

TAXPAYER 2024

Naughty & Nice List

naughty



CBC President & CEO Catherine Tait

For dishing out Santa-sized executive bonuses

Santa doesn't like it when girls and boys are greedy. And forcing struggling taxpayers to pay for Santa-sized executive bonuses is as greedy as it gets.

The CBC dished out \$18 million in taxpayer-funded bonuses this year. Tait refuses to rule out taking severance or a bonus when she leaves the state broadcaster in the new year.

Santa thinks Tait deserves a big lump of coal, not a taxpayer-funded bonus.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

For prioritizing carbon taxes over grocery bills

The Patron Saint of Children doesn't like it when a rich ruler, like Trudeau, thinks paying his carbon tax is more important than parents affording food for their children.

For hiking his carbon tax year after year, Trudeau lands himself on Santa's Naughty List. Santa would give him a lump of coal, but Trudeau would probably try to carbon tax that too.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford

For sticking his hands in the taxpayer cookie jar to grab more political welfare

Ford seems to forget that Canadians leave the cookie jar out for Santa, not for political parties.

Ford promised Santa he would end Ontario's political welfare scheme. Now he's breaking that promise and extending the per-vote subsidy for political parties for another two years.

If Ford wants to get back in Santa's good books, he needs to live up to his promise and remove the taxpayer cookie jar from the grubby paws of political parties.

Global Affairs Canada

For billing taxpayers \$51,000 a month for their Christmas spirits

Santa likes eggnog as much as the next guy, but even he knows Global Affairs Canada is sipping on a little too much Christmas spirit. These bureaucrats have been racking up a monthly booze bill of \$51,000.

For wasting taxpayers' money faster than Santa can put back a tall glass of milk, these bureaucrats find themselves on Santa's Naughty List.

Winnipeg Mayor Scott Gillingham

For breaking promises and hiking taxes

Gillingham promised to cap property tax increases at 3.5 per cent during the election. Now Gillingham is pushing for a 5.9 per cent property tax hike, which would be the largest city tax hike in 34 years.

More lumps of coal: Gillingham rakes in more cookie dough than the premier of Manitoba.

For the largest tax increase since before *Jingle All the Way* came out, Winnipeg's mayor gets a stocking full of coal.

The entire federal bureaucracy

For gorging on too many tax dollars

Santa is no stranger to packing on a few pounds, but even he thinks it's time to put Ottawa's bureaucracy on a diet.

The cost of the bureaucracy has increased 73 per cent since 2016.

For gobbling up more and more tax dollars without improving services, the entire federal bureaucracy finds itself on Santa's Naughty List.

nice

Former Kensington Mayor Rowan Caseley

For saving taxpayers' money through self-sacrifice

The former mayor of Kensington, P.E.I., Rowan Caseley, noticed something wasn't adding up. His town only has about 2,300 people and was already home to several pickleball courts. And the town council wanted to spend \$289,000 on more pickleball courts.

Instead of doing the easy thing and wasting taxpayers' money, Caseley did the right thing and resigned in protest. After Caseley's good deed, council reversed its plan to waste tax dollars on more pickleball courts.

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe

For keeping the heat on during Christmas time

When Mr. Scrooge – A.K.A. Trudeau – tried robbing the Cratchits of their winter warmth with his carbon tax, Moe said NO. Moe told Trudeau's tax collectors to take a hike, protecting the good folks of Saskatchewan from paying the carbon tax on their home heating bills and saving them about \$400 in the process.

Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Andrew Furey

For keeping more money in families' pockets

Furey cut gas taxes by eight cents per litre for almost three years. That has left more money in families' wallets to buy the premium cookies for Santa.

More cookies: Furey has been one of the leading voices opposing the carbon tax.

Alberta Premier Danielle Smith

For taking Santa's least favourite tax back to court

Trudeau removed the carbon tax from furnace oil for three years. Santa, like 97 per cent of Canadians families, uses another form of heating fuel and he's getting hammered with carbon tax bills on his reindeer barn.

Smith is taking the Grinch's carbon tax back to court over the carve out and Santa couldn't be happier.

Parliamentary Budget Officer Yves Giroux

For the gift of government accountability and transparency

Take it from this elf, being the guy with the calculator saying "no" in Ottawa doesn't get you invited to the fancy Christmas parties.

When the Trudeau government told a fib that Canadians are richer because of the carbon tax, the PBO made a list and checked it three times.

The PBO showed the carbon tax costs average families hundreds of dollars more than they get back in rebates. The PBO was also the first to shine the light on the government blowing through its \$40-billion deficit guardrail.

The PBO continues to give taxpayers the gift of government accountability and transparency. And that warms Santa's heart.