

John Bozzo

From: John Bozzo
Sent: May 2, 2018 9:12 AM
To: ##Clippings_Distribution_List
Subject: Morning News Clippings Summary: Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Good Morning,

- There is coverage about the end of the winter disconnection ban. The **OEB** is mentioned.
- Bluewater Power saw a “significant rise “ in arrears customers this winter.
- Poor attendance for a public meeting about PDI and Hydro One.

Cambridge Times: Winter disconnection ban ends

- Energy+ Inc. is urging residential customers who have fallen behind in making hydro payments, or who expect to have difficulty in the future, to pick up the telephone or email the local utility to find out what payment options are available. “Our team really wants to help — disconnection is an absolute last resort. If you are having difficulty, please give us a call or email, and we’ll have a conversation about your situation before you get a disconnection notice,” said Barbara Shortreed, vice-president of customer care and communications.
- Customer care representatives are available Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to work with customers, offering advice about options such as equal billing, one-time payment arrangements, formal arrears arrangements as well community assistance programs including the Ontario Electricity Support Program, the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program, the Home Assistance Program and the new Affordability Fund Program (www.affordabilityfund.org).
- “When customers don’t pay their hydro bills, ultimately, everyone pays,” Shortreed said.
- **The Ontario Energy Board** has customer service rules that all electricity utilities, including Energy+, must follow: www.oeb.ca/consumer-protection/rules-electricity-utilities. In November 2017, the **Ontario Energy Board** enacted a residential Winter Disconnection Moratorium that will end on May 1.

Blackburn News: Hydro Arrears Rise

- After a long, cold winter, the provincially-mandated moratorium on disconnecting hydro service ended Tuesday. Bluewater Power CEO Janice McMichael-Dennis says they’ve seen a significant increase in the number of customers falling into arrears between November 15 and April 30. “We have seen that 120 day mark where people are four months overdue in their bills,” says McMichael-Dennis. “It’s gone up by about \$100,000 over this period, so certainly we have experienced an increase in customers who have not managed to keep up during this period.”
- McMichael-Dennis says the average amount owed by utility customers is \$350. “Certainly for many people struggling, it’s a hard number, but it’s not a number that becomes completely unmanageable,” she says. “We have the customer contact. We can work with these people.”
- McMichael-Dennis says Bluewater Power has never disconnected service during winter, but the six-month moratorium also prevented them from installing load limiting devices which they would normally do to help customers manage their overdue accounts. She says customers who have fallen behind are encouraged to contact Bluewater Power to work out arrangements for payment.
- The utility will also be reaching out to customers over the next two weeks. Customers may also qualify for assistance programs like the Ontario Electricity Support Program, or the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program.

Peterborough this week: Only a handful of people show up for PDI council meeting

- A few years ago hundreds of people came out to public meetings to debate the sale of Peterborough Distribution Inc. (PDI).
- On Monday, April 30, just one person turned out to speak at a council meeting where councillors voted to ratify recent decision on the contentious issue.
- Peterborough Utilities president John Stephenson told council it will be talking with Hydro One to make a deal to sell the distribution company. That comes after an announcement by Hydro One on March 9 where it was said negotiations had ceased.
- A recent email from Stephenson to his staff, which was being shared among the pro-public utility group Save PDI, showed him saying the deal was not back on. In it he says discussions are merely meant to communicate details on why the deal fell through. At the meeting Stephenson clarified the two groups were talking but did not say the deal was back on.
- "We didn't reopen negotiations per se," says Stephenson. He adds the two will continue to talk about "gaps" in the deal which he hopes to resolve and settle.

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Morning News Clippings

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Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 17 Results



Only a handful of people show up for PDI and Parkway council meeting

Peterborough This Week - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$48

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

A few years ago hundreds of people came out to **public** meetings to debate the sale of **Peterborough Distribution** Inc. (PDI) and the **plan** for extending The Parkway. On Monday, April 30, just one person ...



Peterborough Distribution Inc. boss clarifies city's position in Hydro One sale

Peterborough This Week - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Ad Value: \$37

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

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Peterborough Distribution Inc. (PDI) but those talks aren't on the same level as before the deal was called off. That was ...



People are overwhelmingly against the sale of Peterborough Distribution Inc.

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Sale of Peterborough Distribution Inc. to Hydro One resumes as both sides agree to further discussions - Peterborough | Globalnews.ca

globalnews.ca - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Wednesday, May 2, 2018

OEB is mentioned.

City staff and top executives with the Peterborough Utilities group have resumed discussions with Hydro One to sell off Peterborough Distribution Inc., the electrical distribution arm of the company.



