

# Abbott denies fourth runway at Malton

By SUSAN de STEIN  
Applewood Hills area homeowners received sincere, if somewhat qualified, assurances from the two upper levels of government Monday night that a fourth major runway will not be constructed at Toronto International Airport.

Mississauga MP Tony Abbott and Mississauga East MPP Bud Gregory told representatives of Ward 3 homeowners associations concerned about air traffic and noise, that their governments strongly opposed further runway expansion at the Malton facility.

While reaffirming the Federal Government's "no expansion" policy, Abbott noted "nothing is eternal". Although he conceded "political promises can be altered", the policy represents a "long standing commitment".



**TONY ABBOTT, MP**  
... no airport expansion

Not only should the volume of traffic at the airport be spread out more evenly, but he recommended the government look at the feasibility of expanding in other areas such as Hamilton, St. Catharines, and the Toronto Island Airport.

Gregory, who attended a meeting on the airport question Monday

morning, noted the "Pickering question is still open", should a need for expanded airport facilities be proven.

The federal government too, Abbott said, was "still prepared to go forward" with the Pickering airport proposal if growth in air traffic meets projections.

But he expressed the hope that "we don't find ourselves building monstrous airports... like Mirabel".

The Federal Government "is aware of the situation here", he told the meeting. As a result of the Pickering affair, the government is more sensitive and "less indifferent" to the concerns of residents in environmental issues.

Although he couldn't promise there wouldn't be more planes, Abbott said, "if there's to be expansion, it will be somewhere else."