

Jones charges government is abandoning deficit reduction

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones MPP has blasted Premier Kathleen Wynne and her Liberal government for abandoning any semblance of responsible deficit reduction and reverting to a tax-and-spend agenda.

After today's Economic Statement, it is painfully clear that Kathleen Wynne and her Liberal government aren't concerned about the mountain of debt they are placing on the backs of future generations, Jones said in a statement issued last Thursday.

What we saw today was a Liberal government revert back to its standard operating procedure of tax and spend, Jones added.

Rather than roll up their sleeves, make the tough choices and get spending under control for the sake of Ontario families, the Liberals have instead chosen to continue increasing the debt at an alarming rate.

Jones pointed to a Wall Street Journal article released earlier in the week that highlighted the urgency surrounding Ontario's precarious financial situation. The article explained that Ontario's fiscal situation is worse than California's; and outlined how California's debt burden was sitting at 50 per cent of consolidated revenues at the end of the 2012-13 fiscal year. That's in comparison to Ontario's, which was sitting at approximately 226 per cent of consolidated revenues at the end of March 2013.

The bottom line here is that we have a massive spending crisis in the province of Ontario, Jones declared. Dufferin-Caledon residents work hard every day for their pay cheques. They pay a lot of taxes, and this Liberal government has no respect for those precious tax dollars. Premier Wynne ought to recognize that families cannot afford to have their taxes raised repeatedly to fund Liberal excess spending.

The Economic Statement confirmed what many of us already knew: the only way to get our province's finances under control is to elect a PC government that respects taxpayers' money, and understands that every dollar wasted at Queen's Park is a dollar that could have been used to protect Ontario's most vulnerable citizens, she concluded.