



# TED ARNOTT, MPP WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS

Keeping in Touch – Fall 2017



## Ontario launches new tree planting programme for Province's 150<sup>th</sup>

The Province of Ontario has launched "Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge" with the goal of planting millions of additional trees in 2017 to mark Ontario's 150th anniversary.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, who has been working with the County of Wellington to push the Provincial Government to massively expand its tree planting efforts, was pleased with the news.

"I'm glad to hear that the Government is launching Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge in response to our Private Member's Resolution," Mr. Arnott said. "While we would have hoped to see a more ambitious tree planting target, this is welcome news."

Mr. Arnott praised the County of Wellington Council and Staff for their leadership.

"It has been a pleasure working alongside the County on this," Mr. Arnott said. "The County has been a real leader when it comes to municipal tree planting. Since they launched the Green Legacy Programme in 2004, it has grown into the largest municipal tree planting programme in North America and has even been recognized by the United Nations for its success."

"The County of Wellington is proud to have created the largest municipal tree planting programme in North America," said Warden Dennis Lever. "The

Green Legacy Programme has planted over 2 million trees with the help of community partners since the programme's inception in 2004. We are pleased to hear that the Government of Ontario has pledged to partner with families, community partners and businesses to plant 6 million trees province-wide in 2017."

*(Article continued on pg. 2)*



**EXPANDING ONTARIO'S TREE PLANTING EFFORTS –**  
Ted Arnott speaks in the Ontario Legislature after the Government announced the establishment of Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge.

## Contact Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott

### Wellington-Halton Hills Provincial Riding Office

181 St. Andrew St. East, 2nd Floor  
Fergus, Ontario N1M 1P9  
Tel. (519) 787-5247 • Fax (519) 787-5249  
Toll Free Call: 1-800-265-2366  
Email: ted.arnottco@pc.ola.org

### Queen's Park Office

Room 420, Legislative Building  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A8  
Tel. (416) 325-3880 • Fax (416) 325-6649  
Email: ted.arnott@pc.ola.org

Visit us on the web: [www.tedarnottmpp.com](http://www.tedarnottmpp.com) or [www.facebook.com/ted.arnott.ont/](https://www.facebook.com/ted.arnott.ont/)

# Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge

*(Continued from pg. 1)*

“This initiative, along with the 163,000 trees the County of Wellington will be planting this year, will help promote cleaner air and help fight climate change,” he added.

In June 2015, working with the County of Wellington, Mr. Arnott initiated the idea of an Ontario Green Legacy Programme, calling on the Provincial Government to massively expand Ontario's tree planting efforts beginning in 2017 to celebrate Ontario's 150th anniversary as a Province within Canada.

Mr. Arnott followed up with a Private Member's Resolution in the Ontario Legislature, calling on the Provincial Government to establish an Ontario Green Legacy Programme, in effect taking the County of Wellington's Green Legacy Programme province-wide. The resolution was passed unanimously with support from MPPs from all parties on October 22, 2015.

Since 2015, Mr. Arnott has continued to persistently pressure the Government to follow through on the resolution. He repeatedly followed up with successive Ministers of Natural Resources, both in writing and speaking to them, as well as raising the issue many times in speeches in the Legislature. He also arranged a meeting in his office in April 2016, with officials from the County of Wellington and senior Ministry of Natural Resources staff, including the Deputy Minister.

On March 29, Natural Resources Minister Kathryn McGarry approached Mr. Arnott in the Legislature to personally give him a letter announcing the launch of Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge. She also gave him a White Pine seedling, suitable for planting.

The following day, in response to a question about Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge in Question Period, the Minister acknowledged Mr. Arnott's work and that of the County of Wellington.

“I'd like to thank Forests Ontario for being a champion of this cause and the Member from Wellington-Halton Hills for his continued efforts to support his residents to get involved in local tree planting efforts through the County of Wellington's Green Legacy Programme,” the Minister said in the Legislature.

Like the County's Green Legacy Programme, Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge depends on the help of volunteers, and Mr. Arnott hopes people will get involved.

“The Government now needs to promote this. If everyone in Ontario were to plant just one tree, we could exceed the Ministry's targets by millions of trees,” Mr. Arnott pointed out. “By planting more trees, we can all do our part to help confront the challenge represented by climate change, while at the same time help make our province a better place both now and for future generations.”



**CELEBRATING CANADA'S 150** – Ted Arnott was glad to attend the Canada 150 festivities at the Mountainview Residence in Georgetown. Approximately 150 residents, staff, family, and community members joined together on the lawn of the seniors' residence to form a “150” for the cameras.

