

Infomart Newsletters

From: Infomart Newsletters
Sent: May 10, 2018 8:00 AM
To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Thursday, May 10, 2018

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Thursday, May 10, 2018
 Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 36 Results



A campaign steeped in controversy kicks off; Ontario election

Toronto Star - Thu May 10 2018
Tone: **Negative**
Byline: Martin Regg Cohn

Ad Value: \$15,153
Reach: 361323 **Page:** A1

The 2018 election was over before it began: Wednesday was merely the formal campaign kickoff to kicking the Liberals out of **power** and electing Doug Ford to the premier's office. So say many pundits, pollsters, and politicians pursuing ...



What exactly is Doug Ford?

National Post - Thu May 10 2018
Tone: **Negative**
Byline: Andrew Coyne

Ad Value: \$10,559
Reach: 159480 **Page:** A6

The first NDP ad of the 2018 **Ontario** election campaign invites viewers to "imagine a place" where **hydro** is cheap, drugs are free, and dental care is on the house - all at no cost to anyone except the "very rich" who will be ...



Andrea Horwath's election campaign focuses on 'change for the better' | Full 2018 Ontario Election Coverage

toronto.ctvnews.ca · Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
[Permalink](#)

The third time may well prove to be a charm for Andrea Horwath, who both pundits and polls suggest has the most to gain in Ontario's spring election.



Doug Ford paints himself as fiscally responsible outsider in election bid | Full 2018 Ontario Election Coverage

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Eight years after a populist wave handed Rob Ford the reins of Canada's largest city, his brother is testing the same brand of everyman appeal on the provincial stage.



Doug Ford Accuses Reporter Of 'Gotcha Question' For Asking Him To Explain How Bill Becomes Law

www.huffingtonpost.ca · Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
[Permalink](#)

As he kicked off his bid to become Ontario's next premier, Ontario Progressive Conservative Leader Doug Ford did not take kindly to a reporter asking him to explain how a bill becomes a law in the province.



Kathleen Wynne offers consistency over change in fight for re-election | Full 2018 Ontario Election Coverage

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At a time when polls suggest Ontario voters are clamouring for change, Kathleen Wynne is offering them something far less dramatic: consistency.



How the Ontario election is a warm-up act for the 2019 federal campaign | CBC News

www.cbc.ca · Wed May 9 2018

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When they're not scrapping over the nation's business on Parliament Hill, political operatives on both sides of the aisle in Ottawa have their eyes glued to the high-stakes Ontario provincial election — for one excellent reason.



Windsor-Essex, Chatham-Kent candidates officially kick-off provincial election campaigns | CTV Windsor News

windsor.ctvnews.ca · Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
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It's day one of the provincial election campaign — although many candidates have been out knocking on doors for quite some time.



Countdown to election day begins: Nanos | CTV News

www.ctvnews.ca - Wed May 9 2018

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Ford fights to drum up support for Ontario PCs | CTV News

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2018 Ontario election promise tracker: Here's what the Liberals, PCs and NDP have pledged so far | Globalnews.ca

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The leaders of Ontario's political parties are trying hard to win your vote on June 7.



Who is Kathleen Wynne? Liberal leader offers consistency over change as she seeks re-election | Globalnews.ca

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Who is Doug Ford? Ontario PC leader seeks to unseat Wynne and Liberals | Globalnews.ca

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Eight years after a populist wave handed Rob Ford the reins of Canada's largest city, his brother is testing the same brand of everyman appeal on the provincial stage.



74% of Ontarians wish for different party leaders in provincial election: Ipsos poll | Globalnews.ca

globalnews.ca - Wed May 9 2018

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[Permalink](#)

Three-quarters of voters in the Ontario election say they wish there were different party leaders to vote for in the upcoming June election, according to a recent Ipsos poll.



Decision Ontario: Global News election panel discusses the campaign | Watch News Videos Online

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For 'gotcha' questions to the Grits channeling their inner NDP. Farah Nasser speaks with our election panel about the campaign.



Incumbent Parry Sound-Muskoka MPP talks health care, hydro and Bala | MuskokaRegion.com

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Incumbent Muskoka/Parry Sound PC candidate Norm Miller is getting ready to rumble in the provincial election arena once again.



Some Details Please

Toronto Sun - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Carole Lavallee

Ad Value: \$478

Reach: 171076 Page: A14

Re "Stop **wind** farms from polluting wells" (Rick Nicholls, May 8): I hope you are right that a Tory government would be gung-ho to ensure environmental safety. Forgive me, though, for doubts about that right now. You see, contrary to the ...



Hopefuls are ready to battle; Provincial election campaign starts in earnest

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Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Ronald Zajac

Ad Value: \$1,648

Reach: 11173 Page: A1 / Front

The signs are up, the early debates are scheduled and Brockville council is officially down one person - it's provincial election time in Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and **Rideau** Lakes. Progressive Conservative incumbent Steve Clark ...



Why is farmland near Toronto more sacred?

Chatham This Week - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Peter Epp

Page: A6

The Greenbelt that surrounds **Toronto** and the GTA became part of the election campaign discussion when it was learned that Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford had assured developers that, if elected, a Ford government would allow ...



Ford revs up party base in Conservative stronghold

Ottawa Citizen - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Sean Chase

Ad Value: \$3,345

Reach: 114846 Page: A3

On the first day of the 2018 provincial election campaign, Doug Ford waded into

Renfrew County on Wednesday to rally his base while reassuring uncommitted voters he's ready to be the next premier of **Ontario**. With the writ ...



Ford 'scary' - Thibeault; Incumbent Sudbury MPP attacks PC leader, defends Liberal policies as he opens his campaign headquarters

Sudbury Star - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Jim Moodie

Ad Value: \$1,524

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

Glenn Thibeault joked that the presence of a bright red fire truck (on loan from **Northern Ontario** Film Studios) at his campaign launch Wednesday was a statement on his barbecuing skills. "Usually when I'm ...



Not sold on Ford

Stratford Beacon-Herald - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lori Sandy

Ad Value: \$148

Reach: 10143 Page: A5

I know many are angry at the Wynne government and rightly so. Transparency on **energy** issues has been lacking and I, too, am frustrated with high **hydro** bills. I will vote for a politician from any party who is a hard worker with ...



Hamilton ready for a 'Green Wave,' says party leader Mike Schreiner

thespec.com - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: ereilly@thespec.com

Reach: 90600

Mike Schreiner says Hamiltonians are ready to see a "green wave" sweep through the province this election - including here in Hamilton. Schreiner, the leader of the Green Party, swung through Hamilton Wednesday afternoon to highlight his party's ...



Firing Up Local Liberals, Wynne Compares Ford To Mike Harris

Ottawa Citizen - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: David Reevely

Ad Value: \$7,853

Reach: 114846 Page: A3

Liberals are in an existential fight for the future of **Ontario**, leader Kathleen Wynne told her **Ottawa** team Wednesday night. Four years ago, in the first hours of an uphill campaign, Wynne hit **Ottawa** for an evening ...



Sudbury ready for change, West says

Sudbury Star - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Mary Katherine Keown

Ad Value: \$1,567
Reach: 14934 **Page:** A3

Jamie **West** wants to paint the town orange. The NDP candidate launched his campaign office on Wednesday at 1021 The Kingsway. He said he is ready to step up onto the provincial stage and to make **Sudbury** a priority. "I always ...



