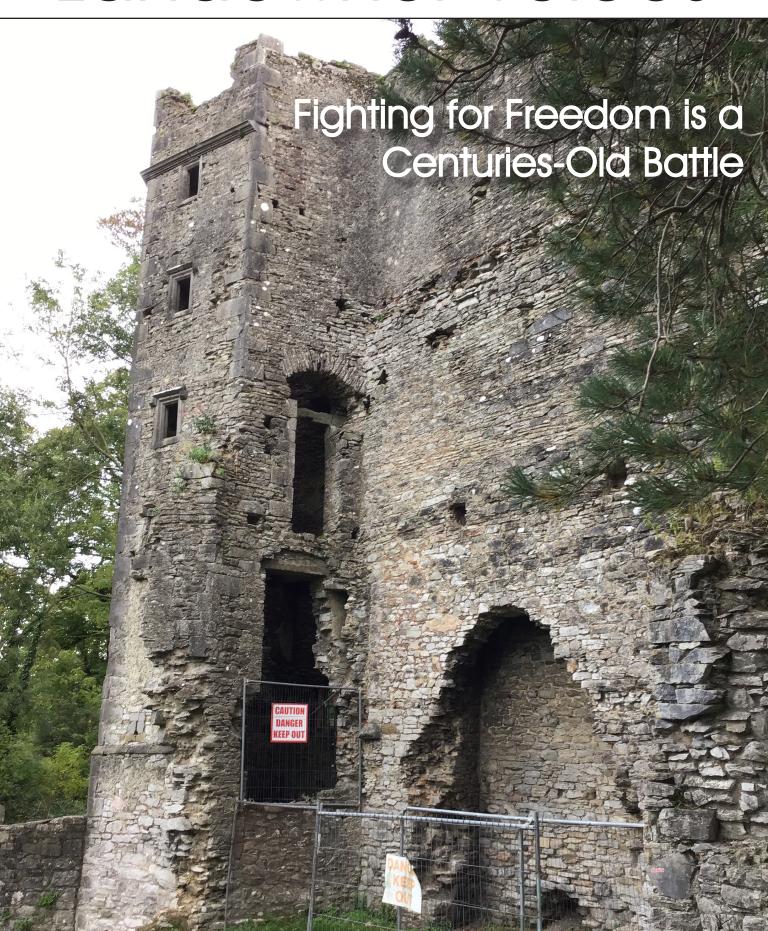
Landowner Voices



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Landowner Voices

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Read 'Landowner Voices' bi-monthly on the OLA website: www.ontariolandowners.ca

The opinions expressed in this on-line magazine are those of the writers and are not necessarily the views of the Publishers



Hello Folks

On October 26, 2019, the Ontario Landowners Association held their AGM conference in Arnprior. It was in my opinion, a great day all around with good discussions among caring and informed people.

The guest speaker in the afternoon, was Tom DeWeese, a property rights crusader from the USA. (https://americanpolicy.org/). Some of us who remember the beginning of the landowner movement, will recall watching some of his speeches on video back around 2004. We instantly recognized that he was preaching from the same book as we were. It was great to talk with him at the AGM and catch up on some of his battles with the socialist elements of both countries, that strive to remove all ownership of land from the regular people. To that end, they try to convince governments to pass more and more laws and bylaws that infringe on the use of private property. That line of thinking is what this group has been warning about since the start. Warning that if someone else can tell you what to do on your private property, then it really isn't your property. Now, no one is suggesting that you can do anything you want on your property at the expense of your neighbours and the environment. All those laws have been on the books since the beginning of our country under Common Law. People will bring up examples of dumping contaminants on your own land or starting up a pig farm beside your neighbour's house as things that uncaring property owners do and therefore for the good of society, we must have the governments control the use of it. Now it

Views from the Farm

by Tom Black

seems to me that government has controlled the sewage in cities from the beginning, yet every year, trillions of litres of raw sewage is released into Canadian rivers because the government hasn't built enough infrastructure to process it all. Even when they do process it all, they then spread it back on farm fields with many contaminants and heavy metals on board because to take them all out would be too costly. On top of not being very good at running a business, government is also notorious for being corrupt as the SNC Lavalin case can attend to, so if the right corporation comes along with the right promises to people in power (not just politicians but powerful bureaucrats as well), then the rules of the day can easily be overlooked for that particular case.

An example of that happened in Niagara back in 2013 when Jim Williams of Twinkle Tree Farms was charged with adding a couple of loads of clean topsoil to level up some ruts in his orchard. It seems it had been designated sensitive land that had to be preserved for the good of all, and

His wife sold the farm after his death and within a year there was a sign on the property advertising a new subdivision that had been approved by the same government that had charged the owner.

therefore the government officials harassed and tormented Mr. Williams until he was taken to hospital and died. His wife sold the farm after his death and within a year there was a sign on the property advertising a new subdivision that had been approved by the same government that had charged the owner. So, you tell me! Did the government save that sensitive land or was it not sensitive after all but just a way to drive down the price of the land?

On top of governments allowing special interest groups to help them write the law as it applies to private property, they managed to remove one of the most important statutes for defending private property. Somehow, they convinced former PM Stephen Harper to remove some of the protection of property by virtually removing the Trespass Laws. We have been calling, in vain, for the protection to be reinstated so it was good to see an article in the Ontario Farmer by Keith Currie, demanding new trespass laws to stop 'animal activist terrorists' from entering farms where they turn animals loose, contaminate the area where diseases can be spread and in one case, stole a calf that had died overnight. I guess the OFA has finally recognized how important it is that the government do their job and protect private property.



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HERE TO SERVE

NEWS FROM QUEEN'S PARK ONTARIO ADOPTS NEW ANIMAL WELFARE MODEL

Ontario is introducing legislation to better protect animals from abuse and neglect by proposing the strongest penalties in Canada for offenders, and a more robust enforcement system.

"We made a commitment to take action and develop a modern animal welfare enforcement system to keep animals safe. I am proud to say we are delivering on that commitment with new legislation that includes the toughest penalties in Canada," said Ontario's Solicitor General. "Ontarians can be confident the government is proposing a system that will better protect animals from negligent care."

The proposed Provincial Animal Welfare Services (PAWS) Act, 2019 would improve animal welfare by:

- Improving oversight and ensuring increased transparency and accountability, including establishing a one window complaints mechanism for the public;
- Establishing a multi disciplinary advisory table made up of a wide range of experts, including veterinarians, agriculture representatives, academics, animal advocates and others to provide ongoing advice to the ministry to improve animal welfare;
- Introducing new offences to combat activities such as dog fighting;
- Giving inspectors necessary powers to help animals in distress and to hold owners accountable;
- Giving government the ability to empower others, beyond inspectors, to take action when an animal is in imminent risk of serious injury or death when a pet is left in a hot car; and
- Significantly increasing penalties for serious, repeat and corporate offenders.
 These new penalties would be the strongest in Canada.

As well as the proposed legislative changes, the system will be strengthened by hiring more provincial inspectors to ensure better coverage across the province, including specialists in livestock, agriculture, horses, zoos and aquariums.

This made-in-Ontario model demonstrates that our government understands how significant the well being of animals is to the people of this province.

The proposed new animal welfare system was developed based on input from municipalities, police, industry, technical experts, veterinarian organizations, animal sheltering and advocacy organizations, and the public.

HELPING ONTARIO FOOD PROCESSORS GROW THEIR BUSINESSES

Government of Ontario renews funding opportunities for food processors and other businesses

Beginning in November, Ontario food processors and other businesses can apply for support under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (the Partnership). This is part of a commitment to help the agri-food sector grow and support projects that boost innovation, economic development, environmental stewardship and food safety.

The application intake, which opens November 4, is tailored for agri-food businesses looking to increase food safety, develop new markets and expand their operations. More information, including program materials, will be available on the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs website by November 4, 2019.

The Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, made this announcement while in Tokyo leading a trade mission to connect Ontario farmers and food processors with key importers and buyers. This funding, along with the trade mission, adds to the strong action taken by the Ontario government to help sectors affected by ongoing trade disputes and challenges to access new markets. The Minister has also been meeting with government representatives and grocery store chains to promote the high quality of Ontario products, including pork, beef, soybean and other agrifood products.

The government is committed to helping food processors and other important contributors in our agri-food sector be even more competitive and grow their businesses. Investing in these projects will boost innovation, enhance productivity and increase sales for Ontario's food processing sector and open the doors to new markets for the incredibly safe, high quality foods they produce. Since June 2018, more than 2,000 projects have received commitments through the Partnership to help eligible Ontario farmers, processors, businesses and sector organizations innovate and grow.

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE:

My constituency office is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4 pm and I have 4 full-time employees helping me serve the people of Carleton. If you require assistance on any matter, please contact me at any time. It's why I'm here. Even if it's not a provincial issue, I'll make sure to connect you with the proper office.

