

John Bozzo

From: John Bozzo
Sent: March 23, 2018 9:18 AM
To: ##Clippings_Distribution_List
Subject: Morning News Clippings Summary: Friday March 23, 2018

d\plain Good Morning,

d\plain

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• Although the report on Pole Attachment Fees was posted yesterday, it has not yet been picked up by any media. There is one story in the Manitoulin Exhibitor warning that an increase in those fees will mean an increase in the cost of other services. (The story was not captured by Infomart, but is included in full below)

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• There are a number of stories today about the Watay power project which mention the **Ontario Energy Board**

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• More fall out from the mass resignations on the Manitoba Hydro Board.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• And another reminder that tomorrow is Earth Hour.

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d\plainManitoulin Exhibitor: Internet, telephone, cable service costs could increase significantly

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha blames the privatization of Hydro One for the possible increase of phone, internet and cable costs

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• “The **Ontario Energy Board** told CBC News it is currently reviewing all the comments provided by stakeholders, including electricity distributors, ratepayer associations, telecommunication and cable carriers, and municipalities, and will issue a final report of the Board in due course.

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d\plainGlobe and Mail: First Nations-led energy project in Ontario gets \$1.6-billion in federal funding

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• The federal government will provide \$1.6-billion for an ambitious project to bring reliable power to 16 remote First Nations communities in Northwest Ontario, in what is being billed as the Ontario's largest-ever Indigenous-led infrastructure project.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• Ottawa is underwriting a 1,800-kilometre transmission line that is 51 per cent owned by Wataynikaneyap Power, a consortium of 22 First Nations, with a 49-per-cent stake held by Fortis Inc., the St. John's-based utility company.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• As well, the Ontario government will be providing its existing northern ratepayer subsidy to support transmission connect and distribution within the communities.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• The Wataynikaneyap project is one of two major transmission upgrades being undertaken to provide more reliable power to northwestern Ontario communities, with the other being an additional east-west line from Thunder Bay to Wawa, Ont.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• Ottawa's contribution will help ensure Ontario ratepayers are not shouldering any costs, Fortis CEO Barry Perry said. And the **Ontario Energy Board** will set the partners' rate of return.

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d\plainNorthern Ontario Business: Massive federal funding energizes Watay Power project

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler applauded a “landmark funding” announcement by Ottawa on March 22 for a pivotal First Nation-led infrastructure project in northwestern Ontario and the Far North.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλαιν• Wataynikaneyap is a licensed transmission company, regulated by the **Ontario Energy Board**, owned by 22 First Nation communities (51 per cent), in partnership with Fortis (49 per cent).

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d\plainManitoulin Exhibitor: Internet, telephone, cable service costs could increase significantly

d\plainMANITOULIN—It appears as though telephone, Internet and cable service costs to customers in Ontario could be increasing significantly if Ontario Hydro has its way, says Algoma-Manitoulin MPP Michael Mantha.

d\plain“Basically, because of the Hydro One privatized system in Ontario it is being proposed that all customers in Ontario will end up seeing a large increase in our fees for telephone, Internet and cable,” said Mr. Mantha. The **Ontario Energy Board (OEB)** wants to increase those fees due to requests made from hydro companies like Hydro One. He explained the wires attached to hydro poles not only provide electricity but they deliver phone, Internet and cable service, and this is where the request has been made by hydro companies like Hydro One to the **OEB** to increase those fees.

d\plainMr. Mantha explained, “as I understand it the new Hydro One privatized company has applied for an increase in fees.”

d\plain“It is going to mean yours and everyone else’s Internet, cable and phone costs are going to go up because the increase will be passed on to the service providers and in turn customers. It is unacceptable,” stated Mr. Mantha.

d\plainFifteen Internet and cable providers across the province, including Shaw, Rogers and Eastlink, have formed the Ontario Broadband Coalition (OBC) to fight the increase.

d\plainIf the hydro pole rate hike goes through these companies will be forced to pass the cost on to their customers, according to what coalition spokesperson Jay Thomson told CBC News on March 15. He explained the actual pole rate is different for every hydro company and provider, but on average is \$22.35 per pole per year.

d\plainThe **OEB** regulates these rates. Mr. Thomson says the OEB wants to create a flat rate across the province of \$53, which would be a 133 percent increase to the providers who pay the fee. He also said the move will hamper efforts to expand broadband Internet into rural and remote communities.

d\plainEastlink has indicated in a statement that a 133 percent proposed increase would have a direct impact on Internet rates and Eastlink’s ability to continue investing in delivering high speed Internet to more underserved areas in Ontario.

d\plainThe OBC is looking for public input before the **OEB** makes its decision on the rates this spring.

The **Ontario Energy Board** told CBC News it is currently reviewing all the comments provided by stakeholders, including electricity distributors, ratepayer associations, telecommunication and cable carriers, and municipalities, and will issue a final report of the Board in due course.

Mr. Mantha said, "I will be meeting with representatives of Eastlink and other service companies next week. They have told me their costs are going up 120 percent," stated Mr. Mantha. "Their average cost to attach to a pole is \$13-18 per year per hydro pole. With the application through the OEB Hydro One is looking for an average province wide increase to \$53, per hydro pole per year to attach to. And, of course, these costs are going to have to be passed on to the customers."

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainMorning News Clippings

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by:

infomart
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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainDate: Friday, March 23, 2018
Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainContact Editor](#)

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat7\plainClippings Summary

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat7\plainNews - 27 Results



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) First Nations-led energy project in Ontario gets \$1.6-billion in federal funding; The 1,800 km transmission line, which is 51 per cent owned by Wataynikaneyap Power, aims to bring reliable power to 16 remote Indigenous communities in Northwest Ontario

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plaintheglobeandmail.com - Thu Mar 22 2018, 2:54pm ET
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: Shawn McCarthy
Reach: 1188000

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat12\plainPaul Crawford noted on Thursday, March 22, 2018
OEB is mentioned.

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe federal government will provide \$1.6-billion for an ambitious project to bring reliable power to 16 remote **First Nations** communities in Northwest Ontario, in what is being billed as the Ontario's largest-ever Indigenous-led ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) Landmark Funding Announced for Canada's Largest First Nations Led Infrastructure Project

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.globenewswire.com - Thu Mar 22 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOne of the most ambitious and transformative infrastructure projects in Canada's history got the green light today with the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario announcing funding for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Line ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) \$1.6-Billion Project Will Connect 16 Ontario First Nations To Power Grid

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.huffingtonpost.ca - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainA new agreement between Ontario First Nations, the federal government and the province will see 16 northern communities connected to the power grid in a \$1.6-billion project that will end their dependence on diesel fuel for power.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) Massive federal funding energizes Watay Power project - Northern Ontario Business

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.northernontariobusiness.com - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat12\plainPaul Crawford noted on Friday, March 23, 2018
OEB is mentioned.