Hydro One to review salary packages

Toronto Sun - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value: \$1,311

Reach: 171076 Page: A4

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Winter electricity disconnection ban ends

Cambridge Times - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$134

Reach: 45920 Page: 1

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Set political bar higher

Woodstock Sentinel-Review - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Chris Biggs

Ad Value: \$62

Reach: 7920 Page: A4

i'm ashamed Canadians vote for doug Ford. i didn't think we could do it after the embarrassing moments of his brother. Kathleen Wynne's far from perfect. i don't think it should have been legal to sell part of **Ontario Power** ...



'Help on the way,' says Ford; Ontario PC leader makes stop in Sault Ste. Marie

The Sault Star - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Elaine Della-Mattia

Ad Value: \$1,885

Reach: 17077 Page: A1 / Front

Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford says he'll run a handsoff provincial government that will set the stage to create jobs and return **Ontario** to prosperity. "We like to empower the people. When the people say jump, we say how ...



Ford vows to share resource revenues; Doug Ford: Northern Ontario will receive 'fair benefits from Northern resources.'

The Timmins Daily Press - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Emma Meldrum

Ad Value: \$775

Reach: 9196 Page: A1 / Front

An **Ontario** PC government would introduce formal resource revenue sharing to ensure **Northern Ontario** "receives **fair** benefits from **Northern** resources," Doug Ford announced in Timmins on Tuesday. ...



Ontario election agenda: What you need to know for May 1 | TVO.org

tvo.org - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Here's our daily look at what's making news in the lead-up to the next provincial election.



Power to the people | Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

www.policyalternatives.ca - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Energy. It is the perennial election issue in Ontario, and for good reasons. A series of provincial decisions spanning decades has led to long-term structural problems in the electricity sector. As a result, since 2002, electricity prices have risen ...



Motion for construction stay withdrawn | The Belleville Intelligencer

www.intelligencer.ca - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Tuesday, May 1, 2018
OEB is mentioned.

Construction at one site for the development of turbines in Prince Edward County will continue through to October.



Wind farm opponents file petition against turbine noise

London Free Press - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: \$1,946

Reach: 70995 Page: A4

Citizen groups continue their effort to convince the **Ontario** government to ensure **wind** farm developers abide by the latest noise guidelines. Residents from Dutton Dunwich in Elgin County, Wallaceburg and **North** ...



No plan to use pile driving; Wind developer says plans were communicated at public meetings

The Chatham Daily News - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: \$370

Reach: 15320 Page: A1 / Front

The developer of a **wind** farm on the western edge of Chatham-Kent never intended to use pile foundations. "Romney **Wind Energy Centre** Limited Partnership did not apply for nor **plan** to use pile ...



Popular candidate, unpopular party; Bortolin the pitch for beleaguered Liberal brand in Windsor West

Windsor Star - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Anne Jarvis

Ad Value: \$8,665

Reach: 54680 Page: A1 / Front

"It's so hard!" lamented Crystal Awrey. She loves Rino Bortolin, who's running in Windsor **West** in the provincial election June 7. She hates his party leader, Liberal Premier Kathleen Wynne. "I would love to vote for you," she told him, ...



How the Senate is cracking down to get Trans Mountain built - Macleans.ca

www.macleans.ca - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Energy East is mentioned.

Where there's a bill, there's a way, so Independent Senator Douglas Black tabled Bill S-245 to declare the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain expansion to be in the national interest.



In a slow-motion pipeline race, Keystone XL poised to take the lead | Calgary Herald

calgaryherald.com - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

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Imagine placing several turtles on a racetrack.

Clippings Summary

Full Articles



Only a handful of people show up for PDI and Parkway council meeting

Peterborough This Week - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$48

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

A few years ago hundreds of people came out to **public** meetings to debate the sale of **Peterborough Distribution** Inc. (PDI) and the **plan** for extending The Parkway.

On Monday, April 30, just one person turned out to speak at a council meeting where councillors voted to ratify recent decisions on the two contentious issues.

Less than a dozen people filled the **theatre** of council chambers, which has been full in past meetings for the two topics.

Karen Hjort-Jensen, representing the **Peterborough** Greenspace Coalition, was the sole speaker who commended council for looking at alternatives to The Parkway for the first time in recent years.

Council approved a decision made on April 23 to do a series of **transportation** studies to look at improving traffic flow in the city.

That could involve extending The Parkway or alternatives such as widening or expanding other roads. It could also include optimizing traffic signals and other non-physical changes to the city's roads.

That decision was made instead of council immediately undertaking an environmental assessment required by the Ministry of the Environment and **Climate** Change for The Parkway or alternatives.

