

Kathleen Wynne increasing hydro prices are devastating rural Ontario

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Published on Aug 4, 2016

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- Electricity prices according to Statistics Canada in Ontario jumped 16 percent in the last year (Aug 2015 to Aug 2016)
- Residents in rural Ontario are being hardest hit by increasing cost of electricity
- Residents in Bancroft have reached a breaking point with soaring Hydro (electricity) costs. Those on fixed incomes on social living complexes are those hardest hit living along Woodville Lane.
- Others suffer in silence. They can't afford a telephone. They can't afford a computer or internet hooks. They can't tell their stories.

Resident Jessup in Bancroft:

- We have to decide between heating the house and feeding the kids.
- Hydro bills were nearly \$600 a month and father of two couldn't keep up
- Hydro One installed a load limiter with the Smart meter. Jessup said it only made matters worse.
- He could not run the microwave oven now
- I'd rather feed my kids than anything, but in the end I am behind on my Hydro (electric) bill. It's a never ending battle.

Bill Kilpatrick, Bancroft Councillor:

- Bancroft has been hardest hit by the cost electricity
- When you need to choose between basic necessities, that's a crisis. We are in a crisis.
- Half the cost of bills are delivery costs. Costs are at least several hundred dollars during summer months and double that amount during the winter months. That's more than a mortgage payment.

Social worker, Marcia Depotier:

- Electric costs forced her to sell her house and downsize. The level billing was \$798 each month, but still at the end I still owed \$798 more
- Over one-half of my paycheck is going to hydro costs
- Thank you Premier Wynne. Thank you Hydro One. I'm broke
- 60,000 customers had their electricity disconnected due to non-payment

Ian Seaborn, Bancroft resident:

- I was disconnected.
- With family help, I was able to get a generator to heat my house.
- Even in budget billing and ditching TVs and computers he couldn't keep up.
- Right now we are thinking about moving in with parents so we can afford to live