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler applauded a "landmark funding" announcement by Ottawa on March 22 for a pivotal First Nation-led infrastructure project in northwestern Ontario and the Far North.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Canada's \\$1.6bn Wataynikaneyap power transmission project secures funding - Energy Business Review](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainutilitiesnetwork.energy -business-review.com - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario have granted \$1.6bn funding to support the construction of the proposed Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Line project.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Tell the truth on carbon tax](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Star - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$23,325

Reach: 361323 Page: A16

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainHow does Progressive Conservative Leader Doug Ford's oft-repeated promise that, if elected premier, he would repeal Ontario's carbon tax make no sense? Let us count the ways. First, and fatally for Ford's **plan**, **Ontario** does ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Ontario should opt out of cap and trade](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainStratford Beacon-Herald - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Michael Dobson

Ad Value: \$163

Reach: 10143 Page: A5

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainWhen Al Gore comes to see Kathleen Wynne it's no coincidence her government is in trouble and an election is around the corner. When Al Gore says, "I don't want to interfere in your politics," that is an outright lie. Al Gore was there specifically ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain No one cares about global warming now](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNational Post - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lawrence Solomon

Ad Value: \$9,183
Reach: 159480 **Page:** FP7

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe United States government is expected to approve a massive US\$1.3-trillion omnibus spending bill Friday, a sweeping victory for Democrats who fought for - and won - funding for virtually all of the left's priorities, everything from Planned ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain It'S About The Grandkids](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Sun - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Tim Hockridge

Ad Value: \$990

Reach: 171076 **Page:** A16

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainHey, Kathleen told the people of **Ontario** she did not want to look her grandchildren in the eye and explain why she did nothing to protect the environment, thus we would have carbon taxes. Now Premier Wynne claims the carbon tax is a ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain What is the Ford Nation plan for First Nations?](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Star - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lance Copegog Opinion

Ad Value: \$13,692

Reach: 361323 **Page:** A17

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBy selecting Doug Ford as its new leader, the **Ontario** PC party has jumped on the populist bandwagon that has swept the United States and is likely to sweep **Ontario**. All four of the PC leadership hopefuls were big on political ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain PC critic offers ideas for the next Liberal budget](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Timmins Daily Press - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lisa Macleod,

Ad Value: \$356

Reach: 19038 **Page:** A4

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBelow is an open letter **Ontario** PC Finance Critic Lisa MacLeod sent to the Finance Minister outlining what the **Ontario** PCs hope to see in the upcoming budget. Dear Minister Sousa, Life is harder in **Ontario**. Every ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Wynne's deathbed repentance](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Star - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Thomas Walkom

Ad Value: \$21,810

Reach: 361323 Page: A17

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainAt Queen's Park, the smell of desperation is in the air. Premier Kathleen Wynne is putting on a game front, as she proposes billions in new social spending. But it all has the feeling of deathbed repentance. If the polls are even remotely ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain In support of populism and Doug Ford](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Sun - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Joe Oliver

Ad Value: \$4,419

Reach: 171076 Page: A17

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe usual suspects - Liberals, Dippers and various Red Tories - are out of the gate, attacking Doug Ford, the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of **Ontario**, and comparing him to their arch enemy Donald Trump. A shared offence is ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Former Manitoba Hydro chair takes aim at Pallister's account of board exodus; Premier's version of events 'deeply offensive and wrong,' Sandy Riley says](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Globe and Mail - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: SHAWN McCARTHY

Ad Value: \$20,187

Reach: 309154 Page: A1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe former chairman of Manitoba **Hydro** angrily challenged Premier Brian Pallister Thursday, saying the Premier's account of the board's resignation is "deeply offensive and wrong." Sandy Riley - a Winnipeg business leader and Progressive ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Premier Pallister says talking to Hydro board would have been inappropriate; gov't would not sign off on Hydro-MMF agreement - CBC Player](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.cbc.ca - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPremier Brian Pallister says he'll replace the nine Manitoba Hydro board members who stepped down Wednesday amid complaints of a lack of communication with the provincial government — including with the premier himself — by noon Friday.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Graydon Disappointed But Respects MB Hydro Board Resignations - PembinaValleyOnline.com](#)

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.pembinavalleyonline.com](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainProgressive Conservative MLA Cliff Graydon is speaking out following a string of resignations from Manitoba's Board of Directors Wednesday that left him the lone board member.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain NetNewsLedger - MKO Grand Chief North Concerned Over Manitoba Hydro Board Resignations](#)

[d:\intbl\itap_3\cbpat7\plainwww.netnewsledger.com](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe First Nations within the Keewatinowi region are concerned that 9 out of 10 board members for Manitoba Hydro have quit in frustration caused by a lack of communication with the Pallister government.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain BRODBECK: Manitobans deserve answers on Hydro debacle | Winnipeg Sun](#)

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwinnipegsun.com](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOf course, it should never have come to this. There should have been ongoing dialogue between government, including the premier's office, and Hydro to avoid this kind of corporate calamity.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Reaction after most of Manitoba Hydro board resigns](#)

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainWORLD REPORT](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018, 8:00am ET

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: KAREN PAULS; BRIAN PALLISTER; DAVID CHARTRAND

Reach: 528000

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCAMERON MACINTOSH (NEWSCASTER): It's been a contentious 24 hours in Manitoba politics. It all started when most of the board at Manitoba **Hydro** resigned. They blamed Premier Brian Pallister whose government appointed them. And what ...



d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Liberals burden our economic competitiveness

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFlamborough Review - Thu Mar 15 2018
Tone: **Negative**
Ad Value: \$219
Reach: 13956 Page: 1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFrom the recent threat of steel tariffs from the Trump administration to concerns over NAFTA, I am increasingly worried about Canada's global economic competitiveness. While trade issues are always challenging, the overall direction of the ...



d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Solar farm funds possibly used for reserve fund

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNorthern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: Brad Sherratt
Ad Value: \$143
Reach: 5917 Page: A3

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTown council is looking at the possibility of using the funds generated from the new **solar** farm to create and maintain a reserve fund. The revelation came out of a presentation from the Kirkland Lake Taxpayers Association during ...



d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Council agrees to relocate solar farm

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNorthern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: Brad Sherratt
Ad Value: \$403
Reach: 5917 Page: A1 / Front

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainMunicipal Council has agreed to slight relocation change for Kirkland Lake's future **solar** farm. In a report to Council, new interim CAO Wilf Hass stated "The original proposal for a **solar** farm in Kirkland Lake identified three ...



d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Earth Hour celebration tomorrow night at Charles Clark Square

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainShoreline Week (Tecumseh) - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Ad Value: \$437
Reach: 17100 Page: A5

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOnce a year, normally on the last Saturday in March, millions of people around **planet** Earth join together for an hour to celebrate our

individual and collective **power** to protect the world in which we live. This year, the ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) axed Energy East to fill Keystone XL, Trudeau says | Pipelines & Transportation | JWN Energy

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.jwnenergy.com](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCanadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a lack of demand to ship oil on Keystone XL contributed to TransCanada Corp.'s decision to abandon another major crude pipeline.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) 3 BIG reasons Western Canadian pipelines are doomed - The Rebel

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.therebel.media](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat12\plainPaul Crawford noted on Thursday, March 22, 2018
Energy East is mentioned,.

