

HEALTH-CARE WORKERS DESERVE OUR ADMIRATION

THEIR DEDICATION THROUGH COVID HAS BEEN AMAZING, WRITES TED ARNOTT



TED ARNOTT
Column

The everyday heroes in our midst continue to be Ontario's health-care workers.

They are truly resilience personified. Since the beginning of the pandemic more than 28 months ago, their compassion and dedication to patients have kept our health-care system functioning under unprecedented stress.

Halton Healthcare's Georgetown Hospital continues to be the hub of our local health care. Their staff and volunteers have earned the thanks of our grateful community.

Through the many years I have been privileged to represent Halton Hills in the Ontario legislature, my office staff and I have worked closely with Cindy McDonnell, who has served as the hospital's chief operating officer. We sincerely wish Cindy well as she assumes new responsibilities at Halton Healthcare, and we welcome Monica Bettazzoni as our new chief operating officer at Georgetown Hospital.

I was very pleased to meet them via Teams on

July 29 to share updates.

In recent days, Ontario hospitals have been facing enormous human resources health challenges. The difficult decision to temporarily close some emergency departments has been made, simply because there was not enough staff to keep them open and functioning.

Patients have had to be redirected to other local hospitals, which has placed additional pressure on the emergency departments that have remained open.

I have known the minister of health, the Hon. Sylvia Jones, for more than 30 years. She and her staff are working day and night to address this issue, both in the immediate and longer terms.

The Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario has presented thoughtful and practical suggestions to the government. And I know Georgetown Hospital views the emergency department's functioning as a top priority.

Georgetown Hospital's planning for redevelopment continues. We are asking the Ministry of Health for approval to move to Stage 2 of planning, the functional program stage. We are also requesting a planning grant of \$15 million for the Stage 2 planning work, recognizing that the Stage 1 planning was done with the hospital's own funds. On July 26, I reminded senior staff in the minister's office that we need to get it done.

Ted Arnott is the MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills. He can be reached at ted.arnott@pc.ola.org.

TO LEARN HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR OWN CONTENT VISIT THEIFP.CA

SNAPSHOT



Tony Fortunato photo

A red squirrel raids a bird feeder in a backyard on Trafalgar Road in Georgetown. Do you have a great local photo you'd like to share? Send it to sleblanc@metroland.com, along with a brief description.

SHOULD YOU SELL YOUR STOCKS?



PETER WATSON
Column

Recent stock market returns have been very poor.

Is it time to sell, or is this just a normal part of investing and should you remain invested?

Stock market returns have generally rewarded long-term investors who stayed invested during both good and bad times.

Investing in stock can come with some risk.

Bond returns are lower than stock returns over long periods of time. There is a relationship between risk and return.

After a stock market decline of 10 per cent, the

average cumulative return over the next one, three and five years was strong; specifically, 13, 35 and 69 per cent.

After a stock market decline of 20 per cent the returns were 22, 41 and 72 per cent. After a stock market decline of 30 per cent the returns were 24, 16 and 50 per cent. This information comes from the Fama/French Total U.S. Market Research Index from 1926 to the present. All numbers have been rounded off.

Over a long period of time, stock returns are generally higher than bonds and are usually

more volatile than bonds.

That is the reason why most investors own both stocks and bonds allocated according to their specific situation and financial objectives.

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. Only investment-related products and services are offered through Watson Securities of ACPI. Watson provides wealth management services through Watson Investments. He can be reached at www.watsoninvestments.com.

YOUROPINIONS

SIGN UP FOR OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AT THEIFP.CA

ABOUT US

This newspaper, published every Thursday, is a division of the Metroland Media Group Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Torstar Corporation. The Metroland family of newspapers is comprised of more than 70 community publications across Ontario.

This newspaper is a member of the National NewsMedia Council. Complainants are urged to bring their concerns to the attention of the newspaper and, if not satisfied, write The National NewsMedia Council, Suite 200, 890 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4W 2H2. Phone: 416-340-1981 Web: www.mediacouncil.ca



newsroom@theifp.ca
IndependentAndFreePress
@IFP_11

WHO WE ARE

Publisher and Chief Executive Officer
Neil Oliver
Vice President, Content, Community and Operations
Dana Robbins
Regional General Manager
Jason Pehora
Director of Content
Lee Ann Waterman
Deputy Director of Content
Catherine O'Hara
Managing Editor
Karen Miceli
Director of Distribution
Charlene Hall
Circulation Manager
Kim Mossman
Directors of Advertising
Cindi Campbell and Graeme MacIntosh
Director Creative Services
Katherine Porcheron

CONTACT US

The Independent & Free Press
901 Guelph Line
Burlington, ON L7R 3N8
Phone: 905-873-0301
Classifieds: 1-800-263-6480
Fax: 905-873-0398

Letters to the editor
All letters must be fewer than 320 words and include your name and telephone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit, condense or reject letters. Published letters will appear in print and/or online at theifp.ca

Delivery
For all delivery inquiries, please e-mail lpolar@mitoncanadianchampion.com or call 905-234-1019.

