

Scott says cheaper hydro, more jobs on her short list if re-elected

Local MPP and Progressive Conservative Candidate Laurie Scott says three of the most important issues she will fight for at Queen's Park if re-elected are jobs, better health care wait times, and cheaper hydro rates.

"Too many families are struggling to make ends meet in our communities," Scott tells *The Lindsay Advocate*.

Scott says that it's important to create a climate that is welcoming for businesses to create jobs in order to put more money in people's pockets. She also says soaring hydro costs, especially for rural Ontarians, has been a "tipping point" for poverty.

"We have to reduce hydro rates and give people jobs...to give them the opportunity to make a living to pay their bills," she says.

She says in the last 15 years people have been "worse off."

"A lot of other taxes have been going up," she says, like driver's license renewal costs, and it's "bad public policy" that is responsible.

"I want businesses to feel confident to expand. It makes a difference in rural Ontario if businesses can hire even one more person."

Scott says another priority is investing in health care in the province, getting rid of "hallway medicine."

"I'm committed to reducing the wait- times for long-term care

beds and other services within our health care system.”

Scott says the Ontario Basic Income Pilot Program is safe under a Progressive Conservative government, should they be elected.

“I think all three major parties have said they would support the pilot and look at the results. As a party we’ve been supportive of it.”

She congratulates local groups for “really putting forward an effort to register people” for the program.

One of Scott’s key issues she has focused on during her time as MPP has been human sex trafficking. In a discussion about poverty, she notes how much more vulnerable people are to exploitation if they are from low income homes.

“Anyone is susceptible, but poverty is one of those things that make them more susceptible to be lured in.”

The Ontario election will be held June 7.