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainhe Northern Gateway pipeline from Bruderheim, Alberta to the west coast of BC is dead, murdered by Trudeau even after it was approved by the NEB.



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) Trudeau touts Canada Workers Benefit and budget during New Brunswick visit | National Post

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainnationalpost.com](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat12\plainPaul Crawford noted on Thursday, March 22, 2018
Energy East is mentioned.

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPrime Minister Justin Trudeau stopped in rural New Brunswick Thursday to promote his government's new Canadian Workers Benefit announced in the recent budget, but a former MP for the area says Ottawa needs to do more to help people actually get ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) TransCanada Axed Energy East to Fill Keystone XL, Trudeau Says - Bloomberg

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.bloomberg.com](#) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCanadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a lack of demand to ship oil on Keyxtone XL contributed to TransCanada Corp.'s decision to abandon another major crude pipeline.

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat7\plainClippings Summary

Full Articles



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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain**First Nations-led energy project in Ontario gets \$1.6-billion in federal funding; The 1,800 km transmission line, which is 51 per cent owned by Wataynikaneyap Power, aims to bring reliable power to 16 remote Indigenous communities in Northwest Ontario**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plaintheglobeandmail.com - Thu Mar 22 2018, 2:54pm ET

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Shawn McCarthy

Reach: 1188000

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe federal government will provide \$1.6-billion for an ambitious project to bring reliable power to 16 remote **First Nations** communities in Northwest Ontario, in what is being billed as the Ontario's largest-ever Indigenous-led infrastructure project.

Ottawa is underwriting a 1,800-kilometre transmission line that is 51 per cent owned by Wataynikaneyap Power, a consortium of 22 **First Nations**, with a 49-per-cent stake held by Fortis Inc., the St. John's-based utility company.

As well, the Ontario government will be providing its existing northern ratepayer subsidy to support transmission connect and distribution within the communities.

"This [project] will be really transformative for communities to know they will have access to reliable, clean power," federal Minister of Indigenous Services, Jane Philpott, said in an interview Thursday.

The minister announced the federal funding during a ceremony in Thunder Bay that included Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, Fortis chief executive Barry Perry and Wataynikaneyap Power chief executive Margaret Kenequanash, former chief of the North Caribou Lake First Nation.

In a telephone interview, the minister noted the importance of having a reliable energy source to support economic and social development in the remote communities, including new housing, education, Indigenous-led businesses and provision of clean water.

The Wataynikaneyap project is one of two major transmission upgrades being undertaken to provide more reliable power to northwestern Ontario communities, with the other being an additional east-west line from Thunder Bay to Wawa, Ont.

The Wataynikaneyap line will connect communities north of Dryden, with the first leg to Pikangikum already under construction and due for completion later this year.

All told, some 14,000 people in the 16 remaining communities are due to be connected by the end of construction in 2022.

While the **First Nations** consortium and Fortis will raise initial financing for a \$1.6-billion capital project, the federal money will be put into a trust account and be used to pay back construction costs over the long term. Ottawa will offset a significant part of its contribution by eliminating the federal support for diesel-powered generation that the communities currently rely on.

Ottawa's contribution will help ensure Ontario ratepayers are not shouldering any costs, Fortis's Mr. Perry said. And the Ontario Energy Board will set the partners' rate of return.

Ms. Kenequanash said she has been working for more than 10 years to bring the Wataynikeneyap project to this critical point.

"This will bring hope and opportunities to our communities," she said in an interview. "I think about my little grandson and his future, and the other little ones in our communities."

She said the transmission project will bring dual benefits: reliable power to communities that now rely on dirty diesel-generation, and showcasing a **First Nations**-led business that provides a model for how to do business with industry and government.

Mr. Perry said the partners will now submit an application for "leave to construct" to the Ontario Energy Board and continue vetting construction contractors. They hope to make a final investment decision once the provincial regulator gives the green light later this year, with construction starting in 2019.

For Fortis, Wataynikeneyap will add \$600-million to its asset base, increasing it to \$15.1-billion, and boost its long-term growth to 5.4 per cent annually from 5 per cent.

While the costs are high given the small population it will serve, Mr. Perry said it makes financial sense.

"When you think of what this will replace, and what this will enable in the communities, it becomes pretty logical: This is the right project," he said.

Follow this link to view this story on globeandmail.com: **First Nations**-led energy project in Ontario gets \$1.6-billion in federal funding (www.theglobeandmail.com) The viewing of this article is only available to Globe Unlimited subscribers.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain **Landmark Funding Announced for Canada's Largest First Nations Led Infrastructure Project**

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.globenewswire.com](http://www.globenewswire.com) - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain One of the most ambitious and transformative infrastructure projects in Canada's history got the green light today with the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario announcing funding for the Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Line Project ("the Project") in the aggregate amount of \$1.6 billion.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain\$1.6-Billion Project Will Connect 16 Ontario First Nations To Power Grid

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.huffingtonpost.ca](#) - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainA new agreement between Ontario First Nations, the federal government and the province will see 16 northern communities connected to the power grid in a \$1.6-billion project that will end their dependence on diesel fuel for power.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainMassive federal funding energizes Watay Power project - Northern Ontario Business

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.northernontariobusiness.com](#) - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler applauded a "landmark funding" announcement by Ottawa on March 22 for a pivotal First Nation-led infrastructure project in northwestern Ontario and the Far North.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCanada's \$1.6bn Wataynikaneyap power transmission project secures funding - Energy Business Review

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainutilitiesnetwork.energy](#) -business-review.com - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario have granted \$1.6bn funding to support the construction of the proposed Wataynikaneyap Power Transmission Line project.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTell the truth on carbon tax

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Star](#) - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

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Ad Value: \$23,325
Reach: 361323 Page: A16

How does Progressive Conservative Leader Doug Ford's oft-repeated promise that, if elected premier, he would repeal Ontario's carbon tax make no sense? Let us count the ways.

First, and fatally for Ford's plan, Ontario does not actually have a carbon tax. The cap-and-trade system of pricing carbon that the Wynne government put in place in 2016 imposes a limit (cap) on industrial emissions and allows companies to buy (trade) credits that let them exceed that limit. The price is not paid directly by taxpayers and is therefore not a tax.

If what Ford means is that he will scrap the cap-and-trade system, a second level of incoherence emerges. Starting in 2019, the federal government, in recognition of the growing consensus that there can be no meaningful climate action without a price on carbon, will impose a carbon tax, beginning at \$10 per tonne, on all provinces that have failed to implement their own comparable pricing scheme.

Ironically, by repealing Ontario's system of pricing carbon, Ford would be opening the door to exactly the sort of tax he says he wants to do away with.

There are legitimate reasons a conservative might prefer the federal carbon tax over Ontario's cap-and-trade system. While a carbon tax would no doubt hit most Ontarians harder than the existing system - and getting out from cap-and-trade would carry significant costs - revenues from the federal tax would be returned to the provinces to do with whatever they want. That is, Ford could give the money back to taxpayers. The current cap-and-trade system, on the other hand, requires that revenues be reinvested in green initiatives.

