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Patrick Brown says hydro is number-one issue for Ontarians

By Julie Slack
Metroland Media Group

Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown says the number-one thing he hears about across the province is hydro.

Despite the Liberal government's move to lower rates, announced earlier this year, Brown told guests at the Halton Hills and Milton Chamber of Commerce luncheon last week that the province still needs to address the structural problems that plague hydro.

This is temporary relief, he said. Our job creators are struggling to succeed here.

Brown told a packed house at Granite Ridge Golf Club in Milton that 600,000 Ontario families were unable to pay their hydro bills last year.

The MPP for Simcoe North spoke about Stanpac, a business with locations in Smithville and Texas. They plan to add a new plant and they told him they would not be building it in Ontario.

That's because they pay \$650,000 more in hydro rates here than they do at a similarly-sized plant in the U.S., he claims.

He calls the Green Energy Act the bad contracts act.

These are 20-year contracts, he added.

The former Barrie MP said Ontarians are paying the price for extremely overpriced wind and solar power that we have to give away.

We charge more to subsidize your competitors, he added.

He said that in 2015, Ontario spilled three billion KW hours of energy.

There's 30 mega contracts to companies that donate millions to the Liberal party, he contends.

What I had hoped when Kathleen Wynne made her (hydro) announcement was for a solution.

Brown, 38, further slammed the province on failed infrastructure projects.

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Halton District School Board Notice of Proposed Amendment to Education Development Charges By-law

Meeting to be held on May 3, 2017 at 7 p.m. Halton District School Board, J.W. Singleton Centre, 2050 Guelph Line, Burlington

Take notice that the Halton District School Board (the Board) proposes to amend the Halton District School Board Education Development Charges By-law, 2013 (the 2013 By-law), which came into effect on June 24, 2013.

The schedule of education development charges now imposed by the 2013 By-law is as follows:

- Charge on residential development: \$3,714.00 per dwelling unit
- Charge on non-residential development: \$0.93 per square foot (\$1.01 per square metre) of gross floor area

The proposed amending By-law will increase the charge on residential development to \$4,364.00 per dwelling unit and the charge on non-residential development to \$1.11 per square foot (\$1.195 per square metre) of gross floor area. The increase is due to an increase in the education land costs incurred by the Board over those estimated when the 2013 By-law was passed.

The 2013 By-law applies to all lands in the Regional Municipality of Halton. Accordingly, a key map showing the location of the land subject to the 2013 By-law is not provided as part of this notice.

AND TAKE NOTICE that on May 3, 2017, at 7 p.m. the Halton District School Board will hold a public meeting to consider the proposed amendments and to inform the public generally about the Board's education development charge proposal. Any person who attends the meeting may make a representation to the Board in respect of the proposed amendments. The Board will also consider any written submissions. All submissions received in writing and those expressed at the public meeting will be considered prior to the enactment of an amendment to the 2013 By-law.

At its meeting of June 21, 2017, the Board will consider the adoption of a By-law that will amend the 2013 By-law.

Should an amending By-law be passed on such date, collection of education development charges pursuant to the 2013 By-law, as amended, will commence on June 26, 2017.

A copy of the proposed amending By-law, the education development charge background study prepared in connection with the 2013 By-law, and information concerning the proposed amendment are available on request during regular business hours at the Board's administrative offices, 2050 Guelph Line, Burlington, Ontario, and on the Board's website at www.hdsb.ca.

If a person wishes to address the Board at the May 3, 2017 public meeting, they are required to register as a delegate using the Board's Online Delegation Request Form (www.hdsb.ca) on or before noon, May 1, 2017. Any written submissions on the proposed amending By-law should be submitted by noon, May 2, 2017 to Gail Gortmaker, Manager, Office of the Director of Education, Halton District School Board at (905) 335-3663 ext. 3296

All submissions received in writing and those opinions expressed at the public meeting will be considered prior to a decision by the Board to amend the 2013 By-law.

Any comments or requests for further information regarding this matter may be directed to Domenico Renzella, General Manager of Planning, Halton District School Board at (905) 335-3663 ext. 3375 renzellad@hdsb.ca

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