

KATHLEEN WYNNE MAKES BIG CHANGES FOR MAJORITY CABINET

Structural change and a few new faces mark Wynne's new team

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Having won a majority mandate just under two weeks ago, Kathleen Wynne has wasted no time in putting a distinctive stamp on her government. The restructured cabinet introduces new roles to demonstrate the Premier's priorities of reducing the deficit, improving long-term care, and introducing a new provincial pension plan.

Responsibilities will be divvied up at two critical ministries, Finance and Health & Long-Term Care.

Charles Sousa remains as Finance Minister in charge of budgetary direction, but Deb Matthews takes on the new role of President of the Treasury Board, with responsibility for cost control across all ministries, negotiating contracts with public-sector workers and overseeing agencies, boards and commissions. Matthews will also remain Deputy Premier. Mitzi Hunter, first elected in a 2013 by-election, becomes the Associate Minister of Finance with responsibility for the Ontario Retirement Pension Plan.

Dr. Eric Hoskins gets a big promotion to take the reins at Health & Long-Term Care, and will be helped out by Dipika Damerla as Associate Minister of Health responsible for Long-Term Care and Wellness.

Overall, the shape of Cabinet reflects Wynne's priorities and vision of government as a force for good. Wynne rejected calls to reduce the size of her cabinet, and the new roles in long-term care, pensions and deficit-fighting also send a clear message to watchers. Given Matthews's success in constraining costs at Health, her appointment to lead the Treasury Board shows a commitment to balancing the budget on schedule. The renaming to Environment and Climate Change under Minister Glen Murray may also be interpreted as a signal of a more active green agenda for the government.

Some other ministries will undergo structural change. Transportation gets a dedicated minister in Steven Del Duca, while Brad Duguid will head the new Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure. Consumer Services and Government Services will be recombined under Minister David Oraziotti, while Michael Chan will head Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade. Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs will also be back in one piece under Jeff Leal, after Wynne separated the roles in 2013 so she could take the Agriculture job herself.

Contrary to some expectations, no re-elected Cabinet ministers were removed from the executive. However, there will be four new faces around the Cabinet table. In addition to Del Duca, Damerla and Hunter, Dr. Helena Jaczek, first elected in 2007, was selected to head Community & Social Services, one of the largest spending Ministries.

Ministers who will be taking on new challenges include Glen Murray (Environment), Ted McMeekin (Municipal Affairs and Housing), Bill Mauro (Natural Resources & Forestry), Michael Coteau (Tourism, Culture & Sport and the Pan-Am Games) and Children and Youth Services (Tracy MacCharles). Reza Moridi will add Training, Colleges and Universities to his responsibilities for Research and Innovation, a good fit for the Ph.D. in nuclear physics.

Other ministers are staying in place, including Liz Sandals (Education), Bob Chiarelli (Energy), Madeleine Meilleur (Attorney General and Francophone Affairs), Michael Gravelle (Northern Development and Mines), Kevin Flynn (Labour), and David Zimmer (Aboriginal Affairs). Yasir Naqvi will remain as Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services while also becoming Government House Leader. Jim Bradley remains in Cabinet as a Minister without Portfolio.

There are eight women in Cabinet (30%) – an increase over the most recent McGuinty Cabinet (6/22, or 27%), although well below the high-water mark of 42% set by the 1990 Rae and 2007 McGuinty governments.

Chiefs of Staff are expected to remain in place until after the Legislature passes the Budget, expected to occur in mid- to late-July. Changes in political staff are likely to occur on a rolling basis over the summer, as some choose to follow their Minister to a new portfolio while others take the opportunity to leave government.

Key Appointments

Finance – Charles Sousa

Charles Sousa will be staying put as Minister of Finance in the new Liberal majority. Sousa has impressed both political watchers and Bay Street since assuming the role last year. With Deb Matthews assuming responsibility for the Treasury Board, Sousa will be able to focus on broad economic policy and implementing his ambitious Budget.

President of the Treasury Board – Deb Matthews

The once minor role of the Chair of the Management Board of Cabinet will see a large boost in power and a new title under Deb Matthews. The position will take on many of the jobs once performed by the Minister of Finance. These will include leading negotiations with government unions, overseeing crown agencies, and ensuring that budget goals are met. Matthews is a close ally of Wynne, and her appointment in this enhanced role sends a clear signal that the Premier is committed to cost control and meeting the objective of a balanced budget by 2017-18. Matthews proved her fiscal resolve in slashing the cost curve for health, including through showdowns with the province's pharmacists and designated physiotherapy clinics.

