

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



# Keeping In Touch

# Thank you for your help

#### Dear Friends in Waterloo-Wellington:

I'm glad to be able to send you this Annual Report of recent events at Queen's Park, which reviews my work on your behalf. I hope you will find it to be interesting and informative.

To all of you who have taken the time to write or call me with your encouragement, ideas and advice, let me say thank you. I couldn't effectively represent Waterloo-Wellington's interests and values without your input. As such, I hope you will continue to take an interest in our Province's public affairs, and continue to offer me your suggestions.

An exciting Federal Election campaign has just concluded, and I want to express my appreciation to all of the candidates who sought office in the three Federal Ridings which overlap Waterloo-Wellington: Kitchener-Conestoga, Perth-Wellington, and Wellington-Halton Hills. I look forward to working cooperatively with MPs Harold Albrecht, Gary Schellenberger, and the Honourable Michael Chong.

This past year was a milestone one for me, both professionally and personally. September the 6th, 2005 was the 15th anniversary of my first election to the Ontario Legislature, and just before Christmas my wife Lisa and I celebrated our 15th Wedding Anniversary. As with any Anniversary, one looks back at all the good times in the past, and forward to the exciting events to come.

As your Member of Provincial Parliament at Queen's Park, I continue to work hard to deserve your trust. In doing so, I look forward to Ontario's future with great optimism, in the hope that my greatest contribution to our communities is yet to come.

As always, I welcome your comments. Please fill out and return the enclosed Questionnaire, and feel free to contact me if you have an idea or a problem concerning the Provincial Government.

sincerely,

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

# **Drawing Attention to Jobs and the Economy**

Government Action Needed to Address Manufacturing Job Losses, says MPP Arnott

In May of 2005, Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott attended two meetings hosted by the Greater Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, and came away convinced that Ontario's manufacturers were facing a pending crisis.

"We heard from the President and CEO of the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, Perrin Beatty," Mr. Arnott said. "Based on his presentation it became clear to me that without immediate Government action, massive job losses in our factories and industries were on the horizon."

Wanting to help, Mr. Arnott took action by tabling a Private Member's Resolution in the Ontario Legislature on May 31st, 2005. His resolution recommended that the all-party Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs would 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.

"We cannot take current favourable economic conditions for granted," Mr. Arnott said after he introduced his resolution. "We need a jobs plan because the world isn't standing still and our manufacturers are facing unprecedented challenges in the global marketplace. If we aren't competitive we will lose jobs."

"I'm asking the Legislature to look ahead, see what's on the horizon and develop a strategy so that companies large and small can expand their markets and create new jobs. We need an action plan now that will set the stage for future growth," Mr. Arnott added.

# 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

Mr. Arnott continued to speak out in the Legislature on the jobs issue, and he asked the Government to act upon his resolution before the summer recess.

Midway through the summer, Ontario was hit with the news of a 12-month trend showing that the province's factory jobs were disappearing in droves. During the period of a year, it was reported that Ontario had lost 52,000 manufacturing jobs.

"For years, our Province was the industrial powerhouse of the Canadian economy. Under this Government's watch, we're seeing Ontario slip drastically in that regard," Mr. Arnott stated at the time.

(continued on page 2)

# **Contact Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott**

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Visit Ted's Website: www.tedarnottmpp.com

#### **Drawing Attention to Jobs and the Economy -** continued from front page

"The Globe and Mail says that Ontario put in the weakest performance in the country."

By the time the House resumed sitting in the Fall, the loss of factory jobs had became one of the central issues for the Official Opposition at Queen's Park.

Ontario PC Leader John Tory and other Members of the PC Caucus raised the jobs issue in Question Period on many occasions and initiated two Opposition Day debates on the jobs theme.

In a motion tabled by Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh on December 8th, the Official Opposition continued to demand that the Government develop an economic action plan for jobs in Ontario.

"By the end of last year Ontario had experienced the loss of an astonishing number of factory jobs. In our area, Glenoit in Elmira closed its doors just before Christmas. Imperial Tobacco in Guelph packed up and moved to Mexico," Mr. Arnott said.

"More recently, we are losing 1,100 jobs at BF Goodrich tire in Kitchener, with company officials citing an increasingly competitive global market as a reason," he remarked. "The manufacturing jobs crisis is hitting us at home."

"Had the McGuinty Liberals taken the advice we put forward almost a year ago, a positive signal would have been sent to both business and labour that the Ontario Government understands there's a huge problem," Mr. Arnott observed. "Moreover, the Government could have shown that it is prepared to initiate a public discussion, seeking solutions which would strengthen our ability to compete and protect jobs."

With the manufacturing sector slipping into turmoil, and a Provincial Government appearing to be caught off guard, Mr. Arnott expressed concern that Ontario is losing its reputation as the best place to live, work, invest, and raise a family.

"The Provincial Government seems oblivious to the snowball effect which is devastating our industries. Ontario must appear to be open for business if we are to attract new investment and keep the jobs we have," said Mr. Arnott. "Our future prosperity, our services like education, health care, environmental protection, are being placed at risk by Government indifference."

"Ontario must do more than catch up with changes in the global economy, it must lead them, as we had done so successfully in the past. I intend to continue to ask the Government to act upon my resolution," he concluded.

# New Provincial Ridings to be Established for Next Election

Legislature passes bill to make new provincial boundaries consistent with new federal boundaries

For the next provincial election, our riding of Waterloo-Wellington will be divided to form parts of three new ridings: Kitchener-Conestoga, Perth-Wellington, and Wellington-Halton Hills.

Bill 214, the Election Statute Law Amendment Act, 2005, received Royal Assent on December 15th, 2005. This means that Ontario now has fixed election dates and the next election will most likely be held on Thursday October 4th, 2007.

Bill 214 also maintains the approach whereby new provincial ridings in southern Ontario will continue to have the exact same boundaries as the new (current) federal ridings.

Ted Arnott has been an MPP for 15 years and is no stranger to redistribution. He was first elected to represent the Riding of Wellington in 1990 at the age of 27, and was re-elected to represent that riding in 1995. After Ontario's boundaries were changed to reflect federal boundaries, he was re-elected to represent the Riding of Waterloo-Wellington in 1999 and re-elected again in 2003.

Shortly after the 1999 election, Ted, his wife Lisa, and their family moved from Arthur to Fergus so that they would reside in Waterloo-Wellington.

