

**AROUND
Canada**

Qatar wants agency

OTTAWA — Canada is ramping up its efforts to prevent Qatar from wresting away the only United Nations agency based in this country.

The Middle Eastern country is seeking to convince the UN to let it host the headquarters for the International Civil Aviation Organization, currently based in Montreal.

The Qataris made a formal pitch to the organization in April, reportedly offering a brand-new building for the organization and a promise to cover all the costs associated with the move.

Now Canada is preparing a counterattack. “(Foreign Affairs) Minister (John) Baird will fight tooth and nail to keep ICAO in its rightful home of Montreal,” spokesman Rick Roth said in an email Thursday.

Canada has played host to the body, which sets international standards for civil aviation, since 1946.

The Qatari offer comes as Canada and the ICAO are negotiating for a new lease on the Montreal headquarters, built at a cost of \$100 million in the 1990s.

Though the organization didn't go looking for a new host, it is obliged to consider Qatar's bid under the organization's rules.

A vote is set for this fall. The result of that vote has both economic and political implications for Canada.

There are 534 staff employed at the organization's headquarters and the agency claims to generate some \$80 million annually for Montreal's economy and 1,200 direct and indirect jobs.

For Qatar's bid to prevail, a minimum of 60 per cent of the ICAO's 191 member states must sign off.

There are concerns a decision by UN states to remove an agency from Canada will be seen as punishment for the Conservative government's broader policy stance on the Middle East.

Baird irritated many in the Arab world last month when, while on a visit to the Middle East, he met Israel's foreign minister at a coffee shop in East Jerusalem, which the Palestinians and the UN consider occupied land.

Match solves mystery

SASKATOON — Police say a matchstick has helped them solve the 50-year-old cold case of a man murdered at the Saskatoon Golf and Country Club.

Investigators believe a 17-year-old youth shot and

killed golf-course worker Richard Hartz in 1963 during a robbery.

But the suspect, whose name is not being released, can't be charged because he died in 2009.

Police say advanced technology showed matchsticks found on the golf course came from a matchbook in a stolen truck the teen used in a different robbery.

The teen was the leading suspect at the time, but there was no arrest despite an investigation involving hundreds of witnesses and interviews.

Ontario budget orange

TORONTO — In a last-ditch bid to stay alive and avoid an election, Ontario's minority Liberals revealed a \$127.6-billion budget Thursday awash in NDP orange along with the red ink.

Ticking off every demand the New Democrats put on their long list — from giving motorists a break on their insurance to de-laying and eliminating some corporate tax breaks — the Liberals have thrown down the gauntlet and put the party that holds the balance of power between a rock and a hard place.

The New Democrats have a choice: prop up a government hungry for their left-leaning supporters, or defeat the budget that they helped craft and force an election just 19 months after the last one.

— The Canadian Press



Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his Conservative party trail the Liberals in popular support.

Attack ads don't strike blow to surging Trudeau

New poll finds Liberals leading Conservatives

By Joan Bryden

OTTAWA — Two weeks of Conservative attack ads have done little to dim Justin Trudeau's honeymoon with Canadians, a new poll suggests.

The latest Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey suggests the Liberal party jumped into a seven-point lead over the Conservatives during the two weeks that followed Trudeau's landslide leadership victory last month.

Liberal support stood at 35 per cent, while the Conservatives dropped to 28 and the NDP to 22. The Green party was at seven per cent.

That's the highest level of support for the Liberals since March 2009, when the selection of Michael Ignatieff as party leader briefly buoyed the party's fortunes.

Ignatieff subsequently led the party to its worst defeat in history in the 2011 election, which reduced the Liberals to a third-party rump.

Current Liberal support is not quite as high as the 36 per cent peak reached by the NDP a year ago immediately following the election of its new leader, Tom Mulcair. New Democrats have been trending down since then, a spiral that accelerated over the last few months of the Liberal leadership contest.

Trudeau's honeymoon could yet prove as fleeting as those of new leaders before him, but for now at least, the poll suggests he has weathered the barrage of Tory television ads asserting the new Liberal leader is “in way over his head.”

The Conservatives began broadcasting the ads within hours of Trudeau's leadership victory on April 14.

“Things can certainly change in Canadian political opinion and, with two relatively un-

tested leaders, I'd expect these numbers are still relatively soft,” said Harris-Decima senior vice-president Doug Anderson.

“What we do know for certain is that more people are saying they'd vote Liberal than have felt inclined to say that in years. And it's better to be up than down.”

The telephone poll of 2,008 Canadians was conducted April 18-28 and is considered accurate to within plus or minus 2.2 percentage points, 19 times in 20.

It suggests the Liberals moved into a commanding lead in Trudeau's home province of Quebec with 37 per cent to the NDP's 24. The Bloc Québécois had 23 per cent support, the Conservatives nine per cent and the Greens five per cent.

