



# ERNIE HARDEMAN

## MPP Oxford

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## From Ernie's Desk

### May 2024

Hello,

With April showers behind us, we look forward to May's flowers. As the weather continues to warm up this month, the robins are out, children are playing, and the farmers are working in the fields. **I would like to remind you to please be mindful of slow moving tractors, farm equipment, and children playing on the roads.**

This month, our government introduced the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act*. This most recent red tape reduction package builds over 500 actions our government has taken so far to reduce the bureaucratic burden for Ontarians. More information can be found below.

I wish you a very Happy Mother's Day and an enjoyable Victoria Day long weekend. I plan to attend the annual Victoria Day Parade in Woodstock and the Calithumpian events in Thamesford, so keep an eye out!

Warm regards,

Ernie Hardeaman, MPP Oxford

### How Can My Office Help You?

- Birth Certificates
- Commissioner of Oaths
- Congratulatory Certificates
- Driver's Licences
- Family Responsibility Office
- OHIP
- Ontario Works / ODSP / WSIB
- Or Any Other Provincial Matter

## Trending Questions

### Q: What is the difference between bills and motions? How do motions pass in the Legislature?

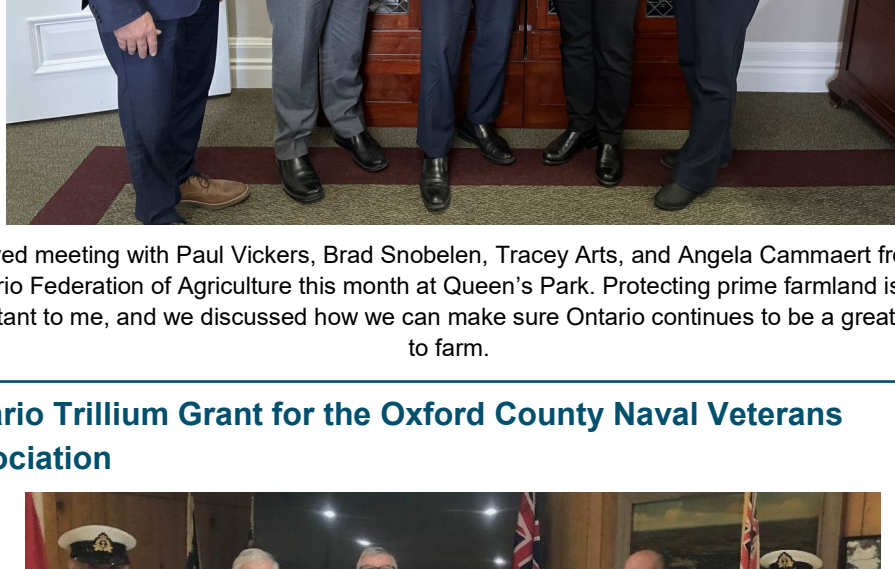
**A:** A bill is a proposal that either creates a new law, or changes or repeals an existing law. An example of a recent bill that was introduced is a bill to make September 28 in each year Test Your Smoke Alarm Day. On the other hand, a motion is a proposal for the Legislature to do something, order something to be done, or express an opinion. An example of a recent motion in the Legislature was to allow MPPs to wear daffodil pins while sitting in the Legislature in recognition of the Canadian Cancer Society's daffodil campaign. A motion that passes is not a law.

There are two ways for a motion to be voted on in the Legislature. Most motions have to be debated by MPPs and afterwards, a recorded vote is taken. This means that the MPPs who vote in favour and against the motion are written into the public record. These motions only need a majority of MPPs to vote in favour for it to pass. If the mover of the motion wishes to have it passed without debate, they can request an oral vote. An oral vote is not recorded and requires unanimous consent from MPPs to pass. If at least one MPP votes no, the motion fails to pass.

If you would like to ask a question and have it answered here next month, email [ernie.hardeamanco@pc.ola.org](mailto:ernie.hardeamanco@pc.ola.org) and write in the subject line "Trending Questions." Please note, I will not be able to answer everyone's question here every month due to limited space.

## What I've Been Up To

### Meeting with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture



I enjoyed meeting with Paul Vickers, Brad Snobelen, Tracey Arts, and Angela Cammaert from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture this month at Queen's Park. Protecting prime farmland is very important to me, and we discussed how we can make sure Ontario continues to be a great place to farm.

### Ontario Trillium Grant for the Oxford County Naval Veterans Association



I was proud to be part of the announcement of a new universal washroom at the Oxford County Naval Veterans Association this month. The Association received a \$64,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, which is funded by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport. This funding was used to improve accessibility to a washroom facility inside the Woodstock Navy Club building.

### Meeting with the Dairy Farmers of Ontario



Did you know that dairy farming is the largest agriculture sector in Ontario? I met with George Van Kampen, Pete Overdevest, Rosa Checchia, and Bart Rikje from Dairy Farmers of Ontario to discuss the state of the industry and how we can help it grow even more.

