

# MPP Ted Arnott says he will not interfere with LPAT's decision on Hidden Quarry

a day ago By: [Keegan Kozolanka](#)



*MPP Ted Arnott. Supplied photo*

GUELPH/ERAMOSA - Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott has commented on the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal's (LPAT) ruling in favour of the Hidden Quarry that will open in his riding.

Arnott's email statement comes after Green Party MPP Mike Schreiner's release yesterday criticizing the proposed quarry on Highway 7 just east of Rockwood.

"It is my understanding that Mike Schreiner has commented on the LPAT decision regarding the proposed quarry," Arnott said in an email. "While I realize many people will be disappointed with the LPAT's decision, as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly I cannot make public statements expressing an opinion on issues that are being debated or are likely to be debated in the house."

Local residents and municipalities had raised issues with the site and battled against the opening for years. Concerns with the site included possible groundwater contamination, the effect on local wildlife and debris from blasting. Arnott said his office directed his constituents' concerns and emails to the proper ministry.

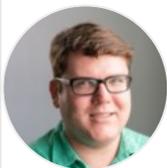
"Over the years that this proposed quarry has been under consideration, we have sought to ensure that the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry was aware of the concerns we were hearing," Arnott said. "We forwarded countless emails to the minister to bring our constituents' concerns on this proposal to his attention."

The application made by James Dick Construction Ltd. to open the 61.5-acre gravel pit was approved on Tuesday after an eight-week tribunal last year. In the email, Arnott stressed the need for balancing the issues raised with the province's need for material resources.

"I have always maintained that Ontario must have provincial aggregate policies that are balanced," Arnott said in an email. "We need stone, sand and gravel, but we also need to ensure there is a fair hearing of public and environmental concerns."

First elected in 1990, Arnott is one of the longest serving MPPs at Queen's Park. He said he has not and would not get in the way of the LPAT's decision making process.

"I would add that it is totally inappropriate for a Member of Provincial Parliament to interfere in the deliberations of the LPAT," he said. "I have never once interfered in a matter under consideration by the LPAT or its predecessor, the Ontario Municipal Board, because it would be wrong to do so. A few months ago my office received a written opinion from the Integrity Commissioner confirming that it is inappropriate for MPPs to interfere in the LPAT process."



### ***About the Author: Keegan Kozolanka***

Keegan Kozolanka covers civic matters under the Local Journalism initiative, which is funded by the Government of Canada  
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[Solomon Grundy](#) a day ago

Schreiner likes to ignore facts and trumpet ideology. He knows not of what he speaks, and I suspect is just pandering.



[D'Arcy](#) about 19 hours ago

And the Conservatives??? Talking about blind ideology - hard to top!



[SolomonGrundy](#) about 5 hours ago

Who was talking about THEM? Talk about non sequitur. What is your malfunction? Try again, don't try again. I don't care. Get yourself together, fool.



[Horse Outside](#) a day ago

Greasy.



[Newkidintown](#) a day ago

Voters can remember this next election.



[Mohammad Smith](#) about 23 hours ago

Who's Ted Arnott? I've never heard of this person in my life.



[peter b guelph](#) about 20 hours ago

He is a member of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario and represents the Riding of Wellington-Halton Hills in the Ontario Legislature.



[peter b guelph](#) about 20 hours ago

The riding was created in 2003 from parts of Dufferin—Peel—Wellington—Grey, Guelph—Wellington, Halton and Waterloo—Wellington ridings. It consists of the Town of Halton Hills in the Regional Municipality of Halton and the townships of Centre Wellington, Guelph/Eramosa and Puslinch and the Town of Erin in Wellington County.



[SusanR](#) about 21 hours ago

What would be right for Arnott and the rest of the Conservative party, especially Doug Ford - would be to do away with the LPAT/OMB tribunals. Ford just appointed a developer spokesperson to the OMB and dismissed the environmental spokespeople. He is guaranteeing that their decisions will always be

biased. He has also held secret meetings with the gravel pit owners, allowing no one else to attend. The whole decision was rigged against the citizen group who worked so hard to protect our farmland and our water. Shame on Doug Ford.



[Ruby Leon](#) about 17 hours ago

Do away with the LPAT/OMB tribunals. Absolutely! One an only imagine how corrupt these are.



[peter b guelph](#) about 20 hours ago

Well, Arnott is the MPP for the area being discussed, not Mike Schreiner. Mike is MPP (Green Party) for the city while Arnott (PC) is MPP for the rural areas.

On the other hand, any MPP has the right to express concern about issues in Ontario, especially when they are close to his riding.



[D'Arcy](#) about 19 hours ago

Well, being Speaker aside, MPP Arnott is a Conservative - and Doug Ford's government has just finished sacking the LPAT with Development cronies - so best for Mr.Arnott to use his convenient excuse to avoid representing his constituents - and pay back all those developers for paying for the Conservative election win.