

# TED ARNOTT, MPP WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS

**Keeping in Touch – Update 2018** 



# Transportation Minister should partner with the Town of Halton Hills

The transportation needs of the Town of Halton Hills were debated in the Ontario Legislature on September 28th, as a result of a Private Members' Resolution initiated by Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott. His resolution was passed unanimously with support from all Parties.

"I want to thank all the MPPs who voted for our resolution," Mr. Arnott said afterwards. "I also want to thank Mayor Rick Bonnette, Town Council and Staff, Regional Chair Gary Carr, Regional Council and Staff, the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, the Acton BIA, and everyone else who expressed their support."

Mr. Arnott's resolution asked Transportation Minister Steven Del Duca to partner with the Town of Halton Hills to develop a long-term transportation strategy for the Town, including a review of the need for a Highway 7 Acton bypass, taking into account the need for improved safety, efficiency, and economic development opportunities.

In his remarks in the Legislature, Mr. Arnott highlighted many of the transportation challenges which have been identified by Town Council and staff, including the possible need for a Highway 7 Acton bypass; the proposed commercial development at 340 Main Street Acton; the stalled GTA West Corridor Study; the Halton Peel Boundary Area Transportation Study affecting Georgetown and Norval; the promised all-day, two-way

GO Train service from Kitchener-Waterloo to Union Station with stops in Wellington-Halton Hills; the Town's role in the Government's recent announcement to widen the 401 from Mississauga to Milton; and the need for traffic signals at the intersection of Guelph Street (Highway 7) and McFarlane Drive/Hall Road in Georgetown.

On November 23rd, he spoke again in the Ontario Legislature to call attention to his Private Members Resolution.

(Article continued on pg. 2)



TRAFFIC SIGNALS NEEDED – Ted Arnott worked with Town of Halton Hills officials and residents to launch a petition calling attention to the need for traffic signals at Guelph Street (Highway 7) and McFarlane Drive/Hall Road in Georgetown.

(Photo by Ted Arnott)

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#### Transportation Minister should partner with the Town of Halton Hills

(Continued from pg. 1)

"I have recently heard from the Town of Halton Hills, telling me that they are still experiencing difficulties with the Ministry of Transportation, and the Ministry continues to raise challenges for the proposed new business development on the 340 Main Street North Acton property and we are concerned this may call into question the whole project. The Minister needs to intervene," Mr. Arnott said in the House. "We are offering to partner with the Minister, and we need him to be a *funding* partner."

On December 14th, Mr. Arnott took the initiative to invite the Transportation Minister to visit Wellington-Halton Hills to show his support for this partnership.

"I have extended an invitation to the Minister in the hope that he would come to our Riding, and formally announce his support for a partnership with the Town of Halton Hills to develop a long-term transportation strategy for the Town," Mr. Arnott said. "This would include a review of the need for a Highway 7 Acton bypass, taking into account the need for improved safety, efficiency, and economic development opportunities, consistent with our Private Members' Resolution which was passed by the Legislature last September. The Minister needs to find the funds to be a full *funding* partner in our study process. I hope he's taking the appropriate steps, and will visit our Riding to announce his support sometime in the New Year," he concluded.

### **Protecting our drinking water**

## This is Ted Arnott's position on the need to protect our drinking water:

- 1. We all share the responsibility to protect and preserve our groundwater for today and for future generations.
- **2.** The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change must carefully evaluate applications for water taking permits, and base its decisions on science and hydrogeology.
- 3. No water taking permit should be approved or extended unless hydrogeological studies **prove** that groundwater resources will not be depleted and neighbouring wells will not be impacted.
- **4.** Hydrogeological studies included in Permit to Take Water applications should be peer-reviewed.
- **5.** Future community growth projections and the cumulative impact of water taking along the watershed should both be taken into account by the Ministry.
- **6.** The Ministry should carefully monitor large volume water users. If they are taking more water than is permitted, their permits should be revoked.
- 7. The Ministry and local authorities should be empowered to mandate reduced water taking during times of drought.
- 8. Ontario's water protection legislation and regulations should be fair and equitable for all water bottling companies. If they are in compliance with the Province's laws and regulations, water bottling companies should be allowed to operate their businesses and employ their workers.



