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Friday, April 27, 2018

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a statement to the Nipissing Area Food Roundtable.

As Interim Leader of the Official Opposition, my duties take me throughout the entire province, and as such, I am joining the Premier and the Leader of the 3rd Party to speak at a Symposium in Hamilton this morning.

I wish you continued success with this morning's roundtable, and look forward to working with you, as your MPP, to achieve your goals.

Today in Ontario, we have seniors unable to pay the rent and families being forced to choose between heating and eating. This is because of the hydro system has been tampered with, beyond recognition. While I don't intend to be overtly political in this letter, the fault absolutely lays at the feet of the government, for putting their needs before the needs of the people.

As a result of government policies, Ontario has the highest hydro rates in North America. The highest insurance rates in Canada. And fees went up 45% since 2012 – an increase to \$2.9 billion dollars – on things like licences, camping, and event permits.

That's money that should be going to groceries and to rent is instead going to pay skyrocketing hydro bills, taxes, and user fees.

But the Ontario PCs have a plan – 5 priorities for the people of Ontario:

- Put more money in people's pockets
- Clean up the hydro mess
- Create good jobs
- Restore responsibility, accountability, and trust
- Cut hospital wait times

For people making minimum wage, we're going to go a step further. Under an Ontario PC government, if you are making minimum wage, you are going to pay no tax; not a cent.

We have a message to the people who are struggling under this government, and to the people who are frustrated – change is coming – help is on the way.

Thanks for the opportunity to share our message, and continued success.

Victor Fedeli

Interim Leader of the Official Opposition