

# TRUE CHAMPION OF HEALTH CARE

**GRAEME GOEBELLE HELPED MAKE OUR SYSTEM BETTER, WRITES TED ARNOTT**



**TED ARNOTT**  
Column

Halton Hills lost one of its strongest pillars and greatest boosters with last month's passing of Graeme Goebelle.

In his professional life as a chartered accountant, Goebelle served his clients with his vast knowledge, experience and integrity. He was successful with his accountancy practice over the decades, but like all great community builders, he felt an obligation to give back.

Goebelle had a passionate, enduring interest in our health-care system, and a deep appreciation for our health-care workers and our hospitals. He knew that to fulfil their mission, hospitals need community support; and community engagement helps to build that support.

By volunteering his time, working with others and encouraging more people to get involved, he inspired others to do the same and contributed significantly to the excellent care our community receives today.

In recent years, he was appointed to the board of the Mississauga-Halton Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). The mandate of the LHIN is to focus on the needs of patients,

break down silos in health care, reduce wasteful and overlapping spending, improve front-line care and get everyone in the system working together.

His leadership skills soon propelled him into the chair's position.

Goebelle was uniquely qualified for this role, and he embraced it with enthusiasm and dedication. He became a favourite of the minister of health at the time, Deb Matthews, who frequently told me how much she appreciated the great job he was doing.

Our entire community joins Graeme Goebelle's family in mourning his passing. But we also celebrate his life, and give thanks for his exceptional community service.

New measures to confront the threat posed by the Omicron variant of COVID-19 were announced by the Ontario government on Jan. 3. In consultation with Ontario's chief medical officer of health, these changes are intended to slow the spread of the virus, protect our health-care system from becoming more overwhelmed and ultimately, to keep people healthy and safe.

More information on the latest, updated public health advice is available at [covid-19.ontario.ca](https://covid-19.ontario.ca) or [halton.ca](https://halton.ca).

Stay safe, and take care.

*Ted Arnett is the MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills. He can be reached at [ted.arnott@pc.ola.org](mailto:ted.arnott@pc.ola.org).*

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## SNAPSHOT



Joanne Markus photo

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# BE OPTIMISTIC WHEN INVESTING

**PERSONAL INVESTING IS INFLUENCED BY HOW YOU THINK, WRITES PETER WATSON**



**PETER WATSON**  
Column

Are you pessimistic or optimistic?

If you are pessimistic about the future, you likely would not want to invest in the stock market. As we all know, the stock market has no guarantee of future results.

Some years you lose.

The pandemic provides a good lesson on investing. Two years ago, this March, the stock market, as measured by the S&P 500, was down 20 per cent.

For investors there were two options. Be pessimistic and focus on the tragedy, or be optimistic in human resilience to fight the pan-

dem and resume prosperity.

After that decline, the S&P 500 gained 56 per cent during the next year. Investors that looked ahead optimistically and continued to hold their stock portfolio were rewarded.

Over the last century, the S&P 500 has posted yearly gains about 75 per cent of the time.

If you have a long-term mindset, consider investing in a well-diversified, low-cost stock portfolio. Accept there will be periods where you will lose.

Also, accept the reality of human ingenuity to overcome obstacles. If the past 100 years can be used as a guide, the result will be continued economic prosperity.

Those who own stocks have the opportunity to share in that prosperity.

*Peter Watson is registered with Aligned Capital Partners Inc. (ACPI) to provide investment advice. Investment products are provided by ACPI. ACPI is a member of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada. The opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of ACPI. Watson provides wealth management services through Watson Investments. He can be reached at [www.watsoninvestments.com](http://www.watsoninvestments.com).*

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