

Infomart Newsletters

From: Infomart Newsletters
Sent: April 24, 2018 8:03 AM
To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Tuesday, April 24, 2018

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Tuesday, April 24, 2018
 Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 26 Results

 Shoreline Beacon

EPCOR selected as natural gas provider for A-E, Kincardine and Huron-Kinloss

Shoreline Beacon - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Don Crosby

Ad Value: \$308

Reach: 3769 Page: A19

The **Ontario Energy Board** has chosen **EPCOR Utilities** to bring **natural gas** services to Kincardine, **Huron**-Kinloss and Arran-Elderslie. Municipality of Kincardine ...

 Kincardine News

EPCOR ready for more as the applications continue for natural gas in South Bruce

Kincardine News - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Ryan Berry

Ad Value: \$651

Page: A1 / Front

Further applications will be necessary now that **EPCOR Utilities** was recently chosen by the **Ontario Energy Board** to bring **natural gas** services to the South Bruce area. ...



PDI sale talks with Hydro One are back on; \$105M remains as negotiating price as Hydro One talks with city resume

Peterborough Examiner - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Joelle Kovach Examiner Staff Writer

Ad Value: \$765

Reach: 19693 Page: A1

Peterborough Distribution Inc. (PDI) could potentially be sold to **Hydro One** soon after all, says the city CAO - talks are back on between the two sides. Allan Seabrooke says that after **Hydro** ...



Peterborough, PDI and Hydro One to resume negotiations for electricity deal - Peterborough | Globalnews.ca

globalnews.ca - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

It was somewhat of a shocking announcement given the way things had fallen apart. After walking away from the negotiation table, representatives with Hydro One have resumed talks with city staff and the board from Peterborough Utilities Inc. to ...



What's next for your hydro distribution ? Maybe pooling it with your neighbours

Peterborough This Week - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$60

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

With the PDI deal back at **Peterborough** city council, the **distribution** of **electricity** in **Ontario** is back up for debate just in time for the provincial election campaign's ramp-up. The ...



City appealing decision on Orillia Power Distribution sale

Orillia Today - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$731

Reach: 22244 Page: 1

The city will appeal a decision by the **Ontario Energy Board** rejecting the sale of **Orillia Power Distribution** to **Hydro One**. Mayor Steve Clarke confirmed to ...



Orillia - Hydro One Deal Dominates Orillia City Council Meeting - Sunshine 89

www.sunshine89.ca - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Tuesday, April 24, 2018
OEB is mentioned.

The talk of the Orillia Council meeting was something that was not on the agenda.



Don't let hydro bills pile up, utility warns

Sudbury Star - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value:\$836

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

The winter **hydro** disconnection ban will end May 1 and **Greater Sudbury Hydro** urges customers who are behind on paying their **electricity** bills to be proactive. "We are concerned some customers ...



wynne and Ford leave Ontario's outlook bleak

Woodstock Sentinel-Review - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Jim Merriam

Ad Value:\$408

Reach: 7920 Page: A4

The **Ontario** election campaign hasn't officially begun, but we have a clear symbol of the divide between the two traditional leading parties. The symbol is **Hydro One** chief executive Mayo Schmidt, nicknamed the ...



Ontario being pumped dry: Ford; PC leader vows end to cap-and-trade if elected

Ottawa Sun - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Antonella Artuso

Ad Value:\$1,094

Reach: 45442 Page: A8

Ontario PC Leader Doug Ford says he'll pump more money into people's pockets by cancelling the provincial **cap-and-trade** program that adds 4.3 cents to each litre of **gasoline**. "Perhaps the ...



Ford may not have all the facts, but he understands alienation; PC leader knows voters are angry, and they don't care much about details

The Hamilton Spectator - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Jaime Watt

Ad Value:\$3,903

Reach: 103267 Page: A11

Last week, **Ontario** PC leader Doug Ford made an announcement that sent a shock wave through the canyons of **Bay** Street. His first act, should he be elected premier, said Ford, would be to fire Mayo Schmidt, the president and CEO ...



UPDATED: Doug Ford will be in Caledon Monday (April 23)

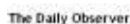
Caledon Enterprise - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value:\$224

Reach: 15763 Page: 1

Ontario Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford was in Caledon today (April 23) where he announced his plans to scrap the **cap and trade** fund and fight Justin Trudeau's **plan** to impose a ...



Hydro One's six million dollar man

Daily Observer (Pembroke) - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Doug Ford

Ad Value: \$342

Reach: 6045 **Page:** A5

While you have been holding campaign style media availabilities on the taxpayer dime, I have been criss-crossing the province and meeting directly with the people. I sit down with young families, small-business owners, and seniors, and I ask them, ...



How windmills as wide as jumbo jets are making clean energy mainstream

Owen Sound Sun Times - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Stanley Reed

Ad Value: \$775

Reach: 13178 **Page:** A5

At the **northern** end of Denmark's Jutland **peninsula**, the **wind** blows so hard that rows of trees grow in one direction, like gnarled flags. The relentless weather over this long strip of farmland, bogs and mud flats - ...



Turbine opponents appeal to province; Group wants provincial government to enforce condition that protected endangered turtle

Kingston Whig-Standard - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Elliot Ferguson

Ad Value: \$829

Reach: 21850 **Page:** A2

Opponents of a **wind energy** project on Amherst Island are appealing to the provincial government to enforce a condition designed to protect an endangered turtle population. In a letter to **Ontario** Environment and ...



Fact on climate change presented

The Belleville Intelligencer - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Carole Lavallee

Ad Value: \$289

Reach: 9723 **Page:** B2

(Re. **Climate change** should be on voters' minds, April 4 edition) This daily newspaper has been doing its job of informing citizens about **climate change** and what various political parties are doing about ...



Solving Climate Change: A Blueprint | TVO.org

tvo.org - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

Most people agree that climate change is a problem. But what can be done?



Bruce Power awards \$914 million in manufacturing contracts for Major Component Replacement Project

www.newswire.ca - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Today, Bruce Power signed \$914 million in advanced manufacturing contracts for its Major Component Replacement, which gets underway in 2020 and will allow the site to provide low-cost, carbon-free electricity to Ontario through 2064.



Ottawa should stop funding anti-oil research

Ottawa Sun - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**
Byline: Colin Craig

Ad Value: \$1,032
Reach: 45442 Page: A13

Just when you thought Canada's nonsensical world of oil and **gas** policy couldn't get any worse, consider this little nugget of lunacy. The federal government is actually funding anti-oil research activists. Yes, your tax dollars at work. ...