"I have to tell you that, in my heart, I am saddened that this is happening once again to a riding that I have come to cherish, just as I did my old riding of Wellington," said Mr. Arnott recently at a community meeting. "After six years representing Waterloo-Wellington, I have a sense of affection for every community that I have been so privileged to represent."

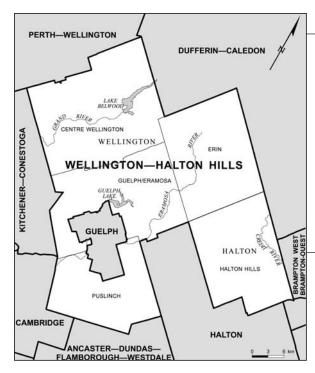
Mr. Arnott also explained to his constituents that he continues to

represent all the constituents of Waterloo-Wellington, and will be their MPP until the next election in 2007.

"I want to reassure you that if I'm re-elected I will always be there for each and every one of you to help in any way I can. And I want to reassure you that we will keep in touch, as friends always do," Mr. Arnott said to friends and supporters.

Last October, Mr. Arnott announced his intention to seek re-election to the Ontario Legislature in 2007, in the new Provincial Riding of Wellington-Halton Hills.

# WHAT RIDING WILL YOU BE IN?

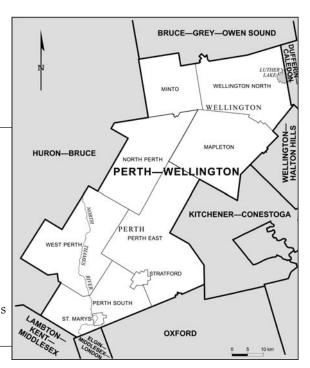


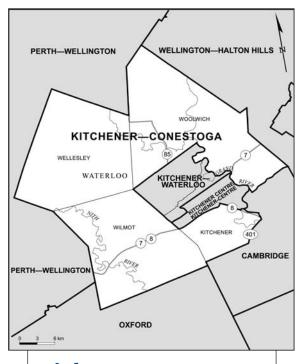
### **Wellington-Halton Hills**

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.





#### **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

# Ontario Fire Marshal Continues to Support Double Hatter Fire Fighters

MPP Arnott Reintroduces his Private Member's Bill

Following a serious house fire in Shakespeare Ontario last October, Ontario Fire Marshal Bernard Moyle reconfirmed his support for Double Hatter fire fighters and his view that legislation is needed to protect their right to volunteer on their free time.

"No firefighter, I think, wants to sit on their hands when their neighbour's house is on fire," the Ontario Fire Marshal said in the Stratford Beacon Herald. "My position has always been straightforward—I think there should be legislation."

Double Hatter fire fighters typically are full time fire fighters who work for a city department, but live in a small town nearby. On their days off they serve as volunteers in their home communities protecting their neighbours.

Their union, the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters' Association (OPFFA), is using threatening tactics to try to force them to quit as volunteers or face the risk of losing their full time jobs.

Concerned about public safety in rural communities, Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott has been a strong defender of Double Hatter fire fighters at Queen's Park for the past four years.

The Shakespeare house fire occurred during the daytime, and resulted in \$50,000 in damages and the loss of a family pet. As that house was in blazes, the Shakespeare station was unable to



Double Hatters Forced to Sit Out While Neighbour's Home Burned in Shakespeare – Perth East Fire Chief Darrell Reis, Ted, and Shakespeare station Chief Gerry Witzel met to discuss the Double Hatter issue following a house fire incident in Shakespeare. Two Double Hatters were forced by their union to stay at home while a neighbour's home in that community was in blazes. The fire caused \$50,000 in damages and a family pet was killed. (Photo by the Stratford Beacon Herald)

send a full contingent of fire fighters because two of their fire fighters had recently quit, having been charged by their union with the so-called "offence" of volunteering.

Unfortunately, two skilled, trained fire fighters were forced to sit at home while a neighbour's house might have burned to the ground.

Following an investigation into the Shakespeare incident, the Ontario Fire Marshal could not have been more clear:

"I am very concerned about the loss of two-hatters in many of the volunteer fire departments in Ontario. The slow erosion of this valuable resource does impact on the ability of many small communities to deliver fire protection services," Mr. Moyle wrote to the Stratford Beacon Herald.

"My office will continue to support the need for provincial legislation to protect two-hatters and to monitor this situation very closely to assess the overall impact of the withdrawal of their services on public safety in Ontario," he added.

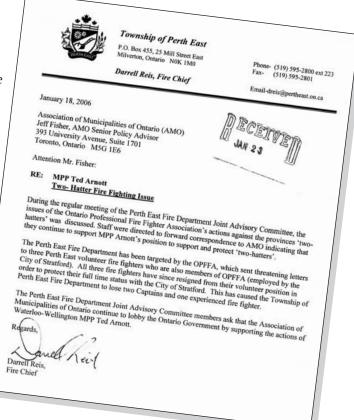
The community of Shakespeare is part of the Township of Perth East. The Fire Chief for that municipality, Darrell Reis has also taken action. In early 2006 he wrote to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. His letter, seen here, explained that his department is the target of the union and three fire fighters have been forced to resign. He voiced the Fire Department's support for MPP Ted Arnott's efforts.

Last November, Mr. Arnott and his colleague MPP Norm Sterling raised the Shakespeare house fire and the Double Hatter issue in the Legislature during Question Period.

The union's tactics have spread and fire fighters in Eastern Ontario are starting to get scorched as well. Last fall, Kemptville Fire Chief Tim Bond raised the issues directly with Premier Dalton McGuinty. Writing to the Premier he said:

"Due to the union's current intimidation campaign, our community is losing a volunteer fire fighter with 22 years experience who is a senior Captain/leader in our fire department. You don't just train ordinary people to replace this depth of experience overnight. It will be extremely difficult, very expensive and will take a long time to replace his skills."

"Over the past two years we have lost 4 members due to union pressure. These firefighters were my front line men/officers/leaders. They were forced to resign against their will. This has had a major



negative impact on our fire department which will take a long time to rectify."

Because the fire fighters' union continues to threaten Double Hatters, on December 6th, 2005 Mr. Arnott reintroduced his Private Member's Bill 44, the Volunteer Fire Fighters Employment Protection Act. Bill 44 is the fourth Bill that Mr. Arnott has tabled in support of Double Hatters.

