



TED ARNOTT, M.P.P. WATERLOO-WELLINGTON (INCLUDING SOUTHWEST KITCHENER)



Keeping In Touch

Thank you for your help

Dear Friends in Waterloo-Wellington:

With Winter on the wane and Spring time in the air, I'm pleased to send you this Annual Report of my activities on your behalf at Queen's Park and around the Riding.

Having accepted the privilege and responsibility of serving as your Member of Provincial Parliament, I'm accountable to you and all of the other residents of Waterloo-Wellington. I've always strived to be deserving of your trust. I've worked hard to put my years of experience to good use, fighting for our interests and values. And I've dedicated my efforts toward the goal of improving your family's quality of life.

Representing our large and diverse Riding has never been easy. Thankfully, I'm helped by my experienced and loyal staff associates, Mary Heffernan, Judy Brownrigg, Marnie Mainland, and Andrew Juby. In addition, many of you have taken the time to offer me your ideas and suggestions. I sincerely appreciate your thoughts and advice.

This coming Fall, the Provincial Riding Boundaries will change to conform to the new Federal Riding Boundaries. Waterloo-Wellington will be cut in three to form parts of the new Ridings of Kitchener-Conestoga, Perth-Wellington, and Wellington-Halton Hills.

Some time ago, I announced my intention to seek re-election to the Ontario Legislature on October 10, 2007 in the Riding of Wellington-Halton Hills. This is the Riding in which my family and I have made our home.

Please be assured that my commitment to all of you in Waterloo-Wellington remains unchanged in the lead up to the election. And no matter what the outcome afterwards, I hope we can stay in touch. Thank you so much for your friendship and support.

I continue to believe that Ontario's full potential and possibilities have yet to be achieved, and our future together will be very bright. I believe in the promise of the future, and know that our best days are yet to come.

As always, I welcome your comments. Feel free to contact me if you have an idea or problem concerning the Provincial Government.

Sincerely,

Ted Arnott.

Ted Arnott, M.P.P.
Waterloo-Wellington

MPP Arnott addresses climate change and global warming

Provincial government chastised by Environmental Commissioner as County of Wellington shows the way with green program

On October 5, 2006 MPP Ted Arnott brought key environmental issues forward in the Ontario Legislature. He spoke about a Private Member's Bill, Bill 139, An Act to make April 21 Climate Change Awareness Day, and later that day, he informed the House about Wellington County's Green Legacy Tree Planting Programme.

Speaking to the Private Member's Bill, Mr. Arnott voiced local concerns about severe weather and tornadoes, occurrences that are often part of the discussion on climate change. He then spoke about perceptions, realities and why everyone should be concerned about the environment for the sake of future generations.

"I think it is fair to say that whether you look at it as climate change or global warming, it is a real concern of many people in the province of Ontario. Certainly, it's a huge concern for many people in Waterloo-Wellington; I'm amongst those people," he told the House.

"The preponderance of scientific evidence seems to suggest that human activity in recent years is at least accelerating this change, if not a contributing factor. So obviously it's something that we all have to be concerned about, any of us who care about the future – and all of us should," he added.

"As a father of three children -- my wife and I are obviously very concerned about the world that our children and our grandchildren will inherit. All of us should share this concern, and all of us should be part of the solution," Mr. Arnott stated.

Later that day, Mr. Arnott made a statement in the Legislature drawing the House's attention to a highly critical report by the Ontario Environmental Commissioner.

Entitled Neglecting our Obligations, Mr. Arnott called it a "damning critique" filled with constructive suggestions and stern admonishments directed primarily at the Provincial Government.

continued on page 2



Grade 5 students from Glencairn Public School in Kitchener are greeted at Queen's Park by MPP Elizabeth Witmer and MPP Ted Arnott in May 2006.

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Clifford library and health facility a model for the Province

On November 23, 2006, MPP Ted Arnott, County of Wellington and Town of Minto officials gathered to celebrate the grand opening of a newly constructed library and medical facility in the community of Clifford.

In his address to the ceremony, Mr. Arnott referred to the Town of Clifford as the northernmost part of Waterloo-Wellington, calling it “the Peak.” He spoke about the effort that went in to making this dream a reality.

“Here there is an elevated sense of what a community can be when neighbour cares about neighbour and when everyone pulls together to overcome a problem and confront a challenge. No one can climb a mountain all by them self,” Mr. Arnott said.

“This project is an example of community partnership which should be held up as a model across the province. Two needs identified, a solution found,” he added.

Referring to public opinion research that consistently found that health care is a top issue on people’s minds, Mr. Arnott gave his view of what Ontarians expect.

“All of us rightly expect the health care system to be there for us and our families and our neighbours when we need it: not a week from now, not six months from now, but when we need it,” Mr. Arnott said.

“We are proud of our public health care system, which is one of Canada’s defining achievements. It’s not perfect and none of us has a magic wand to cure its ills, but we must always continue to strive to make it better,” he added.

“We don’t need more expensive television ads telling us that the system is getting better, or a new layer of health care bureaucracy, as much as we need more doctors, nurses, and other health professionals. The people



MPP Ted Arnott joins officials to celebrate the opening of the new Clifford Library and Medical Facility. The two-in-one structure opened November 23, 2006. (Photo by the Wellington Advertiser)

who provide the compassionate care that we rely on, and that they are known for,” he continued.

In closing, Mr. Arnott expressed his appreciation to the Mayor, and Staff of the Town of Minto, County Councillors and Staff of the County of Wellington, the North Wellington Health Care Corporation, Staff and Medical Staff, and the residents of Clifford “who have helped us scale this mountain and reach its summit.”

Georgetown class ‘makes the grade’

Legislature passes environmental Bill written by students

Students at Georgetown District High School, in co-operation with CBC television’s *Making the Grade*, drafted a Private Member’s Bill for the Legislature aimed at improving recycling systems at schools to divert waste from classrooms and cafeterias. Their Bill 96 was debated and passed Second Reading on May 10, 2006.