-Goldie Your voice at Queen's Park

WHAT TO DO WHEN THEY COME FOR YOU

Updated version

- **Call** for support. Have an OLA contact list available
- **Be** polite, Be Assertive, Stand Your Ground.
- **Record** your visitors with phone, recorder, video, notes etc.
- **If police** with visitor, address them first: Why are you here? Under what authority?
- If the Police refer to "Keeping the Peace", ask the question ... does that mean my Peace as well? Does this mean you intend to protect my rights as well?
- **Record** name, badge #, and headquarters. Get pictures of ID, license plates, vehicles etc. Request incident #.
- If there is a Warrant to Search, ask senior officer to read it aloud. Make sure that the Party who swore to the Warrant is present when the officer reads the Warrant. Assuming it is not the Police. For example, Conservation Authority has sword to the Warrant. It is important that everyone know and understand the limitations of the Warrant.
- **Ask** to see the Information to Obtain the warrant (**ITO**). If there is no ITO, make a verbal note to all that there is no ITO and you Protest the Execution of the Warrant. Do Not Interfere with the Warrant. Argue it later in court. Everything must be accurate; name, address, Signatures etc. If anything is wrong, tell the officer you protest the Warrant. That it is invalid for the following reasons. If the officer disagrees, <u>argue it in court</u>. Verbal disagreement with the Warrant is not in itself, blocking or interfering with the Execution of the Warrant.
- **Only comply** with what is on the warrant, offer no extra information and verbally protest the extra search. Argue it in court.
- If just an official; bylaw etc, ask for 2 pieces gov't. issued ID, proof of employment, employee # confirmation phone #(business cards don't count but keep one for later) They have NO authority without a warrant, ask them

- to leave. Ask them 3x then call 911. If they insist they have authority, make them show you. Remember Criminal code is Federal legislation and if no warrant they could be charged with trespass or mischief.
- **Ask** for insurance confirmation and sterile boots and clothing, You don't know where they've been. Follow bio-security measures.
- If they are there on a complaint, ask for the name and actual complaint as everyone is allowed to face their accuser. You might have to file a freedom of information request.

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

- Don't be intimidated by a uniform!
- **Be firm.** If you don't stop them from walking on your property, it looks like implied consent.
- **Document everything** in writing when visit is over. Witness support would be an asset.
- When in doubt ... Verbally Protest the Warrant or the Uninvited Access to your land. Do Not Physically Interfere in a Warrant or Inspection. The court is the place to be. Motion to Quash the Warrant. If the Motion succeeds, then the evidence gathered is thrown out.
- A Tort may be the next step after a Warrant is Quashed or an uninvited inspection.
- **Record** All Events while anyone is on your land. Keep your camera handy and the battery charged. The same with a cell phone. Add an additional SD card as well. More storage capacity. Film in low resolution for longer filming.
- **Never** answer a question. Anything you say will be used against you. Especially with body Cameras being used. There is no law compelling you to answer question. However, You Can Ask All The Questions You Want. Ask Them on the record.

THIS IS INFORMATION ONLY, NOT LEGAL ADVICE



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You Could Not Make This Up Part 2

by Will Truimph

In my first article I outlined problems with how my severance application for 3 lots was handled somewhere in Ontario. I described the Conservation Authorities (CA) over reach and failure to follow a Memorandum of Understanding that defined the review by qualified professionals with a scope limited to my Consultants report that should have happened but did not. The CA, through a planner (no professional shown) designation refused accept my Consultant's report even though it addressed the Township's requirements. They can't not accept it. They can only say what it requires to meet requirements! The CA exceeded their jurisdiction. They are outside the Conservation Authorities Act. The MOU is the authority for the CA to review hydrology. No preconsultation was required and the CA could have no input to scope. The CA could not demand that I carry out Hydro Geological Testing on a closed Township dump site. The CA letters did not name any professionals nor did any professionals sign their names. There was no statement defining jurisdiction but they did say the proposed lots were not on or adjacent to wetland and that their regulations did not apply. The CA letters only provided comments. The County was making these comments mandatory, so I call them demands. Effectively, the County was making Conservation Authority comments law when there was no law! I, much later, found out that the County and the Township have a standard practice to support the Conservation Authority and obviously this was happening even when the CA was over reaching and totally wrong!!! This is a very stacked deck to go up against. Was this coordinated? If I only knew all this at the beginning!

With any bad situation, one has to figure out when it is time to give up and

lose the near 10K I had invested so far, give in or start to fight. I felt the threat to make me carry out a hydro G on a Township dump site was so ludicrous that there had to be an abuse of power here. My pursuit for what was truly right, dominated more than a year and a third and although at times I felt close to defeat I had a number of influential people provide wisdom. One told me to research everything.

I started my dealings with the County believing they were providing me with correct and complete information. The County individual lessened the dump site Hydro G to

My pursuit for what was truly right, dominated more than a year and a third and although at times I felt close to defeat, I had a number of influential people provide wisdom. One told me to research everything.

a professional review of the dump site impact on my severances and the impact of my severances on adjacent wells. The CA wanted wells within 1 km of my well studied but it was reduced to 1/2 km and I was allowed to use data from the Township engineering study that actually lead the MOE to report that there was no further testing planned. This would be using another engineering firms output without benefit of all technical information! Funny the CA did not address the major engineering firm's findings in their letters. I went to the Township and found out they did not have the report and they obtained it from the Engineering firm. I circulated it at my expense to the County and

the amazing thing was all the dump site parameters tested for were below readable levels. Here I was paying for further consultant's reports when there was no reason to explore them. My well testing had pumped 20 gallons per minute for 7 hours and hardly dropped the aquifer. Was there a reason to have my consultant take my money for an additional report? As one supporter said "no amount of money is too much when it is someone else's". The result when the additional reports were forwarded to the CA was the CA wanted even more detailed testing and rejected my Consultants report. My Consultant received the 2nd letter from the CA but I did not, so when he phoned me, he was very bothered by the extensive negativity towards him when he was following my instructions which were what the Township had asked for. What gives the CA the right to be so nasty and to criticize rather than communicate? But then did they have the jurisdiction to exceed the Township requirements or was this serious over reach?

There were demands for 1 hectare lots instead of 1 acre although the Health Unit (HU) had approved this. I was working with existing clearings and trying to maintain forest connectivity. There was spacing to a neighboring lot and between lots 2 and 3. The CA discussed ways to block further development to protect spacing to land around when a Subdivision Plan would be required for any further development on our property and that would have required CA and EIS input. But did the CA have jurisdiction?

I enquired with the Township planner about the authority of the CA in this matter and was told that the County had an agreement with the CA to review the hydrogeological aspects of the application as they lacked the expertise, yet the CA comments came from a planner without any noted professional designation or appropriate training.

Now I started applying logics that have worked very well in my technical field of employment. Probably a mistake! First is how a Planner with no professional status can reject an appropriately experienced professional's report. Second, is how the Township's requirement for water quantity and quality testing from a test well gets turned into a full blown hydro G covering soil, septic systems and many more unsubstantiated demands? The big thing here is there was little by the CA to say why. I did not get answers to my questions. To say that wells should have double the length of casings and that wells and septics should be double the building code distances without reason is not something a CA planner can do. A responsible professional is bound by ethics to provide truthful reviews with their name attached. Think liability and professional ethics! The Township had a change of personal at this time so I had to start over with a new individual. He accepted my concerns but was stuck with trying to satisfy the CA because the County and the Township were forcing adherence. But this is like the fox guarding the hen house. He also noted that the CA's letters were the "nastiest" that he had seen in all his years! Many phone calls and visits occurred but although there was acceptance of my views by the Township planner, the CA would not change.

I contacted the local Health Unit that had provided approval for raised septic beds with additional loam fill. The CA had received copies of this and although the Health Unit is the Principal Approval source the CA never even mentioned their approval. This is not the sign of a professional review. It suggests a hidden agenda for control.

The County sent some questions to the Health Unit for clarification. None led to answers that altered the Health Unit's approval but there was a HU comment that if the Hydrologist provided a report providing reasons for certain demands then these would be added. But there were no reports by my consultant, the County or the CA addressing need for change on the part of the Health Unit.

After being stalemated for some time the offer came down that if I paid for a peer review of my Consultant's work, and it would be expensive, that would be a way forward. I said it would only be fair if the CA's work was also examined but no one would even talk about that!

Rather than go with the Township / County's pick of a peer review, I chose to contact three general area Consulting firms. The first I will call "A" told me that they have had enough problems on their own projects dealing with the CA that they would not take on a peer review involving hydrology. So, I went to a larger firm "B" and had an introductory talk. The person got back to me after consulting with senior management and said even though they would really like the work (and my money), they felt that I was wasting my time and money! I approached another larger firm "C" and had an interesting talk. They again told me that I was wasting my time and money and that unless the County signed a letter stating that they would even look at the report that it was not worth doing! That the CA was difficult! It sure seemed that the deck was stacked against me. I communicated this information the Township.

There was another change in Township planners with an administrator filling in temporarily. I was told that following my direction would result in harm to the environment. I responded that the Health Unit direction was what I was following and that they were the authority and approval source for the Township. I was told that the HU would approve anything to which I questioned this person's technical ability to comment. The person backed down.

To say that wells should have double the length of casings and that wells and septics should be double the building code distances without reason is not something a CA planner can do. A responsible professional is bound by ethics to provide truthful reviews with their name attached

At one point there was a move by the County to try and take everything to the Land Division Committee and the resulting agenda had every unsubstantiated CA demand there. I recorded this meeting with permission and was surprised that the newest Township planner blurted out that the County could do anything it wanted. One



of my supporters later asked "what are they teaching these kids nowadays?". The other comment of note when asked about the lack of professional review was "this is the way the CA does it". Who is controlling who here? What are the real requirements?

I stopped the move to land division as I felt the demands and process were all terribly wrong. What next? I started researching the two references the CA had provided. Procedure D-5-4 and D-5-5. When you look at D-5-4, Guideline for on-site sewage systems you find it applies to more than 5 severances that I will call subdivisions. It does say that the municipalities are encouraged to retain professionals to review studies prepared in accordance to this guideline. My consultant never prepared a study and neither did the municipality or the CA so this reference does not apply.

I then researched Procedure D-5-5 and found that it applied to 6 or more private residences. The Water Resources Act leads to the Ontario Building Code and none of the CA demands are substantiated.

I took this information to the

Township and they were surprised. Finally I had made an impact about the issues surrounding the CA review. But there is more.