Renfrew Hydro highlights success of new program

Renfrew Mercury - Thu May 10 2018
Tone: **Positive**
Byline: Tiffany Lepack
Page: A12

On April 24 **Renfrew** council heard two success stories involving the new Affordability Fund administrated by **Renfrew Hydro**. The Affordability Fund is run by the Affordability Trust Fund (AFT) and funded by the ...



Guelph councillors vote to strive for 100% renewable energy by 2050 | GuelphMercury.com

www.guelphmercury.com - Wed May 9 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

In a little over three decades' time, Guelph could become a city running on energy from renewable sources, and renewable sources alone.



Enbridge to get \$3.2B in two deals; Firm will achieve goal of raising \$3B from non-core asset sales

Toronto Star - Thu May 10 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: Dan Healing The Canadian Press

Ad Value: \$5,736
Reach: 361323 **Page:** B4

Shares in Enbridge Inc. rose Wednesday after it announced it will gain nearly \$3.2 billion through two deals to sell renewable **power** facilities in **North** America and Europe and **natural gas** gathering and ...



Enbridge cuts debt from Spectra deal with US\$2.5B in asset sales

Ottawa Citizen - Thu May 10 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: Kevin Orland And Alex Nussbaum

Ad Value: \$3,054
Reach: 114846 **Page:** B10

Enbridge Inc. took a **leap** forward in efforts to trim the pile of debt it took on with last year's US\$28.6 billion purchase of Spectra **Energy** Corp., announcing the sale of a U.S. **natural gas** business and ...



Enbridge raises more than \$3-billion from asset sales - The Globe and Mail

www.theglobeandmail.com - Wed May 9 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Enbridge Inc. is poised to blow past its target for asset sales this year, easing

pressure on chief executive officer Al Monaco as he seeks to chop debt and simplify the company's complex operations.



Hydro One merger with Avista gets FCC approval - BNN Bloomberg

www.bnnbloomberg.ca - Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Hydro One Ltd. (H.TO 0.10%) and Avista Corp. say the U.S. Federal Communications Commission has granted its consent to close their merger.



Hydro One and Avista Reach Settlement in Principle in Oregon Merger Case - NASDAQ.com

www.nasdaq.com - Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Hydro One Limited ("Hydro One") (TSX: H) and Avista Corporation ("Avista") (NYSE:AVA) have reached a significant milestone in the regulatory approval process of the proposed merger.



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Permalink

Hydro One Limited ("Hydro One") (TSX: H) and Avista Corporation ("Avista") (NYSE: AVA) have reached a significant milestone in the regulatory approval process of the proposed merger.



Trudeau must stay focused on four key files - iPolitics

ipolitics.ca - Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**
Permalink

Paul Crawford noted on Wednesday, May 9, 2018
Energy East is mentioned.

There are really only four priority files in the Prime Minister's Office: the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion, the influx of illegally arrived asylum seekers, the NAFTA renegotiation and the upcoming G7 summit chaired by Canada.



How the U.S. outsmarted us on the oilsands

Toronto Sun - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**
Byline: Lorrie Goldstein

Ad Value: \$2,930
Reach: 171076 Page: A15

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, finally realizing that the oilsands are a vital part of Canada's economy, is struggling to get Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline built. There's only one problem. While Canada certainly needs the pipeline to get ...



Residents petition province to follow its own rules

Wallaceburg Courier Press - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: \$383

Reach: 8941 Page: A5

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

Clippings Summary

Full Articles



A campaign steeped in controversy kicks off; Ontario election

Toronto Star - Thu May 10 2018

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Byline: Martin Regg Cohn

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The 2018 election was over before it began: Wednesday was merely the formal campaign kickoff to kicking the Liberals out of **power** and electing Doug Ford to the premier's office.

So say many pundits, pollsters, and politicians pursuing **power**. But beware people in the know, for no one really knows how the votes will add up on June 7.

Public opinion polls cast the Progressive Conservative leader as the frontrunner, Liberal Leader Kathleen Wynne as a dead duck, and New Democratic Party Leader Andrea Horwath as a dark horse on the move.

But be skeptical of anyone selling certainty in a closely watched campaign. If politics is broken, polling is beyond repair.

From the upset victory of Donald Trump in 2016 to the Liberal majority of 2014, the polls were pointless - people didn't speak their mind, or didn't yet know their own mind. Unlike the hyper-partisans who stalk Twitter or flock to mass rallies, most voters don't truly turn their minds to **Ontario** politics until closer to election day.

But this election feels different. The personalities and policies are more controversial than at any time in recent memory.

Campaigns matter. Campaigns are also maddening. Politicians make implausible promises or unsupported accusations. Their pitches rely on hype and hope, fear and frustration.

By all accounts, this is a change election. But be careful what you wish for - change can be unpredictable, and a fresh face isn't always unfamiliar.

While Ford feels new and unblemished, he is arguably as much of a retread as his rivals. Ford ran and lost for mayor in 2014, and bears the scars of his years as a controversial city councillor alongside his brother Rob as mayor (imposing new taxes and collecting a rebuke from the integrity commissioner along the way). He stunned the Tories by coming from behind to win the leadership, suspended the party's platform, renounced its core promises, and is reverting to

the PC formula of cutting programs to achieve prosperity - details to come.

Wynne bears the baggage of five years as premier, weighed down by a further 10 years of Liberal rule that makes her an easy target for decisions good, bad and ugly - from the **gas** plants boondoggle to privatizing half of **Hydro** One. But her unpopularity has prodded her party to propose a slate of progressive policies - from a \$15 minimum wage to expanded pharmacare and free child care for pre-schoolers - provided people overlook their surging debt projections (as voters usually do).

Horwath hopes to leapfrog from last place into government as the default choice among voters disaffected with the other two parties. Untested in government, she benefits from the other two leaders attacking one another. But Horwath has been around as leader far longer than her two rivals, having assumed the NDP mantle nearly a decade ago without making much of a mark in provincial politics (apart from her disastrous 2014 election gambit, when she tried to lure PC voters but lost loyalists along the way). Now she is reverting to a progressive platform that promises expanded child care, pharmacare and denticare.

Green Party Leader Mike Schreiner gets the least exposure, having been excluded from the televised debates. That's too bad, given Ford's costly promise to take **Ontario** out of the fight against global warming by dismantling programs that make polluters pay.

Ford is a flashpoint, Wynne a lightning rod, and Horwath is offering shelter in a storm. Yet beyond their bitter personal rivalries, their competing promises don't add up:

Ford promises to find \$6 billion in painless cuts; Wynne plans a deficit of \$6.7 billion; Horwath pledges to buy back more than \$6 billion in **Hydro** One shares. All three leaders' political ambitions are exceeded by their policy ambitions.

It's easy enough to pick holes in each party's **plan** (the Tories haven't yet presented one). Tempting as it is to write them all off as incoherent or untrustworthy, that would be a campaign cop-out.

By dint of desperation or inspiration, democracy is about choosing, not just complaining. An election is not a referendum on the party in **power**, but a contest among rival parties competing anew for **power**.