Health & Long-Term Care – Eric Hoskins

In a big promotion, medical doctor Eric Hoskins has been tapped by Wynne to move up the ladder from Economic Development into the role of Minister of Health. Hoskins's place on the front bench has been assured since his run for the Liberal leadership. He brings a dream resume to the job – MD from McMaster, Rhodes Scholar and Oxford doctorate in Epidemiology, co-founder of War Child Canada – but has had to work on developing his political communications skills. The Ministry is facing continued challenges with containing costs as it transforms the system. Hoskins will be aided by Dr. Bob Bell as Deputy Minister and MPP Dipika Damerla as long-term care associate minister.

Transportation – Steven Del Duca

Steven Del Duca, a new member of the Liberal caucus and rising star within the party, has been given the significant position of Transportation Minister. Having only been elected in the 2012 by-election to succeed Greg Sorbara, this will be Del Duca's first cabinet position. A former Queen's

Park staffer, Del Duca has proven his worth as a party spokesman and demonstrated keen political instincts. Del Duca will be overseeing \$29-billion in transportation investment, which Wynne made one of her top priorities throughout the election.

Energy – Bob Chiarelli

Ottawa West-Nepean MPP Bob Chiarelli will continue on as Energy Minister in the new cabinet. Chiarelli will likely have to address the problem of rising energy prices, which took centre stage as an issue in the election. In addition, Chiarelli will also be tasked with refurbishing the Bruce and Darlington nuclear power plants. Chiarelli is seen as a steady hand at the tiller in this complicated ministry, and his continuation in the role will come as a relief to stakeholders.

Community & Social Services – Helena Jaczek

An MPP since 2007, Dr. Helena Jaczek is another rookie cabinet minister, charged with taking over the Ministry of Community & Social Services. The MPP for Oak Ridges-Markham was once the Chief Medical Officer of Health in York Region. Jaczek will be overseeing social services and community services programs such as welfare and addressing issues like domestic violence and homelessness.

Ministry of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure – Brad Duguid

Under Scarborough MPP Brad Duguid, the Ministry of Economic Development and Employment will lose the Trade file but gain Infrastructure. With such a large portfolio, the Ministry will be one of the most important within cabinet. Brad is seen as one of the government's best communicators, and will be an asset to Wynne as she tries to deliver on her Budget goals to produce jobs through economic and infrastructure development.

Municipal Affairs and Housing – Ted McMeekin

A charming and folksy small-l liberal, McMeekin has been described by the Premier as the conscience of Cabinet. His people skills, loyalty to the Premier and experience as a municipal politician in Flamborough make him a good fit for the role stickhandling relationships between the province and municipalities.

Appendix: The Full Cabinet

Ministry	Minister	Parliamentary Assistant
Premier and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs	Kathleen Wynne	Shafiq Qaadri
Deputy Premier and President of the Treasury Board	Deb Matthews	Yvan Baker
Finance	Charles Sousa	Laura Albanese
Aboriginal Affairs	David Zimmer	Vic Dhillon
Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	Jeff Leal	Arthur Potts
Attorney General	Madeleine Meilleur	Lorenzo Berardinetti
Children & Youth Services	Tracy MacCharles	Granville Anderson
Citizenship, Immigration & International Trade	Michael Chan	Cristina Martins (C&I); Monte Kwinter (Trade)
Community Safety & Correctional Services	Yasir Naqvi	Bas Balkissoon
Community & Social Services	Helena Jaczek	Soo Wong
Economic Development, Employment & Infrastructure	Brad Duguid	Marie-France Lalonde (Ec. Dev); Peter Milczyn (Infra.)
Education	Liz Sandals	Grant Crack
Energy	Bob Chiarelli	Bob Delaney
Environment and Climate Change	Glen Murray	Amrit Mangat
Government and Consumer Services	David Oraziotti	Chris Ballard
Health & Long-Term Care	Eric Hoskins	John Fraser (Health); Indira Naidoo-Harris (LTC)
Labour	Kevin Flynn	Ann Hoggarth
Municipal Affairs & Housing	Ted McMeekin	Lou Rinaldi
Natural Resources & Forestry	Bill Mauro	Eleanor McMahon
Northern Development & Mines	Michael Gravelle	Joe Dickson
Research & Innovation	Reza Moridi	Daiene Vernile
Tourism, Culture & Sport	Michael Coteau	Sophie Kiwala
Training, Colleges & Universities	Reza Moridi	Han Dong
Transportation	Steven Del Duca	Mike Colle; Kathryn McGarry
Government House Leader	Yasir Naqvi	Jim Bradley
Francophone Affairs	Madeleine Meilleur	Marie-France Lalonde
2015 Pan/Parapan-Am Games	Michael Coteau	
Seniors Affairs	Mario Sergio	
Women's Issues	Tracy MacCharles	Harinder Malhi
Chair of Cabinet	Jim Bradley	
Associate Minister of Health (Long-Term Care and Wellness)	Dipika Damerla	
Associate Minister of Finance (Ontario Retirement Pension Plan)	Mitzie Hunter	

