

December 15, 2009

Re: Accomplishments/Request for Help

Dear Friend:

As 2009 comes to a close, we wish to report on accomplishments, and to ask for your help.

A record deficit, another tax grab, and an insider-expenses scandal

During these tough economic times the Ontario Legislature was dominated by **McGuinty's HST** and the **eHealth scandal** and a **\$25 billion deficit**.

In April, Mr. McGuinty announced that Ontario, for the first time in history, had been reduced to "have not" status, taking handouts from the federal government. And this fall, McGuinty announced a record **deficit of \$25 billion**. Ontario has shed 325,000 manufacturing jobs since Mr. McGuinty took office. Ontario is the only province in Canada to have lost more private sector jobs than created.

Against this grim economic backdrop, Mr. McGuinty announced the **HST** – the largest tax grab in Ontario's history. Up goes the price of a whole list of items including electricity, cable, gasoline, natural gas, renovations, haircuts... Home prices and rents go up too! And the government's plan to soften the blow with cash payments – essentially an attempt to bribe us with our own money – is cynicism at its worst.

The other issue dominating Queen's Park is the **eHealth scandal**. A billion dollars and nothing to show for it. Millions have been handed out in untendered contracts to well-connected insiders who were allowed to expense their snacks and nightcaps while receiving per diems so generous that most of us can only gasp in amazement.

PC MPPs worked hard this year to serve as an effective Opposition

We are proud of the efforts of our PC Caucus members, supported by our staff, to get the word out about the impact of the HST, the deficit and to unearth the network of eHealth insider connections and spending excesses.

We are equally proud of our success in drawing attention to the shortcomings of the so-called *Green Energy Act*. We commissioned an independent study showing that the legislation will drive up annual energy costs by more than \$1,200 per household.

Locally, we continue to stand up for the Rule of Law in Caledonia; to fight the illegal tobacco trade; and to point out government failure to assist steelworkers, manufacturers, farmers and those running small businesses.

Again your input and suggestions, to bring back our area economy, are most welcome!

Looking ahead – and how you can help

Our new Leader, Tim Hudak, is going to want to be able to communicate with you in Haldimand-Norfolk. You can help us by providing your email address so that we can be in touch with you in a more timely and cost-effective way. Or, if you prefer, you can send an email to toby.barrett@pc.ola.org. Feel free to send your comments about the issues we have been addressing locally and in the Legislature. **Your advice about any other concerns is requested.**

At this time we are once again asking for your help before the end of the 2009 taxation year. **A donation to the Haldimand-Norfolk PC Association of \$25, \$75 or even \$200 will help us bring the shameful actions of the Ontario Liberal Party into the light.** It will allow us to show the people of Ontario that the Liberals are incompetent, undisciplined and still believe that they are entitled to their entitlements.

Finally, we want to say again what an honour it has been to respectively serve as your MPP and your PC Riding President. And thank you for your support and encouragement of our efforts at Queen's Park and across our rich riding of Haldimand-Norfolk.

Sincerely,



Toby Barrett, MPP
Haldimand-Norfolk



Bobbi Ann Dwornikiewicz, President
Haldimand-Norfolk PC Association

**PS – Please send cheques only, made payable to the HN PC Association,
PO Box 45 Simcoe, ON N3Y 4K8.**