

A MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND CARING

MANAGEMENT'S 'SERVANT LEADERSHIP' CONCEPT IS STILL ALIVE AND WELL AT GEORGETOWN HOSPITAL, WRITES TED ARNOTT



TED ARNOTT
Column

A surgical procedure is performed, and a life is saved. A mental health crisis is averted, and compassion restores a soul. A baby is born, and a family rejoices.

It's just another day at the Georgetown Hospital.

Almost 15 years ago, Ontario's provincial riding boundaries were revised. Having decided to seek re-election to the Ontario Legislature in the new riding of Wellington-Halton Hills, I began reaching out to some of the important community organizations, seeking to gain a better understanding of local needs.

One of my first stops was the Georgetown Hospital.

To say I was impressed would be an understatement. The hospital seemed to be a model of both efficiency and caring. My first

impression of the hospital's chief operating officer Cindy McDonnell was memorable too.

Over the years in subsequent meetings, Cindy and I have talked about the management concept known as "servant leadership," where the leader accepts responsibility but shares authority, puts the needs of associates first, and helps them develop and perform to their full potential, thus enabling the organization as a whole to excel.

Cindy doesn't just talk about servant leadership. She demonstrates it, every hour of every working day.

Cindy would be the first to credit others for Georgetown Hospital's exceptional standards of care. She would say we need to express our gratitude to all of the professional hospital staff and energetic volunteers, without overlooking everyone involved with the Georgetown Hospital Foundation. She'd be right about that too.

Halton Healthcare has recently embarked upon long-term planning for the redevelopment of Georgetown Hospital to accommodate new, state-of-the-art technology, evolving and improving models of care to meet the future needs of our community as it grows.

Guiding our hospital's planning process is the desire that our residents will

continue to have access to quality health care services when and where they are needed.

We are in the initial stages of the Government's multi-year, multi-step approval process.

We are fortunate Halton Healthcare has demonstrated its capability to deliver major capital infrastructure projects on time and on budget, and has earned the respect of the Ministry of Health. While we know the journey ahead is long and complex, Mayor Rick Bonnette and Town Council have always supported the Georgetown Hospital and as your MPP I want to help any way I can.

Everyone can help by taking an interest and following the process, by getting involved and volunteering if you can, and by supporting the Georgetown Hospital Foundation's many programs.

By working together, we will take hospital redevelopment in Georgetown from dream, to concept, and then completion.

Ted Arnott is the MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills.

MORE ONLINE

SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AT THEIFP.CA

A CALL TO PARLIAMENT TO SUPPORT TRUSTED SOURCES OF NEWS FOR CANADIANS

We represent Canadian media organizations committed to providing reliable, trusted, diverse sources of news and information. We are making this joint declaration because we are concerned about the future of a vibrant media ecosystem in Canada and what that means to the health of news and of democracy. We are asking Parliamentarians to help us address this threat quickly.

We have taken some action ourselves. Last summer, CBC/Radio-Canada asked the Public Policy Forum for help to co-chair a dialogue with newspaper publishers to explore what we can do together to strengthen news media for Canadians in a number of areas such as policy development. Today's declaration is one part of that effort.

The news industry in Canada is in trouble. We depend on advertising revenue to fund journalism but foreign tech giants now effectively control Canada's advertising market for news, dictating price and access for all companies. Digital players monetize news content they do not create and aggregate it across their platforms further undermining the ability of Canadian media to pay for the journalism we have created. At the same time, these players have contributed to a flood of disinformation and fake news which is undermining civil discourse. Facebook and Google now capture 75% of all Canadian digital ad revenue. Advertising revenues for traditional media continue to decline. Canadians have seen the result in media closures, cutbacks, and layoffs. Communities are losing their local media and, in the process, their access to trusted information about the stories which affect their lives most directly.

We have been evolving and adapting to the new realities of the digital world but Canadian policy and Canadian laws have been slower to respond. Current Canadian regulations were written for an analogue economy. As a result, foreign digital companies are profiting at the expense of a strong viable Canadian media industry. We can't afford to wait.

Countries around the world are tackling this problem. Australia has announced world-leading changes to their regulation of tech giants including sweeping reforms to enhance the government's enforcement powers, and Codes of Conduct between tech giants, the media industry, and consumers. France, the UK and the European Parliament are similarly taking action. Parliamentarians in Canada need to come together quickly to support a Canadian solution that creates fair rules on competition, copyright and taxation.

To read our full letter go to:

nmc-mic.ca/declaration

Signed,



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