*(Photo courtesy of the Mountainview Residence)*



## Construction begins on new Groves Hospital

The ground was officially broken on the new Groves Memorial Community Hospital site at a ceremony in the Township of Centre Wellington on August 9.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, who attended the groundbreaking, noted the importance of the hospital project to the community in his remarks.

“We are embarking on nothing less than building the future of primary health care in this community, and an example of innovation, collaboration and partnership that the rest of Ontario could emulate,” Mr. Arnott said.

Mr. Arnott acknowledged the many people whose efforts have helped bring the hospital project to this point.

“My colleagues in elected public service, Mayor Kelly Linton, Warden Dennis Lever, Members of Township and County Council, Randy Pettapiece MPP and their predecessors going back many years, all have been enthusiastic in their support of the Hospital, and deserve our acknowledgment and heartfelt thanks,” he said.

“We thank Township and County staff, as well as my own staff at our Queen’s Park and Riding offices, for the many hours of work they have contributed. We also thank the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network for their endorsement, and the staff of Infrastructure Ontario for their professional assistance,” Mr. Arnott continued.

In particular, Mr. Arnott singled out Groves Hospital staff as well as the many community volunteers who have played such a pivotal role.

“Our most generous expression of appreciation must be reserved for the Groves Memorial Community Hospital staff and volunteers, the Board, the Foundation, our donors, indeed, the entire community, everyone in our catchment area, for your vision, patience and perseverance, all of which have brought us to this day,” he said.



**BREAKING GROUND AT GROVES** – Ted Arnott participates in the ceremonial groundbreaking at the new Groves Memorial Community Hospital on August 9.

Mr. Arnott has been a strong advocate for the new hospital for many years.

“I vividly recall Carolyn Skimson coming to see me in 2002 or 2003, telling me the Groves redevelopment project seemed to be stuck at a preliminary stage at Queen’s Park, and asking me to look into it. I said I’d make inquiries,” Mr. Arnott recalled. “I started from the premise that as MPP, I would support whatever redevelopment plan the hospital submitted to the Ministry of Health and that the community was behind, and I would look for opportunities to promote it every way I could.”

He persistently raised the issue with successive Ministers of Health and their staffs, both in private conversations as well as in letters and emails, and has brought the issue forward many times during debate in the Ontario Legislature.

“And through the intervening 15 years, there were ups and downs, twists and turns, meetings and briefings, lots of speeches, phone calls, emails and letters, private conversations, and even a complete revision of the redevelopment plan to the idea of a new build on a greenfield site,” Mr. Arnott said. “We set aside partisan differences, we worked across Party lines with no fewer than five Ministers of Health and their respective staffs, and slowly but surely we made progress towards our vision of a new hospital for our growing community.”

Mr. Arnott intends to continue to monitor the hospital project as it continues through the construction process.

“But now, as we begin to build the new Groves, let us resolve to continue to “dig deep,” to support Groves in every way possible and together, build the hospital our community has earned,” he concluded.

The new hospital is expected to be completed in late 2019.



**A NEW GROVES HOSPITAL** – An architect’s depiction of the new Groves Memorial Community Hospital in Centre Wellington. The new hospital is expected to be open and serving the community in the fall of 2019.

*(Photo courtesy of Infrastructure Ontario)*

# We need a science-based approach to protecting groundwater, Arnott says

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott is continuing to highlight the importance of protecting our groundwater.

On June 1, Mr. Arnott rose in Question Period to challenge the Minister to explain how the Government will ensure the long-term sustainability of groundwater in the Province.

“New regulations governing water-taking permits for water bottling companies were recently posted on the Environmental Registry,” Mr. Arnott said in the Ontario Legislature. “For years, I have maintained that any decisions regarding large-scale water taking permit applications should be science-based, to ensure that our groundwater is preserved and protected for future generations. I also believe that communities should be consulted, that their long-term growth plans should be taken into consideration and that hydrogeological studies should be peer reviewed.”

Mr. Arnott has closely monitored the situation surrounding Nestlé Waters’ applications for water taking permits in the Township of Puslinch, the Township of Centre Wellington, and the Town of Erin in recent years. He has actively raised the issue in the Legislature numerous times and in September 2016, tabled a resolution calling on the Minister of the Environment to ensure the long-term protection of groundwater resources.

“Can the Minister assure this House that his new regulations will ensure the long-term sustainability of our groundwater resources?” he asked.

In his response, Environment Minister Glen Murray complimented Mr. Arnott for his persistent efforts to bring attention to the issue.

