

Time to move on

The people have spoken — and in a democracy they are never wrong.

Despite cancelled gas plants, e-Health and ORNGE — the voters handed Kathleen Wynne's Liberals the keys to a majority government and with the election behind us, we hope this province can now move on and look ahead to a bright future.

Make no mistake, we condemn this Liberal government for wasting \$585 million on two ill-conceived power plants and then lying about it, but it's clear that voters, and in particular labour unions, couldn't stomach Tim Hudak's pledge to cut 100,000 public sector jobs.

The Liberals' majority win is impressive and commanding and it shows us who we are as an electorate and it's clear that Ontarians want a kind and gentle province, a place where children have all-day kindergarten and where tossing public servants out of work to expedite balancing the books isn't acceptable. The voters have made it clear that they want a slow and steady hand at the helm and want governance with compassion.

The Liberals have promised some big ticket items, most notably a lofty transit plan, and while Wynne's no one left behind agenda is noble, we wonder how Ontario will pay for it, all the while chipping away at the deficit.

Wynne wants to start afresh, and is eager to implement the budget, however voters deserve a fresh start too. After all, they have forgiven the Grits transgressions in the hope that things will get better.

Wynne must ensure that she helms the province with transparency, respect for the public purse, and a zero-tolerance for scandals.

We expect this new Liberal government to separate itself from the previous one, lead with integrity, and put Ontario back on the road to prosperity.

WEB POLL RESULTS (Go to www.theifp.ca)

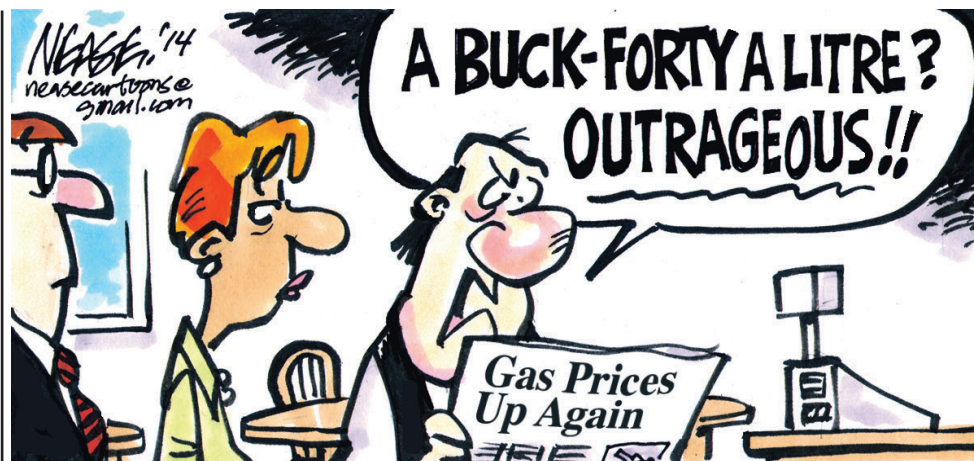
What are your thoughts on the Liberal majority in the provincial election?

Cringe! (69%)
Yeah! (31%)

The Independent & Free Press

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Letters to the editor

Time for Grits to get to work

MPP Ted Arnott sent this letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne, and filed a copy with The Independent & Free Press. This is an edited version, see the full letter online at www.theifp.ca.

Dear Premier,

Congratulations on your re-election as premier. I look forward to the resumption of the Legislature within 20 days, and resuming the debate on your government's budget.

One of the best parts of an election campaign is the opportunity to meet thousands of my constituents. While going door to door in communities across my riding of Wellington-Halton Hills, I listened to the concerns of my constituents and heard their views on many problems facing the province. Now that the election is over and we are back to work, there are three issues I wish to bring to your attention immediately.

Hwy. 6 Morriston bypass

As you know from your tenure as

Minister of Transportation, Hwy. 6 serves as a vital link between the 401 and the Hamilton/Niagara Region and the U.S. border. However, drivers travelling this route encounter a severe bottleneck in the community of Morriston in Puslinch Township, just south of the 401. Often times traffic is backed up for kilometres in both directions.

By constructing the Hwy. 6 Morriston bypass, this bottleneck would be eliminated, and traffic and goods could flow back and forth from Hamilton to the 401 more quickly and safely. There would also be a very positive economic benefit for a large region of the province.

This project has been talked about for a generation. It is time for this project to proceed. Once more, I urge you to prioritize this project and ensure that it is placed on the Ministry of Transportation's five-year plan for highway construction.

Full-day, two-way GO Train Service

During the lead up to the election campaign, you promised to bring full-day, two-way GO Train service between Waterloo Region and the GTA. However, your announcement lacked details and a

firm commitment to a time frame for this improved service.

Since GO's Kitchener line goes through Wellington-Halton Hills and serves Acton and Georgetown, more trains each day and improved service would be something that I would support.

On behalf of the people of Wellington-Halton Hills, I intend to hold you to your commitment on full-day, two-way GO train service through my riding. What is your timeline for keeping this promise? How do you define full-day, two-way service? Does it mean trains every hour throughout the day? Every half-hour? Into the evening? Will there be express trains? When will you announce the details? I can assure you that I plan to raise these questions at Queen's Park and will insist upon satisfactory answers on behalf of my constituents.

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Letters policy

Letters must include the author's name, address and daytime phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 150 words and may be edited for content and/or length. Publication is not guaranteed.

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