

Letter from the Mayor

It has been a privilege to serve the people of Halton Hills as Mayor. I know the challenges that go with being Mayor. You're a troubleshooter, a champion of causes and an ambassador. You're a financial administrator and an advocate. You have to be a team leader and work with your council. To do this takes sound judgment and creativity. My years of experience on council and now two terms as Mayor don't hurt a bit.

Halton Hills is a great place to live. What makes it so great are the people who make it a great place to live. But good Municipal leadership is essential and that is why I am seeking re-election.

We must ensure that we have a quality of life that is second to none.

Quality of Life – This is the Hallmark of Halton Hills. Our name says it all. Besides the rolling hills, the picturesque countryside, to a large extent, makes Halton Hills what it is. Quality of Life is more than just open space and recreation facilities. Quality of Life also means ensuring businesses that create jobs are attracted to Town. Respecting and protecting the natural environment. Attracting and retaining Family Physicians. Ensuring that our Youth have opportunities for education and employment.

In order to be able to provide many of the components that go into ensuring Quality of Life, there needs to be a strong economy to generate the revenues that are needed. Thus, a strong business community is a major component of my vision for Halton Hills. I feel very strongly that the Town of Halton Hills must emphasize industrial/commercial development in order to bring new business to our town and to retain and strengthen the ones we have.

We need a balanced approach. We have done this by realizing that all parts of Halton Hills are equal partners in our Town. Whether you live in Georgetown, Acton, the Glen or the rural areas, you are all part of Halton Hills. I think I have listened to all four corners of the constituents of Halton Hills and tried to be balanced in all areas.

In order to be able to fund many of the needs of our community, increased industrial and commercial assessment is required. The long anticipated 401/407 corridor will go a long way to improving our assessment base. I have been a part of this and want to continue working to see it through.

I believe this campaign is about Leadership. Here are samples of Leadership that I brought to the council chamber.

- Fought to keep obstetrics open at Georgetown Hospital and thereby saved the hospital from being shut down by the Province of Ontario.
- Fought to save McKenzie-Smith Bennett school lands from being sold to developer interests.
- Fought for a successful solution to Georgetown School busing cancellations.
- Fought for the restructuring of Halton Hills Hydro so as to keep it as a local facility under local control.

- Fought for Halton Hills Farmers on local agricultural policies.
- Fought, on behalf of companies across Canada, the threat of being shut out of work by the U.S. government's "Buy American" plan.
- Fought to keep our Hospital viable. Led many community rallies to save our Hospital.
- Put together a work plan to assist the Curwood Packaging union to assist many who have lost their jobs because of the plant closure.
- Participated in many discussions to advance the 401 corridor industrial development by 6 years.

Again, I couldn't have been successful if I hadn't had a supportive council and a strong community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Bonetto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.