“I want to thank the Member for a very thoughtful question. From our ongoing conversations, I know he has a very sincere concern about this,” the Minister told the House.

In his follow up question, Mr. Arnott focused on the need for greater efforts to promote the recycling of used plastic water bottles.

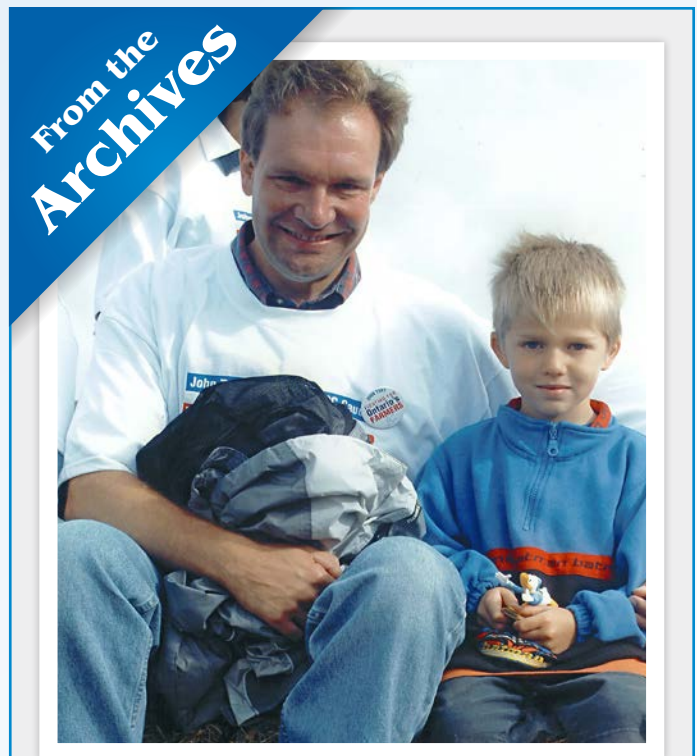
“Each year, an untold number of water bottles are thrown away, ending up in landfills or littering our countryside. I’ve said for years that the Government needs to provide

the necessary leadership and policies to encourage the recycling of more plastic water bottles,” Mr. Arnott said.

He pointed out that Ontario is one of the few Canadian provinces that does not have a deposit program in place to encourage the recycling of plastic water bottles and asked the Minister to commit to doing more to promote recycling.

“Most Canadian provinces have a deposit or refund program that covers water bottles to encourage recycling,” Mr. Arnott noted.

While Mr. Arnott believes in the importance of protecting our groundwater and promoting recycling, he does not support shutting down water bottling companies which are in compliance with the Province’s laws and regulations. He also believes that the legislation and regulations should be fair and equitable for all water bottling companies.



**CELEBRATING RURAL ONTARIO** – The International Plowing Match (IPM) is an annual showcase for agriculture and rural Ontario. Ted is pictured above with his son Dean, then age 6, at the IPM near Listowel in Perth County in September 2005.





**AUNG SAN SUU KYI** – Ted Arnott was honoured to welcome Her Excellency Aung San Suu Kyi, the Head of State of Myanmar (Burma) to the Ontario Legislature on June 8. Aung San Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her courageous efforts to promote democracy and freedom in Myanmar. She is also one of only six people in history to have received honorary Canadian citizenship.



**ERIN WALK FOR GUIDE DOGS** – Ted participates in the Erin Lion's Club 2017 Erin Walk for Guide Dogs on May 28 along the Elora Cataract Trailway. All the funds raised from the walk go directly to the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide program to help cover the cost of raising, training, and placement of Canine Vision Dog Guides, Hearing Ear Dog Guides, Service Dog Guides, Seizure Response Dog Guides, Autism Assistance Dog Guides, and Diabetic Alert Dog Guides.

*(Photo courtesy of the Erin Advocate)*

## New Courthouse finally promised for Halton Region



The Ontario Government has publicly committed to building a new Courthouse in Halton Region.

Ontario Attorney General Yasir Naqvi made the announcement in Oakville on June 21.

“For more than three years, we have been pushing for a firm Government commitment that a new Halton Courthouse will be built,” Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott said. “The existing Milton Court facility is aging, overcrowded and simply inadequate to meet the needs of a rapidly growing Halton Region.”

Mr. Arnott, who attended the announcement along with Town of Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette, acknowledged the role of Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr, Regional Council, local lawyers, and other stakeholders in securing the commitment.

