

A Message from your MPP



Wayne Arthurs, MPP

Pickering-Scarborough East



A message from Wayne Arthurs...

Dear Friends

I am very pleased to provide you with this newsletter as an update on some key issues in our community and at Queen's Park. This newsletter provides you with information on issues that are of significance to you as constituents and citizens in this great Province of Ontario.

Representing the new riding of Pickering-Scarborough East at Queen's Park has been a very enjoyable and fulfilling time for me. I have had the distinct pleasure of meeting many of you and speaking about many of our local issues in the provincial legislature.

I am looking forward to the year ahead, and will continue to represent our riding in 2009 with the same pride and dedication with which I have served my constituents over the past years.

— Wayne Arthurs, MPP

Bringing Jobs To Durham

THANKS TO A \$4.9-million investment from the Province of Ontario's Biopharmaceutical Investment Program, Purdue Pharma Canada will create 53 high-skilled jobs and expand its Pickering facility beginning in January 2009.

As Pickering's fourth-largest private-sector employer, Purdue currently has 200 employees in Ontario. Upon completion of the \$32-million expansion in 2011, Purdue's research and development capacity in Ontario will be doubled.

The construction phase will create more than 100 jobs for skilled tradespeople. College graduates will be hired for many of the new advanced manufacturing positions. Other positions, particularly those in research and development, will require staff with advanced university degrees.

"This is an excellent example of how government programs can help companies grow

eration of Jobs Fund, a five-year \$1.15-billion strategy designed to stimulate economic growth and prosperity in Ontario, while helping create the next generation of jobs and improve environmental sustainability. The Biopharmaceutical Investment Program aims to increase the level of biopharmaceutical research and development as well as advanced manufacturing in Ontario. The program also helps to create high quality jobs for skilled graduates in Ontario.

Purdue is one of the many companies in Durham Region that are committed to developing innovative products, improving production efficiency and hiring locally. "We are pleased to see the government reward companies that are doing the right things by giving them a financial boost," said Olive. "The Economic Development and Tourism Department of Durham Region will



Wayne Arthurs and Joe Dickson, MPP, Ajax-Pickering with Premier Dalton McGuinty at Purdue Pharma Canada facility.

significantly," said Patrick Olive, Commissioner of Economic Development and Tourism for Durham Region. "Companies in Durham Region are important to and contribute greatly to the well-being of our local economy. As Purdue's success shows, support programs offered by the government are accessible and can really make a difference."

The Biopharmaceutical Investment Program is part of the provincial government's Next Gen-

continue to work with provincial partners to ensure funding is getting into the hands of Durham's industries."

Ontario is home to one of the world's leading pharmaceutical industries. The sector employs more than 20,000 Ontarians in high value jobs, including researchers and scientists. Purdue is the Biopharmaceutical Investment Program's second funding recipient.

Summer Company Program For Students

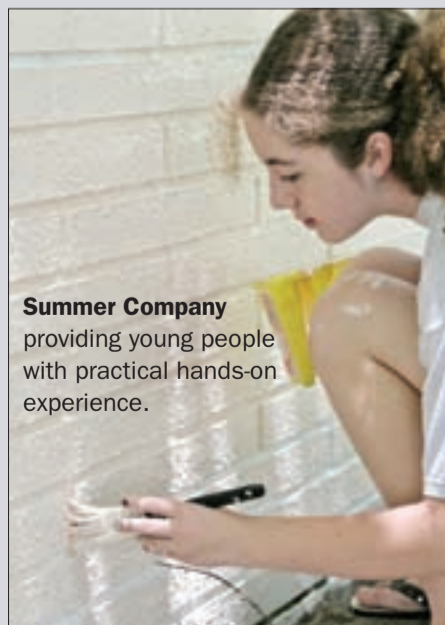
ONTARIO STUDENTS, who hope to find a summer job they love, will have a chance to be their own boss this summer thanks to the Summer Company program.