The CBC program, hosted by broadcast journalist Mike Wise, gave students a chance to learn about the political process through the action of drafting a Bill. Three such Bills were sponsored by MPPs and debated during a special Wednesday morning session.

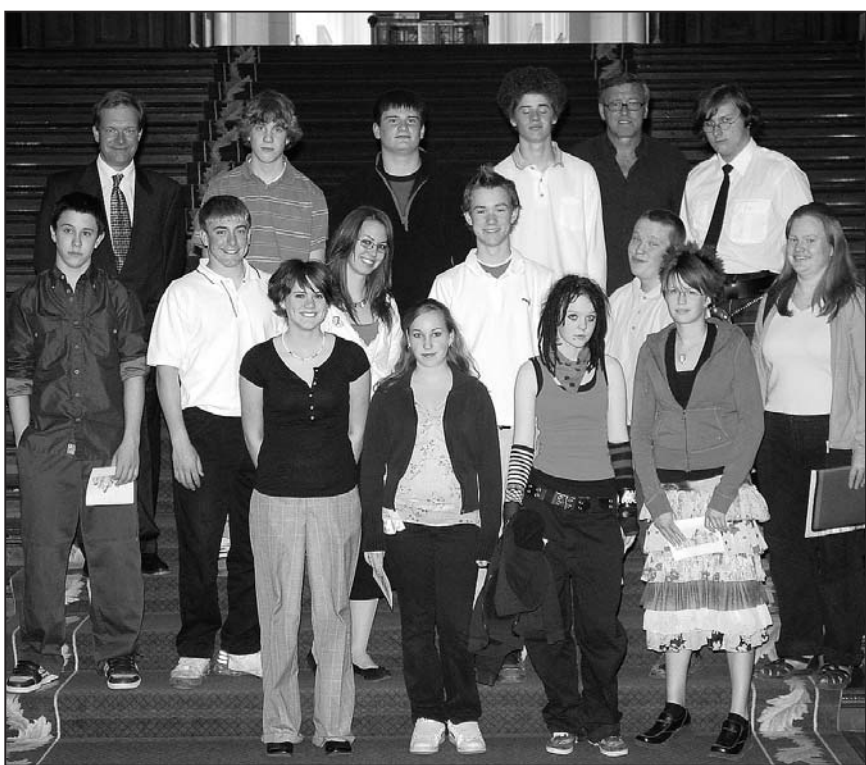
MPP Ted Arnott joined the

debate in the Legislature to support Bill 96.

“I want to draw attention to the exceptional work that is being done by Georgetown District High School. The students in the geography club made their ideas known about how to expand recycling, and they put those ideas into Bill 96,” Mr. Arnott said.

“These students are very fortunate. They are fortunate to be learning with Laura Hudgin, the teacher and adviser for the top-notch legislative work that is being done by the geography club,” he added.

At the time of writing, Bill 96 stood as referred to a Standing Committee of the Legislature.



Grade 10 students from Centre Wellington D.H.S. met with MPP Ted Arnott during their educational tour of Queen’s Park in May 2006.

Climate change (continued from page 1)

“It is abundantly clear to the people of Waterloo-Wellington that the protection of our natural environment for the benefit of future generations must be one of the Government’s highest priorities. And even as this Government fails to show leadership, local communities are showing us the way,” he added.

Mr. Arnott then cited Wellington County’s Green Legacy Tree Planting Programme as a “perfect example.”

“Originally launched in 2004 as part of the County’s 150th Anniversary celebrations, the bold vision set out by Warden Brad Whitcombe and the County’s Chief Administrative Officer Scott Wilson, was that we’d plant 150,000 trees in Wellington County in one year,” Mr. Arnott said.

“The County formed partnerships with the Grand River Conservation Authority, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and the

Wellington County Stewardship Council, and working together they have teamed up with local environmental groups, service clubs, schools, municipalities and private landowners including farmers,” he stated.

“Not only was their ambitious objective of 150,000 trees in 2004 achieved, now they have made it a permanent County programme with 151,000 trees planted in 2005, and 152,000 trees planted in 2006. I want to again express my sincere appreciation to the hundreds in our County who’ve made “Green Legacy” such a success, showing leadership on the environment that the rest of humankind should follow,” Mr. Arnott concluded.

Visit the Environmental Commissioner’s website to read the 2005-06 Annual Report Neglecting our Obligations: www.eco.on.ca

“As parents of three children, my wife and I are obviously very concerned about the world that our children and grandchildren will inherit. All of us should share this concern—and all of us should be part of the solution.”

**– MPP Ted Arnott
Ontario Legislature,
October 5, 2006**

Health care: still much more to do



Ted had a full agenda visiting hospitals in Fergus, Mount Forest and Palmerston during Take Your MPP to Work Day, part of Nursing Week. Pictured with Ted at the Louise Marshall Hospital in Mount Forest are Debbie Bowler, Tricia Stiles, Joan Arthur, and Mary Van Soeren. (Photo by the Mount Forest Confederate)

Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott says that the issue of health care held centre-stage during Question Period at Queen's Park in the Fall 2006 sitting of the Legislature.

"Health care should be a higher priority. Our Caucus brought an intense focus onto the increasing wait times for important medical procedures across the Province, the doctor shortage, the emergency room crisis, and nursing home care for seniors," said Mr. Arnott.

Opposition Leader John Tory challenges Government on increased wait times and misleading advertisements paid for by the taxpayer.

Near the end of the Fall session, Opposition Leader John Tory told the House that patients in Ontario wait longer for crucial medical procedures, and that wait times have gone up under the McGuinty Government's watch. He also condemned the Government for a \$2 million wait times advertising campaign that was paid for by taxpayers. The Advertising Standards Council of Canada ruled that the ads made inaccurate claims and omitted relevant information.

Doctor shortage crisis hits home

Earlier in the Fall, the impact of the doctor shortage in Ontario was felt closer to home, causing a near shut down of the Emergency Room at the Grand River Hospital in Kitchener. In Question Period, Opposition Health Critic Elizabeth Witmer told the house that emergency rooms were clogged in 20-plus communities across Ontario.