WINTER ON THE GRAND – Ted Arnott has worked closely with the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA), in support of its mandate to manage water and other natural resources on behalf of 39 municipalities and close to one million residents of the Grand River watershed. The GRCA is responsible for flood control, protecting environmentally important areas, providing recreational opportunities and promoting environmental stewardship in urban and rural areas.

(Photo by Ted Arnott)

"We also need to protect our ground water for today, and for future generations. That's why I continue to advocate for a science-based approach to considering applications for large-scale Permits to Take Water in Ontario, and I'm starting to question why we don't have some kind of effective deposit/return system for plastic, single-use beverage containers. Surely, we can do better to improve the recycling rates of empty plastic bottles."

– Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott in the Ontario Legislature, November 29th, 2017.

#### **WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS MPP TED ARNOTT**

# Thank you to Governor General David Johnston

On October 2nd, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott delivered the following tribute to the Right Honourable David Johnston, for his exceptional service to Canada as Governor General.

The following is the text of Mr. Arnott's remarks in the Ontario Legislature:

Mr. Speaker:

"Aren't we fortunate to have the opportunity to serve?"

That was how the Governor General, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, replied to me after I wrote to thank him for his outstanding contribution to our country and acknowledge with gratitude the extension of his term as the Queen's representative in Canada.

Today, David and Sharon Johnston officially depart from Rideau Hall after seven years of "the opportunity to serve."

I came to know David Johnston well when I represented the Riding of Waterloo-Wellington from 1999-2007, and he was the President of the University of Waterloo. I came to look forward to our every interaction and meeting.

He was brilliant, positive, focused and caring. His leadership and creativity helped vault U. of W. to the forefront of Canadian universities, which also served to strengthen our local economy in immeasurable ways, including helping Waterloo Region become a high-tech powerhouse.

It turned out to be superb preparation for his next challenge: "Contemplare Meliora," or "To Envisage a Better World," which he adopted as a motto.

He would choose to make as his priorities: strengthening learning and innovation, encouraging philanthropy and volunteerism, and supporting families and children. And through his events, speeches and writing he challenged all of us to reach higher and achieve more, each to our fullest potential.



THE RIGHT HONOURABLE DAVID JOHNSTON – As Governor General of Canada from 2010 to 2017, David Johnston "called upon all Canadians to join in the building of a smarter, more caring nation. His seven-year viceregal mandate—the third longest in Canadian history— was characterized by inclusiveness, dedication, energy and ambition in quest of a smarter, more caring Canada and a better world."

(Photo: The Governor General of Canada website)

Is Canada a better place for his efforts? Without question, it most certainly is, and through his energy and personality the reach and scope of the role of Governor General was animated, strengthened and enlarged.

Yes, we are indeed fortunate to have the opportunity to serve. And David and Sharon Johnston's service will be long remembered as exemplary.

On behalf of (our) Caucus, we offer our thanks, and wish them good health and much happiness in the years to come.



CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY – The construction of the new Groves Memorial Community Hospital continues through the winter months. The project is on schedule, and is expected to be completed by 2020. Ted Arnott says the community deserves enormous credit for coming together to support the redevelopment of Groves.

(Photo by EllisDon)



PUSLINCH BASKETBALL – Graham Williams, the Optimist Club of Puslinch, Township Council and Staff all deserve credit for the new outdoor basketball court at Boreham Drive Park. Ted was glad to attend the official opening on October 22nd. After joining in the game of pickup basketball that followed, Ted's legs were sore for a week.

(Photo by Wellington Advertiser)

### Canada's most patriotic Town

In a statement in the Ontario Legislature on October 31st, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott congratulated the Town of Halton Hills upon its recognition as "Canada's Most Patriotic Town."

The following is the text of his remarks:

Last week, my federal counterpart, Mike Chong, spoke in the House of Commons to congratulate the Town of Halton Hills on achieving recognition as "The Most Patriotic Town in Canada."

Today, I'm glad to have this chance to do the same here in this House.

On May 21st, 2015, I attended a meeting of the Halton Hills Cultural Roundtable group in Georgetown, as we began to make plans as to how to best celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

That meeting, more than two years ago spawned a great idea, which began to emerge in Halton Hills: that being, we should proudly fly as many Canadian flags as we could in the lead up to Canada Day.

The "Halton Hills Most Patriotic Town Challenge Committee" was soon organized, and the idea took off.