Summer Company is a unique program which assists young entrepreneurs with starting and running their own eight to 12-week business over the summer. The program provides practical hands-on business training, mentoring and the essential business skills they need to thrive. The government expects to accept between 300-400 students into the program in 2009.

Key elements of the Summer Company program are:

- Students between the ages of 15 and 29 are qualified to apply
- Students can receive up to \$1,500 at the start, and up to an additional \$1,500 on successful completion of the program
- Application deadline is May 4, 2009 (or earlier if the program is oversubscribed).

Go to the Summer Company website for more detailed information: www.sbe.gov.on.ca/ontcan/sbe/en/youth_summerco_en.jsp



Summer Company providing young people with practical hands-on experience.

Community Appreciation BBQ

Join us on Saturday, May 23!

My constituency staff and I will be hosting our 4th annual Community Appreciation BBQ. The event will be held at Adams Park in Area "D". The park is located at Port Union and Lawson Road, Scarborough (south of Highway 401) from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

All constituents are encouraged to join us at this event and enjoy a wonderful afternoon getting to know one another.

Hope to see you there!

MAKING IT EASIER TO FIND HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Ontarians can now find health care close to home with the click of a mouse.

For the first time, information about local health services is available in a single place: www.ontario.ca/healthcareoptions. Using this site, people can find the nearest walk-in and after-hours clinics, urgent care centres, family health teams, general practitioners and emergency rooms by typing in their postal codes.

The new service is being updated regularly, and will soon be expanded to offer information on all front-line health services in Ontario including Community Care Access Centres, laboratories and long-term care homes.

The government is also introducing Health Care Connect, a new innovative program to help people, without a family health care provider, find one in their community. Ontarians can call 1-800-445-1822 to register with the Health Care Connect patient database, and those who need care most will be helped first. When registering for the program, callers will be asked a number of questions about their health needs. The information will then be reviewed by a nurse from a local Community Care Access Centre, known as a Care Connector.

Connecting Ontarians to better health care is part of the Provincial government's commitment to strengthening our province by increasing access to family care and reducing emergency room wait times.



going green TO GET AHEAD

To combat the sluggishness of the world economy, governments around the world are looking for an edge – a leg up on the competition. The fact is, new global economy is going to favour the places that are fast, innovative, exciting – and green.

Our government has already begun laying the groundwork, with initiatives such as our plan to eliminate coal-fired power by 2014, the single largest climate change initiative being undertaken in Canada.

Now we're moving further, with the Green Energy Act. There are tremendous opportunities to be had in a green economy. That's why we've introduced this sweeping new legislation, to attract new investment, create new green economy jobs and better protect the climate.

The Green Energy Act, if passed, would help the government ensure Ontario's green economic future by: building a stronger, greener economy with new investment, creating well-paying green jobs and more economic growth for Ontario – a projected 50,000 jobs in the first three years; better protecting our environment, combating climate change and creating a healthier future for generations to come.

Our commitment to explore renewable energy is nothing new. Ontario has already brought almost 1,000 megawatts of new renewable energy on-line since 2003. In 2008, 25 per cent of Ontario's electricity came from renewable sources. One of North America's largest solar farms is currently under construction near Sarnia. In fact, Ontario is Canada's leader in wind power. We've gone from 10 turbines in 2003 to 589 spinning today. By 2012, we expect to have 975 turbines. Canada's two largest wind farms are located in Ontario, and in 2009, more than 1,200 megawatts will be online. That's enough to power almost 325,000 homes.

We've invested approximately \$3.5 billion in renewable energy since 2003, which has created about 2,700 direct and indirect jobs.

Our government is moving to make our province not only greener, but stronger, and in a much better position to compete and win against the rest of the world. The Green Energy Act is simply the next step in the right direction, for the good of Ontario and our economy.

For more information on what your government is doing build a renewable energy supply, encourage energy conservation and create green jobs, contact my Constituency Office at 905-509-0336, or visit www.mei.gov.on.ca.



Training and Apprenticeship Funding

Expanding Ontario's Apprenticeship System

ONTARIO IS BUILDING the skilled workforce the economy needs by investing in apprenticeship programs.

As part of its \$2 billion Skills to Jobs Action Plan, the government is investing in:

- growing the number of apprenticeship registrations
- expanding classroom and pre-apprenticeship training
- helping more apprentices complete their programs, and
- supporting employers to ensure job placements

New funding will support apprenticeship programs like Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship, Pre-apprenticeship training and the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program. Ontario also provides financial support to colleges to assist apprentices with disabilities.

Other government investments in the apprenticeship system include:

- The Apprenticeship Training Tax Credit – a tax incentive for businesses hiring apprentices;
- Scholarships and employer signing bonuses to help out-of-school young people get into an apprenticeship;
- A \$25 million Skills Training Infrastructure Program that helps training centres modernize and buy new equipment
- A \$970 million, three-year investment in colleges, universities and training centres to build and improve classrooms and skills-training facilities.

More than 110,000 apprentices are learning a trade in Ontario today – an increase of nearly 50,000 over 2003.

Annual apprenticeship

registrations have grown from 17,100 in 2002 to more than 26,000 in 2007.

The Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program

Pre-apprenticeship training helps people develop trade-specific knowledge, job skills and employment experience to start an apprenticeship. In 2009, more than 900 students will be able to participate in 46 pre-apprenticeship programs across the province.

Ontario is investing just over \$9.5 million in 2009 to increase opportunities for pre-apprenticeship training and respond to local training needs.

Pre-apprenticeship programs last up to 40 weeks and include both in-school and on-the-job training. Industry placements offer each participant valuable work experience. Many programs offer participants an opportunity to upgrade academic skills as well. Participation in pre-apprenticeship programs is free.

More information on Ontario's Pre-apprenticeship Training Program can be found at www.ontario.ca/employment, or by calling the Employment Ontario Hotline at 1-800-387-5656 for details about individual projects.

APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION

Additional funding for pre-apprenticeship training is part of the government's Apprenticeship Expansion plan announced in the 2008 Budget. Investments in apprenticeship also support other programs like the Co-op Diploma Apprenticeship and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Programs, and provide support for apprentices with disabilities.



Youth Employment

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT

offers several programs aimed at encouraging entrepreneurial thinking in our youth. One of them is Summer Company, a unique program that helps students (aged 15 to 29) start and run their own business over the summer. Students can receive up to \$1,500 at the start of the program, and up to an additional \$1,500 on successful completion. The program gives them the hands-on business training, mentoring and the essential business skills they need.

About 2,000 students have participated in Summer Company since it started in 2001. Across the province, their businesses run the gamut from home painting and lawn services to goaltending schools and custom costume design. In addition to having a rewarding experience themselves, all are successful in promoting and building the culture of entrepreneurship. A 2008 study showed that 99 percent of Summer Company participants would recommend the program to a friend.

More importantly, the study showed that 22 per cent of Summer Company participants were still running the business they launched as a student. One example is Joseph Moncada, who started his Sweet Tooth Candy Emporium in Wasaga Beach in 2006, and has since added two mall locations in the Toronto area.

In fact, almost 30 per cent of Summer Company participants are now self-employed, either part-time or full-time. So along with creating summer jobs that help students reach their goals, Summer Company is building a strong culture of entrepreneurship among the young people of Ontario.

Programs like this help create our future entrepreneurs, the people who will give us the Black-

Berrys of tomorrow and all the benefits that flow from innovation and entrepreneurship. They also teach valuable business skills to those who will move on to become key employees in Ontario businesses, our civil service, and our public institutions.

