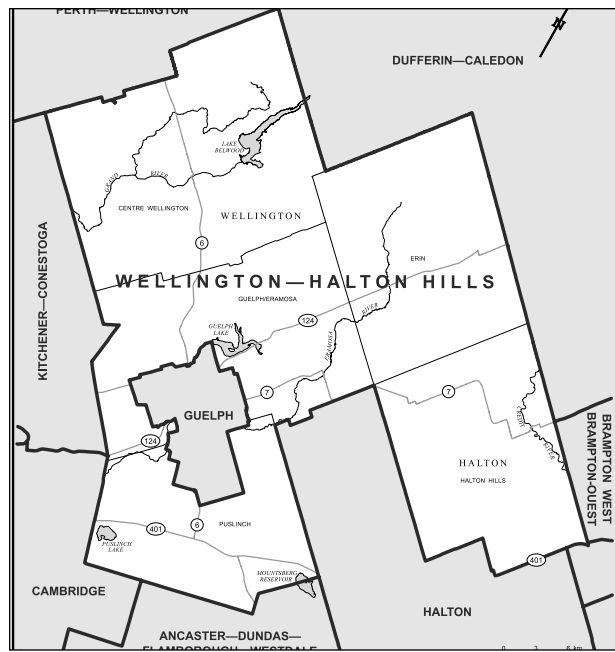


Election 2007



Five candidates have been nominated to run in the newly-created provincial riding of Wellington-Halton Hills for the Wednesday, Oct. 10 provincial election.

The *Independent & Free Press* asked each candidate to provide a short biography of themselves and to answer five questions. Candidates were limited in their response to a maximum of 120 words. Their responses appear below and on pages 9 and 10.

Advance poll dates

Residents can get a head start on marking their X on the ballot for the Oct. 10 provincial election at advanced polls.

The next advance voting day will be Thursday, October 4. Previous days were Sept. 22 and Sept. 25.



Advance voting locations for Wellington-Halton Hills riding for Halton Hills residents include:

- Returning Office, 21 Main St. N., Acton, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Extendicare Halton Hills, 9 Lindsay Crt., Georgetown, 12-8 p.m.
- Gellert Community Centre, 10241 Eighth Line, Georgetown, 12-8 p.m.

Remember to take identification with you when you go to vote.

The Returning Officer for Wellington-Halton Hills is Joe Kuglin, 21 Main St. N. in Acton. Phone: 1-888-668-8683 (fax 519-853-5140).

Hours of operation: Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5 p.m.

The candidates

Ted Arnott

Progressive Conservative



Hometown: Fergus

Age: 44

Occupation: 17 years as a Member of Provincial Parliament

Personal: married for 17 years to Lisa; they have three boys

Marg Bentley

Liberal



Hometown: Georgetown

Occupation: Teacher/department head retired

Personal: Husband Tom, two adult sons— Mark and Scott.

Noel Duignan

New Democratic Party



Hometown: Fergus

Age: 59

Occupation: Self employed

Personal: Separated with four sons— Alec, 35, Eamonn, 33, Kyle, 30, Cein 23.

Giuseppe Gori

Family Coalition Party



Hometown: Acton address, Georgetown community.

Age: 57

Occupation: Leader, Family Coalition Party and self-employed businessperson.

Personal: Married to Greer for 29 years. Four children: Mariangela 27, married with three children, Annamaria 26, Maria Christina, 24 and Francesco, 22.

Martin Lavictoire

Green Party



Hometown: Kitchener

Age: 32

Occupation: Conservation & efficiency technician, City of Guelph

Personal: Not married

Question 1: Why are you the best candidate to represent Wellington-Halton Hills?



In this provincial election, I am offering my best efforts to serve and represent everyone in Wellington-Halton Hills. I do not boast of being "the best candidate"— that is for the voters to decide.

Throughout the 17 years in which I've been privileged to serve as an MPP, I've always put my constituents first. I have listened to them, been honest with them, stood up for them and, when necessary, fought for them. I understand how government works and I know how to get things done, whether in opposition or government. I believe in the promise of the future, and that Ontario's best days are yet to come.

In one word, passion. Passion for what is right for the citizens of Wellington-Halton Hills, and all Ontario. And what is right is growing a public school system that is second to none. There's a lot more to be done. And what is right is ensuring our health care reaches everyone in need. I'm offended by wait times. I'm offended by stories of special needs kids having to do without. Surely, that is not what Ontario is all about. It's not what I am all about. I want to make a difference. And I intend to make a difference.

After four years of Dalton McGuinty, with his double-talk, his out-of-touch government and broken promises it is time for change. People are looking for someone they can trust and someone who puts their families first. Someone that they can count on to fight for them and for fairness no matter what, and someone who will make sure that their hard work is rewarded with first rate public services, a decent living and a chance to be able to get ahead.

As a resident of Halton Hills since 1982, I am familiar, and became personally involved with the issues— water, quarrying, development and possible garbage dumps that our community has faced and will face again.

I have been representing the Family Coalition Party since the 1990 election. Since then life and family issues have become more important and even critical for our society to prosper.

As a business owner I have experience with the problems small businesses face, appreciate the value of free enterprise and competition and the problems of centralization, bureaucracy and monopolies.

As the leader of a political party I can keep all issues in perspective and I have a long-term vision of where our society is directed.

I have lived in the Guelph-Wellington area for the past 14 years. I graduated from the University of Guelph and currently work for the City of Guelph. This is my home and I want to ensure that all of the things I have learned to love about it remain for generations to come. Clean water, beautiful rivers, abundant natural areas, friendly people and a real down home feeling in all of our community centres.

Nearly 70% of Ontarians place climate change and the environment as their number one priority this election. My education and career thus far have been dedicated to the environmental sector. I will put every ounce of strength I have to stand up for what we value in Wellington-Halton Hills.