The CA letter listed a County MOU which I could not find. After 16 months and a few hints, I found it hidden in a County bylaw reported in a past Council Meeting minutes. Of key note it talked about the Technical Review being carried out to ensure accuracy of my Consultants work and that it conformed to standards. The review was to be carried out by qualified professionals and it was limited to my consultant's report. In the earlier recorded meeting Mrs. T specifically asked for the CA engineering reports and was told that there probably were none. Is this a professional way to work? The County did not have reports either!

This was a real game changer. I paid for a Technical Review! I took this to the Township and the first thing that I was told was that I had sure been digging to find this. (Yes! No search function would find it at the County.) We discussed the wording of the MOU and how it had not been followed.

Sometime later I was invited back

to the Township for a meeting to discuss the possibility of the County bringing in an engineering firm to provide a peer review.

To be continued......





The Geezer's Corner

Toothless Tales



by Dale Dawson

My old pappy always said that the best thing about false teeth was that whenever you had a toothache, you simply removed the dentures and tossed them into a glass of water. Then, whenever the pain ebbed you popped them back in your mouth and went on your merry way. My pappy had a way of over simplifying things and occasionally his theories wouldn't stand up to intense scrutiny.

When I was a lad, dentistry was looked upon as a sadistic form of torture. It would have been a tough decision to choose between a trip to the dentist or the firing squad and the firing squad would have been preferable in some cases. Of course, many of us didn't know what a tooth brush looked like until after we had a few teeth hocked out as the old timers described it. "Young fella," some passing elder would say, "Are you chewing tobacco or do you have a toothache? If that ain't tobacco, you'd better get that tooth hocked out." In those times, the only sure way to repair a cavity was to remove the cavity along with the tooth. One can only do that so many times until your smile starts to resemble a picket fence. This bothered some people – the ones that took pride in their appearance. They would face the world everyday firmly clamping their mouths shut. It was a grand thing in some cases, especially if the person tended to be a tad boring. There were also some proud people that tried to speak while keeping their lips pressed together, which could be frustrating. An individual mumbling incoherently, instead of yelling that your house was on fire could cause a great deal of agitation.

All of this tended to get the population fitted for dentures in early life. The word fitted is being carelessly

used here. The term merely meant that the teeth fitted more or less inside the mouth. They could leap out and bite a passing stranger at any time. A good sneeze could blast the average set of dentures just like a startled partridge whirring off into the hinterland. Many near divorces were caused in hay fever season when a sneeze would crop up

In those times, the only sure way to repair a cavity was to remove the cavity along with the tooth. One can only do that so many times until your smile starts to resemble a picket fence.

out of nowhere and a missile would be launched. Aunt Martha took a snit one day when Uncle Zach's false teeth whizzed past her and became embedded in her freshly baked apple pie. Uncle Zach loudly claimed that it could have been worse. We didn't ask him to elaborate.

My dear old mom-in-law fired her upper plate across the living room after someone told a joke. The speeding denture didn't make a sound — only a slight hiss as it sped by. There wasn't any evidence of its landing site. All hands were summoned to search for the sneaky object, but it was all in vain. It was many years later on moving day

when the upper plate was found in the bookcase hiding behind the family bible. Can you think of a safer place?

Uncle Zach held a record that I believe stands until this day for losing dentures. It got so that he was ordering them out of the catalogue. One of his problems was that he was a man that never missed a party. If there wasn't a party going on, he would quickly invent an excuse to celebrate. It was a costly habit; the booze was expensive enough, but when you included the cost of the dentures it really added up. His dentures can still be found smiling out of the turf near old outhouse sites.

Sometimes Uncle Zach was sober - not often, but it did happen and still his dentures would manage to flee. He had a crotchety little outboard motor that he used for trolling. He insisted on using the hateful thing instead of a pair of oars which would have been faster. One nasty trait of the small engine was that it liked to go on fire whenever the boat was far enough from land. Did Uncle Zach keep a fire extinguisher handy for such an eventuality? Of course not! He would blow recklessly at the flames just like he had real teeth and be all surprised when his dentures would ricochet off the motor and skip across the lake. It wasn't much fun lying on your belly in the bottom of the boat paddling with your hands while listening to him slurring obscenities at the blackened object. It was even less fun listening to Aunt Martha screaming at him while searching for the catalogue.

I watched a family member snap a denture into place the other morning because of the marvel of denture implants. Uncle Zach could have used them.

Dale Dawson

Canada doesn't "need, nor can we afford, a military that can defend against an invading force"

(This is Part Two of Dr. Tim Ball's series on the future of Canada's military.)



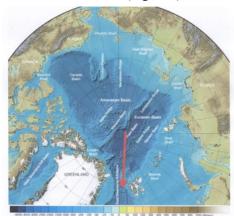
by Dr. Tim Ball

The landmass of Canada is indefensible with its limited population and the military we maintain.

The extent of our oceans is a bigger problem, especially with the importance of the submarine, which became pivotal in the Cold War. China's construction of a nuclear powered intercontinental missile-carrying submarine fleet underscores the threat.

We have three ocean coastlines but only deal with two, both ineffectively.

During the Cuban Crisis, we were surprised by the number of Soviet submarines that popped up and ran to supply vessels knowing that was more important than revealing their location. We didn't know how they got past our patrols covering the normal access routes from their northern base on the White Sea (Figure 1).



(Figure 1.)

They were tracking under the ice and passing through Canadian waters to the East Greenland Channel, the deepest channel in and out of the Arctic Ocean. This problem is getting worse with new Russian adventurism in the Arctic.

This is just one of a multitude of problems.

I admire the Inuit Arctic patrols, and they detect problems earlier and better than anyone. The problem is they can report, but there is little or nothing we can do.

The best weapon against a submarine is another submarine. Canada has four antiquated second-hand non-nuclear submarines. They are worse than useless, something that is true of most of our military hardware.

We have a wide range of aircraft most of which can be used in a better role for Canada. The biggest waste of money is the CF 188 Hornet.

We bought 128 and had lost 25 in accidents, which is a disturbingly high loss rate. We were going to buy more but delayed so long the price went up and it was all we could afford. We also sold 43, so we have 60 left. They have a combat range of 537 km, which is of little value in a country the size of Canada unless you only want to defend Ottawa.

So much of Canada's defense policy is dictated by the belief that we need a similar military structure to the United States and, therefore, similar equipment. Our policy is driven by four factors.

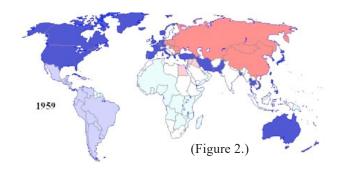
*First, the US wants to sell expensive equipment like the Hornet.

*Second, the belief we can fly in support of offensive military operations like in Europe or the Middle East. The travesty of this was we bought the CF5 as a combat support aircraft in Europe. This plan fell through when they didn't buy the refueling aircraft necessary to get the planes to Europe. We sold some of the planes to Colombia and put the air-frames in storage.

*Third, we have obligations as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), North American Air Defense (NORAD) and the United Nations.

*Fourth, politicians use their equipment purchases to prop up Canadian manufacturers. They buy some Canadian designed and manufactured equipment but ignore equipment that the country needs such as the Canadair CL 215, but more on that later.

NATO is an anachronism, a leftover from the Cold War. It is the remaining Treaty Organization of four designed to contain the Soviet Union (Figure 2). The other three were the Middle East Treaty Organization (METO), the Central Treaty Organization (CENTO), and the South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO). With the problems in Europe and a move by the US to withdraw troops from Europe, NATO is unlikely to survive. Whether NATO survives or not, Canada can provide a very different type of support than we have done to date. We need to develop support services from our domestic needs that respond to our geography.



NORAD continues and makes some sense, but we can provide support of its aims in different, more effective and useful ways. Canada does not need, nor can it support a conventional US style military. What we need is a military that can provide logistical support to whatever alliance we join. That logistical support will form the basis of the type of Para-military force to meet Canada's domestic needs.

THE NEEDS

Canada is so big that just Wood Buffalo National Park at 44,807 km2 is larger than Denmark (43,094 km2) so it would be the 129th largest country in the world. Environment and its protection were not a factor when the British North America (BNA) Act was written. The Act divided powers between the federal and provincial governments but was written when Canada was very different in size, population, values, and needs. Some adjustments occurred through the years, but most involved loss of provincial power and a gain of federal power. That, in my opinion, is not a good trend as I wrote in an earlier column.

Overall reduction of federal power creates better and regionally appropriate response and control. There are, however, obligations and needs that require the wider response of the federal government. This is reflected in its primary role of defense. However, I would extend the definition of defense to include defense of the environment – the national legacy – a legacy that encompasses and challenges all Canadians.

Needs that transcend current divisions of power and mandated by the new priorities include:

* Forest fire control.

* Data collection and complete environmental inventories.

The lack of data for a multitude of natural resources is seriously limiting for planning, preserving, conserving and managing the environment. There are completely inadequate inventories of rivers, streams, and climate data. We have fewer weather stations now than we had in 1960. Some say Canada has 30 percent of the world's freshwater, but nobody knows. We know animal populations fluctuate widely naturally but have no accurate data. Extremists exploit animal population numbers when they are low because people don't know about the natural variations in the numbers. We heard about low salmon numbers back in the 1990s, but nothing is said now about the massive numbers of salmon runs of the last two years.

- * Identification and preservation of unique ecologies.
- * Environmental disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and droughts.
- * International disasters.

Countries with successful economies are ones that

develop their resources and accommodate the geographic realities. Successful defense of the country must follow the same concepts.

We do not need, nor can we afford, a military that can defend against an invading force. We do not need a force that spends all its time preparing for war. Even now most of the military spend most of their time taking courses.

