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# TED CHUDLEIGH

## MPP Halton

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### **DALTON'S DISMAL PERFORMANCE GETS WORSE**

A loss of 16,600 jobs in Ontario in December indicates an economic recovery is still far off, said Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh, who added that the McGuinty Liberal government's approach to deficits and spending practically guarantee a deeper, longer recession than other parts of North America.

"The holiday season usually produces stronger job results, even when times are tough," said Mr. Chudleigh. "Ontario's results were by far the worst in Canada, a testimony to the futility of the government's economic approach."

Mr. Chudleigh said that it is apparent that the rush to leave Ontario continues, as tax grabs, record deficits, spending scandals, and runaway spending take the lustre off Ontario as a place to live and do business.

"We used to be the economic engine of Canada, but now we are fast becoming an abandoned spur line," said Mr. Chudleigh. "Not too long ago the road to prosperity went right through Ontario. No more."

The McGuinty government is promising 600,000 new jobs through the tax changes associated with the Harmonized Sales Tax. However, significant job losses in December suggest the change is driving jobs away. In 2009 the McGuinty Liberals promised to create more than 1 million jobs through the 2009 Ontario Budget, the Green Energy Act and the HST. In reality Ontario has a net loss of more than 141,000 jobs since January 2009.

"Dalton McGuinty cannot seriously expect businesses to hire new workers when they face a huge tax grab," said Mr. Chudleigh. "He is seriously out of touch."

Canada's unemployment rate is 8.5 percent. Ontario as a whole is at 9.3 per cent with some areas of the province well over 10 percent unemployed.

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