Hjort-Jensen says the Greenspace Coalition is supportive of the option council chose, but did have questions about the decision — namely on whether the controversial bridge over Jackson Park would remain on the table.

Coun. Gary Baldwin confirmed the bridge is one possibility of many options which could come out of the studies.

According to Hjort-Jensen the mayor and council struck the bridge from The Parkway **plan** on Oct. 2, 2017. Because of that she says the bridge should remain off the **plan** permanently.

"The bridge became the lightening rod," says Hjort-Jensen, regarding the bridge being a focal point in the issue of The Parkway.

If the bridge remains on the table though it may change the Greenspace Coalition's decision to support the **plan**.

"This changes the circumstances," she says.

Hjort-Jensen also spoke about the turnout at the night's meeting.

She says her speech to council represents 12 people in the group who work

year-round to protect the city's green spaces.

But she admits people are starting to feel discouraged due to the continued lack of progress.

"I honestly think people are feeling fatigue over the issue," Hjort-Jensen says.

The warm weather may also have played a part in people not showing up, she adds.

PDI was also on the agenda, with **Peterborough Utilities** president John Stephenson telling council it will be talking with **Hydro One** to make a deal to sell the **distribution** company.

That comes after an announcement by **Hydro One** on March 9 where it was said negotiations had ceased.

A recent email from Stephenson to his staff, which was being shared among the pro-**public utility** group Save PDI, showed him saying the deal was not back on. In it he says discussions are merely meant to communicate details on why the deal fell through.

At the meeting Stephenson clarified the two groups were talking but did not say the deal was back on.

"We didn't reopen negotiations per se," says Stephenson.

He adds the two will continue to talk about "gaps" in the deal which he hopes to resolve and settle.

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Peterborough Distribution Inc. boss clarifies city's position in Hydro One sale

Peterborough This Week - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Ad Value: \$37

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

The City of **Peterborough** is in talks with **Hydro One** for the sale of **Peterborough Distribution Inc.** (PDI) but those talks aren't on the same level as before the deal was called off.

That was a message from **Peterborough Utilities** president John Stephenson to councillors at a city council meeting on Monday, April 30.

On March 9 **Hydro One** called off the deal and neither side has given a reason for why negotiations ended.

But on April 23 chief administrative officer Allan Seabrooke said talks were back on between the two parties to seek the sale of the city's **distribution** company.

Though late last week an email by Stephenson to his staff began to circulate, saying the deal was not back on.

"I was surprised to see several unexpected statements regarding the continuation of 'negotiations' and 're-engaging' with **Hydro One** on the disposition of PDI. The published comments overstate the current status," says Stephenson in the email.

It goes on to say current discussions are meant to go over the reasons for **Hydro One's** decision to end the talks.

At the meeting Stephenson clarified a deal is still being sought, but current discussions are foremost meant to understand the gaps in the deal.

"We didn't reopen negotiations per se," he told council.

Right now there are no changes to the city's ask of \$105 million with a five-year **rate** freeze and protections for workers, he adds.

Through current talks with **Hydro** One Stephenson is hoping the two sides can agree on a deal, though he notes the nature of those conversations has changed and isn't on the same level as before.

"I am cautiously optimistic those discussions will be fruitful," says Stephenson.

A few councillors asked the PDI boss what the state of PDI is and whether it would be sustainable without the sale.

Stephenson says while **Peterborough Utilities** had a good year, in large part due to its other businesses, something needs to change to keep **hydro rates** down.

"It (PDI) will be challenged to be profitable to the degree we expect it to be in a **rate**-regulated industry," he adds.

He also says the city will continue to talk to achieve a "high bar of quality" in a deal, but if it can't be achieved changes will need to be made to the city's **distribution** company to keep **rates** down.

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People are overwhelmingly against the sale of Peterborough Distribution Inc.

Peterborough This Week - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$17

Reach: 47038 Page: 1

To the editor:

Time to wake up, or did people forget back in 2016 it was released to the press that a new Environics Poll claimed 93 per cent of **Peterborough** residents did not want the sale of PDI to **Hydro** One?

Correct me if I am wrong, but wasn't it last week **Peterborough** council decided against remodelling the Parkway due to **public** outcry, but 93 per cent is not enough of an outcry to stop this sale?

Well, I strongly suggest you vote against our mayor come this year's election, because if not, then for sure it'll be pushed through, whether you wanted it or not.

The same goes for Kathleen Wynne.

I would rather pay a little more in **hydro** knowing the **public** owns it with oversight, than pay a lot more with no oversight.