What they really need are activities that improve their skills but also benefit the country. This is important for morale.

I know serving in search and rescue was often frustrating but very rewarding. It was the same when flying antisubmarine patrols. It involved hours of "boring holes in the sky". Then we learned how to identify whale species and report all we saw, including, type, number, location, and direction of movement.

We need a force that allows us to keep our treaty and alliance commitments, but we also need a force that can contribute to bettering the nation in peacetime, which is most of the time and hopefully forever.

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Healthy Bodies, Informed Minds

Ontario Retirement Homes vs Long-Term Care Homes vs Home Care: Some FACTS and OPINIONS

By Marilyn Colton

Retired administrator, LTC and Retirement licensed; the care services offered; and its status in meeting the requirements of the Retirement Homes Act (RHA) 2010. The licensed retirement home must also comply with the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA) 2006. accordance with the RTA, the home must have a written tenancy agreement with each resident. The RTA governs tenancy relationship between the retirement home and the tenants

Those who choose retirement home living are able to fund this retirement home lifestyle. Our government does not fund retirement homes. In terms of cost, the prices vary depending on the type of suite chosen, a studio (one room) being the least expensive, one bedroom and then a two bedroom

(residents) including rent, some matters relating to care, service and privacy, and notice periods for terminating the tenancy agreement. A resident who leaves the home temporarily is still obligated to pay rent as well as for care and services purchased from the home. As well, under the RTA, your accommodation rate is subject to rent control which usually accounts for the current economic climate.

Long-term care Homes (LTCH) are designed for people who require the availability of 24-hour nursing care, frequent assistance with the activities

of daily living and supervision or monitoring to ensure safety and wellbeing, sometimes within a secure In Ontario, each LTCH setting. receives provincial government funding with residents required to co-pay for accommodations. programs and services are covered by this co-payment except for optional services such as hairdressing, cable TV, telephone and transportation to external appointments. As of July 2019, the basic rate (2-4 bed depending on the age of the Home) is \$1891.31/ month while the semi-private rate is \$2280.04/month and a private room is \$2701.61/month. For those who cannot pay the basic rate, they may be eligible for the LTCH Rate Reduction Program which provides for a subsidy of up to \$1891.31/month. The move-in to a LTCH is managed by HCC (tel: 310-2222) with a current waitlist of 36,245 Ontarians (The Star, Sept 2019). When applying, you can identify 5 homes and must realize that you may not get your first choice of Home since you must accept the first offer by HCC. Otherwise, your application is cancelled and you can only reapply after a 12 week period. Eventually, when space becomes available, you will be able to move in to your firstchoice of Home.

A third option for housing is to remain in your own home. Such is probably the preferred option for many since 'one's home is one's castle'. If assistance is needed, HCC, will assess your eligibility and determine the level of care required for you to remain in your own home. note that you are able to access a wide range of publicly funded services. The important consideration, though,

There are a number of **I** important differences between Long-term Care (Nursing Homes) and Retirement Homes. Retirement Homes are privately owned (no public funding) and provide rental accommodation, with the provision of at least 2 care services, such as assistance with bathing and administration of medications, for those who can live independently or with some assistance. Those who choose retirement home living are able to fund this retirement home lifestyle. Our government does not fund retirement homes. In terms of cost, the prices vary depending on the type of suite chosen, a studio (one room) being the least expensive at approx. \$2800/month rent; one bedroom \$3700/month and a two bedroom \$4500/month. This monthly fee includes meals, housekeeping services, and access to a variety of on-site amenities such as a fitness centre, and recreational programs. It is noteworthy that if a care service is required, such as assistance with dressing, the resident will need to purchase the service from the Home at an additional monthly cost or access the service through publicly funded Home and Community Care (HCC) or utilize private insurance to acquire the care service. Given the growing number of retirement homes, there is generally not a wait list. It is important to be aware that the term 'retirement home' is not a protected title. Some unlicensed homes may refer to themselves as retirement homes and some licensed homes may not use retirement home in their title; rather, be called seniors living, manors, etc. It is important, thus, to check the Public Register at www.rhra.ca to learn if the home is

is your sense of safety and security while remaining in your own home. For instance, if dementia is an issue, then depending on the availability and adequacy of caregivers, you may manage very well OR you may need professional services offered within LTC or within those retirement homes which offer Memory Care programs. Once again, the key variable here may be your financial status since, within a retirement home, the cost for memory care starts at approx. \$3900/month.

In relation to home care, I will share an example of a very difficult situation that you or your friends may encounter. Recently, I was asked to advocate for a 95 yr. old woman living alone in her apartment in the city. She has been diagnosed with early dementia and has significant medical health issues as well. She is noncompliant with prescribed medications to treat her medical conditions. She is not receiving any support from HCC nor does she have family or friends in her apartment building to provide support. Her sister has Power of Attorney (POA) for care and for property but the client will not accept her sister's plan for her care, treatment and security. In this instance, the client's physician will need to refer her to the Regional Geriatric Assessment team (GAT) to determine her level of competence to make decisions that would ensure her safety, security and well-being. However, the GAT requires the consent of the client in order to go in to the home. If consent is not given by the client, the only option left for her sister, who has POA, is to hire a Capacity Assessor (through contact with the Capacity Assessment Office, Toronto, ON) who can assess the individual (with their consent) and apply to the courts for a judge's ruling regarding mental competence. determined incompetent by the judge, then the sister (POA) can legally and practically make care decisions, including placement, for her sister.

I would like to share some concerns I have regarding the operation of some retirement homes. My first concern relates to the quality of food and nutritional service within

many retirement homes. To compare with the requirements within the LTC sector, under the Long-term Care Act 2007, Food Services is staffed with a Nutritional Manager, a certified member of the Canadian Society of Nutritional Management (a 2 yr. program in Food Services and Nutrition Management). If that individual is not a dietitian, then a dietitian must be on site at least 30 min/resident/month. Often within the retirement sector, we do not see the above qualifications applied nor does management even staff with an Executive Chef. This may

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mean that the quality and nutritional value of food is sub-standard and unsatisfactory to the clientele. Another concern is that many retirement home operators, whose Homes are not unionized, remunerate their support staff at minimum wage. This results in a lack of continuity for the residents, due to high turnover, as well as staff dissatisfaction which often affects the quality of service that the residents

receive. Lastly, retirement homes are licensed by the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority (RHRA) and inspected by that body every 3 years. The resulting reports are published on line. My concern is that the inspections do not adequately involve residents and family members in the process, rather focusing mainly on operations. As well, many homes are not inspected according to the intended frequency. In contrast, LTC Homes receive a Resident Quality Inspection (RQI) annually with interim visits to followup on orders or in response to identified safety/risk issues. As well, the ROI includes inspector's interactions with residents and families to obtain their views on resident quality of care and quality of life.

I believe it is important for Ontarians to know and understand the different types of housing available so that informed decisions can be made in line with their holistic needs, expectations, financial status, and proximity to family. I encourage you to take the time to research the type of housing you are considering. In the case of retirement and long-term care, tour the specific Home with a list of key questions about the structure of the Home (including staffing complement), the care/service processes, the results of the most recent inspection, etc.

Please do not hesitate to contact with any queries or comments. I may be reached at mcolton@xplornet.com or 613-839-5735





The Benefits of Combat Gardening Planning your Garden

by Judith Cox

This morning I lit the woodstove to take that nip of L cold out of the house. It would seem that winter is on its way. I like winter; the snow insulates my garden as all my perennials take a well-deserved nap and I can get caught up on all the things I have been putting off.

A plan is fluid, it is not set in stone and you do not have to follow everything to the letter, but it gives you a structure to help make your gardens come alive.

Winter preparations should start in the spring although I find that most of us are procrastinators. For example, the earlier you get your wood stacked and ready, the drier it is and the easier it is for you to use your woodstove or fireplace. You need to plan your bulb order in August in order to guarantee you can get the bulbs that you want for spring blooms. You need to start some seeds in February or March in order to have strong ready-toplant seedlings at the end of May. That is why I always recommend making a plan.

A plan is fluid, it is not set in stone and you do not have to follow everything to the letter, but it gives you a structure to help make your gardens come alive. Your plan can start in a notebook that has a few pages set aside for each month. There are planner notebooks out there that are super expensive, or you can use a school notebook for a lot less.

If you start your notebook with November, you can list the tasks that you need to finish in order to close your gardens. You can list the seed catalogues that you prefer and some of the seeds you are considering. It is just a guideline. If you maintain your notebook and update it each year it can become an excellent resource for you as well as other gardeners. I get amazing ideas in November and December and the notebook gives me a spot to hold on to them.

Starting down the road to winter can be difficult for some. November days are often grey and cold and there is not enough snow to cover the sticks and debris that was forgotten in the cleanup.

This November day has some sun and a bit of warmth so I shall use it to clear off my front and back steps. Be sure to have the porch cleared so that it is easy to shovel. Because I will be having visitors who are rather unsteady, I will need to be sure that they don't slip. I often use chicken feed or birdseed as traction but this year I might purchase something to melt the ice as well. Organic ice melters are now available and I would recommend using them instead of salt. Salt gets into your soil and damages not only the soil but everything you try to grow there. Something safer is a good investment.

Have fun planning next years garden. Use your notebook so it can be a reference for you each year and keep warm!



LET'S CALL IT LIKE IT IS

Charles W. Conn cwc@ceconn.com

It should be pointed out that Italy's Fascist Party was formed by the radical socialist, Mussolini, who copied the radical socialist leader of Russia's Democratic Socialist Worker' Party, Lenin. The policies and practices of Hitler's National Socialist German Workers' Party were a straight lift from the Communist and Fascist socialist parties. Regardless of the party name - Communist, Fascist, National Socialist, Khmer Rouge, Pathet Lao, Viet Minh, Shining Path, FARC etc. - all were single-party dictatorships founded by radical socialists.

