

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 3, 2016

Pettapiece demands answers on important local issues

(Queen's Park) – Perth-Wellington MPP Randy Pettapiece is seeking answers from the government on a range of key local issues.

His questions address hydro rates, the crisis in the developmental services sector, the possibility of new child care spaces in our communities, the Stratford Perth Residential Hospice project and GO transit service.

On all of these issues, Pettapiece submitted "Order Paper" questions in the legislature. This initiates a process that will compel the government to respond in writing.

"Under this government, hydro rates have skyrocketed. Many people have trouble paying their bills," said Pettapiece. "But two weeks ago, the Premier came to Perth-Wellington for the International Plowing Match talking about a rate reduction for rural residents."

Pettapiece asked the government to confirm the exact number of ratepayers in Perth-Wellington eligible for the full 20% rate reduction, which the Premier promised. Pettapiece is concerned the real answer could be "not many."

The MPP also wants to know when the government will implement the 60 recommendations recently made by the ombudsman to improve the developmental services sector.

"The ombudsman released a report this summer about the crises families are facing when it comes to accessing developmental services for their loved ones," said Pettapiece. "People deserve to know the government is taking seriously its obligation to do better and follow through on its commitments."

In regards to the Stratford Perth Residential Hospice, Pettapiece has called on the minister of health to offer his full support and funding for the project. Pettapiece has long supported the organizing committee's efforts to bring new palliative care beds to Perth County.

Pettapiece will continue to voice his constituents' concerns in the Ontario legislature. Some of his key priorities include hydro rates, employment and local health care.

More information about his work, including a full list of the questions he tabled in the legislature today, can be found on Pettapiece's website: <u>www.pettapiece.ca</u>.

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