While the Government continues to oppose Mr. Arnott's Bill, they did respond last year with a new, one-time \$30 million Ontario Fire Service Grant program.

90 per cent supported Ted Arnott's Double Hatter Bill in the 2005 Waterloo-Wellington Questionnaire.

In response to a question from Mr. Arnott in the Legislature last spring, Community Safety Minister Monte Kwinter implied that the grant was a response to the Double Hatter issue. The Minister said that the grant has: "...taken a lot of the pressure off the two-hatter issue."

However, the Fire Service Grant was a "one-time" program that has not been renewed in 2006. As of late, Double Hatters are again feeling the heat of union threats and intimidation.

"It's clear that the union has ramped up the harassment tactics because they believe the current Government will turn a blind eye to their activities," Mr. Arnott said.

"By their neglect and failure to act, the Government is making rural and small town Ontario less safe," Mr. Arnott concluded.

# Closure of BF Goodrich Tire Factory in Kitchener hits Waterloo-Wellington

"My deepest concern right now is with the workers, management and their families affected by the company's decision to close this plant. I have discussed this with Wayne Samuelson, President of the Ontario Federation of Labour. In addition, the loss of 1,100 jobs will negatively impact our local economy in Waterloo Region. Greater action is needed on the part of the Provincial Government to encourage companies to protect the jobs we already have in Ontario and to create new jobs. We can do this by making our economy as competitive as possible."

— Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott, February 2nd, 2006 "Thousands of Ontarians are facing job losses and all Dalton McGuinty seems to be able to tell them is that their taxes will continue to go up, their hydro rates will increase and his government will refuse to show any empathy whatsoever for those affected by these job losses. Dalton McGuinty's Parliamentary Assistant's comment calling communities hit by job losses crybabies still stings across this province. I am extremely worried about the effect of these job losses here in Kitchener."

— Ontario PC Deputy Leader Elizabeth Witmer, February 2nd, 2006 "For months we have been urging the McGuinty Liberals to act to help communities hard hit by job losses but they have done very little. The McGuinty Liberals voted in December for a comprehensive plan of action on job losses but we have yet to see any action from them on this. Taxes and the regulatory burden for businesses are getting much worse and the McGuinty Liberals are showing no sign of having an economic plan for Ontario. That needs to change or we'll continue seeing more job losses."

— Ontario PC Leader John Tory, February 2nd, 2006

## **World Jersey Conference**

The following is the address given by Ted Arnott to dairy farmers from all over the globe at the World Jersey Conference held in Waterloo in June 2005.

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I'm honoured to join with you today, and welcome you to the Waterloo-Wellington area, as you assemble for the 17th World Jersey Conference.

I should at the outset, betray my bias—the Jersey cow is my favourite cow. [laughter]

Perhaps it is its pleasing appearance, perhaps it's the fact that my favourite chocolate bar as a kid was called "Jersey Milk," perhaps it's the certainty that my grandfather would have owned Jerseys on his mixed farm in Arthur Township in the 40's, 50's and 60's—I don't know

But it's clearly something I have in common with all of you.

The Riding of Waterloo-Wellington, which I am privileged to represent in the Ontario Legislature, is one of, if not the most significant milk producing areas in Ontario. I'm told that Waterloo Region and Wellington County combined are home to 676 dairy farms, and more than 290 million litres of milk are produced by these farms each year.

But it's not just the economic impact these numbers represent that strengthens our rural communities and countryside. It is the traditional way of life that is preserved: our heritage, our rural culture. It is our farm families

themselves, who labour to feed the rest of us, giving us the abundant variety of safe food choices, affordable by world standards, adorning our tables, offering nourishment, sustenance, and culinary pleasure and delight.

So we recognize our farm families, and our agrifood industries for the important contribution they make to our economy, our society, and our own families.

And as you gather here, from so many places around the world, you will hear of our system of "supply management," which has worked so well for us through the years, and which has ensured price stability and profitability for the producer and a safe and secure and stable supply at a fair price for the consumer.

It's a success and achievement we're proud of, and a marketing system for the future.

And Canadians and Ontarians are known for our warm hospitality, and our exciting and interesting tourist attractions, which together mean that visitors want to come back time and time again.

I hope that you will enjoy all that we offer during your stay with us, and that your return trips in the future will enable you to continue to have a taste of Canada.

And I wish you a productive conference, where relationships are strengthened, consensus is built, and opportunities are forged. Thank you for having me.



Chicken Farmers at Queen's Park – Ted is seen speaking with farmers during the Chicken Farmers of Ontario Annual Chicken Day at Queen's Park. Their unique and innovative display, including live chickens, showed MPPs and staff the inner-workings of a chicken farm. Ted is a fervent supporter of supply management who speaks up for farm families. (Photo by the Minto Express)



With the Beef Farmers – The Ontario Cattlemen's Association invited Ontario PC MPPs to meet with them at the Palmerston-area farm of former Cattlemen's President Ron Wooddisse. They discussed the financial assistance that is needed to recover from the 'mad cow' crisis that cost Canadian farm families billions of dollars. Pictured left to right: MPP Ted Chudleigh, MPP Ted Arnott, PC Leader John Tory, Ron Wooddisse, and the OCA President lan McKillop. (Photo by the Minto Express)

# Wellington Federation of Agriculture

The following is Ted Arnott's speech at the WFA's Annual Banquet held in November 2005.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen:

I am very glad to be here tonight, to once again have the chance to join you at the Wellington Federation of Agriculture Annual Banquet.

It's always great to see you, and I want to especially thank your dedicated Board of Directors, your very effective President Ian Harrop, and your exceptional Secretary/Treasurer Jan Wilson, who keeps everything together. Thank you all.

Once again, we have come through a year of enormous challenge in agriculture. But our farm families have held together strongly with their optimism, professionalism and resilience. In the Province of Ontario, we have the best farmers in the whole world. We should be proud of this fact, proud that our labour feeds a nation, and a continent, and markets around the world.

It is this pride that enables us to overcome adversity no matter what its origin - bad weather, depressed markets, the lack of a level playing field because of foreign subsidies, international trade negotiations over which we feel almost powerless, governments that seem preoccupied with an urban agenda, seeming to ignore our needs.

It is this pride in ourselves that has been passed on through the generations. Pride, when allied with support from the broader rural community, so dependent on the spin-off economic activity that is based on agriculture – pride, when allied with support from governments at all levels, recognizing our society's need to maintain the capacity to feed itself – this is what will see us through to a better tomorrow.