The Fascists and Nazis claimed to be different from, and bitter enemies of, the Communists, and managed to convince almost all the rest of the world that this was so. In reality, they were identical in all but how they controlled their economies and the method by which they intended to take over the world. That's why they are such bitter enemies. It might be useful to think of it as Fascist socialism versus Marxist socialism.

The Fascists and Nazis left the ownership and the profits of the institutions of their economies in the hands of the existing owners (ex Jewish owners) but strictly controlled their operations. The Communists expropriated all the institutions of their economy from their existing owners and used party apparatchiks to operate them.

The Fascists and Nazis intended to conquer other countries by war. The Communists intended to take over other countries from within.

All three parties sought and got support from the same client class and were begun by radical socialists. And all were led by three of the most powerful, smooth-tongued orators of the twentieth century who were able to move their audiences to uncritical adoration.

The Concise Oxford Dictionary - 1956 edition defined socialism as: "(the) principle that individual freedom should be completely subordinated to (the) interests of (the) community." [brackets mine] This definition was

acknowledged by all - proponents and opponents alike - from the early 1800's through the 1950's.

In a public speech in Munich on July 22, 1922, Hitler asserted, "Whoever is prepared to make the national cause his own to such an extent that he knows no higher ideal than the welfare of his nation: ... that man is a socialist." ("Nazi" comes from Nazional Socialistische Deutsches Arbeiters Partei - National Socialist German Workers Party).

In his book 'Industry and Humanity' published in 1918, MacKenzie King declared; "In the conflict between the ... interests of selfish (sic) individuals and the welfare of nations, the latter alone is entitled to consideration.".

It doesn't matter the title, all dictatorships operate on the socialist principle that the welfare of the community - as they define it - is the only appropriate concern of the state. When Louis XIV said "I am the State" and when the Chinese and Japanese emperors said they ruled with the mandate of Heaven, they were adhering to the socialist worldview. When the Khmer Rouge party slaughtered 25% of the population in Cambodia it did so "for the good of the people". When Kennedy said "Ask what you can do for your country." and when Clinton said "It takes a village to raise a child." they were expressing an aspect of socialism. Down through the ages, Pharoahs, Emperors, Kings, Caesars/Tzars/Kaisers, Chairmen, Secretaries, Premiers, Prime Ministers and sometimes just "Leaders" have led one-party socialist dictatorships.

The LiberalSocialDemocrat (LSD) socialists of western civilization are Lenin's "Useful Idiots of the west". It is deplorable that they been allowed to call themselves "Progressive"! They are the advance guard/skirmishers for radical socialism. They are like termites - eating away the vital foundations of their countries.

Have you noticed the similarity between the tactics employed by the National Socialists to bring down Germany's Weimar Republic and the tactics employed by the LSD socialists to bring down the newborn Trump administration in the United States?

Riots in the streets, mob violence, property destruction, physical assaults, prevention of speech, slander, fabrications, and phony antipathies based on ancestry or religion, etc., etc., etc.

Lenin quickly established the COMmunistINTERNational in Moscow to advise socialists around the world on how to take over their countries.

"There are eight levels of control that must be obtained before you are able to create a social state.

- 1) Healthcare Control healthcare and you control the people.
- 2) Poverty Increase the poverty level as high as possible, poor people are easier to control and will not fight back if you are providing everything for them to live.
- 3) Debt Increase the debt to an unsustainable level. That way you are able to increase taxes, and this will produce more poverty.
- 4) Gun Control Remove the ability to defend themselves from the Government. That way you are able to create a police state.
- 5) Welfare Take control of every aspect of their lives (Food, Housing, and Income).
- 6) Education Take control of what people read and listen to take control of what children learn in school.
- 7) Religion Remove the belief in the God from the Government and schools.
- 8) Class Warfare Divide the people into the wealthy and the poor. This will cause more discontent and it will be easier to tax the wealthy with the support of the poor."

Does any of this sound like what has been happening to the United States? (and Canada and especially Europe?) It's Lenin's original scheme for world conquest by Communist socialism. The Useful Idiots have destroyed every nation in which they have seized power and control.



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BEYOND THE AGE OF REASON,

A FEW GOOD THINGS REMAIN

by Lyle Dillabough

These are crazy times indeed. Not just wondrous, confusing and perplexing times, but flat out crazy times to be sure.

Tell me now, who just ten years ago could have envisioned the likes of Trump?

Who would have really thought that pot would be legalized or that "up in the cloud" would mean being "wired in" rather then just plain "wired" or something other then getting high on some illegal substance?

Now I suppose the "cloud" has come down to earth as all can fly now with their feet on the ground and go about their way in a legalized fog. (or as the Newfoundlander's like to say; "fawg.") Another thing.

Everyone's got an opinion these days and don't you know they are going to let you know it too whether you like it or not. (I wonder just how everybody has come to be an expert on everything?)

One thing that seems to be missing on the part of many presently is the ability to exercise critical thinking. They know it all but will; buy anything from the countless; talking heads, politicians, so called sports heroes and Hollywood stars. ("I saw it on TV so it must be true." And: "They say I must have it so I've just got to get it!")

Know what?

I went in to the local coffee shop the other day and the attendant could actually make change by figuring it all out in her head! Impressive.

The main thing that shows me that we are beyond the age of reason is the way our local politics (and politicians) have gone down the toilet.

The endless; fiascoes, personality conflicts, conniving, scheming and displays of rampant rage is unbelievable. (Yet still, there it is)

Like the "heavy weight match"

between the victorious mayor elect and his contender at the Horton Township Municipal Office on election night (Oct. 22nd) was incredible. Those downright, "drag-em-out election battles" in places such as, Tay Valley Township, The Town of Carleton Place and within The Township of Lanark Highlands (all in Lanark County) were surreal. The same was witnessed at similar locals in other Ontario municipalities and all of this all has turned politics into some kind of viscous spectator sport where just about anything now goes.

One thing that seems to be missing on the part of many presently is the ability to exercise critical thinking.

Politicians used to get extremely upset years ago too. This is not new and goes with the territory. But we all understand this and we acted accordingly to the situation and process. It was simply the way the game was played.

Within reason.

There was a level of respect that had to be maintained. But something is different now.

I recall a certain politician years ago who was so upset with me (over something I wrote) that the effort he took to refrain from letting me have right there on the spot was literally making him sweat. Still, at the council meeting intermission he asked. "Can we get you a coffee?"

The thing is, he understood that journalists (like em or not) were the first line of defense in a democracy.

(Do we still have democracy

today?) And we were all just doing our jobs and there HAD to be respect for the role each played or our society could not work effectively.

(I wonder today at elected officials who refuse to answer questions as to why they took the job in the first place?)

Some days I think to myself: "wouldn't it be great to have a day without Trump?"

Then I make it happen.

I keep the radio off, no TV, no internet and I pick up my guitar and strike a lovely "G" chord. Then maybe a beautiful E Minor too. Looking out the window I look up through the branches to the sky and watch the birds land everywhere. I think of my community, beloved valley and this great country. Perhaps then I may begin to write as the love in my heart swells. At times like these I can get overwhelmed by a huge sense inside that seems to say that in spite of it all a few good things still remain.

It's good to ponder on those things.



The Contrarian

A Perfect Food



by Mel Fisher

The banana. As close to I nutritionally balanced with human needs as any fruit, in fact, one could survive reasonably well on a diet of only bananas. With a creamy texture and a unique and very appetizing odour and flavour, nobody dislikes bananas. The amazing part is that bananas do not have seeds, so from a biological point of view its fruit serves no purpose. The purpose of fruit is generally to hide seed in it somehow, and whoever eats the fruit spreads the seed. But with no seed, the only way a new banana plant can grow is by cuttings, which means human intervention.

So, we have a perfect food for humans, which needs human help to grow. What a remarkable coincidence! Yet we are told that bananas just 'appeared' in southern Asia some 5000 years ago. That is sciences way of explaining something they do not have a clue about; for example, they say life 'appeared' a few billion years ago. The foundation of life, that wonderfully complicated DNA molecule, so big that it contains all the instructions for building a person, while still so small it cannot actually be seen even in a microscope, just appeared by serendipity, an accident of nature, all by itself. They call that evolution, but exactly what did it evolve from? There is nothing else like it in the universe.

Having got that off my chest, let's get back to the banana. How could something so different from any other plant just evolve? It would need a whole lot of guidance to modify its wild ancestor to become so useful to humans, while also becoming unable to produce new plants without human intervention.

That brings me to two theories, and I like them both. First theory, we are not the first advanced civilization. Consider that with all our technology we could not build many of the stone artifacts around the world. For example, rocks too large for us to move; cut from bedrock with no kerf, extremely smooth and accurate and moved for

he amazing part is that bananas do not have seeds, so from a biological point of view its fruit serves no purpose.

miles. These are seen around the world, evidence of previous advanced civilizations. Perhaps one of them was sophisticated enough to develop such a remarkable food plant.

A second theory would be that bananas were developed for us by visiting space aliens, and given to the primitive tribes of southern Asia to make their life easier, and also to provide a clue to future civilizations that space aliens had already been here.

A third theory would be that bananas are just one more of God's

gifts to mankind, but of course we aren't supposed to talk about religion.

I like either of these a lot better than such half-baked explanations as that they 'just appeared', or that they evolved all by themselves.

