

NEWS RELEASE

SYLVIA JONES, MPP
Dufferin-Caledon

For Immediate Release
June 3, 2010

HST Will Hit Your Pocketbook

Come July 1, as we celebrate Canada's birthday, Ontarians may not be in the mood for much of a celebration as they feel the full impact of Dalton McGuinty's Harmonized Sales Tax (HST). Since it was announced in the 2009 budget and passed with a Liberal majority last December, the buildup to the HST has been full of warnings about the impact this new tax will have on our pocketbooks.

After insisting for close to a year that the bait and switch of one-time transition cheques and businesses "passing along the (supposed) savings" would offset the 13 percent shot to the wallet, Mr. McGuinty has finally acknowledged, "I think for families at the outset there will be an increase in taxation."

Finally, Mr. McGuinty admitted recently what the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, the Opposition and the hundreds of thousands who have signed petitions already knew; the HST will take money – a lot of money - from Ontario families.

The National Citizens Coalition has recently calculated it will cost an average of between \$800 and \$1,000 or more in additional sales taxes every year. A study by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation confirms the provincial government will haul in an additional \$1.6 billion per year from the application of the HST to gasoline and diesel prices.

Ontarians will be forced to pay 8 percent more for a wide range of goods and services we use every day, including hydro, home heating fuel, natural gas, haircuts, and gasoline for your vehicle. Even funerals will cost between \$650 and \$1,300 more after July 1.

The most troubling aspect of the new HST tax is that Premier McGuinty knew of these additional costs and said nothing. He has also shut down debate at every opportunity.

The Progressive Conservative Party asked McGuinty, before the HST vote in December, to hold public hearings across the province - he refused. McGuinty has also ignored thousands of signatures on petitions opposing the HST that poured into MPP offices in every riding across the province.

Recently our party proposed a motion, hoping for a sober second thought on the HST. Our resolution would have enabled the 2011 provincial election to serve as a referendum on the HST. This approach is only reasonable when you consider that Premier McGuinty took an oath saying: "I will not raise taxes or implement any new taxes without the explicit consent of Ontario voters." Before our Opposition Day motion could be debated and put to a vote, the McGuinty government rejected an all-party agreement and killed the motion.

Sylvia Jones MPP, Working for You

NEWS RELEASE

SYLVIA JONES, MPP
Dufferin-Caledon

The PC Party and I have been continuously highlighting how the HST will devastate low income families and seniors on fixed incomes. The McGuinty Liberals on the other hand are pushing ahead.

Ontario families will pay more, whether they can afford it or not.

-30-

Sylvia Jones MPP, Working for You