This is why Ford's predecessor, Patrick Brown, wanted to replace the current system with the federal carbon tax - so he could give the money back. But if that's what Ford is up to, for the sake of accuracy and honesty, he should stop saying he's going to repeal the carbon tax and start saying he's going to invite Ottawa to impose it.

If, however, what he means is that he intends to fight Ottawa's carbon tax in court, then he should say so and defend that position. That's what Jason Kenney seems to be doing in his bid to become premier of Alberta.

While this would have the merit at least of being a coherent plan, it is by no means a good one. The Trudeau government is unlikely to back off of its signature environmental initiative, particularly in the face of right-wing opposition in a minority of provinces.

Indeed, the federal Liberals just might relish the fight. Moreover, the feds almost certainly have the authority to impose the tax and if the provinces refuse to play nice, Ottawa has ways of making them pay.

Of course all of this leaves aside the most compelling arguments in favour of leaving in place some price on carbon. Every jurisdiction has a responsibility to do its part to tackle the existential threat of climate change. And, particularly as Ontario's debt mounts and its population ages, there is a pressing need for new revenues if we are to avoid a costly return to blind austerity.

By political necessity, the federal carbon tax is set at a level that most economists agree is too low to significantly change behaviour. The potential environmental benefits of such a tax, then, are twofold: it lays the groundwork for future, more significant price hikes; and it can raise revenues that can then be used to pay for important environmental programs.

Ford, with rhetoric and rebates, can sadly undermine these aims if he wins

power. But he cannot repeal a carbon tax that doesn't exist or avoid putting a price on carbon. His pandering carbon-tax promise brazenly denies reality. If Ford refuses to be on the right side of history, he can at least tell Ontarians the truth about where he stands.

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The Beacon Herald

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOntario should opt out of cap and trade

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainStratford Beacon-Herald - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Michael Dobson

Ad Value: \$163

Reach: 10143 **Page:** A5

When Al Gore comes to see Kathleen Wynne it's no coincidence her government is in trouble and an election is around the corner. When Al Gore says, "I don't want to interfere in your politics," that is an outright lie. Al Gore was there specifically to interfere in our politics. Both are probably unwilling to see the stinking disaster the Liberals have made with green **energy** and the economy.

Ontarians are suffering and need relief on their **energy** bills while billions go to California to balance **cap and trade**? How do you balance **energy** between California and **Ontario** by the way? California probably gets two or three times more **solar**, a long ocean coastline and geothermal heat. **Ontario** has none of this, so it's no wonder we have to pay them.

Ontario should join the other provinces and opt out of **cap and trade**. Given the choice between giving money to California and using it here there would be no argument except for the most die-hard fanatics.

Had the liberals not totally screwed up green **energy** and the economy things might be different. A made-in-**Ontario** solution could be part of revitalizing the economy. I support Doug Ford for wanting to do just that.

Michael Dobson

Windsor

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNo one cares about global warming now

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNational Post - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lawrence Solomon

Ad Value: \$9,183

Reach: 159480 **Page:** FP7

The United States government is expected to approve a massive US\$1.3-trillion omnibus spending bill Friday, a sweeping victory for

Democrats who fought for - and won - funding for virtually all of the left's priorities, everything from Planned Parenthood to gun control to child care to **public transportation**. The Democrats even won funding, and plaudits, for infrastructure and domestic programs they couldn't secure under the Obama administration.

But no one is remarking on the Democratic cause that was thrown off the omnibus - **climate** change - because no one still considers it a Democratic priority. Nowhere in the bill's 2,232 pages of spending goodies do the words "**climate** change" or "global warming" even appear.

Global warming is so yesterday. The diehards aside, does any American still care? Not according to polling, which consistently shows the **public** is unwilling to support **climate** change policies if there's a cost attached. There's pretty much nothing the **public** cares less about than **climate** change.

When pollsters ask the American **public** to **rate** the importance of **climate** change versus other **public**-policy issues such as health, education, crime and homelessness, **climate** change comes last or next to last. When it asks the **public** to compare its concern over **climate** change with concern over other environmental issues, such as air and water quality or the state of forests, global warming again comes last.

Europeans also aren't fussed much by global warming. A study of 35,000 participants in 18 European countries by NatCen, Britain's largest **independent** social research agency, found that in most countries fewer than one quarter were either "extremely worried" or "very worried" at the prospect. The blasé three-quarters-plus cut across most demographics: educated and uneducated, young and old. A 25-or 35-year-old was no more likely to express concern than a 65-or a 75-year-old. The only factors that changed the degree of concern involved politics. Those on the left were more concerned than centrists or those on the right, but even then, a mere 38 per cent of these leftists considered themselves to be either extremely or very concerned.

To NatCen's disappointment, the high level of **public** apathy **rules** out any prospect that governments will muster the wherewithal to implement reforms. "Action to tackle a problem as significant as **climate** change will require the consent or support of a plurality of voters," concludes the NatCen report.

"Currently we are a long way short of this."

Politicians may claim to be concerned - no doubt some personally are - but their commitment to the cause can be seen in their actions, not their words. Throughout most of the Western world, governments are slashing subsidies to renewables. The U.S. under Trump - who was elected on a promise to scuttle **climate** policies - has done so dramatically and decisively, pulling out of the Paris **climate** agreement, cutting funding for the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on **Climate** Change, and pretty much withdrawing across the board. Other developed countries have withdrawn support with less fanfare, among them the U.K., Italy, Germany, Denmark, Portugal and Japan. Countries are failing to meet their carboncutting targets and refusing to make binding commitments for the future. Investment in the renewable industries has plummeted and bankruptcies abound. **Wind** turbines are beginning to be taken down.

As the sun slowly sets on the global warming industry, fossil fuel use is soaring, with oil and **gas** consumption at all-time highs and 1,600 new coal plants set to expand the world's **coal-fired electricity** capacity by 43 per cent.

The **public's** boredom with global warming hype is also seen in media coverage. "According to a yearlong study, **climate** change was largely ignored by the corporate broadcast evening news and Sunday shows on ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox Broadcasting Co.," states Media Matters, the George Soros-funded watchdog organization. "The study also found that the four corporate

broadcast **networks** combined aired only four segments that discussed **climate** change in the context of natural disasters in the U.S. in 2017, despite it being a record year for weather and **climate** disasters."

The press once cared about **climate** change; politicians did, too, whenever it appeared to further their political careers. But the **public** may never have truly cared, if election results, rather than **public** opinion polls, are the measure. Canada was a pioneer in proving how little the **public** cared when, in 2008, Liberal leader Stéphane Dion vowed to introduce a carbon tax if elected prime minister, earning the Liberals' worst defeat since Confederation. Australia's Labour Party in 2013 also suffered a crushing defeat when it explicitly made carbon taxes a major campaign issue. Since then, political parties - the Trudeau Liberals included - have prudently downplayed **climate**-policy costs during their campaigns. There won't be any downplaying in Trudeau's next election, though, in 2019, when his carbon taxes will be front and **centre**.

Will he be able to prevail, where all others have failed? Good luck with that! Lawrence Solomon is executive director of **Energy** Probe, a **Toronto**-based environmental organization. LawrenceSolomon @nextcity.com

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIt'S About The Grandkids

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Sun - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Tim Hockridge

Ad Value: \$990

Reach: 171076 **Page:** A16

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainHey, Kathleen told the people of **Ontario** she did not want to look her grandchildren in the eye and explain why she did nothing to protect the environment, thus we would have carbon taxes. Now Premier Wynne claims the carbon tax is a revenue tool, and not intended to lower industrial greenhouse **gases**. What is she to tell the grandchildren? Fear not, there still may be hope for grand ma-ma. Through years of mismanaging **OPG** and **Hydro** One, **gas** plant cancellations, a defective **Green Energy Act**, and the billion-plus dollars wasted on smart meters, she effectively created skyrocketing **hydro rates**. Add to this over-regulation and carbon taxes, and many businesses have relocated outside the province, while for many searching for new areas to operate **Ontario** was not an option, and many were left with no choice but to close - take this into consideration, and yes, she can take credit for eliminating a carbon emission or two.

TIM HOCKRIDGE APSLEY, ONT.

(This government is drowning in a sea of red ink -they need revenue and the only way to do that is through more taxes, to heck with the consequences)

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainWhat is the Ford Nation plan for First Nations?

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Star - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lance Copegog Opinion

Ad Value: \$13,692

Reach: 361323 **Page:** A17

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBy selecting Doug Ford as its new leader, the **Ontario** PC party has jumped on the populist bandwagon that has swept the United States and is likely to sweep **Ontario**.

All four of the PC leadership hopefuls were big on political slogans, but short on policy details. During the leadership campaign, not once did the candidates highlight the issues that are impacting First Nations people in **Ontario**.

Coming from the isolated community of Beausoleil First Nation on the southern tip of Georgian **Bay**, which is reliant on a 68-year-old vessel on the verge of sinking, I see first-hand the issues that plague First Nations communities. It is deeply concerning that Ford, the probable next premier of **Ontario**, hasn't brought our issues to the forefront.

We know that if elected premier, Ford plans to roll back progress made on women's reproductive rights, turn back the clock on the curriculum and end a carbon tax that would have paid for his party's platform.

For First Nations people, we don't know what he will do to combat racism and the deaths of **students** in **Thunder Bay**, help end the suicide epidemic sweeping **Ontario's northern** First Nations communities, and better the lives of First Nations people living on-reserve.

During the leadership race, I contacted Tanya Granic Allen via email to inquire about her plans for First Nations people. Instead of laying out her vision, she responded by adding me to her mailing list. I believe this is a big indicator of how serious the PC party takes the everyday realities First Nations people face every day.

When asked how he will develop infrastructure in the James **Bay** lowlands, Ford said: "If I have to hop on that bulldozer myself with Vic (Fedeli) on the other one, we're going to start building the roads to get to the mining."

There is no mention of him planning to consult with First Nations in the region or to respect their wishes. What we can deduce from that comment is that we will soon have a premier who will gladly choose to run roughshod over the rights of First Nations, instead of taking the time to consult and accommodate.

First Nations people in **Ontario** need to be especially wary of a Ford government. It is easy to overlook the progress Kathleen Wynne and her government have made regarding First Nations people. However, in the grand scheme of things, this Liberal government has achieved far more than Ford can ever hope to.

In 2015, the **Ontario** government and the Chiefs of **Ontario** signed a political accord, which guides their relationship. The **Ontario Hydro** First Nations Delivery Credit took effect in August 2017, which eliminated delivery charges to consumers living on-reserve. Both Premier Wynne and Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation David Zimmer have been consistent in meeting with First Nations leadership.

Under Premier Ford, progress would stall. First Nations leadership will lose out

on the opportunity to move important files forward, such as child welfare, **climate** change, criminal justice, social services, truth and reconciliation, and many other critical issues.

For many years, First Nation leadership have fought to have a seat at the table. We cannot risk losing out on the many opportunities being presented to us.

Instead of Ford focusing on Wynne, he needs to focus on bringing hope back to young people in First Nations communities, such as Attawapiskat First Nation, which is one of many reserves plagued by intergenerational trauma, suicide, and addictions. First Nations people need a provincial government that cares, not one that plays to the heart of populism.

If First Nations people are to protect the progress that has been made, we need to prepare to dig in our heels. Ford cannot forget that all governments within the nation of Canada have a responsibility to adequately consult with and accommodate First Nations communities. Should Ford fail to do this, then he will be failing as a leader and letting down the next generation of Indigenous youth.

Time will tell how this relationship will play out.

Lance Copegog is the former deputy youth chief of Beausoleil First Nation and a current Indigenous youth leader in **Ontario**.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPC critic offers ideas for the next Liberal budget

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Timmins Daily Press - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lisa Macleod,

Ad Value: \$356

Reach: 19038 **Page:** A4

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBelow is an open letter **Ontario** PC Finance Critic Lisa MacLeod sent to the Finance Minister outlining what the **Ontario** PCs hope to see in the upcoming budget.

Dear Minister Sousa, Life is harder in **Ontario**. Every single month is becoming more and more of a challenge for hard-working families to make ends meet, pay the bills, put food on the table, or keep a roof above their heads.

While these families are struggling to keep their head above water, Liberal insiders and friends have gotten rich at their expense.

Families are living in **energy** poverty while the CEO of **Hydro** One is raking in millions, and Liberal donors received lucrative **energy** contracts. Billions of hard-earned tax dollars have been wasted on political self-interests like eHealth and the **gas** plants scandal.

Meanwhile, **Ontario** is the most indebted province or state in the world, patients are receiving health care in hallways and broom closets, and more schools have been closed than under any other government's watch in our province's history.

Kathleen Wynne and your Liberal government have proven time and time again that you will do anything, say anything, or promise anything to cling to **power**.

Simply put, you can't be trusted to keep your word.

You broke your promise to balance the budget. You broke your promise to reduce auto insurance **rates** by 15%. You said nothing about your fire sale of **Hydro** One or **cap-and-trade** cash grab.

Budgets should be about solving the problems faced by all families and seniors across the province, not about simply buying votes.

That's why I'm writing to urge you to include the following in your 2018 budget: A real **plan** to get back to budget balance immediately; Match our commitment to get **hydro rates** down by an additional 12%; Match our commitments on long-term care and mental health to take pressure off of hospitals; Scrap **cap-and-trade** and include a real **plan** to bring jobs to **Ontario**; Provide real tax relief for **Ontario** families.

If all of these are not included, the **Ontario** PCs will have no choice but to vote against your budget.

Let's put money back into the people's pockets and start respecting the taxpayer. Lisa MacLeod, **Ontario** PC Finance Critic

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainWynne's deathbed repentance

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Star - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Thomas Walkom

Ad Value: \$21,810

Reach: 361323 **Page:** A17

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainAt Queen's Park, the smell of desperation is in the air.