Pipeline Politics

CTV NEWS CHANNEL - POWER PLAY WITH DON MARTIN - Tue Apr 17 2018, 5:00pm ET

Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: DON MARTIN

DON MARTIN: Welcome to **Power** Play on a day when the great **Canadian** family feud expanded to Saskatchewan, which pledged its own **plan** to block oil and **gas** exports to British Columbia. All this in retaliation ...



Trudeau Liberals say 'no' to Canadian oil and gas independence | Calgary Herald

calgaryherald.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Paul Crawford noted on Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Energy East is mentioned.

With the Kinder Morgan pipeline hanging by a thread, the federal Liberals had a chance on the weekend to express support for Alberta and the national economy. They didn't.



CRAIG: Ottawa should stop funding anti-oil research | Toronto Sun

torontosun.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

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ust when you thought Canada's nonsensical world of oil and gas policy couldn't get any worse, consider this little nugget of lunacy. The federal government is actually funding anti-oil research activists. Yes, your tax dollars at work.



GUNTER: Trudeau should be blamed for a CP Rail strike | Edmonton Sun

edmontonsun.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Paul Crawford noted on Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Energy East is mentioned.

The Teamsters union must be loving the B.C. government and the protestors blocking Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline.



Support for Trans Mountain pipeline project grows - Resources & Agriculture | Business in Vancouver

biv.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Paul Crawford noted on Tuesday, April 24, 2018
Energy East is mentioned.

Ottawa's offer to financially backstop the \$7.4 billion Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project may not be enough to prevent Kinder Morgan Canada (TSX:KML) from pulling the plug on the project, and even if it were, the message it would send to ...



Hydro One explains calls to farmers | Farms.com

www.farms.com - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Contacting customers to discuss their hydro use is a normal part of annual operations, according to a Hydro One representative.



Hydro One tells farmers to lower usage | Farms.com

www.farms.com - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Ontario producers are receiving phone calls to lower the amount of electricity they're using or face stiff rate increases.

Clippings Summary

Full Articles



EPCOR selected as natural gas provider for A-E, Kincardine and Huron-Kinloss

Shoreline Beacon - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Positive**
Byline: Don Crosby

Ad Value: \$308
Reach: 3769 Page: A19

The **Ontario Energy Board** has chosen **EPCOR Utilities** to bring **natural gas** services to Kincardine, **Huron**-Kinloss and Arran-Elderslie.

Municipality of Kincardine mayor Anne Eadie welcomed the announcement, saying residents and businesses in the three municipalities have been advocating for **natural gas service** for several years.

"We congratulate **EPCOR** and trust that they will file their leave to construct **application** as soon as possible," she said.

Arran-Elderslie mayor Paul Eagleson said he is relieved that the **OEB** has made a decision.

"It was over 3.5 years that the three mayors went to the **OEB** hearings. It's been a long process for them to get to this decision," said Eagleson.

"I am very pleased that a decision has been made and the fact that **EPCOR** is the company that's been chosen, that's fine. It didn't matter to me which company. I just wanted one of them to get picked and get on with it," he said.

Eagleson said he looks forward to open houses and to working with **EPCOR**.

"Yes it's here, **natural gas** is on the way," Eagleson said.

The Edmonton-based company has been working since 2015 to bring **natural gas service** to Kincardine, Arran-Elderslie and **Huron-Kinloss**.

In September 2015 **EPCOR** signed a tentative franchise agreement with the three municipalities. **EPCOR** had asked the **OEB** to approve the agreement.

In 2016, the three municipalities selected **EPCOR** as the preferred provider through a competitive process.

"We are pleased with this announcement and have worked hard with the municipalities of Arran-Elderslie, Kincardine and **Huron-Kinloss** in recent years to bring **natural gas** to Southern Bruce," **EPCOR** president and CEO Stuart Lee said in a media release Friday.

"We are proud to be part of the Southern Bruce **regional** community and look forward to being a contributing citizen," he said.

According to a statement released by the three municipalities, **EPCOR** promised a lower total 10-year revenue requirement than **Union Gas**, and that was an important part of the decision.

The next step is for **EPCOR** to apply to the **OEB** for leave to construct later this year. It will include the **rates** the company is proposing to charge customers for **natural gas**, the route for the pipeline and environmental assessment for the work which **EPCOR** began last summer.

Public information sessions will begin soon and will continue over the construction period.

EPCOR expects construction to begin next spring, with first customers connecting late in the year, and all customers within the **service** area having access to **natural gas** by 2021.

Infrastructure **Ontario** earlier this month announced that up to \$27.7 million has been approved for a **natural gas** pipeline to connect homes and businesses in Arran-Elderslie, Kincardine and **Huron-Kinloss**. That is expected to save up to \$20 million a year in **energy** costs across the region for local home owners and businesses.

EPCOR spokesperson Tim le Riche said it remains to be seen whether that added cash will lower the cost of the estimated \$80 million to \$100 million project or go toward lowering costs for new **natural gas** customers.

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EPCOR ready for more as the applications continue for natural gas in South Bruce

Kincardine News - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Ryan Berry

Ad Value: \$651

Page: A1 / Front

Further applications will be necessary now that **EPCOR Utilities** was recently chosen by the **Ontario Energy Board** to bring **natural gas** services to the South Bruce area. Communities such as Kincardine, **Huron**-Kinloss and Arran-Elderslie will be the first to benefit from the over 25 million dollars allocated from the 100 million dollars of government funding set aside.

"It will be necessary to begin applications for licensing, then construction costs can be approved, then **rates** can be approved by the board," said Gordon Kaiser former Vice Chair of the **Ontario Energy Board** and consultant to **EPCOR**.

An extensive environmental assessment and environmental report will be a top priority in the continued **application** process. The recent news comes as an important step for the province of **Ontario** and this South Bruce **application** is the first to be approved.

"It's a major step forward for **natural gas** in **Ontario**," added Kaiser.

The group was introduced to guests by Mayor Anne Eadie at the news conference held at the Kincardine Davidson **Centre** on Tuesday April 17, 2018. Sitting in on the discussion was Thomas Stachowski who represented the **Customer** are department for South Bruce and the **natural gas** project for **EPCOR**. The Vice President of Business Development for **EPCOR** Karim Kassam spoke in **greater** detail about what next steps are for the **natural gas** company and later welcomed a question and answer period. Mitch Twolan Mayor of **Huron**-Kinloss and Paul Eagleson Mayor of Arran-Elderslie were also present at the news conference that day. Some of the questions from the **public** came in the form of industry questions concerning jobs in the local area and it was explained that the **natural gas** project would do nothing but good things all around.