Summer Company 2009 has space for 300-400 students across Ontario. If you know a candidate for Summer Company (or are one yourself) I urge you to investigate this popular and productive program. Apply early at www.ontario.ca/summercompany as the program may fill before the deadline of May 4, 2009.

Key elements of the Summer Company program are:

- Students between the ages of 15 and 29 are qualified to apply
- Students can receive up to \$1,500 at the start, and up to an additional \$1,500 on successful completion of the program
- Application deadline is May 4, 2009 (or earlier if the program is oversubscribed).

OTHER YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS IN ONTARIO

- There are a number of youth entrepreneurship programs for young entrepreneurs in Ontario, including: Summer Company, Future Entrepreneurs, the Ontario Secondary School Business Plan Competition, Ontario Global Edge and Youth Entrepreneurship Partnerships
- Summer Company is part of the government's Youth Opportunities Ontario. For information on other youth programs, visit Youth Opportunities Ontario.

Visit the youth opportunities in Ontario website. www.youthjobs.gov.on.ca/eng



Parents Reaching Out Grants

ONTARIO IS HELPING

parents play a more active role in their children's education. For the third consecutive school year, the province is supporting more than 1,300 projects totalling \$2,000,000 to help make it easier for parents to get more involved in their children's education.

Locally 12 grants totalling \$10,185.06 are supporting activities at local schools including: St. Monica Catholic School, St. Mary Catholic Secondary School, William Dunbar Public School, Gandatsetiagon Public School, Fairport Beach Public School, Frenchman's Bay Public School, Vaughan Willard Public School, Highbush Public School, Bayview Heights Public School, Cardinal Leger Catholic School, Rouge Valley Public School and Highland Creek Public School.

The grants are for projects that help parents who face challenges in getting involved in their child's education. This could include parents who have recently settled in Canada, whose first language is neither English nor French, or who face socio-economic or physical challenges.

School councils across the province submitted project proposals on their own or in partnership with other school councils, or parent or community groups. Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grants support projects that help students succeed, through:

- Workshops that show parents how they can be more involved in both their children's education and school
- Outreach run by the local school to increase awareness of the importance of parent engagement
- Translation of materials into the languages of the local community to make information more accessible to parents

We recognize the vital role that parents play in the education of their children. That's why our Ontario Parent Involvement policy provides real support aimed at making it easier for parents to get involved. Parents play a vital role in the development and education of their children and in the success of Ontario's schools. Research shows that parents who are involved in their kids' education make a real difference to how students feel about school and how much they achieve. Parent involvement includes all types of involvement from reading to your child and volunteering for a field trip to serving on a school board council or provincial parent organization.

LEARN MORE:

Visit the ministry's website: www.edu.gov.on.ca and the section for parents.

Read the government's vision for education.



2008 Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards

The final recipients of the 2008 Ontario Junior citizen of the Year Awards are given to young people who are making a difference to both their hometowns and communities around the globe. They are an inspiring and determined group who not only see a need, but rise to the challenge and contribute their time and energy to making improvements. Their

leadership skills are evident. The Awards Ceremony was officiated by the Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, at Queen's Park on March 3, 2009. The final recipients and their immediate families were invited to this special presentation in Toronto. This year there were 117 nominees from across Ontario, who were recognized

with certificates of recognition by their local community newspapers. I am pleased to announce that Caroline D'souza, 12, of Scarborough was presented with this special award. Between homework, Air Cadets, sports, music lessons, writing and church activities, Caroline still has time to contribute to her community. Since Grade

3 she has been volunteering during recess to help students with special needs. She spends her weekends helping both at her church and local seniors' home. Caroline has also sold short stories she had written to raise money for We Care 4 Children, a fund she started to benefit children in India. Congratulations Caroline!



Wayne congratulates Caroline D'souza and her family at Queen's Park award presentation.

Legislative Page Program: Quick Facts

What's it about? The Legislative Page Program is a chance for students to learn first hand about how government works and how a bill becomes a law.