Elections require careful comparisons, even if that means deciding on the lesser of three or four evils. The alternative is apathy and abdicating your vote - which means letting others decide for you.

Tune in and stay tuned. No matter what people say, the campaign has just started - and with four long weeks still to go, it is far from over.

Martin Regg Cohn is a columnist based in **Toronto** covering **Ontario** politics. Follow him on Twitter: @reggcohn

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What exactly is Doug Ford?

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to "pay a little more."

That word - "imagine" - might be the theme of the coming election. The three major parties appear to be living in a world of the imagination, with platforms full of imaginary promises paid for with imaginary dollars. The province is sinking ever deeper in debt, notwithstanding the Liberal government's desperate efforts to conceal it, its debt-to-GDP ratio headed for 45 per cent even after a decade or more of uninterrupted economic growth. A recession of any length or severity would blow that number skyward.

Beyond that the picture only grows darker, with the first of the baby boomers just into their 70s and the costs of health care projected to rise, relentlessly, as they grow into their dotage. And yet all three parties are merrily racking up new spending promises - daycare, pharmacare, dentacare, the works - with money they wouldn't have even if the official budget numbers were genuine, and not, as the province's auditor general has lately warned, a swindle and a fraud (I paraphrase). It's an election in La-La land.

Oddly, this does not seem to be the conventional view. The advance word on the election, rather, is that **Ontario** is facing a choice of unprecedented starkness, a polarizing election with no one seeming to occupy the middle ground.

"It's hard to remember a provincial campaign that's featured two leaders so diametrically opposed to each other," broadcaster Steve Paikin wrote recently, of the Liberals' Kathleen Wynne and the Conservatives' Doug Ford. "The political **centre**," agrees the Globe and Mail's Marcus Gee, "has vanished like a puddle in the sun."

It's true that the Liberals and the NDP are in something of a bidding war for the left-of-**centre** vote. If the March budget signalled a retreat from the Liberals' notoverly-stringent devotion to fiscal restraint, the NDP platform goes further in every direction: about \$4 billion a year further, in fact.

But it doesn't follow that, merely because two parties have ranged far to the left, the third must have tacked similarly to the right - certainly not under its current leadership. Whatever else he is, Ford is not an ideological conservative. He may like to mouth some conservative-sounding buzzwords, but he would appear to have no considered philosophy of government of any kind: as the campaign is already revealing, he does not even know what it does, let alone what it should do.

Simplistic, ill-informed, bombastic he may be, but a conservative he is not - however much that may have come to be associated with conservatism in its current populist incarnation. But he doesn't quite fit the populist mould, either, at least in its contemporary, racially and culturally divisive sense.

Where a Donald Trump might have insisted on the candidacy of Tanya Granic Allen, the social conservative firebrand who helped Ford win the Conservative leadership, Ford coolly dumped her the minute some ill-considered rhetoric from her past surfaced online. Ford's attachment to social conservatism would seem to be as firm as his commitment, say, to allowing development in the Greenbelt lands surrounding **Toronto**: jettisoned, likewise, the minute it came under fire.

Indeed, it's hard to know quite what he believes. When the Conservatives first unveiled the "People's Guarantee," the platform on which they had planned to run under the since-defenestrated Patrick Brown, it was widely seen as a sizable step to the left, embracing nearly every one of the Wynne government's signature policies, with the exception of its "**cap-and-trade**" market for greenhouse **gas** emissions permits, and the green **energy** programs it funds. In its place, the Brown Conservatives promised to acquiesce in a federal carbon tax, using the revenues (on the assumption the feds would hand these over) to cut personal income tax **rates**.

In the leadership race, Ford campaigned hard against the idea; on becoming leader, he made a show of setting aside the People's Guarantee altogether. Yet as time wears on, he seems more and more to be running on it in its essentials, minus the carbon tax. The \$5 billion in new spending on rapid transit in the **Greater Toronto** Area, announced with great fanfare as the campaign got under way, is straight out of the document.

So, too, is Ford's promise to lower **electricity rates** by a further 12 per cent, beyond the 25 per cent cut the Wynne government cooked up with its infamous **Fair Hydro Plan** (broadly speaking, by borrowing the difference).

It's a shell game - the Conservatives would simply shift some costs from **electricity rates** onto the tax base - but no more so than the **Fair Hydro Plan** itself, which Ford would leave in place.

His fiscal **plan** is even purer Ford: without the revenues from the carbon tax, he would need to cut \$16 billion out of spending over three years. How would he do it? Oh, "efficiencies." Not a single civil servant, he vows, would be laid off.

It's not that it can't be done (holding spending level for three or four years would probably do it). It's the attitude it reveals. Government would be doing pretty much all of the same things under Ford as it would under Wynne. It would just cost a little less. It's Wynne, circa 2017.

Neither a small-government ideologue, à la Mike Harris, nor really a populist, on Trumpian lines, Ford appears rather to be more of an old-fashioned, say-anything bunkum artist - a little more shameless than most, but ultimately operating somewhere within the usual bounds of political convention.

That is to say a politician, only more so.

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Andrea Horwath's election campaign focuses on 'change for the better' | Full 2018 Ontario Election Coverage

toronto.ctvnews.ca - Thu May 10 2018

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Byline: Carole Lavallee

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CAROLE LAVALLEE CHELMSFORD, ONT.

(To be charitable, the Liberals inherited a mess in the **energy** sector and made it worse)

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Hopefuls are ready to battle; Provincial election campaign starts in earnest

The Brockville Recorder & Times - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Ronald Zajac

Ad Value: \$1,648

Reach: 11173 Page: A1 / Front

The signs are up, the early debates are scheduled and Brockville council is officially down one person - it's provincial election time in Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and **Rideau** Lakes.

Progressive Conservative incumbent Steve Clark is entering his fourth battle for the local seat, challenged by Liberal David Henderson, whose leave of absence as Brockville mayor is now in effect but for a few pressing municipal duties, and New Democrat Michelle Taylor.

Two other candidates, the Green Party's Derek Morley and Libertarian Charles (Bill) Buckley, were listed online by their respective parties as local candidates but could not be reached for comment.

Election day is June 7. The candidates are set to face off early in an all-candidates meeting at the Toledo Legion Thursday night, organized by the Leeds and Grenville Federation of Agriculture.

And the **Ontario** Non-Profit Housing Association is organizing a debate on housing Friday afternoon at 1 p.m. at the Royal Brock retirement residence.

Meanwhile, Clark and Henderson have both scheduled their campaign office openings for Saturday.

Clark's campaign is stressing his achievements as an MPP since he was first elected in a 2010 byelection.

Clark said Wednesday those include standing up for local health care, including battling cuts to Brockville General Hospital, and recent infrastructure gains such as the BGH redevelopment and the Westport wastewater treatment project.

But the incumbent's campaign will also focus on PC Leader Doug Ford's five stated priorities: "Cleaning up the **hydro** mess" and providing 12 per cent off

electricity costs; putting more money back into taxpayers' pockets; "restoring responsibility, accountability and trust to government"; job creation; and an end to "hallway health care" or hospital overcrowding.

While some might think Ford's seemingly unlikely rise to the party leadership represents a wild card, Clark said the new leader availed himself well in this week's initial leaders' debate.

And Clark stresses he himself is a known quantity.

