

Airport serviced over 47 million passengers last year

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and are implementing new flight path tests to try to mitigate the impacts of noise on nearby communities.

"I don't recall any notice given when you shifted your flight patterns over the northern parts of Oakville," said Burton, talking about changes dating back to 2013. "You did nothing until the community fought back."

Burton went on to say that the larger the airport grows the more negative effects they need to mitigate with traffic, noise and more.

"I haven't seen you proactively engaged," he told the pair of delegates. "You, by contrast seem to be dragging your feet every step of the way."

He said that the airport authority has failed to take responsibility for the overhead noise in Oakville, Milton and Halton Hills.

"If only you had an attitude change at your board," he said.

Other councillors weighed in on the issue, like Jane Fogal, who said that she was talking to a lady who worked for Navigation Canada and says that part of the reason why planes fly low over Halton Hills is for fuel efficiency and reducing carbon footprint.

Coun. Tom Adams thanked the GTAA delegates for the improvements already made by Pearson but said, "It's unfortunate that we had to jump up and down."

He urged the GTAA to continue their efforts.

"We're trying to ensure that we're flying over the least number of people as possible," said McKee.

The A320 retrofit program is set to be tackled in two years, and Oakville regional councillor Jeff Knoll said that the timeline is simply too drawn out.

"Two years isn't fast enough," he said. "Oakville residents and Halton residents are pretty much at their breaking point."

He asked Gregg if he would, as the Halton representative, be sitting in on the Community Environment and Noise Advisory Committee meetings in order to play a more active role in addressing the problem.

"I'll stop short from giving you a full commitment at this point," said Gregg, explaining that he would need to speak with his colleagues to ensure that he is within his capacity to sit in on the meetings.

"The lack of board presence is glaring," said Knoll. "You're really damaging your public relations and your community good will."



IFP file photo

Ted Arnott is now the Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly.

Ted Arnott elected Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly

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Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott has been elected the new Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly, in a decision made by Ontario MPPs through secret ballot Wednesday morning.

The veteran MPP, who was first elected to Queen's Park in 1990, was up against three Conservative MPPs, Randy Hillier, Jane McKenna and Rick Nicholls, for the role of mitigat-

ing the affairs of the house.

Taking over the role of Speaker means Arnott will see a 30 per cent pay increase, for a total annual salary of \$152,913.

"It's a real honour to be asked to service Speaker of the house by the members of the legislature and it's a bit overwhelming, of course, off the bat, but I'm hoping to make a meaningful contribution and do the job the best I can," Arnott said.

In addition to maintaining order and decorum in the legislature, Ar-

nott's new role will include extensive administrative responsibilities as well as the responsibility of being an ambassador for visiting dignitaries.

"There's a lot to do," Arnott said. "But my commitment to my constituents comes first. It always has. And that's what I hope to be able to do and demonstrate over time."

Arnott succeeds former Liberal MPP Dave Levac, who was selected for the position in 2011. Arnott will be assuming the Speaker's chair on July 12.

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