Wayne Arthurs and Legislative Page, Patrick Mott, at lunch in the Legislative dining room.

What does a Legislative Page do?

For 3-6 weeks, Pages:

- Deliver documents to MPPs' offices and Assembly offices
- Prepare MPPs' desks in the Chamber
- Work in the Chamber during House sittings
- Receive lessons and tutoring

Who can apply?

The Program is open to Ontario students who:

- Are in Grade 7 or 8
- Have very good grades — 80% or higher
- Are involved in their school or in their community
- Have an interest in current events
- Get along well with other students and adults

How do you apply?

Step 1: Get an application form.

- By phone: 416-325-7457
- By mail: Rm. 191, Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A2
- By e-mail: page_program@ontla.ola.org

Step 2: Submit your application form by mail to the address above (faxed copies are not accepted). All applications must be received by June 15 for the Fall Session, and December 15 for the Spring Session.

Ontario Targets Shorter ER Times

In a one-of-a-kind North American initiative, Ontario is setting clear targets for reducing the total amount of time patients spend in emergency rooms - and is publicly posting data about local ERs online.

The province is setting two targets:

- For patients with minor or uncomplicated conditions, the target is 4 hours.
- For patients with complex conditions, the target is 8 hours.



Ontario has a three-pronged strategy for reaching these targets:

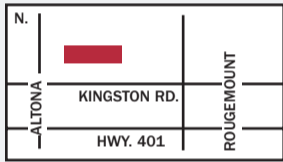
- Providing Ontarians with appropriate alternatives to ER care: providing more options where people can seek care such as local family health teams and nurse practitioner clinics and making it easier for people to access information about walk-in clinics, after-hours clinics, and urgent care centres through the new web site www.ontario.ca/healthcareoptions
- Increasing capacity and improving processes within the ER: programs such as the Hospital Performance Fund give hospitals with high emergency room volumes financial incentives to lower their times
- Speeding the flow of patients from the ER: ensuring that acute care beds are available for those who need them - this requires faster discharge of patients occupying hospital beds that are better suited to alternative levels of care such as long-term care or home care.

Ontarians can visit www.ontariowaittimes.com to access information about their local ER - data is current as of October 2008.

My Constituency Office Staff are here to help:

We are here to assist you in accessing the programs and services offered by the Ontario government. Please feel free to contact us if you need assistance with any of the following:

- Birth, death and marriage certificates
- The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP), which provides loans to post-secondary students to help with education assistance
- The Family Responsibility Office (FRO), which oversees court directed support payments for families and children
- The Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), which handles workplace related injuries and claims
- The Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), which provides assistance to disabled individuals
- Health cards and OHIP matters
- The Trillium Health Program which assists people who have high drug costs in relation to their income
- Celebratory Scrolls for milestone birthdays and anniversary celebrations and other very special occasions



NEW LOCATION Tel: 905-509-0336

300 Kingston Rd. Unit 13 (North East Corner of Altona Rd.)

www.arthurs.ca E: wayne@arthurs.ca

CALENDAR

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Easter Egg Hunt Police Picnic

Saturday, April 11, 2009
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
LOCATION: West Rouge Community Centre,
270 Rouge Hills Drive
SPONSORED BY: West Rouge Sports and Recreation

Easter Parade

Saturday, April 11, 2009
10:00 a.m.
Location: East on Annland St. at Liverpool Rd.
east on Krosno Blvd.
Sponsored by: The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 606

Earth Day Community Clean Up

Saturday, April 25, 2009
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
LOCATION: Port Union Community Centre, West Rouge
Community Centre

Take Pride in Pickering Day

Saturday, April 25, 2009
Location: Alex Robertson Park
Contact: Michelle Pongracz, TRCA – 416-661-6600, ext. 5676

Port Union Seniors

Flea Market and Plant Sale

Saturday, May 23, 2009
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
LOCATION: Port Union Community Centre, 5450 Lawrence Ave. E.
SPONSORED BY: Port Union Seniors