"**Natural gas** lowers the cost of heating significantly, we're seeing this in Kincardine, and we just came from Ripley, and marijuana plants are coming here," Kaiser said.

A marijuana production plant called 7 Acres is a new industry addition to Bruce County area and has already been offering employment for quite some time and some say more importantly to locals.

"They have to have **natural gas** to operate, so it brings industry, each of these marijuana plants needs at least 100 people to operate, so it is a major driver of industry," Kaiser commented.

Since more of an **application** process will now be underway the message was clear that this **natural gas** project is here to stay after a long journey since 2015. Expansion plans are on the minds of the **EPCOR** group and hope to be providing **service** to their first **customer** in the late fall of 2019. The Bruce **Energy Centre** located in Tiverton is a target first, then **EPCOR** will set their sights on providing **natural gas** to Kincardine, Point Clark, Ripley and Lucknow.

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PDI sale talks with Hydro One are back on; \$105M remains as negotiating price as Hydro One talks with city resume

Peterborough Examiner - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Joelle Kovach Examiner Staff Writer

Ad Value: \$765

Reach: 19693 Page: A1

Peterborough Distribution Inc. (PDI) could potentially be sold to **Hydro** One soon after all, says the city CAO - talks are back on between the two sides.

Allan Seabrooke says that after **Hydro** One walked away from talks to buy PDI on March 10, there were "additional conversations" between the two sides and now the negotiations are resuming.

"They've decided to now re-engage," Seabrooke said in an interview following the special general committee meeting on Monday evening at City Hall. "So we'll re-engage negotiations to complete the transaction."

Hydro One first approached the city to buy PDI in 2014. In 2016, city council voted to sell PDI for \$105 million. That was meant to include all the trucks, transformers, poles and **wires** used to deliver **electricity** to **Peterborough**, Lakefield and Norwood.

Yet the city would not have received \$105 million in the sale: Once PDI's debts would be paid, as well as the taxes on the sale, the city would net somewhere between \$50 million and \$55 million.

Seabrooke said after talks broke off in March that **Hydro** One never wavered on the offer of \$105 million. On Monday, he said that's still the price under negotiation.

"We're picking up where we left off," he said.

But at the special committee meeting on Monday, councillors discussed a report written by Seabrooke and released on March 22 that states **Hydro** One had walked away from negotiations.

The report also stated that nearly two years of negotiations had cost the city roughly \$1.1 million (although it didn't break down those costs).

At the beginning of the meeting on Monday, Mayor Daryl Bennett said the reasons for **Hydro** One walking away from negotiations in March wouldn't be discussed since they're now prepared to re-engage with the city.

Yet no councillors asked any questions about that or mentioned anything about negotiations being back on again.

Instead, Coun. Dean Pappas asked city staff whether the city had any legal recourse for recovering the \$1.1 million already spent in nearly two years of talks.

He moved that councillors meet soon with the lawyer who was helping with the negotiations to talk about that; councillors agreed to it.

Coun. Diane Therrien asked that John Stephenson, president and CEO of **Peterborough Utilities** Group, be invited to a forthcoming council meeting to discuss speak; councillors agreed to that, too.

When council voted to sell PDI, it was against widespread **public** disapproval: An Environics poll conducted about a month prior to the council vote, commissioned by CUPE **Ontario**, found that 90 per cent of respondents didn't want the **utility** sold.

A grassroots campaign followed, called Save PDI. It was made up of citizens who wanted to keep the **utility** in **public** hands.

Activist Roy Brady, a member of Save PDI, was present at the meeting on Monday evening. He said in an interview that he wasn't particularly surprised that the negotiations are back on.

"There's still a lack of trust, in this community, regarding this sale," he said, adding that he didn't entirely believe it in March when the sale had apparently collapsed.

"As Yogi Berra said, It ain't over 'Ttil it's over."

joelle.kovach

@peterboroughdaily.com

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Peterborough, PDI and Hydro One to resume negotiations for electricity deal - Peterborough | Globalnews.ca

globalnews.ca - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

It was somewhat of a shocking announcement given the way things had fallen apart.

After walking away from the negotiation table, representatives with Hydro One have resumed talks with city staff and the board from Peterborough Utilities Inc. to purchase the city's public utility distribution company.

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What's next for your hydro distribution ? Maybe pooling it with your neighbours

Peterborough This Week - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$60

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

With the PDI deal back at **Peterborough** city council, the **distribution** of **electricity** in **Ontario** is back up for debate just in time for the provincial election campaign's ramp-up.

The **Electricity** Distributors Association (EDA) of **Ontario** is counting on this interest to talk about how you get your **power**.

The organization represents 60 **utilities** in the province, excluding **Hydro** One and **Toronto Hydro**. That means every municipality and First Nation that moves its **power** from where it is sourced to their customers.

For generations, that has meant sending **electricity** along **power** lines and losing three to five per cent of it along the way. However, things are changing, says EDA's CEO Teresa Sarkesian, as people are trying to take **power** into their own hands, in two different ways.

For one, there has been a huge outcry to keep entities like **Peterborough Distribution** Inc. publicly owned. As the Province sold off part of **Hydro** One, taxpayers pushed back to seek answers about the financial implications of the deal and what it means long term in terms having control of such a large asset.

The same debate played out in **Peterborough**, where **public** meetings were filled with advocates for **public power**.

"We want to make sure policy is **customer**-first," Sarkesian says, respecting the community's decision regarding its own **utilities**. "People want control of the system."

"Whether there is an election or not, we are lobbying for awareness of the '**power** of local **hydro**' campaign," Sarkesian says. "We're agnostic on ownership issues," she says, as long as the owner represents the **public's** interests.

The second move is based on Ontarians who have been creating their own **electricity**, via **wind** or **solar**, sharing it with their neighbours, rather than push it into the overall grid. With more efficient technology for **power** storage, you can bank your megawatts and use them when needed.

"The old days of big centralization are changing dramatically," Sarkesian says.

"People want to take ownership... This puts the **customer** in the driver's seat and allows us to defer capital investments. The future is very promising."