Also during Question Period, she asked the Health Minister whether he had a long-term plan to deal with the doctor shortage issue. His responses ignored the issue and he refused to take the problem seriously.

MPP Ted Arnott raised the issue as well, delivering a sharp rebuke to the Health Minister for his lack of action on the doctor shortage in the Ontario Legislature on October 2.

"With bombast, bluster and buffoonery, this Minister has taken no new constructive steps towards solving the Ontario doctor shortage. Instead he has acted more like a 'pit bull,' which I thought the Attorney General had banned last year," Mr. Arnott told the House.

That clip by Mr. Arnott was broadcast on CBC radio news.

"Having ignored the prudent warnings for months about the emergency room problem and doctor shortage in Ontario, the Minister would now want people to believe that he is the hero who kept the emergency room at Grand River Hospital open. However, the Record has it right in their editorial today, when they ask: 'Why did he not act earlier?' Mr. Arnott continued in the Legislature.

Arnott again supports Groves hospital redevelopment

Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott made the following statement in the Ontario Legislature on December 13, 2006:

Mr. Ted Arnott (Waterloo-Wellington):

Mr. Speaker, it is my contention that of all the hospitals in Ontario, there is not one that has more enthusiastic local public support than the Groves Memorial Community Hospital in the Township of Centre Wellington.

The Groves hospital's reputation for excellence is well deserved, a reputation that is shared by the hospitals of North Wellington Health Care, and the other hospitals which serve my constituents. As this year comes to an end, we express our thanks.

In the Spring of 2007 the Groves Hospital will open its new Community Chemotherapy Clinic, in partnership with the Grand River Hospital in Kitchener. This new cancer care clinic will mean that cancer patients will receive their chemotherapy closer to home. This new clinic represents hope for families as patients beat cancer and get better.

To compliment this new cancer care service, there is a need for a new CT scanner to ensure that the level of service at Groves is consistent with the standard of care and availability of CT at other hospitals serving a similar population, with a similar clinical program. It will mean reduced wait times and improved local access to this essential diagnostic procedure, and it will mean better medical care all round.

Recently, the Groves Memorial Community Hospital Board, submitted an updated Master Plan to the Ministry of Health which includes a bold vision for a brand new hospital. As the MPP for Waterloo-Wellington I will continue to actively support whatever hospital redevelopment plan that the Board and our Community put forward for the Ministry's consideration.

I'm pleased that the Minister of Health is in the House to hear what I have to say today, and I urge the Ministry to move swiftly to respond to our health care needs.

Nursing home bill falls short *Needs of seniors living in wards ignored by McGuinty Government*

On January 16, 2007, at Queen's Park, MPP Ted Arnott joined PC Health Critic Elizabeth Witmer for the first day of public hearings on Bill 140, the Long-Term Care Homes Act. The hearings were conducted by the all-party Standing Committee on Social Policy.

"We're hearing from long-term care providers, administrators, caregivers, residents and their families. Based on what we've heard, there are a number of significant problems with the Government's long-term care Bill," said Mr. Arnott.

The PC Members are calling on the Provincial Government to amend Bill 140 to provide for a capital renewal plan that would eliminate three and four-bed ward rooms, and give residents a better quality of life.

Also at issue is the Government's proposed regulatory framework.

"Long-term care providers say the regulations are one-sided, and that the Bill places the burden of administrative costs squarely on the shoulders of health care providers. The Government should be providing more resources to provide care for residents rather than creating excessive paperwork," said Mr. Arnott.

Last November, the Legislature unanimously passed MPP Elizabeth Witmer's Private Member's Resolution calling for an effective capital renewal plan for Ontario's 35,000 older B and C beds, so that all seniors would be treated equally.

MPPs Witmer and Arnott are renewing that call for a capital plan and are urging the McGuinty Government to keep its election

promise and provide an additional \$6,000 in per resident funding. Moreover, they are calling for a complete overhaul of the flawed licensing scheme contained in Bill 140.



MPPs Elizabeth Witmer and Ted Arnott listen to concerns about nursing home legislation while attending the first day of public hearings on Bill 140, the Long-Term Care Homes Act. The public hearings were held at Queen's Park on January 16, 2007.

Around the Riding - 2



The new North Wellington Community Cancer Clinic officially opened as part of the Louise Marshall Hospital in Mount Forest. Participating at the opening ceremonies are: Dr. Hugh Perrin, Nurse Lynn Reeves, Dr. Ken Babey, financial contributor George Forrester, Ms. Wilson, Grand River Hospital CEO Dennis Egan, Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnett, President and CEO of North Wellington Health Care Pierre Noel, and Co-ordinator of the Community Oncology Program at the Grand River Hospital, Donna Holmes. (Photo by the Minto Express)



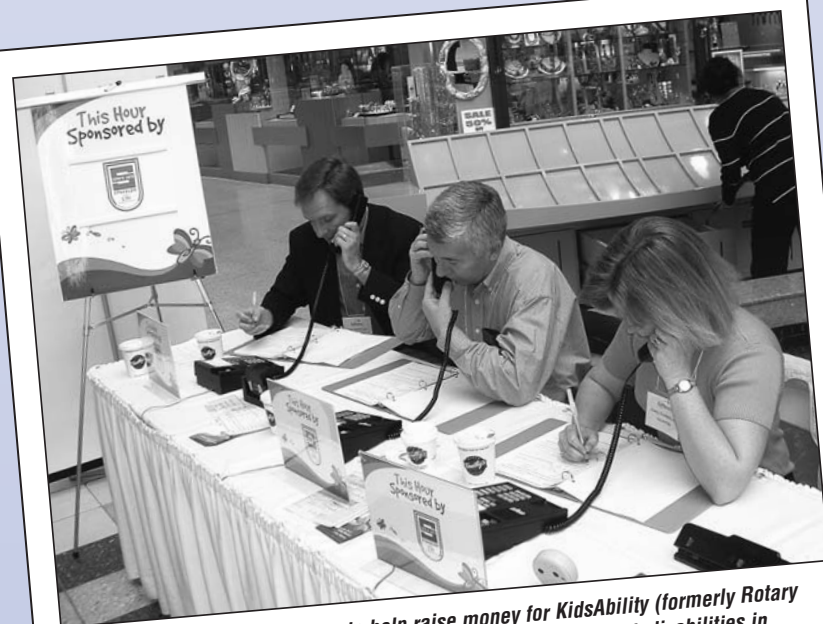
5th Annual 'Chicken Day' at Queen's Park. Helping to raise farmers' issues at Queen's Park, Ted is pictured with Mr. Bill Woods, a chicken farmer from the Belwood area.