It's your decision, **Peterborough**, I only hope you don't regret the decision.

Cory Crete

Peterborough

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[Sale of Peterborough Distribution Inc. to Hydro One resumes as both sides agree to further discussions - Peterborough | Globalnews.ca](#)

globalnews.ca - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

City staff and top executives with the Peterborough Utilities group have resumed discussions with Hydro One to sell off Peterborough Distribution Inc., the electrical distribution arm of the company.

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[Hydro One to review salary packages](#)

Toronto Sun - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value: \$1,311

Reach: 171076 Page: A4

Hydro One has been asked to **review** its executive compensation arrangements by the **Ontario** Liberal government.

The move comes weeks after prodding by Progressive Conservative Leader Doug Ford that he would fire the CEO and board of directors at the partially privatized **utility** if his party is elected June 7.

Utility CEO Mayo Schmidt, who earned a \$6.2-million salary last year, would be entitled to at least \$10.7 million in severance if he were to be removed from his job by the board of directors, and **Energy** Minister **Glenn Thibeault** announced the **review** in a statement Monday.

Thibeault says the government only found out about the compensation changes in the release of **Hydro** One's management information circular in March.

"We believe in a stable solution that exercises our authority as the largest shareholder," he said in his statement. "Our government continues to focus on fairness."

The Liberals rejected a motion by Ford's party calling on the **Hydro** One board to resign to reverse new severance packages the board voted for itself.

"While families across **Ontario** are struggling to keep their heads above water - being forced to choose between heating and eating - Kathleen Wynne and the Liberals have allowed millionaire **hydro** executives to get rich at their expense," said **Ontario** PC **Energy** Critic Todd Smith in a statement.

"Yesterday, the Wynne Liberals offered nothing but a very weak response when it comes to executive compensation. This only came after her secret millionaires' club was exposed a month before the election," Smith said.

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[Winter electricity disconnection ban ends](#)

Cambridge Times - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$134

Reach: 45920 Page: 1

The winter **hydro** disconnection ban ends today, and **Energy**+ Inc. is urging residential customers who have fallen behind in making **hydro** payments, or who expect to have difficulty in the future, to pick up the telephone or email the

local **utility** to find out what payment options are available.

"Our team really wants to help - disconnection is an absolute last resort. If you are having difficulty, please give us a call or email, and we'll have a conversation about your situation before you get a disconnection notice," said Barbara Shortreed, vice-president of **customer** care and communications.

Customer care representatives are available Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to work with customers, offering advice about options such as equal billing, one-time payment arrangements, formal arrears arrangements as well as community assistance programs including the **Ontario Electricity** Support Program, the Low-Income **Energy** Assistance Program, the Home Assistance Program and the new Affordability Fund Program (www.affordabilityfund.org).

"As a prudent business, we need customers to be accountable for the **hydro** that they have used. When customers don't pay their **hydro** bills, ultimately, everyone pays. If you have an outstanding balance, contact us to work through acceptable payment arrangements, even if you are not able to pay the full outstanding balance. At the end of the day, we want to avoid issuing a disconnection notice in the first place. Make it a priority to call 1-877-871-2215 or 519-621-3530 or email customercare@energyplus.ca to get your payments back on track," urged Shortreed.

The **Ontario Energy Board** has **customer service rules** that all **electricity utilities**, including **Energy+**, must follow: www.ceb.ca/consumer-protection/rules-electricity-utilities. In November 2017, the **Ontario Energy Board** enacted a residential Winter Disconnection Moratorium that will end on May 1.

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Set political bar higher

Woodstock Sentinel-Review - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Chris Biggs

Ad Value: \$62

Reach: 7920 **Page:** A4

i'm ashamed Canadians vote for doug Ford. i didn't think we could do it after the embarrassing moments of his brother. Kathleen Wynne's far from perfect. i don't think it should have been legal to sell part of **Ontario Power Generation**. essentials such as this cannot be privatized. i fear what Ford will do to our health care and environment. let's hold our politicians to a higher bar.

Chris Biggs

London

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'Help on the way,' says Ford; Ontario PC leader makes stop in Sault Ste. Marie

The Sault Star - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Elaine Della-Mattia

Ad Value: \$1,885

Reach: 17077 **Page:** A1 / Front

Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford says he'll run a handsoff provincial government that will set the stage to create jobs and return **Ontario** to prosperity.

"We like to empower the people. When the people say jump, we say how high," Ford told a packed audience Tuesday at his Rally for a Better **Ontario** event in Sault Ste. Marie.

"The government doesn't create jobs. It creates the environment to create jobs," he said.

