PC leadership hopeful hits Chatham on weekend tour

The Chatham Daily News · Tue Mar 6 2018

Tone: Positive
Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: $646
Reach: 15320 **Page:** A1 / Front

Before Caroline Mulroney arrived in Chatham on Saturday, it was apparent organizers had underestimated how many local supporters would turn out. Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP Monte McNaughton, who is cochairing Mulroney's bid for the ...

Mulroney promises 'new chapter'

North Bay Nugget - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Pj Wilson

Ad Value: $955
Reach: 11505 **Page:** A1 / Front

It's time for the Ontario Progressive Conservative party "to be bold, be fresh and offer something different." That was Caroline Mulroney's message to a small group of party faithful Monday morning in a breakfast meeting in ...

Q&A: Ontario minister says hydro system was 'on its knees' when Liberals assumed power

Orangeville Banner - Mon Mar 5 2018
Tone: Positive
Ad Value: $3,039
Reach: 23500 **Page:** 1

Ontario's Minister of Economic Development and Growth Steven Del Duca stopped in the Orangeville area for a breakfast with some Liberal supporters on Friday (March 2). The Banner caught up with him and Dufferin-Caledon Liberal ...

Six Nations invests $12.5M in hydro line

Brantford Expositor - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Positive
Byline: Michael-Allan Marion

Ad Value: $1,063
Reach: 29497 **Page:** A1 / Front

Six Nations elected council has approved a proposal by the Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corp. to invest $12.5-million in a hydro transmission line. The investment in what is known as the ...

Ontario has huge debt

The Sachem - Mon Mar 5 2018
Tone: Negative
Ad Value: $17
Reach: 6967 **Page:** 1

Do you remember the song by Tennessee Ernie Ford, I Owe My Soul to the Company Store? Well, that is what it has come to in Ontario. According to the Fraser Institute, every man, woman, child, infant and newborn owes $21,500. That is ...

Carbon market a winner for planet and economy

Toronto Star - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Kathleen Wynne, Jerry Brown and Philippe Couillard

Ad Value: $24,895
Reach: 361323 **Page:** A11

This winter, the provinces of **Ontario** and Quebec and the state of California have all experienced ominous signs of what's to come. In December, the largest fire on record raged across more than 1,000 square kilometres in Southern ...

Green Party Reaction To Federal Budget

CTV NEWS CHANNEL - POWER PLAY WITH DON MARTIN - Tue Feb 27 2018, 5:00pm ET
Tone: Positive
Byline: DON MARTIN

DON MARTIN: All right, the government's official environmental tormenter is here to talk about budget spending both on the environment and other issues. ELIZABETH MAY (Green Party Leader): That's my official title now, is it? MARTIN: Environmental ...

Ted Morton: The Trudeau Liberals are campaigning on strangling our oil industry

Financial Post - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Negative
Byline: Special to Financial Post
Reach: 607500

Last month, we learned from Scotiabank that lack of export pipeline capacity and the resulting discount on **Canadian** oil will cost the **Canadian** economy $15.6 billion a year, or nearly $43 million a day. That loss affects ...

Clippings Summary

Full Articles

Ontario PC leadership hopefuls stop in Windsor | CTV Windsor News

windsor.ctvnews.ca - Mon Mar 5 2018
Tone: Neutral

Windsor-Essex has become a busy stop as candidates seek votes for the Ontario PC leadership.

Back to Top

Few viable alternatives to Conservative party

Stratford Beacon-Herald - Tue Mar 6 2018
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One question looms large over the boondoggle that is the **Ontario** Progressive

Conservative leadership race: Is this any way to choose a premier? There's every likelihood that the winner, to be announced Saturday, will be the next premier of **Ontario**.

It's not official until the provincial election in June. But barring major upheavals, the new PC leader will inherit the Queen's Park throne.

A recent poll by Ipsos for Global Television shows the Conservatives are still well ahead of the governing Liberals in popularity, in spite of all the machinations of the leadership race.

That's partly because if any premier in history ever deserved the hook, it's Kathleen Wynne. Her government's mismanagement has brought the province to its knees in many ways.

We don't have enough space to list all problems, but chief among them is the **power** fiasco and the problems it has caused families and businesses.

With at least five parties in **Ontario**, there are options besides the Conservatives. Except on close examination, they're not viable.

Too far right for many mainstream Ontarians, the fledgling Trillium party holds promise for the future.

One of the most interesting planks in the party's platform would protect whistle blowers who report waste and corruption in government.

The NDP has been around much longer, but doesn't have the horses to pull the wagon of government, particularly at the leadership level.

One comment in an online poll about Andrea Horwath sums up the problem: "I find her very uninspiring."

This will be Horwath's third election as leader. When she first hit the leadership scene, comments that were common included, "If only Horwath was leading one of the mainstream parties (Grits or Tories) we'd have somebody to vote for." Nobody says that anymore.

In January on the topic of the justice system, Horwath said, "I really have two words about the justice system: 'Jian Ghomeshi.'" That was not only flippant but also irresponsible. Certainly our justice system could be improved, but the evidence presented at the Gomeshi trial did not reach a burden of proof that protects us all.

