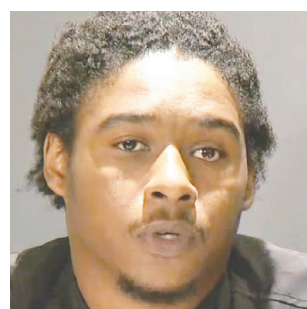


TORONTO POLICE

BEATING VICTIM WON'T
ACCEPT APOLOGY
FROM ACTING CHIEF

A young Black man beaten by an off-duty Toronto police officer rejected an apology from the force's interim chief on Friday, calling it a "public relations exercise." Interim Chief James Ramer apologized Thursday for the decision not to immediately notify the province's police watchdog of the beating of Dafonte Miller in 2016. The apology came after the release of an independent review of former chief



Mark Saunders' handling of the case. "Sincere apologies are important, public relations exercises are not," Miller said through his lawyer, Julian Falconer. "I have never heard from former Chief Saunders. Until yesterday morning, minutes before he went public, I had never heard of Interim Chief Ramer." Const. Michael Theriault was convicted of assault in the beating. *The Canadian Press*

Families
skeptical
of latest
autism plan

ONTARIO

OSOBE WABERI

TORONTO • The Ontario government began rolling out the first phase of its new program for families with autistic children on Friday, but critics and parents remain skeptical of the plan.

The province made the announcement in a news release earlier in the week, saying the new program will begin providing "foundational family services" to support the learning and development of children with autism.

The government said those services — which include mentoring, caregiver workshops and coaching tailored to unique regional and cultural needs — form one pillar of the province's new, needs-based program.

"As we work toward full implementation of the program, we continue to support families with existing behaviour plans, and those on the wait-list through interim one-time funding," a spokesperson for Children, Community and Social Services Minister Todd Smith said in an email. "Once fully implemented, all families registered for the program will be able to access support and services through one or more of our four pillars, no matter where they live in Ontario," Trell Huether said.

Last year, in a bid to eliminate wait-lists, Premier Doug Ford's government changed the way it pays for autism treatment. However, the measures reduced the average amount paid to families, and following public backlash, the government announced it would create a needs-based program.

NDP critic Monique Taylor said the Ford government promised families a fully implemented program by April 2020 and failed to deliver.

"We're in August ... in the midst of a pandemic and families are receiving no service," Taylor said in an interview this week. "The Ford government should be ashamed of themselves for making this announcement when families were expecting real core services."

Some family members of children living with autism said the new services that started rolling out on Friday offered little relief.

"I have no faith in this government and their actions to date," said Tennifer Wong, mother to a 7-year-old boy living with autism. "If they were not able to do it under normal circumstances, how are they able to do anything now during a pandemic?"

The Ajax resident and mother or two said she sold her first home back in 2016 in a bid to support her son Justin, but is still \$90,000 in debt. She said her family can no longer rely on government.

"If I have to sell this other house I will — I won't sit and wait," Wong said. "If children with autism are not taken care of in a timely manner, they will be a burden to the system down the road."

Wong said she would rather the government provide "an imperfect early intervention program" than a perfectly packaged one that she said is taking years to come into fruition.

The Canadian Press

Brison touted
as next premier
of Nova Scotia

LEADERSHIP RACE

Some members
of cabinet may
put hat in ring

KEITH DOUCETTE

HALIFAX • Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil's sudden decision to step away from politics has political observers speculating on a potential successor and how this person will position the province's majority Liberal government.

Names such as former federal Liberal cabinet minister Scott Brison and Halifax Mayor Mike Savage have been floated. Savage, however, has already said he isn't interested and is planning on running for mayor again this fall — a position confirmed Friday by his spokeswoman Shaune MacKinlay.

Lori Turnbull, political science professor at Dalhousie University, said Brison is an obvious candidate and she can't imagine he isn't fielding calls from people who want to see him run.

"Scott Brison is extremely experienced and extremely networked," Turnbull said Friday. "He understands the federal scene and has been an ambassador for the province in Ottawa. I would think there would be a lot of people who would be inter-

ested in Brison's candidacy."

