

Government questioned over new agency

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MPP for Perth-Wellington, Randy Pettapiece, joined Arnott in the chorus of concern during Monday's question period.

The government wants to stuff the Board of Directors of this climate change agency with green energy insiders and lobbyists, said Pettapiece. Of course, under the Liberals' terrible long-term hydro contracts, many green energy firms have already cashed in big-time. The result? Among the highest hydro rates in North America. Now they're

appointing insiders and lobbyists to spend cap-and-trade tax money on Liberal vanity projects instead of putting the money back in the pockets of hard-working Ontarians.

We need the minister's personal guarantee, he said.

Will he tell us that his green energy friends will see no personal or commercial benefits from this boondoggle in the making?

A request for comment from the province was not answered.

Q&A with Michael Chong (cont'd)

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So, my pitch to Conservative Party members is vote for me because I'm the candidate with the broadest appeal who can beat Justin Trudeau in 2019.

The IFP: What would you say are the three top issues facing Canadians right now and your plan to address them?

MC: The top three issues are, first, housing has become unaffordable for middle-class families and we need to introduce policies to make housing affordable again. That's why I've proposed to privatize CMHC's mortgage insurance and securitization program. I believe that is the single biggest cause of skyrocketing housing prices that have put

housing out of reach for many families in this country.

I think the other big challenge facing Canadian families is the sluggish economic growth and job creation we've seen over the last couple of years. And that's why I've proposed sweeping tax reform to make our tax system more efficient and to lower income taxes for families across this country. I believe that's the best way to kick-start this economy and get the job creation engines going.

And finally, I think the third big challenge we face is how do we reduce emissions and meet our international commitments in a way that allows for prosperity and growth, and that's why I've proposed environmental policies to do exactly that.

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