

We've been advocating for rural connectivity, Province announced just over \$1-billion (\$680-million as part of the 2020 budget in addition to a previous \$350-million commitment over 5-years), we're working to ensure Northumberland County gets its share as an underserviced community.

Watching today's Provincial Budget - according to Research by Ontario's Financial Accountability Office, provincial government spending only accounts for three per cent of the \$110 billion in direct pandemic-related support to people, businesses and the public sector in Ontario. The federal government is the source of the other 97 per cent. We've been working with the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and we're hoping to see some provincial support for small businesses - particularly restaurants, entertainment and fitness financial support. Also anticipating some relief on employers' provincial health tax contributions, funding to buy personal protective equipment, a top-up to the federal commercial rent subsidy, and making good on Ford's campaign promise to cut hydro rates by 12 per cent

Speaking of hydro rates, we will be sharing a link to a program that allows direct comparison of Time-Of-Use vs. Tiered pricing

Working on a Member's Survey to gauge the level of confidence in regard to pandemic protocol. What are your rights when a customer refuses to wear a mask? What are your responsibilities to your employees? What are your employees obligations to you? Who needs to be screened when entering your place of business?