Quebec, which was swept by the NDP in 2011, is key to Trudeau's plans for a Liberal comeback in the 2015 election.

The Liberals also held a slight lead in Ontario, another crucial battleground: 38 per cent compared with 34 per cent for the Conservatives, 20 per cent for the NDP and seven per cent of the Greens.

And they were well ahead in the Atlantic provinces with 48 per cent to 27 for the NDP, 22 for the Conservatives and two for the Greens.

The NDP led in British Columbia with 34 per cent to the 30 per cent for the Liberals, the Tories at 22 per cent and the Greens at 13 per cent.

The Conservatives led in Alberta with 58 per cent, compared with 22 per cent for the Liberals, 13 per cent for the Greens and seven per cent for the NDP.

They were also well ahead in Manitoba/Saskatchewan at 50 per cent, compared with 22 per cent for the Liberals, 21 per cent for the NDP and five for the Greens.

— The Canadian Press

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An Invitation to Attend

KEYYASK
Hydropower Limited Partnership

Keyyask Public Involvement Program: Round Three

The Keyyask Hydropower Limited Partnership is proposing to develop the Keyyask Generation Project, a 695-megawatt hydroelectric generating station at Gull Rapids on the Nelson River in northern Manitoba. Round Three of the Public Involvement Program has been planned to provide information about the format and content of the Environmental Impact Statement, discuss how input received to date influenced the Project assessment, communicate any supplemental information since the filing of the Environmental Impact Statement with regulators in 2012, and document what is heard. You are invited to attend an open house in Thompson or Winnipeg.

The third round of the Keyyask Public Involvement Program is underway. Open houses are planned for two communities, including the following:

THOMPSON OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, May 16 (4:00-8:00 pm) at the Thompson Regional Community Centre

WINNIPEG OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, May 23 (4:00-8:00 pm) at the Norwood Hotel at 112 Marion Street in Winnipeg

For more information about the Public Involvement Program please contact Manitoba Hydro at (204) 360-3473 or email Keyyask@hydro.mb.ca

For more information about the project, please visit:
The Keyyask Project website: www.Keyyask.com

A Bangladeshi woman looks at a wall filled with portraits of missing people near the site of a garment factory that collapsed last week.



ASHRAFUL ALAM TITO / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Factory collapse downplayed

Politician says it wasn't 'really serious,' just an accident

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Bangladesh's finance minister downplayed the impact of last week's factory-building collapse on his country's garment industry, saying Friday he didn't think it was "really serious" hours after the 500th body was pulled from the debris.

Finance Minister Abul Maal Abdul Muhith spoke as the government cracked down on those it blamed for the disaster in the Dhaka suburb of Savar. It suspended Savar's mayor and arrested an engineer who had called for the building's evacuation last week, but was also accused of helping the owner add three illegal floors to the eight-storey structure. The building owner was arrested earlier.

The government appears to be attempting to fend off accusations it is in part to blame for the tragedy because of weak oversight of the building's construction.

During a visit to the Indian capital, New Delhi, Muhith said the disaster would not harm Bangladesh's garment industry, which is by far the country's biggest source of export income.

"The present difficulties... well, I don't think it is really serious — it's an accident," he said. "And the steps that we have taken in order to make sure that it doesn't happen, they are quite elaborate and I believe that it will be appreciated by all."

The government made similar promises after a

garment factory fire five months ago that killed 112, saying it would inspect factories for safety and pull the licences of those that failed. However, that plan has yet to be implemented.

Asked if he was worried foreign retailers might pull orders from his country, Muhith said he wasn't: "These are individual cases of... accidents. It happens everywhere."

Muhith, a longtime government official from a prominent family, has been criticized for insensitive comments in the past — even by his own party. Last year when thousands of small investors lost their savings and poured into the streets seeking government intervention, Muhith said it wasn't responsible and the investors were at fault.

The official death toll from the April 24 collapse reached 512 Friday and was expected to climb, making it likely the deadliest garment-factory accident in world history. It surpassed long-ago disasters such as New York's Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire, which killed 146 workers in 1911, and more recent tragedies such as a 2012 fire that killed about 260 people in Pakistan and one in Bangladesh that same year that killed 112.

At the site of the collapse, workers carefully used cranes to remove the concrete rubble and continue the slow task of recovering bodies.

— The Associated Press

FloodInfo

Flood Liaison Offices Are Now Open

Call or visit them today for information and updates.

The Manitoba government has opened Flood Liaison Offices in Brandon, Morris, Winnipeg and Arborg.