What brings all this to mind is that bananas do not seem to me to be as flavourful, aromatic, and I fear nutritional as in my childhood, or even say 20 years ago. Some even have a fiber core, something not seen till very recently. I suppose we can attribute this to large companies tinkering with their genetics, creating new varieties designed to enhance profitability at the expense of those properties like flavour, aroma, texture, that made bananas so popular in the first place. Impossible, you say? Well, think about those beautiful red but flavourless tomatoes we get from the south in winter – varieties bred to ship well and ripen nicely while in the gasfilled truck, without worry about taste or nutrition.

Anyway, next time you have a banana, fibrous, woody, flavourless as it might be, pay tribute to the ancestors or space aliens who developed this wonderful fruit, and hope that business practices change to bring back the fruit we once knew.





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Hello from the old Jackass

Howdy folks,

Courtroom Courting

An inside look at court dramas, wins and loses and the power plays that go on behind closed doors.



On October 1, 2019 I was mandated to travel east to Toronto courtesy of Via Rail to attend court proceedings scheduled for Osgoode Hall. The journey was sadly spawned courtesy of the Attorney General appealing a previous charter challenge ruling relating to the infamous OSPCA.

Upon leaving the train at Union Station I chartered a taxi driven by an amicable Syrian gent who quickly took me to my intended destination, the Court of Appeal. After entering Osgoode Hall and passing the mandatory security check, I was greeted by a brute of a man who I suspected was an errant professional wrestler but fortunately proved to be noted agricultural reporter Ian Cumming.

A short time later Kurtis Andrews, Landowner legal representative and renowned authority on OSPCA, arrived pulling a conveyance loaded with legal paraphernalia. Diana Martin, an agricultural journalist/editor with Ontario Farmer, also arrived and we managed to exchange pleasantries.

Upon entering the upper courtroom I was delighted to see dedicated mule skinner, former PC MPP Jack MacLaren and his dedicated and devoted wife in attendance. Also in attendance was Jeff Bogearts, OLA President, who stood up to the plight and courageously put his name forward for this charter challenge. Other notable attendees consisted of several dedicated OLA members who had journeyed all the way from eastern Ontario.

The panel of three judges consisted of one woman and two men so both sexes were officially represented and responsible for the ultimate ruling. Several lawyers who had achieved intervenor status were also present and represented their take on this issue. Those in favour consisted of Ontario Attorney General and the Canadian Railways Association. Groups arguing against the appeal consisted of Animal Justice, Ontario Privacy Commission, and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

During Kurtis Andrews submission he related how the OSPCA had relinquished their charitable enforcement mandate shortly after the initial charter victory. I found it utterly disturbing that one of the judges was unaware that the OSPCA had relinquished their enforcement mandate within the province. Ironically during Kurtis' submission he was continually peppered with questions by all three justices.

I must relate I was also surprised, enlightened and disgusted by the presentation of the Canadian Railways Association representative. He was adamantly in favour of the appeal as the railways apparently were also structured in a similar fashion to the OSPCA. The railways in essence have their own private police force operating helter skelter.

Once everyone was finished court was adjourned and I foolishly approached Camille Labchuk who was the aid to lawyer Arden Beddoes

of Animal Justice. I recognized Ms Labchuk from her appearance on Steve Paikins "The Agenda." Her controversial stance on the program created much fear and hostility across the province. Naively I asked Ms Labchuk, "You're the famous Camille Labchuk that appeared on The Agenda." Believe it or not, the attractive blonde vegan instantly fired back "I'm coming to get you."

Her curt and decisive response left me at a loss for words. I'm left pondering was her response in reality a proposition or in reality a threat? In all honestly Ms Labchuk, you are an attractive lady but I think our culinary preferences would continually clash.

I can authoritatively relate I have never met a vegan I've liked and once again my beliefs were founded.

> Sincerely, The OLD Jackass



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Soul Cakes

by Randy Vancourt

www.randyvancourt.com



A soul-cake! A soul-cake!
Please good Missis, a soul cake!
An apple, a pear, a flum or a charry,
Any good thing to make us all many.
One for Peter, two for faul
Three for Him who made us all.

SOUL CAKES

I have always been fascinated with the roots of Hallowe'en. Although most of us probably see it as a fun evening for the kids, or the chance to dress up in costumes ourselves, there is still a segment of the population who continue to look at the entire celebration as evil.

It was believed that they were the reincarnation of people who had been bad in their previous life, so they came back as cats as punishment.

Now it doesn't take a genius to figure out that the odds of normal people suddenly become devilworshippers one night a year are pretty slim. Perhaps the explanation of how Hallowe'en came into existence is far more benign and dare I say, fascinating.

For centuries November 1 has been known as All Saints Day, or in medieval times, All Hallows' Day. Hallowmas was actually a 3 day celebration: October 31 was All Hallows' Eve where people prepared for the big day, then November 1 was All Saints' Day when the Saints were recognized and finally November 2 was All Souls' Day, which focused on honouring all those who had passed on.

In 835 AD, Pope Gregory IV officially set the dates for this

celebration, but why did he choose those particular days?

The ancient Celtic celebration of Samhain, the New Year's of its time, was celebrated from Oct 31 – Nov 1 and marked the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. The ancients believed that at this time of

year the veil between the world of the living and the dead was at its thinnest, and a portal between the two worlds could allow spirits to pass through.

People went door to door in costume, singing songs in exchange for food, especially "soul cakes," a small round pastry. This was called "souling" and the singers carried their own lighting with them, using hollowed out turnips and putting candles inside. Very small candles, apparently.

Cats were also a part of the celebration. It was believed that they were the reincarnation of people who had been bad in their previous life, so they came back as cats as punishment. I always assumed that the real punishment was being a cat owner, but there you are.

These celebrations were absorbed into the early church, with the more pagan elements eventually being dropped. What remained was the desire

to honour the dead that grew to include annual visits to the graves of loved ones. It's not a stretch to see how spirits, cats, spooky skeletons in cemeteries and going door to door for treats, all live on as parts of Hallowe'en.

Other countries still connect these celebrations, like Mexico's Day of the Dead, but in North America we have really separated the idea of All Hallows' Eve from All Saints' and All Souls' Days, which is why we've forgotten that they were originally one event.

What I find interesting is that, unique amongst most celebrations, Hallowmas does not make much use of music. There have been hymns written for the celebration of All Saints' Day itself, but very little for the overall celebration of all 3 days.

That's why last year I decided to resurrect the Hallowmas musical tradition of souling and soul cakes. There aren't many souling songs still around, but I did manage to find one from the medieval era, and taught it to my local church choir.

We proudly stood in church on the Sunday before Hallowe'en and sang, "A-soul, a-soul, a-soul cake; Please good missus, a-soul cake."

In hindsight I will never understand how the choir and I managed to spend an hour rehearsing this song without anyone noticing what "a-soul" sounds like, but by the reaction of the congregation, we won't be singing that in church again very soon.





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We have been alerted by a keen reader of the French media that the French-speaking activists in Ontario are ready to launch new and excessive demands on the Ford government. If you can read French or use Google Translate, the link is: https://onfr.tfo.org/loi-sur-les-services-en-francais-le-projet-de-loi-de-lafo-soumis-a-consultation/. If you want a copy of the translated article, please contact info@languagefairness.ca.

The following is a summary of the proposals to be presented to the Ford government in late October:

TORONTO - The Ontario Francophonie Assembly (AFO) has unveiled a *comprehensive legal document* that enshrines active offerings at the provincial level and gives *increased powers to an independent French Language Services Commissioner*. A public consultation aims to expand it. Here is what they want to do:

- Change designated areas. The original law, French Language Services Act (1986) specified that only areas with 10% French-speakers need to provide bilingual services (there were 27 such areas). The improved law wants all of Ontario to be under the jurisdiction of the FLSA
- 2. Revise the Act each 10 years
- 3. Appoint an Independent Commissioner with *increased powers*, possibly a *tribunal with sanction powers*
- 4. Keep French Language Services coordinators in each department *plus an advisory council*
- 5. Revise the definition of "Francophone" to be more "inclusive" so as to include ALL French-speakers, not just those whose mother-tongue is French. That proportion, according to the 2016 census is only 3.69%. This new definition will make them appear larger in number & need more services in French.
- 6. Active offer of service in both languages (the bonjour-Hi greeting that Quebec is trying to get rid of) with penalties for those who do not comply.

The proposals amount to imposing on Ontarians the same regime that the Official Languages Act forced on the Federal Government and its offices across Canada. The costs will be similar, but it will be paid by the 95% of English-speaking Ontarians. However, the social costs will be worse. It will deny employment to English-speaking Ontarians throughout the province.

We need to alert Ontarians about this Machiavellian conspiracy by Ontario francophone activists. We will require the help of volunteers, so we ask you to please contact us if you are able to help distribute information to your family & friends. We must show the Ford government that this is of great concern to large numbers of Ontarians. We cannot accept more jobs being made bilingual imperative. This will affect the public and private sector as well because bilingualism will also be made mandatory in public tenders. Our young people are already having enough difficulty getting jobs. Adding more bilingual imperatives essentially disqualifies the 95% English-speakers. This effectively turns over control of the province to 3.69% of Ontarians. The English pay and the French rule!

Quebec has ensured that the English-speaking minority do not rule in that province. We do not suggest that Ontario should subjugate the French-speakers in any way, but we do need to ensure that their language activists do not succeed in subjugating the English-speakers with these new proposals. If you have any doubt about how destructive these proposals are, you need look no further than New Brunswick where "good will" led to an Official Bilingual policy—don't let that happen in Ontario.