Premier Kathleen Wynne is putting on a game front, as she proposes billions in new social spending.

But it all has the feeling of deathbed repentance. If the polls are even remotely reliable, Ontarians have already made up their minds about the provincial Liberal government.

They want it gone.

At one level, Wynne's unpopularity is a mystery. In person, she's agreeable. Her Liberal government has pursued the kinds of policies that so-called progressive voters say they like.

She has hiked the minimum wage to \$14 an hour and made it easier for those with modest family incomes to get a post-secondary education.

She even made it easier for unions to organize some low-wage workers.

She instituted a pharmacare program for all Ontarians under 25 and is now hinting at bringing in a denticare scheme.

Her decision to combat **climate** change by joining a Quebec-California **cap-and-trade** system has received some criticism. But arguably it was better than doing nothing.

Still, there seems to be a feeling among many of those who voted for Wynne's Liberals in 2014 that she's been a disappointment.

In part, that's because she didn't deliver. The deceleration of health spending that characterized the governments of Bob Rae, Mike Harris and Dalton McGuinty continued as Wynne - like her predecessors - tried to get costs under control in an effort to balance the budget.

But in part, it was because she appeared unreliable and, like McGuinty before her, willing to trade principle for political advantage.

Her government's ill-considered support for the proposed white elephant known as the Scarborough subway was one example. But probably the biggest political mistake she made was to privatize **Hydro** One.

The **Hydro** One sale rankled for two reasons. First, it came from nowhere. Wynne had not campaigned on privatizing the provincially owned **electricity transmission** monopoly. Indeed, her position seemed - if anything - to be the reverse.

Second, the irrationality of a decision that promises to ultimately cost the treasury more than it brings in seemed to typify the Liberals' casual approach to government.

Wynne is working hard to overcome her disadvantages before the June 7 election. Her strategy is a familiar one - presenting the election as a binary choice between her Liberals, however imperfect, and the reactionary Conservatives of Doug Ford.

To that end, she is promising to spend more on social programs, including mental health and home care.

In an effort to spike the guns of Andrea Horwath's New Democrats, she is also reprising a 2007 Liberal election promise - never acted upon - to establish a **public** denticare program.

And she is hoping to entice seniors by eliminating all co-payments and deductibles from the **Ontario** Drug Benefit program, which currently provides pharmaceuticals to those 65 and over.

Like Justin Trudeau's federal Liberals, she has abandoned plans to balance the provincial budget, calculating - perhaps correctly - that most voters no longer care about such things.

Hers is a robust **centre**-left agenda that theoretically should give the Liberals a real shot at re-election. And perhaps it will, particularly if her Tory and NDP rivals repeat history by running disastrous campaigns.

But that isn't the mood I'm picking up now. The mood I'm picking up now says that people don't trust her and that it's time for her to go.

Thomas Walkom appears Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIn support of populism and Doug Ford

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainToronto Sun - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: Negative

Byline: Joe Oliver

Ad Value: \$4,419

Reach: 171076 **Page:** A17

The usual suspects - Liberals, Dippers and various Red Tories - are out of the gate, attacking Doug Ford, the leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of **Ontario**, and comparing him to their arch enemy Donald Trump. A shared offence is that they are both populists, which the dictionary defines as someone who supports or seeks to appeal to the interests of ordinary people.

At first blush, that may seem like quite a commendable trait, anchored in our democratic tradition. But not if ordinary people are deemed to be knuckle-dragging, uneducated bigots. And that these deplorables ignore their betters and mindlessly succumb to the hate-filled rhetoric of a demagogue whose raving incompetence will lead to economic disaster and social strife.

Back in the real world, elitists ignore at their peril the populism behind Trump, Brexit, the rise of right-wing parties in Europe and Doug Ford.

Elitism can come in many forms - social, financial, cognitive, educational and political. At its core, it connotes a superior attitude and behaviour on the part of those who believe that society should be led by them.

Unlike populism, elitism is fundamentally undemocratic. People excluded really resent being looked down on by a contemptuous and entrenched establishment and are angered when their concerns are ignored as irrelevant and their votes delegitimized as aberrant behaviour. They will naturally respond to a politician who accords them respect, empathizes with their angst and proposes policies that address their needs. While authority figures view them as barbarians at the gate, they see themselves as citizens Storming the Bastille.

The progressive bastion of Old **Toronto** is impenetrable for a conservative populist. Its majority Liberal identity is unalterable, although privileged residents will exceptionally vote red Tory or NDP. Downtown Progressive Conservatives unhesitatingly abandon the PC Party if they cannot relate to an objectionable political style, like Ralph Klein grassroots conservatism, which Doug Ford embodies. They won't admit to being intellectual snobs, but a rough and ready outsider running the province is too unsettling for this delicate professional class.

For urban sophisticates, billions in wasted spending is more forgivable than an occasional grammatical error or crass utterance. Broken promises are less problematic than impolitic language. Political correctness repeatedly trumps common-sense. Deficits are viewed with equanimity and high taxes evidence a caring society. City progressives believe in Keynes, revere Pierre Trudeau, read the **Toronto** Star (for non-partisan coverage) and can't decide if they prefer Jagmeet Singh's turban to Justin Trudeau's hair.

Outside that political wasteland, Ford Nation has a significant presence. Its suburban members are racially, ethnically, socioeconomically and gender diverse. Their identity is pragmatic, family-oriented and commonsensical, rather than ideological, alternative lifestyle and obsessed with identity politics.

They demand a government that is accountable to the people and not just special interest groups, like **public** sector unions. Most are not social

conservatives, but they want meaningful parental participation in sex education so their children have time to grow up. They care about the environment, but resent hugely expensive green boondoggles that give government bragging rights, yet do absolutely nothing to actually address **climate** change -hello a carbon tax. Many are bitter about the war on cars, sky-high **electricity rates** and crushing taxes that make it hard to afford a decent standard of living and support their families.

Doug Ford clearly speaks to those people and has the enormous advantage of opposing a deeply unpopular Premier. For them he is authentic and represents change; he listens, cares and will act. The hostility of the elite will only reinforce his appeal. Conservative populism is about to triumph again, which ain't bad for democracy.

Oliver is the former minister of finance and is chairman of Echelon Wealth Partners @joeoliver1

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFormer Manitoba Hydro chair takes aim at Pallister's account of board exodus; Premier's version of events 'deeply offensive and wrong,' Sandy Riley says

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Globe and Mail - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: SHAWN McCARTHY

Ad Value: \$20,187

Reach: 309154 **Page:** A1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe former chairman of Manitoba **Hydro** angrily challenged Premier Brian Pallister Thursday, saying the Premier's account of the board's resignation is "deeply offensive and wrong."

Sandy Riley - a Winnipeg business leader and Progressive Conservative supporter - said Mr. Pallister fundamentally mischaracterized the board's decision to resign en masse Wednesday when he related it to a proposed Manitoba **Hydro** deal with the province's Metis Federation.

"I'm so disappointed that the government has elected to go down this course," Mr. Riley said in a telephone interview from Palm Springs, Calif., where he is vacationing.