Appendix: Cabinet Committee Membership

Priorities and Planning Committee

Kathleen Wynne
Charles Sousa
Deb Matthews
Bob Chiarelli
Brad Duguid
Glen Murray
Dr. Eric Hoskins
Liz Sandals
Jeff Leal
Dr. Helena Jaczek
Steven Del Duca
Ted McMeekin
Reza Moridi

Treasury Board/Management Board of Cabinet

Deb Matthews (President/Chair)
Charles Sousa (Vice-Chair)
Bob Chiarelli
Bill Mauro
Madeleine Meilleur
Liz Sandals
Yasir Naqvi
Kevin Flynn
David Oraziatti
Mitzie Hunter
Harinder Takhar (Advisor)
Yvan Baker (Advisor)
Laura Albanese (Advisor)

Appendix: Changes from Pre-Writ Cabinet, by Minister

	Cabinet, Pre-Election	New Cabinet
Jim Bradley	Environment	Chair of Cabinet (Minister without Portfolio)
Michael Chan	Tourism, Culture and Sport; 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games	Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade
Bob Chiarelli	Energy	Energy
Michael Coteau	Citizenship and Immigration	Tourism, Culture and Sport; 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games
Brad Duguid	Training, Colleges and Universities	Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure
Kevin Flynn	Labour	Labour
John Gerretsen	Chair of Cabinet	-- (Retired)
Michael Gravelle	Northern Development and Mines	Northern Development and Mines
Eric Hoskins	Economic Development, Trade and Employment	Health and Long-Term Care
Jeff Leal	Rural Affairs	Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Tracy MacCharles	Consumer Services	Children and Youth Services; Women's Issues
Deb Matthews	Health and Long-Term Care	Deputy Premier; President of the Treasury Board
Bill Mauro	Municipal Affairs and Housing	Natural Resources and Forestry
Ted McMeekin	Community and Social Services	Municipal Affairs and Housing
Madeleine Meilleur	Attorney General; Francophone Affairs	Attorney General; Francophone Affairs
John Milloy	Government Services; Government House Leader	-- (Retired)
Reza Moridi	Research and Innovation	Research and Innovation; Training, Colleges and Universities
Glen Murray	Transportation and Infrastructure	Environment and Climate Change
Yasir Naqvi	Community Safety and Correctional Services	Community Safety and Correctional Services; Government House Leader
David Oraziotti	Natural Resources	Government and Consumer Services
Teresa Piruzza	Children and Youth Services; Women's Issues	-- (Defeated)
Liz Sandals	Education	Education
Mario Sergio	Seniors Affairs	Seniors Affairs
Charles Sousa	Finance	Finance

Kathleen Wynne	Premier; Agriculture and Food; Intergovernmental Affairs	Premier; Intergovernmental Affairs
David Zimmer	Aboriginal Affairs	Aboriginal Affairs
Dipika Damerla	-- PA (Tourism, Culture and Sport; 2015 Pan/Parapan-Am Games)	Associate Minister of Health (Long- Term Care and Wellness)
Steven Del Duca	-- PA (Finance)	Transportation
Mitzie Hunter	-- PA (Community and Social Services)	Associate Minister of Finance (Ontario Retirement Pension Plan)
Helena Jaczek	-- PA (Health and Long-Term Care)	Community and Social Services