

MPP launches on-line petition calling for gas tax fairness

Wellington Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott has a way for motorists to vent their frustration over skyrocketing gasoline prices—a petition for gas tax fairness.

Arnott has launched the petition and plans to circulate it across his riding on his website.

“As our municipalities struggle to fix roads and bridges, the McGuinty Liberals continue to take our gas tax dollars and give them exclusively to cities with transit systems,” said Arnott. “That’s just not fair.”

Arnott said currently the only municipalities eligible for predictable gasoline tax transfers from the province are those operating mass transit systems. Halton Hills does not have mass transit. Federal gas tax revenues are already shared among all municipalities, both large and small, he said.

“What little money small municipalities have received from the Liberals has been totally insufficient,” said Arnott. “They need stable, secure and predictable funding, but Mr. McGuinty is ignoring them.”

He said Progressive Conservative MPPs recently supported a bill presented by Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, which would have shared revenue from Ontario’s 14.7 cents per litre gas tax among both rural and urban municipalities. The governing Liberals voted against the bill.

“This idea is worth fighting for, but we need the expressed support of the people,” said Arnott. “That’s why we’ve launched this petition.”

Arnott’s petition call on the McGuinty government to redistribute gas tax revenues fairly to all municipalities across Ontario. It will be available at the Wellington-Halton Hills provincial

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—Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott

riding office at 181 St. Andrew St. East in Fergus or online at Arnott’s website at www.tedarnottmpp.com. Arnott plans to present the petitions in Ontario’s Legislative Assembly.

Acton beach unsafe

The Prospect Park Old Beach at Fairy Lake in Acton is the only one of Halton Region’s seven beaches that is listed as unsafe for swimming.

Halton Region Health Department posted its beach results, yesterday (Thursday). Water samples were taken Tuesday and revealed that Old Beach had unacceptable levels of bacteria.

Beach quality information is available 24 hours a day by calling 1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866). During regular business hours ask for beach information, and after regular business hours press 2 for health information. This information is also posted on Halton Region’s website at www.halton.ca. This information is updated weekly or as conditions change.

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