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JOHN YAKABUSKI, M.P.P. - RENFREW-NIPISSING-PEMBROKE

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GOVERNMENT'S RECORD

Mr. John Yakabuski: My question is for the Premier. Since we last sat in this House, Dalton McGuinty made a multi-billion dollar sweetheart deal with a foreign company. He paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to avoid answering embarrassing questions by settling lawsuits launched by Kelly McDougald and the family in Caledonia. He gave away 15 million of our health care dollars to help elect the former mayor of Winnipeg to Toronto Centre. He is handing out millions more to help his candidate in Ottawa West-Nepean.

I would like to ask the Premier, how much are the votes in Leeds-Grenville worth to you?

The Speaker (Hon. Steve Peters): I'd just ask the honourable member to withdraw that comment, please, of impugning motive.

Mr. John Yakabuski: Withdrawn.

The Speaker (Hon. Steve Peters): Premier?

Hon. Dalton McGuinty: To the Minister of Energy and Infrastructure.

Hon. Brad Duguid: That was one of those questions that was kind of all over the place, but we seized on the initial beginning of it when the member brought up the \$7-billion investment in Ontario's economy as a result of the Samsung initiative. That \$7 billion brings with it 16,000 new jobs to this province over the course of six years. How out of touch can the opposition be if they can, at this time in our history, not be in support of the creation of 16,000 jobs in this province?

Interjections.

The Speaker (Hon. Steve Peters): Please continue.

Hon. Brad Duguid: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Along with those 16,000 jobs will be the creation of four green manufacturing plants. Wind towers, solar inverters, solar module assembly and wind blades are all going to be made in this province. We're taking steps to build a strong, green economy-

The Speaker (Hon. Steve Peters): Thank you. Supplementary?

Mr. John Yakabuski: I think Korea was on the podium before these winter games started.

You spend like you don't understand that you have a record-breaking \$25-billion deficit. Your latest insult to Ontario families is wasting their money to sell a tax that the McGuinty Liberal caucus hasn't been able or willing to sell. You've given up on your caucus, enlisting the services of an ad company tied to the infamous Bensimon Byrne that you paid over \$13 million to, including for a redesign of the Ontario trillium to look like a logo for the Ontario Liberal Party.

You used to say, Premier, "You don't need to spin people and tell them you're doing good work for them. Let the policy speak for itself." When will you stop spending Ontario families' money like it's your own partisan slush fund?

Hon. Brad Duguid: I think I'd better refer this to the Minister of Revenue.

Hon. John Wilkinson: What part of 591,000 net new jobs do you not get over there?

I've had an opportunity, as have all members, to talk to our constituents. What our constituents are telling us is that they're looking for jobs. They are happy to hear that there is an investment, the largest green energy investment in history, being made right here in Ontario: 16,000 jobs. They understand that the world has changed and that we need to reform our tax system. Because of those reforms, because we are taking the step of going to one sales tax instead of two in this province, taking that additional revenue and permanently cutting taxes for people and for business, we are making Ontario more competitive. We believe that the business community will in fact make the investments already shown by Samsung that will lead to more jobs. On this side of the House we are for those jobs.