



“Deputy Minister Shuffle”

Perhaps as a consequence of last month's Cabinet shuffle, the Premier has also shuffled a number of Deputy Ministers (DM's).

Saad Rafi (currently DM of Energy and Infrastructure) takes over as DM of Health and Long-Term Care, replacing Dawn Ogram who had taken over the position on an acting basis after the resignation of Ron Sapsford. We are quite surprised that the government didn't reach outside the Ontario Public Service for this appointment. We understand that the government didn't feel it had time to go through an extensive search and recruitment process given the issues being faced by the healthcare delivery system in Ontario.

Fareed Amin (currently DM of Municipal Affairs and Housing) replaces Rafi at Energy and Infrastructure.

The Rafi and Amin appointments are effective February 16.

Wendy Tilford becomes DM of Economic Development and Trade.

George Ross who is currently the DM of Research and Innovation has been assigned the additional post of DM, Consumer Services. Adding to Ross' span of control in this way seems to send a message about this government's real commitment to Research and Innovation.

Drew Fagan becomes DM of Tourism and Culture and continues as Acting DM to the Minister responsible for Seniors.

Jean Lam becomes DM of Health Promotion.

Dana Richardson becomes Acting DM of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The foregoing appointments were effective February 1.