As always, as your Member of Provincial Parliament, I am prepared to work co-operatively and constructively with the Wellington Federation of Agriculture, the OFA, and the other general farm organizations. Working together, as we seek to speak with one voice, articulating a vision of the future for Ontario's farm families one that allows you not just to survive, but to thrive and prosper.

Thank you once again for inviting me to join you tonight, and best wishes to all of you for continued success.

# **Transportation Priorities Raised in the House**

The following are remarks Ted Arnott made in the Legislature in support of the Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan on November 16th, 2005.

Mr. Ted Arnott (Waterloo-Wellington): Our Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan is comprised of some of

Action Plan is comprised of some of the top transportation priorities of our municipalities in Waterloo-Wellington.

Upgrading Highway 6 from Mount Forest to Fergus is a crucial part of that Plan. According to the Wellington Advertiser, that part of Highway 6 has recently been nominated as one of the Municipal Roads Coalition's worst roads in Ontario.

If the minister ever travelled through my riding, he would find that the condition of this road is deplorable. When will he take action to give final approval to the building of a safer, modern Highway 6?

The Action Plan also calls for a new four-lane Highway 7 from Kitchener to Guelph. I used that highway on Sunday afternoon, and I continue to hear from constituents who believe that congestion on it makes it a very dangerous route. As the minister stalls and sputters on the immediate need for a new Highway 7, his indecision stifles economic development and represents a huge safety issue for people travelling in and through Waterloo-Wellington.

Another key project of our Action Plan is the Region of Waterloo's Light Rail Transit Initiative. I encourage the government to support this to the greatest extent possible. As recently written in a Kitchener-Waterloo Record editorial, "All the evidence points toward the need for better public transit services in the future, particularly in large urban areas, which is what Waterloo region is rapidly becoming."

We are now past the mid-term point of the McGuinty Liberal government. I have been advocating for these transportation projects since the very day after the 2003 election. My constituents have waited long enough for this government to begin to take our transportation needs seriously. I call on the Minister to do so.

# Update: Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan

## Action Plan Receives 85 Per Cent Support in Waterloo-Wellington

Along-time advocate of road, bridge and transit improvements, MPP Ted Arnott is continuing to speak up for Waterloo-Wellington's transportation needs at Queen's Park.

Working in partnership with the municipalities he represents, they've put together the Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan. He's spoken up in support of the Action Plan at the Legislature on many occasions from both the Government and Opposition benches.

Based on the clear results in the Waterloo-Wellington Questionnaire in 2005, Mr. Arnott's Plan is rooted in local priorities. 85 per cent of people who responded support the Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan, agreeing that the Provincial Government should spend more money on local roads and transit.

The following is a written update to Mr. Arnott from the Ministry of Transportation on November 22nd, 2005:

#### Waterloo Region's Light Rail Transit Initiative:

We are continuing to work with Waterloo to develop this project for potential funding under the Golden Horseshoe Transit Investment Partnership initiative.

#### Funding for Connecting Links:

Connecting Link Program funding represents a balance of projects. One project in your riding was funded this year, in the community of Mount Forest in the Township of Wellington North, valued at \$180,000.

#### Highway 7, Kitchener to Guelph:

The Environmental Assessment Amendment was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment on October 29, 2004, for approval under the Environmental Assessment Act. The second public review period, for the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Government Review document ended on March 4, 2005. MOE's approval of this project is awaiting completion of our required consul-

tations with First Nations. This consultation is intended to address recent Supreme Court of Canada decisions.

#### Highway 8, Kitchener:

The reconstruction of the Conestoga Parkway interchange was completed in summer 2004. Design of the next contract, which consists of the widening of Highway 8 from four lanes to eight lanes, southeasterly to the Grand River and improvements to the Fairway Road interchange, is complete and will be tendered in the near future.

# Highway 7/8, New Hamburg to Stratford:

In May 2004, MTO retained a consultant to undertake an Environmental Assessment (EA) Study Design, to address operational/capacity needs in the Highway 7 & 8 corridor within the Stratford—New Hamburg area. The second and final round of public information centres was held on October 12 and 13, 2005 to present a recommended study area and the process for a subsequent EA Planning Study. The project team is now considering the comments received from the public and stakeholders and will proceed to prepare a Study Design Report. This Report is expected to be completed shortly.

We are also finalizing the preliminary design and EA for the rehabilitation and operational improvements to Highway 7/8 from Waterloo Regional Road 1 to Waterloo Regional Road 5. This work will include traffic signals at Waterloo Regional Road 1. A Transportation Environmental Study Report was published on November 16, 2005 for a 30-day public review period. We have now retained a consultant to commence the design of a contract for the work

#### Highway 6, Fergus to Mount Forest:

Design and EA work are currently underway for 2 rehabilitation projects between Fergus and Mount Forest.

The first project, Fergus to Arthur, 16.7 km, includes the construction of 3 passing lanes,

pavement rehabilitation, the rehabilitation of 2 bridges and concrete culvert repairs. The project is currently scheduled for the near future, subject to the availability of funding and the completion of property acquisition.

The second project, Arthur to Smokey Creek (south of Mount Forest), 11.9 km, includes the construction of 2 passing lanes, pavement rehabilitation, the rehabilitation of 3 bridges and concrete culvert repairs. The project is expected to proceed to construction after the first project is complete, subject to the availability of funding and prioritization relative to other rehabilitation projects across the province.

#### Highway 89:

The rehabilitation of Highway 89 from Palmerston to Harriston, 9.1 km, is currently in design with completion expected in Fall 2005. This project will be tendered once property acquisition is complete and funding is available.

#### Highway 6, Freelton to Guelph:

The ministry has submitted its comments on the issues raised by the Morriston Tract Conservation Association to the Ministry of the Environment for consideration as part of the EA approvals process.

MOE's approval of this project is awaiting our newly required consultation with First Nations.

# Former Highway 24, Cambridge to Guelph:

The ministry has identified a need for a comprehensive study of the provincial highway network for the Wellington-Waterloo Area. This Study would include a re-examination of the provincial role of former Highway 24 between Cambridge and Guelph.

MTO is currently considering this Study with the growth strategy developed in the draft Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. However, MTO is pursuing a Planning and EA study for the Highway 24 corridor between Brantford and Cambridge.



