



## NEWS RELEASE

Ted Arnott, MPP  
Wellington - Halton Hills

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### Having faith in farmers and the future

(Queen's Park) – Have faith in Ontario farmers. Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott brought that message today to the Ontario Legislature.

“In farming, as in so many industries, the future is always uncertain,” Mr. Arnott observed. “But I have faith in the future—and we should all have faith.” We have good reason, he said, adding that Ontario has the best farmers in the world.

Highlighting policies that have helped farmers achieve that success, Mr. Arnott mentioned several important ones.

“Together, we in Wellington-Halton Hills have always supported supply management, better safety net programs, sensible environmental protection, an emphasis on research and bringing new methods and technology to the farm.”

Farmers are most effective, said Mr. Arnott, when they speak with one voice. For doing that, he credited the Ontario Agriculture Sustainability Coalition (OASC) for its good work. The organization published a paper demonstrating that the farming sector supports over 164,000 jobs and \$3.4 billion in revenue to the provincial and federal governments.

“Farming is big business,” noted Mr. Arnott. “But it’s individual farmers and farm families who work hard to make it so.”

He also called on the McGuinty government to support farmers’ work, to listen to the OASC and its recommendations, and act to strengthen the farm sector for generations to come.

Mr. Arnott’s statement in the Legislature followed remarks he delivered at the 70<sup>th</sup> annual banquet of the Wellington Federation of Agriculture. Held October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Fergus Legion, the event brought together local farmers and agriculture industry leaders.

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#### **Attached: Text of Mr. Arnott’s statement in the Ontario Legislature**

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## **Text of Mr. Arnott's statement in the Ontario Legislature, November 2, 2010:**

Mr. Speaker, last Friday I attended the 70th Annual Banquet of the Wellington Federation of Agriculture.

In farming, as in so many industries, the future is always uncertain.

But I have faith in the future—and we should all have faith. We have good reason. Ontario has the best farmers in the world. And our farm families have held together with resilience and hope.

We should be proud that their labour provides nourishment for a nation, and a continent, and for markets all over the world.

Our farmers' professionalism, strengthened by that well-deserved pride, enables them to overcome adversity no matter what its origin.

Together, we in Wellington-Halton Hills have always supported supply management, better safety net programs, sensible environmental protection, an emphasis on research and bringing new methods and technology to the farm.

Working together, striving to speak with one voice, articulating a vision of the future for our farm families that allows them not only to survive, but to thrive and prosper.

Through the Ontario Agriculture Sustainability Coalition paper, we know that the farming sector supports over 164,000 jobs. We know its economic activity generates \$3.4 billion in revenue to the provincial and federal governments.

Farming is big business. But it's individual farmers and farm families who work hard to make it so. I call on this government to support their work, to listen to the OASC and its recommendations, and act to strengthen the farm sector for generations to come.