

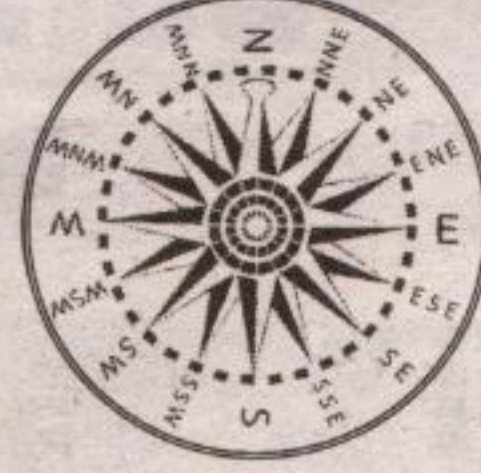
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Erin Mayor to seek Liberal nomination

Rod Finnie wants to contest Wellington-Halton federal riding

By STEPHEN BAKER

Rod Finnie, the popular Mayor of the Town of Erin, announced this week that he will be seeking the Liberal nomination for the federal riding of Wellington-Halton Hills.

Rod is concerned about the current dissatisfaction with the political process and he believes that you do not solve a problem by turning your back on it. "We will only be able to correct the situation if we have the will to elect honest and caring people as our representatives." He feels that "the political parties need to harness their engines. A lot of work is done in committees, out of the view of the press gallery, rather than on the floor of the House. We need to protect the political framework that allows people to be the best that they can."

Rod was first elected Deputy-Mayor in 1997, re-elected as Mayor in 2000 and returned by acclamation in 2003. He sits on Wellington County Council and is the chair of the Administration Finance and Personnel Committee.

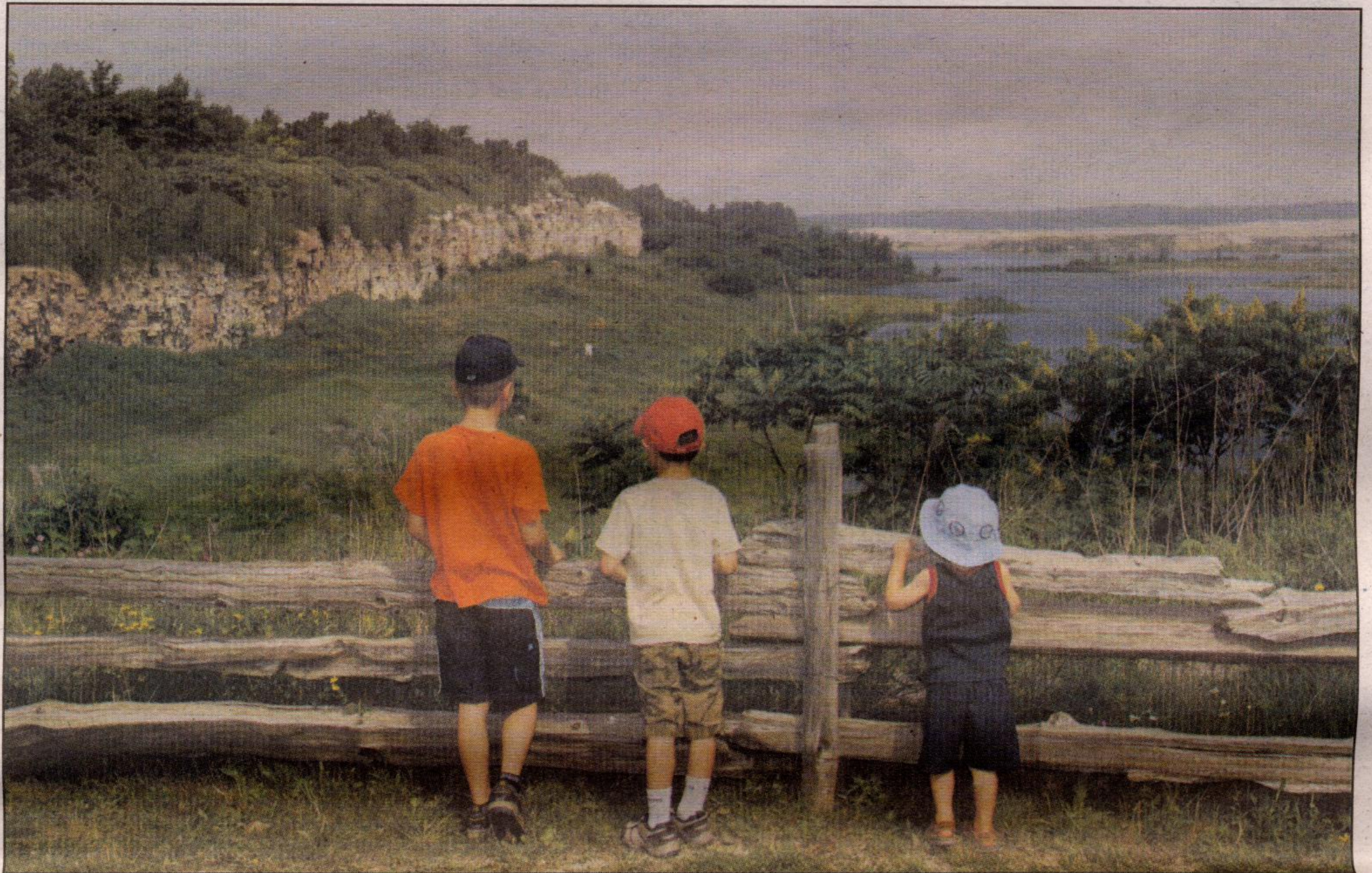
He is the principal in the firm of J. R. Finnie O.L.S., a company providing land-surveying services, which he founded in 1985, after graduating from the University of Toronto and serving his articling period with firms in Erin, Toronto and Brampton.

