

# Johnson will stay on council during election campaign

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Eden Mills resident Dale Hamilton as its candidate in June. Hamilton is a former municipal councillor in the pre-amalgamation township of Eramosa.

Arnott was first elected to the legislature in 1990 and has won four consecutive re-elections.

Johnson said one of her primary issues would be to improve healthcare funding for the local hospitals in the Wellington-Halton Hills riding.

"I lived through the Harris years as a healthcare provider," said Johnson, who has been a nurse for more than 30 years. "Those were horrible times, and while the McGuinty Liberal government has moved forward by leaps and bounds... I'm afraid what would happen if the Conservatives were in charge again and that's a very strong motivator."

"I felt we need a stronger voice at Queen's Park," she said, pointing to three big issues: healthcare funding, the possible highway through south Halton Hills and education.

On the highway, Johnson says she does not approve of the plan and will take that message to Queen's Park, adding she has spoken to MTO Minister Kathleen Wynne on the issue already, and says, "She (the Minister) hears what we're saying."

On education, Johnson says the improvements the Liberals have made since the Conservatives were in power have been "truly amazing" such as full-day Kindergarten and she wants to continue to push for an emphasis on education.

Johnson, a councillor since 1993, has served as budget chair, Fire Services and Emergency Planning Chair, and is currently the Chair of Heritage Halton Hills.

Johnson has discussed her impending nomination with Mayor Rick Bonnette about her status as a Town councillor, and has decided "To maintain my position for the entire time."

However, during the actual campaign, Sept. 7-Oct. 6, Johnson will not collect her councillor's salary, although she will con-

tinue to do council business and serve her constituents. She would resign her position should she win, or return to her councillor's post as usual if she loses.

Town Clerk Suzanne Jones confirmed that under the Municipal Act, Johnson is under no obligation to resign or take a leave of absence during the provincial campaign period. She added on any council decision, Johnson is bound by the municipal conflict of interest rules, and will decide herself whether to abstain or vote. Jones also confirmed that Johnson will forego her councillor's salary during the campaign period, as well as pay for the use of any municipal-owned devices she currently uses such as computer or Blackberry.

"As a Halton Hills councillor, Johnson has guided a number of significant accomplishments, including heading up council's Accessibility Committee, where she spearheaded changes leading to improved access in the community. For her strong leadership and hard work Moya was awarded the prestigious Canadian Urban Institute's Local Hero Award," stated a Liberal Party press release.

While well known in Halton Hills, Johnson said her campaign strategy will be to meet as many people in the rest of the riding: Erin, Eramosa, Fergus, and Puslinch. But Johnson noted, while Halton Hills may be the larger population centre, this community shares many of the same issues such as healthcare funding, education and rural pressures with its riding counterparts.

Johnson has enjoyed a 30-year career in the healthcare field, and is a former member of the Halton District Health Council and Ministry of Health Advisory Committee.

Johnson has lived in the Wellington-Halton Hills community for more than 30 years. She and her husband Rick have three children, and four grandchildren.

The Liberal campaign office will be opening in Downtown Georgetown in the next couple weeks, Johnson said.



**TED ARNOTT**



**DALE HAMILTON**



## Saloon show

Grant and Jean Leonard hosted the British Saloon Car Club of Canada show at their home recently. Here Grant is pictured standing between their green 1965 Sunbeam Tiger and a 1966 red Sunbeam Alpine. For more info on the event visit [www.bscoc.ca/index.php](http://www.bscoc.ca/index.php)

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