



THE CHG MONITOR

August 27th, 2010

NAMES IN THE NEWS

While most staffers in former Minister of Revenue **John Wilkinson**'s office have moved with him to the Ministry of the Environment, **Sean O'Connor** remains Director of Communications in the Office of the Minister of Revenue **Sophia Aggelonitis**. **Sabrina Grando** remains Chief of Staff to Minister **John Gerretsen** in his new Consumer Services portfolio.

Kelly Jackson is taking on the role of Director of Policy to the Minister of Education. **AJ Tibando** will take over for Ms. Jackson as Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

STUDENT LOANS

Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities **John Milloy** announced that the province is streamlining student aid. The changes to the process this year will, among other things, enable students to fill out fewer forms for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and Student Access Guarantee (SAG) funds; and provide direct deposits for recipients of the Ontario Access Grant and Distance Grant programs starting in January 2011. For further details, visit www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/tcu

OPEN ONTARIO PLAN

Minister of Finance **Dwight Duncan** released the 2009-10 Public Accounts. The final deficit for the 2009-10 fiscal year is \$19.3 billion, which is \$2 billion lower than the March 2010 Budget forecast. For further details, and to view the Public Accounts, visit www.fin.gov.on.ca

PENSION REFORMS

Minister of Finance **Dwight Duncan** will propose a package of reforms which builds on the first phase of reforms that passed through the Legislature on May 5, 2010. This second set of reforms would address almost 40 recommendations from the Expert Commission on Pensions. For further details, visit www.fin.gov.on.ca

FAMILY HEALTH TEAMS

Minister of Health and Long-Term Care **Deb Matthews** is creating 30 new Family Health Teams (FHTs) across Ontario. The addition of these new teams meets Ontario's commitment to create 200 FHTs. For further details, visit www.health.gov.on.ca

NEW SCHOOLS

Minister of Health and Long-Term Care **Deb Matthews** will also be introducing legislation this fall that would, if passed, help address the abuse of prescription narcotics. As part of a new Narcotics Strategy, the province would track prescriptions through a new database that would flag unusual patterns of prescribing and dispensing. The strategy would also include more education to patients about the appropriate use of prescription narcotics. For further details, visit www.health.gov.on.ca

BIOMASS

Minister of Energy **Brad Duguid** announced that the Atikokan Generation Station is turning off coal and switching on biomass. The project is expected to take up to three years to complete. Once converted, the plant is expected to generate 150 million kilowatt-hours of renewable power. For further details, visit www.mei.gov.on.ca

NEW SCHOOLS

Minister of Education **Leona Dombrowsky** announced that thirty new schools will open across the province in September, and another 34 have been improved through new additions, renovations or major retrofits. In addition, 150 schools across the province are going green with wind turbines, solar walls and other clean technologies and products. For further details, visit www.edu.gov.on.ca

A NOTE ON PROVINCIAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The Election Finances Act allows a corporation, trade union or individual to contribute up to **\$9,300** to a registered political party and **\$6,200** to riding associations (with no more than \$1,240 to any single association). The maximum annual contribution allowed in a non-election year is **\$15,500** to each registered party and its constituency associations.

A NOTE ON PROVINCIAL POLITICAL PARTY MEMBERSHIPS

Liberals - \$1,000 annual memberships in the Ontario Liberal party's Red Trillium Club provide opportunities to meet the party leader and members of caucus. Club members attend semi-annual receptions with members of the Ontario Liberal Caucus, meet at both Ontario Liberal Fund and Ontario Liberal Party functions to discuss matters of interest; and are invited to an exclusive Red Trillium Club reception before the annual Heritage Dinner.

Progressive Conservatives – A \$500 annual Cornerstone Club memberships provide members with regular email updates on party activities and policies, as well as special invitations to receptions prior to PC Ontario Fund events and to attend Question Period at the Legislature.

New Democrats – The NDP is focusing on its three-year major donor campaign, Fast Track 2011 to establish the party’s financial base and begin financing for the 2011 provincial campaign. Annual support categories range from \$500 to \$9,000.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The following events may be of interest to you:

Event Date	Event	Location
August 30	Hon. Dwight Duncan Golf Tournament in support of the Windsor-Tecumseh PLA	TBA
August 30	MPP Norm Miller Golf Tournament	Huntsville Downs Golf Club
September 1	Ontario Liberal Women’s Caucus Golf Tournament hosted by Hon. Kathleen Wynne and Hon. Deb Matthews	Lionhead Golf & Country Club, Brampton
September 16	MPP Frank Klees Fundraiser with special guest MPP Peter Shurman	Glenway Country Club, Newmarket
September 22	MPP Lisa MacLeod Fundraiser	Lobby Lounge and Restaurant, Toronto
September 23	MPP Bill Murdoch ’s Fall Classic	Homestead Golf and Country Club, Durham
September 24	Niagara Invitational Golf Tournament with MPP Kim Craiton	Royal Niagara Golf Club, Niagara-On-The-Lake
September 30	Fundraising Cocktail Reception in support of the Margaret Campbell Fund with special guest Premier McGuinty	The University club, Toronto
October 5	MPP Ted Chudleigh ’s Second Annual Toronto Fundraiser	Albany Club, Toronto
October 8	A Fundraiser for MPP Reza Moridi with special guests Hon. Bob Rae and Hon. Kathleen Wynne	Hilton Hotel, Markham
October 19	A Cocktail Reception Fundraiser with MPP Yasir Naqvi and special guest Hon. Sandra Pupatello	Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto

If you would like to purchase tickets for any of these events, kindly contact us as soon as possible.

The following Legislative events may be of interest to you:

Date	Event
August 29	3 rd Annual Celebrate Summer with MPP Helena Jaczek Community BBQ
September 12	MPP Monte Kwinter and MP Ken Dryden Annual Community BBQ
September 13	Legislature returns for the fall session

For more information on any topic contained in this newsletter, please contact

**THE CAPITAL HILL GROUP
700 BAY STREET, SUITE 2303
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M5G 1Z6
PHONE: (416) 979-1115**

Our newsletter is also available on our website at: <http://www.capitalhill.ca>