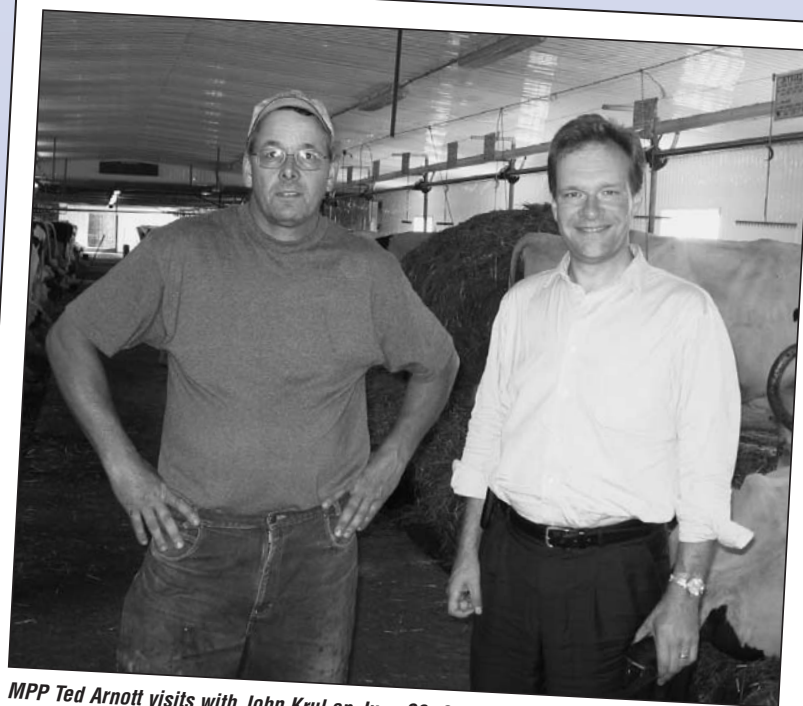
The new Wellington Terrace nursing home, the largest capital project in the County's history, officially opened on June 9, 2006. Pictured at the ribbon cutting ceremony are resident Annie Main, Colleen Cudney, and Art McDonald, Warden Brad Whitcombe, MPP Liz Sandals, County Councillor Jim Connell, and MPP Ted Arnett. (Photo by the Wellington Advertiser)



At the Kinsmen's National Convention in Saint John, NB, in August 2006, Fergus resident Bruce Lloyd was confirmed as the National President. Among his valuable contributions to communities, Mr. Lloyd boosts tourism in Fergus by serving as the President of "The Reminiscence Festival." The festival invites people to step into the past and celebrate the magic, music and memorabilia of the 50's, 60's and 70's.



Ted volunteers at the Radiothon to help raise money for KidsAbility (formerly Rotary Children's Centre). The agency provides services for children with disabilities in Fergus, Waterloo, Cambridge and Guelph.



MPP Ted Arnett visits with John Krul on June 29, 2006 at his dairy farm near Arthur.

Working for All of Us



During a tour of Nithview Community nursing homes in New Hamburg on August 31, 2006, MPP Ted Arnott met with a number of residents, administrators and staff.



Touring the new facilities of Open Text Corporation, from left are: Open Text's Executive Chairman Tom Jenkins, Ontario PC Leader John Tory, Kitchener-Waterloo MPP Elizabeth Witmer, and Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott.



Federal, Provincial, and Municipal representatives join OPP officials and Ontario Community Safety Minister Monte Kwinter at the Grand Opening of the new OPP Operations Centre. In his speech during the ceremonies, Mr. Arnott thanked Wellington County Council and the Minister, Monte Kwinter, "for his interest in this project, for the help he gave us in overcoming a bureaucratic roadblock almost three years ago." (Photo by the County of Wellington)



John Tory tries the wheel with Jack Rooney at Arthur Chrysler. Mr. Tory is the MPP for the Riding of Dufferin-Peel-Wellington-Grey, and is the Leader of the Official Opposition in the Legislature.



The local Development Corporation, dedicated to working with businesses to create jobs, has received generous support from Industry Canada. On hand for the cheque presentation are Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott, Kitchener-Conestoga MP Harold Albrecht, Cambridge MP Gary Goodyear, Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong, Perth-Wellington MP Gary Schellenberger. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora New Express)



Lisa and Ted Arnott welcome many friends at their annual New Year Social. At the January 2007 event, they are seen here speaking with former Wellington MPP Jack Johnson and his wife Marnie. Mr. Arnott worked for Mr. Johnson from 1987-90. Following Mr. Johnson's retirement from the Legislature, Mr. Arnott was elected to succeed him. (Photo by the Wellington Advertiser)

Ontario Legislature passes MPP Arnott’s resolution on jobs, economy

On November 30, 2006 all three political Parties at the Ontario Legislative Assembly voted to pass MPP Ted Arnott’s Private Member’s Resolution aimed at preventing the continued loss of good paying factory jobs.

Mr. Arnott first introduced the resolution in May 2005. He did so shortly after attending meetings hosted by the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce. They heard from Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, who warned them about the economic challenges on the horizon.

During the debate on his motion, Mr. Arnott cited a recent Statistics Canada report showing that an economic storm had indeed blown in for Ontario factory workers.

“So far in 2006 there are 83,000 fewer factory workers across Canada, and Ontario has been particularly hard hit. These numbers are not just numbers; they are people, they are families, they are our neighbours, and they have hit home,” he told the House.