Rod and his wife Kersti are the parents of four children (Tom, Liam, Kyla and Alida) and now the grandparents of two (Katanga and Azania).

Rod was active in the community before entering politics. He was board member and president of East Wellington Advisory Group for Family Services and helped establish it in its first permanent home. He has also coached hockey and soccer in Erin and Hillsburgh.

Born in Stoney Creek, Ontario, Rod moved to Erin in 1959 when his father accepted the position of principal at Erin District High School. Rod attended the University of Waterloo, studying French and Political Science after graduation from high school. He moved to Toronto, and

Continued on page 3



Admiring the view

Young visitors to Dufferin Aggregate's Open Day at the Milton Quarry took time last weekend to check out the reclaimed lake and future parkland from the lookout point abutting Sixth Line Nassagaweya.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Push on to open border MPPs meet with US Consul General

Waterloo-Wellington MPP Ted Arnott joined with a number of his Caucus colleagues and leaders from the Ontario Cattlemen's Association in a meeting with US Consul General Jessica LeCroy to press the case for the reopening of the Canada-US border so that Ontario's beef farmers can again have full access to the US market.

Mr. Arnott set up the meeting, which took place at the Consulate in Toronto on June 28th.

"Consul General LeCroy was very attentive to the concerns we expressed on behalf of the farm families in our ridings," Mr. Arnott said afterwards. "We emphasized the negative impact the border closure has had on the entire rural economy, affecting more than just our beef producers."

The meeting was timely; coming days after the United States Government announced that an American cow had conclusively tested positive for BSE.

"It would seem to me that this develop-

ment puts a whole new light on the issue," said Mr. Arnott.

Other MPPs in attendance included Haldimand-Norfolk-Brant MPP Toby Barrett, Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh, Oxford MPP Ernie Hardeman, and Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Bill Murdoch. They were joined by Ontario Cattlemen's Association President Ian McKillop, OCA Executive Director Dave Stewart, and OCA Manager of Public Affairs Jamie Boles.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Ms. LeCroy committed to sending a report to the State Department in Washington D.C. to inform officials there of the discussion that had taken place.

"Since the BSE crisis began, it's always been my belief that we all need to do what we can at our level to seek a solution. This is the third time that my colleagues and I have visited the US Consulate to push for the reopening of the border, and we'll continue to do what we can to help," Mr. Arnott con-

cluded.

Ted Arnott, MPP can be reached at 1-800-265-2366 / 519 787-5247.

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