Celebrating the New Year in Waterloo-Wellington – Every year Ted and Lisa Arnott's New Year Social brings together many friendly faces from in and around Waterloo-Wellington for an event that has become a popular tradition. In the photo above Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong and his wife Carrie introduced their son, William, to attendees including Centre Wellington Councillor Gord Feniak and his wife Jeanette. Pictured to the right, Ted welcomes area fire fighters John Dietrich and Richard Hepditch. (Photos by the Fergus-Elora News Express)





# Around the Riding -1



Education Grants to Improve Health Care – TD Canada Trust awarded \$50,000 in education grants to staff at the Groves Memorial Community Hospital. The grants are aimed at providing further education for nurses and health care clinicians. Back row from left: TD branch Manager Dave Latreille along with recipients Gloria Molto, Lindsay Miller, Carol Ann Reid; TD Financial Advisor recipients Gloria Molto, Lindsay Miller, Carol Ann Reid; TD Financial Advisor Chris Mason, and Ted. Front row from left: recipients Laura Hutchinson and Lois Ballah. (Photo by Fergus-Elora News Express)



Provincial Issues with the Greater K-W Chamber of Commerce – Chamber of Commerce President Todd Letts at provincial issues forum with speakers MPP Ted Arnott and MPP Elizabeth Witmer.



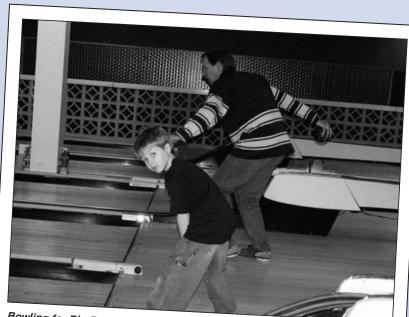
Wellington County's 'Green Legacy' – Wellington County's Green Legacy program set out to plant 151,000 trees. Pictured at a tree planting workshop are Warden Brad Whitcombe, Wellington County CAO Scott Wilson, Larry Halyk, (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)



Pitching in at the Wellesley Apple Butter and Cheese Festival – Ted volunteers as a cook for the sausage and pancake breakfast at this popular annual event. Hundreds came out for breakfast that Saturday morning in September. (Photo by the New Hamburg Independent)



**Grant for the St. Jacobs Community Centre** – Ted was present while a \$50,000 grant was given to the St. Jacobs Lion's Club from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The funds are for the renovations of the St. Jacobs Community Centre. (Photo by the Elmira Independent)

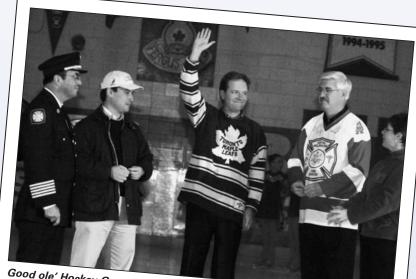


Bowling for Big Brothers Big Sisters – Ted and one of his sons help raise funds during the Bowl for Kids campaign, organized by the North Wellington Big Brothers Big Sisters. (Photo by the Arthur Enterprise News)

# Working for All of Ms



At the Social - Ted and Lisa talk with Jeff Ostic and Helen Barton at their New Year Social. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)



Good ole' Hockey Game! – Sporting his vintage Leafs jersey, Ted helps to drop the puck at a hockey fundraising event for the Community Resource Centre of North and Centre Wellington. He's pictured with Centre Wellington Fire Chief Brad Patton, Wellington-Halton Hills MP Michael Chong, Centre Wellington Mayor Russ Spicer, and Community Resource Centre board President Tammy Pringle. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)



Play Ball! – Ted joins members of the Centre Wellington Minor Baseball Association to celebrate Centre Wellington Township's new baseball diamond in Fergus. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)



Listening at a Demonstration – School bus drivers brought their buses to the Waterloo-Wellington Riding Office to push for fair wages and funding. Ted has been a long-time advocate on these issues of concern for drivers and operators. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)



Wheelchair lift for Palmerston Public Library – The library in Palmerston is wheelchair increased rubble characteristic r Councillor Jim Connell, Wellington County Warden Brad Whitcombe, Brittany James, and Town of Minto Mayor David Burns. (Photo by the Minto Express)



Heart and Stroke Foundation - Ted and Ontario PC Leader John Tory chat with Pat Salter at the North Wellington Heart and Stroke Foundation's annual luncheon in Arthur. (Photo by the Arthur Enterprise News)

# **New Community Health Centre Opens**

Ted made the following remarks at the opening of the Wellesley Community Health Centre on November 12th, 2005.

Good morning ladies and gentlemen:

Well here we are, at long last. And what an exciting day it is, for all of the people of the Township of Wellesley, as we gather to celebrate the Grand Opening of our new Community Health Centre.

There are so many who deserve credit for helping to bring us to this day, so many who helped make the dream of better health care for our people, closer to home, a reality. I want to begin by acknowledging the role of the Councils of the Township of Wellesley, past and present, for their commitment to their many responsibilities.

In the six years that I have been privileged to represent this part of Waterloo Region in the Legislature, I have worked with three Mayors of Wellesley Township: Ross Kelterborn, Doug Bergman, and Frank Friedmann. Each of these Mayors has provided the Township with solid leadership at crucial intervals.

Township staff like Susan Duke and Gord Luddington and their support staff have been instrumental in supporting all of the progressive developments of the Township. Councillor Joe Nowak has been tireless and determined in his efforts to improve health care here, and Brenda Leis deserves special acknowledgement for her role.

It can be truly said that we wouldn't be here today without all the support we've received from everyone at the Woolwich Community Health Centre. I am glad that Denise Squire is here, to accept our thanks for all the work she and her staff have done in the finest tradition of rural Ontario, reaching out to help a neighbour.

You know, of all the many and diverse challenges facing the Provincial Government today, the timely provision of quality health care to our residents is surely paramount.

Time after time, the people who do public opinion polling, and our friends in the news media- time after time- they tell us that health care is the number one issue on people's minds. It is the number one concern in Ontario.

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

And so it follows that each of us here are accountable for the health care system we are working constantly to improve.

We all share that responsibility: whether we are privileged to serve in elected office, as some of us are: whether we are doctors or nurses, or work in a hospital or a CHC, helping to make it work efficiently and effectively: whether we are community leaders serving in a voluntary capacity on a local health board or auxiliary: whether we work as health planners or administrators, or provide home care. Or if we simply help out any way we can.