"Obviously, people know what they're going to get with me," said Clark. "I stand up for local issues and I'm going to continue to stand up for local issues."

While he has benefited from the local riding's decidedly blue tint, Clark reiterated he is not taking the election for granted.

Henderson on Wednesday said he plans to stress his key message that this election represents "a very clear choice about the direction we want the province of **Ontario** to go."

That choice, he said, is between continuing to invest in such things as infrastructure and services, or cutting back.

The latter is the Ford campaign's direction, said Henderson.

"It'll set us back years," he added.

The **Ontario** economy is "roaring," said Henderson, but only in large centres such as **Ottawa** and **Toronto**, while small rural areas such as this one remain in need of further investment as current and future infrastructure needs mount.

"It's building up and it (investment) has to happen now," said Henderson.

Ford's emergence as Tory leader, which happened after Henderson received the Liberal nomination, has convinced Henderson even further of his need to turn this riding red.

"It has made me so sure that we should not have him as our premier," said Henderson.

"It's not the kind of province that I want to live in."

Henderson will open his office, at 62 King Street **West** in Brockville (previously known as Cooke's Fine Foods), at 10 a.m. Saturday, while Clark's office, located at 2117 Parkedale Avenue (the former All You Need Music location), opens from 1-3 p.m.

For her part, Taylor is running on more limited resources and will not have a campaign office, instead running her effort out of her Athens home. She can be reached at 613-246-0008, by email at mtaylor_ ndp@outlook.com.

"I think it's a pretty strong consensus that people want change," said the NDP candidate.

Taylor also plans to tackle the **Hydro** issue, but the NDP wants to see the **utility** back in **public** hands. Taylor said an NDP government would reduce bills in rural areas and get rid of **time of use** billing.

While provincial polls now have the PCs at the top and the NDP second, Taylor believes the campaign could swing in an orange direction.

"There's still time for momentum to change," she added.

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Why is farmland near Toronto more sacred?

Chatham This Week - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Peter Epp

Page: A6

The Greenbelt that surrounds **Toronto** and the GTA became part of the election campaign discussion when it was learned that Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford had assured developers that, if elected, a Ford government would allow part of that protected land to be open for development.

But Ford quickly backtracked when he found the Greenbelt is political holy ground, its protection legislatively enshrined by the McGuinty Liberals in 2005.

The howls of protest against Ford's misstep were immediate, and the loudest came from Premier Kathleen Wynne. Wynne even promised that a re-elected Liberal government would expand the Greenspace, noting "the point of the Greenbelt is to keep in place the integrity of water systems, the integrity of agricultural land. Making the map look like Swiss cheese makes it much less viable and really undermines those water protections and agricultural land protections."

Wynne's righteous indignation fell on receptive ears in downtown **Toronto**, but it could be interpreted as hypocrisy in this part of **Ontario** where the Liberals' Green **Energy** Policy has succeeded in planting hundreds of industrial **wind** turbines on some of the best farmland in Canada.

Especially irritating for rural residents is Wynne's mantra that the Greenbelt is designed to "keep in place the integrity of water systems, the integrity of agricultural land." For the past two years, a citizen group in Chatham-Kent has been fighting the **Ontario** Ministry of Environment over the loss of quality drinking water from private wells they say have been disturbed by the development of nearby **wind** turbines. So far they have received no satisfaction from the province.

Moreover, Wynne's concern for the integrity of farmland that skirts the edges of the GTA hasn't been extended to the province's traditional farmbelt. The development of **wind** turbines in Southwestern **Ontario** has required new **service** roads to be cut through soybean fields and **electrical** cables to be routed through cornfields. Concrete has been poured into deep foundations to support the massive turbines. The turbines may be removed after a few decades of activity, but the concrete will be there forever.

Ford was wrong to say he would open up part of the 800,000-hectare Greenbelt to development. Studies show that almost 45,000 hectares of land surrounding the GTA can be developed without hampering the integrity of the Greenbelt.

But he admitted he was wrong and backtracked.

Wynne has never admitted her government's misstep in continuing with the Green **Energy** Policy, and even now remains committed to the completion of the final contracts, even though they are not needed by our **electrical** system, even though a vast majority of the rural community is against the new **wind** farms, and even though turbines are being planted on land that should be planted with crops.

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Ford revs up party base in Conservative stronghold

Ottawa Citizen - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Sean Chase

Ad Value: \$3,345

Reach: 114846 Page: A3

On the first day of the 2018 provincial election campaign, Doug Ford waded into **Renfrew** County on Wednesday to rally his base while reassuring uncommitted voters he's ready to be the next premier of **Ontario**.

With the writ dropping after midnight, the Progressive Conservative leader chose to make **Renfrew**-Nipissing -Pembroke - a Tory stronghold both federally and provincially - one of his first stops as he embarks on an endeavour to convince voters over the next 30 days to return his party to government after 15 years in the political wilderness.

Accompanied by **Renfrew**-Nipissing -Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski and Nepean -Carleton MPP Lisa MacLeod, Ford entered the **Renfrew** Armouries to thunderous applause from an estimated 1,000 supporters.

Polls suggest Ford, a former **Toronto** city councillor, is well-positioned to become the next premier and he spent most of his 17-minute address attacking the record of the person he hopes to succeed: Kathleen Wynne.

Microphone in hand, Ford declined to use a podium and immediately fired up supporters with shots at the Liberal premier and her predecessor, Dalton McGuinty, criticizing their financial management, which he said has left Ontarians \$346 million in debt.

"We have seen over 15 years how Kathleen Wynne has destroyed this province," said Ford, eliciting a chorus of boos from the audience. "We have the largest sub-national debt in the entire world, but finally the party with the taxpayers' money is over on June 7."

As he's done many times before, the PC leader promised to axe the board of directors of **Hydro** One and oust chief executive Mayo Schmidt, who was paid \$6.2 million in total compensation last year. Ford repeated his pledge to scrap **Ontario's cap-and-trade** system and reject a carbon tax.

"It is the worst tax you can put on the people, not just in **Ontario** but across Canada," Ford said. "That carbon tax is gone. It's done."

Ford also reiterated other campaign planks the party has announced so far, such as radically changing the province's education system, including repealing the sex-education and math curricula and policing free speech on university campuses.

Ford said it was time to reform the tests conducted by the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) and introduce improved standardized testing. He promised, if elected premier, to fully consult parents about what he called a more age-appropriate sex-ed curriculum. And he told supporters to expect to see their taxes cut, while his government would work to generate more manufacturing jobs.

"We believe we work for the people," he said. "You can spend your money a lot wiser than the government can spend it. We are now a have-not province but we will once again be the engine of Canada."

Ford further committed to providing 30,000 more long-term care beds, spending \$1.9 billion over 10 years to address housing and mental health, and to reduce taxes on small and medium-sized businesses to make the province more competitive. He expressed empathy for those Ontarians making minimum

wage, pledging they will pay no taxes on their income. schase@postmedia.com

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Ford 'scary' - Thibeault; Incumbent Sudbury MPP attacks PC leader, defends Liberal policies as he opens his campaign headquarters

Sudbury Star - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Jim Moodie

Ad Value: \$1,524

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

Glenn Thibeault joked that the presence of a bright red fire truck (on loan from **Northern Ontario** Film Studios) at his campaign launch Wednesday was a statement on his barbecuing skills.

