



NEWS RELEASE

Ted Arnott, MPP
Wellington - Halton Hills

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Arnott takes local priorities to all-party Finance Committee

(Queen's Park) – Even though the Legislature isn't presently in session, the all-party Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs has been busy. Over the last two weeks, the committee met to conduct pre-budget consultations.

"I decided to make this opportunity to speak up, once again on the public record, for the health care needs of Wellington-Halton Hills," said Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott. On both January 31 and February 1, Mr. Arnott used the hearings to once again advocate for Wellington-Halton Hills hospital redevelopment projects.

"Groves and Georgetown hospitals each have hospital projects that merit the Government's support," said Mr. Arnott.

Even when the entire Legislature isn't in session, Legislative Standing Committees are often meeting to conduct hearings and consider legislation and public issues.

Every year to prepare for the provincial budget, the Finance Committee hears the ideas and suggestions from interested persons and groups from across Ontario. The committee then attempts to achieve consensus on the most important priorities facing the province. It will then write and submit a report to the Minister of Finance, detailing those priorities that could be included in the upcoming budget.

"With the provincial election expected on October 6, most likely the Liberals will use this budget to try to win back lost support," observed Mr. Arnott. "It may be a very cynical exercise and most likely will prove to be futile."

Some of the presenters included the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the elementary and secondary teachers' federations and Wilfrid Laurier University, the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters and the Canadian Cancer Society.

Also appearing before the committee were the Ontario Cattlemen's Association and the Ontario Pork producers; in response, Mr. Arnott supported their call for action on a risk management program.

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Attached: photo of Ted Arnott in committee with Norm Miller, MPP

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