And then there are the Greens.

After coming second and third in some ridings in the 2007 election, the Greens have sunk back to also-ran status. That is unlikely to change.

So we're back to the Conservatives and which leadership candidates might lead **Ontario**.

Tanya Granic Allen is determined to rid the province of the sex education curriculum introduced by the Wynne Liberals.

Granic Allen also said she is prepared to "rip **wind** turbines out of the ground" because long-term deals signed by the government have locked **Ontario** into high **electrical** prices.

That position will appeal to many rural voters and might shake loose her rep as a one-trick pony.

Christine Elliott has a more nuanced approach to **wind** **power**. She said existing contracts should be honoured (that is open to debate) while she pledged to review policies that have led to soaring power rates.

Caroline Mulroney agreed power rates are off the charts. "Of all the things that the Liberals have done to harm the province of Ontario, the mess that they have made of our electricity system ranks at the top ... and it's chasing our businesses away."

Doug Ford has made it clear that he also has questions about so-called green energy projects.

Perhaps it doesn't matter if this leadership contest is an ideal process for choosing a premier, since we're stuck with it doing exactly that.
jimmerriam@hotmail.com

Back to Top

Chatham Daily News

Mulroney draws overcapacity crowd; Turnout far exceeds expectations as Ontario PC leadership hopeful hits Chatham on weekend tour

The Chatham Daily News - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Positive
Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: $646
Reach: 15320 **Page:** A1 / Front

Before Caroline Mulroney arrived in Chatham on Saturday, it was apparent organizers had underestimated how many local supporters would turn out.

Lambton-Kent-Middlesex MPP Monte McNaughton, who is cochairing Mulroney's bid for the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party leadership, admitted they only expected about 75 people to attend her campaign stop at Glitters Restaurant. However, that number quickly surpassed 300, so those in attendance had to exit a second-floor meeting room and spread out among the main restaurant area.

McNaughton said Mulroney attracted 450 people to a recent gathering in London and another 125 at a breakfast meeting in Windsor Saturday.

"This shows the momentum that Caroline has, and she's really resonating with Conservatives across the province," he said.

"People are looking for something new, something different and that generational change, and Caroline delivering that for Conservatives."

Addressing the crowd, Mulroney hit on some points that pleased the crowd - from promising to lower taxes and increasing child-care spaces to lowering hydro prices and increasing the number of longterm care beds for seniors.

One of her first comments was about supporting Chatham-Kent Essex MPP Rick Nicholls'efforts to push the Liberal government to speed up the process to build a concrete barrier along Highway 401 between Tilbury and London to prepare for a new bridge linking Canada and the U.S.

"This is an important cause, and I look forward to working together at Queen's Park," Mulroney said.

Her comments were "a very pleasant surprise" to local resident Alysson Storey, who founded the Build the Barrier movement to have the concrete barrier installed to help prevent cross-median collisions that have taken several lives in recent months.

She knows Nicholls and McNaughton, as well as Elgin-Middlesex-London MPP

Jeff Yurek, have been advocating for the barrier, but acknowledged it is a very busy time for the PC members.

"I've very happy to know that it's on her radar and ideally, if she's elected, she'll be having that first on her list to get it done," said Storey, who attended the gathering.

When speaking with local media, Mulroney was asked about her position on **wind** turbines and the **Green Energy Act**.

"Short of going in and ripping them out of the ground myself, I **plan** on scrapping the **Green Energy Act** and looking at all the contracts and see what we can do to get out of them," she said.

The **Ontario** government "can't continue to sign contracts for green **energy** we don't need," Mulroney said, citing **wind** turbines being built near Chatham and Wallaceburg.

"We cannot continue like this," she added.

"Ontarians deserve better than these disastrous policies."

When asked about political gaffes that have hurt the PC Party in past provincial elections, Mulroney said, "We've got to run a very disciplined campaign this time."

"I've been doing that everyday of my leadership (bid), working as hard as I can to meet people and be very straightforward with my messaging and talk about the things that matter with people," she said. eshreve@postmedia.com Twitter.com/@DailyNewsES Mulroney's priorities Committing to create 30,000 new child-care spaces, and build a better adoption system.

Reforming and reinvigorating party management.

Lowering taxes for the middle class, stopping the federal Liberals'carbon tax, repealing the **Green Energy Act**, putting a moratorium on further **wind turbine** projects, and lowering **hydro** prices.

Doubling the PC pledge to add long-term care beds from 15,000 to 30,000 over five years, expanding the caregiver tax credit, improving access to hospice and palliative care and investing in home care.

Creating more and better jobs by ensuring career counselling for young people that respects and promotes skilled trades, making apprenticeships easier, and expanding co-op and experiential learning opportunities.

Back to Top

Mulroney promises 'new chapter'

NORTH BAY NUGGET

North Bay Nugget - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Pj Wilson

Ad Value: $955
Reach: 11505 **Page:** A1 / Front

It's time for the **Ontario** Progressive Conservative party "to be bold, be fresh and offer something different."