About 175 people rallied with Ford during the dinner-hour event at **Algoma's** Water Tower Inn, hearing the new Tory leader proclaim that if his party forms the next government, he will reduce **hydro rates**, eliminate the carbon tax and get rid of **cap and trade**.

Ford said that he's hearing the same message across the province - and that is that people are frustrated the government is not listening to them, that **cap and trade** policies are hurting jobs and that **hydro** prices are too high.

"We have a **cap and trade** policy. We will cap all taxes and trade Kathleen Wynne," he told the **crowd**. "We need to attract companies and we need to make sure there is an opportunity for every person in Sault Ste. Marie. We want the children to stay here, to fly, to have a great paying job... but they need the opportunity."

Ford bashed the Liberal government and its policies and promised that the PC's will bring about the change that the Ontarians are asking for.

The carbon tax "is the worst tax you can put on the people of **Ontario**," he said.

And **hydro rates** will be reduced by 12 per cent "right off the hopper," he promised, adding that he'll end the "gouging" by those executives in multi-million-dollar jobs.

"You want to know someone is looking out for you, fighting for **Ontario** and that's Doug Ford," said PC candidate and MPP Ross Romano during his introduction of the party's newly minted leader.

Ford said if elected, he would conduct a line-by-line audit of all ministries "to see who is getting rich off of you."

Reducing business taxes by a modest one per cent would "be a start" and for **Northern Ontario**, developing a revenue sharing **plan** that will give **Northern** municipalities \$20 million to \$30 million will help municipalities build their communities, he said.

"We'll nail down the figures next week," he added.

And municipalities would be able to use the money as they see fit, he promised.

The **plan** is designed to ensure that **Northern Ontario** receives **fair** benefits from **Northern** resources and ensure that **Northern** communities and Indigenous communities benefit by receiving a portion of provincial revenues collected from aggregate licenses, stumpage fees and the mining tax, he said.

Ford also said that he would cut through the special interest and bureaucratic delays preventing **Northern Ontario** from benefiting from the Ring of Fire and other important resource projects.

But he couldn't say how exactly the revenue sharing **plan** would work or how a value would be tagged to a natural resource.

"We want to put money back into municipalities and towns in **Northern Ontario** and let them decide what to do with it," he told The Sault Star in a brief interview.

Ford suggested that revenues collected from stumpage fees, mining fees and

business taxes would be redirected to municipalities without those taxes increasing on businesses.

He also said that a government under his leadership would open 15,000 long term care beds in the first five years of government and another 15,000 beds during year five to 10.

"That will take the load out of all the hospitals," he said.

Ford said doctors and nurses will tell government how to best do their jobs, a true change from the existing Liberal regime style of government, he said.

The **Toronto**-area businessman and former Etobicoke city councillor said he's against the Wynne government's Green **Energy plan** - calling it the biggest scam taxpayers have seen -but says he'd have to **review** contracts to determine the future of things like the **wind** turbines.

"I'm not a fan of **wind** turbines.

We're losing money on **wind** turbines... we need to look at the contracts and see what was signed and what deals were made. I can't say what we'd do until I see that stuff," he said.

While Ford told supporters that he wants to bring good paying jobs to the **North**, especially for young people, he was asked if he would consider passing legislation that would move all OLG jobs to Sault Ste. Marie.

Ford said he would have to look at the Crown **corporation** from top to bottom and **review** how many OLG jobs are located here and how many could be moved here.

"If it's possible, we'll look at it," he said. "We'll have to look at the whole deal here but sometimes you move up to where the organization is going or you leave the company," he said.

A lot of young people are leaving these towns and cities for other jobs in major cities. I want them to have opportunities by getting rid of the carbon tax, the **cap and trade** and create a **climate** for business, he said in the brief interview.

Ford also said that the PC platform includes bringing back passenger rail **service**. "It's in our platform," he said.

He encouraged people to vote.

"Together we will make sure we make this the most prosperous province in the country... We will be the engine of Canada once again... Help is on the way."

The provincial election is June 7.

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Ford vows to share resource revenues; Doug Ford: Northern Ontario will receive 'fair benefits from Northern resources.'

The Timmins Daily Press - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Emma Meldrum

Ad Value: \$775

Reach: 9196 Page: A1 / Front

An **Ontario** PC government would introduce formal resource revenue sharing to ensure **Northern Ontario** "receives **fair** benefits from **Northern** resources," Doug Ford announced in Timmins on Tuesday.

The Progressive Conservative leader said \$20 to \$30 million would be returned to this part of the province every year, but didn't provide an exact revenue percentage. Ford said money from mining, **forestry** and aggregates should stay in **Northern Ontario**.