Some people have begun this process, but it remains expensive, she adds. However, within five years "that will be much more real," Sarkesian says.

Pilot tests on net metering of **energy** are connecting 100 people in groups, as **energy** producers share each other's stored **power**. This ties in with the **greater** use of **electrical** vehicles that you can charge at home.

"Things are evolving fast," she says.

Micro grids to supply **power** to facilities - such as adjacent hospitals, arenas and schools - are another trend that Sarkesian salutes.

Every **electrical** distributor is challenged by aging **wires** and systems - one of the reasons that PDI's sale resonated with its board. Handing over the expensive task of upgrading systems to **Hydro** One was one of the selling points for the sale proposed in 2016 and scuttled in 2018.

While the **Ontario** government committed millions of dollars earlier this century to fix bridges, roads, hospitals and schools, **utilities** were left on their own, Sarkesian says. Having smaller groups delivering **power** close to each other takes some pressure off the urgency to upgrade the old system, allowing for a more sophisticated, less centralized and more digitized one, she adds.

While there is talk of defecting from the grid, many households still want to get their **power** from a trusted source, Sarkesian says.

"It's a bigger opportunity to inform customers about alternatives," she says.

The EDA and its members are doing pilot projects on changing **rates** and hours, and connecting people with funding for **smart grid** incentive programs.

Although commodity prices can make your **hydro** bill fluctuate, the **distribution** part of the bill is usually between 20 and 23 per cent of your bill, Sarkesian says. Those **rates** are set by the **Ontario Energy Board**, not the distributors.

The EDA set up a **customer** panel last year and welcomes new input for its surveys. To find out more, go to poweroflocalhydro.ca.

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City appealing decision on Orillia Power Distribution sale

Orillia Today - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$731

Reach: 22244 Page: 1

The city will appeal a decision by the **Ontario Energy Board** rejecting the sale of **Orillia Power Distribution** to **Hydro** One.

Mayor Steve Clarke confirmed to Simcoe.com that council was pursuing an appeal, moments after hearing presentations from residents who both opposed and supported the proposal.

"In September 2016, council approved the agreement (to sell) and that started a process, and that process is not over and we are committed to following that through," Clarke said. "An appeal is part of that process."

The **Ontario Energy Board** in an April 12 decision ruled against the sale of the local **distribution** company, stating its 'no-harm' test had not been met.

News of a possible appeal by the city generated a backlash online and plans for a rally at this week's council meeting.

Of the eight people who addressed council following the regular meeting Monday night, six voiced opposition to the proposed sale.

Dael Morris, who organized a petition against the deal, said the matter should have been decided by referendum.

"With all due respect, our **electrical utility** is not yours to sell," she added.

Frank Kehoe, a vocal opponent of the **plan** who made his concerns heard to the **energy** board, urged council to "open up a freedom of information" on the file.

"Transparency is of total importance," he added.

Tay Township resident Janel Perron spoke against the proposal while representing an anti-privatization campaign run by the **Ontario Public Service** Employees Union.

"The people of this town and this city paid for that asset and you were not elected ... to mess with that," Perron said.

Resident Cliff Whitfield supports the **distribution** company's sale to **Hydro** One.

"I do believe that the decision you are making is in the interest of all of **Orillia**," Whitfield said, adding he was "chagrined to hear people criticizing the dedication and the commitment and the time that you're putting in to try to do the right thing for **Orillia**."

Gary White attended the meeting to support an appeal of the **energy** board decision, but after listening to other presenters said a referendum was in order, given the "division" over the issue.

To date, the city's legal expenses associated with the proposed sale have amounted to roughly \$1 million.

Clarke has argued the expense associated with an appeal would be "minuscule" when compared with the benefits to the community, including jobs generated by a promised **Hydro** One technology hub that is contingent on the **distribution** company's sale.

He also warned that **distribution rates** - which under **Hydro** One would be reduced by one per cent for the first five years and pegged to inflation for another

five years - would rise if the local **utility** were to continue ownership due to needed investments in aging infrastructure.

The city will hold a **public** meeting in May to detail the proposed deal, with Clarke adding that more information would become available once the appeal is filed.

The city must file the appeal within 28 days of receiving the **energy** board's April 12 ruling.

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Orillia - Hydro One Deal Dominates Orillia City Council Meeting - Sunshine 89

www.sunshine89.ca - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

The talk of the Orillia Council meeting was something that was not on the agenda.

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Don't let hydro bills pile up, utility warns

Sudbury Star - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value: \$836

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

The winter **hydro** disconnection ban will end May 1 and **Greater Sudbury Hydro** urges customers who are behind on paying their **electricity** bills to be proactive.

"We are concerned some customers may have viewed the winter disconnection ban period as a 'break' from paying their **hydro** bill," Wendy Watson, director of communications for **Greater Sudbury Hydro**, said in a release. "They might have allowed their balances to creep up over the winter and when the ban ends, may find themselves in really difficult circumstances.

"We urge customers to be proactive and to contact us before they receive a disconnection notice. Call us now and ask what your options might be."

Watson said customers should also make sure the **utility** has upto-date contact information on file.

"We need to make a reasonable effort to contact customers 48 hours before a disconnection, and while we do our best, if we can't reach you because your contact info is not current, the disconnection will still proceed," she noted. "Make sure we have the right info."

Watson said the **utility** routinely works with customers whose accounts are past due to arrange **Ontario Energy** Board-prescribed payment plans.

"We are in the **distribution** business, not the disconnection business," she said. "We work very hard to avoid **disconnections**. It's the absolute last resort. But if customers fail to pay outstanding debts, it's the only leverage we have. We'd much rather work with customers before it gets to that point."

Providing Ontarians with a safe and reliable supply of **electricity** is the number one priority for local **utilities**, but effectively delivering on that promise depends on predictable **customer** payments. Local **utilities** like **Greater Sudbury Hydro** collect not only for the **electricity distribution service** they provide, they also collect for other parts of the provincial system, such as **transmission**, regulatory fees, the actual **electricity** commodity and **HST**.

Those costs, regardless of whether customers pay their bills, must still be paid. **Greater Sudbury Hydro** only keeps about 16 per cent of the bill to maintain equipment and distribute **electricity** to its **service** area.

Letting debt accumulate affects all customers - not just those behind on their bills. It can lead to higher bills for everyone or delayed system upgrades that potentially impact quality of **service**. The **Electricity** Distributors Association recently released these tips for those who struggle to catch up on their bill payments: Remember the official notice you may receive is sent to encourage you to take action or call the **utility** for help when a payment is overdue.

