



New faces join the ranks of Ontario Deputy Ministers

Today, Peter Wallace, the Secretary of Cabinet, announced a number of changes to the executive management team within the Government of Ontario effective March 26, 2012.

Changes include new Deputy Ministers as follows:

- Serge Imbrogno, Ministry of Energy
- Kevin Costante, Ministry of Government Services
- George Zegarac, Ministry of Education
- Alex Bezzina, Ministry of Children and Youth Services
- Stephen Rhodes, Ministry of Correctional Services
- Laurie LeBlanc, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

Three long-time public servants have also announced their retirement:

- David Lindsay, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Energy
- Murray Segal, Deputy Minister, Ministry of the Attorney General
- Jay Hope, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Correctional Services

Alex Bezzina, Laurie LeBlanc, Serge Imbrogno and Stephen Rhodes are first-time Deputy Ministers, while Kevin Costante and George Zegarac have held Deputy Minister positions in other portfolios over the years and are very well experienced.

Serge Imbrogno, who becomes the Deputy Minister of Energy effective April 2, 2012, is currently serving as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Corporate Electricity Finance in the Ontario Financing Authority, and previously served as the Director of Electricity Finance in the Ministry of Finance and the Ontario Financing Authority. In these roles, Imbrogno was in charge of conducting analysis and research on energy policy and will likely be well equipped for his new role and hit the ground running. He faces the immediate challenge of rolling out changes recently announced in the FIT Review.

Murray Segal, who is currently serving as Deputy Minister for the Ministry of the Attorney General, has served the people of Ontario for over 30 years with nearly 10 years as the Deputy Attorney General. He has a wealth of knowledge on this file and is a loss for the OPS. It is interesting to note that there will be a wider search for Segal's replacement as the government looks outside of its ranks to fill the position.

Also of note is that **Kevin Costante** will be assuming the role of Deputy Minister of Government Services. Ron McKerlie held this position from July 2008 to January 2012 when he was appointed interim President & CEO at Ornge, the province's air ambulance service.

McKerlie's appointment came after the Minister of Health dissolved Ornge's executive structure in the wake of revelations about the questionable financial dealings the agency engaged in. The appointment of Costante could mean that McKerlie may remain in his current position at Ornge as the government works to restructure the agency and increase accountability in the midst of strong criticism from the Opposition and media.