"I believe in letting northerners keep their own money. Do what you want. Fix roads," he said. "I believe in just letting them do what they want."

Ford said **Northern Ontario** communities, including Indigenous communities, would receive a portion of provincial revenues collected from aggregate licenses, stumpage fees and the mining tax.

"Your resources. Your benefits. I think that's only **fair**," said Ford.

The Etobicoke-born businessman denied the generous promise was a ploy to buy votes when asked by reporters.

"No, I don't do that. My name's not Kathleen Wynne," said Ford. "I don't have to do that. My whole platform is for the people. For the people -reducing **Hydro rates** by 12% for the people, getting rid of the carbon tax to create good-paying jobs for the people, reducing taxes on business for the people, putting money back into the communities for the people to do what they want."

Ford said the province can afford it. A release from Timmins-James **Bay** NDP MPP Gilles Bisson earlier in the day said northerners wouldn't "be fooled" by the PC leader's promises.

Bisson said Ford has promised more than \$6 billion in cuts.

Ford responded, "I don't believe in the word 'cuts.' I'm going to drive efficiencies, as we did with the City of **Toronto**."

Bisson also wrote, "The last PC government closed community schools, shut down emergency rooms and privatized road clearing and maintenance."

The MPP claimed that Ford will cut hospital budgets in northeastern **Ontario** by \$160 million, close down schools, fire thousands of teachers and continue with the "disastrous" privatization of snow removal and road maintenance."

Ford said, "I'm not going to be closing anything. I'm going to put money back into the community."

The Tuesday afternoon meet and greet at Cedar Meadows Resort & Spa, originally scheduled for noon, was pushed to 1:30 p.m. due to travel delays. A full room waited for Ford, who shook hands and took photos with the group.

The audience was significantly larger than the one that gathered in Timmins on March 4 for a visit from Ford, who was then a PC leadership hopeful. He promised then to toss the carbon tax, lower **Hydro rates** and bring back the Northlander.

Ford spent some of his 15-minute speech on Tuesday talking about the changes he plans to make if elected premier. The CEO and board of **Hydro One**, for instance, would be "gone."

"We need fresh blood in there, somebody that will be responsible, respectful of the taxpayers," Ford told reporters.

An online poll conducted by research firm Leger shows that a quarter of participants believe the Progressive Conservative leader would make the best premier, as opposed to 20% for the NDP leader and 12% for the Liberal leader.

When it comes to the parties, the Tories are in the lead with support from 43% of

participants.

That compares to both 26% for both the New Democrats and Liberals.

The PC leader appeared at a rally in Sault Ste. Marie later on Tuesday.

He was introduced in this city by recently-nominated Timmins PC candidate Yvan Génier.

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Ontario election agenda: What you need to know for May 1 | TVO.org

tvo.org - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Here's our daily look at what's making news in the lead-up to the next provincial election.

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Power to the people | Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

www.policyalternatives.ca - Tue May 1 2018

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Energy. It is the perennial election issue in Ontario, and for good reasons. A series of provincial decisions spanning decades has led to long-term structural problems in the electricity sector. As a result, since 2002, electricity prices have risen dramatically. Predictably, so has inequality and energy poverty.

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Motion for construction stay withdrawn | The Belleville Intelligencer

www.intelligencer.ca - Tue May 1 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Construction at one site for the development of turbines in Prince Edward County will continue through to October.

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Wind farm opponents file petition against turbine noise

London Free Press - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: \$1,946

Reach: 70995 Page: A4

Citizen groups continue their effort to convince the **Ontario** government to ensure **wind** farm developers abide by the latest noise guidelines.

Residents from Dutton Dunwich in Elgin County, Wallaceburg and **North** Stormont in eastern **Ontario** enlisted the support of their Progressive Conservative MPPs - Jeff Yurek, Monte McNaughton and Jim McDonnell - to deliver a petition with more than 3,000 signatures to Queen's Park on Monday that demands new **wind power** projects follow **Ontario's** new **wind turbine** noise guidelines.

Bonnie Rowe, spokesperson for Dutton Dunwich Opponents of **Wind** Turbines (DDOWT), said the MPPs all delivered the same petition from their constituents.

"We tried to make the point that it was a widespread issue, it wasn't just a few NIMBYs (Not in my backyard) around Dutton Dunwich," Rowe said.

She believes they got their point across but admits it's "rather frustrating." Rowe said the petition is related to the creation of "transition provisions" by the Environment Ministry in the **Renewable Energy** Approval process, which allows **wind power** developers to ignore new noise guidelines.