“I want to express sincere thanks to Gary Carr, Paul Stunt, Ken Kelertas, and the many others whose efforts have helped lead to today’s announcement,” Mr. Arnott said. “This was truly a team effort.”

When the current Milton Courthouse was built on Steeles Avenue in 1962, the population of Halton Region was 190,000. While there was an addition to the Courthouse in 1979, the population of Halton Region has grown significantly in recent years. Halton Region is forecast to be home to 620,000 by 2021 and that number is expected to exceed 1 million by 2041.

“Our current Courthouse was not designed to handle such a large population,” Mr. Arnott said. “We need to plan for the future, and that’s why this commitment is so important.”

Since 2014, Mr. Arnott has raised the need for a new Halton Courthouse

on numerous occasions during debate in the Legislature, as well as during Question Period. He has written many times to both the current Attorney General and his predecessor, Madeleine Meilleur, and repeatedly raised the matter directly with both of them in conversations in the Legislature. He also arranged for meetings at Queen’s Park to generate discussion, while working with the other Halton-area MPPs, and encouraging them to speak up.

“I hope this commitment is genuine and sincere. In the coming months, I hope they will continue to take steps towards the construction of the new Courthouse,” Mr. Arnott said. “We intend to continue to monitor their planning process, and push the Government to deliver.”

## Keeping in Touch – Fall 2017



**CANADA 150 PARADE** – Ted Arnott participates in the Canada Day parade in Glen Williams. On July 1, Ted attended eight Canada Day events in seven communities across Wellington-Halton Hills.  
*(Photo courtesy of the Independent & Free Press)*



**VICTORIA PARK IN HILLSBURGH** – The Town of Erin celebrated the grand opening of Victoria Park in Hillsburgh on July 1, Canada Day. The park includes a fully accessible playground.  
*(Photo courtesy of the Wellington Advertiser)*

## Rockwood to get traffic signals near École Harris Mill Public School



The Government of Ontario and the Township of Guelph/Eramosa have jointly announced that new traffic signals will be installed at the intersection of Highway 7 and MacLennan/Dunbar Streets in Rockwood, near École Harris Mill Public School.

"I am very pleased with this Provincial announcement. This was a major safety concern for our residents and I want to express a heartfelt thanks to Minister Liz Sandals and Minister Steven Del Duca for their foresight in moving forward with this traffic light," Mayor Chris White said.

"This is a very busy and potentially dangerous school crossing and this traffic light is critical for the safety of our children and our residents," Mayor White continued. "I also want to give a special thanks to our MPP Ted Arnott, who worked continually on this and was pivotal in getting this done. I look forward to the installation of this light."

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott, who was at the June 23 announcement in Rockwood, welcomed the Hon. Liz Sandals to his Riding. He also recognized the contribution of Township officials and local residents.

"Mayor Chris White, Township Council, and Staff, and local residents like Jen MacLeod deserve enormous credit for their efforts," said Mr. Arnott. "They have worked long and hard to bring this issue to the forefront and have

been instrumental in helping to secure a commitment from the Ministry of Transportation for new traffic signals."

Mr. Arnott has been working with Mayor White, Township Officials, and local residents to raise the problem with the Ministry of Transportation since École Harris Mill Public School first opened its doors in September 2014.

"Children walking across Highway 7, on their way to school, need to be able to cross safely," Mr. Arnott said. "For a long time, we've maintained that the installation of new traffic signals is the best way to ensure their safety."

Since the problem was first brought to his attention in September 2014, Mr. Arnott has raised the issue in the Legislature, and he wrote to the Minister of Transportation numerous times. He also repeatedly pestered the Minister in the Legislature, urging him to take action to address the problem.

Working with Mayor White, Mr. Arnott launched a petition in November 2016, calling on the Government to fund and install traffic signals at the intersection as soon as possible. By the time Mr. Arnott presented the petition in the Ontario Legislature in February 2017, it had garnered more than 400 signatures.



## Town of Halton Hills helped to secure the Government's commitment to widen the 401, says Arnott

The Town of Halton Hills played an important role in securing a commitment from the Provincial Government to widen Highway 401, says Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott.

On April 10, the Minister of Transportation announced plans to widen 18 kilometers of the 401 from the Credit River in Mississauga to Regional Road 25 in Milton, adding new lanes, including HOV lanes, to relieve traffic congestion. The project is expected to be delivered under Infrastructure Ontario's Alternative Financing and Procurement model.

Mr. Arnott drew attention to the announcement in a statement in the Ontario Legislature on April 13, and gave credit to the Town of Halton Hills for its efforts in securing the commitment.

