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From: Rosemarie Leclair
Sent: February 8, 2017 4:48 PM
To: Brian Hewson; Mary Anne Aldred; Lynne Anderson; Neil Brodie
Subject: FW: EDA Weekly - Volume 17, Issue 6 - February 8, 2017

FYI.

Brian, note piece on 8% and long term care homes.

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From: Library
Sent: February-08-17 4:42 PM
To: Rosemarie Leclair; Lina Buccilli; Karen Evans; Deb Roberts
Subject: FW: EDA Weekly - Volume 17, Issue 6 - February 8, 2017

From: Electricity Distributors Association
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 4:41:12 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Library
Subject: EDA Weekly - Volume 17, Issue 6 - February 8, 2017



weekly

An Electricity Distributors Association Publication



February 8

Volume 17, Issue 6

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To download a pdf version of the EDA Weekly [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

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March 26-27

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March 28-29

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February 28, 2017

EDA EVENTS

[Register now for the EDA's 2017 Annual General Meeting \(AGM\) and Awards Gala](#)

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MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

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EDA NEWS

Queen's Park update: accounting dispute between government and Auditor General could impact further electricity rate relief

The government and the Auditor General continue to dispute how assets from the teachers' and public servants' pension funds appear in the province's budget. The disagreement, which was first noted in the fall of 2016, has implications for the government's finances approaching the 2017 budget and could impact the government's ability to set aside funds to support additional electricity rate relief initiatives.

According to the Auditor General, Ontario's deficit last year was \$5 billion and the province's net debt was \$305.2 billion. The government says last year's deficit was \$3 billion and the province's net debt was \$294.5 billion. An independent pension asset expert panel has concluded that the pension surplus is a legitimate asset on the government's books and a report will be made public later this month.

If the Auditor General maintains her stance, the government's ability to balance the budget – a key goal before the 2018 election – will be curtailed. Further, available funds for electricity rate relief or other priorities would have to be re-evaluated.

For more information, please contact the EDA's [Derek Nardone](#), Government and Stakeholder Affairs Analyst at (905) 265-5348.

Helping LDCs identify long-term care homes eligible for electricity rebate

LDC members should have received a list of the province's 628 long-term care homes earlier this week via [RapidSource](#), which helps to identify eligible recipients for the new eight per cent electricity rebate.

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care shared the list after meeting with both the Ministry of Energy and the EDA. The meeting was an important opportunity for all parties to discuss options for more easily identifying eligible organizations for the rebate to ensure that all those who qualify can benefit.

For more information, please contact the EDA's Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs, [Justin Rangooni](#) at (905) 265-5325.

Regulatory Council to address impacts of Bill 68, *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act* on LDCs

The EDA's Regulatory Council will address the impacts of Bill 68, *Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act* on LDCs in a conference call on **Wednesday, February 22 from 10:00 to 11:15 a.m.**

Representatives from Aird & Berlis will summarize their review of the proposed legislation and answer members' questions. Comments from members as well as Aird & Berlis' legal review will help inform the EDA's submission on the matter. We anticipate the bill to be a government priority when the legislature resumes at Queen's Park in late February.

Some of the sections that Aird & Berlis identified for the EDA's consideration and discussion include those that:

- Increase municipal councils' ability to conduct in-camera meetings with section 142 corporations (LDCs) to discuss matters that are commercially or financially sensitive.
- Enable certain local requirements (specifically "green roofs or alternative roof surfaces") to be imposed by a municipality in addition to the requirements of the *Building Code Act*.
- Increase the municipality's authority over investment decisions. There is very little background information included in the bill, although clarity will likely be provided in the forthcoming regulation. More information would be needed to understand if the proposed bill would allow municipalities to invest more in their LDC.

As members may recall, Bill 68 is the promised legislative response to the government's Municipal Legislative Review. The EDA participated in that consultation by providing a submission that encouraged the government to allow municipalities to invest in their LDCs.