We are all in this together, and along with the Provincial Government, all of us are challenged by the need for greater accountability to patients. As such, we must all be part of the solution.

So we will continue to work together to make our excellent system even better, by embracing a philosophy of continuous improvement. We all have an interest in making this work, and our patients deserve nothing less.

Provincial Governments of all three political stripes have seen the benefits of the Community Health Centre model. CHCs are a means of delivering highly effective primary health care, particularly where people face access barriers. Using a collaborative community development approach to health care, in most cases CHCs include teams of health care professionals including doctors and nurses, nurse practitioners, counsellors, and community workers who deliver the whole range of primary health services.

It's a model that ironically works well in our largest cities, as well as some of our smallest towns. And as we continue to seek solutions to our future health care needs, five, ten, twenty-five years down the road, it may well be a model that will give us a window on the future of health care.

I was very pleased to offer my support for the establishment of this Community Health Centre, and I am delighted that this day is finally here

Thank you very much, and congratulations.

# Making Life Better for Seniors Across Ontario

The new RBJ Schlegel-University of Waterloo Research Institute for Aging has been slated for provincial funding of \$500,000 and the Institute has been selected to co-lead a province-wide program that develops new and better ways to provide care for Ontario's seniors. Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott attended the announcement at Winston Park seniors' community in Kitchener in August 2005.

"I am pleased that Winston Park in Waterloo-Wellington will take a leading role in research that will lead to better care for our seniors throughout Ontario," said Mr. Arnott. "I want to congratulate Ron Schlegel for having the vision, generosity, and determination to see this project through."

The Provincial Government has made the Research Institute for Aging a lead agency in building the Seniors' Health Research Transfer Network in Ontario. The other co-lead agency is located in Ottawa.

The Institute's mission is to conduct comprehensive research working with the University of Waterloo, Conestoga College and others to continuously improve the way seniors receive care. Best practices of care, developed at places like Winston Park, can then be transferred to benefit seniors at homes throughout the province.

In his remarks at the announcement, Mr. Arnott congratulated and thanked MPP Elizabeth Witmer for her contribution to the Research Institute for Aging.

"Elizabeth has worked very hard on this initiative. Her knowledge of how the Ministry of Health works and her positive relationship with senior officials was the key to getting the Province on board. The work of this Institute is very important because it will help give Ontario's seniors a better quality of life," Mr. Arnott remarked later.



Hard Work Appreciated – MPP Elizabeth Witmer receives the Smogbuster Award from Dr. Jack Gibbons, President of the Ontario Clean Air Alliance. This was in recognition of work she did as Minister of the Environment from 2001-2002. During this time, Ted served as her Parliamentary Assistant.



**Thanking Extraordinary Volunteers** – Brian and Mary Dowling were named Volunteers of the Year by the Victoria Park Seniors Centre in Fergus. Ted, Jim Smith, assistant to MP Michael Chong, Kathryn Morgan of the Seniors Centre, and Centre Wellington Councillor Ron Hallman recognized the volunteers and their dedication. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)

# Approve Groves Hospital Redevelopment Proposal, MPP Arnott tells Minister

The following is an excerpt of Ted's remarks in the Ontario Legislature on December 14th, 2005.

"There's been much talk in this House in recent days about wait times. The Ministry of Health now has a wait times Web site which showed that the waiting lists are growing longer and the situation is getting worse, not better, for most procedures. This is a fact that the Minister has yet to categorically deny.

Now we see that there should be a Web site tracking the wait times of hospital redevelopment approvals. Surely the Minister would agree that our community should not have to wait almost two years, or more, just to proceed to the next stage of planning for our new, redeveloped hospital.

I've written the Minister numerous times, I've raised this in the House, I've spoken to the Minister privately, and I've asked him about this in estimates committee. Our community has raised some \$15 million in donations and pledges, an extraordinary amount of money for a small community and an extraordinary expression of support for the dedicated, compassionate health care that the staff of Groves provides.

My constituents have waited long enough for this Minister to respond to our health care needs, which is ultimately what the Groves Memorial redevelopment plan is all about. I call upon the Minister to grant this necessary approval before Christmas."

## Government Must Increase Funding for Tornado Devastation, says MPP Arnott

On August 19th 2005, two tornados touched down in Waterloo-Wellington. The disaster was described in the Guelph Mercury: "Both funnels whipped up winds of 180 to 240 kilometres per hour, cutting trees in half, downing power lines, tossing cars into ditches and damaging homes and barns."

"I am very grateful for the quick and compassionate way people from the surrounding area responded and pitched in to help us get through this," said Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott.

"At the request of our local Councillors, I urged the Ministers of Community Safety and Municipal Affairs to come to Waterloo-Wellington as soon as possible. Both of them took the opportunity to survey the devastated parts of the Townships of Centre Wellington and Mapleton," he added.

Immediately after the House resumed sitting in October, Mr. Arnott began raising the issue at the

Legislature. He called for disaster assistance from the Province, requesting funding on behalf of the Townships of Centre Wellington, Mapleton and on behalf of the Grand River Conservation Authority.

He demanded support from the Government in the Legislature by way of three Member's Statements, during Question Period, and then in a "late show" debate he triggered after filing a motion of dissatisfaction with the reply he had received from the Minister of Municipal Affairs. At that point, the Townships had been promised \$335,100 in disaster assistance from the Provincial Government.

Centre Wellington Mayor Russ Spicer publicly described Mr. Arnott as being "tenacious" in his pursuit of adequate Provincial funding for the tornados.

Township of Centre Wellington Mayor Russ Spicer, Township of Mapleton Mayor John Green, and GRCA Chairman Peter Krause all wrote to the Minister of Municipal Affairs to explain that the funding promised to date is insufficient. Mr. Arnott insisted that the Minister meet with the local municipal officials, and announce a "doubling" of the Provincial grants.

After weeks of delay, the Mayors received written commitments of an additional \$162,500 in Provincial funding, over and above the \$335,100 initially offered in October.

"We worked together to convince the Government that our needs were real and merited Provincial financial assistance," Mr. Arnott said. "The Government should be confident that this funding will be put to good use."

# Striving for the Best in Education

Some quotes by Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott.

"And as the MPP for Waterloo-Wellington, I believe fervently that our education system and everyone in it, entrusted with the special responsibility of teaching our children –

I believe fervently that we must strive to make our schools not just the best in Canada, but the best in the world.

