

Letters to the editor

Critic not impressed with MPP's 'whining'

Dear editor,
I am responding to recent reports in several riding papers on statements made by our local MPP on the loss of jobs and tourism in Ontario.

While I am pleased to learn that Mr. Arnott is now concerned about the impact of the economic downturn for Ontario's major customer base. His statements are mostly his whining about the fact that no one is paying any attention to the Finance and Economic Affairs Committee that he created.

Well, of course not.
The proposals created by Mr. Arnott's committee were nothing more than the same old failed economic policies of his party that resulted in cuts to essential services and a \$5 billion deficit. Cutting sales tax or reducing health care will not get our major customers buying again when even at half the price they cannot spend.

Ontario's economy has only leveled off, not declined. Still, in the first seven months of this

year our economy created over 116,000 new jobs. Right now in Ontario we have more jobs, higher average wages, wealthier families and more retail spending than we've ever had.

The Five Point Plan that the McGuinty government put in place invests in our economy by: 1) Reducing capital taxes to encourage growth and cost reduction, 2) Training a higher skill level workforce, 3) Encouraging innovation for new technology leadership, 4) Investing in infrastructure to reduce transportation costs and create new jobs, and 5) Partnering with businesses for new products and new markets.

If Mr. Arnott is concerned about our tourism and job losses then why did he vote against the legislation that obviously would improve the situation?

Murray Gold, Fergus
Wellington-Halton Hills
Provincial Liberal Association

New motorcycle rider says safety course was a 'pleasure'

Dear editor,
I am writing this letter to express the absolute pleasure and satisfaction I experienced while participating in the M1exit (motorcycle) safety course at the Sheridan Oakville Campus last month.

Our class consisted of approximately 60 students of all ages. I was amazed at and appreciated the dedication Sergio and his team of instructors demonstrated. The testing was done by MTO representatives and even though we had covered all the skills we would be evaluated on, and even though I am 57 years of age and have handled many life challenges, let me say that pre-test jitters set in big time. The empathetic smiles of encouragement from our instructors helped settle me down and I was able to negotiate our course of exercises.

Our instructors then went over our written test results and we were then presented with our papers which we will submit for processing with the MTO in order to have our M2 licence mailed to us. Final words of wisdom and advice were followed by handshakes and hugs of farewell along with an invitation to return to redo the course in four years to correct any bad habits we may pick up during our riding experience.

I wish to thank my instructors— Sergio, Carrie (CC) and Stacie for their expertise, empathy, patience and their joy of teaching and riding that they generously shared with us.

The team provided us with such a great experience. Keep up the great work and, most of all, safe and happy riding to all!

Jackie Dix, Georgetown

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Public Meetings to Review the Halton District School Board's Long-Term Accommodation Plan

Parents and community members are invited to attend a public meeting to review and provide feedback on the Halton District School Board's *Long-Term Accommodation Plan*. This plan addresses the accommodation needs of students in elementary and secondary schools.

Meetings will be held in each municipality to seek public input and comments. All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Milton - Tuesday, September 23, 2008
Milton District High School (396 Williams St.)

Halton Hills - Thursday, September 25, 2008
Georgetown District High School (70 Guelph St.)

Burlington - Tuesday, September 30, 2008
M.M. Robinson High School (2425 Upper Middle Rd.)

Oakville - Thursday, October 2, 2008
Iroquois Ridge High School (1123 Glenashton Dr.)

Parents and community members are encouraged to attend the meeting scheduled in their community. The *Long Term Accommodation Plan* is posted at www.hdsb.ca for community members unable to attend one of these meetings. (Links found under the button titled "Programs & Accommodation in Schools")



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