

Drummond report gathering dust

Somewhere at Queen's Park, an old clock ticks as the Drummond report begins to gather dust on a shelf.

And with the passing of each hour, Ontario's debt grows by \$1.8 million. Every hour, 24 hours a day, the clock is ticking and the debt is growing.

Released with such drama and intense media interest just a month ago, the Drummond report has all but fallen off the agenda, with the McGuinty Liberals disavowing many of the key recommendations to save money. Yet they continue to pretend that they can lead Ontario to a balanced budget in the foreseeable future.

Don Drummond's overall baseline projections are quite simple. Hold the line on health spending to an increase of 2.5 per cent per year, contain education spending to an increase of 1 per cent per year, hold post-secondary education to a 1.5 per cent annual increase and social services service at 0.5 per cent. Savings would be sought in all other programs of 2.4 per cent each year. This, says Drummond, gets us to a balanced budget in 2018.

But with each cost-saving recommendation the Liberals ignore, the goal of achieving a balanced provincial budget in this decade becomes more elusive and unlikely.

For the past eight years, the government repeatedly ignored our warnings and demonstrated no interest in getting its overall spending under control. This is Dalton McGuinty's mess and he must assume responsibility for it.

The old clock continues to tick, ominously.



Ted Arnott

I was glad to have the chance to attend two outstanding community events last week in Halton Hills: the Georgetown Hockey Heritage Awards dinner and the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Awards. Thanks to all who organized and attended.

Neil Cotton deserves congratulations for receiving this year's Georgetown Hockey Heritage Council Award. Heritage Acton, Georgetown Market Place, Christina Kelman (TD Canada Trust, Acton Branch) and Val Leachman (The Way We Were) were all deserving recipients of the Chamber of Commerce awards.

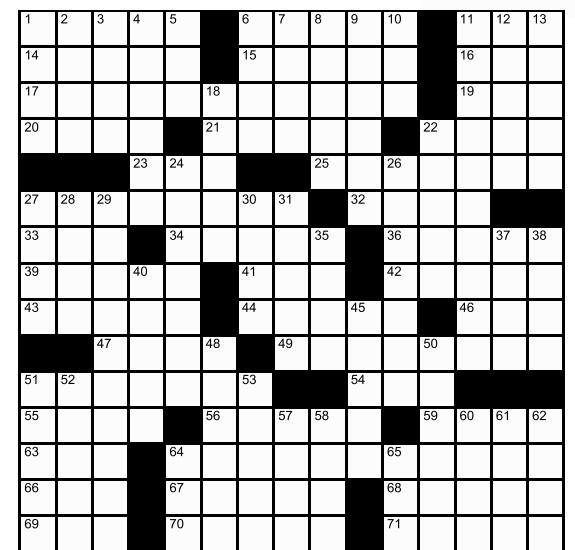
The GTA West Corridor Study's Alternative 4-3 through Halton Hills is neither sensible nor is it affordable. This is the message I again delivered to the Minister of Transportation in the Legislature last week. A copy of my most recent letter is posted on my website. Working together, I believe we are going to win this one.

—Ted Arnott is the MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills. He can be reached at 1-800-265-2366 or www.tedarnottmpp.com.

PUZZLE of the week

Across

1. Clan chief in medieval Scotland
 6. Warm up
 11. Big wine holder
 14. Cliffside dwelling
 15. Beau
 16. "Maria"
 17. Quality of being drawn out
 19. Fold, spindle or mutilate
 20. "Not to mention ..."
 21. Bumpkin
 22. "Wheel of Fortune" choice
 23. Deception
 25. Shrinks back in fear
 27. Condition sometimes treated by hypnosis
 32. Part of BYO
 33. ___-eyed
 34. Hairy-chested
 36. ___ manual
 39. ___ orange
 41. Bar order
 42. Riot
 43. Discover
 44. 3 feet (pl.)
 46. Absorbed, as a cost
 47. Astronaut's insignia
 49. Being in low spirits
 51. Shipping hazard
 54. Anger
 55. "___ for the poor"
 56. ___ terrier
 59. Bags
 63. ___ juice (milk)
 64. Retort at end of a heated discussion
 66. Blackout
 67. Extra
 68. Bullwinkle, e.g.
 69. Mamie's man
 70. League members
 71. Assignment
- Down
1. Standard monetary unit of Samoa
 2. Command to a dog
 3. Coastal raptors
 4. Man hired as an escort
 5. After expenses
 6. Beethoven's "Archduke ___"
 7. Wild goose sound
 8. Ruler in Arabia
 9. Founder of Methodism
 10. "Help!"
 11. Animal that feeds on blood of birds and mammals
 12. Be of use
 13. Graceful fliers
 18. Howler
 22. Lush
 24. Huge
 26. A swift horse
 27. "American ___"
 28. Barely beat, with "out"
 29. Marine polyp that resembles a flower
 30. Gross
 31. Up, in a way
 35. Shrek, e.g.
 37. Network of intersecting blood vessels
 38. Coaster
 40. Snatches
 45. Invisible spirit appearing in human or animal form (Muslim)
 48. Game keeper?
 50. Bleep out
 51. Poets' feet
 52. Disguise
 53. Largest lake in northern Italy
 57. Any thing
 58. Clears
 60. Call to a mate
 61. Big cheese
 62. "Let it stand"
 64. Congratulations, of a sort
 65. Clock standard (abbrev.)



The
CARPET PALACE

(3 Adamson Street) at the corner of Winston Churchill & Hwy 7,
Norval 905-873-7955

Look for the answer to
this week's puzzle at
www.carpetpalace.ca

As if dying in your 30's isn't hard enough to swallow... What if you needed a fistful of pills just to digest your food?

Now that you know more about cystic fibrosis, won't you please help?

Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
1-800-378-CCFF
www.cysticfibrosis.ca

Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills needs volunteers for major April fundraiser. It will only take a few hours of your time to canvass your street.

Please volunteer!
Call Betty Fendley
905-702-8886

... Lend Me Your Ears

By Cory Soal
R.H.A.D.

HOW DOES LOUD NOISE CREATE HYPERTENSION?

It appears to affect the nervous system, signalling the peripheral blood vessels to constrict as though under attack/ This triggers a surge of adrenaline and other fight-or-flight chemicals into the bloodstream - a response that carries with it the potential for glandular or cardiovascular changes, in other words, unwanted noise creates the same final results as increased stress (try to avoid)!

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Alexander Trenton, DD, F.C.A.D. (A) Denturist

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Happy 10th Birthday Natasha!

Love Mom & Dad

The Georgetown
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LEARNING TO LIVE WITH DENTURES

Learning to live with dentures often requires a period of adjustment. This time can be shortened if the patient adopts a good mental attitude and is patient and determined to wear his or her dentures. It doesn't matter how much difficulty one experiences at first, as you will gradually learn to use false teeth. A few denture wearers do not assume the right mental attitude, and without giving their new teeth a fair trial, begin to think their case is hopeless. These few people will never learn to wear dentures unless they make up their minds to conquer their difficulty. Remember, it takes about four times longer to master a lower denture than an upper denture.

Also, it is important to remember that it isn't always the person with the smallest quantity of gum or ridges that is the hardest to fit, and who apparently would have the most problems. These people usually realize that their case is more difficult, and knowing this, are prepared for anything. When they get their dentures, they find that denture wearing isn't as bad as they feared. Many people have accepted the challenge of wearing dentures, and won. You can too! Don't hesitate to call our office for information you might need regarding your dentures.
Consultations are always free!!

18 Church Street, Georgetown 905-877-2359