That was Caroline Mulroney's message to a small group of party faithful Monday morning in a breakfast meeting in **North Bay**.

"It is time to begin a new chapter" in **Ontario**, and a time to take control of the government, Mulroney said, pointing to 15 years of Liberal government that has cost the province jobs and confidence.

"I am listening," Mulroney said. "I am listening closely, and I am resolved to do better for the North than (Liberal Premier) Kathleen Wynne."

Mulroney said she wants to make Northern Ontario stronger, vowing to double the budget of the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund to $200 million annually to create jobs in this region of the province.

As well, she said, any money not spent from that allocation will remain with the fund, not be "clawed back" into general funds.

The Liberals, she said, did just that, consistently leaving $20 million "unfunded, unspent, vacuuming the money back into government coffers, and it's a disgrace.

"It reveals, I think, how little they care about the North," Mulroney said.

"That money belongs to Northern Ontario and it's going to stay here."

Mulroney also said the criteria for eligibility for NOHFC funding will be rewritten so there is "no more corporate welfare for Liberal cronies and millionaires."

Instead, she said, infrastructure will be the priority to create "good-paying jobs," concentrating on health, education and broadband services which will "leave opportunities for the next generation.

"We need to get Northerners an opportunity to draw on the fund," she said. "People love living here. They should be entitled to good, well-paying jobs."

She also took aim at taxes in the province, promising she would "make life affordable again" for Ontario taxpayers.

Taxes on the middle class will be cut by "nearly one quarter," she said, and the PCs will deliver hydro relief while eliminating carbon taxes.

"I want to close the door on the past" so the province can move forward, she said.

That includes tackling government spending.

Mulroney said she believes in the "pay-as-you-go" philosophy, not adding to the provincial debt.

"We have got to get government spending under control," she said, pointing to the "big hole" the province is in.

"It took us 15 years to get there, and the first thing to do is to stop digging."

And although she has never been elected to political office, Mulroney believes she is the right person to lead the party into the June 7 provincial election.

She is the only one of the four candidates for the party leadership who has been nominated a candidate for the election - she will run in York Simcoe - and believes Ontario voters are looking for something new.

"Kathleen Wynne has a lot of political experience," she pointed out, saying she represents "a new way of doing what people are looking for."

Voting for the leadership of the party began Friday and will continue until Friday, with the new leader being announced Saturday.

Mulroney is facing former Toronto city councillor Doug Ford, former MPP Christine Elliott and Tanya Granic Allen in the race to succeed former leader Patrick Brown.

Brown resigned the leadership after allegations that he had been sexually inappropriate with two women.

Brown denies all allegations and briefly tried to reclaim his job by entering the leadership contest.

He later withdrew from the field.

Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli is serving as interim leader of the party.

Mulroney stopped in North Bay during a swing across the province Monday that was to include stops in Bracebridge, Haliburton, Mississauga and Peterborough

Back to Top

Q&A: Ontario minister says hydro system was 'on its knees' when Liberals assumed power

Orangeville Banner - Mon Mar 5 2018
Tone: Positive
Ad Value: $3,039
Reach: 23500 **Page:** 1

Ontario's Minister of Economic Development and Growth Steven Del Duca stopped in the Orangeville area for a breakfast with some Liberal supporters on Friday (March 2).

The Banner caught up with him and Dufferin-Caledon Liberal candidate Bob Gordanier to ask a few questions about hydro prices, high-speed Internet and the minimum wage. Their answers can be found below.

Dufferin County identifies a lack of reliable high speed Internet as a major challenge facing its economy. I know the province has already pledged to help fund the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) project. In what more ways is the government of Ontario prepared to be flexible in both policy and programs to assist rural communities in addressing this issue?

DEL DUCA - "I think the broadband expansion issue is huge to for quality of life, and it is also huge for the economy. I've been hearing it everywhere I've gone. Certainly, my colleague, Jeff Leal, the minister of agricultural, our infrastructure minister Bob Chiarelli, the Premier, we've heard it from municipal leaders. We've heard from business owners. We're working hard through a variety of programs to try and provide more resources. My expectation is over the next number of weeks, we'll probably hear a little bit more, especially when you are looking at things like the second round of the federal infrastructure money that is being made available. That is certainly part of the conversation, and some of the additional resources that we're likely to bring to bear from a provincial perspective. But there is a very clear understanding from our government that we need to work quickly, and I'm going to put the word quickly sort of in quotes because it does take time to deploy this kind of infrastructure, but work as quickly as we can and provide as many resources as we can to try and expand broadband. When I talk to farmers, they say we could do so much more if they had reliable Internet access. There are a lot of people in downtown Toronto who don't realize exactly how automated our farming systems and how technologically advanced some of our farmers and farms are. But it really is where things sit today, and what the future looks like. We need to make sure that fundamental infrastructure is in place to help make sure that our businesses, farmers and our communities can fly. So, stay tuned for more details. I believe there will be more good news coming."