Nine Tory-appointed members of the Manitoba **Hydro** board resigned, leaving only Progressive Conservative MLA Cliff Graydon in place.

In their letter of resignation, signed Wednesday and released Thursday, the nine directors said they felt they no longer could function as a board and pointed to Mr. Pallister's decision to offer Mr. Riley a position on a different board.

"Despite repeated attempts we have not been able to have a meaningful dialogue with the government and we have reached an impasse," the directors said. "We have been informed the government intends to remove the chair and has therefore lost confidence in the board." Mr. Riley said board members felt they could no longer perform their duties given Mr. Pallister's refusal to meet with them even as the government issued new guidelines saying it would oversee negotiations with Indigenous communities.

At the same time, the board was unable to engage the Premier in any discussions about the financial options for dealing with a highly indebted

provincial **utility**, he said.

"Manitoba **Hydro** was mismanaged by previous governments and we called them out on it," said Mr. Riley, who is also chief executive officer at Winnipeg's Richardson Financial Group Ltd.

"If you find out there's a mess and are responsible for fixing it and don't, then you're equally responsible."

Mr. Pallister insisted Thursday that he refused to meet with Mr. Riley and the **Hydro** board because there was a **rate** hearing before the **Public Utilities** Board and he did not want to be seen as interfering with that process.

However, he added: "We've been communicating in numerous ways for a long time."

Mr. Riley said he was speaking out to defend the reputations of the other eight board members, all prominent members of Manitoba's establishment.

On Wednesday, Mr. Pallister said the board quit because the government had vetoed a \$67-million deal with the Metis federation, a payment he described as "persuasion money."

That characterization was "deeply offensive and wrong," Mr. Riley said Thursday.

The former board chair noted Manitoba **Hydro** routinely entered into financial claims agreements with Indigenous people whose traditional territories would be affected by the **utility's** dams and **transmission** projects.

The Metis agreement came after the Supreme Court of Canada ruled two years ago that Metis people must be accorded all the Indigenous rights that apply to First Nations and Inuit, giving them **greater** leverage over resource projects.

Under the 50-year agreement, the Metis Federation agreed not to oppose **Hydro's** planned new **transmission** line to Minnesota as well as several other proposed projects. In return, \$67-million would be deposited in a trust account to be paid out over the life of the agreement.

"This basically would bring peace in the valley for 50 years," Mr. Riley said.

Metis Federation president David Chartrand angrily accused the Premier on Wednesday of "playing the race card," and said the rejection of the agreement would result in costly project delays, litigation and damages.

Because it was such a sweeping deal, Mr. Riley said he submitted it last November to the government for feedback. Since then, the Premier has refused to meet him or talk about the agreement. Instead, the government issued a statement giving itself authority over all talks with Indigenous Manitobans.

"He's reeling things in but not exhibiting the kind of leadership that is required in this situation," Mr. Riley said. "You can't have **Hydro** negotiating in bad faith.

... How is this supposed to work?" Mr. Pallister acknowledged he received what he called a "proposal" regarding the Metis agreement last fall, but had serious reservations. He said he had officials **review** it and concluded this week the deal should not stand, and the government needed to exercise **greater** oversight over **Hydro's** dealings with Indigenous communities.

He said the Metis deal purported to bind future Metis generations not to oppose Manitoba **Hydro** projects. "I can't see our government, in all legitimacy, agreeing to an agreement that would take any rights of children yet unborn," the Premier said.

On the financial issue, the board had proposed to the government that it convert

\$2-billion of **Hydro** debt into equity in order to shore up its balance sheet. The **utility** expects to have a \$25-billion debt after two major projects are completed, and its equity-to-debt ratio would fall to 11 per cent, a level Mr. Riley called dangerous that could drive up its borrowing costs.

While Mr. Pallister rejected the equity injection, he provided no guidance as to how the **utility**'s financial problems should be addressed.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPremier Pallister says talking to Hydro board would have been inappropriate; gov't would not sign off on Hydro-MMF agreement - CBC Player

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.cbc.ca - Fri Mar 23 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPremier Brian Pallister says he'll replace the nine Manitoba Hydro board members who stepped down Wednesday amid complaints of a lack of communication with the provincial government — including with the premier himself — by noon Friday.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainGraydon Disappointed But Respects MB Hydro Board Resignations - PembinaValleyOnline.com

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.pembinavalleyonline.com - Thu Mar 22 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainProgressive Conservative MLA Cliff Graydon is speaking out following a string of resignations from Manitoba's Board of Directors Wednesday that left him the lone board member.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNetNewsLedger - MKO Grand Chief North Concerned Over Manitoba Hydro Board Resignations

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.netnewsledger.com - Thu Mar 22 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe First Nations within the Keewatinowi region are concerned that 9 out of 10 board members for Manitoba Hydro have quit in frustration caused by a lack of communication with the Pallister government.

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBRODBECK: Manitobans deserve answers on Hydro debacle | Winnipeg Sun

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwinnipegsun.com - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOf course, it should never have come to this. There should have been ongoing dialogue between government, including the premier's office, and Hydro to avoid this kind of corporate calamity.

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainLiberals burden our economic competitiveness

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFlamboyant Review - Thu Mar 15 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value: \$219

Reach: 13956 Page: 1

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFrom the recent threat of steel tariffs from the Trump administration to concerns over NAFTA, I am increasingly worried about Canada's global economic competitiveness. While trade issues are always challenging, the overall direction of the Trudeau government on economic issues is compounding the problem.

The United States recently passed massive corporate and personal tax cuts. Now, for the first time in 12 years, Canada's corporate tax **rates** are less competitive than our southern neighbour's. This means that investment will migrate toward the United States and away from Canada.

However, Canada's economic problem does not end with tax **rates**.

In mid-February, Federal Environment Minister Catherine McKenna announced that Canada had lost \$117 billion due to pipeline woes. **Canadian** oil is being sold at a \$25 per barrel discount because our only buyer is the United States. This discount on our oil means less tax revenue, fewer jobs, and a weaker Canada on the global stage. Revenues from our resource sector pay for schools, hospitals and better government services for all Canadians. The Trudeau Liberals have killed two pipelines (**Northern** Gateway and **Energy** East) and are letting the Kinder Morgan pipeline die a death by delay.

On top of it, a whole new layer of environmental assessment, known as the planning phase, is being proposed as part of new legislation brought in by the Liberals.

Under Bill C-69, the planning phase can last up to 180 days. An environment minister has the **power** to veto any project at the end of this phase without conducting a scientific assessment.

This new planning phase is particularly concerning because, under the proposed bill, an environmental advocacy group from Sweden has as much right to be heard as a **Canadian energy** industry advocacy group.

The Liberals are a tax and spend government that has linked these disastrous policies to additional regulatory burdens. For Canada to remain globally competitive we need lower taxes and streamlined regulation. The most

important driver of investment by employers is regulatory certainty. New legislation like C-69 erodes that certainty.

Everyone agrees: Canada's natural environment must be protected for future generations. But there is no need to end resource development to do so.

David Sweet is the member of Parliament for Flamborough-Glanbrook and National Conservative Caucus Chair.