The Flood Liaison Offices will provide flood-related information including details about the following:

- flood protection levels
- current forecasted flood levels
- the status of community ring dike closures

If you are being affected by flooding, you can obtain information by contacting one of the following offices:

Arborg — Phone-in service only - 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday), Phone: 204-376-3333

Brandon — 1129 Queens Avenue, Walk-in hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday), Phone-in hours: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (7 days a week) Phone: 204-729-1220

Morris — 871 Southwood Road, Walk-in hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (7 days a week), Phone-in hours: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (7 days a week) Phone: 204-250-4874

Winnipeg* — 200 Saulteaux Crescent, Walk-in hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday - Friday), Phone-in hours: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. (7 days a week) Phone: 204-945-8373

* The Winnipeg office provides information for communities surrounding the city. For information about flooding in Winnipeg, please call 311.

Learn More

Call: 1-866-626-4862 for general information or 511 for road info
 Web: manitoba.ca/flooding and mb511.ca
 Mobile: www.manitoba.ca
 Twitter: @mbgov and @mbgovroads



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to visit the flood website at manitoba.ca



An Invitation to Attend



Hydropower Limited Partnership



Keyask Public Involvement Program: Round Three

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For more information about the project, please visit:
 The Keyask Project website: www.Keyask.com



Notice of Application and Pre-Hearing Conference

APPLICANT:
MANITOBA HYDRO

APPLICATION:
NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE NEEDS FOR AND ALTERNATIVES TO (NFAT) REVIEW OF MANITOBA HYDRO'S PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

On April 25, 2013, the Government of Manitoba issued Terms of Reference to The Public Utilities Board (PUB) regarding the Needs For And Alternatives To (NFAT) Review of Manitoba Hydro's proposed preferred development plan for the construction of the Keyask Generating Station and Conawapa Generating Station, associated domestic transmission facilities, export contracts, and Canada-U.S. transmission interconnection facilities.

The NFAT Review will be conducted under the authority of Section 107 of The Public Utilities Board Act (The PUB Act) for the purpose of making recommendations to the Minister responsible for the administration of The PUB Act upon completion of the PUB's investigations and deliberations. The PUB will provide a report no later than June 20, 2014.

Manitoba Hydro plans to file its submission with respect to its preferred development plan by August 16, 2013. The PUB will hold an initial Pre-hearing Conference on May 16, 2013, prior to the filing, and will schedule a second Pre-Hearing Conference to be held after Manitoba Hydro files its NFAT submission.

SCOPE

The scope of the PUB's NFAT Review will be governed by the Terms of Reference, which can be found on the PUB's website at www.pub.gov.mb.ca, or by contacting the PUB at the address set out below.

The public is invited to participate in the NFAT Review, either by applying as a Presenter to submit oral or written Presentations, or by applying for Intervener status. All parties seeking Intervener or Presenter status should familiarize themselves with the Terms of Reference, including the scope and procedure set out therein.

PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE DATE AND LOCATION

The Board will convene a Pre-Hearing Conference to establish a schedule for the NFAT Review process and consider submissions from proposed Interveners on the following date, time, and location:

Thursday, May 16, 2013 @ 9:00 AM
 Hearing Room – 4th Floor, 330 Portage Avenue
 Winnipeg, Manitoba

REQUESTS FOR INTERVENER STATUS

All persons, firms or corporations wishing to intervene in respect of this matter are required to send a request for Intervener status to the PUB by mail, courier or email to be received by the PUB by no later than Tuesday May 14, 2013 using the Intervener request form available under the NFAT section of the PUB's website at www.pub.gov.mb.ca. Interveners must describe their reasons for intervention, their specific issues of concern as well as their detailed work plan and proposed consultants and estimated budgets. Interveners must be prepared to cooperate with other Interveners to avoid duplication.

The PUB may determine whether an Intervener is entitled to costs for participating in the review and may fix the amount of those costs in accordance with the PUB's Rules of Practice and Procedure which are available on the PUB's website.

REQUESTS FOR PRESENTER STATUS

Those parties wishing to submit a written presentation or to provide oral comments to the PUB may apply for Presenter status by mail, courier or email to be received by the PUB by no later than August 30, 2013.

The PUB is prepared to attend at various locations throughout Manitoba to hear and receive public Presentations. A schedule of dates and locations will be made available on the PUB's website following the Pre-Hearing Conference.

PROCEDURE

The PUB's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as modified by the NFAT Terms of Reference, will apply to the PUB's NFAT Review. All proposed Interveners should familiarize themselves with both documents. The PUB's Rules of Practice and Procedure are available on the PUB's main website at www.pub.gov.mb.ca. Any interested party can also request a paper copy from the PUB by writing the PUB at the address below or emailing the PUB at publicutilities@gov.mb.ca.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

The Public Utilities Board
 400-330 Portage Avenue
 Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C4
 Telephone: (204) 945-2638
 Toll-Free: (866) 854-3698
 Email: publicutilities@gov.mb.ca

DATED this 25th day of April, 2013

Hollis M. Singh
 Secretary
 The Public Utilities Board



Five days notice required.



Wheelchair access is available.

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