GORDANIER - "It is not acceptable not to have, it is pretty simple. We're so close to Toronto, and yet we can't seem to get a good system here in the riding. This has been going on for some time. Where are we? From what I've been told, we're still a long way from getting this. There are so many people in this whole riding, and other ridings, that are working from home. They need the Internet. Myself, we use the Internet on the farm, and half the time when you want to use it, it is not working and it is just because of the system we can get. There is no doubt about it. This is definitely on the platform here for Dufferin-Caledon."

The Dufferin Board of Trade has demanded the province ensure future policies regarding energy pricing are affordable, transparent and flexible. What does this government plan to do to prevent hydro prices from hurting the manufacturing sector?

DEL DUCA - "We're introduced a number of measures both for residential, homeowners and targeted programs for business to try and help provide some relief and some support. I'd say there is no doubt that in the energy sector, the electricity sector, there has been a bit of a challenge in the last decade and a bit now. But that challenge comes from a very clear origin or a very clear place. When you have government after government after government, of all levels, and all partisan stripes, refuse for a generation to make adequate investments in all forms of infrastructure, including electricity, there does come a point at which it is unavoidable, that it has to be dealt with. In 2003, when we came back into power, our electricity system, for residential, homeowners and business owners, was on its knees. It was decrepit. There were brownouts. There was, of course, the major blackout in August of 2003. We have literally spent billions of dollars over the last 15 years. We haven't been perfect. We have not been infallible. We know that. The public knows that. But today in the province of Ontario, we have a clean, green and reliable electricity system that provides power not only to our homeowners, but also to our businesses. That comes at a cost. That cost is unavoidable. We do recognize that it has been a bit of a strain for both homeowners and business owners. That is why we introduced the Fair Hydro Plan a number of months ago to see on average a 25 per cent reduction in homeowners' electricity bills. It's why we introduced a series of targeted electricity relief programs from businesses. I don't think our work is done in this regard. I think there is more work to do, but sometimes it is easy for people to forget the recent past and presume that prices have only escalated because they just have, or because decisions were made. Prices, by and large, have gone up because we were in desperate need of refurbishing, rebuilding and replenishing our electricity system and if we hadn't done that, our economy and quality of life would have been crippled by now."

GORDANIER - "We hear this all the time about hurting different organizations and industry. There is no doubt that there is an issue there with our hydro rates. But when you look at hydro rates in other provinces - people keep saying that we're the highest - but if you look through the whole country, we're not. We're knocking on doors. We're talking to people about their hydro. It is an issue that I bring up because I realize it is an issue for some people to pay their hydro bills. But we're actually not running into that many complaints that are out there about it. Yes, hydro is expensive, but this has been a problem for 40 years. All three governments have been in power in those 40 years and nobody has been able to seem to control this. The amount of money Liberals put into hydro and upgrades is so huge. It is billions of dollars. We have an infrastructure here now that does work very well. We got rid of coal, which was one of the best things we were asked by our voters to get rid of. We got rid of coal, which I believe was one of the cheapest ways to create electricity but environmentally is not. We've had no brownouts. We've had no blackouts. We've all kinds of good health reports coming back. I think it was a real good move on the Liberal party to get rid of the coal system here in Ontario."

Some people would argue the increase in minimum wage is hurting small businesses and may further eliminate entry-level jobs. How would you respond to that argument?

DEL DUCA - "Right now, and for the last number of months, Ontario's economy has been performing extremely well. For example, we led the country in economic growth, in GDP. We have the lowest unemployment rate right now in Ontario than we've had for the last 17 years. We have been below the national average for unemployment for 33 consecutive months. Since the depth of the recession 10 years ago in 2008, we've created net roughly 800,000 jobs in all sectors including manufacturing. We know our economy is doing well, but we also know there are still too many people in Ontario, here in Dufferin-Caledon and elsewhere who are working 40 hours a week, and at the end of the week, still have difficulty affording the basic necessities of life. I will say, as an Ontarian, there is a fundamental principle that I believe, that we all believe in, and that is that an honest day's work deserves an honest and fair day's pay. When our economy is humming, when our businesses, many of them, are doing well, I think it is important to help spread out that opportunity. By raising the minimum wage, we are taking an important step forward in terms of fairness. I will say, as the economic development minister, I know there are businesses, small businesses in particular, where the margins are tight that are facing a challenge because of the increase to the minimum wage. We understand that. But we've also taken steps starting earlier this year to do some other stuff to provide support to small businesses. Earlier this year, we reduced the corporate income tax rate for small business from 4.5 per cent down to 3.5 per cent. That's a 22 per cent decrease in the corporate income tax rate for small business. That is one measure we've deployed to be supportive. My colleague, Jeff Leal, who is also responsible for small business, is out in discussions with the small business sector and community to look at other ways we can continue to be supportive. I mentioned the small business corporate tax rate cut. We've also introduced what we call the red tape challenge a number of years ago where we've been working hard to reduce the burden of unnecessary regulation on all sized businesses and I think we will see our economy start to grow. Really important to stress it is about fairness. It is about more people that can actually enjoy the benefits of a thriving economy. But we know we have to do more to support our small business sector.