To participate, and for more information, please contact the EDA's [Derek Nardone](#), Government and Stakeholder Affairs Analyst at (905) 265-5348.

REMINDER: Register for Communicators Council meeting to get a first look at EDA's motion/info graphic on energy literacy and LDC value

LDC members will have an opportunity to provide input on a motion/info graphic that aims to build consumer appreciation for LDCs and energy literacy at a Communicators Council meeting on **Tuesday, February 28, 2017** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Members will also receive a presentation from EDA staff on the "LDC of the Future" vision paper.

A full meeting agenda will be shared in the coming weeks.

To participate in person, please register on the [EDA website](#) no later than **Thursday, February 23, 2017**.

For call-in details, or any other information, please contact the EDA's [Andrea Coelho](#), Coordinator, Corporate Affairs and Communications at (905) 265-5323.

EDA EVENTS

Register now for the EDA's 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Awards Gala

Join us for two of the EDA's most prestigious events and help celebrate our industry's leaders.

The EDA's 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **March 26 and 27, 2017** at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto. This year's theme, *Power to Connect* explores the evolving role of the province's electricity distribution sector over the next 15 years.

The event will kick off with a networking reception on Sunday evening. On Monday evening, following the important business sessions, the EDA will host the annual Awards Gala to recognize local utilities for their leadership and excellence.

A complete program will be provided soon. Stay tuned and be sure to book your room now so you don't miss out!

[Click here](#) to reserve your stay at the Fairmont Royal York. Please note our hotel special rate ends on Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

EDA Member-Exclusive Event	Pricing
AGM early bird pricing (<i>before February 24, 2017</i>)	\$720.00
AGM regular pricing (<i>after February 24, 2017</i>)	\$820.00
Guest Registration- Sunday Reception, Monday Breakfast/Lunch	\$325.00
Sunday Evening Reception Only	\$125.00

For more information on the EDA CON::NECT event series, contact [Marica Macura](#), Director, Member Relations and Events at (905) 265-5346.

Minister of Energy to deliver keynote address at the EDA's Awards Gala



The EDA's Awards Gala Dinner is one of the industry's most coveted events and recognizes the new standards for excellence set by Ontario's local electric utilities. This year, the EDA is proud to announce that the Honourable Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy, will be the keynote speaker.

This minister's first address to the EDA Awards Gala caps off a period during which the EDA and industry have worked closely to support government priorities such as the Long-Term Energy Plan, conservation, electricity rate relief and the Climate Change Action Plan. Minister Thibeault will focus on the sector's pivotal role in delivering reliable power and driving innovation.

This event will provide Minister Thibeault with an opportunity to discuss policy priorities such as market renewal, distributed energy and consumer engagement with local utilities.

The Awards Gala Dinner offers delegates an exclusive opportunity to hear directly from the minister on the future of the industry and the policies and decisions that affect their business.

Bringing together all the players in the sector including government, regulators, board members and LDCs, the gala also provides a platform to celebrate the many accomplishments of the LDC sector.

The celebratory evening will conclude with a reception at the popular Electric Lounge which will feature live music and a host of fun for all attendees.

AWARDS GALA PRICES:

Table bookings of 8 and 10 are available

- Tickets for the Awards Gala can be purchased for \$295.00 + HST.
- Tables of 8 can be purchased for \$2,360.00 + HST.
- Table of 10 can be purchased for \$2,950.00 + HST.

[Click here to register for the Awards Gala.](#)

For hotel accommodations, the EDA offers a special rate* at the Fairmont Royal York.

[Click here to book your hotel now.](#)

**Please note our hotel special rate ends on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. The special rate will be offered on a first come, first-served basis.*

For more information on the EDA CON::NECT event series, contact [Marica Macura](#), Director, Member Relations and Events at (905) 265-5346.

ENERCOM 2017 featured speaker: Doug Turnbull

Register today for ENERCOM 2017 and save \$100

At the EDA's 18th annual ENERCOM conference and tradeshow, delegates and exhibitors will discover how LDC innovation will power the future.

