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Dear Friends in Wellington-Halton Hills:

Together, we are confronting the COVID-19 public health emergency. It is unprecedented in most of our lifetimes, but we are up to this challenge.

We continue to stay at home as much as possible, and practice physical distancing when we must be out. While this has slowed the spread of the coronavirus, we must not let up, we are saving lives when we stay home or stay clear.

The Ontario Legislature has been called into session on three occasions since the crisis began. As your MPP, I have been there each time as part of a smaller representation of members and staff.

While the opposition MPPs urge the Government to do more, there has been unanimous support for the Government's proposals as of today, and overall agreement to move forward together.

Where there has been rancour, there is now respect; where there has been controversy, there is now collaboration.

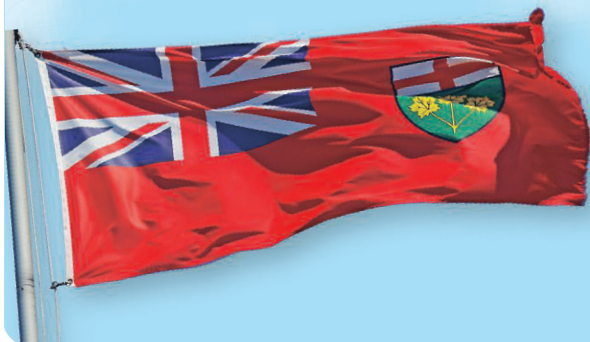
The Province has committed to a substantial increase in the health care budget, support for small businesses, and relief for families and individuals with new announcements daily.

Our municipal, provincial and federal governments are also cooperating and using their areas of expertise to ensure we get through this challenge, together.

For more information you can visit <http://ontario.ca/coronavirus>

During this time, my staff and I are working remotely but as always, we are still available by phone or e-mail to help on matters involving the Provincial Government.

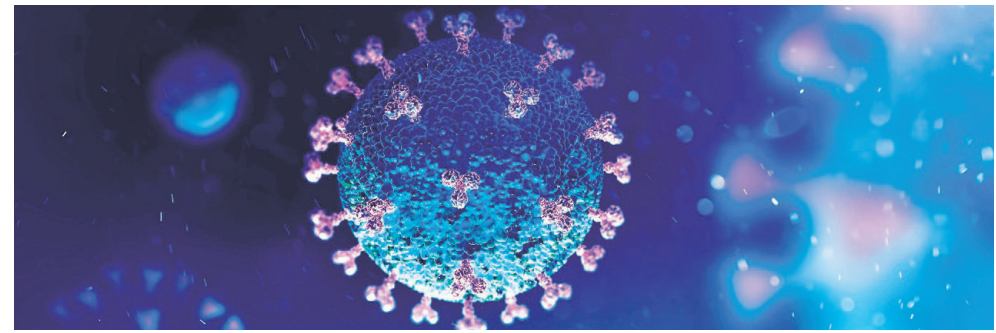
Until I see you again, keep well, stay safe, and take care.



TED ARNOTT, MPP
Wellington-Halton Hills

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NEWS



Shutterstock photo

STAY UP TO DATE ON HALTON COVID-19 CASES

With Halton's coronavirus cases rapidly increasing, please visit theIFP.ca for daily updates.

You can check out our summary at [https://](https://www.theIFP.ca/news-story/9913708-here-is-a-summary-of-coronavirus-cases-in-halton/)

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Our readers are also encouraged to go to our web-

site regularly for comprehensive coverage on how the region — and its individual municipalities — are coping during the pandemic.

legal matters | LITIGATION

ASK THE PROFESSIONAL

Q

I have a divorce order that provides me with regular access to my children. My spouse is refusing to let me see the children due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I am not infected, and I am not subject to a requirement to self-isolate or self-quarantine. Can my spouse do that?

A

These are uncertain and unprecedented times. I and my firm wish for the health and safety of our community and all the people of the world. Despite the state of emergency imposed by the Province of Ontario, existing court orders must still be adhered to and respected. A parent might feel that he or she is protecting the children by keeping them from the other parent, but the other parent still has rights as defined in a court order. Law and order must continue. There is still a legal process that must be followed, and we are not to take the law into our own hands. The courts, including family courts, have been closed until further notice. However, the courts are still hearing urgent or emergency matters. A parent denied time with children may be able to proceed to court on an urgent basis to ensure his or her rights are preserved. Of course, exchange of children is to take place in a safe manner that ensures the children cannot come in contact with the COVID-19 virus, following the recommendations of experts and our governments, e.g. proper hand washing, hand sanitizer, social distancing from others, etc. We do a lot of family/divorce law. Our offices remain open to help clients as lawyers have been deemed an essential service. I am happy to provide you with a free ½ hour consultation. Be healthy and safe one and all.

LOCKYER + HEIN LLP
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Todd C. Hein
Partner
Family/Divorce Lawyer

OFFICE LOCATIONS

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