GORDANIER - "I think we ought to be reading and looking a little more out there. I believe it was Scotiabank, they came right out and said this loss of 51,000 jobs in the last report that came out is not, and they made it very clear, on the back of the minimum wage increase. There are other things that are involved in it. We have made that decision out of fairness to people. I don't know how people can survive. In fact, they can't survive on minimum wage and we know it. I think it is about time we did something about it. I agree with our premier that this is nothing but a good thing. We have countries all over the world that have done this and it has been nothing but a good thing for people. Do you realize that we have, in our riding alone, more than 30,000 minimum wage earners? They are having problems and we need to be looking after those problems."

The province recently shelved the GTA West Corridor plan. Many Ontarians feel highways are facing more gridlock than ever. What is your ministry going to do to ensure local economies are supported with efficient transportation networks?

DEL DUCA - "There is no doubt that we need to continue to invest on a sustained basis with unprecedented levels in all forms of transportation infrastructure. So, in public transit and also in road, bridge and highway infrastructure, and we are. Whether we are talking about the expansion of the 410, whether we are talking about the expansion and extension northward of Highway 427, which is going to start construction in a couple of months. That becoming another nine km further north, which will help support Bolton, Caledon and that area. Whether we are talking about the 407 east that we are currently constructing to help build out to the Highway 35/115 and the eastern end of Durham, and a whole series of other widenings, expansions and upgrades of all kinds of existing highways, we're doing that work. We're also providing our municipal partners that invest in public transit with doubling of the gas tax money so they can deploy more public transit. We're trying and we're succeeding, I believe, with unprecedented levels of investment. Here is the other thing we know. The transportation network accounts for 30 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the province of Ontario. The single largest emitter of bi-sector greenhouse **gas** emissions (GHGs). We know that, by far, the largest portion of the **transportation** sector producing those GHGs are personal vehicles. The notion that we can solve our long-term economic gridlock or even **climate** change challenges by simply building more mega-highways is something there is all kinds of data to suggest is not true. It doesn't mean we shouldn't keep expanding our highway network. We should. The government has decided to stop the EA for the GTA **West** highway corridor but to continue to preserve somewhere in the neighbourhood of a 400- or 500-metre corridor through the study area that was part of the EA process. The Ministry of **Transportation** and the **IESO** (**Independent** **Electricity** System Operator) will now do a planning study over the next nine to 12 months to determine what the future needs for what we call linear infrastructure. That could be rail, could be **electricity**, could be communications infrastructure, which could support the expansion of broadband. They are going to spend the next nine to 12 months looking at that and then report back to government. I suspect we will have an update at that point in time. But I think for all of the things I just mentioned, we thought this was the most prudent and responsible way to go forward."

GORDANIER - "They investigated this GTA **West** for quite some time. I think it is the same old story. They researched this. They looked at every angle there is. They've made a decision and that decision was probably the best decision to make. We already have gridlock. We know that. But we need to move people, not vehicles. My thinking is on the GO train into Bolton. They've talked about this from 2010. The mayor of Caledon even said to me … they are still sitting in the same position they were in back in 2010. That's not acceptable. We need to be moving people, not vehicles."

About 82 per cent of Dufferin County's tax base is residential. At least 40 per cent, probably more, of its employed residents commute outside of Dufferin. Should bedroom communities try to move away from this model or embrace it?

DEL DUCA - "There is an inherent challenge in how communities grow and how they evolve. I come from Vaughan. I represent Vaughan. In Vaughan, historically, like Richmond Hill, like Markham, like so many others, is a bedroom community. What we have seen in the inner GTA is that change over time. More of our municipalities developed really-robust economic development strategies. There are more and more people who from a quality of life perspective would rather live closer to where they work and vice versa. And we are trying to support and build out infrastructure **transportation** linkages to help make that easier. At the end of the day, if I can commute 20 minutes versus an hour and 45 minutes, who would choose the latter? Part of the trick in all of this is to lure more economic development and more business so that it is located more closely to a community like this. Now, there is obviously also a very strong rural/agricultural component in this community. I think over time, just looking at how there are natural flows and natural progressions, you will see more business want to locate into places like Dufferin-Caledon. Our government has a series of targeted **regional** economic development funds. Some of those may benefit companies who may want to settle in Dufferin-Caledon. I think through the provincial budget that we are going to have at some point in the (next) couple of months, and even what we have seen in the federal budget, I think there will be more opportunity to support businesses that want to grow and expand into communities like Dufferin-Caledon. When I GHGs earlier, again, this is part of the trick as well, making sure people are living closer to work and vice versa, is also critically important for the stress that you are putting on the **transportation** system and how you are dealing with the GHG piece. If a person can cycle to work, take **public** transit to work, or walk to work, which is easier to do today in Vaughan than it was 20 years ago because that natural and progressive is occurring. I think some of that will happen organically in places like Dufferin-Caledon but I think it is also the responsibility of municipal partners, the province and the federal government collectively to look for ways to drive more investment to communities like this."