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NORTHERN DAILY NEWS

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainSolar farm funds possibly used for reserve fund

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNorthern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Brad Sherratt

Ad Value: \$143

Reach: 5917 Page: A3

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTown council is looking at the possibility of using the funds generated from the new **solar** farm to create and maintain a reserve fund.

The revelation came out of a presentation from the Kirkland Lake Taxpayers Association during Tuesday's meeting.

In his presentation KLTPA spokesman Patrick Adams stated "establishing and maintaining a reserve fund is imperative to long term planning." He added the association recommends a 0.5 to 1 per cent of the tax levy be dedicated to a reserve fund.

After Adam's presentation Councilor Pat Kiely, who also serves as Finance Chair said "I have been harping on this and other councilors (have) as well. One of the suggestions we had, rather than going a half a per cent or one per cent on the levy was to take the revenues from the **solar** farm and use that solely (to) set it aside in a reserve fund. That way the taxpayer isn't going to have to pay extra."

Mayor Tony Antoniazzi added "there is certainly some interest in directing the revenue from the **solar** (farm). And the revenue is not just for us. This is revenue that would be directed for the next 18 years. We are also looking at not only directing some of it into capital reserves but also looking at a percentage of that into reserves so we can tackle of the accessibility situations that our assets are presenting to us.

"We are certainly anxious to get an accessible washroom at the town hall. We are heading towards these things."

Last year Engergie Kapuskaing **Energy** estimated the 20-year net income projection for Kirkland Lake would just over \$3.4 million.

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Northern Daily News

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCouncil agrees to relocate solar farm

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNorthern Daily News (Kirkland Lake) - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Brad Sherratt

Ad Value: \$403

Reach: 5917 Page: A1 / Front

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainMunicipal Council has agreed to slight relocation change for Kirkland Lake's future **solar** farm.

In a report to Council, new interim CAO Wilf Hass stated "The original proposal for a **solar** farm in Kirkland Lake identified three locations.

"In summer 2015, the town of Kirkland Lake received notification of potential high mineral deposits in two of the proposed project locations. Staff subsequently recommended moving the projects located on the south side of Archer Drive to the **north** side to keep the south side unencumbered to facilitate future mining development. This was approved by Council in August 2015.

"In 2016, the technology partners did an extensive **review** of the proposed sites. The proposed site for KL2 was found to be extremely challenging. Issues include: topography (needs have changed with the introduction of the newer, more productive, **solar** arrays); easements on site; and the dog park (built in 2015) Hass' report goes on to say these issues, along with a request to move the project to the south side of Archer Drive, were apparently discussed with the former Director however were never communicated to Council. Kap **Energy** assumed the issue had been dealt with and proceeded with the **plan** to move forward with KL2 on the south side of Archer Drive including environmental assessment, **review** of endangered species, **hydro** extension, construction plans, lot layout, etc.

"During the Open House in February, 2018, Kapuskasing **Energy** made the Director of Economic Development aware of the situation. As Council had just debated the **solar** project with KL2 located on the **north** side, the Director advised that he was not prepared to revisit the situation. On March 14th, Kap **Energy** and Sentinel **Solar** again raised the issue.

"They had done an additional site survey and the problems with the **north** side were reaffirmed. They placed specific emphasis on the additional construction time and costs that would be incurred by developing the **north** side, and the disruption this would cause to the **public** enjoying the dog park during construction and potentially after during production. It was also pointed out that the south side would facilitate easier connection to the **hydro** network and would be brought into production faster and at less cost due to access and topography.

"This is an important consideration," Hass said, "in light of the fact that the project is behind schedule and at risk of losing revenue potential from any continued delays.

"As regards potential mining development on the south side of Archer Drive: As noted, KL2 was moved originally from the south to the **north** side of the Drive to facilitate possible future mining development by **Canadian** Malartic. Since then, the company has given no indication of acting in the area."

Hass added a legal opinion obtained by the town in relation to the development by Dancor Construction made it clear that no mining or exploration plans had been filed for that area. The town was advised that the municipality had the right, as the surface rights owner, to proceed with surface development. "The onus was on the mining rights holder to accommodate such development and/or

offer compensation for any interruption of the surface rights holder's activity. This being said, we would certainly advise **Canadian** Malartic of the relocation, should Council approve it."

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainEarth Hour celebration tomorrow night at Charles Clark Square

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainShoreline Week (Tecumseh) - Fri Mar 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$437

Reach: 17100 Page: A5

Once a year, normally on the last Saturday in March, millions of people around planet Earth join together for an hour to celebrate our individual and collective **power** to protect the world in which we live.

This year, the **public** is invited to gather for an event hosted by the City of Windsor, presented by Caesars Windsor Cares Code Green and **Enwin Utilities**, and sponsored by AM800.

"Earth Hour: Live and Unplugged" will be an evening of celebration, featuring music and dancing, cardio fitness, science and **energy** on Saturday, March 24 beginning at 8 p.m. at Charles Clark Square in downtown Windsor.

Join in the Earth Hour pledge, and create unique Earth Hour art, or be one of 400 guests to take home a gift of light and empowerment.

At 8:30 p.m., all non-essential lighting will be turned off and **power** consumption will be reduced until Earth Hour ends at 9:30 p.m.

The local celebration will include: Dancing to the music of Stiletto Fire acoustic duo Pound Cardio Jam Session with SueSanity Fitness Mad Science Experiment Taking the Earth Hour pledge Generating **electricity** with a kinetic bicycle Interactive art demonstrations courtesy of the University of Windsor School of Arts An **electric** vehicle, courtesy of the Windsor **Essex Electric** Vehicles Association Shaking hands with SpiderMan Something sweet to eat available at The Hub Learn more about cycling with the City Cyclery The City of Windsor has celebrated Earth Hour since 2009, turning off all non-essential city lights to highlight to its commitment to working together as a community, to conserve all our precious commodities and natural resources and ensure the future of our community and our planet.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainaxed Energy East to fill Keystone XL, Trudeau says | Pipelines & Transportation | JWN Energy

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.jwnenergy.com - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a lack of demand to ship oil on Keystone XL contributed to TransCanada Corp.'s decision to abandon another major crude pipeline.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain3 BIG reasons Western Canadian pipelines are doomed - The Rebel

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.therebel.media - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainhe Northern Gateway pipeline from Bruderheim, Alberta to the west coast of BC is dead, murdered by Trudeau even after it was approved by the NEB.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTrudeau touts Canada Workers Benefit and budget during New Brunswick visit | National Post

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainnationalpost.com - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPrime Minister Justin Trudeau stopped in rural New Brunswick Thursday to promote his government's new Canadian Workers Benefit announced in the recent budget, but a former MP for the area says Ottawa needs to do more to help people actually get jobs.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTransCanada Axed Energy East to Fill Keystone XL, Trudeau Says - Bloomberg

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.bloomberg.com - Thu Mar 22 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCanadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a lack of demand to ship oil on Keyxtone XL contributed to TransCanada Corp.'s decision to abandon another major crude pipeline.

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