



December 2017

There is an old saying that you don't really miss something until it is no longer there.

While I recognize it is of great importance for me to travel to Queen's Park, and represent my constituents when the Legislature is sitting, I truly do look forward to getting home on weekends and spending time with my constituents as well as my family.

Recently, I missed two weekends in a row. The weekend of November 17th-19th I was required to be in Toronto because the Legislature had convened for the purpose of passing back-to-work legislation so that our students could resume their studies in community colleges across Ontario. While there are still things that need to be worked out between the faculty and the colleges (and those negotiations will continue), I felt it was absolutely necessary that our students be back in class so as to not further jeopardize their semester, and quite possibly, their entire academic year.

On November 24th and 25th I attended our party's Election Readiness and Policy Convention which was also in Toronto. Following the largest grassroots consultative process in history, PC Leader Patrick Brown released our platform, the *People's Guarantee*. It contains our vision which we will offer to the people as an alternative to the failed Liberal government of the last 14 years. It is a comprehensive document that contains five central commitments:

- A 22.5 percent lower income taxes for the middle class;
- A 75 percent refund of child care expenses;
- Twelve percent more off your hydro bills;
- The largest mental health commitment in Canadian provincial history;
- The first-ever *Trust, Integrity, and Accountability Act*.

Our guarantee offers both tax relief and lower hydro bills, because who isn't finding it harder to make ends meet since the Liberals took power? The refund for child care will give young families the break they need on one of their largest expenses and will offer choice as well. And finally, Patrick Brown and the PCs will bring in the first *Trust and Integrity Accountability Act*, to restore confidence and faith that Kathleen Wynne has squandered.

The entire platform can be view at: https://www.ontariopc.ca/peoples_guarantee I encourage you to take a look at it.

Because of these commitments I had in Toronto, I missed a lot of things going on in the community. Some of the most enjoyable events this time of year are the Santa Claus parades; on those two weekends I was unable to attend any. I enjoy the parades in the Christmas season and regret that I couldn't be there.

Speaking of Christmas, we are certainly looking forward to it in our home. Partly because it will be the first time we have had the entire family together in almost a year. As many of you would know, our daughter Emily is in the Northwest Territories with her family and because of this we do not get to see them nearly enough—especially the little ones, who grow up so fast.

On behalf of Vicky, and our entire family, I extend to each and every one of you our wish for a blessed and most-merry Christmas and best wishes for health and happiness in 2018. Enjoy your time with family and friends, cherish those special moments, and be safe as well.