"Usually when I'm cooking, there's a fire of some sort," he quipped, while flipping burgers and dogs outside the Barrydowne Road office.

He got more serious, though, when talking about the rhetoric coming from the Doug Ford campaign, which he would characterize as smoke and mirrors, if not incendiary.

"He wants to take us back 50 years," said Thibeault, in reference to Ford's statement that he would "hop on a bulldozer" to speed up access to the Ring of Fire.

"We all recognize that we need to get this up and operational," said the incumbent **Sudbury** MPP. "But you can't go back and start treating First Nations communities the way we used to."

Thibeault argued mining companies don't want to trample on Indigenous rights, either, and that partnering with these remote communities and helping them become "part of the overall economy" is not only the **fair** approach but one that will pay dividends down the road.

"That's why it's so scary for me in terms of what Doug Ford is saying," he said. "I get that he wants to use a bumper-sticker slogan, but doing the right thing isn't a bumper-sticker slogan."

Thibeault, who holds the **energy** portfolio with the Wynne government, is equally offended by Ford's contention that **Ontario's hydro rates** are the highest in **North America**.

"We're absolutely not," said the MPP. "We're right smack-dab in the middle."

A 25 per cent break on **hydro rates** implemented last year has made a significant difference for consumers, he said, and **Greater Sudbury** "has the 16th lowest **electricity rates** in all of **Ontario**."

Meanwhile, the **Northern Industrial Electricity Rate** program "has made **electricity rates** for our large industries some of the lowest in the Great Lakes region," he said. "So yes, I understand that it's very easy to kick at **electricity** and I understand the issues, but we've done a lot to help and we're going to do more."

The Liberals have a long-term **energy plan** that will keep costs in check, said Thibeault. "It's not skyrocketing after the election; we're holding it to the **rate** of inflation. And we've got other programs in place that are actually going to help take costs out of the system to make sure we don't see our costs go up."

Thibeault said he's proud of the government's move to phase out coal-fired generation, which has improved air quality while curbing greenhouse **gases**.

"We haven't had a smog day since 2014," he said, adding one of the most rewarding moments for him as **energy** minister came when a 10-year-old boy with asthma approached him at Queen's Park to say thank you because he was able to spend time outdoors.

Thibeault himself was getting a lot of fresh air on Wednesday going door to door. By the time of the campaign kickoff, he had already recorded 14,640 steps on his watch pedometer, and was planning to hit the pavement again afterwards.

"It's an honour to do this and it's not something I ever take for granted," he said of campaigning and the democratic process in general.

This is Thibeault's fourth campaign - he ran twice federally with the NDP prior to carrying the Grit banner in the 2015 byelection - and it's still an exciting challenge, he said.

"You never get it down, because you always get new surprises," he said. "But you know how much work needs to go into it and how you need to prepare. For me, it's making sure that my head's in the space it needs to be and I've got a good pair of running shoes, because I'm going to wear these out."

In a brief address to supporters, Thibeault said he is counting on everyone's help, as repeating as MPP is far from a given.

"This is going to be a very tough campaign," he said. "We are actually in a fight, and I know we've been doing some great things but, at the same time, we absolutely need your support."

The mood among the **crowd** was upbeat and festive, however, with former **Sudbury** mayor Marianne Matichuk initiating a chant of "four more years."

Thibeault said he is proud of many things that have been accomplished in the past few years - including the recently announced soccer bubble for New **Sudbury** and action on the long-awaited PET scanner for Health Sciences **North** - but he takes particular satisfaction out of assisting constituents with their individual concerns.

"A lot of it is the day-to-day stuff we do helping folks just get through government," he said. "When you get a senior coming in who needs help getting their birth certificate from 70 years ago, that might not seem important, but to that person, it was extremely important."

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Not sold on Ford



Stratford Beacon-Herald - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lori Sandy

Ad Value: \$148

Reach: 10143 **Page:** A5

I know many are angry at the Wynne government and rightly so. Transparency on **energy** issues has been lacking and I, too, am frustrated with high **hydro** bills. I will vote for a politician from any party who is a hard worker with a strong platform, a social conscience and positivity. Many PC candidates fit this description and deserve to win in their ridings. However, change at any cost is not the answer. Doug Ford's history in politics is one of inexperience, and of stirring up anger without offering realistic alternatives. His words show that he doesn't know what he's doing. He is not one of the hardworking people of

Ontario, he is someone who inherited everything. If you look past your anger, I think you will also see that his numbers don't add up. Yes, his family has a history of giving back, but his actions show that he doesn't possess the same generous spirit and genuineness as his parents and even his very flawed brother. I know that **Ontario** isn't perfect, but look at the world around you, it can be much worse. Change is important but Doug Ford isn't the right kind of change.

Lori Sandy

Toronto

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Hamilton ready for a 'Green Wave,' says party leader Mike Schreiner

thespec.com - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: ereilly@thespec.com

Reach: 90600

Mike Schreiner says Hamiltonians are ready to see a "green wave" sweep through the province this election - including here in Hamilton.

Schreiner, the leader of the Green Party, swung through Hamilton Wednesday afternoon to highlight his party's plans for Hamilton, including:

Covering 50 per cent of LRT, HSR and DARTS operating costs;

Introducing congestion charges for driving into **Toronto**; commercial parking levies in the GTA; and land value captures around transit nodes to raise \$3 billion for infrastructure and transit;

Introducing electrified all-day two-way GO **service** to **Toronto**, as well as improving **regional** transit (between **Guelph**, **Kitchener** and Hamilton, for example);

Licensing and regulating private cannabis dispensaries to prevent underground sales;

Expanding the Green Belt, and creating a "Blue Belt" to protect waterways;

Creating "clean **energy** sector" jobs, while maintaining steel manufacturing jobs to support green **energy** initiatives such as **wind** turbines.

Schreiner also kicked off the campaigns of local Green candidates: Vince Fiorito in **Burlington**; Janet Errygers in Flamborough-Glanbrook; Jason Lopez in Hamilton **Centre**; Marianne Workman in **Oakville North-Burlington**; Brian Munroe in Hamilton East-Stoney Creek; David Urquhart on the Hamilton Mountain; and Peter Ormond in Hamilton **West**-Ancaster-Dundas.

"Our plans benefit Hamilton. They benefit Hamilton's economy, and they benefit Hamilton as a community," he said. "The three status quo parties have had their opportunities, and they haven't delivered what the people of **Ontario** want. It is time to change the status quo and the only way we're going to change the status quo is to vote for a new party with a new vision."

Schreiner, who is running in **Guelph**, says he believes he has a shot of winning a seat in the legislature in the June 7 election. The incumbent, Liz Sandals - President of the Treasury Board and the former Minister of Education - is not running for re-election, leaving the door open for Schreiner to take the seat. He also points out that in the last election, he received 20 per cent of the popular

vote and was only 200 votes away from a second-place finish.

"We want to increase our vote total, and we're looking for breakthroughs in ridings across the province," he said. "The Greens are putting forward honest solutions to the real challenges we face, and I think that's what voters are hungry for."