Local **utilities** must provide at least 10 days' notice before disconnecting a **customer's service**. If the **customer** does not take action, the **utility** is required to reach out again at least 48 hours before disconnection to give the **customer** one more chance to respond.

Avoid accumulating debt, preserve your credit rating and your peace of mind by calling your local **utility** to work on a payment **plan** that works within your budget and helps you stay on top of your bill.

Know your options. Custom payment arrangements, equal billing plans and conservation programs are just some of the ways local **utilities** can help you.

Your local **utility** can also refer you to assistance programs that you may qualify for, such as the **Ontario Electricity** Support Program and the Low-Income **Energy** Assistance Program. Ask about these programs.

Know your rights and responsibilities. Read the **Ontario Energy Board's customer service rules** (at oeb.ca) for more details on the payment and disconnection process.

"We really do want to help people avoid disconnection," Watson concluded. "If you're having trouble keeping up, call us before you get that final notice." sud.editorial@sunmedia.ca Twitter: [@SudburyStar](https://twitter.com/SudburyStar)

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wynne and Ford leave Ontario's outlook bleak

Woodstock Sentinel-Review - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: Negative

Byline: Jim Merriam

Ad Value: \$408

Reach: 7920 **Page:** A4

The **Ontario** election campaign hasn't officially begun, but we have a clear symbol of the divide between the two traditional leading parties.

The symbol is **Hydro** One chief executive Mayo Schmidt, nicknamed the \$6-million man by PC leader Doug Ford.

The handle is based on Schmidt's annual salary and bonuses that total \$6.2 million. That is double his next highest-paid provincial counterpart, and 10 times that of some CEOs in smaller provinces.

As if that weren't shameful enough, the **Hydro** One board has increased any severance package.

These changes mean Schmidt would be eligible for a platinum handshake of \$10.7 million if he were terminated after a change of control of the company. The poor man would get only \$5.04 million if he were terminated under other circumstances, without a change of control.

Ford has promised to fire Schmidt and the entire board if he wins the election. That won't be easy since the Wynne Liberals sold off a majority share of the **utility**, so the province does not have control.

Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** said Ford's **plan** will do nothing to help keep **electricity rates** low.

Schmidt's \$6 million is a drop in the bucket of the **utility's** total annual compensation budget of more than \$400 million.

But the salary issue is more about optics than it is about saving the cash.

Ford's message is he'll be all over the financial excesses that have been a hallmark of this government.

An article in the National post last week nailed another issue in the election. The headline read: "**Ontario** premier predicts 'vicious' election campaign, then gets vicious." In the article, written by Kelly McParland, Wynne made it clear, as have others in her cabinet, that they're going to smear Ford as Donald Trump light, in an attempt to send him back to **Toronto** with his tail between his legs. Wynne said her attack was to alert voters that the race was bound to be nasty. "It's crystal clear that this is going to be a vicious campaign," Wynne said.

As McParland pointed out, "to let people know things might get ugly, she got ugly." I carry no brief for Doug Ford. In fact, he worries me.

But based on her record as an uninspired leader and incompetent manager, **Ontario** cannot afford to re-elect Kathleen Wynne.

One poll last week showed the NDP might actually finish second and the Liberals third, so low it would not retain official party status.

That NDP strength comes in part from worries about Ford and the low opinion **Ontario** voters hold for Wynne.

Andrea Horwath's actions in recent years have shown little of the promise of her early days as NDP leader, but she still might rise to the occasion.

The Trillium and Green parties have no chance of electing enough MPPs to form a government.

So, if we're stuck with Ford, we'll have to find a way to make the best of it.

The Liberals could use the next four years to lick their wounds, find a leader who actually cares about people and the entire province including rural **Ontario**, and come roaring back to save us from too much Ford damage.

It's a bleak outlook, but one to which we have no alternatives.

jimmerriam@hotmail.com

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Ontario being pumped dry: Ford; PC leader vows end to cap-and-trade if elected

Ottawa Sun - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Antonella Artuso

Ad Value: \$1,094

Reach: 45442 Page: A8

Ontario PC Leader Doug Ford says he'll pump more money into people's

pockets by cancelling the provincial **cap-and-trade** program that adds 4.3 cents to each litre of **gasoline**.

"Perhaps the biggest rip-off of all, the biggest rip-off I've ever seen in taxes ... that's the carbon tax," Ford said Monday.

Environment and **Climate** Change Minister Chris Ballard predicted such a move would actually drive up **gasoline** costs.

"What's going to happen will be the fall back to the federal carbon tax that's been shown to cost more at the pumps," Ballard said. "Our **cap-and-trade** system that we've had in place for the past year is the best way to drive down emissions at the least cost price to **Ontario public** and business."

The federal government has mandated that provinces adopt some form of carbon pricing such as **cap-and-trade** or **Ottawa** has threatened to implement one on their behalf.

Ford said he would fight Prime Minister Justin Trudeau all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary to keep carbon taxes out of **Ontario**.

"Here at the pump, on your home heating bills, Kathleen Wynne calls it **cap-and-trade**, Justin Trudeau calls it the carbon tax," Ford said. "B.C. was the first province to impose this tax and what happened there ... **gas** prices jumped up (to) \$1.50.

"Kathleen Wynne will have (her) hand in your pocket every time you fill up at the pump," he added.

Ballard said **Ontario** has received **independent** legal advice that \$2.4 billion in cap-and-trade allowances would have to be returned to the industries that bought them if the program were scrapped.

"So it's going to be very expensive for **Ontario**," he said.
aartuso@postmedia.com

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Ford may not have all the facts, but he understands alienation; PC leader knows voters are angry, and they don't care much about details

The Hamilton Spectator - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Jaime Watt

Ad Value: \$3,903

Reach: 103267 **Page:** A11

Last week, **Ontario** PC leader Doug Ford made an announcement that sent a shock wave through the canyons of **Bay** Street. His first act, should he be elected premier, said Ford, would be to fire Mayo Schmidt, the president and CEO of **Hydro** One, and the company's entire board of directors.

Ford's language was stark. "If they don't (resign) ... let me tell you something. When I'm premier, you'd better believe I'm kicking each and every one of them out the door and taking their hands out of the pockets of hardworking taxpayers."