Mr. Arnott gave numerous examples of local job losses in the House. Among them were the Jobs lost due to plant closures at places like BF Goodrich, and Glenoit, as well as job cuts at ThyssenKrupp Budd Canada, and Lear Canada.

“Our response to these families should not be indifference. Our obligation to these families should be hope,” Mr. Arnott said.

Mr. Arnott’s resolution specifically calls on the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs to immediately begin an investigation into Ontario’s industrial and economic competitiveness, to develop an action plan to maintain and expand our domestic and international markets in the coming years.

In his speech to the Legislature, Mr. Arnott also spoke about a recent report from the Ontario Institute of Competitiveness and Prosperity headed up by Roger Martin, Dean of the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. Mr. Arnott referenced

findings from a recent report by the Institutes’ Task Force on Competitiveness, Productivity and Economic Progress.

“In this report, Mr. Martin highlighted the fact that even though Ontario has one of the most successful economies in the world, we are not achieving our full potential,” Mr. Arnott explained.

In his presentation, he also noted that if Ontario became more competitive, or closed its “prosperity gap” with competing jurisdictions, the Institute concluded that the average Ontario family would stand to gain approximately \$8,400 in disposable after-tax income every year.

Even though all parties endorsed Mr. Arnott’s idea of having the all-party committee get to work immediately on the economy, the Government is stalling the process.

“Manufacturers are trying to survive in the midst of a perfect storm, if anything, current employers and potential investors require a beacon of some sort, a strong signal that Ontario is open for business. The Government’s continued indifference to the plight of the manufacturing sector is sending the wrong message,” Mr. Arnott said afterwards.

“Uncertainty is further clouding the investment climate. Businesses and industries simply don’t know what the McGuinty Government will do next. The Provincial Government broke key election promises by raising taxes, and running deficits year after year,” Mr. Arnott said.

In the second week of January 2007, Canadian Press reported that Ontario’s economy shrank somewhat in the third quarter of 2006. Two consecutive quarters of reduced GDP is defined as a recession by economists.

The Ontario Government’s Finance Minister blamed the U.S. President for the economic slowdown. He pointed to “strong” job growth in December but almost two-thirds of the new jobs in the province are part-time, according to

SUPPORTERS OF MPP ARNOTT’S RESOLUTION ON JOBS AND THE ECONOMY:

- ✓ Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters
- ✓ Canada’s Chemical Producers
- ✓ The Canadian Council of Chief Executives
- ✓ The CD Howe Institute
- ✓ The Employers’ Advocacy Council
- ✓ The Ontario Real Estate Association
- ✓ The Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce

Ontario Leader of the Official Opposition, John Tory, who responded with a call for a better approach.

“Blaming someone else is a complete abdication of responsibility. It’s clear the McGuinty Liberals are confused and lost on the economic front. While they’ve stood by and watched, we’ve lost over 100,000 manufacturing jobs and seen them replaced with part-time work. Ontario should be doing much better,” Mr. Tory said at the time.

During the pre-budget hearings before the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs, the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce voiced their support for Mr. Arnott’s initiative. Mr. Todd Letts, President of the Chamber, and Mr. Art Sinclair, Senior Policy Analyst, presented their ideas for the Provincial Budget in Toronto at Queen’s Park on January 29, 2007.

“We support the private member’s resolution tabled by Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott, directing this committee to commence a study of Ontario’s economic competitiveness in the manufacturing sector. This study, we trust, would examine all critical issues, including the current corporate tax regime,” Mr. Sinclair told the Committee.

MPP Arnott calls for stronger commitments in provincial budget



MPP Ted Arnott is joined by colleagues Toby Barrett, MPP for Haldimand-Norfolk-Brant and Tim Hudak, MPP for Erie-Lincoln, at pre-budget hearings held at Queen’s Park before the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. Mr. Arnott also participated in public consultation meetings held in Ottawa and Barrie. During the 2003 Provincial Election campaign, Dalton McGuinty promised not to raise taxes. In his first budget he introduced a brand new tax on income, which he claimed would go towards health care. It was the largest tax increase in Ontario’s history.

The Ontario Legislature’s Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs completed its pre-budget public hearings on February 1, 2007.

As a Member of this all-party Committee, Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott participated in public consultation meetings at Queen’s Park in Toronto, in Ottawa and in Barrie.

“We heard from dozens of groups and individuals who asked for Government action in areas such as health, education, economic development, agriculture and social services,” Mr. Arnott said. “Now it’s up to the Minister of Finance to respond in his Spring Budget.”

Mr. Arnott believes the Provincial Budget must include a stronger commitment to environmental protection, new ideas to improve health care, a better plan to address gridlock and provide communities with support on their infrastructure needs, an effort to address competitiveness issues in manufacturing and protect jobs, assurances on electricity supply and distribution, help for farmers, tourist operators, and seniors in nursing homes.

He is inviting residents of Waterloo-Wellington and the Town of Halton Hills to email him their ideas on Provincial finances and the economy at: ted_arnott@ontla.ola.org

And he will share them with the Minister of Finance, the Hon. Greg Sorbara.

“All of this must be done in the context of a balanced budget, so that we don’t continue to add to the provincial debt and further burden our children and grandchildren,” Mr. Arnott concluded.

Arnott presses for swift action on border issues for Ontario beef producers

Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott and Haldimand-Norfolk-Brant MPP Toby Barrett, along with Ontario Cattlemen’s Association President Ian McKillop and Executive Director Dave Stewart, met with U.S. Consul General John Nay in Toronto on December 11, 2006.

The two Progressive Conservative MPPs arranged the meeting to allow the leaders of Ontario’s beef industry an opportunity to express their outstanding concerns related to the continuing restrictions on the export of some Canadian beef products into the United States.

“This is at least the sixth Consular meet-

ing that I have helped to set up, supporting our farm families, since the BSE crisis struck our beef industry in 2003,” Mr. Arnott said. “I believe that it is incumbent on all of us to do what we can to work together until the industry completely recovers from the mad cow outbreak.”