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Firing Up Local Liberals, Wynne Compares Ford To Mike Harris

Ottawa Citizen - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: Negative

Byline: David Reevely

Ad Value: \$7,853

Reach: 114846 **Page:** A3

Liberals are in an existential fight for the future of **Ontario**, leader Kathleen Wynne told her **Ottawa** team Wednesday night.

Four years ago, in the first hours of an uphill campaign, Wynne hit **Ottawa** for an evening rally. It was sunny and hot and the **crowd** spilled out the doors of a former carpet store on Bank Street near Heron Road that was about to become a local campaign office.

That night, Wynne's biggest cheer came from an attack on Stephen Harper, whose Conservative government was on its way down. Harper made a great villain: His government was tired and a year from defeat and seemed to enjoy kicking **Ontario** when it could. Wynne lashed herself to the record of her predecessor Dalton McGuinty and declared war on Harper.

Now it's Wynne's government that's gone creaky, in need of fresh vitality. Harper's long gone. The new bogeyman isn't in **Ottawa**, he's in Etobicoke.

"This (election) has a particular edge to it," she told the 200 or so volunteers and fans who nearly filled the main hall at All Saints, a church-turned-eventspace in Sandy Hill, for her short pep talk. "That's because of the contrast between what we're putting forward, that value system that says if you're stronger, I'm stronger, and we're stronger together -" she was interrupted by cheers "- and what Doug Ford is saying."

The Progressive Conservative leader is the modern version of Mike Harris, Wynne said, so much so that "I almost said Mike Ford." Harris hacked at **Ontario's** foundations, Wynne charged, and personally drew her into politics.

Ford believes the provincial budget can be shorn of \$6 billion without anybody hurting and he doesn't want to fight **climate** change, Wynne said, and the **crowd** booed obediently.

Her voice dropped. "It's the care, or the cut. And that's why this election is so, so important."

Go knock on doors, Wynne implored the **crowd**, her voice rising again. She lost her first election by 72 votes. Every conversation matters.

"We can continue to build **Ontario** up, but to do that we need to get through this election. Thank you so much!" The **crowd** cheered and, but for a few who stuck around to get photos and handshakes with the leader, dispersed. Campaign

volunteers plucked the signs out of the lawn at All Saints, loaded them into cars, and headed out.

Wynne knows well she's starting this race from behind. The polls have her Liberals fighting for second place at best.

"I know what I have to communicate is that we are building, by our platform and our budget, we're building on the foundation that we have put in place in **Ontario**," she said in a separate interview before the rally.

In 2014, part of what she was doing was introducing herself to voters who didn't know her all that well.

That campaign was fought against Tories led by Tim Hudak, who had a detailed (but technically very flawed) **plan** to cut **public**-sector employment and try to goose private-sector growth. The NDP's Andrea Horwath tried to position herself as a semi-populist alternative but never got traction.

"I think what will be different about this campaign is we actually have an opponent in Doug Ford who, all he does is talk in slogans. He is not explaining to the people in this province what the impact of what he's saying will be," Wynne said. "It's a different campaign in the sense that we're not debating policy in the same way. He's bringing forward slogans and we're bringing forward real solutions to real problems."

Of course, now voters know Wynne a lot better and a lot of them don't like her. Her personal approval ratings are terrible, some of the lowest ever polled, and she's a drag on her Liberal party. Wynne knows that, too.

She's made the mistake of getting lost in policy sometimes, she said, just assuming that people know who she is and why she's in politics.

"Every day, I can give you examples of exchanges I've had where I've tried to help people," Wynne said. "I'm not saying in an arrogant way - the point I'm making is that, clearly, I don't project that."

"And that always surprises me, that people don't know that about me."

Wynne acknowledges errors, which she sees mostly as failures to communicate. Privatizing a majority share of **Hydro** One was startlingly unpopular and Wynne believes she and her government didn't lay the groundwork for it - explaining the infrastructure projects the billions of dollars it brought in would pay for, or the degree of control the province still has over the **utility**, even as a (large) minority shareholder.

Going back further, in the McGuinty era the province rebuilt the **electricity** system and closed coal-fired generating stations but didn't explain how expensive that was going to be and stuck **ratepayers** with too much of the cost too quickly. The "**Fair Hydro Plan**," which borrows billions to subsidize **hydro** bills temporarily, is a late answer, Wynne admits.

Knowing how you got into a mess isn't the same as knowing how to get out, but Wynne, unlike some politicians, loves to campaign. Like Hudak, Doug Ford leads rallies with an air of grim resignation. (It befits his message that **Ontario** needs plucking from the toilet it's swirling down but it's still a bummer.) Wynne charges out happily. If she goes down next month, she means to go down fighting. dreevely@postmedia.com [Twitter.com/davidreevely](https://twitter.com/davidreevely)

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Sudbury ready for change, West says

Sudbury Star - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Mary Katherine Keown

Ad Value: \$1,567

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

Jamie **West** wants to paint the town orange.

The NDP candidate launched his campaign office on Wednesday at 1021 The Kingsway. He said he is ready to step up onto the provincial stage and to make **Sudbury** a priority.

"I always joke around that I'm going to be the France Gelinas of **Sudbury**, so it's that hard work ethic and being here all the time," he said. "I think **Sudbury** is fed up with politicians who aren't available; they're fed up with people who show up in the final leg of the lap with a bunch of cheques and think they'll fool people into thinking they were paying attention throughout the whole year."

West said he feels good about his campaign so far.

"I feel really positive," he said.

"We've been out knocking on doors since last fall and people are excited about the election and are looking for change."

West decided to get involved in politics after witnessing, first hand, the treatment a group of former laundry workers received when Health Sciences **North** decided to transport linens to and from Hamilton.

"This is a hard-working town.

People don't expect anything to be handed to them; they expect to work hard and to be rewarded for it," he said. "We went to see the last truckload of laundry leave, with the 38 women who worked there. And these aren't jobs, these are careers. When politicians talk about jobs, they're wasting their time. We don't care about jobs - there are too many jobs. People work two or three jobs and still can't make ends meet, they're still trying to choose between heat and eat. That's not acceptable."

West said **Sudbury** MPP **Glenn Thibeault** met with the workers, but did nothing. They felt used and it got **West** thinking about how he could contribute.

He said the Liberals have ignored **Sudbury**. But if he is elected, that will change.

A big point of contention for **West** is the sale of **Hydro** One into private hands. He said the Liberals ignored citizen concerns and proceeded to sell off more than 50 per cent of the **utility**.

"They're still pretending it's not an issue and they're not doing anything about saving it," he said. "I think people are upset with that sort of attitude. There are multiple areas where that happens. There are drips and drobs that have rolled out in the last two or three months where they've taken sections of the NDP **plan** - because they don't have any ideas of their own."

West cited pharmacare as a good example of how the Liberals are borrowing bits of the New Democrat platform.

The NDP introduced universal pharmacare a year ago, only to hear shortly after Kathleen Wynne's government had hatched their own **plan**. While covering the cost of medications for young people under the age of 25 and those over the age of 65 is beneficial, **West** said there remains a 40-year gap during which people can get sick and may require expensive medicines.

"That's not a recipe for success," he said. "There's 40 years in there where people don't magically not get sick."

Often, it is during those inbetween years when people begin to develop chronic problems. But not having access to medications can actually hamper productivity, in addition to quality of life, and can overload the health care system.

