

Our MPP Reports

by Ted Arnott

MPP Wellington - Halton Hills



I want to begin this column by expressing my sincere thanks to the people of Wellington-Halton Hills for returning me to Queen's Park for another term as your Member of Provincial Parliament.

Helped by my dedicated campaign volunteers and staff, we reached out to you, listened to your concerns, answered your questions, and worked to earn your trust. I will always be indebted to my magnificent campaign team members for their hard work.

For our party, the overall provincial result was disappointing, to say the least.

Mistakes in our campaign strategy cost us considerable support. An over-the-top (and at times inaccurate) advertising campaign launched against us by public sec-

tor unions, coupled with Kathleen Wynne's appeal to NDP voters in the final days proved to be decisive on June 12.

However, the election is over. We must now accept the results, and get back to work on behalf of all the people of Ontario.

One of Georgetown's outstanding community leaders is making plans to retire to Grand Bend, on Lake Huron.

John Duncan's caring and commitment to building a better Georgetown will be missed.

For decades, he has been a pillar of the Kinsmen Club of Georgetown, twice serving as club President. He's been actively involved in their many civic events, including the hugely successful Walks for ALS, and CF Fundraising dinners.

John was elected to

serve on the Council of the Town of Halton Hills in 2006, representing Ward Four. While on Town Council, he was a respected, accessible and informed voice for taxpayers.

More recently, he has devoted many hours to the President's Cup Golf Tournament, a very successful fundraising event for the Georgetown Hospital Foundation. He's chaired the organizing committee for the last 2 years, and his team is making final plans for this year's event on July 28 (for more information, visit www.georgetown-hospitalfoundation.ca)

And not sitting back and leaving it to others, he made time to get involved in federal and provincial elections over many years.

John was my Halton Hills campaign co-ordinator in my 2007, 2011 and 2014 elections. He was tireless in those campaigns, introducing me to local residents, providing helpful advice and counsel, and paying attention

to every detail, large and small.

Along the way, John has made lifelong friendships with people from every walk of life. With support from his wonderful (and patient!) wife Mary and his loving family, he has truly left Georgetown a better place for his efforts.

Thank you, John Duncan.

As the old Irish saying goes: "May you live to be 100 years, with one extra year to repent!"

The Ontario Legislature resumes sitting on July 2. That morning, MPPs from all parties will be sworn in *en masse* in the Legislative Chamber by the Lieutenant Governor. In the afternoon, we will gather again to elect a Speaker.

On July 3, the Speech from the Throne will be the order of the day, kicking off what promises to be an extraordinary summertime debate on the issues and challenges facing the province.

The re-presentation of



ROCKWOOD HERON: This Blue Heron stood silently in shallow water at the Rockwood Conservation Area recently, allowing canoeists and boaters to get quite close. - Melissa Paul photo

the 2014-15 provincial budget will follow in due course.

In my column next month, I hope to offer my thoughts on the Throne Speech and the budget.

As always, I welcome

your comments and advice.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott welcomes your comments. He can be reached at 1-800-265-2366. His website address is www.tedarnottmpp.com

Mayor's Corner

By Rick Bonnette



Last month, the Town of Halton Hills launched Community Covenant for Veterans and their families. It is the only one in Ontario, and the second one in all of Canada. This event promoted the importance of supporting our Veterans and, was an example for other municipalities in Ontario and throughout Canada to follow. Through the development of a Community Covenant, Halton Hills showcased partnerships, organizations, programs, and services within our community supporting Veterans and their families. It was a powerful ceremony. It was an honour to have various guest speakers, and once again, I thank them for being part of this truly one of a kind event including Superintendent Rick Penney from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Corporal Robin Schavo, Lieutenant-Colonel William Adcock, Corporal Phyllis Bunn and Private Shell Lawr.

The GTA West Transportation Corridor Planning Environmental Assessment is underway. This could be a minimum five year study by MTO to connect a highway to the 401/407 interchange. As a result, 6,000 acres of land from the Eighth line to Winston Churchill Boulevard are frozen. This is unfair to property owners to have to sit in limbo with so much uncertainty. I have written the Minister of Transportation to have a meeting to discuss this issue. This highway is NOT to be confused with the 4-3 highway that we defeated a few years ago.

Congratulations to M.P.P. Ted Arnott on his

recent re-election.

A big thank you to all of the volunteers who made Canada Day a huge success in Acton and Glen Williams. Congratulations to Skytree Smith, named "Glen Williams 2014 Citizen of the Year".

If you've been listening to the news, you'll know that small communities in Ontario have had tomados rip through their towns. It's important to all of us to be prepared for an emergency. As we saw last December, having an emergency kit is very important during these times. Make sure everyone in your family knows what to do before, during and after an emergency. Have your cell phone charged and cash on hand. Stock these six basics in your home: water, food, first aid supplies, tools and supplies, clothing and bedding, and special items. Keep them in a waterproof backpack or duffel bag in case of an evacuation and make sure everyone knows where to find it.

Congratulations to: Purity Life on celebrating their 30th Anniversary.

Tech Tire on its grand opening in Georgetown.

Brooks Heating & Air on their grand re-opening in Georgetown.

Keeping it real. I can be reached by telephone at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342 or by email at mayor@haltonhills.ca or read my blog at www.rickbonnette.blogspot.com. You can also follow me on twitter at: @RickBonnette1

TOWN DIGEST

MORE TRUCK ENFORCEMENT

Local politicians hope increased enforcement and willing truck operators will improve commercial truck traffic safety in Acton and Georgetown.

"There are no easy solutions to this situation, but we believe a greater enforcement presence in the affected areas will go a long way to enhancing public safety," Mayor Rick Bonnette said in a press release on Monday. He said commercial truck traffic through Halton Hills will continue as a focus, with local councillors calling for a greater enforcement presence across the community, including Norval and Acton.

The Town is limited in what it can do to manage the volume of traffic in areas like downtown Acton and parts of Wallace Street and McDonald Boulevard which

have experienced heavy commercial truck traffic for a number of years. The Town installed new "No Heavy Trucks, Local Deliveries Only" signs on McDonald Boulevard, but is concerned if it did the same on Wallace Street, it would increase traffic problems through the downtown, increasing safety risks and potentially hurting local businesses.

Instead, the Town ask local industrial businesses that employ heavy trucks to use alternate routes, where possible. The Town will also continue to monitor the situation asks Halton Police to increase enforcement in the area to ensure truck operators follow all safety and traffic regulations.

A CULTURE OF CONSERVATION

The Town's on-going energy conservation efforts earned it one of nine

finalist spots in this year's Community Conservation awards which focus on promoting province-wide energy conservation.

The nomination recognizes the Town's leadership in conservation and energy efficiency through its Sustainability Plans and the Mayor's Community Energy Plan.

The awards honour municipalities that implement actions that reduce the carbon footprint and deliver cost savings. The community Conservation Awards promote a culture of conservation and encourage Ontario's municipalities to participate in conservation activities.

This year's winners will be announced on August 18 at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario annual meeting in London, ON.



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