With the help of enthusiastic volunteers, generous sponsors, the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, and of course, a supportive Mayor, Town Council and Staff, by Canada Day our residents registered and flew an amazing **57,073** Canadian flags, an average of 2 flags per household.

I want to thank everyone who was involved.

During World War II, my hometown of Arthur was recognized as "The Most Patriotic Village in Canada," by the

Toronto Star. This was based on the large percentage of Arthur's residents who had voluntarily enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces, and the exceptional take-up of War Bond and Victory Bond sales in Arthur. Arthur continues to proudly promote itself as "Canada's Most Patriotic Village."

And so today, I can truthfully attest that I hail from "Canada's Most Patriotic Village," and represent "Canada's Most Patriotic Town."



HALTON HILLS IS CANADA'S "MOST PATRIOTIC TOWN" – Wellington-Halton Hills MP Mike Chong and Ted congratulating Halton Hills' "Most Patriotic Town Challenge Committee" initiated by the Town's Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee on October 12th. (Photo by Jim Smith)

#### **WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS MPP TED ARNOTT**

# New provincial website for Wellington-Halton Hills constituents

On October 20th, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott launched a new, up-to-date website to better inform and communicate with constituents.

"We decided our website needed an upgrade, in terms of both format and content," Mr. Arnott said. "Our intention was to make it modern, helpful, readily accessible, and easy-to-use."

At **www.tedarnottmpp.com**, there is a wealth of new information about provincial Government programs and services.

Some of the information includes how to order a new birth certificate, how to renew a health card, how to access home and community care, and how to register a business name. There is also information about student assistance programs, Ontario's labour laws, social services, as well as other Government programs.

"I sincerely hope that people in our Riding will find our new website interesting and informative and that they will continue to provide me with their thoughts and suggestions on matters involving the Provincial Government," Mr. Arnott concluded.



ACCESSING THE INTERNET – Our local libraries allow everyone with a library card to use a computer and access the Internet. More and more people are using our libraries for this reason. Ted Arnott continues to push the provincial Government to follow through on its promise to expand access to affordable, high-speed Internet for rural Ontario.



**GET YOUR FLU SHOT** – On November 9th, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott once again visited the Rexall Pharma Plus in Acton to receive his annual flu shot. A few years ago a study concluded that Ontario's universal flu shot program, initiated by former Health Minister Elizabeth Witmer, has saved several hundred lives and has averted a substantial number of hospitalizations, doctor and emergency room visits.



LOCAL TOURISM GETS A BIG BOOST – The Province of Ontario has committed to contributing \$1.5 million for the redevelopment of the Elora Mill property. Pearle Hospitality is investing an estimated \$120 million to complete this once-in-a-generation project, allowing our community to take its rightful place as one of Canada's finest hospitality destinations. Ted worked with Township Council and Staff in support of the project, going back to 2013.

(Photo by Wellington Advertiser)

## New recreational facilities in the Township of Guelph/Eramosa

On August 3rd, the Township of Guelph/Eramosa celebrated the grand opening of the new Rockmosa SKATEPARK. Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott congratulated Township officials at the opening, and acknowledged the Government of Canada's support.

The following is the text of his remarks that afternoon:

It gives me great pleasure to be here today,

As the Member of Provincial Parliament for Wellington-Halton Hills,

To congratulate and thank Township of Guelph/Eramosa Mayor Chris White, Members of Township Council, Township Staff, and everyone here,

Upon the Grand Opening of this new Skateboard Park.

What a fantastic addition this is to the recreation facilities in the Township, here at Rockmosa Park! I know that young people will come here and enjoy it for many years to come.

We thank our Members of Parliament who are here, Mike Chong and Lloyd Longfield, for the work they do, and for supporting a contribution from the Government of Canada, which has helped to make this project possible.

This year, as we've come together to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation, we've seen an outpouring of civic pride and patriotism, the likes of which we haven't witnessed in Canada for a long time.

And we have good reason to be proud: with all the turmoil and tumult in the world today, Canada stands out as a beacon of tolerance, democracy, and these days, even sanity. We are so fortunate, indeed we are blessed to be Canadians, and we should never take our wonderful country for granted.

A great Canadian statesman once said: "Canada is a community of communities."

And it's so true: a country can't be great, without great communities, where people care about their neighbours, get involved, join a committee or a service organization, sharing the goal of building something worthwhile, and making things better.

The Township of Guelph/Eramosa is one such great community. You deserve enormous credit for what you have created and accomplished here, and I am honoured to serve you in the Ontario Legislature.