Rarely is such blunt and aggressive language used in **Ontario public** life. Predictably, the announcement was met with recrimination. Sceptics, business leaders and pundits alike quickly noted that the premier would have no such authority to deliver on his promise upon reaching **power**.

Hydro One itself immediately released a statement defending its compensation

structure. The organization forcefully argued that its pay policies were in line with competitors and cost **ratepayers** mere cents on the dollar. **Hydro** One's statement went on to remind Ontarians that they are an efficient and dedicated provider of **energy**.

But while the business community and other stakeholders were quickly lining up behind **Hydro** One's board and executive team, a different coalition of voting interests was forming.

Ford knows well that for his electoral fortunes, there is nothing more helpful than a sweeping referendum on the governmental and economic institutions that underpin **Ontario**'s current system.

If the critics say it can't be done, all the better. Ford knows that the **Ontario** voter is both frustrated and angry. And he knows they don't care about details, they just want action. And so, he's channelling that anger, refusing to get confused by details, and he's promising action.

Voters may not understand much about the regulations underpinning **Ontario's energy** sector. But what they do understand is that they feel the system is rigged against them; that they are alienated and locked out.

Ford promises to fix that alienation - and voters don't care about how he does it. They crave the action he promises.

Sound familiar?

Thousands of barrels of ink have been spilled about U.S. President Donald Trump and his manner of reaching disaffected voters in much the same way - a plain-spoken and frank approach that has long been out of fashion in politics.

But just as much has been written about the corrosive effect of the Trump approach.

And so it came as no surprise that Premier Kathleen Wynne accused Ford of acting just like Trump.

The reason for the comparison? Ford had said that "if Kathleen Wynne tried to pull these kinds of shady tricks in private life, there would be a few more Liberals joining David Livingston in jail."

Wynne said the comments amounted to Trump-style bullying and were unwelcome in **Ontario**. "Not here," wrote Wynne. "Not ever."

The problem is, beyond their plain manner of speaking, Ford is not easily compared to Trump. While it's true that neither man has much regard for the political or economic establishment and both have shown a penchant for publicly attacking institutions to shock that establishment and delight their fans, that's where the much of the similarities end and the differences become quite evident.

Trump is crass and a bully. Despite what has been said about him, the Progressive Conservative leader doesn't have a penchant for inappropriate behaviour. In fact, Ford has said remarkably little that would not be considered **fair** game.

Trump frequently veers off-message, speaking off-the-cuff about any issue that he pleases. Ford, by contrast, has proven remarkably disciplined, closely following his campaign's central themes.

Which may be why the Trump attacks have failed to land. Ford's approach has, thus far, allowed the PC leader to come across as a predictable and consistent, if brash, voice for respecting the taxpayer.

He has managed to successfully channel voter frustration, and every article penned about how the changes he champions cannot be made only reinforces his message that not only can change be made, he is the one to make it.

As unconventional as it is, this approach may well take Ford right to the premier's office.

Jaime Watt is the executive chair of Navigator Ltd. and a Conservative strategist.

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UPDATED: Doug Ford will be in Caledon Monday (April 23)



Caledon Enterprise - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value: \$224

Reach: 15763 Page: 1

Ontario Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford was in Caledon today (April 23) where he announced his plans to scrap the **cap and trade** fund and fight Justin Trudeau's **plan** to impose a carbon tax on **Ontario**.

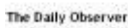
"There is a whole industry of special interests and lobbyists coming up with new names, and schemes to try to fool people into paying this new tax," Ford said Dost Petroleum on Highway 10. "But the people will not be fooled, they see right through the carbon tax. They know it is just another Liberal scheme to put the government's hand in your pocket."

Ford drew attention to the price of **gas** in British Columbia which was the first **Canadian** Province to introduce a carbon tax. In the ensuing years, the carbon tax along with a series of other taxes and levies have increased the price of **gas** in Vancouver to over \$1.50 per litre.

By eliminating the **cap and trade** fund, an **Ontario** PC Government will reduce **gas** prices by 4.3 cents per litre at the pump. Ford also announced he would go to the Supreme Court, to stop a federal carbon tax on **Ontario** families.

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Hydro One's six million dollar man



Daily Observer (Pembroke) - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Doug Ford

Ad Value: \$342

Reach: 6045 Page: A5

While you have been holding campaign style media availabilities on the taxpayer dime, I have been criss-crossing the province and meeting directly with the people. I sit down with young families, small-business owners, and seniors, and I ask them, "what's the biggest thing the government could do to make your life easier."

The answer every single time is "clean up the Liberal **hydro** mess."

I hear heartbreaking stories about how folks are struggling under your government.

There are families who are being forced to choose between heating and eating, seniors who are afraid to turn their heaters on in the middle of winter, and long-time business owners who have been forced to close their doors and lay-off staff who are like family to them because of skyrocketing **rates**.

Meanwhile, we read in the news about insider executives at **Hydro One** getting rich at their expense. The CEO at **Hydro One** made \$6.2 million last year, not to mention the lofty \$14.2 million the top executives paid themselves.

Which brings me to the point of my letter today. I was disgusted to read on the front page of the Globe and Mail this morning that in secret, behind closed doors, the board of **Hydro One** voted to increase severance packages for the CEO and executives at **Hydro One**.

They saw the polling numbers and knew that the people of **Ontario** were ready for change, and thought they'd pull the fast one on the people of **Ontario** - one last taste at the trough.

The CEO of **Hydro One** is already your six-million-dollar man, but this secret vote means that he now can become the ten-million-dollar man.

This is unacceptable. The CEO of **Hydro One** is now holding **Ontario** taxpayers hostage. If the CEO of **Hydro One** truly cared about the people of **Ontario** he'd do the right thing and resign.

When you sold off **Hydro One** in a fire sale, you assured the people of **Ontario** that we would retain control of the board. You assured the people of **Ontario** that we would have a voice.

Which is why I am asking for you to answer the following questions:

1. Did the Liberal government give **Hydro One** direction to change the severance packages?
2. When did you first learn about the changes to the severance packages for the executives at **Hydro One**?
3. When you first learned about these changes what action did you take to ensure the interests of the people of **Ontario** were represented?
4. Will you use **Ontario's** leverage as the single largest shareholder at 47 per cent to change these severance packages?
5. Do you believe the Board of **Hydro One** should resign? The people of **Ontario** deserve answers.