The meeting was a productive exchange of ideas, which concluded with a request from the Ontario Cattlemen’s Association for the U.S. Administration to move swiftly on their legal process to allow for the full reopening of the border to Ontario beef exports as soon as possible.

Highway 6 to get major upgrade

MPP Ted Arnott announced in the Ontario Legislature on December 18, 2006 that Highway 6 between Fergus and Arthur will soon be reconstructed.

“The work will include road repairs, bridge repair, and new passing lanes, and is estimated to be a \$20 million job,” Mr. Arnott told the House.

Mr. Arnott has advocated repeatedly for upgrades to this Highway at the Ontario Legislature. It was a key project outlined in the Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan that he developed in partnership with Municipalities starting in 2003.

Mr. Arnott emphasized why the project is needed.

“Highway 6 is the most important north-south corridor in the County of Wellington, from Wellington North to Puslinch Township. It is our main route to

the City of Guelph, our pathway to the 401, and our gateway to the markets of the world. Highway 6 is critical to the continued economic success of our County,” he told the House.

Acknowledging those who have worked with him, he thanked Provincial and Municipal officials.

“We should express our appreciation to the Honourable Donna Cansfield, Minister of Transportation, staff at the MTO’s Southwest Regional office in London, and Wellington County Council and Staff, especially Councillor Lynda White,” Mr. Arnott said.

Looking ahead, Mr. Arnott says that he continues to advocate for the projects in the Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan. He hopes to meet with area Councils to discuss transportation priorities for the future.

MPP raises survey results in Legislature

MPP Ted Arnott made the following statement in the Ontario Legislature on October 12, 2006:

Mr. Ted Arnott (Waterloo-Wellington): In Waterloo-Wellington, the McGuinty Liberal government is best known for its record of broken promises. It’s no wonder this is their hallmark, since Dalton McGuinty campaigned on a promise not to raise taxes, and then brought in the biggest tax increase in the Province’s history in his very first budget. We in Waterloo-Wellington have not forgotten, and in response to my recent questionnaire, which was included in my annual newsletter earlier this spring, my constituents have spoken loud and clear.

I asked them a question on the issue of lost manufacturing jobs in Ontario. In reply, an overwhelming 81 per cent of respondents said the McGuinty Liberal government is not doing enough to protect factory jobs. They also expressed an astounding 90 per cent support for the resolution that I first tabled in the Legislature some 16 months ago, when I called upon the House to immediately begin a study of the competitiveness of

continued on page 8

Boosting Ontario Tourism

In addition to serving as one of the Assistant Speakers in the Ontario Legislature, MPP Ted Arnott serves as the Official Opposition Critic for the Minister of Tourism.

“Tourism is important for Waterloo-Wellington and for Ontario’s economy. It’s a \$20 billion industry in the Province that employs more than a quarter of a million people,” Mr. Arnott says.

“That is why much of our effort in the Legislature has been directed at trying to convince the McGuinty Government to stop taking tourism for granted and work in partnership with the industry,” said Mr. Arnott.

Mr. Arnott says Members of his Caucus have spent considerable time in the House during Question Period and during debates to draw the Government’s attention to the challenges facing the tourism industry. Major concerns include the decline in US visitors to Ontario, the US-led passport requirement to enter the United States, the continuing recovery from SARS and 9/11, and lack of sufficient and consistent Provincial funding to market Ontario tourism.

On May 16, 2006, the Official Opposition dedicated an afternoon debate in the Legislature to tourism. Later that month, Opposition Leader John Tory raised an initiative to deal with the US-led passport issue. This resulted in the House unanimously passing a motion aimed at minimizing the economic impacts of the passport requirement, on both sides of the border.

“After about three years of neglect, the McGuinty Government has finally started to recognize the needs in tourism. In the Fall Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review, the Minister of Finance announced that enhancing Ontario tourism would be one of four key areas that would receive a renewed focus from the Government,” Mr. Arnott said.

However, he was clear that more needs to be done.

“The tourism industry is calling for a long-term marketing plan targeted to key areas. They need certainty. They should know what the financial commitment will be. Ontario tourism can’t afford further indifference from the Provincial Government,” Mr. Arnott concluded.

Ontario PCs speak against waste

News column by MPP Ted Arnott

On November 1, 2006 Opposition Leader John Tory tabled a motion for debate in the Legislature calling on the McGuinty Government to spend every single tax dollar wisely and respect Ontario’s taxpayers.

His motion cited recent examples of reckless spending by the McGuinty Government including \$6 million to remove the C from the OLGC (Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation), more than \$200,000 to redesign the Ontario Trillium Logo, tens of millions of dollars of waste on Liberal friendly ad agencies to produce partisan ads funded by the Provincial Treasury, as well as other instances of waste and mismanagement.

This motion could not have come at a better time. Now that the Ontario Government has decided to fix the date of the next election for October 10, 2007, we have returned to a very different atmosphere for the Fall sitting of the Legislature. The McGuinty Government is in election campaign mode, and the motion by the Leader of the Official Opposition is a reminder of the responsibility to Govern in the public interest.

Leading off the debate in the Legislature, Mr. Tory described what taxpayers expect from Government:

“I think people have worked hard to earn that money, and they have the right to expect that we’re going to take care in how we deal with that money,” he said. “There are so many needs out there and there are so many people in need that it is incomprehensible that we could show the kind of disdain and disrespect for the taxpayers’ money that we’ve seen from the McGuinty Government.”

In my remarks in support of the motion, I pointed to a recent expenditure by the Ontario Liberal Party at their recent Annual General Meeting in Toronto. They paid an American political consultant, James Carville, \$56,000 (CND) for an 18-minute speech. Mr. Carville is known for his negative approach to campaigning.

During the debate I noted that those who have written cheques to Liberal Riding Associations or the Ontario Liberal Fund must surely be wondering why their money is being wasted like this. I also told the House that Financial donations to political parties in Ontario are eligible for a generous tax credit of up to 75% of the donation, so to a large degree, it’s taxpayers’ money we’re talking about.