GORDANIER - "You're saying that we need more jobs here at home. I think we do need more jobs closer to where we are. Over the whole part of **Toronto**, north of the GTA, everybody seems to filter down and go to work right from Hamilton across over to Ajax. I think we need to stop that and that's not an easy thing to do. There is no doubt. But I believe we really need to start looking at that. ... I think we need to be looking at light and small industry here in our riding. I think just being smart about development, whether it be industry, housing, farming, the whole works. I think we need to be smart about what we are doing here."

Dufferin County is mostly rural. Some would argue the agricultural sector is expected to shed jobs in the future. What needs to be done to avoid these job losses in future?

DEL DUCA - One of the sectors that is growing the quickest in terms of employment opportunities is, in fact, Ontario's agricultural sector. We see whether it is within the supplied managed ecosystem or the non-supplied managed ecosystem, there is a ton of opportunity right now in the industry. We are investing on a regular basis through a whole series of programs. ... There is a ton of growth. When we see the year over year economic growth in each of these sectors, it is actually quite substantial. There are challenges. Whether it is ag, auto or chemical sector, some of the challenges relate for example to NAFTA and the NAFTA negotiations. ... I was in Montreal a few weeks ago for NAFTA round six, so was (Leal). I was in Mexico this past weekend with (Leal) for round seven. It is so important for (Leal) from a rural ag standpoint to be there on the front lines standing up for Ontario's ag sector and he is. In my case, it is important to be there to defend the chemical sector, the auto sector because combined, ag and auto for example alone, we're talking about something like 1.6 million Ontarians that directly or indirectly rely on jobs in both of those sectors. I believe, and (Leal) will tell you, that there are tons of opportunity in the ag or rural, local food, agri-food sector. A number of months ago, the premier issued a challenge for a certain number of jobs she felt could be created in the sector. I think we are well on our way to that. We're going to keep working hard. There is not a farmer anywhere in the province of Ontario who should be nervous because Jeff Leal is an extraordinary champion for the sector."

GORDANIER - "If you have four or five fellows working for you and you innovate on some piece of equipment ... well, sometimes we do lose jobs on that. I also think that processing could play a bigger part in Dufferin County agriculture. That's not easy either, because you have to have the supply. Talking about the potato industry here, it is a fantastic industry and they have a great product here in the riding. Maybe we need to be doing more processing of that product. ... We need to have more processing of the products that we're actually producing in the area. We'll use potatoes as an example. We need to be making frozen French fries, potato chips instead of just selling potatoes."

Back to Top

Six Nations invests $12.5M in hydro line

THE EXPOSITOR

Brantford Expositor - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Positive
Byline: Michael -Allan Marion

Ad Value: $1,063
Reach: 29497 **Page:** A1 / Front

Six Nations elected council has approved a proposal by the Six Nations of the Grand River Development Corp. to invest $12.5-million in a hydro transmission line.

The investment in what is known as the Niagara reinforcement line is the first use of money that Six Nations gained from an agreement reached last December with the Ontario government concerning the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp's privatization of the Brantford casino.

The 76-kilometre power line was never completed due to the 2006 Douglas Creek Estates protests in Caledonia. It was meant to strengthen power ties between New York state and Ontario, with a capacity to import - or export - as much as 800 megawatts of electricity.

Last October, a tentative deal was reached with the the Ontario Ministry of Energy and Hydro One that would complete the final five kilometres of the line along the Highway 6 bypass in Caledonia. In exchange, Six Nations would receive "long-term value" in the form of ownership and capacity for renewable energy projects.

The development corporation said it expects to get a $46-million return over the 48-year useful life of the project, and it will keep a residual value well into the future.

According to the proposal, the investment will allow an unfinished portion of the line through Caledonia and along the Grand River to be completed by the spring of 2019. The line will be energized by A6N Utilities.

"This investment is a forward step for our community," said Six Nations elected Chief Ava Hill.

She said that surplus profits generated from the development corporation's investments in renewable energy and now the Niagara reinforcement line are used by the economic development trust fund to invest in community priorities, such as emergency services, waterline expansion and future housing developments.

The elected council approved on Feb. 20 the recommendation of the development corporation and an advisory committee to pursue the business opportunity along with the corporation's approach on how to address community concerns, Hill noted.

Forty-one written submissions were received about the hydro proposal, says a report. Of them, 22 per cent were positive and 12 per cent were negative. The rest contained no definitive opinion.

According to the proposal, the development corporation will acquire a 25-per-cent equity interest in the line on behalf of the Six Nations community, says development corporation president Matt Jamieson.

"The corporation sought the allocation to address community concerns identified through community engagement, related to incurring long-term debt," a statement released by the corporation says.

"By entering into the investment debt-free, it will result in about $8.4 million in interest savings."

The results of a community engagement report and the NRL Path Forward, along with all motions and resolutions, are posted to www.snfuture.com.

OLG announced last December that it chose Great Canadian Gaming Corp. and Clairvest Group Inc. to operate and develop its GTA west gaming bundle, which includes the Brantford casino and OLG Slots at Mohawk Racetrack, Flamboro Downs and Grand River Raceway. That deal gives the companies the exclusive right to operate the casino assets for a minimum of 20 years.