"What the Government overlooked, however, when they were patting themselves on the back, was the significant role played by the Town of Halton Hills Mayor, Council, and Staff in encouraging a widening of the 401 as a preferred option to other projects that were being considered as part of the GTA West Corridor Study," Mr. Arnott told MPPs.

"Having expressed strong opposition to what the Ministry called 'Alternative 4-3,' and working with local residents and the Region of Halton, the Town engaged the respected engineering firm Hatch Mott MacDonald to do a study, which concluded that the widening of the 401 would be a better option than building a new highway along the Alternative 4-3 route," Mr. Arnott continued. "As Halton Hills' MPP, I supported the Town's position and repeatedly advocated for it at Queen's Park, making this issue our number one legislative priority in the fall of 2011."

While Mr. Arnott hopes that the announcement is good news for Wellington-Halton Hills, he raised a number of questions that he believes still need to be answered.

"Some questions remain unanswered by the Government's announcement on Monday. When will shovels be in the ground to initiate the project? When will it be completed? Is this finally the end of the GTA West Corridor Study, after 10 years of uncertainty for local commuters and residents? If not, what's happening? Will the Government be turning the HOV lanes they're promising into toll lanes? Can they guarantee they will not charge tolls in the future?" he asked.



**NEW HILLSBURGH LIBRARY** – (from left) Wellington County Councillor Rob Black, Ed Bordeau of BG Architects, Erin Mayor Al Ails, Ted Arnott, and County Warden Dennis Lever gather on March 10 to break ground on the new Hillsburgh Library.

*(Photo courtesy of the Wellington Advertiser)*



**UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH** – Ted Arnott joins Simcoe North MPP Patrick Brown, Whitby-Oshawa MPP Lorne Coe, and Kitchener-Conestoga MPP Michael Harris on a tour of the University of Guelph on April 19.

### MPP Arnott brings Halton issues forward at Queen's Park

When the Ontario Legislature resumed this past February, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott brought the Region of Halton's concerns to the floor of the House and urged the Provincial Government to respond.

"Just over a month ago, I was pleased to attend a meeting at the Region of Halton headquarters with Regional Chair Gary Carr and some members of Regional Council and Staff. We had a great discussion, and I resolved to bring some of their concerns to the floor of the Legislature at the earliest opportunity," Mr. Arnott said in a statement in the Ontario Legislature on February 22.

The Region of Halton is looking for the support of the Provincial

Government on a broad range of issues, including the need for sustainable infrastructure funding, public health, affordable housing, and improved access to broadband Internet.

"We urge the Government to assist Halton with long-term sustainable infrastructure funding, including keeping commitments to Metrolinx improvements, and to consider the necessary requirements Halton is seeking to fund their infrastructure priorities. We urge the Government to ensure public health funding keeps up with population growth and address the long-standing ambulance offloading problem," Mr. Arnott said.

Mr. Arnott pointed out that the Region of Halton wants to work cooperatively with the Provincial

Government to resolve these issues.

"I am aware that the Regional Chair, Council, and Staff seek a productive partnership with the Government of Ontario, and we want to work together to accomplish shared goals in the best interest of our residents," he said.

Mr. Arnott wants to work with the other Halton-area MPPs to continue to raise the Region's needs at Queen's Park.

"I have been willing to reach out across party lines to get things done for the people of our area," Mr. Arnott said afterwards. "I hope the other Halton-area MPPs are also speaking up in their Caucus to ensure that these issues are addressed."

### Petition presented in the Legislature for new traffic signals in Georgetown

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott has presented a petition in the Ontario Legislature calling on the Ministry of Transportation to fund and install traffic signals at the intersection of Guelph Street (Highway 7) and McFarlane Drive/Hall Road in Georgetown.

Mr. Arnott launched the petition in March, working with the Town of Halton Hills and local residents, including residents of The Sands condominium building.

"We have heard serious concerns about this intersection from the Town and local residents for some time," Mr. Arnott said. "Guelph Street is also a busy provincial highway. People are rightly concerned about safety, and we need traffic signals to make this intersection safe."

According to the Town of Halton Hills, many residents on the south side of Guelph Street are avoiding the

intersection altogether because of the difficulty turning left off of Hall Road. This is diverting traffic through a residential subdivision to reach Delrex Boulevard.

The petition, which was presented in the Legislature on April 24, contained over 300 signatures.

"I want to thank everyone who signed our petition, and especially those who took the time to help collect signatures," Mr. Arnott said. "I want to especially acknowledge the role of Jim Dineen and Bruce Hayward for their help, and thank the Town of Halton Hills as well."

