



NEWS RELEASE

JERRY J. OUELLETTE
Member of Provincial Parliament
OSHAWA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McGuinty Avoids C.difficile Scrutiny and Adjourns Legislature Early

*Lack of action over bacterial outbreak take's down Ontario's longest serving
Minister of Health*

OSHAWA –Dalton McGuinty and the provincial Liberals have once again announced the early adjournment of the spring legislative session of the Ontario Legislature.

“So much for the new working hours to give better input at Queen’s Park”, says Oshawa MPP, Jerry Ouellette.

The daily proceedings of the House recessed early more often than any other session since 1995.

With the adjournment of the Legislature, McGuinty also took the opportunity to immediately demote his highest ranking Cabinet member, Health Minister George Smitherman, to a much lower profile ministry, thus avoiding further scrutiny over the C. difficile crisis.

Ouellette pointed out that the Liberals have failed to address the outbreaks of C. difficile in hospitals across Ontario. Despite receiving a number of recommendations that would have helped to protect Ontarians, the McGuinty government has failed to put those recommendations into practice, as other provinces have. Close to 300 people have lost their lives to C. difficile across the province – nearly eight times the number who died from the SARs outbreak in 2003. The opposition has called on the Liberals to appoint an independent investigator to look into the scope of the C. difficile crisis and report back in 90 days. This would be followed by a public inquiry at a later date.

Jerry J. Ouellette MPP, Oshawa
905-723-2411

jerry.ouelleteco@pc.ola.org

The Oshawa MPP was adamantly opposed to this decision by the government to adjourn the Legislature early. “I am very disappointed that key issues the Opposition has raised will not be addressed by the government”, says Mr. Ouellette.

“I look forward to working in Oshawa with constituents, groups, organizations, stakeholders and most importantly being back and seeing my family on a regular basis”, adds Ouellette.

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