Six Nations has been pushing for years to get money from the province for the Brantford casino, which sits on property known as the Nathan Gage Tract for which Six Nations says it was never compensated.

"The acceptance of these funds will not prejudice in any way Six Nations'claim against the Crown to the Nathan Gage property, upon which the Brantford casino is situated," Chief Hill said at the time.

"Rather, this agreement is a demonstration of the province's ongoing efforts toward reconciliation with Six Nations."

The Niagara reinforcement line has sat idle since 2006 when the protests at the reclamation site flared up in February of that year. Hydro One abandoned the project at the time.

The line currently runs from the Allanburg transfer station in Niagara to just outside of Caledonia. MMarion@postmedia.com @expMarion

Back to Top

Ontario has huge debt

The Sachem - Mon Mar 5 2018
Tone: Negative
Ad Value: $17
Reach: 6967 **Page:** 1

Do you remember the song by Tennessee Ernie Ford, I Owe My Soul to the Company Store?

Well, that is what it has come to in Ontario. According to the Fraser Institute, every man, woman, child, infant and newborn owes $21,500. That is astounding!

Ontario has the highest subsovereign debt in the world, twice California's debt with one third of the population.

How did this happen, you say? The reason is the McGuinty/Wynne Liberals. Their scandals have cost Ontario several billions.

Remember the gas plant scandals, e-Health, Ornge and Windsor Parkway?

Then there was the true cost of the Pan Am Games, hydro, turbines, and the list goes on. Ontario is a fiscal nightmare, a financial disaster.

Ontario has an election on June 7. Vote for change. I hope the news that day is Wynne loses.

Helen Belbeck

Cayuga

Back to Top

Carbon market a winner for planet and economy

Toronto Star - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Kathleen Wynne, Jerry Brown and Philippe Couillard

Ad Value: $24,895
Reach: 361323 **Page:** A11

This winter, the provinces of Ontario and Quebec and the state of California have all experienced ominous signs of what's to come.

In December, the largest fire on record raged across more than 1,000 square kilometres in Southern California. Last month, as unseasonably warm weather swept across southern Ontario, the Grand River spilled its banks, causing devastating floods. And in Quebec, traditional ice roads communities have long relied on for trade and commerce remain closed because of higher than normal temperatures.

These incidents are not isolated. The carbon pollution spewing into our atmosphere when we burn **gas**, coal or oil is changing our **climate** and making our weather more unpredictable and more destructive.

Scientists across the globe are sounding the alarm. Homes, businesses and lives are being wiped out. Governments must spend billions to respond. This will be our new normal unless we act boldly to stop **climate** change.

But we can't do this alone. Just as we band together to fight wildfires in other provinces and help other states rebuild after a devastating storm, we must work collectively to build a cleaner, carbon-free future for our children and grandchildren.

This is exactly what **Ontario**, Quebec and California are doing with the creation of the world's second largest carbon market, which held its first joint auction just last month and sold out.

The concept of this market is simple - and proven: Set a cap on carbon pollution that becomes increasingly strict, while making carbon allowances available to purchase for companies that need flexibility. Over time, allowances will become scarce and companies will find it's cheaper to limit their carbon emissions.

In the meantime, the billions of dollars in proceeds generated over time from auctioning carbon allowances will be invested back into our communities to preserve green space, fund **energy**-efficiency improvements in homes, build affordable housing, expand **public** transit and support programs to meet our ambitious greenhouse-**gas** reduction targets.

It is clear to us that a market-based mechanism, with the market setting the price, is the best way to tackle a market-based problem such as **climate** change. Importantly, the carbon market provides businesses with the flexibility they need to reduce carbon pollution in the most cost-effective way possible.

Compare that to command-and-control regulations or a flat carbon tax, which would impose higher costs on everyone with no flexibility for business, no cap on pollution and no guarantee of emission reductions.

To maximize the benefits of a carbon market, it must mirror the workings of today's global marketplace, where increased integration fosters innovation and lowers the cost of everything from cellphones to **solar** panels.

This is why the largest state economy in the United States and the two biggest provincial economies in Canada have joined forces.

It means our businesses are now able to combine their strengths and cut pollution for a fraction of what it would cost if we had acted alone.

Together, we are proving that growing the economy and protecting the environment go hand-in-hand. This is not an either-or proposition.

California first launched its carbon market in 2012. Since then, economic growth has consistently outpaced the rest of the United States and the state is on track to beat its 2020 emission reduction targets. Quebec's economy made strong gains since it introduced a carbon market in 2013, today enjoy-ing its lowest unemployment **rate** in 40 years. **Ontario**'s carbon market has been in place for a little over a year and the province's economy has grown at a faster **rate** than any G7 country.

But there is a serious risk we could fall backwards. And we have a choice to make. Forge a path forward and decarbonize our economy, or give in to the science deniers and naysayers who have no regard for our future. When our grandchildren ask us what we did - when the dangers of sticking with a carbonbased economy were so clear - we need to be able to say we did everything we could.