We look forward to hearing them. Doug Ford Leader of the **Ontario** PC Party

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THE SUN TIMES

How windmills as wide as jumbo jets are making clean energy mainstream

Owen Sound Sun Times - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Stanley Reed

Ad Value: \$775

Reach: 13178 Page: A5

At the **northern** end of Denmark's Jutland **peninsula**, the **wind** blows so hard that rows of trees grow in one direction, like gnarled flags.

The relentless weather over this long strip of farmland, bogs and mud flats - and the realworld laboratory it provides - has given the country a leading role in transforming **wind power** into a viable source of clean **energy**.

After **energy** prices spiked during the 1973 oil crisis, entrepreneurs began building small turbines to sell here.

"It started out as an interest in providing **power** for my parents'farm," said Henrik Stiesdal, who designed and built early prototypes with a blacksmith partner.

The initial windmills made by small operations had quality problems. Blades - then just 15 feet in length - would break or fall apart.

Now, they are giants, made by global players pulling off enormous feats of engineering.

The biggest turbines in Osterild stretch more than 600 feet high. The largest rotor blades can reach 270 feet in length, comparable to the wingspan of an Airbus A380, the world's largest commercial plane. The price tag: Up to 10 million euros, or more than \$12 million.

The monstrous scale has helped turn **wind** into a mainstream form of **power**.

Larger turbines harness more **wind**, creating more **energy**. The biggest modern offshore turbines produce nearly 20 times as much **power** as ones developed three decades ago.

The larger the size, the lower the cost of generating **energy**. In parts of **northern** Europe, **wind** is now a major **power** source. It accounts for 4 percent of overall global **energy** supply, according to the International **Energy** Agency.

From those early Danish innovators, the industry has grown to be dominated by companies like Vestas **Wind** Systems and Siemens Gamesa **Renewable Energy**.

The heart of the Siemens Gamesa business lies in Brande, a small Jutland town. It was there in the early 1980s that an entrepreneur named Peter Sorensen founded a **wind** business called Bonus with a couple of workers from his father's irrigation company.

Siemens bought Bonus in 2004, and today Brande is home to large engineering, training and maintenance hubs.

Staff sitting at consoles there can monitor **wind** farms around the globe. Often, when a problem shuts a **turbine** down, they can restart it electronically without needing to send a maintenance team.

At a cavernous workshop, technicians build custom **turbine** models and facilities for testing whether components are robust enough to last two decades or more. Inside, the towers are so big that elevators haul engineers up and down. Passengers must wear a climbing harness in case they fail.

The rotors are connected to the windmill tower by a nacelle - a large enclosure the size of a trailer, with plenty of room inside to walk around.

Looming over the top deck outside are the rotors. When they whirl, the whole column sways like a ship at sea.

Making these blades is difficult and labour-intensive.

Teams of workers gradually fill a mold with strips of fibreglass interlaced with balsa wood for strength. They then inject resins and other chemicals into the container to form the hardened structure.

The size of the blades, and the complexity of the process, mean completely automating it does not make economic sense. Around 1,300 people work in the factory, and making a single blade can take about three days.

It's a difficult balance for manufacturers to achieve both size and efficiency.

The largest blades already weigh around 30 metric tons, and making them longer adds to their weight, fast. Overweight blades might lead to turbines being worn down faster and would put enormous stress on other components.

Designers are testing tweaks to the shape and size of a blade, experimenting with the changes in **wind** tunnels or on computers. They have found that gluing various add-ons to the blades can substantially boost performance.

One fix - a combination of serrated teeth and combs that reduced the sound of the blades - was inspired by the wing feathers of owls.

Many of the big turbines that are designed at the facility will eventually make their way to the open water, where there is more space and the **wind** is more powerful.

Their huge components, difficult to transport on roadways, can be loaded at ports onto special boats, which take them to sprawling **wind** farms in the sea.

The first offshore **wind** farm was built using a barge that had a crane mounted on a truck. Companies today have developed specialized vessels to carry these offshore turbines to their floating platforms.

They must contend with a variety of challenges, including the corrosive impact of saltwater. To **service wind** farms far from the shore, maintenance crews sometimes live on special ships.

It's a complicated calculus. In the early years, building an offshore **wind** farm was fantastically expensive and governments offered generous subsidies to help the industry develop. But prices have been falling, and government support has "melted away," according to Andreas Nauen, the chief executive of Siemens Gamesa's offshore **wind** division.

Lower costs, though, have also made **wind power** more appealing elsewhere. Once mostly concentrated in **northern** Europe, Nauen is optimistic that new markets will emerge in Asia and the United States.

"This is real," he said.

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Turbine opponents appeal to province; Group wants provincial government to enforce condition that protected endangered turtle

Kingston Whig-Standard - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: Negative

Byline: Elliot Ferguson

Ad Value: \$829

Reach: 21850 **Page:** A2

Opponents of a **wind energy** project on Amherst Island are appealing to the provincial government to enforce a condition designed to protect an endangered turtle population.

In a letter to **Ontario** Environment and **Climate** Change Minister Chris Ballard, the Association to Protect Amherst Island asked for the provincial government to enforce work stoppages meant to protect the Blanding's turtle during its nesting and reproduction period.

In August 2016, the Environmental **Review** Tribunal dismissed an appeal of the project's approval.

Central to APAI's appeal was the argument that the **turbine** project would harm

the population of Blanding's turtles.

At the time the ERT issued its decision, it required the company building the project, Algonquin **Power's** subsidiary Windlectric Inc., to take steps to limit potential damage to the turtles.

The ERT required construction of portions of the project closest to the coastal wetland to take place between Nov. 1 and March 31. Construction of the other areas of the project is to take place between Sept. 1 and March 31.

The stoppages are meant to "ensure that construction takes place outside the period during which turtles are active outside of their resident wetlands."

"Indeed construction of turbines closest to the wetlands is in the initial stages and the company has failed to comply with the ERT decision and with their own commitments to protect the endangered Blanding's Turtle," APAI president Michele Le Lay wrote in the letter to Ballard.

Le Lay stated the company's current construction schedule projected continued work until late May.

The company's schedule for Saturday and Monday, posted on its social media sites, included construction traffic, road maintenance and component movement on Front Road, Lower 40 Foot Road, South Shore Road, Stella 40 Foot Road and the 2nd the 3rd Concession roads.

In an email, island resident Brian Little said the contractor, Pennon Ltd., has continued to work, with construction work also taking place this past Sunday.

"No flagmen, no water trucks to control dust and no concern for speed limits on the first day of nice weather that might entice the Blanding's turtles to start looking for nesting areas along the roadsides," Little wrote.