Wasteful spending, mismanagement, and partisan political advertising have become endemic under the McGuinty Liberal Government. If you agree, send the Premier an e-mail at: dmcguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org and send me a copy at ted_arnott@ontla.ola.org and I’ll follow up.

Survey results (continued from page 7)

Ontario industry, with a view to protecting these good paying jobs.

I asked them a question about balanced budgets. 80 per cent said that the McGuinty government should balance its budget this year. In spite of this, last Spring the Treasurer made a conscious, irresponsible decision to plan for yet another deficit this year, again breaking another election promise.

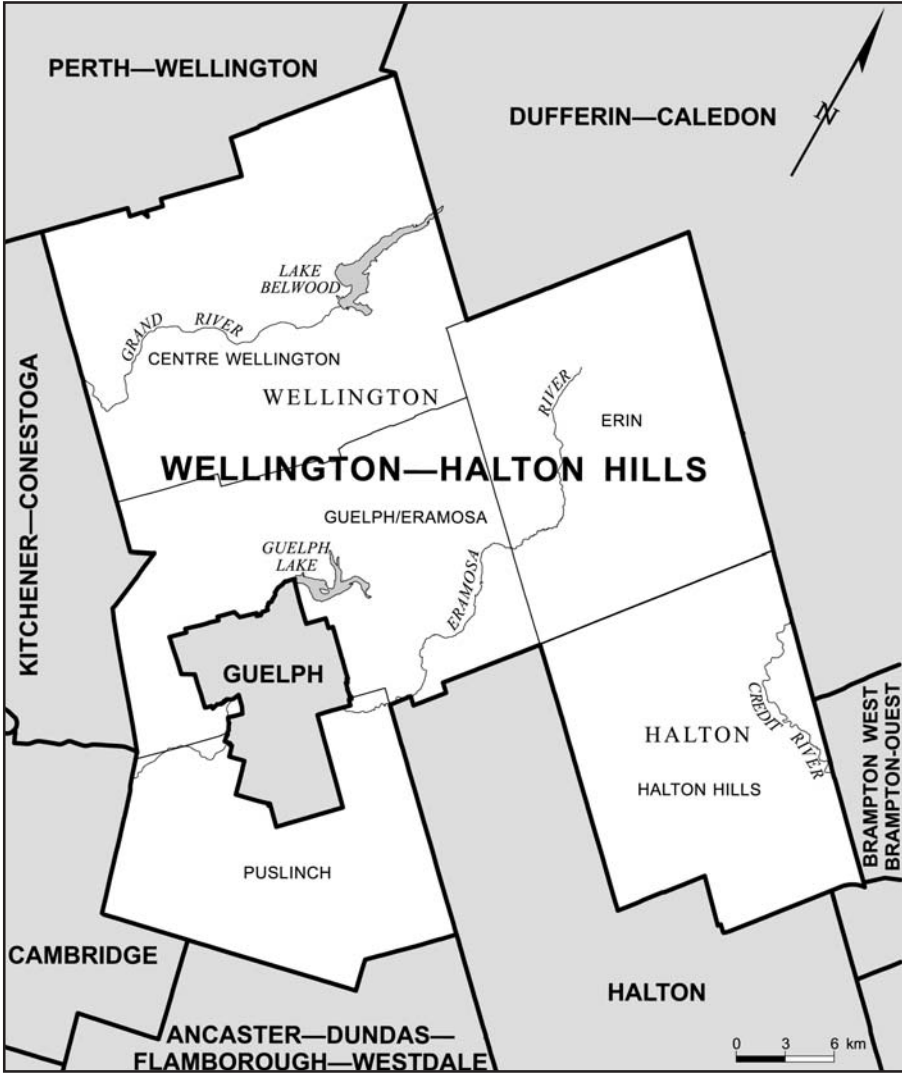
I asked my constituents if they believe the provincial government is doing enough to respond to the crime problem. Again 80 per cent of the respondents criticized the government, saying “no” they are not doing enough.

Overall, my constituents in Waterloo-Wellington have given the government a failing grade on key issues like jobs and the economy, the Province’s finances, and crime. And

the vast majority of my constituents are rightly sceptical of whatever statements the McGuinty Liberals make, because we know they will say anything to try and get themselves elected.

I want to thank everyone in my riding who responded, and ask that the government start listening.

WHICH RIDING WILL YOU BE IN?



