



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario

June 1, 2011

The Hon. Deborah Matthews, MPP
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
80 Grosvenor Street
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
Toronto ON M7A 2C4

Hand-delivered to the Minister in the Ontario Legislature

Dear Minister:

We in Wellington-Halton Hills continue to wait for our share of health care investments. The Groves Memorial Community Hospital in Centre Wellington continues to wait for the Ministry's permission to move forward to the next stage of planning for a new hospital, and the provincial planning grant that accompanies it.

For the past four years, I have done everything I can to advocate for the redevelopment of the hospital, including:

- Approaching you on numerous occasions to speak with you personally;
- Speaking with senior staff in your Ministry;
- Writing to you many times;
- Writing the Premier;
- Arranging meetings at Queen's Park;
- Speaking in the Legislature in Members' Statements;
- Asking questions in Question Period;
- Speaking about Georgetown Hospital's needs during debate on bills;
- Posing questions to you during public meetings of the Standing Committee on Estimates;
- Hosting MPP Christine Elliott, PC Health Critic, at the hospital on February 14, 2011; and
- Raising public awareness through numerous public statements.

In addition to these initiatives, I have invited you repeatedly to visit Wellington-Halton Hills and tour Groves. On February 24, 2011, I spoke in the House and again reiterated my invitation because I wanted you to tour the hospital to see firsthand the challenges we face.

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In fact, I took the extra step in October of devoting a Private Member's resolution to the hospital issues in our riding, thus initiating a debate that would otherwise have not taken place. More recently, on May 24, 2011, I asked you questions in Question Period, calling for you to approve the new facility for Groves.


As we approach the fall election, I believe your Government will be making funding announcements within the next few weeks. As you do so, I again urge you to recognize this very important priority. You may also be aware that PC Leader Tim Hudak, on page 17 of *changebook*, our party's election platform, has committed to increase investments in our health care system every year, for the next four years. In the final year of those four years, the Government of Ontario would be investing \$6.1 billion more for health care compared to this year.

In 2007, just before the last provincial election campaign, your Government awarded Groves a \$500,000 planning grant. Scott Lovell, at the time the senior staff person to Minister of Health, phoned me to say that the Government awarded this grant because of my advocacy.

Our community has expressed overwhelming support for Groves. The Board of Directors, the Groves Hospital Volunteer Association, and generous contributors have likewise contributed their share. As the MPP for Wellington-Halton Hills, I have done everything I can do on this file. Now we are calling for you to step up to the plate.

We look forward to your announcement.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Arnott". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Ted Arnott, MPP
Wellington-Halton Hills

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