2nd Annual Rotary Ribfest

Friday, June 5, Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7
Location: Esplanade Park, Pickering City Hall
Sponsored by: The Durham West Rotary Club (Pickering & Ajax)
Contact: Jody Morris – 905-420-4660, ext. 2064

Port Union Waterfront Festival

Saturday, June 13, 2009
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
LOCATION: Bottom of Port Union Rd. South of Lawrence
SPONSORED BY: Port Union Waterfront Committee and
Councillor Ron Moeser

Highland Creek Heritage Day

Saturday, June 20, 2009
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM
LOCATION: Parade starting at 11:00 AM at Centennial Rd.
and Lawson Rd.
Activities to follow in Highland Creek Village
SPONSORED BY: Highland Creek Community Association

Canada Day

Wednesday, July 1, 2009
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
LOCATION: Parade starts at 11:00 AM
Activities to follow at Royal Canadian Legion, 45 Lawson Rd.
SPONSORED BY: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258

Canada Day Celebrations

Wednesday, July 1
12:00 noon – 11:00 p.m.
Location: Kinsmen Park
Sponsored by: City of Pickering
Contact: Tina Tays – 905-420-4660, ext. 2098

2009 Smart Consumer Guide



I AM VERY pleased to tell you about a valuable calendar produced by our Ministry of Small Business and Consumer Services to help consumers navigate the marketplace in Ontario. This product is the 2009 Smart Consumer Calendar.

Buying goods and services is something we all do. When we buy a good or service, we want to know that we have gotten good value for our money. Quite often, this isn't the case.

Many of us may have heard about friends or colleagues who may have had a stressful experience with a home renovator – or have bought a new car and have had nothing but problems with it. That's why it's so important for all of us to educate ourselves about the consumer product or service we want to buy. To make sure we know what to look for – the important details and potential pitfalls.

So, I'm pleased to let you know about the 2009 Smart Consumer Calendar - available to Ontarians free of charge. This calendar has a lot of very helpful and interesting tips, including:

- What you need to know about home repairs and renovations
- Your rights when dealing with an

- electricity or natural gas supplier
- How to protect yourself when buying a used car
- Steering clear of auto insurance scams
- What you need to know when buying or selling a home
- How to protect yourself from telemarketing and debit card fraud – and much more

We recognize that navigating the marketplace is challenging for all Ontarians. But it is especially so for newcomers to Ontario – who often find themselves vulnerable targets of scam artists.

I encourage you to read through the calendar.

Here's how to get a copy.

- Visit Service Ontario's website at www.ServiceOntario.ca/publications
- Call 416-326-5300 in the Greater Toronto area
- Pick up a copy at my Constituency office at #13 - 300 Kingston Road.

Ontario's Cosmetic Pesticides Ban



Ontario's cosmetic pesticides ban takes effect April 22, 2009 – Earth Day.

The ban protects Ontario families and children from the unnecessary risks of cosmetic pesticides by only allowing the use of certain lower-risk pesticides for controlling weeds and pests in lawns and gardens.

The ban prohibits the sale and use of pesticides for cosmetic purposes on lawns, gardens, parks and school yards, and includes many herbicides, fungicides and insecticides. Over 250 products will be banned for sale and more than 95 pesticide ingredients will be banned for cosmetic uses.

There are exceptions for public health or safety reasons such as fighting West Nile Virus, killing stinging insects like wasps, or controlling poison ivy and other plants poisonous to the touch. Other exceptions include agriculture and forestry.

The ban takes the place of existing municipal pesticide bylaws, establishing one clear set of easy-to-understand rules, and providing certainty for businesses operating in different areas of the province.

Get some tips on caring for lawns and gardens without the use of harsh chemicals at the Ministry of the Environment's web site at:

www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/land/pesticides/index.php