We are already blessed with excellence, but the rest of the world is not standing still. And this reality challenges us to continue to build on our strengths and our success, if we have any hope of maintaining our economic standing and status as one of the world's most admired, even envied nations."

—Ted Arnott speaking in Fergus

"On the issue of education which was a central theme of this Throne Speech, the Government took credit for achieving peace and stability in our classrooms. What they neglected to say is that they have bought peace with the teachers' unions at a very high price to the taxpayer.

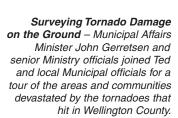
The good news is that our students are no longer being used as pawns in an unfortunate and wholly unnecessary political battle.

The bad news is the Minister of Education is apparently looking at lowering the standards that had been set to measure student achievement, standards which encouraged a culture of continuous improvement in our schools, allowing our students, all of our students, to achieve their full potential."

—Ted Arnott speaking in the Legislature in reply to the Speech from the Throne



Giving Government a First-hand Look at Tornado Damage – Community Safety Minister Monte Kwinter is pictured with Ted speaking to the media following the severe tornadoes that struck in the Townships of Centre Wellington and Mapleton. The Minister arrived by helicopter just days after the disaster to survey the damages.





**Educational Tour of Queen's Park** – Ted joins students from Glencairn Public School of Kitchener during their educational tour of Queen's Park. Typically, students are given tours that touch on Ontario's political history. They may also have a chance to sit in the gallery to watch the Question Period session live.



# TIME FOR ACTION

# A report on violence affecting youth

"Our Caucus recognized some time ago that violence involving youth was a serious problem in Ontario looking to get worse and that the complexity of the challenge in 2005 required renewed looking, learning, listening and action."

—Leader of the Official Opposition, John Tory - December 2005

Obtain a copy of the report at: **www.tedarnottmpp.com** or by calling the Waterloo-Wellington Riding Office **1-800-265-2366 or (519) 787-5247** 

# MPP Arnott's Tax Relief for Families Bill Adopted as Policy by Government

### Booster Seats Now Exempt From 8 Per Cent Provincial Sales Tax

A new Provincial law is now in effect requiring children to be in booster seats while travelling in vehicles if they are under eight years old, or weigh less than 80 pounds, or stand less than 4 feet 9 inches tall.

Parents who must purchase new car booster seats have been given tax relief as a result of Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott's Bill 77, the Retail Sales Tax Amendment Act.

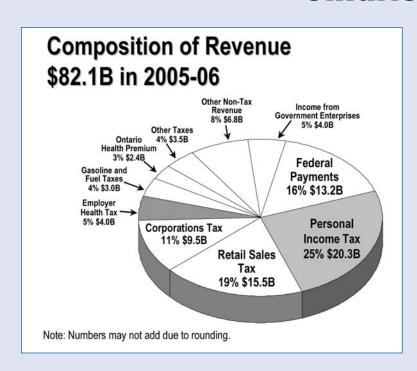
"I am pleased that the principle of my Private Member's Bill was adopted as policy by the Provincial Government in its 2005 Budget," Mr. Arnott said. "Parents have been compelled by law to buy these new car booster seats and would have been required to pay the 8 per cent Provincial Sales Tax had it not been for this Bill."

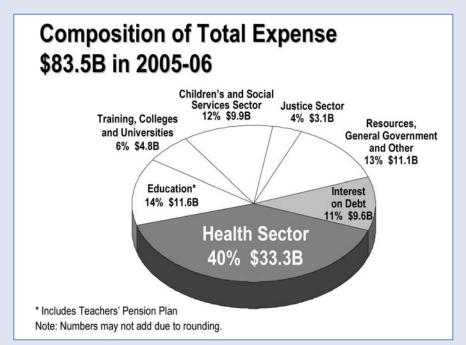
The new law requiring children to be in booster seats came into effect on September 1st, 2005, the same day the tax exemption came into force according to a notice from the Ministry of Finance Retail Sales Tax Branch.

Mr. Arnott first raised the issue when he tabled his Bill 77 on May 6th 2004. He advocated on the issue in the Legislature on many occasions.

The Ministry of Transportation advises that drivers who do not comply with the new booster seat requirements may face two demerit points and a \$110 fine. The Ministry also indicates that taxis, public vehicles, buses, emergency vehicles, vehicles on short-term lease (rentals), and those from other jurisdictions are exempt from the new child car seat regulations.

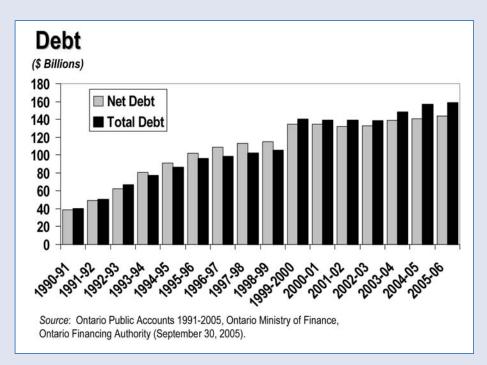
## **Ontario's Finances**





Source of information: The Ontario Ministry of Finance 2005 Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review

The above pie graphs provide an overview of the Composition of Revenue (where the Province gets the money) and the Composition of Total Expenses (how the money is spent). MPP Ted Arnott, a long time advocate of debt reduction, points out that the amount spent on interest on the Provincial debt is approximately double the amount shown for colleges and universities.



The graph above shows that the Province of Ontario's total debt is \$156.9 billion as of September 30th, 2005.

"The reality is that the debt is a burden that is being passed on to our children and grandchildren. That is why I believe we actually owe it to ourselves to schedule the elimination of the Provincial debt. I have suggested that this be done over a 25-year period with five-year interim payment targets. Every five years we could re-assess the payment schedule.

As such, during good economic times we could pay off more debt, or make more modest payments during bad economic times," Mr. Arnott said.

# 2005 Waterloo-Wellington Questionnaire — Your Response

#### **HEALTH CARE**

a) If you have used the health care system over the past year or so, how would you rate the treatment you received?

EXCELLENT	77	22.3%
GOOD	165	47.8%
POOR	67	19.4%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	36	9.9%

b) In the 2004 Provincial Budget, the Government announced a new income tax which it called the "Ontario Health Premium." For a middle-income earner, this new tax represents a tax increase of \$600 a year. Do you see an improvement in health care as a result of this new tax?