With the joint carbon market we've created between Ontario, Quebec and California, we're doing everything we can to win this fight. And we invite every state and province in North America to join us.

Kathleen Wynne is the premier of Ontario, Philippe Couillard is the premier of Quebec and Jerry Brown is the governor of California.

Back to Top

Ted Morton: The Trudeau Liberals are campaigning on strangling our oil industry

Financial Post - Tue Mar 6 2018
Tone: Negative
Byline: Special to Financial Post
Reach: 607500

Last month, we learned from Scotiabank that lack of export pipeline capacity and the resulting discount on Canadian oil will cost the Canadian economy $15.6 billion a year, or nearly $43 million a day. That loss affects provincial and federal revenues as much as corporate income. We are all losing.

Also last month came the unveiling of the Trudeau government's new suite of policies for reviewing and approving major energy infrastructure projects, such as oil and gas pipelines.

So is there anything in the new rules that will address our $43-million -a-day leak to our Southern neighbour? Unfortunately, the answer appears to be no. The new process appears to further increase uncertainty for future pipeline proponents and investors.

At the symbolic level, the messaging is problematic. When you replace an agency named the National Energy Board (NEB) with a new agency named the Impact Assessment Agency (IAA), the message is clear: environmental impact is replacing economic benefit as Canada's primary policy focus when it comes to new energy projects.

The details are equally discouraging. The proposed changes broaden the number of criteria that a new pipeline must meet. These now include not just climate change and enhanced Aboriginal consultation, but also "the intersection of sex and gender with other identity factors." For a pipeline?

Public access to panel hearings is also increased. Gone is the old rule that limited participation to individuals and groups "directly affected" by a proposed pipeline. Now anyone interested must be allowed to participate.

This open-door policy will increase the opportunity for climate change activists - many of them heavily funded by American interests - to clog the hearing process with project-killing delays. These groups don't want better, safer pipelines. They want zero pipelines. And they know that if they cannot kill new pipeline projects directly, they can delay them to death with endless hearings, rule changes, consultations, environmental studies, and court challenges.

They were able to do this under the old rules, as the obituaries for Northern Gateway and Energy East attest. And they will certainly try to do it again under the new rules.

What explains this disappointing result? At one level, it is another example of the prime minister trying to have it both ways on climate change and energy development. He wants to go into next year's federal election with the message that he has struck a statesmanlike "balance" between these competing objectives. But implicit in this argument is the assumption - or more accurately, the delusion - that green virtue signals like carbon taxes and expensive renewables are going to buy "social licence" for the development and export of Canada's valuable oil and **gas** reserves.

It's high time to stop indulging that charade. We now have example after example of **climate** change activists declaring publicly that nothing Canada does to reduce our domestic CO_2 emissions will change their resolute opposition to new export pipelines.

This was shockingly clear in an interview that CBC's **Power** and Politics did with the American anti-oil activist Bill McKibbon the evening that Nebraska approved a routing for TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline. McKibbon is the founder of 350.org, one of largest and best funded **climate** change interest groups in the U.S.

Every **Canadian** should see thisinterview (www.cbc.ca) for themselves, but here is a summary of the key exchanges:

Interviewer: What common ground might you be able to find with the Alberta government?

McKibbon: At this point, a common ground can't be found… The only thing we can do is keep as much carbon in the ground as possible… Canada, a rich country, needs to keep that carbon safely underground…

Interviewer: So you don't give this government any credit (for its **climate** change policies)?

McKibbon: Oh, I think they are doing a good job on the demand side… but there aren't enough Canadians for that to be a very big deal. The big deal is the huge pool of carbon that sits underneath Alberta, and that will dwarf whatever it is that Canada does with its own domestic emissions.

It's not just the McKibbons of the world that are stating the obvious fact that, at two per cent of global emissions, what Canada does to reduce our domestic emissions is irrelevant to what happens globally. We are too small to matter. Our own homegrown McKibbon - David Suzuki - bluntly said the same thing recently. Delivering a speech at a Calgary's teachers convention, Suzuki declared: "I'm sorry Alberta, but we have to keep that fuel in the ground… The tar sands have to be shut down… No more infrastructure getting that stuff out - that means rails, pipelines, shipping. There's no point in investing in infrastructure when they're all going to be shut down."

So much for social licence. As for the new Impact Assessment Agency, it's not likely to be very busy anyhow. Unless it is substantially amended to correct the problems identified above, it seems doubtful that any investors will be proposing a new pipeline in Canada. And don't act surprised when you learn that TransCanada - Canada's oldest and largest pipeline company - is already investigating moving its head office to Houston.

And as for the $43 million a day that we are losing, there's no end in sight. Some have compared our current dilemma to the National **Energy** Program, but at least then, Central Canadians benefited from the loss suffered by Western Canadians. This time, the Trudeau Liberals are giving $15.6 billion a year to American consumers just to win the next election. No one in Canada benefits from NEP 2. We are all losing.

Ted Morton is a Senior Fellow at the School of **Public** Policy and the Manning Foundation for Building Democracy.

Back to Top