"The (ministry) recognized that the previous requirements for **turbine** noise modelling were inadequate and they revised them," Rowe said to protect the health and safety of people living near turbines. "But now, the government has allowed the developers for the new projects to use the old ones. We think that's wrong." Speaking in the **Ontario** Legislature on Monday, Yurek, who represents Elgin-Middlesex-**London**, raised the issue of Dutton Dunwich surveying residents before declaring the municipality as a non-willing host, with 84 per cent of those who participated in the survey against **wind** turbines.

"Unfortunately, the government chose to ignore the people of Dutton Dunwich and move forward with the project," Yurek said.

McNaughton, who represents Lambton-Kent-Middlesex, said, "I'm proud to support this and I hope the government changes its mind." In January, the DDOWT filed a notice of **application** for judicial **review**, alleging the Ministry of Environment has allowed companies promoting at least five large-scale **wind** projects to ignore new government guidelines that limit the amount of noise residents should have to tolerate.

The legal action is being supported by members of the Wallaceburg Area **Wind** Concerns group and Concerned Citizens of **North** Stormont and Save the Nation in eastern **Ontario**.

"These **power** generators emit a range of noise and can be very disruptive for the citizens forced to live near them," Wallaceburg Area **Wind** Concerns member Denise Shephard said. Chatham Daily News

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No plan to use pile driving; Wind developer says plans were communicated at public meetings

The Chatham Daily News - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: \$370

Reach: 15320 **Page:** A1 / Front

The developer of a **wind** farm on the western edge of Chatham-Kent never intended to use pile foundations.

"Romney **Wind Energy Centre** Limited Partnership did not apply for nor **plan** to use pile foundations as a part of the **wind turbine** design of the Romney **Wind Energy Centre**," said senior developer Kevin Campbell in an email to the Chatham Daily News late Tuesday afternoon.

Essex MPP Taras Natayshak issued a media release late Monday afternoon stating that **Ontario** Ministry of Environment and **Climate** Change staff quietly banned pile-driving construction for the planned **wind** farm that will also extend into the Town of Lakeshore.

He also said the **Ontario** Liberal government still denies there's a problem with black water, a reference to the more than 20 water wells that have suffered serious problems within the **North Kent Wind** farm project area in **north Chatham-Kent**.

The NDP member said during an interview with The Daily News that the Liberal government doesn't want to admit there is an issue with pile driving because "that would be admitting liability, that's exposing themselves and this is what it's all about."

An email from the the Environment Ministry about the **Renewable Energy Approval (REA)** granted to Romney **Wind** also noted the company did not propose to use pile driving for the construction the **wind** project.

"The company proposed a spread footing foundation design," the ministry said. "Therefore, the REA includes a condition requiring the company to build the foundations in the way they proposed in their **application** (spread footing foundation design).

"The company did not propose the use of pile driving and therefore the REA issued by the ministry does not provide the option for the proponent to use piles," the ministry added. "The intent of the condition was not to ban pile driving. Including the condition in the approval does not mean there is a ban on pile driving."

Campbell said Romney **Wind** conducted extensive geotechnical work at each proposed **wind turbine** location to better understand the subsoil conditions of the project area prior to its final project open houses and its REA submission to the ministry.

"The results of the geotechnical work were clear that Romney **Wind** would not require pile foundations," he said. "Our engineers determined that a foundation design consisting of a solid concrete gravity base - a common foundation used to build similar **wind** projects - is most appropriate for Romney **Wind**."

Campbell said the intention of using this type of foundation for the 17 **wind** turbines that will make up the 60-megawatt project was communicated during **public** meetings held in Chatham-Kent and Lakeshore in May 2017, and presented to the the Environment Ministry in the project's REA documents.

"Romney **Wind** and our project partner, Aamjiwnaag First Nation, have enjoyed a great working relationship with the host communities, landowners and broader Chatham-Kent and Lakeshore communities that is built on open communication about the project," Campbell said. "We look forward to continuing those relationships, as the project completes the permitting process." eshreve@postmedia.com @Chathamnews

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Popular candidate, unpopular party; Bortolin the pitch for beleaguered Liberal brand in Windsor West

Windsor Star - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Anne Jarvis

Ad Value: \$8,665

Reach: 54680 Page: A1 / Front

"It's so hard!" lamented Crystal Awrey.

She loves Rino Bortolin, who's running in Windsor **West** in the provincial election June 7. She hates his party leader, Liberal Premier Kathleen Wynne.

"I would love to vote for you," she told him, "but she's got to go."

It was the refrain all along Dominion Boulevard in South Windsor, where Bortolin canvassed Monday.