Bill 135, to increase the scope of the FLSA (1986), was presented by John Fraser – 1st reading on October 28th, 2019: https://www.ola.org/en/legislative-business/bills/parliament-42/session-1/bill-135

CLF is organizing a public card campaign – we need volunteers to help circulate the cards. For more information, please contact: info@languagefairness.ca



Poverty, the Compassion Cartel and Environmental Racism

Tom DeWeese is one of the nation's leading advocates of individual liberty, free enterprise, private property rights, personal privacy, back-to-basics education and American sovereignty and independence.

Tom was a guest speaker at the OLA International Property Rights convention, Oct. 2014 and recently at the OLA - AGM Oct. 2019 at the Arnprior Quality Inn.

by Tom DeWeese

In 2006, I was surprised to find myself sitting at a formal dinner in the middle of a 200-year-old debating society at Cambridge University in England. In a few minutes I, and five others were about to engage in a debate over the usefulness of the United Nations. But here, for a few minutes longer, at the long dinner table with the crisp, white tablecloth, I was sitting next to one of my fellow debaters, Salis Shetty, the head of the UN's Millennium Project.

I had ignored him through most of the dinner, but with just a few minutes left before the debate I finally turned to him and said, "You realize you don't have a prayer, don't you?"

He looked at me and asked, "About what?"

I replied, "Ending poverty by 2015 through the use of redistribution of wealth." (That was one of the eight listed goals of the UN's Millennium Project, accepted by world leaders in 2000.)

He said, "Yes, I know."

I began to talk with him about the need to help the poor escape from poverty on their own rather than being condemned to life-long bread lines. I talked about the need to establish private property rights as a means to build wealth. I mentioned that there was estimated to be almost \$10 trillion in "dead capital" (property in the world that no one is allowed to own or invest in). That's enough capital to help a lot of poor people break out of their dire situation.

Mr. Shetty looked at me as I made these observations and said, "Hernando de Soto."

"Yes!" That's exactly whom I was quoting. De Soto is an economist from Peru who has made it his life's work to help end poverty in the world by promoting private property ownership.

To my amazement Mr. Shetty

During that meeting, he told me that, in his city in India, the local government was beginning to go over property records and officially register ownership, something that had never been done before. The result was that the economy of the community was starting to improve.

looked at me and said, "I have associates who are looking on this (de Soto's ideas) favorably." Just as he said those words, the call came for us to head to the debating hall for our event. Of course we were on opposite sides.

Giving my opening statement to the Cambridge Union, a 200 year-old debating society.

As soon as the debate was over

(I was outnumbered five to one, as usual) I made a beeline to Mr. Shetty and said, "You and I started a conversation and I want to finish it." A few weeks later I traveled to New York City to meet with him in his UN office. During that meeting, he told me that, in his city in India, the local government was beginning to go over property records and officially register ownership, something that had never been done before. The result was that the economy of the community was starting to improve.

That is exactly the point that Hernando de Soto is making as he travels the world meeting with national leaders. The core reason for poverty is bad government. In most of the world, people may "own" their homes, perhaps via an underground economy, but they have no official records through the government to prove it. Without that official proof or registration, they have no means to use the property for equity loans and investment, so it is essentially dead capital, as de Soto has labeled it.

In his book, "The Mystery of Capital, Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else," de Soto explains the major difference between the American system and most other nations of the world. Here, every single piece of privately held property — homes, even large equipment, is registered. In fact, the County Registrar's office is one of the most important tools of freedom because it's where every American can prove

ownership of their property. Because of that system, average Americans can use their property as a tool to obtain loans. At least 60% of American companies have been started thorough equity loans on private property. And those privately held companies went on to employ about 60% of the American workforce. That is how private property ownership made the

If the self-proclaimed compassion industry had true concern for the poor, it would begin an international drive to empower the poor by allowing them to build their own wealth – thereby getting themselves off of the breadlines.

United States the richest nation in the world, almost over night. Lack of such a system is the reason much of the rest of the world fell into extreme poverty. In those cases the people have no way out of poverty and are forced to rely on government handouts.

De Soto's book was called "The blueprint for a new industrial revolution," by the Times of London. Today de Soto travels the world, meeting with world leaders who seek his guidance on how they can end poverty in their nations. Yet, when he tells them the secret is private ownership of property, many balk, telling him with a troubled smile, that the people in their nations "just aren't ready for such a policy - they don't understand the concept of private property ownership." So the promise of a great new financial revolution that could spread wealth and freedom to every corner of the world never gets off the ground.

A few years ago I had the great privilege of a private meeting with Hernando de Soto. He told me a story of one such meeting he had with a national leader. He's been in enough meetings with world leaders that he can now almost anticipate what they are going to say. In this particular meeting, he said he knew the leader was going to tell him that his people just weren't ready for private property ownership.

So, before the meeting, de Soto sent a team into the neighborhood around the presidential palace and knocked on doors to ask the people if they owned their homes. Every single one of them said yes, they owned their home. So de Soto's team members asked each to produce any kind of evidence they might have to show that ownership. They did. It might have been a bill

of sale, a receipt or even a copy of a will. In any case, they had something to prove their ownership in a country where property ownership was not supported by the government.

De Soto took copies of these items

with him to the meeting, and before the discussion could begin about how the people of his country didn't understand private property ownership, Hernando de Soto spread his evidence on the table and said to the leader, "your people understand property ownership, now let's discuss how they can legally own it and build capital from it."

There are three main reasons the world has not experienced de Soto's new financial revolution. First is bad government led by dictators who refuse

to give up their power over the people by supplying them the means for ending poverty. Poverty is very helpful to dictators because poor people are powerless to rise up against them. Poverty is also convenient to rouse the rabble against political opponents and spread fear.

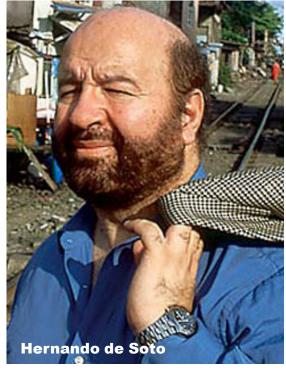
Those who are barely hanging on from meal to meal are easy to scare with threats from any proposal that dares to differ from the redistribution schemes, even if, in the long run, that would be the best means for them to find a way out of poverty. The Left has used this fear effectively to build hate and resistance against

those who promote free enterprise.

The second reason the world is sinking into ever greater poverty is the Environmental movement- the newstyle dictatorship that actually prefers people to remain poor, living in mud huts with no infrastructure, running water or electricity. That, they claim, is sustainable.

Believe it or not, there is a worldwide Sustainable Development prohibit funding of development projects in Third World countries if the projects don't fit the environmental agenda. It's called the Equator Principles. According to their own documents, the Equator Principles were established in association with the World Bank's International Finance Corporation in 2003. They have been adopted by at least 73 financial institutions around the world, covering over 70% of international projects such as dams, mines, and pipelines. At least three leading American financial institutions are associates of the Equator Principles, including Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase and Citigroup.

In short, such policy actually leads to what can only be called Environmental Racism. A few white, rich people who live in luxury in their first-world nations have made a determination that some who now live in mud huts with no indoor



power and no clean running water, must stay that way because these elites have determined it is more 'sustainable" for the planet.

Stopping development for the poor has become a major drive by Sustainablists. At the Earth Summit in 1992, Chairman Maurice Strong famously said "Isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrial nations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring that about?" Zero economic growth is the announced goal to assure their well-ordered sustainable society stays dormant, thereby assuring their control. Of course, the result will only be more poor people – all in the name of saving the environment.

But fear not, these same power mongers aren't satisfied to condemn just those already living in poverty. Apparently they are so determined to control every human action on the planet that they are equally happy to condemn the rest of us to such a future - for the planet, of course. Author Ted Trainer has written a book entitled "Transition to a Sustainable and Just World," which is really nothing more than a blueprint for establishing Marxist principles into your local community. In the book Trainer writes, "The alternative has to be the simpler way, a society based on non-affluent lifestyles within mostly small and highly self-sufficient local economies under the local participatory control and not driven by market forces or the profit motive, and with no economic growth. There must be an enormous cultural change away from competitive individualistic acquisitiveness." The call for zero economic growth was also heard at the UN's Rio+20 Summit in 2012. Trainer's motto for us all is that "you must live on less!" That is their definition of Sustainable Development. Of course they only mean this future for you and me, not the powerful elite.

Such ideas of destroying human civilization are, in fact, rampant throughout the Green movement. Paul Ehrlich, professor of Population Studies at Stanford University demanded that "a massive campaign must be launched to de-develop the United States. Dedevelopment means bringing our

economic system into line with the realities of ecology and the world resource situation." Apparently, the advocates of such a desire to make us all poor have missed a very important fact. Only in wealthy nations do people have enough money and time to worry about protecting the environment. The poor worry only about one thing —

What is the result of this worldwide focus on poverty? Well, we have more poor! It's a growth industry. Why? Because not one of these programs offers a single plan to allow the poor to help themselves.

survival. It is also in the poorest areas where population numbers explode. In rich, secure nations populations are actually going down. So it would seem logical that if one wants to protect the environment and reduce populations then Capitalism would be the economic system of choice. But of course, none of this is really about helping the poor or the ecology. It's about power.

The third reason for depressed economies and a growing number of poor is what I call the "Compassion Cartel." Government, private charities

and foundations have made poverty big business. It's the excuse for nearly every governmental spending program. Help the poor! Tax the rich! How dare they get wealthy while others suffer? And the preferred way to eliminate poverty is redistribution of wealth. It's easy to convince someone to donate to a cause when emotions and guilt are employed. Reason and rational thought take a backseat.

Back to my debate in Cambridge: After the debate was over, the hosts sponsored a reception. As I entered the door, I was confronted by one of the students, who asked with puzzlement – "sir, you really don't believe in redistribution of wealth?"

I answered, "No, it's theft."