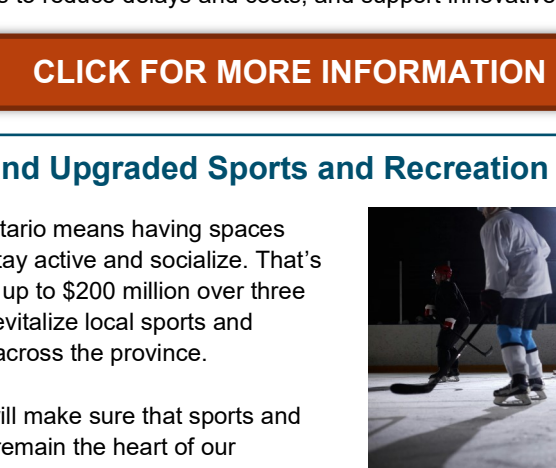
### Woodstock-Oxford Rotary Club's Annual Fish Fry



Enjoyed a wonderful evening at the Woodstock-Oxford Rotary Club's annual fish fry. This popular event helps support the Club's important work in our community and around the world.

## Government Announcements

### Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes



As part of our ongoing commitment to cut red tape, speed up government processes, and build at least 1.5 million new homes by 2031, our government introduced the *Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act*.

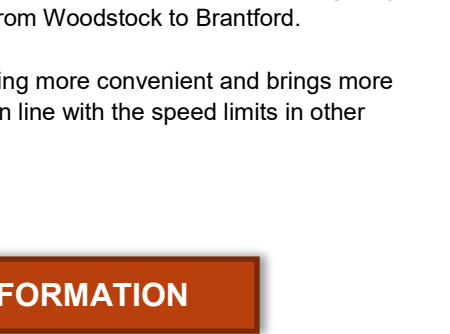
In this latest piece of legislation, we're proposing to set service standards for government applications and permits so that government is more convenient for you. To help build more homes, this piece of legislation also proposes a "use it or lose it" process to address stalled developments. If passed, the legislation will also streamline approvals for student housing, support standardized designs to reduce delays and costs, and support innovative construction methods.

[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

### Building New and Upgraded Sports and Recreation Facilities

Building a better Ontario means having spaces where people can stay active and socialize. That's why we're investing up to \$200 million over three years to build and revitalize local sports and recreation facilities across the province.

With this fund, we will make sure that sports and recreation facilities remain the heart of our communities.



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### Raising Some Ontario Highway Speed Limits



We're permanently raising the speed limit from 100 km/h to 110 km/h on 110 additional sections of provincial highways, including the 403 from Woodstock to Brantford.

This will make driving more convenient and brings more Ontario highways in line with the speed limits in other provinces.

[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

## In the Legislature

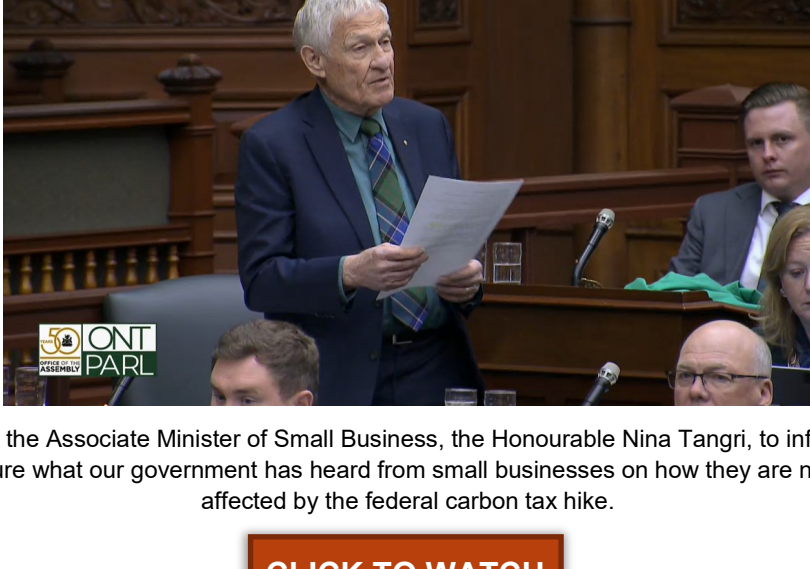
### Members' Statement: Norwich Fire Association's Annual Pancake Breakfast



I rose in the Legislature to share my experience at this year's Norwich Fire Association's Annual Pancake Breakfast. Volunteer firefighters spent all morning flipping up delicious pancakes topped with local maple syrup, and collection donations for Norwich Youth Unlimited, also known as Upper Deck.

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### Members' Statement: Norwich Chamber of Commerce Awards



I congratulated the winners of the Norwich Chamber of Commerce's annual Awards of Excellence in the Legislature. These winners and their hard work, innovation, and dedicated service are invaluable to our community.

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### Question Period: Small Businesses Hurt by the Federal Carbon Tax



I asked the Associate Minister of Small Business, the Honourable Nina Tangri, to inform the Legislature what our government has heard from small businesses on how they are negatively affected by the federal carbon tax hike.

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If you have comments you'd like to share, please send me an email at [ernie.hardeamanco@pc.ola.org](mailto:ernie.hardeamanco@pc.ola.org)