"I'm really excited about this pharmacare **plan** because you can look at it from all angles - not just health care," he said. "You have workers who aren't sick because they're skipping their prescriptions. Our hospitals are starved and we have hallway medicine going on. You can reduce the number of people who are walking into the ER because they can't afford prescriptions."

West said his party would restore health care spending. He said the Liberals froze funding for four years, to calamitous effect. While patients have no choice but to make do with whatever accommodations they can get - **Sudbury** only has the one hospital - being in a hallway or washroom can be disruptive and can negatively impact healing.

"Everyone knows someone who's been in a bathroom or the hallway," he said. "The people in the hallway have to use the washroom somewhere, so they're going into rooms where there are patients. If you're trying to heal with a weakened immune system and there are strangers constantly in and out, waking you up and using the bathroom, that's hurting. The funding has to come up immediately. ... You don't get credit for putting out a fire that you started."

While **West** admits the NDP have a reputation for taxing residents and spending generously from **public** coffers, he said they actually are fiscally responsible, much more so than Doug Ford and his Progressive Conservatives.

"You've got this millionaire in **Toronto** talking about how much he knows about business, how well he's going to do, how he's going to find more than \$6 billion in savings," **West** noted. "That's not based in reality. That party is supposed to be the party of big business? I have never heard of a business **plan** that starts with 'trust me, I'll tell you the details later.' I wouldn't invest \$10 in a business like that, let alone count on them for \$6 billion. That's a recipe for disaster."
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Renfrew Hydro highlights success of new program

Renfrew Mercury - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Tiffany Lepack

Page: A12

On April 24 **Renfrew** council heard two success stories involving the new Affordability Fund administrated by **Renfrew Hydro**.

The Affordability Fund is run by the Affordability Trust Fund (AFT) and funded by the Government of **Ontario**.

"The fund is making a difference in the lives of our residents ... (We) have partnered to help people who want to reduce their **hydro** bill but can't afford the cost to upgrade to more **energy**-efficient products," said Bill Nippard, president and chief administration officer for **Renfrew Hydro**.

Hydro One was the first to be approved for the program and **Renfrew Hydro** was the second **utility** in **Ontario** to be approved for funding.

Renfrew Hydro has received a \$500,000 budget in **Renfrew** and they can apply for more. The first example Nippard provided was of two seniors living on a fixed

income in an old apartment. The pair would only turn on the heat in extreme cold because they could not afford to pay for **hydro**.

They used appliances that were 35 years-old and a 25 year-old air conditioner. Under the program they will receive some help, explained Nippard. They will get weatherstripping, a **water heater** blanket, **energy**-efficient appliances, LED light bulbs, thermostats, and a new **Energy** Star air conditioner. As renters they need to seek the landlords approval. "Will their **electric** costs decline?" asked Nippard. "Possibly or at least their quality of life should improve. They can use their **electricity** more often for the same cost because of the **energy**-efficient products."

He noted they are waiting to confirm their income to see if they qualify for level three and an airto- air heat pump. "Income and **hydro** costs are two of the factors used to determine what you can receive through the Affordability Fund," explained Nippard. "It doesn't matter if you rent or own as long as your name is on the **hydro** bill."

He encourages everyone to apply and they can be directed to see which programs apply. Depending on a person's income and **hydro** bill if they haven't already been approved they may also be eligible for free products supplied and installed by **Renfrew Hydro** and funded by the AFT. Some of the free products include LED light bulbs to a home **energy plan** to programmable thermostats, appliances, insulation and heat pumps up to a maximum of \$15,000.

The second case he highlighted was a senior who received the full amount; they were living on a fixed income and using **electric** blankets to stay warm with an older mini-split heat pump that was backed up by a baseboard heater.

They received upgrades to insulate the floor, walls and the 30- year-old freezer was replaced, new thermostats, LED bulbs, mini-split heat pumps and more. Nippard encourages people to contact **Renfrew Hydro** by calling 1-855- 494-3863 or for more information on the AFT visit: www.affordabilityfund.org.

Staff from the AFT will call you back to ask some questions about your income and once approved contact information is then sent to **Renfrew Hydro** who takes care of supplying the products.

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Guelph councillors vote to strive for 100% renewable energy by 2050 | GuelphMercury.com

www.guelphmercury.com - Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

In a little over three decades' time, Guelph could become a city running on energy from renewable sources, and renewable sources alone.

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Enbridge to get \$3.2B in two deals; Firm will achieve goal of raising \$3B from non-core asset sales

Toronto Star - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Dan Healing The Canadian Press

Ad Value: \$5,736

Reach: 361323 Page: B4

Shares in Enbridge Inc. rose Wednesday after it announced it will gain nearly \$3.2 billion through two deals to sell renewable **power** facilities in **North**

America and Europe and **natural gas** gathering and processing assets in the United States.

The deals announced hours before its annual general meeting in Calgary allow Enbridge to declare mission accomplished on its goal of raising \$3 billion from non-core asset sales in 2018 to reduce its heavy debt load and help fund its \$22-billion growth program.

Enbridge shares rose as high as \$41.48 in morning trading on the **Toronto** Stock Exchange, up about 2.6 per cent from Tuesday's close.

Enbridge said it had inked a \$1.75-billion agreement with the Canada Pension **Plan** Investment Board (CPPIB) to sell a 49-per-cent stake in most of its **wind** and **solar power** assets.

"The monetization of \$1.75 billion of renewable assets through our newly formed joint venture with CPPIB is an important step in achieving the objective we set when we rolled out our three-year **plan** and strategic priorities in December," said Enbridge CEO Al Monaco in a news release.

"This deal makes a significant contribution to our \$3-billion asset sales target for the year and will also eliminate \$500 million of equity capital requirement that we had previously included in our funding **plan**."

Separately, the Calgary-based firm said it will also sell Midcoast Operating LP to an affiliate of private equity firm ArcLight Capital Partners LLC for about \$1.44 billion.

Midcoast operates facilities in Texas and Oklahoma to process and treat **natural gas** and **natural gas** liquids.

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Enbridge cuts debt from Spectra deal with US\$2.5B in asset sales

Ottawa Citizen - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Kevin Orland And Alex Nussbaum

Ad Value: \$3,054

Reach: 114846 Page: B10

Enbridge Inc. took a **leap** forward in efforts to trim the pile of debt it took on with last year's US\$28.6 billion purchase of Spectra **Energy** Corp., announcing the sale of a U.S. **natural gas** business and stakes in some **renewable-energy** assets.

Enbridge on Wednesday agreed to sell its Midcoast Operating LP **gas** midstream unit to ArcLight Capital Partners for US\$1.12 billion. The pipeline giant also said it's transferring its **Canadian** renewable-**power** assets, a **wind** farm in Colorado, a **solar** project in Nevada and a stake in two German offshore **wind** projects to a joint venture with the Canada Pension **Plan** Investment Board for US\$1.36 billion.

With the divestitures, Enbridge is making good on a goal of selling at least US\$2.33 billion in assets this year to whittle down the US\$14.5 billion in borrowings from the Spectra deal, which diversified the company into **North American gas** pipelines. That debt load has weighed on Enbridge shares, sending them down 18 per cent this year through Tuesday, the fourth-worst performance in the S&P/**TSX energy** index.