"I do like what I see," said another woman who didn't want her name used. "He does talk well. He seems to know what he's talking about."

"But I don't like his party." "I'm torn. I'm going to have to sit down and do some studying."

He's a popular candidate running for an unpopular party. It's a tricky sell at the door. And it's leaving many voters stumped.

It's the classic question: Do you vote for the candidate or the party? Bortolin is the high-profile, grassroots Ward 3 councillor known for championing downtown. He was key to major new incentives that are attracting investment to the core. He has also addressed problems that residents have complained about for years, from vacant buildings to dumping. His supporters are many and loyal.

But his party ... Wynne is the most unpopular premier in Canada with an approval rating of only 19 per cent. The Liberals have just 26.7 per cent support and are predicted to win just 14 seats, dropping to third-party status, according to Poll Tracker, an aggregate of publicly available polling data by analyst Eric Grenier for the CBC.

Meanwhile, the bad news keeps on coming. David Livingston, the chief of staff to former Liberal premier Dalton McGuinty, was just sentenced to four months in jail for deleting documents on the government's decision to cancel two controversial **power** plants before the 2011 election. And auditor general Bonnie Lysyk released a report last week that the Liberals are understating their projected budget deficits by billions of dollars.

What do you pitch? And how do you vote? Bortolin is the pitch. "Look at all the work I've done on council," he says at every door.

He cites bulk garbage pickup, an issue he brought to council four times before it was passed. He cites addressing vacant buildings, an issue he spent months mobilizing residents for before bringing it to council.

"If you find someone who works harder than me, check off that box, but I guarantee you won't," he told one resident.

"I've been able to advocate strongly for residents," he said at another door. "I can do the same at the provincial level."

He's not distancing himself from the party, he said. The local candidate matters, he believes. That's who brings the community's concerns to the provincial legislature.

"The biggest asset is my work on council and the work ethic it takes to do the work," he said. "I want to get stuff done."

He has spent the last several days canvassing South Windsor, afternoons and evenings during the week, all day on weekends. People in his ward know him. But his ward covers only onesixth of the riding. South Windsor is far from downtown.

He discovered that a lot of people in South Windsor know his name.

But then he gets grilled. "She keeps hiking **hydro rates**," one woman told him, referring to Wynne.

This is the first government in 40 years that has invested in the **electricity** system, he replies. There were blackouts and brownouts because of insufficient capacity and smog days because of coal-fired plants. All that new infrastructure costs.

But this woman didn't buy it. "There are other reasons we're paying," she said. "There were screw-ups."

The decision to cancel the two **power** plants was estimated to cost about \$1 billion. Prices for **wind** and **solar energy** were exorbitant. Mismanagement has cost **Ontario** tens of billions of dollars, according to the auditor and provincial Financial Accountability Office.

We made mistakes, Bortolin admitted.

He pitches the government's recent progressive policies, like free prescription drugs for people age 24 and under, free post-secondary tuition for low-income **students** and free daycare for preschoolers.

"There are a lot of offsets this government has introduced, a lot of positives," he said.

Windsor decided to throw out the Liberals in the last election, he points out. The Liberals still won and Windsor was left without any government members.

Then there's this: "You have to look at the other choices. Doug Ford is promising \$6 billion in cuts. It has to come from somewhere," he said, referring to the Progressive Conservative leader.

The problem for Bortolin is that most of the time it's not about the candidate.

Faced with voting for the candidate or the party, only about 20 per cent of people vote for the candidate, said Nelson Wiseman, political science professor and director of the **Canadian** studies program at the University of **Toronto**.

"Studies show that when people are asked if they're voting based on the candidate or the party, invariably the candidate is the least important," said Wiseman. "It's overwhelmingly the party. Party and leader are more important than candidate."

Voters on Dominion promised to consider Bortolin. But, except for stalwart Liberals, there were few commitments.

Bortolin guided Shawn Lippert through a zoning change he needed for his business, Scarehouse Windsor, a haunted house on McDougall Street.

"You certainly went to bat for us," he acknowledged.

He'd re-elect Bortolin for council, he said.

"He's a standup guy." But the provincial election? He hasn't decided.
ajavis@postmedia.com

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How the Senate is cracking down to get Trans Mountain built - Macleans.ca

www.macleans.ca - Wed May 2 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

Where there's a bill, there's a way, so Independent Senator Douglas Black tabled Bill S-245 to declare the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain expansion to be

in the national interest.

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In a slow-motion pipeline race, Keystone XL poised to take the lead | Calgary Herald

calgaryherald.com - Wed May 2 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Imagine placing several turtles on a racetrack.

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