

MPP REPORT

By: Ted Arnott ~ MPP Wellington - Halton Hills



Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott spoke in the Ontario Legislature on September 29, to highlight the annual Georgetown Hospital Walk.

"Yesterday after Question Period, I was very glad to tell the Minister of Health about the very successful Walk or Run for Georgetown Hospital, which my wife Lisa and I attended this past Sunday morning," Mr. Arnott informed the Legislature. "This annual walk is a great community event, and this year it raised \$37,000 for the Georgetown Hospital."

The money raised by the Hospital Foundation goes toward improving health care services at the Georgetown Hospital through the purchase of medical equipment, as well as enhancing the hospital's programs and facilities.

"I try to attend the Walk every year, and I was glad to see Halton Hills Regional Councillor Jane Fogal and Town Councillor Jon Hurst there as well," Mr. Arnott said.

Mr. Arnott also took the opportunity to thank the many staff and volunteers whose

efforts made the event possible.

"Our Georgetown Hospital Foundation staff and volunteers do an amazing job," said Mr. Arnott. "I especially want to acknowledge Jennifer McNally, the Foundation's manager for annual giving and special events."

Over the years, Mr. Arnott has been an enthusiastic advocate for the Georgetown Hospital.

"In 2011, I was glad to help secure a promise from the Government of up to \$2.6 million to support needed renovations at the Hospital," he noted. "In addition to the Province's commitment, money raised in the community paid for most of the project. After working together, we now have a new emergency room, CT scanner, and upgrades to the diagnostic imaging department - better health care, closer to home."

"Someday, we'll need a brand new Georgetown Hospital. It goes without saying that I would want to support whatever hospital redevelopment project our community submits to the Ministry," Mr. Arnott concluded.

Hear the Beep where you sleep

Fire Prevention Week is October 4-10. The Halton Hills Fire Department is encouraging everyone to "hear the beep where you sleep" and install a working smoke alarm in every bedroom.

"Many fatal fires occur at night when everyone is asleep, so early warning is crucial to survival," says Acting Captain Mark Burger. "The Ontario Fire Code requires working smoke alarms on every storey of the home and outside all sleeping areas. For added protection, our fire department is recommending that you also

install a smoke alarm in every bedroom."

The best protection will be provided by interconnected smoke alarms. The alarm closest to the fire will sense the smoke, triggering all of the alarms throughout the home. For easy installation, wireless interconnected smoke alarms are now available.

Smoke alarms are required to be replaced within the time frame indicated by the manufacturer. This is usually ten years.

The Halton Hills Fire Department will be set up at Home Hardware in

Acton and Canadian Tire in Georgetown at various times throughout Fire Prevention Week to assist you with determining which alarms are best for your home and any other prevention question you may have. Mayor Rick Bonnette encourages residents to check the age and condition of their smoke alarms and to contact Acting Captain Mark Burger with any questions or concerns they might have about how to best protect their family from fire.

For more information about smoke alarms, visit www.ontario.ca/firemarshal or for the kids visit www.sparky.org

Prospect Park clean-up a success



A large group of volunteers showed up last Saturday, October 3, to clean up garbage around Prospect Park. Although it was a windy day, they pushed through with a little help from warm clothing, hot chocolate and sheer determination.

Mayor Rick Bonnette acknowledged their actions as well. Some questionable objects they picked up:

- a shelf
- a heavily duck-taped canoe oar
- a sign post
- a large piece of concrete
- a ring meant for holding

shower curtains, and • Tupperware

It only takes little actions like these to create a safer, greener space for our community. Not to mention, it is a lot of fun. It will be great to see many more people partake in events like these in the future.

Making it easier to report immunizations

Halton Region's Health Department has released an online immunization reporting form to give parents with children attending schools in Halton a more convenient way to report required immunizations. The form is available at halton.ca/immunize.

While the majority of families in Halton Region immunize their children to protect their health, many are unaware of their legal requirement to notify the Halton Region Health Department about any re-

quired immunizations their children have, especially those the province requires for school attendance.

Parents can update their child's immunization records by going online at halton.ca/immunize, dialing 311 or dropping off an up-to-date record at 1151 Bronte Road in Oakville.

"Halton Region's Health Department is responsible for enforcing the provincial *Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA)*, which outlines the immunizations students need to attend classes, in order to keep our schools and students healthy," said Halton's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Hamidah Meghani. "Since students without up-to-date im-

munization records can face school suspension, it's critical that parents make sure the Halton Region Health Department has their child's most recent immunization records on file."

Immunizations are available through family doctors or at one of Halton Region's immunization clinics. If children are unable to get immunized, they must have a notarized exemption on file with the Health Department in order to meet school attendance requirements.

To learn more about which immunizations are required to attend school and how to report immunizations, please visit halton.ca/immunize

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