"Lord knows there are plenty of breaks in the silt fencing to allow them easy access to the roadway." elferguson@postmedia.com

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Fact on climate change presented

The Intelligencer

The Belleville Intelligencer - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: Neutral

Byline: Carole Lavallee

Ad Value: \$289

Reach: 9723 **Page:** B2

(Re. **Climate** change should be on voters' minds, April 4 edition) This daily newspaper has been doing its job of informing citizens about **climate** change and what various political parties are doing about it. This article bears witness to that.

Canada's Ecofiscal Commission is another unbiased source of the latest information on this timely topic. It acknowledges that **climate** change is a critical issue for voters but it also understands that the ordinary person is too often overwhelmed with day to day life to gear down on even the basic information. Too often it all seems confusing and too easy to just push it to the back burner.

This problem is now over. Really. To address the need for citizens to have unbiased facts at hand, the Commission released a report this week, Cleaning the Air: How Carbon Pricing Helps Canada Fight **Climate** Change. Online, we can access this report in three ways. There are two print versions, either PDF or regular version. My favorite, though, are the three Youtube shorties: **Climate** Change is Costing us; Carbon Pricing: How Does a Carbon Tax Work; and

Carbon Pricing: How Does **Cap-and-Trade** Work. I swear it's all there.

Thank you, The Intelligencer, and thank you, Ecofiscal Commission, for your contribution to our great democracy. No more scratching my head over warring political party claims. I have the facts now and I know what to do with them.

Carole Lavallee

Chelmsford

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Solving Climate Change: A Blueprint | TVO.org

tvo.org - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Most people agree that climate change is a problem. But what can be done?

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Bruce Power awards \$914 million in manufacturing contracts for Major Component Replacement Project

www.newswire.ca - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Today, Bruce Power signed \$914 million in advanced manufacturing contracts for its Major Component Replacement, which gets underway in 2020 and will allow the site to provide low-cost, carbon-free electricity to Ontario through 2064.

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Ottawa should stop funding anti-oil research

Ottawa Sun - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Colin Craig

Ad Value: \$1,032

Reach: 45442 Page: A13

Just when you thought Canada's nonsensical world of oil and **gas** policy couldn't get any worse, consider this little nugget of lunacy. The federal government is actually funding anti-oil research activists.

Yes, your tax dollars at work.

If you visit the federal government's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's website you'll find a document that lists grants awarded in 2015, including one for \$2.5 million over six years that will fund "mapping the **power** of the carbon-extractive corporate resource sector."

The Applicant is William Carroll, a professor at the University of Victoria, and his university contributed \$730,000 towards the project. Thus, we're looking at more than \$3 million of **public** funding, plus staff time from participants from other universities.

Ironically, Carroll's group, which includes reliable antioil organizations such as the **Canadian Centre** for Policy Alternatives, is investigating "who is steering fossil fuel extraction in Western Canada and what influence do they wield?" Presumably with a straight face, someone posted on the project's website that they aim to conduct a "systematic mapping of how the carbon-extractive industry

is organized - which companies are involved, who runs them, who owns them and how they connect to broader international corporate **networks**."

If you peruse a few of the posts on the site, the bias against Canada's **energy** industry is evident.

However, as researcher Vivian Krause has carefully pointed out, the real **power** players and influencers in Canada's **energy** discussion have actually been powerful environmental groups that have received millions of dollars in foreign funds.

For example, the Tides Foundation in the United States has been funding groups in Canada to obstruct our pipeline projects. Without Canada building pipelines to the **coast**, our only real export option is to continue to send our product to the United States - a country that has been taking advantage of our lack of alternative buyers by paying **Canadian** companies less for our oil than what they pay other countries.

The whole situation is essentially economic sabotage.

And before someone accuses the **Canadian** Taxpayers Federation of taking huge cheques from "big oil," that's unfortunately not true. Though we would gladly accept them if they were ever offered.

While Carroll's group is focussing on the industry's "**power**," the irony is that the oil and **gas** sector has actually been losing the fight. **Ottawa** refused to allow the **Northern** Gateway pipeline project (\$8 billion), they killed the **Energy** East pipeline project (\$16 billion) and the \$36 billion Petronas LNG project in British Columbia fell through as well. As many readers know, the Trans Mountain pipeline project in British Columbia is currently in disarray.

Now consider this - how would Ontarians react if **Ottawa** funded a similar project to look into the immense **power** of Southern **Ontario**'s auto industry? What if **Ottawa** funded a project to look into Bombardier's immense influence over government? Needless to say, the reactions would not be positive.

To be clear, if people want to examine Canada's **energy** sector, go for it. But there's no reason why taxpayers should have to pay for such advocacy.

If anything, **Ottawa**'s research should be focussed on the immense amount of money that's rolling into our country from abroad, and obstructing **Canadian** companies.

Colin Craig is the Alberta Director for the **Canadian** Taxpayers Federation
@colincraig1

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Trudeau Liberals say 'no' to Canadian oil and gas independence | Calgary Herald

calgaryherald.com · Tue Apr 24 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

With the Kinder Morgan pipeline hanging by a thread, the federal Liberals had a chance on the weekend to express support for Alberta and the national economy.

They didn't.

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CRAIG: Ottawa should stop funding anti-oil research | Toronto Sun

torontosun.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Just when you thought Canada's nonsensical world of oil and gas policy couldn't get any worse, consider this little nugget of lunacy. The federal government is actually funding anti-oil research activists. Yes, your tax dollars at work.

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GUNTER: Trudeau should be blamed for a CP Rail strike | Edmonton Sun

edmontonsun.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

The Teamsters union must be loving the B.C. government and the protestors blocking Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline.

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Support for Trans Mountain pipeline project grows - Resources & Agriculture | Business in Vancouver

biv.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ottawa's offer to financially backstop the \$7.4 billion Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project may not be enough to prevent Kinder Morgan Canada (TSX:KML) from pulling the plug on the project, and even if it were, the message it would send to the wider investment community doesn't exactly instil confidence, business leaders say.

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Hydro One explains calls to farmers | Farms.com

www.farms.com - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Contacting customers to discuss their hydro use is a normal part of annual operations, according to a Hydro One representative.

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Hydro One tells farmers to lower usage | Farms.com

www.farms.com - Mon Apr 23 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ontario producers are receiving phone calls to lower the amount of electricity they're using or face stiff rate increases.

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