YES	7	2.0%
NO	293	84.9%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	45	12.5%

#### **EDUCATION**

Thinking about your children, grandchildren or other relatives in school, how would you rate the quality of education they are receiving?

EXCELLENT	20	5.8%
GOOD	209	60.6%
POOR	62	18.0%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	54	15.7%

#### **DOUBLE-HATTER FIREFIGHTERS**

Ted Arnott introduced Bill 52 to protect the right of Double-Hatter firefighters to volunteer as firefighters in their home communities on their own time. The firefighters' union is forcing Double-Hatters to resign from volunteer fire departments or face the loss of their full-time jobs. Do you support Ted Arnott's Bill 52?

YES	311	90.1%
NO	16	4.6%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	18	5.2%

#### **DEBT RETIREMENT**

Do you agree with Ted Arnott that the Government should schedule the elimination of the Provincial Debt over a 25-year period?

YES	275	79.7%
NO	27	7.8%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	43	12.5%

#### WATERLOO-WELLINGTON TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN

Ted Arnott is pushing for investment in roads and other transportation projects in the Waterloo-Wellington Transportation Action Plan. These projects were identified as priorities by local municipalities. Do you agree that the Provincial Government needs to invest more in local roads and transit?

YES	293	84.9%
NO	17	4.9%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	35	10.1%

#### **JOBS AND ECONOMY**

a) Do you think the Provincial Government is doing the right things to encourage the creation of new jobs?

YES	81	23.5%
NO	143	41.4%
UNDECIDED/ NO RESPONSE	121	35.1%

b) If you are working, are you feeling confident that your job is secure in the year ahead?

YES	81	23.5%
NO	89	25.8%
UNDECIDED/NO RESPONSE	175	50.7%



# A postage-paid response card - Ted needs to know your views...

Please cut along dotted lines. Fold. Tape edges and mail.

# WATERLOO-WELLINGTON QUESTIONNAIRE

#### JOBS AND THE ECONOMY

There has been a disturbing trend in the loss of traditional factory jobs in

Do you believe the Government is doing enough to prevent the loss of manufacturing jobs?

If you are working, are you feeling confident that your job is secure in the year ahead?

☐ Yes  $\square$  No

#### MPP ARNOTT'S INITIATIVE FOR JOB CREATION

Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott first tabled a resolution in the Legislature in May 2005 calling on the House 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.

Do you support Ted Arnott's call for an action plan on jobs?

_		* *				
	☐ Yes					

#### **BALANCED BUDGET / DEFICIT**

The Provincial Government is running a deficit. This means they are spending more money than they take in and they are adding to our debt. The McGuinty Liberals are running a deficit despite their election promise to balance Ontario's budget.

Do you believe the Ontario Government should balance the budget this year?

☐ Yes  $\square$  No

#### **CRIME**

Recently there has been a brutal rash of crime including gun violence, committed for the most part in the City of Toronto.

Do you feel that the Provincial Government is doing enough to deal with crime issues?

☐ Yes  $\square$  No

### **EDUCATION**

In the last year, do you think our education system has improved? ☐ About the same ☐ Yes  $\square$  No

#### **HEALTH CARE**

If you have used the health care system over the past year or so, how would you rate the treatment you received?

☐ Excellent  $\square$  Good ☐ Poor

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Protection of our natural environment continues to be an issue that is top of mind for many Ontarians. What do think we could do to make our environment cleaner?

Comments:			

#### **AGRICULTURE**

Waterloo-Wellington's farm families need our support, and Ted Arnott has always stood up for agriculture.

How can we do more to support our farm families?

Comments:
IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE TO EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS, PLEASE ENCLOSE A LETTER.
Additional comments you may have:

Name:

Address:

Postal Code:



## **Border Security Issue Has High Stakes**

News Column by MPP Ted Arnott. Prepared at the request of the Centre Wellington Chamber of Commerce, February 2006.

As a result of the US-led Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), there is a strong possibility that cross border travel between the United States and Canada will change dramatically.

By 2008, anyone travelling across the border could be required to have a passport or another secure document in order to enter the United States.

As the Ontario PC Critic for Tourism, I am very concerned about the impact this issue could have on jobs and our economy. I raised the issue in the Legislature in December and called upon the Ontario Minister of Tourism to demonstrate that

the Government is aware of the potential impacts, and asked him to outline the steps that they intend to take over the coming months to deal with the issue.

The Ontario Ministry of Tourism has confirmed that the impact of tightened border security could be severe. In an impact study of the WHTI, the Ministry has stated that Ontario could face a loss of 3.5 million US visits to our Province by 2008 and implied that the revenue loss could be significant enough to take 7,000 tourism jobs with it.

In January, after initially suggesting that only passports would be acceptable, the US Department of Homeland Security and Department of State announced that US

travellers would require a document called the People Access Security Service (PASS) card to re-enter their country.

On February 6th, I attended a Toronto Board of Trade meeting where The Honourable John Manley and former Governor Tom Ridge, who is also the former US Homeland Security Secretary, were invited to speak about border security. They reinforced the message that there are high stakes for Canada and the United States in the border security issue.

For Canada and the United States, it is in our mutual best interest to make cross border travel as free as possible. The Ontario Government should do everything it can to increase visits from the US, and stand up for Ontario tourism.

# MPP Ted Arnott Appointed to three Policy Task Forces for Official Opposition Caucus

Working with Ontario PC Leader John Tory, Caucus Policy Chair Elizabeth Witmer, the Provincial P.C. Party, and other colleagues, Ted Arnott was appointed to serve on three Policy Task Forces that will develop a plan of action for Ontario if the Progressive Conservatives are elected to govern in 2007.

Mr. Arnott serves on the following Task Forces: Economic Development, Education and Health Care.

"The rest of the world isn't standing still. We need to have a competitive and growing economy in Ontario to produce the prosperity, quality of life, jobs, and revenues that will enable us to strengthen Canada. Strong economic growth is the only way to ensure that we can afford top quality health care while also seeing to it that our students have the best education anywhere in the world," Mr. Arnott said in reference to his work on the Task Forces.



**Business After Hours** – Cox Creek Wine Cellar owners Jerry and Kamil Trochta are seen here talking with Ted and Wellington-Halton Hills MP Mike Chong. They got together at a Business After Hours event organized by the Centre Wellington Chamber of Commerce. (Photo by the Fergus-Elora News Express)



Fold

TED ARNOTT, M.P.P. Waterloo-Wellington



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