Brison, who served 22 years as the MP for the Nova Scotia riding of Kings-Hants, declined comment on his political future during a brief phone interview Friday.

"Right now I think we are all wanting to celebrate the premiership of Stephen McNeil," said Brison. "None of us expected his announcement yesterday and we are certainly thankful for his service."

Turnbull said it's also likely some of McNeil's younger cabinet members, including Education Minister Zach Churchill and Business Minister Geoff MacLellan, could be interested.

"I would be surprised if at least one or two from that cadre didn't put their names forward," she said. "They've been on the inside, they can claim some responsibility for the government's record and response to COVID and things like that. It would be continuity which people may value at a time like this."

Michelle Coffin, who was McNeil's first communications director after he won the Liberal leadership in 2007, said all of those people make sense as successors because of name recognition.

Coffin said the new leader would also become premier and that could prove attractive to somebody like MacLellan, who narrowly won his Glace Bay riding in the 2017 provincial election. He is expected to be in a tough battle in the next election against NDP candidate John Morgan

Quebec
unlikely
to impose
lockdownBut top doctor
says people can't
return to old ways

MORGAN LOWRIE

MONTREAL • It's highly unlikely Quebec will reimpose a partial lockdown on its citizens this fall if there is a second wave of COVID-19, the province's top doctor said Friday.

Horacio Arruda, director of public health, told reporters that forcing people to stay home can have negative consequences on society, including for children and the elderly.

"We saved a lot of lives, but when we confine people, especially young people, there are consequences," he told reporters in Montreal. "They need to go to school, they need to socialize. Elderly people can have significant cognitive and physical losses."

On Friday, the province reported 108 new COVID-19 cases and no new deaths linked to the novel coronavirus in the past 24 hours.

Quebec has recorded a total of 60,241 cases of COVID-19 and 5,687 deaths attributed to the disease.

There were 13 fewer patients were in hospital compared with Thursday, for a total of 152.

Among those patients, 19 were in intensive care, the same as the prior day.

Arruda said health officials now know more about COVID-19, especially the role of asymptomatic transmission.

But he warned the province is at the cusp of a second wave and the population needs to follow health directives to reduce the number of cases and avoid overloading the health-care system.

"We can't go back to the way it was before COVID," he said, warning he's seen some people grow lax about certain health measures. "The virus is in Quebec, it's here, it's here to stay."

Arruda was in Montreal alongside local health officials to present a summary of the first wave of the novel coronavirus.

Montreal's health director, Mylene Drouin, said the city was hard-hit by the pandemic, especially in long-term care homes and seniors' residences, which accounted for 88 per cent of deaths. Health-care workers also suffered, she said, accounting for 22 per cent of infections.

But Drouin said the city recorded some successes, particularly when it came to limiting community transmission.

Drouin said the city needs to be ready for a second wave, especially as university and college students return to school in the fall. If infections surge during that period, health officials, she said, will prioritize testing, contact tracing, and protecting seniors' residences.

The Canadian Press

— the former mayor of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

"He is going to have a really hard fight in his own riding this time around," said Coffin. "Having premier tied to his title would certainly help him."

MacLellan did not reply to a request for interview Friday.

Coffin said it will be interesting to see in the coming months whether McNeil has a favourite from within cabinet, and whether he recedes into the background to let that person have more of the spotlight.

During his six years as premier, McNeil earned a reputation as an ardent fiscal conservative who used to joke that he was the best premier the Opposition Tories never had.

Coffin said she will be watching to see whether the party has the appetite for someone who will continue McNeil's "right-of-centre" approach, or prefers someone more like Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who favours balancing the economy with the "wants and needs of citizens."

"I think it's safe to assume that not everyone in cabinet and not everyone in caucus is as right-leaning as the premier," she said. "But it depends on where the membership wants to take the party."

Turnbull doesn't antici-



ADRIAN WYLD / THE CANADIAN PRESS FILES

Former Liberal federal cabinet minister Scott Brison is one possible candidate to replace Stephen McNeil as Liberal leader and provincial premier.

pate serious ideological changes for the Liberals but said it is possible a new leader's priorities will be very different from McNeil's.

