



# JOHN YAKABUSKI, MPP

## NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Liberal Budget Hides \$5 Billion Dollar Deficit**

(QUEEN’S PARK) – Today the Kathleen Wynne Government tabled its 2017 budget that continues the path of out of control spending while hiding a massive operational deficit which will result in degraded services that will make life harder for Ontarians.

The government is hiding more than \$5 billion operational deficit through cash grabs, unauthorized pension assets, and one-time and unusual revenue. The Wynne Liberals are cooking the books a year before the next election. Additionally, the Liberals have no plan in this budget to get the debt under control. They’ve more than doubled the debt in just 14 years, and Ontario is worse off as a result. Moreover, it is eroding the services families depend on, and placing a burden on future generations which they do not deserve.

On top of that, nothing in the budget spoke specifically about the expansion of Highway 417. “The lack of twinning for 417 is certainly an issue I will be following-up at the earliest opportunity with the Minister of Transportation” said MPP Yakabuski. Additionally, Yakabuski stated that although the Government voted down his Gas Tax Private Member’s Bill last month, he had hoped the Liberals would have included it in their budget measures and expand the gas tax to all municipalities and not just those with public transportation systems. “Kathleen Wynne had an opportunity today to level the playing field in regards to the gas tax” said Yakabuski. “Instead she picked politics over good public policy and as a result our roadways and bridges will not get the funding they need.”

A hidden deficit, scattershot spending to bribe voters with their own money, the continued fire sale of Hydro One, and once again ignoring rural Ontario. For these reasons John Yakabuski, and the entire Ontario PC Party, will be voting against this reckless budget.