ENERCOM has something for everyone. Whether you are an industry professional, government official, supplier or legal representative, you will gain important insights on the future of the industry and benefit from the superior networking opportunities provided at this conference.



This week's featured ENERCOM speaker is Doug Turnbull, Vice Chairman – Country Head, Canada from DBRS. Mr. Turnbull has over 36 years of experience within the investment banking industry and has worked in Toronto, Tokyo and New York, where he advised government, corporate, infrastructure and public sector clients on numerous public and private market transactions. Mr. Turnbull's session will focus on how policy and regulatory changes affect Ontario LDCs' credit ratings. Don't miss out on this informative session!

In addition to speaker sessions, ENERCOM also gives you access to a unique boutique tradeshow featuring the latest and greatest in utility innovation.

The event will be held on **March 28 and 29, 2017** at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. Program details will be available later this week on the EDA CON::NECT website.

Delegate prices:

- Early-bird rates (*before February 24, 2017*)
 - Member: \$800.00 + HST
 - Non-member: \$1,000.00 + HST
- Regular rates (*after February 24, 2017*)
 - Member: \$900.00 + HST
 - Non-member: \$1,100.00 + HST

SECURE YOUR ENERCOM BOOTH TODAY

At ENERCOM 2017, exhibitors benefit from having direct access to the industry's leaders in a more intimate setting. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to solidify relationships with your current customers and build new ones at the same time. Landing a new business opportunity at this event can more than cover the cost of your participation.

Make plans now to join us and stand out as a leader in the industry!

Exhibitor Benefits:

1. Access key decisions makers in:
 - a. electricity distribution, generation and transmission
 - b. commercial, industry and institutional energy managers
 - c. officials from all three levels of government
 - d. legal, regulatory and energy consultants
2. Exclusive event with high profile attendees and speakers.
3. Showcase your business and brand at a boutique event.
4. Opportunity to continue to build upon relationships with existing clients and to create new ones.
5. Hear about new developments in Ontario's electricity industry.
6. Full exhibitor package, including access to meals, sessions and networking opportunities.

Space is limited, so reserve your spot now to make sure you are able to take full advantage of this unique opportunity.

Price:

- 10X8 Booth Member Rate: \$2,200 + HST
- 10X8 Booth Non-Member Rate: \$2,700 + HST

[Click here to book your exhibitor booth today!](#)

For more information on exhibitor opportunities, please contact the EDA's [Dianna Merlocco](#), Events Coordinator at (905) 265-5351.

For more information on the EDA CON::NECT event series, contact [Marica Macura](#), Director, Member Relations and Events at (905) 265-5346.

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Alectra Utilities advises customers to be prepared for potential ice storm

A special weather statement was recently issued for Alectra Utilities' service territory, in the Greater Golden Horseshoe Area. A mix of snow and freezing rain was expected, potentially resulting in significant ice build-up on electrical equipment or tree branches located near wires and causing power outages. Alectra advised customers to stay at least 10 metres away from downed powerlines, reminded them to have emergency kits ready, and provided them with contact information to report outages. For more information, read the [news release](#).

Alectra Utilities' employee recognized as Top 40 Under 40

Alectra Utilities recently announced that a member of its Customer Services team earned a spot on Hamilton's Top 40 under 40 ranking of local business leaders. Business Link Media Group will recognize the achievements of Hamilton's next generation of business leaders – including Christie Stemmler, Supervisor of Billing and Collections at Alectra Utilities (formerly Horizon Utilities). Christie is one of Alectra Utilities' rising stars. At only 35 years of age, Christie is focused on ensuring customer service excellence at every point of contact between the utility and its customers. For more information, read the [news release](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

Updates from the **IESO** include:

- **Bruce Campbell's speech** at the Ontario Energy Network
- **Market renewal** engagement update and upcoming workshops
- Upcoming webinar for the **Industrial Conservation Initiative**

More information is available at: [IESO website](#).

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