



Eastern Regional Conference

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS



The Honorable Ted Arnott, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, 2021 CSG East Chair

Ted Arnott was born in Fergus, Ontario, in 1963, and raised in Arthur, where his family was in the heavy construction business.

At Wilfrid Laurier University, Ted received a bachelor of arts degree with a major in political science and, later, a diploma in business administration. After graduating from WLU, he worked in the office of Jack Johnson, MPP for Wellington.

First elected to the Ontario Legislature at age 27 in 1990 as the MPP for Wellington, Ted has since been re-elected seven times. Once the youngest MPP in the Ontario Progressive Conservative (PC) Caucus, he is now one of the longest serving members in the Ontario Legislature. For many years, Ted has served as a presiding officer (assistant speaker). While in opposition, he was the PC critic to several ministers and while in government, served as parliamentary assistant to the minister of education, the deputy premier, the minister of the environment, and minister of economic development and trade. Many of his private member's bills and resolutions have been passed by the House or adopted as government policy.

Ted became Ontario's 42nd speaker on July 11, 2018. As well as presiding over the Legislature, Speaker Arnott chairs the Board of Internal Economy, the committee responsible for all financial and administrative matters relating to the Legislative Assembly. The speaker also has a diplomatic role, welcoming visiting dignitaries to the Legislative Building and representing Ontario's parliament both in Canada and abroad.

Ted lives in Fergus with his wife, Lisa, who teaches French immersion at James McQueen Public School. They have three adult sons.