Mr. Arnott intends to continue to monitor the issue and push the Government to approve new traffic signals for the intersection.



## About Ted Arnott

Born in Fergus in 1963, Ted Arnott was raised in Arthur, where his family was in the heavy construction business.

Ted worked part-time and summers while attending school: he was a retail store clerk, a construction labourer, and a factory worker.

He graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University (WLU) with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Political Science. The following year, he completed a diploma in Business Administration, also at WLU. After finishing university, Ted worked as Executive Assistant to Jack Johnson, MPP for Wellington.

Ted was the youngest Member of the Ontario PC Caucus when he was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1990, at the age of 27. He has been re-elected ever since, and Ted is now one of the longest serving MPPs in the Legislative Assembly.

Putting his constituents in Wellington-Halton Hills first, Ted stands up for our interests and values. He supports our local community organizations and he is prepared to reach across party lines to get things done. Ted makes no promises except his best efforts.

Ted is married to Lisa Arnott, who is a French Immersion teacher at James McQueen Public School. They have three adult sons, all of whom are currently enrolled in Ontario universities. The Arnott family lives in Fergus.



**THE ARNOTT FAMILY** – Ted and Lisa Arnott with their sons Phill, Jack, and Dean.

## Arnott updates Legislature on the status of new Halton university campus

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott rose in the Ontario Legislature on March 20 to update MPPs on the status of the promised new Halton university campus.

“As Members will recall, on October 26, the Government announced plans to establish a new university campus in Halton Region,” Mr. Arnott said. “I’m pleased to inform the House that, according to published reports, it appears that Wilfrid Laurier University, in partnership with Conestoga College, was the only applicant to respond to the Government’s recent call for formal expressions of interest to construct a new Halton post-secondary campus.”

The deadline for expressions of interest passed on March 6. The only submission the Ministry received was from Laurier-Conestoga.



**CONESTOGA**  
Connect Life and Learning

The new campus is projected to accommodate 1000 students within 2-5 years of opening.

“As one of the four MPPs who are privileged to represent parts of Halton Region, I welcome this news,” Mr. Arnott said. “Working together with Wilfrid Laurier University, our local municipal officials, including Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr and other partners, we have pushed for a new campus in Halton Region for some time. I want to thank them all for their outstanding efforts, which now have us one step closer to achieving our goal.”

# Ground broken on new beef research facility near Elora

Ground has been broken on a new, state-of-the-art beef research facility near Elora.

On July 6, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott joined Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong, Ontario Agriculture Minister Jeff Leal, Canada Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay, and Beef Farmers of Ontario Vice-President Joe Hill to acknowledge the importance of Ontario's beef industry.

"This is great news for our area," Mr. Arnott said afterwards. "The research done at this facility will help make our Ontario beef farmers more competitive, creating more opportunities to grow our beef industry and increase exports."

According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the new centre will allow researchers to develop new methods and best practices for more efficient and sustainable beef production, strengthening the competitive advantage of Ontario's beef industry, and maintaining the province's role as a world leader in livestock research.

The facility is a partnership between the Beef Farmers of Ontario, the University of Guelph, the Agriculture Research Institute of Ontario, the Government of Ontario, and the Government of Canada.

"The University of Guelph is one of the leading centres for agricultural research in the world," Mr. Arnott said. "Their innovative work will continue to strengthen our farms and position the agri-food industry for the opportunities which lie ahead."

Mr. Arnott also acknowledged the important role of the Beef Farmers of Ontario.

"The Beef Farmers of Ontario deserve enormous credit," Mr. Arnott said. "Their leadership, including Vice-President Joe Hill and Executive Director Dave Stewart, do a great job advocating for the interests of Ontario's beef industry. I am happy to continue working with them, as we move forward to embrace the promise of the future."



**ELORA BEEF RESEARCH FACILITY** – (left to right) Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong, Ontario Agriculture Minister Jeff Leal, Beef Farmers of Ontario Vice-President Joe Hill, and Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott break ground at the new beef research facility near Elora on July 6.



**AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIORS** – On June 28, Ted Arnott helped cut the ribbon, as the County of Wellington officially opened the doors to Webster Place, a new 55 unit affordable housing complex in Fergus for seniors.