And in this 150th anniversary year, let us not only give thanks and display our pride, let us also resolve to do more, do better, continue to live up to these ideals,

And underscore and make this true:

"Yes, the world needs more Canada."

Enjoy this celebration!

Thank you!



ROCKMOSA SKATEPARK OPENING – Ted joins Guelph/Eramosa Township Mayor Chris White, and MPs Mike Chong and Lloyd Longfield on August 3rd to open a new skateboard park in Rockwood. The owner of the antique car didn't trust any of them with the keys.

(Photo by Carrie Chong)



HELPING OUT AT THE FOOD BANK - On September 22nd, Ted and MP Mike Chong were at the East Wellington Community Services Food Bank in Erin with Mayor Al Alls, to help launch Hunger Awareness Week. (Photo by Wellington Advertiser)

#### **WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS MPP TED ARNOTT**

# Serving you in Halton Hills

The Town of Halton Hills is the largest municipality in the Riding of Wellington-Halton Hills, in terms of population.

On a regular basis, MPP Ted Arnott schedules meetings with Halton Hills constituents at the Georgetown and Acton branches of the Halton Hills Public Library.

"I want to express my sincere appreciation to the Town of Halton Hills for allowing us to use the Library branches for constituency meetings," Mr. Arnott said. "This arrangement allows my staff and I to conveniently meet with our Halton Hills constituents in their local communities," he added

Every month, Mr. Arnott attends numerous community events in Halton Hills, to keep in close touch with you.



**GEORGETOWN FARMERS' MARKET** – Downtown Georgetown always attracts a large crowd on Saturday mornings from June to October for its Farmers' Market, hosted by the Georgetown BIA. Many communities in Wellington-Halton Hills have outstanding farmers' markets.

(Photo by Ted Arnott)

### **Our Member of Provincial Parliament**

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

While attending school, Ted worked part-time and summers: he delivered newspapers, he was a retail store clerk, he was a construction labourer, and he worked on an auto assembly line.

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

When Ted was first elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1990, he was the youngest Member of his Caucus 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 is prepared to reach across party lines to get things done. He stands up for our interests and values and supports our local community organizations.

Ted is married to Lisa Arnott, who is a French Immersion teacher with the Upper Grand District School Board. They have three adult sons, all of whom are currently enrolled in Ontario universities



GOING TO THE HIGHLAND GAMES – Lisa and Ted Arnott.

(Photo by Karen Thomas)

### **Wellington-Halton Hills**

A few years ago, an independent Electoral Boundaries Commission recommended new federal riding boundaries for the distribution of seats in the House of Commons in Ottawa.

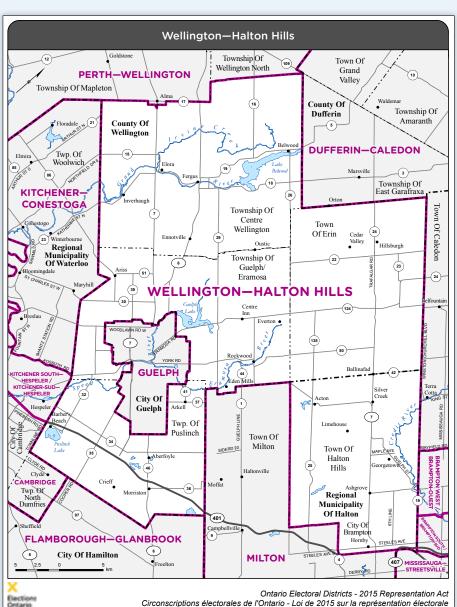
As a result of this process, the Province of Ontario received an additional 15 seats in time for the 2015 federal election. Ontario now has 121 Members of Parliament in the House of Commons.

New boundaries were established for many federal ridings. However, the boundaries of the federal riding of Wellington-Halton Hills, represented in Ottawa by MP Michael Chong since 2004, were not changed.

The Ontario Legislature will have 124 seats after the next provincial election, which is expected to take place on June 7, 2018. While the provincial riding boundaries in northern Ontario may be different than the federal boundaries, in southern Ontario the provincial riding boundaries will continue to be identical to their federal counterparts.

> 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 in the Ontario Legislature," Ted Arnott said. "I will continue my best efforts to represent our people and do my best to ensure that 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)

Please recycle.