More sales may be on the horizon. Enbridge also is said to have hired Royal Bank of Canada to sell a group of **Canadian** gathering and processing assets

that could fetch more than US\$1.56 billion.

Longer-term, Enbridge has identified US\$7.76 billion in non-core assets that it plans to unload. Still, the debt remains a concern, with Moody's Investors **Service** Inc. in December downgrading Enbridge's rating, saying the divestiture **plan** was "insufficient to improve the financial profile of the company in a timely manner."

"The sale of Midcoast is an important step in our shift towards a pure regulated pipeline and **utility** model," Enbridge Chief Executive Officer Al Monaco said in a statement.

For the CPPIB, its deal with Enbridge represents the second bet in as many months on **renewable energy**. The pension fund manager said last month it would buy U.S. **utility** NextEra **Energy** Partners' **wind** and **solar** assets in **Ontario** for about \$582 million.

The CPPIB and Enbridge will also form a joint venture focused on future European offshore **wind energy** projects.

Both the Midcoast and **renewable energy** transactions are expected to close in the third quarter.

Enbridge expects to retain its stake in other U.S. renewable **power** assets, which may be monetized or sold at a later date, it said.

Enbridge shares rose 2.65 per cent to close at \$41.48 Wednesday in **Toronto**.

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce acted as Enbridge's financial adviser on the renewables deal, and Dentons provided legal advice. Citigroup Inc. was financial adviser on the Midcoast sale, with Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP providing legal advice.

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Enbridge raises more than \$3-billion from asset sales - The Globe and Mail

www.theglobeandmail.com - Wed May 9 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

Enbridge Inc. is poised to blow past its target for asset sales this year, easing pressure on chief executive officer Al Monaco as he seeks to chop debt and simplify the company's complex operations.

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Hydro One merger with Avista gets FCC approval - BNN Bloomberg

www.bnnbloomberg.ca - Wed May 9 2018
Tone: **Neutral**

Hydro One Ltd. (H.TO 0.10%) and Avista Corp. say the U.S. Federal Communications Commission has granted its consent to close their merger.

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Hydro One and Avista Reach Settlement in Principle in Oregon Merger Case - NASDAQ.com

www.nasdaq.com - Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Hydro One Limited ("Hydro One") (TSX: H) and Avista Corporation ("Avista") (NYSE:AVA) have reached a significant milestone in the regulatory approval process of the proposed merger.

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Hydro One and Avista Reach Settlement in Principle in Oregon Merger Case

www.newswire.ca - Wed May 9 2018

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Trudeau must stay focused on four key files - iPolitics

ipolitics.ca - Wed May 9 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

There are really only four priority files in the Prime Minister's Office: the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion, the influx of illegally arrived asylum seekers, the NAFTA renegotiation and the upcoming G7 summit chaired by Canada.

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How the U.S. outsmarted us on the oilsands

Toronto Sun - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Lorrie Goldstein

Ad Value: \$2,930

Reach: 171076 Page: A15

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, finally realizing that the oilsands are a vital part of Canada's economy, is struggling to get Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline built.

There's only one problem.

While Canada certainly needs the pipeline to get our landlocked oil resources in Alberta to B.C. for export to global markets, the bigger battle has already been lost.

The result is that the U.S., not Canada, has become the global "**energy** superpower" that former prime minister Stephen Harper envisioned for our country when he came to **power** in 2006.

Instead, while Canada slept, the Americans literally "drank our milkshake" on **energy** policy, to quote the famous line from the 2007 movie There Will Be Blood, and there's not much we can do about it now.

Our gullibility, and the bizarre tendency of too many Canadians to willingly cut our own economic throats, unique among developed nations, did us in.

That is, we believed the nonsense that spewed from the U.S. under former president Barack Obama, despite his "bromance" with Trudeau, and from **Canadian** and U.S. environmental radicals, often funded by American special interests, that our oilsands were a "carbon bomb" that would destroy the planet.

And so, while our previous Conservative government, and now our current Liberal one, struggled and struggle to get any pipelines built, the Americans ate our lunch.

Because at the same time as Obama was rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline to get Alberta's oil to the Texas Gulf **Coast**, and from there to global markets, his administration was approving enough new pipelines in the U.S. to more than encircle the Earth.

While **Canadian** provinces were banning fracking, the Americans under Obama were using it to recover so much oil and **natural gas**, that the U.S. now rivals Saudi Arabia and Russia as the world's pre-eminent producers of those fossil **fuels**.

At the same time, Canada, hemmed in by our lack of pipeline infrastructure and unable to get our fossil fuel resources to global markets, became a permanent captive of the U.S. market.

Because of that, we have to sell our oil to the Americans at a huge discount, costing our economy \$15 billion a year.

All this while we meekly bought the environmental propaganda coming from south of the border, and from within our own country, that our oilsands contained the world's dirtiest oil.

In fact, the world's dirtiest oil comes from Nigeria.

The dirtiest oil in **North** America comes from California, home of the Hollywood celebrities who constantly ventured **north** to lecture us about the oilsands.

Research by leading **Canadian climate** scientist Andrew Weaver in 2012 - now, ironically, the leader of the Green Party in pipeline-opposing B.C. - found that not only the oilsands, but all global oil production is, in fact, an insignificant contributor to global warming.

The real culprit, Weaver concluded, is the global use of coal to generate **electricity**, of which Canada is a minor player compared to coal-consuming giants like the U.S., China and India.

(In fairness to Weaver, he has always argued that Canada needs to clean up the oilsands in order to have credibility when it addresses issues such as the use of coal in other countries.) U.S. President Donald Trump has now reversed Obama's veto on Keystone, but the reality today is that the U.S. simply doesn't need our oil and **gas** as much as it did even a decade ago.

And in large part, we did it to ourselves. lgoldstein@postmedia.com @sunlorrie

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Residents petition province to follow its own rules

Wallaceburg Courier Press - Thu May 10 2018

Tone: Negative

Byline: Ellwood Shreve

Ad Value: \$383

Reach: 8941 **Page:** A5

Citizen groups continued their effort to convince the **Ontario** government to ensure **wind** farm developers abide by the latest noise modelling 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 - deliver a petition with more than 3,000 signatures to Queen's Park on April 30 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), 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 MOECC in the **Renewable Energy** Approval process, which allows **wind power** developers to ignore new noise modelling guidelines.

"The MOECC recognized that the previous requirements for **turbine** noise modelling were inadequate and they revised them," Rowe said.

She added the noise modelling requirements are important to protect the health and safety for 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, 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 the community against **wind** turbines.

Noting the survey and report were shared with the Ministry of Environment and **Climate** Control, Yurek said, "unfortunately, the government chose to ignore the people of Dutton-Dunwich and move forward with the project."

In January, DDOWT filed a notice of **application** for judicial **review** in the divisional court in **Toronto** against the MOECC alleging the ministry has allowed companies promoting at least five largescale **wind** projects to ignore new government guidelines with respect to limiting the amount of noise any residence in the area 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**.

WAWC member Denise Shephard said, "these **power** generators emit a range of noise and can be very disruptive for the citizens forced to live near them.

"We believe regulations set by the government to protect citizens should be followed," she added.

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