*(Photo courtesy of the Wellington Advertiser)*



## The Grand Opening of Webster Place

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott spoke at the Grand Opening of Webster Place in Fergus on June 28. The following is the text of his remarks that day:

*It's great to be here, and great to see all of you, as we celebrate the opening of Webster Place.*

*And it's fitting and appropriate that we honour and remember one of the early founders of this community, James Webster, by naming this magnificent new public building after him.*

*James Webster was a Scot, of course, and being Scottish, and a Conservative to boot, he likely would have wanted to toast his new building with a wee dram of something stronger than tea!*

*But for his time, he espoused progressive thinking, and pushed to ensure our area welcomed not just the Scots, but settlers from other lands as well. In this, he was not just a Scot, he was a Canadian.*

*We honour him this year, the 150th anniversary of Confederation, as we recognize the proud national history we're also celebrating this week.*

*One hundred and fifty years since Confederation:*

*And despite the rumour that might be going around, let me make something abundantly clear:*

*I was NOT serving in the Ontario Legislature in 1867!*

*We live in the best country in the whole world.*

*That's not just a slogan. Pick up a daily newspaper; or turn on the news. Watch and listen how division and dishonesty are leading to disengagement and disharmony, in countries all around the globe.*

*Canada stands not quite alone, but we definitely stand apart, as a country where tolerance and respect for others allow us to successfully welcome new Canadians here from wherever they came from.*

*Together, from sea to sea to sea, we in Canada are the future.*

*And yes, as President Barak Obama said when he addressed our Parliament a short time ago, "the world needs more Canada."*

*But we also know that great countries are an amalgam of great communities.*

*Wellington County is one such great community...truly great in so many ways, that those of us who are fortunate enough to live here sometimes don't even notice.*

*A low unemployment rate. A low crime rate. Great schools, great health care.*

*Fine culture, recreational facilities, and heritage,*

*A clean natural environment and scenic beauty,*

*Prosperous farms and picturesque Main Streets,*

*Friendly hospitality, and people who care:*

*All of this "putting us on the map," and making people want to visit. When they visit, they want to stay.*

*And great communities don't just "happen." Through the years, Wellington County Councils and Staff, as well as our local Councils and Staff deserve recognition for their leadership roles in making our County truly great.*

*Today, we have a very effective and visionary County Council, led by Warden Dennis Lever, and a very professional and productive Staff, headed by CAO Scott Wilson.*

*All of them together, County Council and Staff, have a positive attitude of teamwork, pride, and getting the job done. Many are here today, and we thank them for all they do for us.*

*Working together, they accomplish great things.*

*Think of the County's Green Legacy Programme, which has led to the distribution of two million trees since its inception in 2004, and was the inspiration for Ontario's Green Leaf Challenge tree planting programme, launched earlier this year as an Ontario 150 project.*

*Think of the exemplary response of our local Government authorities to the flooding emergency we experienced last weekend. What a great job everyone did.*

*And think of this fine building behind us, Webster Place, which will become home to many County seniors in the coming years.*

*With innovative co-generation heating and electricity, helping to conserve energy.*

*You know, public housing has been discussed ad nauseum over the years.*

*Some say decent, affordable housing should be a right in our society.*

*Others say with every right we grant, there should go a responsibility.*

*We know this for sure: in our Northern nation, decent housing is an absolute necessity.*

*We know seniors have special needs, and we owe them the best care possible.*

*We know that decent housing also gives its occupants pride and confidence.*

*We know that decent housing inspires the hope which everyone shares, wherever they live: a better, more secure future.*

*We know that public housing needs to be maintained, so that it lasts.*

*We know that housing must be built within the structure of a responsible budgetary framework, and costs must be carefully controlled.*

*And we know that all orders of Government have a duty to work together, reaching across Party lines if necessary, to ensure the right policies are in place to make housing available, affordable and accessible.*

*We acknowledge the builder of Webster Place, Ball Construction, and the architect, Grinham Architects, for their workmanship and professional expertise.*

*We now commend Webster Place to you. You who will live here.*

*Welcome to your new home!*

## The riding of Wellington-Halton Hills

A few years ago, the Federal Government undertook the redistribution of the federal riding boundaries for seats in the House of Commons in Ottawa. This work was done by an independent Electoral Boundaries Commission.

As a result of this process, the Province of Ontario received an additional 15 seats in time for the 2015 federal election. Ontario now has 121 seats in the House of Commons in Ottawa.