"Whoever is going to be the premier is dealing with the COVID reality both in a public health and economic sense," said Turnbull.

"I can envision a scenario where a future Liberal leader would step a little to the left." McNeil said he plans to

stay on until the party chooses a new leader. When that will happen hasn't been decided.

In a news release late Thursday, Nova Scotia Liberal party president Joseph Khoury said the provincial board would meet over the next few weeks to discuss its next steps including "the outlines of a formal leadership process."

The Canadian Press

PIANO
SALE

AUGUST 1 TO SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

STARTING AT

\$1,199⁹⁹*

IN STORES ONLY**

YAMAHA

Photo for illustration purposes only

* Quantities may be limited. Discount on selected models only. Offer cannot be combined with any other promotion. Participating stores only.
** Excluding Sainte-Foy, Saint-Romuald, Sherbrooke and the Place des Arts store in Montreal.

ARCHAMBAULT

Dr. Florian Kongoli
— Honorary Citizen of Rio de Janeiro
The only Canadian Citizen ever to get this title

Through a special Legislative Decree voted unanimously, the City Council of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil has given to Dr. Florian Kongoli the official title of Honorary Citizen of Rio de Janeiro for significant contribution in science and technology in the framework of sustainable development.

Dr. Florian Kongoli, chairman of FLOGEN STARS OUTREACH and CEO of FLOGEN Technologies Inc, is the only Canadian ever to get this title.

"I take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Florian Kongoli for the just and deserved recognition" says Jorge Felipe, President of Rio de Janeiro City Council.

"I think it is not only a pleasure but also an honor for our city to have this opportunity to honor Dr. Florian Kongoli" says Atila Nunes, Rio de Janeiro City Councilor.

"I wish to congratulate you on the Honorary Citizenship" writes His Excellency Jennifer May, Ambassador of Canada in Brazil. "We are always proud to see Canadians shine abroad, projecting Canadian values on the international scene".

The Honorary Title was given on November 26, 2019, in a special 45-minute plenary session of the City Council that was entirely dedicated to Dr. Florian Kongoli's Award Ceremony and was held in English for the first time in the city council history. Dr. Florian Kongoli organized in Rio de Janeiro in November 2018, the Sustainable Industrial Processing Summit (SIPS 2018) - a major event with the participation of a record of 7 Nobel laureates.

A documentary produced on this occasion about Dr. Florian Kongoli can be seen here: <https://www.flogen.org/?p=33> and the full video ceremony along with other photos and interviews of Dr. Florian Kongoli can be seen here: <https://www.flogen.org/?p=33&an=2019&m=11>

About: Dr. Florian Kongoli is Chairman of FLOGEN STAR OUTREACH, CEO of FLOGEN Technologies Inc, and President of the Organizing Committee of the Sustainable Industrial Processing Summits (SIPS). He is among others Elected Member of Euro Mediterranean Academy of Arts and Sciences (EMAAS) and was awarded in 2017 "The Environmental Tech CEO of the year 2017" by CEO-Monthly magazine in UK. (CV: http://www.flogen.com/elt/pdf/Kongoli_Short-CV.pdf)

About: FLOGEN Stars Outreach (www.flogen.org), is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to achieving sustainability through science and technology, raising the profile of science and engineering in the society and properly honoring scientists and engineers

About: FLOGEN Technologies (www.flogen.com) is a High-Tech applied research institute dedicated to developing new sustainable technologies and transforming the existing technologies in sustainable ones.

About: SIPS - Sustainable Industrial Processing Summit (<https://www.flogen.org/sips2020>) is a science-focused and industrial engineering-oriented multidisciplinary conference held every year in several countries around the world with an average participation of 500 authors from academia, industry, government and the entrepreneurship world representing an average of 80 countries. The summit is dedicated to achieving sustainability through science and technology and hosts regularly numerous Nobel Laureates.

Contact: Baraa Noueihed, secretary@flogen.org, Tel: 1-877-2-FLOGEN ext. 223