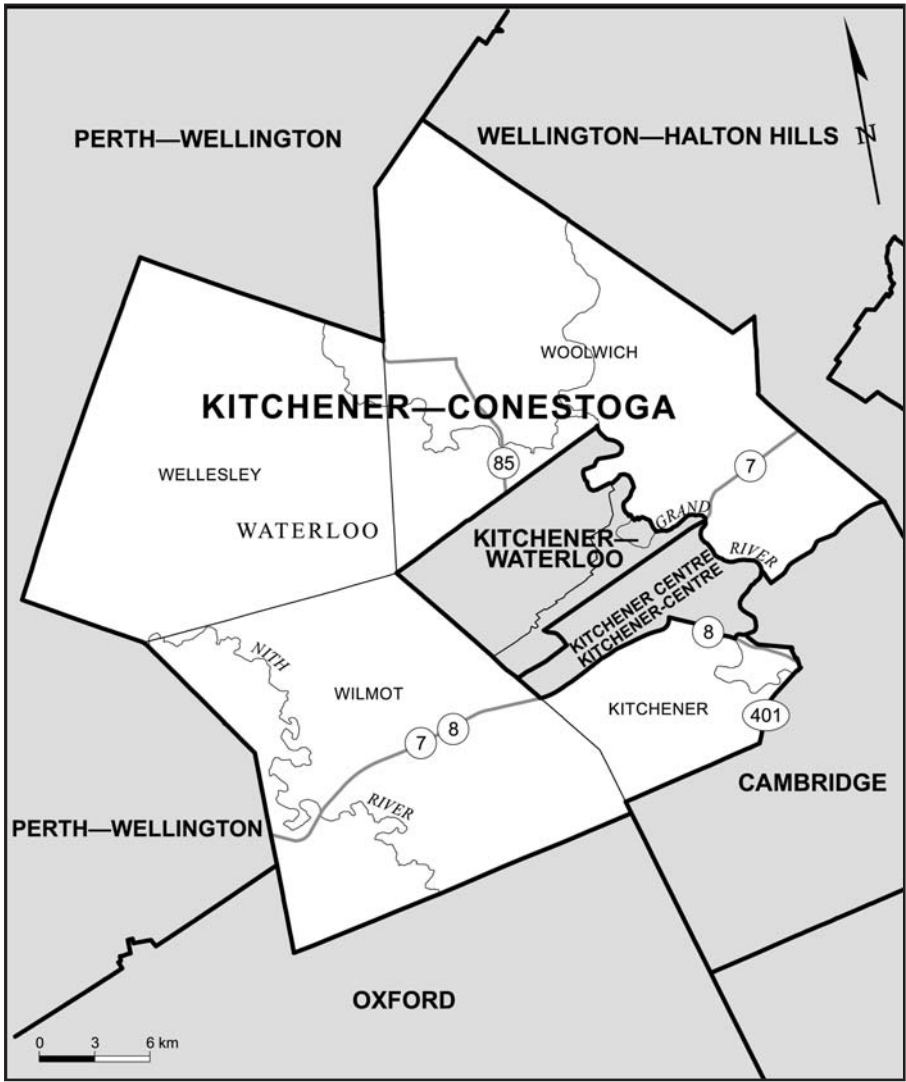
Wellington-Halton Hills

- Wellington-Halton Hills will be your provincial riding if you live in one of the following communities:
- The Township of Centre Wellington
 - The Town of Erin
 - The Township of Guelph/Eramosa
 - The Town of Halton Hills
 - The Township of Puslinch

Federally, this is MP Mike Chong’s riding.

Ontario’s election date is fixed for October 10, 2007, and Waterloo-Wellington will be divided into three new ridings: Kitchener-Conestoga, Perth-Wellington, and Wellington-Halton Hills.

These changes are in accordance with Bill 214, the Election Statute Law Amendment Act, 2005.

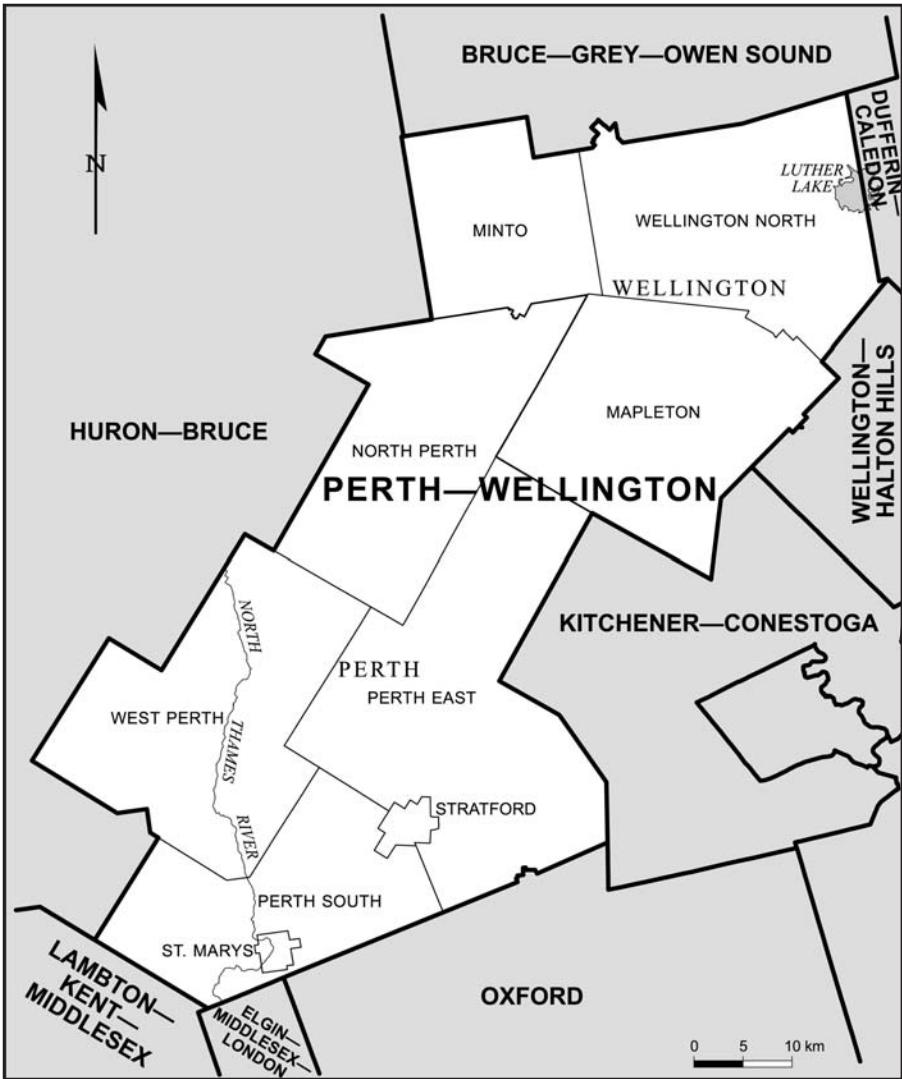


Kitchener-Conestoga

Kitchener-Conestoga will be your provincial riding if you live in one of the following communities:

- The Township of Wellesley
- The Township of Wilmot
- The Township of Woolwich
- A southwest section of the City of Kitchener

Federally, this is MP Harold Albrecht’s riding.



Perth-Wellington

Perth-Wellington will be your provincial riding if you live in one of the following communities:

- The County of Perth
- The Township of Mapleton
- The Town of Minto
- The Township of Wellington North

Federally, this is MP Gary Schellenberger’s riding.