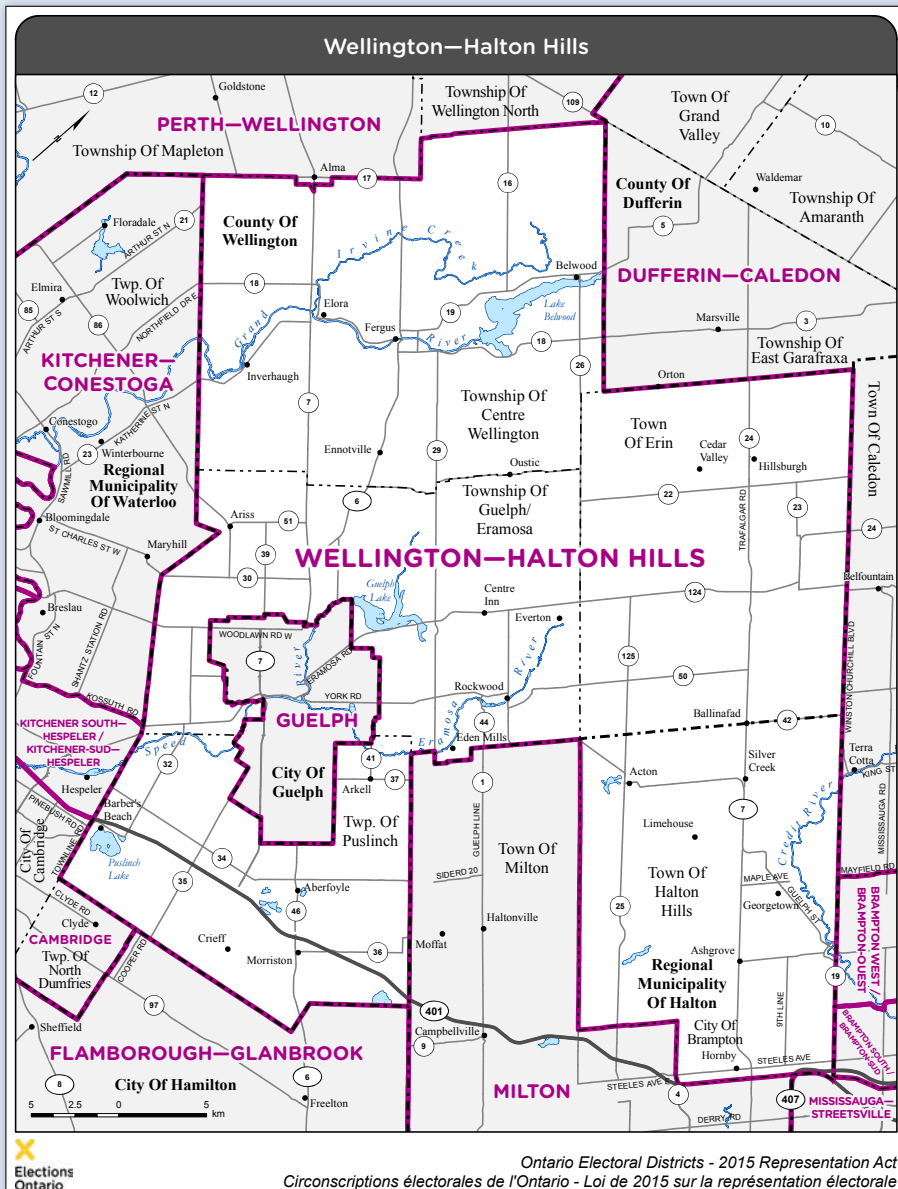
New riding boundaries were established for many ridings. However, the boundaries of the federal riding of

Wellington-Halton Hills, represented in Ottawa by MP Michael Chong since 2004, remained unchanged.

In December 2015, the Ontario Legislature passed Bill 115, Electoral Boundaries Act 2015, which will expand the number of seats in the Ontario Legislature from 107 to 122, so that the provincial ridings boundaries in southern Ontario will continue to mirror their federal counterparts. These changes will take effect in time for the next provincial election, which is expected to take place on June 7, 2018.

The provincial riding boundaries of Wellington-Halton Hills will remain unchanged for the next provincial election.

“It’s been an honour and a privilege to serve the people of Wellington-Halton Hills for the past decade in the Ontario Legislature,” said Mr. Arnott. “I will continue my best efforts to represent our Riding and seek to ensure Ontario’s best days lie ahead.”



### The riding of Wellington-Halton Hills is composed of the municipalities of:

- The Township of Centre Wellington (including Fergus, Elora and Belwood)
- The Town of Erin (including Erin and Hillsburgh)
- The Township of Guelph/Eramosa (including Rockwood and Eden Mills)
- The Town of Halton Hills (including Georgetown and Acton)
- The Township of Puslinch (including Aberfoyle and Morriston)