And she said, "But if you have more than you need, shouldn't you share it with someone who needs it?"

I said, "Why should I?"

She looked like I had slapped her. Here she was, one of the bright young students at one of the great schools in the world, and she had never heard an argument against redistribution of wealth or for a free market. As I spoke to her, giving detail after detail about how a free market and property can eliminate poverty, more than 50 other students began to gather around.

 $I \, explained \, that \, if \, I \, take \, money \, from \, \\ each \, of \, them \, today \, to \, feed \, someone \, \\$



more unfortunate, then tomorrow they will need another meal -and again the next day, and the next. You have gained nothing in the battle to help them, other than to delay their agony another day. At best you have offered a band aid. At worse, such policy doesn't prevent poverty. Something else is causing that poverty and you haven't addressed it. So, tomorrow there will be more poor, and more the next. And each time you will be forced to provide more and more aid from your now dwindling funds, until one day you too may find yourself forced to be in the receiving line. When I finished my explanation there was a moment of silence and then the young student said, "What an interesting point of view. How can I learn more?"

I wanted to scream "Economics 101!"

Today, anyone who points out such economic facts in a failed welfare system is called heartless and probably racist. What kind of evil person calls helping the poor theft? Well, take a good look at the world we live in. According to Mr. Shetty's Millennium Project, there are currently 1.2 billion people living in poverty. Fifty thousand deaths a day occur worldwide as a result of poverty. Every year more than 10 million children die of hunger and preventable diseases. More than half the world's population lives on less that \$2 per day and 800 million people go to bed hungry every night.

To combat all of this we have the Compassion Cartel. We have thousands of charitable organizations and faith-based programs designed to feed the children, along with education programs designed to create awareness of poverty and starvation. Their ads run on television nightly pulling at our heartstrings to "do something." Most of these charities have built huge private organizations, with highly paid administrators working out of impressive buildings with large staffs. That doesn't include the huge government programs operating at an even larger scale on your tax dollars. As I said, poverty is big business.

Every politician preaches the gospel of helping the poor and as a result, more than half of every American's pay check disappears into government coffers even before it hits our own pockets. Billions of dollars of aid pour into federal and international programs to distribute to countries around the world to help feed the poor. Poverty reductions have been set. Goals have been announced. Deadlines for ending poverty have been determined and every national and international leader has signed documents to pledge that poverty must be eradicated. In 2015 it was called Agenda 2030. In 2019 it's called the Green New Deal.

What is the result of this worldwide focus on poverty? Well, we have more poor! It's a growth industry. Why? Because not one of these programs offers a single plan to allow the poor to help themselves. Instead, the Compassion Cartel has sentenced every single poor person in the world to a future of life-long breadlines, allowing them to be victims of demagogues, con artists and harsh, hopeless, futureless lives. There is no consideration for their goals and dreams and no real understanding of the hopelessness of their lives. And the middle class of once wealthy nations like the United States is quickly dissolving under the burden of the redistribution schemes. Result – more poor in our once proud nation.

If the self-proclaimed compassion industry had true concern for the poor, it would begin an international drive to empower the poor by allowing them to build their own wealth – thereby getting themselves off of the breadlines.

Hernando de Soto has offered that way. He has called for the establishment of private property rights that would allow people around the world to build personal wealth and the ability to invest in new enterprises that would, in return, employ more, help build infrastructure to allow still more to have electricity, heat, cooling and clean water in their homes, improving health and the quality of their lives. Step by step these improvements would lead to creating more wealth worldwide, reducing the burden on the rest of us, and in turn, help all of us build even more wealth, strengthening quality of life. Help the poor help themselves and it will also help you. That is a winning compassion for all.

But to take such a step would require a rejection of socialism and an embracing of capitalism. And that, says the Compassion Cartel, can never be allowed, because that would lead to empowering individuals to control their own lives. Instead, in the name of compassion, sustainable oppression in a well-ordered society is so much more efficient.

Permission granted from Tom DeWeese to reprint article.



OLA AGM and Property Rights Conference



The Quality Inn in Arnprior, Ontario was the venue for the OLA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Property Rights Conference on October 26.

The AGM, held in the morning, began with coffee and donuts followed by reports from the secretary, treasurer, and President Jeff Bogaerts.

One of the orders of business was the revision of the OLA Constitution to change the structure of the Executive Council from one President, one Vice-President, and five Governors to one President, two Vice-Presidents, and four Governors.

Following the revision, elections for the Executive Council were held. Those elected for 2019-2020 are:

- · Jeff Bogaerts, President
- Donna Burns, Vice-President
- Bob Weirmeir, Vice-President
- Stefanos Karatopis, Governor
- Duaine McKinley, Governor
- Ed Kaminsky, Governor
- Vaughn Johnstone, Governor

The Conference opened at 1 PM with welcoming remarks from President Jeff Bogaerts. Next was a presentation by Tom DeWeese, our special guest speaker. Tom is the founder and president of the American Policy Centre (APC). The APC, located in suburban Washington, D.C., promotes free enterprise, limited government regulations, and property rights.

The energy in the room was intense as Tom spoke about the 2% of people who fight for their rights and the 98% who do not. He advised us to never give up, remarking that

us to never give up, remarking that governments cannot implement sustainability without destroying private property.

Tom and Marlene Black were presented with the Terry Green Award for their many years of dedication and service to the OLA.

Marlene Black received an award for her years of work on the Landowner Magazine as well as other communication channels such as the OLA ENews.

Jean-Serge Brisson was invited to speak about his win against Canada Revenue Agency in court just two days before the conference. For details on Jean-Serge's story see https://ontariolandowners.ca/news/the-end-of-the-beginning-by-jean-serge-brisson/

The Property Rights Conference proceedings, including Tom DeWeese's presentation will be available soon on our OLA YouTube Channel.





Kemptville College Alumni Scholarships

Two Kemptville College Alumni Scholarships worth \$500 each are available to two lucky students who are enrolled in their second year of an agricultural related or food related accredited college program. They must have a relative who graduated from Kemptville College. As part of the application process, students will have to answer an essay question about their career choice and why they chose it.

Application forms are due January 31, 2020. For more information visit www.kcalumni.ca or contact Audrey Baker at a.bakercl@hotmail.com or by telephone at 613 283 5033

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- Jeff is the Principal of Canadian Property Rights Legal Services.
- Vice-President of the Ontario Landowners.
- · President of the Lanark Landowners.
- Director of the International Property Rights Association.

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A Road Trip Adventure in Ireland



by Marlene Black

om and I recently returned from a 16 day trip around Ireland. We managed to circle the whole island, landing in Dublin, driving north to N. Ireland, west down to the Dingle peninsula and south ending back in Dublin. A great holiday. Met lots of friendly people, some farmers, great bed and breakfasts, a world famous pub on the mountain called "Johnnie Foxes" and landscapes of beautiful scenery. We navigated the narrow, windy roads and the multitude of unexpected 'roundabouts' in our small rented car, only screaming for the first 2 days until I got used to the trucks coming at us at high speeds with no wiggle room. All in all, a great adventure.

We were there to get a feel for the country that our ancestors left close to 200 years ago and we succeeded. Although very green with lots of farming, we were overwhelmed by the feeling that the wide open spaces that we take for granted in Canada, the large parking lots and places to

pull over to eat and the extra room around cars on the roads, was not there. Understandable, an island is limited in space and when we mused about 'I wonder why they didn't make the roads wider', we were told, 'that the farmers don't want to give up their land'. So that was it. Many of the roads still seemed to be the width of the cattle paths from years ago. Once we got used to that though, we had a lot of fun exploring.

We visited several 5000 year old sites, prehistoric tombs, Celtic ringforts, medieval buildings and burial grounds. We saw some castles, beehives huts and dry stone buildings as well as the Battle of the Boyne museum, the Giants causeway, and a fish farm .. Scattered throughout the hillsides were homes and small villages which dotted the landscape and made for beautiful photos. The ever present cliffs jutting out into the ocean presented a daunting challenge to those invaders from the past as well as for those who remained to make a living off the land. The

history of Ireland was plagued with wars and conquests. It seemed that over the centuries, different armies set their sights on Ireland. The Vikings, the Normans and the British to name a few. The many medieval castles throughout the country, some in ruins and some restored gave testimony to the strong resistance to capture and fierce loyalty to freedom felt among these people.

Toms part of the journey to discover his roots was very successful. He knew that his great-great grandfather left Belfast with Tom's great-grandfather around 1840. We visited the original restored 'office complete with desk and lamp' that the millions of Irish refugees from the potato famine had to buy their tickets from to begin their difficult journey to the New World. Standing on a replica of the 'famine ship' and stepping down below deck to see the terrible living conditions and cramped quarters they survived in for the long journey, was a shocking revelation of the hell they had gone through to escape the old country and begin a new one across the ocean.

Throughout the trip, we would ask people that we met, if they knew anyone with the surname "Black". Many people in southern Ireland couldn't think of one person with the last name Black but it was a different story in the north. Here we were directed to several graveyards and said that they knew several people with that name. We were looking for some graveyards that might have names that we recognized and people were only too happy to point us in the right direction. After driving down some narrow windy roads, we came to a place area that had several graveyards. We climbed over the bars of an overgrown abandoned and unmaintained small





graveyard beside an old church. Here we found at least 6 with the name Black but further down the road we came to a large well groomed graveyard that was full of Tom's potential ancestors. There were 28 gravestones with the surname 'Black' on it, with many names on each stone. This discovery seemed to solve the mystery of where Tom's relatives came from. It wasn't a burning question, just one that he had pondered on from time to time and thanks to family and friends who pushed us past our comfort zone, we were able to seek some of the answers and step back in time to visit a country steeped in history and mystery.









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