

MPP REPORT

By: Ted Arnott ~ MPP Wellington - Halton Hills



After much thought and consideration over the past year, I have decided to seek re-election to the Ontario Legislature in the upcoming provincial election, which is expected in June of 2018.

I have been very fortunate over the years to have the support of so many good people, who are involved in politics for one reason: to help build a better Ontario. It is their commitment to their communities which inspires me to want to continue my work at Queen's Park.

Together, we have worked very hard to gain approvals for the new Groves Hospital, the Morriston bypass, the Town of Halton Hills long-term transportation study, the Laurier Milton campus, a new Halton

Courthouse, and other important infrastructure projects. While we have made significant progress, the job is not yet done.

Effective leadership requires vision, honesty and a workable plan that is ambitious, but achievable. The people of Ontario deserve nothing less.

In spite of our current challenges, we can and will do better. The promise of the future for our Province is before us.

With Christmas just around the corner, I want to express my sincere thanks to our many churches, service clubs, food banks, community organizations, and individuals who are reaching out to help those in need.

Our communities in Wellington-Halton Hills

are caring and generous. We are truly blessed, and so many are sharing their time and good fortune to ensure that everyone enjoys the Holiday Season.

This is the time of year that Christians celebrate the birth of Christ. His teaching and example call us to be compassionate and care for one another, not just at Christmas time, but all year round.

Peace, joy, and love surround us.

From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, and all the best in 2017.

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 or check him out on Facebook.

Mayor speaks at Chamber lunch

By: Dawn Brown

Going Beyond our Boundaries was the theme of Mayor Rick Bonnette's State of the Town Address at this year's Mayor's Christmas Lunch hosted by The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce at Eagle Ridge Golf Club on December 8.

Attended by chamber members, town councillors, Regional Chair Gary Carr, Milton Mayor Gord Krantz and Oakville Mayor Rob Burton, Mayor Bonnette spoke about the progress made in 2016 as well as plans for 2017 and beyond.

Bonnette stated that 2016 was a record year for construction along the Premier Gateway, citing several companies building large projects in the area.

"In all, Halton Hills has close to two million square feet under construction at the Premier Gateway. When it is fully built, it will provide property tax of about \$2 million per year for a long time," explained the Mayor. Who

also said he was equally excited by expansion of current businesses in Halton Hills like the 30,000 square foot addition to Purity Life in Acton.

Mayor Bonnette also touched on The Community Improvement (CIP), introduced in 2014 and funded with \$75,000 per year. As well as adding landscaping to the CIP program, the CIP also supports Acton and Georgetown Industrial Parks and will provide a grant of 50 per cent of eligible work up to \$12,500 to improve the exterior aesthetic of the properties.

A significant event for the town this past year was twinning with Wenjiang, a district in the city of Chengdu, China. The Mayor compared Chengdu to Toronto and Wenjiang District to North York or Etobicoke.

The Mayor went on to explain that Halton Hills was the first Canadian Municipality to enter into a Sister-City Agreement with Wenjiang District, and that just over 20 municipalities have a rela-

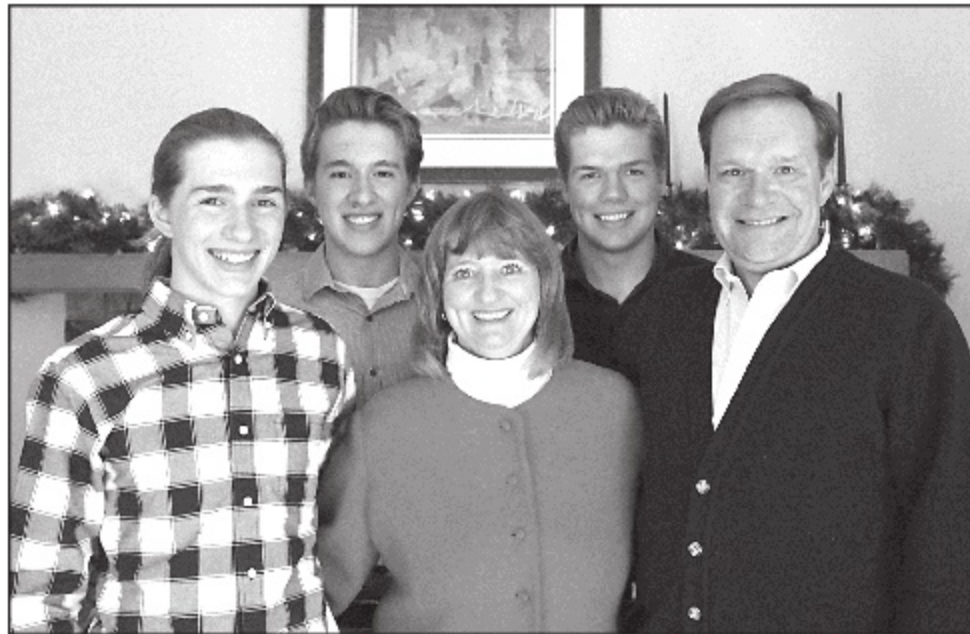
tionship with China.

"Halton Hills is by far the smallest, but it's a clear demonstration that we aren't going to let that hold us back, it's an example of how we are going beyond our boundaries."

Going forward in 2017, the town has big changes planned with a new Customer Service Strategy that begins with renaming the Civic Centre to Town Hall. There are plans to make enhancements to the building in an effort to make it more welcoming and easier for visitors to navigate.

Also going forward, there are plans to be able stream Council and Community meetings on the Town's website in an effort to be transparent to the public and accountable to the community.

"The residents of Halton Hills want optimum public service and amenities and we know this must be delivered in a timely and cost-effective manner," said Mayor Bonnette. "Our new customer service strategy will go a long way to meeting this opportunity."



Merry Christmas from Dean, Jack, Lisa, Phill, and Ted Arnott. - Submitted photo

CHRISTMAS TIME AT STAYING ALIVE

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- or
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Halton District School Board

Financial Statements Available

The Halton District School Board has posted the 2015-2016 financial statements for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2016, on the Board's website at www.hdsb.ca. (Search: *financial statements*)

The 2015-16 audited financial statements include:

- Management Report
- Independent Auditors' Report
- Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
- Consolidated Statement of Operations
- Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
- Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Debt
- Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements