

Landowner Voices

A white lamb is lying on a large, light-colored rock. A red rope is attached to a black collar around its neck. The lamb is looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a line of evergreen trees under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. To the left, a portion of a dark-colored animal is visible.

LV

July August 2020

MacGregor

CONCRETE PRODUCTS (BEACHBURG) LIMITED

Serving Ontario & Quebec Since 1975

SEPTIC TANK PUMPING



- Concrete Floors
- Effluent Filters
- Well Tile

READY MIX CONCRETE

- Precast Concrete Septic Tanks
- Precast Concrete Holding Tanks
- Poured Concrete Foundations
- Ready Mix Concrete
- Septic Tank Pumping
- Precast Concrete Steps



www.macgregorconcrete.com

BEACHBURG 613-582-3459

1-800-267-0118

Landowner Voices

Inside these Pages....

Articles and Stories

- 5 Letters
- 6 MP Cheryl Gallant
- 7 Ontario County Groups
- 8 Goldie Gamari, MPP
- 10 Eganville Leader - Renfrew Shutdown
- 12 MPP John Yakabuski
- 22 Canada's Tax System - *Dave Hemingway*
- 23 Legislative Assembly of Ontario on MPAC
- 26 Let's Call it Like it Is - *Charles Conn*
- 31 Suffering in Silence - *CLF*
- 32 Gender and Sex - *Roger Graves*
- 36 Is our Parliamentary System Dead? - *Shirley Dolan*
- 40 A discussion paper - *Charles Ficner*

Columnists - Editorials

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 4 Tom Black | 35 Lyle Dillabough |
| 9 Steve Straub | 38 Marlene Black |
| 11 The Geezers Corner | |
| 15 Randy Vancourt | |
| 16 Ian Cumming | |
| 18 Judith Cox | |
| 28 Mel Fisher (The Contrarian) | |
| 30 Dale Dawson | |

PHOTO CREDIT for cover shot of Woolly the lamb to Hannah Lilly

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

July/August 2020



Hello Folks,

Hope for the Future!

by Tom Black

As the world we knew just six months ago trembles with upheavals created by Covid 19, it makes one wonder if we will ever get back to normal. As a young boy growing up on a small, mixed farm where we basically grew everything that we ate, I could never have imagined how the world of agriculture would have scaled up to what it is now.

In those days we worked with horses. Looking back, I can see that there were several reasons why in the 1950's, we didn't have a tractor. The first reason was that my family had no money to buy one. The second reason was that my dad didn't have any knowledge of tractors and was a little hesitant to learn something new, which I can now sympathize with as every time you get some new gadget, it comes with pages of confusing instructions that you have to try and figure out, just to be able to make it

work. The third reason was that we had no tractor machinery to put behind the tractor. We did, however, have lots of horse machinery and good horses were cheap to buy because everyone else was buying tractors.

So now I think I know why we were a little behind in modernizing our farm operation, but looking back at that time I still would not want to have missed it because for every tough day that we had, there were so many more great days of working with family and nature. Until you have sat on the seat of a hay mower, pulled by a team of willing horses, with the creak of the harness and the tinkling of trace chains, the smell of the horses and the fresh cut hay plus the clack of the old steel wheeled mower, you can never appreciate how complete that world seemed to be.

Now that time, school and life lessons have changed how I view the

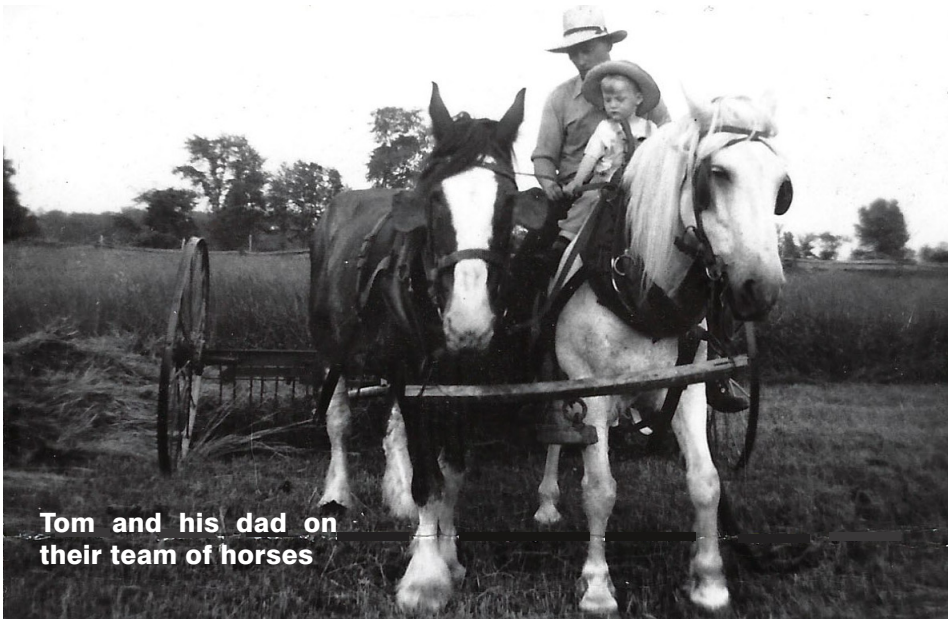
world, I realize how safe I felt back then when my only worry for the day, was if I might hit a stone and break a knife. There was no internet, no computer, no T.V, or even hyped up radio talks show hosts bringing the woes of the world to our safe sanctuary back in the bush on a one car wide dirt road.

The past 50 years has seen a world that is running at such a fast pace, no one has ever really stopped to think of the basics. Family, friends, religion, food, shelter and health. That now has changed with this virus. People are at home with their kids, they are trying to keep up with friends on Zoom, having sermons in church parking lots or on the internet and just recognizing that there is more to life than the dollar.

For me, the biggest sign of hope for the future of people, is the instant natural instinct that so many people have to want to grow their own food.

Now it seemed like a natural instinct to want to grow but not necessarily a natural instinct of how to grow. But that is OK because as anyone who has ever farmed knows, you are never done trying to learn from your mistakes and these newly spawned food growers will get good at growing their own food. The computer is full of Youtube videos, just a click away to help you find the answers, that in the not so distant past, would have come from a family of farmers.

I know eventually this crisis will pass and many will go back to the store for food, but hopefully there will be many more people who do continue to have hens and gardens, so that we retain that



Tom and his dad on their team of horses

Letters from our Readers



A letter from an Australian, John Carter

Don't know if you have the same problem in Canada but corrupt politicians are trying to replace the real Queen Elizabeth II and Crown law with the fake paper Queen of Australia and thus removing the power of the people and the power of our Commonwealth Constitution. Same as in Canada.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtAtCF5SNNk>

Former Senator Rod Culleton, a colleague of **Len Harris** is taking this to the English Privy Council in a bid to get Australia back into the hands of the people.

In 1999 the Federal Government ran a referendum to dump the monarchy and go with a republic. 55% said No. There were lengthy TV debates but the pro-Republicans couldn't come up with a guarantee that our Constitution would be protected and people felt more secure under the monarchy. However over a period of time the government on both sides has sneakily brought in a system of law through the courts that effectively operates as a republic. Copies of our Constitution have quietly been removed from libraries and schools and the government has even printed a new Constitution book with some of the original removed.

This is what Rod Culleton is fighting against and the reinstatement of our courts under the Crown. So far he is making progress and the exit of Britain out of the European Union will make the task easier as England now has to rely on the support of its colonies and Commonwealth countries.

Also local councils have had two goes at seeking via a referendum, recognition under the Constitution. Both times they failed so now they are

talking about a 3rd referendum to gain Constitutional recognition but they have put it off several times because if they fail a third time, they can never have another go. They are finished.

It has also been shown in several recent court cases that the Local Government Act which underpins the supposed authority of Councils, is invalid as it has never received royal assent and it failed to get a third reading when put through Parliament about 30 years ago. People are waking up to the fact that they have been conned and the Constitution is starting to be re-discovered. Under it, all laws must have royal assent or be signed off by the Governor General but that doesn't happen. Parliament passes a law and that's it. People are challenging this in court and walking free, particularly in traffic matters.

Here too, various people have brought treason charges against previous Prime Ministers and politicians but the Department of Public Prosecutions stepped in, took over the cases and shelved them.

Now Rod Culleton and his team have found a way around this and taken it to the Privy Council in England. Also locally a group is swearing in a team of citizens as a Grand Jury to take on the Government. Not sure where that will go.

It is thought that at the next Federal elections, the government party system will suffer a serious set back as more and more parliamentarians are leaving their parties and going independent and looking after the interests of their constituents rather than adhering to the party platform.

Also people are starting to kick back against government control over the Corona virus. People are refusing mass testing and ignoring social distancing despite police fining them for breaches.

Many will challenge their fines in court and it is predicted that a lot of these fines will get thrown out because they have been issued as a result of a government directive and there is no actual law to back it up. Not passed through Parliament and no royal assent so invalid.

Also because the courts have been closed for so long and just starting to open now, there is a huge backlog of fines including traffic fines and if they are not heard in court within 12 months of being issued, the Statute of Limitations kicks in and the courts can no longer proceed and the fine gets deleted.

Our trip to Canada this year may not happen as Australian airlines will not fly out of the country until next year. Whether Air Canada is going to fly in and out this year we will have to wait and see.

*Best regards,
John*





Casualties of an Undemocratic Decision by the Federal Government

By Cheryl Gallant, MP

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR RENFREW-NIPISSING-PEMBROKE
www.cherylgallant.com

One of the casualties of the undemocratic decision by the federal government to shut-down Parliament is the Private Member's legislation I introduced last February, Bill C-222, An Act to amend the Expropriation Act (protection of private property). I introduced Bill C-222 to provide some protections from the government taking people's property without compensation.

That legislation would have come up for debate and a vote by now. Under new rules adopted by the House of Commons, Bill C-222 was placed high on the Order of Precedence. In a minority Parliament it would have enjoyed significant support. Canada's federal government has not only capitalized on the COVID-19 pandemic to limit democratic debate on measures it has implemented, but also effectively shut down the ability of Parliament to carry out its functions, like debating good legislation proposed by Private Members.

The Liberal party was enabled to do this with fewer Members of Parliament than the combined Official Opposition, by forming a coalition with the minor fourth party, the socialist NDP.

Using broad emergency powers and discretion under the Royal Prerogative, the federal government has significantly curtailed Parliament's functions of scrutinizing government, authorizing legislation and representing diverse interests. At a time of unprecedented executive action leading to liberal federal spending and restrictions on Canadians freedoms, the minority government has outmanoeuvred Parliament to avoid regular scrutiny that serves to hold decision-makers accountable. "June 2020 COVIDs

Collateral Contagion": Why Faking Parliament is No Way to Govern in a Crisis. Macdonald-Laurier Institute

Firearms and Property Rights

The decision by the Liberal government to use the distraction of the pandemic crisis to confiscate shotguns and hunting rifles from law-abiding firearms owners has made each owner a COVID-19 victim without contracting the virus.

Do not be fooled by terms like 'assault-style,' which has no legal definition in Canada, or 'military-style,' which is a made-up phrase used by the liberals, and does not exist in the Firearms Act. Those phrases are used to confuse or scare the uninformed public that fake definitions justify confiscation. Just like the recent incident in Nova Scotia was used to confuse Canadians.

Neighbours of the psychopathic Nova Scotia killer had been warning the RCMP for years the killer was dangerous. Dressed as a fake policeman, driving a fake police car, he committed his horrendous crimes with unlicensed firearms. He did not have a license to own a firearm. The illegal collection had been reported to the police, who did not act.

Banning firearms has no effect on illegal firearms.

The facts did not prevent the Liberal government from using the tragedy, claiming the opposite when it announced its plan to confiscate private property.

The good news is Canadians are fighting back! The Ontario Landowners Association, (which includes our local Renfrew-Nipissing-

Pembroke County Chapter) has served Notice to the federal government that it will challenge the confiscation of the private property of individuals in court.

"We view this as not a firearms issue specifically, but as a direct attack on the lawful ownership of Private Property. The removal of lawfully purchased Private Property without compensation and the removal of hunting and sport shooting established over hundreds of years as part of our culture and heritage."

Jeff D. Bogaerts, President, Ontario Landowners Association

They will be joined in court by members of the Canadian Coalition for Firearm Rights, who have included a Constitutional Challenge in their legal brief. Other groups and individuals are involved in challenges also.

The confiscation announcement was made with no consultation of elected MPs, individuals, businesses, or groups like farmers, gun clubs and sporting leagues.

As your elected voice, I have been prevented from debating this undemocratic matter in Parliament, with Parliament being shut down. More importantly, YOU have been denied your right, to know, question and voice YOUR opinion on the government plan to confiscate YOUR private property.

Just as we fought the long-gun registry successfully, we will fight this latest effort to take away our property rights.

For more information contact Cheryl Gallant, M.P. " 613-732-4404



Ontario Landowners Association
www.OntarioLandowners.ca

Carleton (Ottawa)

Tim Mount
mount.haven@hotmail.com

Durham/York/Victoria

Gord Robinson 905-243-2870
gs-robinson@hotmail.com

Dufferin

Mark Tijssen 519-939-1889
carlsbad_mark@hotmail.com

Elliott Lake Landowner

Ann Hutchinson 705-790-7862
ahutchinson@northernexport.ca

Gatineau Valley L.A.

Albert Kealey 819 422 3554
corazorn@gmail.com

Grey-Bruce

Bob Weirmeir (Interim)
 519-363-5455
 Ken Jay 647-985-5456

Hamilton/Halton L.A.

Don Johnson 905-577-7859
Teamjohn@idirect.com

Huron-Perth

Natasha Marier
huronperthlandowners@hotmail.com
 Bill Jeffrey 519-271-2664
bjeffrey@perthsouth.ca

Lanark

Jeff Bogaerts 613-222-3174
jdbogaerts@bellnet.ca

Leeds & Grenville

Duaine McKinley 613-926-2372
mckinley@xplornet.com

Muskoka Landowners

Karen Bainbridge
 705-788-5956
kwbainbridge@vianet.ca

Niagara

Dave Honey

North Renfrew United

Frank Burke 613-584-3573
frank.m.burke@gmail.com
www.nrul.ca

Prescott-Russell

Philipp Mayr 613-679-4151
philimarffarms@aol.com

**Renfrew Nippissing
 Pembroke**

Donna Burns 613-432-4352
donnaburns1@bell.net

Saugeen Regional

Bob Weirmeir
 519-363-5455
saugeenregionalla@outlook.com



NEWS FROM QUEEN'S PARK PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT PASSES LEGISLATION TO BETTER PROTECT ONTARIO'S FARMERS & FARM FAMILIES

On June 16 we passed Bill 156, the Security from Trespass and Food Safety Act. This legislation is about protecting the safety of workers in the agri-food sector, protecting Ontario's food safety as well as protecting the integrity of Ontario's food supply chain. We will continue to support Ontario's agri-food sector and farmers during these difficult times as they keep our food supply chain strong while protecting and maintaining Ontario's high standards for animals.

For many farmers their home and their work is the same place. Everyone has a right to feel safe in their own home. Passing Bill 156 protects farmers, their animals, livestock transporters, and the integrity of Ontario's food supply.

This bill strikes the right balance between a home and work life, ensuring that farmers feel safe in their home, and at the workplace, while also ensuring animal health, safety, and the integrity of Ontario's food supply.

ONTARIO PROTECTING AGRI- FOOD WORKERS

The Government of Ontario is taking additional steps to better protect workers in the agri-food sector during the COVID-19 outbreak. The province is significantly expanding the Agri-food Workplace Protection Program and committing up to \$15 million to enhance health and safety measures on farms and in food processing facilities.

The Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program provides cost-share funding for farmers to purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and implement workplace modifications and other measures. By significantly expanding the program, farmers can take additional steps to improve health and safety for their workers and ensure the continued supply of locally grown food during the COVID-19 outbreak.

ONTARIO SUPPORTING BEEF AND HOG FARMERS DURING COVID-19

The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing up to \$10 million in emergency assistance for beef and hog farmers. The funding will help cover the increased costs of feeding market ready cattle and hogs due to COVID-19 related processing delays, while redirecting surplus pork products to help those in need. This program will help ensure the country's food supply chain will remain strong and ready to recover as the economy gradually and safely reopens.

The beef cattle set-aside program will provide beef farmers with up to \$5 million in support. Farmers can claim \$2 per head of cattle per day to help pay for additional maintenance costs should they have to keep their market-ready animals on their farms for extended periods of time.

The hog sector support program will also provide hog farmers with up to \$5 million to help cover additional maintenance costs. Ontario is also providing up to \$1.5 million to process and package surplus pork for food banks, to provide those in need with fresh, locally produced pork products. This will assist the pork processing industry with managing capacity while helping those in need.

OFFICE NOTICE:

In an effort to contain the COVID-19 virus, our Constituency Office went virtual on March 16, 2020. Our location will remain closed until further notice. We are still open & working during regular office hours to answer your calls & emails. 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

**COVID-19 CARLETON
RESOURCE PAGE:
GOLDIEMPP.CA/COVID-19**

Happy Canada Day!

The health and well-being of the residents of Carleton, Ottawa & Ontario is my top priority. Please visit my website for the latest information & updates from the Government of Ontario, as well as information regarding upcoming virtual town hall meetings & public consultations.

If you are providing services/resources to the community and would like your information included on this community resource page, please fill out the contact form on my website.

All Lives Matter



Howdy folks,

During the current Covid pandemic the media embraced the unfortunate events leading to the death of a black man, George Floyd.

Yes, he was the man detained and pinned down by a white police officer's knee on his neck for over eight minutes leading to his death.

It's fortunate the entire incident was recorded and spread around the globe by the media courtesy of the internet and main stream media

I fully agree the incident was totally unacceptable and thus inspired riots around the globe decreeing the incident was racially motivated.

I must relate candidly to the incident as my very own geriatric father suffered a similar fate at the hands of an OPP Officer.

It was August of 2006 and my elderly dad was home alone when the mighty OSPCA and "OPP Peacekeepers" arrived to serve a warrant on my dad's property. Incidentally, my dad was 73 and in prime health enjoying his much deserved retirement years.

During commission of the raid my father had his arm brutally twisted and he was menacingly thrown against a pickup truck.

Several days later, during sworn testimony while under my questioning at an Animal Care Review Board hearing, an OSPCA agent fully substantiated the officer's attack and highly aggressive demeanour during the raid. All this occurred while my dad was in an Intensive Care unit suffering from a massive heart attack inspired from all the stress and drama.

Believe it or not, once the startling revelations became known, the ACRB chair who also acted as an inept, biased transcriptionist, refused to record any of the revelations as she believed she did not have the authority to deal with such issues in her capacity.

I might add, an inattentive cop was also present for all our protection and didn't bat an eye at the startling revelation.

At a later date, with the aid of an attorney and a hefty legal retainer, we launched legal action against the OPP officer in question. In due time, correspondence was received and the OPP denied any responsibility leading to the tragic events and the unjust attack. The kindly lawyer, now a prominent local city councillor, demanded an additional \$18,000 to continue with our search for justice as he didn't work for charity.

Both my father and myself concurred our search for justice would be more eventful at a local casino. We realized our quest for accountability must end before we were penniless and naked in the streets.

Courtesy of Covid-19, my elderly father who is a long term care facility captive, has been unable to see family for many weeks. Prior to the pandemic my 82 year old mother attended the facility twice weekly. She kept close watch on my dad and provided additional goodies.

Now she relies on weekly calls to the facility and is reassured my dad is doing fine.

Recently we received a disturbing call from the facility that my dad was doing fine but did we have his funeral arrangements in order? Is this the type of kindness and consideration being dispatched at the long term care facilities?

It's a sad commentary when a great proportion of those dying of covid-19 are seniors entrusted to long term care facilities.

Our seniors are a precious resource and it's unfathomable that they are dying in such numbers. It's reminiscent of the Warsaw Ghetto during Nazi occupation.

During the last couple of years our provincial government has created some of the toughest anti-animal cruelty laws on the planet. The changes were decreed, inspired and initiated by radical animal activists, vegans and assorted animal rescue venues all with their own caring agendas and ulterior motives.

I sincerely hope our government puts human rights ahead of animal rights and ensure human beings be subjected to appropriate care. My 73 year old father was treated like roadkill by the system.

In closing I reiterate, "all lives matter" and I suggest big brother get their priorities in order and institute measures to adequately address the atrocities that have taken place because I'm a firm advocate that "all lives matter."

Sincerely,
THE OLD JACKASS



Province of Ontario Shuts the door to any Development in RENFREW COUNTY

Reprinted with permission from The Eganville Leader, June 3, 2020

Article by Debbi Christinck

Pembroke – Renfrew County is no longer open for business or even any kind of development, even if the government of Premier Doug Ford was elected on the promise of opening Ontario for business.

The province has effectively shut the door on any development in Renfrew County with most of the county considered deer wintering yards, new agricultural zoning in many areas, more aggregate issues, punitive growth allocations and that fun pesky issue of environmental impact studies, just to name a few issues.

The dire news was unveiled at a virtual meeting of Renfrew County council last Wednesday and the ire and dismay by reeves and mayors representing the county's 100,000 residents were visible through the patchy lens of ZOOM technology.

"We might as well shut the place down now because we are pretty well done," Madawaska Valley Mayor Kim Love said, pointing out the developments planned in her area would tip their growth allocations over the top.

The mayor questioned why municipalities and the county have worked so hard on economic development when the province has in one stroke of the pen prevented not only new development from occurring, but also restricted how residents can use property they already own.

"There are large areas of the county which will not be able to grow," she said. "We need to grow to be able to survive."

The issue of deer wintering yards – a new concept which now covers most of the rural part of Renfrew County like a spreading wildfire – will be especially devastating for people

planning on using the land they own for building a home for themselves or others who might want to settle here, she said.

"Many of these issues, like deer wintering yards, we will not be able to survive because we cannot grow our tax base or grow our businesses," she said.

There will also be a tremendous backlash from the public when they see they cannot build on their properties or develop lots or subdivide acreage. Unfortunately the anger will be felt locally when it should be directed to the province.

"There are large areas of the county which will not be able to grow," she said. "We need to grow to be able to survive."

"We need to educate the populace that this is not what county council sent to the province," she said. "We are working to get some change, but we are going to have some angry people thinking of planning and faced with the new obligations for studies and restrictions. I don't want my staff to take the flack for this."

Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy said she was dismayed at the province's timing on levelling the axe to the county in the midst of the pandemic, which has paralyzed Ontario already. Although the county plan was in the development stage for quite some time, there had been good

indications the province would be willing to accept the plan as presented by the county. Instead, the province put in numerous onerous restrictions, and just how the county will be able to appeal this has yet to be determined.

"This is unacceptable on so many levels," the mayor said. "The province brings this down during a pandemic. I don't believe we should stop lobbying for the changes we need."

Admaston/Bromley Mayor Michael Donohue was succinct in his estimation of the provincial response, calling for an immediate appeal to Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski, as well as other provincial ministers for reconsideration.

"I am seething at this intolerable act of the province," he said. "It seems absurd to consider deer a species at risk, so I encourage all members of our community immediately to cease feeding the deer."

The restrictive terms of the County of Renfrew Official Plan, as designated by the province, will impede the county moving forward.

"Every landowner will have a species at risk or a species at risk habitat," he said.

The county plan is made to comply with the provincial policy statement, but how the province changed the county plan makes no sense, he said.

"We have a low density population and these policies are for a high density urban environment," he said.

Provincial Knock Out

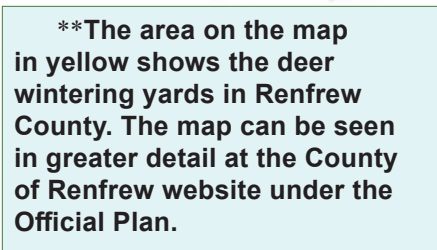
Although County of Renfrew Planner Charles Chessman used the analogy of an NHL hockey team defeating a house league team of six-year-olds, it was really more of

Before county residents look the other way and believe their properties will not be impacted, he was quick to

“When you look out the window, you will see the provincial interest,” he promised.

Farming, which has seen many

“We would like some flexibility



in our plan which may not meet the test of the Golden Hoersshoe but are applicable to the County of Renfrew,” he said. “We were not completely successful in that regard.”

Mr. Cheeseman outlined several areas of concern, pointing out the only victory for the county was the consent policy, which had been seen as the most contentious issue originally.

“We were able to keep our consent policy,” he said. “This was one of our only major successes.”

The growth allocations – which state an area can only grow in size by a certain percentage – were put in by the province and make no sense for this area, he said. The implication means there will need to be an official plan amendment for any areas of larger growth.

“This could affect new subdivisions getting through,” he said. “That is a concern.”

The protection of natural heritage features includes the deer wintering areas.

“We did not want to map deer wintering areas,” he said. “They have added deer wintering areas. Development near them will require a study.”

The deer wintering areas encompass most of the county now.

“Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards is basically covered in deer wintering areas,” he said.

Prime agricultural areas – where development is also restricted have been increased with new areas in McNab/Braeside, Horton, Bonnechere Valley, North Algona Wilberforce, Admaston/Bromely and Greater Madawaska.

“The implication is the areas covered in these policies is the agriculture is protected but it prohibits residential severance,” he said.

Aggregate Resource additions include sand and gravel constraint which restricts further development, he said.

Karst Topography will also need a desktop study and site visit, which is an additional cost to the application.

Environment Impact Studies will add cost to development, but can be waived for minor development, he said.

Another issue is the reserve sewage system capacity, and there was no reference to land application which is what occurs in the county instead of having sewage treatment for any new development, he said.

The scope of the plan has also increased to include areas which were not under the county plan. Deep River, Petawawa and other urban county areas will have to be reviewed according to the county plan, he explained. For all urban communities, there will be the local plan and the county plan to be considered.

Cultural heritage and archaeological reviews will be needed for all waterfront including single lot development.

The area around Muskrat Lake will apply to three watershed areas outside in other townships outside Whitewater Region now.

There will also be new wildland fire areas while new development may require more analysis. There will also be map changes such as Diamond Lake, Bark Lake and Trout Lake, all of which are in Madawaska Valley.

In Horton there were additional areas labelled as agriculture. This was quite contentious in the past, and there had been some leeway on that, but that is now changed again.

“They have come back and filled in these lands as agriculture,” he said.

Mr. Cheeseman said the county wants to work with local residents.

“The intent is not to require a study for everything that is going on,” he said. “We have to work through that.”

Exemption For Approval

As a first step in responding to the province, the county has asked for exemption from ministerial approvals for Official Plan amendments, which is something that has been granted to other areas. This would give the county more leeway and make it cheaper for developers as well. This resolution was passed on Wednesday.

However, it is only one of the steps planned at the county.

Warden Debbie Robinson said the county would move to have the province realize these changes will not work for the county. A plan will be formulated, and council did send a letter to Mr. Yakabuski and the province voicing their displeasure.

“We will have a strategy in place,” she promised. “Everyone here supports the position this is entirely unacceptable and we will have to fight for the future of our municipalities.”

Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards Mayor Janice Visneskie Moore questioned if applications in the process will be subject to these new restrictions. Mr. Cheeseman said any application made before March 26 is “free and clear” of the restrictions.

“How about those that are very close, I think you should give them a pass,” she said.

The new mapping of her township is quite troubling, she added.

“It scared the heck out of me. It is all dear yard. That sure does stop development,” she said. “This will shut us down for development absolutely and it scared me.”

North Algona Wilberforce Mayor James Brose said this was a totally unacceptable plan, which would shut down development in rural Renfrew County,

“Our municipality is covered two-thirds by agricultural land (designation) and it is marginal agricultural land at best,” he said. “The province by a mark of the pen stifles any opportunity for further development.”

“The Ford government has said they are here for rural Ontario. This shuts down development,” he said.

Arnprior Reeve Dan Lynch questioned if there are other areas that could give advice on how they dealt with their official plans.

“The County of Renfrew can’t be the only county that has these kind of problems,” he said.

Warden Robinson will bring up the issue with the Eastern Ontario Warden’s Caucus as well. **



MPP Yakabuski pledges to work with County of Renfrew in modifying Official Plan

By Debbi Christinck
Reprinted with permission from The Eganville Leader

Pembroke – The County of Renfrew Official Plan has created quite a stir locally with punitive restrictions on development and a lot of frustration from local residents, but a meeting last week between Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski and county officials shows a glimmer of hope for change on the controversial plan.

The MPP, who is also the minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, has promised to take the county concerns to Toronto and has already spoken with Premier Doug Ford and other senior cabinet ministers about the local concerns and granting the county the opportunity to make amendments to the plan at a local level. He has been promised the county will be given this flexibility and now he will take the other requests back to Queen's Park. A former small businessman and lifelong resident of Barry's Bay, he said he knows the challenges faced by municipalities and residents in the area.

"I recognize as well as anyone development is of paramount importance for municipalities to increase their assessment," he stated. "We are not living in the same constraints as the Golden Horseshoe. We need plans commensurate with the quality of life in rural Ontario."

The county official plan, which has been in the development stage for several years beginning before the Ford Conservatives came to power, was approved recently and returned to the county with some major and minor changes which county officials felt would stifle development in the area. The backlash from the elected was fast and furious and when a meeting was planned with Mr. Yakabuski, there was the desire to not only reach out to

him as the MPP for the riding, but also in his capacity as Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry and a part of cabinet of the government in power.

The ZOOM meeting last Thursday, which included not only senior county officials, Warden Debbie Robison, members of the planning staff and members of Mr. Yakabuski's office, was quite productive, he felt.

"It was made clear the county had significant concerns about the plan and the timing in when they received the plan in the initial stage of the pandemic when everyone's focus was on the pandemic," he said.

There were several concerns raised by the county and they will all be delineated in a letter to make it easier for him to pass on to the government, he said. The first request was for a deferral of the implementation of the plan, which was a request which originally stemmed from Bonnechere Valley council

The second request was for an exemption, granting the county

the right to make exemptions. Mr. Yakabuski said he had already spoken to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) Steve Clarke and Premier Ford on this issue. Both said they would accept this request.

"When the request is received and they go through the process, it will be granted," he promised.

The final request was to deal with the "unfinished" discussion on the plan with provincial officials from the government.

"It is the county's position there were unfinished discussions," he said.

In his position as minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Mr. Yakabuski will also be having some discussions on the boundaries which were established in the county mapping.

"I will look at how those were arrived at," he said. "Any issues dealing with my ministry, I have questions on how those boundaries were established."

One of the areas of frustration are the deer wintering yards which were



established, but there are also other mapping issues, he said.

Mr. Yakabuski said he felt the meeting with the county went well and the issues were made clear. He said he will pass on the required documentation to his cabinet colleagues on these issues of dispute.

"I do believe we will find a way to make this workable for the good people of Renfrew County," he said.

Cooperative Effort

Warden Robinson said she was very pleased with the conversation with Mr. Yakabuski and his staff.

"He was wonderful. He did not question our concerns. He could relate to them," she said. "He shares our concerns and will do everything possible for us."

The warden said the county was caught a bit off guard by the province approving the plan 10 days into the declaration of a State of Emergency in the province in late March. County staff

were busy in planning for the pandemic and there were staff working from home. As well, county council wanted the planning department to have time to make a thorough presentation on the official plan, so when the plan was presented in late May, there was quite a bit of frustration at what the province had removed from the county's version of the plan. Giving the example of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards, where much of the township has been turned into deer wintering yards, she said it was easy to see why Mayor Janice Visneskie Moore was upset.

"How do you move forward?" the warden said. "Now you can't sever your property because you are feeding deer?"

"People were upset and wanted to know where we go from here," she added.

The county had also been working on the plan for some time, including the open houses where hundreds of people showed up, so to have much of this

disregarded was very frustrating. Warden Robinson said Mr. Yakabuski will be acting as an intercessor for the county and taking the request to have the plan implementation delayed to January 1, 2021.

"We have at least 88 planning and development applications which were started or in the preliminary stages," she said.

Having them go through the process with the "old" plan would make more sense.

The other requests for the ability to make amendments and for a sit-down meeting with MMAH staff about the plan and the Provincial Policy Statement are also crucial, she said.

"I believe a conversation can happen and will happen," she said

**





The Campout

by Randy Vancourt

As a kid, summer was always the most magical of times for me. Possibly even more so than Christmas since it lasted for two months and didn't involve nearly as many relatives in the house at once.

Not only was summer the most miraculous of times, it truly seemed endless. Two months stretching out before us offered a series of unlimited possibilities. We could sleep in (although what kid would ever do that), spend mornings down by the lake, or wander through the woods at the top of our street – as long as you were careful to avoid the mythical farmer we believed was hiding there with his “pepper gun.”

For me the highlight of summer was always the family camping trip. As we were a family of seven, no doubt it was the most affordable kind of vacation we could take. My parents were not prone to leaving the kids behind and going somewhere on their own, most likely because they anticipated the kind of havoc 5 boys could create in their absence.

So we'd pack up the big 8-cylinder Pontiac, hook up our tent trailer and head off on an adventure. We travelled around Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes and the northern U.S. on those trips. I loved the woods and mountains, but I recall my mother saying that the only time she was ever warm was the year we went to the beach at Atlantic City, pre-casino days.

The only gambling we did was with the campgrounds. Without the benefit of the internet you never knew what to expect upon arrival. You might bask in the splendour of the most glorious U.S. National Park or end up at a private place in Cape Breton run by a fellow (and here I speak from experience) who was usually drunk by

breakfast. Some locations were idyllic, while others we took to referring to as, “Cow Pasture Camping.”

One Quebec campground had a converted chicken coop for a washroom. Only after our stay did we discover that the provincial government had already condemned the site and deemed the water there unfit for either drinking or swimming.

We usually split our time between enjoying the outdoors and visiting various attractions, some noticeably better than others. Of course sometimes the cheaper attractions were the most enjoyable. One of my favourites was an absurd place in northern New England called “Mystery Crater.” It claimed to be the landing spot of a mysterious meteor that left behind strange forces that caused all manner of unusual events to occur.

Most of these “mysteries” were obviously accomplished through tricks and optical illusion, plus we never really did see any crater. The final insult came as we were leaving and discovered they'd stuck a bumper sticker on our car, apparently with some sort of non-removable super glue. In spite of many valiant efforts it was still there when my folks sold the car a few years later.

Ontario's African Lion Safari allows visitors to drive through an actual game reserve full of exotic animals that roam free. This might be a fun experience in today's vehicles, but back then many cars did not yet have the luxury of air conditioning. The experience of watching baboons snap off our car's antenna while displaying their backsides to us through the windshield wasn't really improved by the onset of heatstroke.

The end of each afternoon found us back at camp, enjoying the evening's

fire. I learned the basics of campfire building back then: how to stack the wood, the proper use of kindling, and that no matter where you sit the smoke will always blow in your face.

Then those dark nights sleeping in the tent trailer, hoping you wouldn't have to get up in the middle of the night for a trip outside. The strange noises in the night that caused me to once tell my mom there was a bear in the tent, which thankfully turned out to just be my dad snoring.

As my two little ones grow we have been trying to create similar memories for them. This year we aren't really sure what form this will take, although the past few months have certainly been an experience they'll never forget.

Our son has been asking to have a campout in our backyard; a poor substitute, I know, but perhaps the closest we'll get this summer to the real thing. We even have an outdoor fireplace (don't tell the City) and raccoons, so the experience should be complete. It's never too soon for my kids to learn the joy of having the fragrant smoke of a crackling fire burn the eyes.

www.randyvancourt.com





The Bigger Picture and the Deep-Seated Reasons for Rural Scorn

*by Ian Cumming
Agricultural Journalist*

When the Ottawa Press Club is contemplating it's demise these days, have they ever considered that it isn't due to technology, but rather due to their cowering efforts, with no real life thought, being put out there on display?

With online being as efficient as it is, why are questions to our nations and provinces leaders restricted to a media clique geographically imbedded within the approved sanctum? Do they think, act, or react as many scribes out in the rural hinterland do?

They can make the salient point that coming off the gravel concessions to cover, for a breathless nation, the daily briefing in that tent near the entrance of the PM's cottage, would be too far of an intellectual stretch for uneducated hicks, to handle.

But if, God willing, media bosses granted questions from rural Canada, which could be as initially unsettling, and eventually as financially consequential for them, as it was for the establishment that let Jackie Robinson play professional baseball, these queries would probably be blurted.

Howard Hughes, who became a recluse, because he was phobic about germs, didn't cut his hair, and was prone to only popping up now and then to throw money around, such as \$156 million to Melon Pommers, a Nevada gas station owner he met only once; was professionally diagnosed as having an, "obsessive –compulsive disorder."

Based on your similar performance Prime Minister, over the past weeks and months, do you, or your doctors, think you have the same condition?

Historical accounts state, in 1957 – 58, two million people died in the world from the Asian Flu. In 1968 – 69, one million people died in the world from the Hong Kong Flu. It entered North America in a big way with soldiers returning from fighting in Vietnam.

At the end of the first week of May there have been 265,000 world – wide deaths from COVID – 19. Let's make the assumption that certain Communist countries, back then, as well as today, probably severely unreported the amount of deaths.

Your daddy was running things in Canada as PM the time of the Hong Kong Flu. Can you name any segment of the economy, or even any businesses, or individuals, he bankrupted then, in order to save lives?

If not, why not?

Can you name any industry, corporation, or person in Canada that was bankrupted by a Prime Ministers decree in the late 1950's to save lives?

If not, why not?

So, why are you?

American economists have released a study that for every life saved from COVID – 19 due to isolation policies, that 400 jobs are lost. Do you agree with that assessment? If not, what are the Canadian studies showing?

That ratio is being studied and is part of government decision making, isn't it? If not, why not?

During the Second World War the Allies had cracked the Nazi communication code. Therefore they knew what section of London was going to be bombed that night.

The British War Cabinet were informed that they were, "playing God," when Churchill said we can't warn these Londoners living there, because then the Nazis would know we have the Code.

Why aren't you, or your cabinet, made of such mettle and able to handle the big picture?

What is the percentage of Canadian older people, needing extra care, who are receiving it in their own homes, or their children's homes, versus the percentage whom have been assigned to old age facilities?

What is the percentage of deaths of these older people to COVID – 19 being looked after by family, versus those in old age facilities?

When did Parliament pass legislation that one could not get a family member out of an old age facility, to be looked after at home due to this threat, or brought home to die surrounded by loved ones, rather than "having to" die alone?

If such a law does not exist, why do you think families meekly comply?

My late dad was once in a rural, Manitoba cemetery, at a cousin's funeral, who used to run a fleet of combines from Texas to Canada. The casket hadn't been lowered, when the deceased's brother said emotionally, "Trudeau has to go."

He meant your daddy. Whether daddy, or you, do you understand the deep rooted reasons for rural scorn?

*Ian Cumming
Agricultural Journalist*

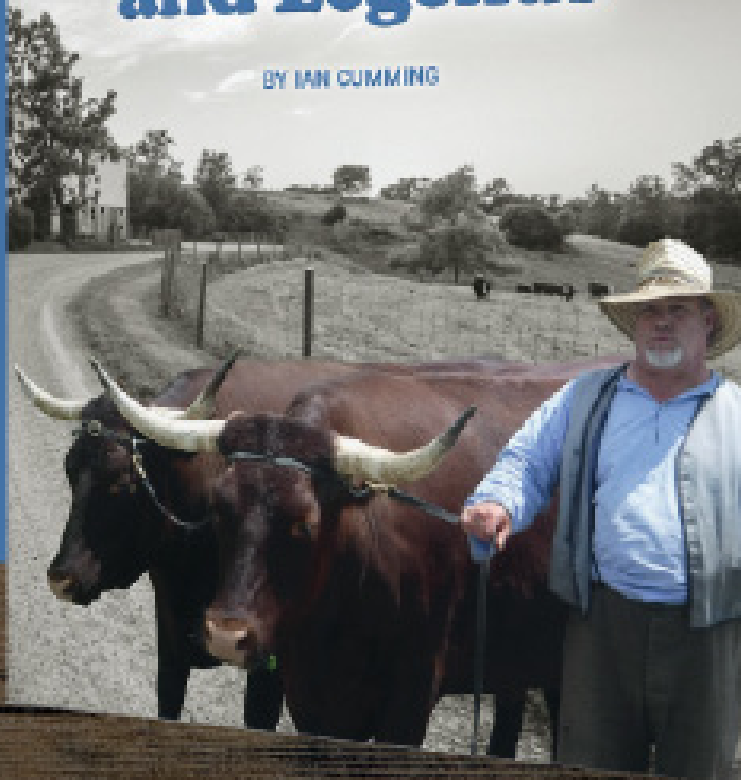
NEW BOOK



Available Early December 2019

Rural Rascals, Cockwombles and Legends

BY IAN CUMMING



**Shaped by War
Characters
We'll Never Forget
Memorable
Features
That's Farming
They Left A Mark
Family
Regulating into
Anarchy
The Crippling
Politics of Dairy**



PRE-ORDER YOURS TODAY!

glengarryfarms@sympatico.ca

613-577-2949



Veggie Bites 5 +

Combat Gardening



by Judith Cox

Gardening is time sensitive so I have included several of Judith's articles on planting your garden.



Greetings fellow gardeners

The gardens are very happy with the rain. You will notice an explosion of growth in a few days. With the rain and the warmth, you should see the seeds you planted outside starting to push forward.

While a lot of people are starting a vegetable garden this year, I would like to suggest that you add flowers to your vegetable plot. I usually add edible flowers in case I get small children rummaging around tasting the garden; lots of different ones are available. I always add flowers because they attract pollinators. Your vegetables need to be pollinated in order to give you food. Adding a row of herbs to your garden will bring lots of busy pollinators. Borage is my favourite herb for pollinators, it has glorious blue flowers and a faint cucumber taste. Herbs such as thyme, rosemary and sage are also good. Basil and parsley are two that you do not want to flower, they need to be used when they are young and tender. Tomatoes like the company of marigolds while nasturtiums are so tasty in the garden. Nasturtium leaves are great in salads and sandwiches while the flowers are lovely as a garnish. I like to make nasturtium vinegar as the flowers start to bloom. Flowers added to a good white vinegar that sits for a couple of weeks, strained and bottled then added to salads. It is a brilliant orange colour (I use orange flowers) and has a peppery taste.

Not all pollinators are bees. If you watch your garden you will see bees, butterflies, hover flies, beetles and moths to name a few. To further attract them, have a shallow dish filled with rocks or marbles and water. Tiny pollinators can't use the big bird baths, or they will drown. Try not to use chemicals in your garden. You are

eating the vegetables, so chemicals are not that great for you either.

The first week of May is when we can start most of our tender vegetables inside. If you want to start vine crops you may want to wait for another two weeks unless you have room for the growth. I will be starting my zucchini soon as I would really like a good crop this year. Believe it or not I have had problems with zucchini thanks to a colony of rogue chipmunks. This year I will be putting netting over the plants so the blossoms can mature.

Most of our vegetable garden should be in the ground by the first week of June. Of course, if we get a cold snap that will change. So, keep an eye on the weather and the rain and the bugs. Being a gardener is sometimes a gamble but the prize at the end is really worth it.

Email lapisdragonarts@gmail.com



Arlene Rowe's compost article Part Two follows:

Compost: Black Gold (Part 2)

In this part, I am going to talk about the science of decomposition. This

is a very basic explanation and will help you understand how to build and maintain your compost pile.

What is needed for successful composting?

- Decomposers,
- Organic material,
- Oxygen and,
- Moisture.

Decomposers?

Decomposers can be physical decomposers. Examples of these are herbivores (Chickens, horses, sheep, rabbits, etc.), nematodes, mites, millipedes/centipedes, worms (earthworm, Red worms, manure worms) and even frost (so don't stop composting during the winter).

Or they can be chemical decomposers. Examples of these are bacteria, actinomycetes, fungi and protozoa.

All contribute to the decomposition of organic matter to compost, but the major contributor is bacteria. In order to compost efficiently, successful composting involves keeping a friendly environment for these workhorses.

There are two general classification of bacteria that can be present in your compost pile: aerobic and anaerobic. The aerobic bacteria are the most desirable group you want in your pile. They are the race cars of decomposition. They use oxygen in their decomposition process and produce wonderful earthy smelling humus. The anaerobic bacteria, on the other hand, do not use oxygen, are significantly slower decomposers and produce a pungent sickly sweet/sour smelling humus. By far, the aerobic bacteria are the more desirable. You can tell which ones predominates by just smelling your compost pile.

Within the aerobic bacteria group, there are three subgroups: Psychrophiles, Mesophylls and the Thermophiles. When these bacteria digest materials, they give off energy in the form of heat. This heat is energy in excess of what the bacteria need. The temperature in the pile rises as the bacteria give off more and more heat, and as the heap gets hotter. All three subgroups are present in your pile, only one group will be predominant any one time. This is dependent upon the temperature of the pile.

The Psychrophiles are most active between 10° C and 21° C (50 – 70 °F) and produce a little heat as a byproduct. The Mesophylls are most active between 37° C and 49° C (100 – 120 °F); most home composts operate in this range. The Thermophiles are most active between 55 °C and 71 °C (130° F - 160° F) and provide the optimum decomposition speed. Compost pile in which these bacteria are predominant are referred to as hot composts. It can be achieved with some work in your pile and is common in commercial composting facilities.

Generally, if you provide the food, the bacteria will come. But if you are particularly anxious about whether you have the appropriate bacteria to kick-start your pile, you can introduce the bacteria by adding good gardening soil or manure, the fresher the better, from any herbivores (e.g., horse, poultry, hamster, rabbit).

Organic Material?

Any organic material derived from plants can be added to your compost. DO NOT add animal by-products (cheese, fat, milk), animal waste (dog waste or spent kitty litter) or meat to your compost pile. Although bacteria can break these down, you will attract undesirable creatures such as rats and maggots, and unless you can consistently maintain a hot compost, pathogens into your compost. Feed your compost any kitchen scraps, grass clippings and plants from your garden. Like all organisms, bacteria need a balanced diet. They need a mixture of green food which acts as quick energy

(bacteria's equivalent to a sugar snack) and brown food (bacteria's equivalent to fat) which provides the majority of energy but is more difficult and slower to digest.

Composting Material

Bread, coffee, coffee grounds, eggshells, feathers, flowers, fruit scraps, house plants, vegetable stems and stalks, leaves, grass clippings, green plant trimming, nut shells, tea leaves and tea bags, hair (animal and human), is **GREEN FOOD**

Cornstalks, dryer lint (natural fabric only), dried grass, dried leaves (e.g. oak), woodchips, fireplace ash (real wood only!), sawdust, straw is **BROWN FOOD**

Oxygen?

Since the most desirable bacteria for your pile are the aerobic bacteria which need oxygen, the pile must have plenty of air present to promote the action of these bacteria.

To ensure that your pile has sufficient air for aerobic bacteria, you can:

1. If your pile is small, introduce air by turning the pile every couple of weeks. Move the middle of the pile to the edges and the edges into the middle.
2. If the pile is too big to turn, add air pockets to the pile while you are adding material by putting in straw, cornstalks, branches and twigs. The resulting mesh will trap air and make it available for the aerobic bacteria. Save branches during the spring clean-up and use these for your compost pile.
3. If you do not have any branches, be careful with leaves and grass clippings which tend to mat and encourage anaerobic bacteria activity. Alternate thin (3 to 4 inches) layers of grass and leaves with soil and food scraps.

Moisture?

The bacteria require some moisture to do their work. If the pile is too dry, the bacteria will die and if it is too wet, anaerobic bacteria will be predominant. For best results, use the Goldilocks principle (not too dry, not too wet, just right); i.e. damp to the touch. Generally,

in Ottawa, adequate moisture is not a problem.

Veggie Bites Six

Oh, my goodness it is cold and discouraging for eager vegetable gardeners. Do not despair, the weather will warm up soon. Your cool weather crops will remain dormant and sprint forward when it warms up. Don't be too eager to run to the store for plants unless you have a place to keep them away from the cold. Remember a lot of those plants have never been outside! You can pick up cool weather vegetables like lettuce and chard and peas. Pansies are also safe and will bloom well for you. Be sure to move your pansies to the shade by the end of June as they do not like heat.

This week I am continuing to clean up around my garden. I am getting rid of burrs and goutweed and garlic mustard which is an ongoing adventure. I cleaned up under all the roses and around the rhubarb. I usually give my roses and rhubarb a blast of compost to start the season. With the cold you still have lots of opportunities to prepare your vegetable garden. I have expanded my area and am digging down to prepare the soil and I moved a fence so that I can have a trellis for my cucumbers. Growing cucumbers up saves so much space. If you have an established garden there are now studies showing that the soil prefers not to be disturbed. You can try an experiment with your soil; dig one area and plant your seeds and plant seeds without digging the soil in another. It will be interesting to see if there are differences.

Spring is starting to add colour to our world. My forsythias are blooming yellow and as soon as the blooms fall the leaves will appear. My bloodroots and marsh marigolds are happy and continuing to expand. A few tulips made it past the squirrels and the daffodils are glorious. If you are walking about in your neighbourhood, see if there are flowers out there that you would like to grow in your own garden. You can get bulbs for tulips and daffodils in the fall.

Along with the lovely flowers,

perennial herbs are starting to appear. My lovage is up and starting to grow. It gets to about four or five feet with umbel flowers that attract many pollinators. The scent is delicious. Regular garden sage will make it through the winter if it is in a sheltered area along with lavender, thyme, chives, catnip, and oregano. Try using your herbs more this summer. Many herbs make a tasty tea and they add zip to our cooking. You can dry or freeze most herbs and pesto can be made with herbs other than basil.

Preparation is the word of the week. Get your beds ready and work on removing the more invasive weeds. I shall continue to deal with the teenage mutant ninja chipmunks that are working to destroy all that I do. I have covered my plantings of peas with bird netting and covered every pot with netting and weights to stop the digging. I suspect they are watching me and singing like the gopher in Caddyshack. Have a great week!

Judith.

Email lapisdragonarts@gmail.com

Veggie Bites Seven

As of today, my plant stand looks like a jungle. It is time to start hardening off these babies. I will start putting some seedlings outside in a sheltered spot for the day and bring them in for the night. The nights are still too cold for my tender vegetables and patience is important.

Usually around this time of year my sump pump is singing its merry song twenty-four hours a day. Lately it has been very quiet. This is disconcerting as I live next to a swamp and am used to a lot of water coming in. The quiet indicates that not only is this spring extremely cold it is also dry. This

means that I have made it a point to water the areas and pots where I have planted seeds as well as all the bulbs that are blooming. I also have water for the birds and insects that I add to every day so that it does not become stagnant. I am continuing to have issues with squirrels and chipmunks. The netting seems to be helping and I am hoping that once the plants are growing the digging will calm down. Generally, you find more digging when it is dry as these creatures are looking for water along with snacks.

This morning I noticed that my cherry tree is starting to bloom. It starts slowly but soon the trees will be covered with blossoms and bees and the occasional hummingbird. This

One year I visited a friend and came home with a red orach. This is a really interesting vegetable and is also known as mountain spinach. It grows red and lovely and I harvest the leaves to eat like spinach. This has started me down the road to growing weird and wonderful vegetables.

may be the year that more people use their fruits and berries along with the harvests from their vegetable gardens. The first harvest of the season is usually rhubarb. Be sure you have weeded under the plant and that it has room to expand. Add a good load of compost or

composted manure because rhubarb is a heavy feeder in the spring. When you pick your rhubarb pull the stalk right at the base. It should release easily. Harvest

about a third at a time so you do not stress the plant. Twist the leaves off right by the patch and put them in the compost. Rhubarb leaves are poisonous but decompose quickly and safely. Rhubarb can be stewed, canned, juiced, and frozen and apparently contains many beneficial antioxidants. If you have just purchased a rhubarb crown, give it a year to establish or you may find yourself pulling up the whole plant when you try to pick it.

It has been slow with this cold weather, but the peas and lettuces are finally starting to push forward, and a number of perennial herbs are ready to use. Herbs like oregano and chives have been ready for a while. This is a good time to start harvesting chives and dry them or freeze them in ice cube trays in olive oil. Early oregano makes an excellent pesto.

This week I am going to do another planting of my cool weather crops, peas, radish, chard, and spinach. With the weather being so cool I could do another planting in two weeks. With the tender vegetables starting to harden off let's hope that our tomatoes will be growing outside really soon.

Veggie Bites Eight

It is a sunshine world and so tempting to plant everything!! I know I sound repetitive but be sure to harden off your seedlings until you start introducing tender vegetables to the world. I brought several of my seedlings outside and put them on a stand that I can cover with heavy plastic at night. They are gradually getting used to the light and the temperature. Remember that things in pots are farther ahead. The ground is still quite cold and will be a shock to new vegetables.

I had a chance to take a peek at nursery stock and grocery store stock this week. You can tell that the stock at the nursery is covered at night while the grocery store stock has a fair bit of frost damage. The plants these stores have on offer are usually shipped from Southern Ontario and are often fresh from the greenhouse. They are not happy with the direct sun or the



cool nights. I purchased some frosted marigolds today and they will be fine. I will snip off the blooms and buds, be sure they are well watered and put them on the stand with my other plants. While I grow most of my marigolds from seeds, I do like to have a few plants around when the tomatoes first go into the garden. I will admit that I love to wander through plants at the stores and nurseries and not buying anything is usually not possible. As you continue to garden you will find this applies to visiting friends' gardens and having friends visit you. Sharing is amazing and you get a lot of information about the plants. One year I visited a friend and came home with a red orach. This is a really interesting vegetable and is also known as mountain spinach. It grows red and lovely and I harvest the leaves to eat like spinach. This has started me down the road to growing weird and wonderful vegetables.

Red Orach

The peas and lettuce are growing like weeds (I have lots of those) and watering is the most important chore

in the garden right now. Keep the birdbaths filled and the trees watered as well. I was able to plant my pole beans yesterday and now is the time to start bush beans. I grow scarlet runner beans and a purple-podded pole bean which is a heritage vegetable. The colour is gorgeous and the bean is delicious. Runner beans do like to be soaked before they are planted; this helps to break down their tough outer coating. They grow like vines, so I have them on my fence and beside an



archway. Some people like to build structures with bamboo poles and allow the beans to climb that. If you have kids, you could build a bean hideaway!

Our vegetable garden now begins in earnest. Be sure your vegetables are not crowding each other and that they are well watered. While a lot of people insist on weeding every weed, I leave a few to fool the bugs and help with soil erosion. As your vegetables start to grow you can start feeding them once a week with a weak organic fertilizer. If you do use chemical fertilizers be careful as they can easily burn your tender seedlings. Have a wonderful week and enjoy the sunshine.

Judith

(Email; lapisdragonarts@gmail.com)

SMOKEY MOUNTAIN CHEW

The original & best selling tobacco free and nicotine free Smokeless Tobacco alternative.



Superior Taste, Smell, Pack, Texture and Moisture

Available in Eight Great Flavours: Straight, Classic, Peach, Cherry, Citrus, Grape, Arctic Mint, & Wintergreen
Also available: Arctic Mint & Wintergreen Pouches.

TRY IT TODAY!

Ask for
Smokey Mountain Chew
The Original Premium Herbal Snuff
at a retailer near you or call...
1-888-261-8666 TOLL FREE
phil@smokeysnuffcanada.com
www.smokeysnuffcanada.com

The Ontario Tax System in Ontario

After attempting an Assessment Review Board Appeal I was concerned as to how our Tax System works here in Ontario. I did a simple request to our MPP office and the attached document is what I received back. It shows that there are four main groups that are involved in supposedly getting a fair assessment of our property. They include the Municipality, the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, the Ontario Government and the Assessment Review Board of Ontario.

***** Refer to the Legislative Research Library description of the Ontario Tax system following this article.**

MPAC is a level 4 Crown Corporation. Several Municipal councillors have told me that they know that MPAC is broken and there is nothing they can do about it because MPAC is an independent corporation. MPAC has a monopoly on creating all the tax assessments in the Province of Ontario that includes over 5,000,000 properties.

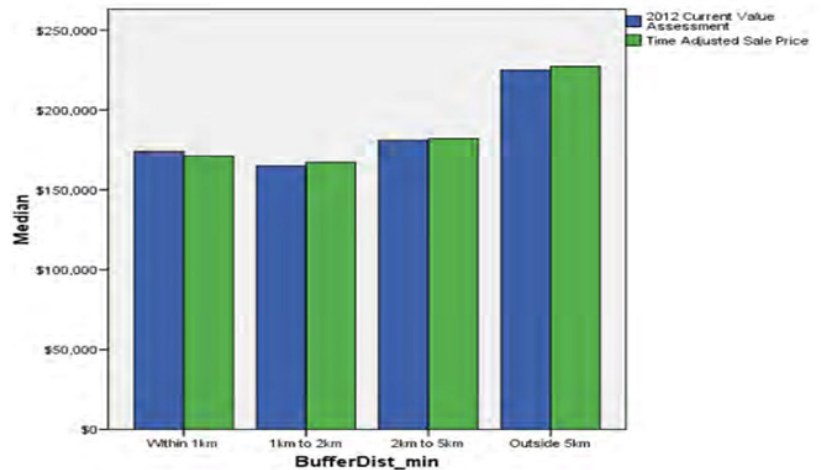
A recent review of the MPAC website shows a Board of Directors of only 13 members with the Municipalities having the majority vote on the Board. As well this attachment shows that the Municipalities are shareholders in MPAC as well. Also there is no reference as to how the Taxpayer Representatives relate to concerns of the taxpayers in Ontario. It does not show that the taxpayers representatives are responsible for representing any group of taxpayers. Are they just representing themselves?

In addition, to being shareholders in MPAC, the municipalities pay the bill for MPAC doing the property assessments through an upper tier County Administration except for larger cities. In our county the treasurer was asked if the bill from MPAC was correct; however, she said she had no way of knowing whether it was correct or not before the bill was divided amongst the Municipalities. As well very few people are aware that MPAC is paid for their services based on 50% of the bill being for the number of assessments completed and 50% on the size of the assessments completed.

This shows a motivation that the shareholders & MPAC could prefer a larger assessment so that Councillors would be able to use a lower mill rate.

The MPAC study in 2012 regarding the effects of wind turbines on property values shows in a chart on page 18 that there would be a property assessment devaluation of approximately 25% for properties that have at least one turbine under 5km to their property. Many townships with an industrial wind project would have most of their properties within 5km. Neighbouring Twps. would be affected as well.

Figure 2 - Comparison of CVA and Time Adjusted Sale Price by Distance Groupings



There are Sales Filters, (Properties that are not saleable were left out) Assessment to Sales ratio study

A researcher for the MPAC study that I contacted stated that everyone (including the MPAC executive) missed the fact that the chart on page 18 was included in the report. He stated MPAC should not have left the chart in the study report for the public to see. Would councillors be willing to approve an increased mill rate of 25% while the project was proposed and built and operated (20-50 years or more)? Would the councillors be re-elected. Is it surprising that the conclusion of the study and the media states that Wind Turbines do not affect property values? Why does the conclusion of the MPAC report not reflect their findings?

After reviewing my Research Information, and attending several ARB (Assessment Review Board) hearings. I checked into the definition of a Cartel. This is only a beginning of issues I found and the questions that need to be asked as to whether our TAX SYSTEM in Ontario is broken? Is it a CARTEL? Cartel Definitions

Historical:

A cartel is a coalition or cooperative arrangement between political parties intended to promote a mutual interest.

n. 1) an arrangement among supposedly independent corporations or national monopolies in the same industrial or resource development field organized to control distribution, to set prices, to reduce competition, and sometimes to share technical expertise.

A combination of producers of any product joined together to control its production, sale, and price, so as to obtain a Monopoly and restrict competition in any particular industry or commodity. Cartels exist primarily in Europe, being illegal in the United States under ANTITRUST LAWS.

Does the Ontario Tax System meet the definition of a Cartel. Is it LEGAL, LAWFUL, UNLAWFUL or ILLEGAL???

Dave Hemingway,
Reporter for The Landowner Voices

**Legislative
Assembly
of Ontario**



**Assemblée
législative
de l'Ontario**

Legislative Library and Research Services
Information and Technology Services Division
Room 2520, Whitney Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A9
Telephone: (416) 325-3675
Facsimile: (416) 325-3696

Bibliothèque et services de recherches législatives
Division des services de l'information et de la technologie
Bureau 2520, Edifice Whitney
Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1A9
Téléphone: (416) 325-3675
Télécopieur: (416) 325-3696

160531

February 10, 2017

MEMORANDUM TO: Lisa Thompson, MPP
Huron-Bruce

ATTENTION: John McPhee
Communications Specialist

FROM: Research Officer

SUBJECT: Governance Structure of
MPAC and the ARB

On behalf of a constituent, you asked for a flow chart outlining the governance structure for the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and the Assessment Review Board.

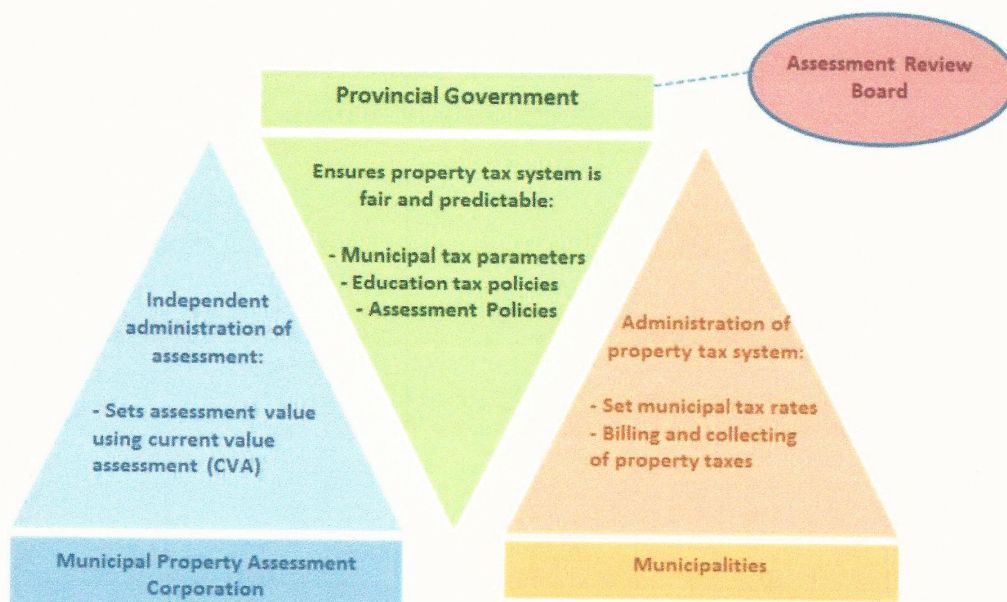
Overview

There are four main partners in the governance and administration of Ontario's property tax and assessment system:

- the Ontario government;
- municipalities;
- the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC); and

- the Assessment Review Board (ARB).¹

Figure 1: Partners in the administration and governance of Ontario's property tax and assessment system



Source: Ministry of Finance

Role of the Provincial Government

The provincial government is responsible for ensuring that the property tax system is fair and predictable. The Province establishes assessment policies, the municipal tax parameters, and the education tax rate policies that govern the property tax system in Ontario. Provincial policies on property assessment and taxation are implemented through legislation. The **Minister of Finance** is responsible for appointing MPAC's board of directors.²

Role of Municipalities

Municipalities are responsible for the administration of the property tax system, including the establishment of local tax policies and tax rates (within a provincial framework), billing, and collection. Municipalities are shareholders in MPAC, fund its operations through a municipal levy and recommend the majority of board members (8 out of 15) to the Minister of Finance for appointment.

¹ Ministry of Finance, *Special Purpose Business Property Assessment Review & Recommendations*, 2013, p. 7, accessed February 10, 2016.

² *Municipal Property Assessment Corporation Act, 1997*, S.O. 1997, c. 43, Sched. G, s. 3(2).

Role of MPAC

MPAC is responsible for the administration of the property assessment system (within a provincial framework), including the establishment of assessed values for all properties in the Province. As such, MPAC is responsible for ensuring that values placed on properties are fair and accurate.

As a not-for-profit corporation, MPAC delivers assessment services on behalf of all municipalities in Ontario. It is governed by a 15-member board of directors, composed of five taxpayer representatives, two provincial representatives, and eight municipal representatives. While all board members are appointed by the Minister of Finance, municipal representatives are appointed from a list of nominees provided annually by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). The board's chair is chosen by the board from among the municipal representative members who are elected municipal officials.

Role of the ARB

The ARB, which is one of the five constituent tribunals in the Environment and Land Tribunals Ontario (ELTO)³ cluster, is an independent adjudicative tribunal whose main function is to hear appeals from property owners or municipalities who disagree with the accuracy of the assessment or tax classification that MPAC has established for a property. MPAC's role in the appeal process is to establish the accuracy of its assessment. The provincial government operates the ARB as an independent adjudicative tribunal under the oversight and legislative jurisdiction of the **Ministry of the Attorney General**.⁴

³ ELTO comprises the following five tribunals, under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Attorney General: Assessment Review Board (ARB); Board of Negotiation (BON); Conservation Review Board (CRB); Environmental Review Tribunal (ERT); and Ontario Municipal Board (OMB).

⁴ Ministry of Finance, *Special Purpose Business Property Assessment Review & Recommendations*, 2013, pp. 8-9.

LET'S CALL IT LIKE IT IS

"Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance and the gospel of envy." Sir Winston S. Churchill.



It should be pointed out that Italy's Fascist Party was formed by the radical socialist, Mussolini. He 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 Communist socialism.

The Fascists and Nazis left the ownership and the profits of the institutions of their economies in the hands of the existing owners (except 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. China's dictators switched from Communist socialism to Fascist socialism when the former system failed to deliver an economy even equal to lightly-populated Canada's. China is now the second largest economy in the world and growing fast.

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 Socialistiche Deutsches Arbeiter 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."

The LiberalSocialDemocrat (LSD) socialist linguists and educators who directed the publishing of dictionaries probably thought that Orwell's "1984", plus the reports from the Communist/Fascist/National socialist's death camps were becoming so well publicized that socialism was getting a bad name. So they changed the definition! The transition began in the early '60's at the time of the Pearson-Kent LiberalSocialist regime in Canada and the Kennedys' DemocratSocialist regime in the US.

1964 - Pears Cyclopaedia: **socialism** "a form of society in which men and women are not divided into opposing economic classes but live together under conditions of approximate social and economic equality, using in common the means that lie to their hands of promoting social welfare." [italics mine]

You will notice in the Pears definition that the linguists and educators were somewhat unsure as to the source of the means people were going to use in common, but, by the '80's, the definitions got right down to business!

1987 - The New Lexicon Webster's Dictionary: **socialism** "a political and economic theory advocating collective ownership of the means of production and control of distribution." [italics mine]

1990 - Webster's New World Encyclopedia: **socialism** "movement aiming to establish a classless society by substituting public for private ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange." [italics mine]

1998 - The Canadian Oxford Dictionary: **socialism** "a political and economic theory of social organization

which advocates that the community as a whole should own and control the means of production, distribution and exchange.” [italics mine]

Gone is any reference to the subordination of the individual to the collective.

There are three grades of socialism - *Fabian*, in which communities are organized on the basis of cooperative, contributory volunteerism. These are usually very small, isolated, idealistic mini-Utopian communes.

LiberalSocialDemocrat (LSD) socialism in a minority of countries in North America, western Europe, Australasia and a few others scattered around the globe. Today, these are led by Lenin’s “Useful Idiots”, the misguided establishments who are eroding the foundations of their communities to prepare for

Radical socialism (Communist, Fascist and “Brave New World” versions) that produced the one-party socialist dictatorships which had such an astounding ascendancy in the 20th century.

All dictatorships operate on the original, and still operative, socialist principle that the welfare of the community - as they define it - is the only appropriate concern of government. 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 country”. 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, Pharaohs, Emperors, Kings, Caesars/Tzars/Kaisers, Premiers, Prime Ministers, Presidents, Chairmen, Secretaries, and sometimes just “Leaders” have led one-party socialist dictatorships.

LSD socialists talk about “happy” countries. What does that mean? Sheep are “happy”. Southern planters claimed their slaves were

“happy”. The betas, gammas, deltas and epsilons in “Brave New World” were “happy”. Does engaging in meaningless work, then spending idle time smoking pot, twittering meaninglessly, screwing any and every Harry, Dick or Tom available, and spending what’s left of one’s time watching brain deadening TV or playing mindless video games make people “happy”

The LSD socialists of western civilization are Lenin’s “Useful Idiots of the West”. It is deplorable that they have been allowed to call themselves “Progressive”! They are the advance guard 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.”

The LSD socialists in the west subsequently added - Destroy belief in and support for chastity, marriage, fidelity and the nuclear family.

Does any of this sound like what has been happening to the United States? (and Canada and especially Europe?) It’s the script for world conquest by socialism. The LSD socialists have destroyed every nation in which they have seized power and control.

“**Personalism**” is a new word for the ancient worldview that the welfare of the individual person should be given the foremost consideration in human affairs. Personalism is the true alternative to Socialism. What it boils down to is that in a society driven by the personalist worldview governments exist to serve and support their people while in a society driven by the socialist worldview the people exist to serve and support their governments. Which is better?

Charles W. Conn

Measuring Things

by Mel Fisher



Going back through history, societies have developed measuring systems, often based on parts of the human body. So we have the foot, a convenient way to measure small distances, the yard, that is, the distance from your nose pointed to the right to your fingertip outstretched to the left, good for measuring ‘yard goods’ (fabric). Or the Rod, which is the length of a pole used to guide your horse or ox by tapping him on the side of his nose while you walk behind the plow he is hitched to. Or an inch, the width of a thumb, convenient for measuring small things.

Distance was measured in miles, starting with the Roman mille (a thousand in Latin or French). A Roman Mille is a thousand ‘lefts’ when an army marches ‘left right left’, so 2000 paces, about 5000 feet at 2 ½ feet per pace, but the Romans were a bit smaller than modern people, so officially about 4600 feet or 1 and 1/3 kilometers.

A stall for a cow, including space for a manger and a gutter and a milkmaid is traditionally 4 feet by 8 feet. Developing from this, building dimensions are traditionally based on multiples of 4 feet.

Land was measured in furlongs, 40 rods, which was judged about as far as a horse should be expected to pull a heavy plow without stopping to puff. And in acres, an acre being the amount of land a man could be expected to plow in a day. Traditionally an acre is an area a furlong in length by 4 rods wide. It would take about 60 trips for the plow to turn 4 rods, so the plowman would have walked about 8 miles following that horse and trying to keep that plow going straight, sounds like a good days work.

The flaw in all this is of course that we don’t all have the same size of feet, or thumbs, and there is way too much room for error and dispute. So back in the day, Henry the eighth, King of

England, decreed some standards. A foot would be the length of his foot. There would be 12 inches to a foot; 3 feet to a yard; 16 ½ feet to a rod, 320 rods to a mile. As the mighty British Empire spread, the whole modern world was set up on this standard.

Napoleon, Emperor of France some 200 years ago, was a bit of a nut on standards and codes; he even codified the French language. He developed a list of words, and decreed there would be no other words allowed to pollute his magic tongue. They sniff about the elegance of their language, and compare it condescendingly with the rag-tag collection of perhaps ten times more words which makes up modern English. But in fact this limitation is a huge liability for the French language, and will probably result in its disappearance over the next century or two. Thanks a lot, Napoleon!

The metric system -- Napoleon correctly concluded that his empire needed a codified and uniform system of measurements, rather than the random and different systems out there. Good example, France had something called a ‘Pipee’, the distance a man could stroll while smoking a pipeful – how scientific is that!

So the Emperor set his best minds to working up a standardized system. No such inelegant and unscientific things as the length of somebodies foot or forearm or stride for these sophisticated gentlemen. They came up with a metal bar with a mark at each end, and the distance between these marks would be called one meter. It was an even fraction of the distance from the earth to the sun as accurately as they could measure that at the time, some 200 years ago. They divided it by a hundred into centimeters, and decreed the weight of a cubic centimeter of water would be a gram and that would be the basis of weight measure. So

there, science rules, and we are modern and sophisticated.

Picture this, you are going fishing say 60 years ago; you take your heavy silver spoon on the end of that green woven cotton line and twirl it around your head, and let it go and it sails out over the lake -- OK, you don’t remember 60 years ago, so let’s say you take your yo-yo and let out all the string, and twirl it around your head – OK, you don’t remember yo-yo’s, so let’s say you grab your baby brother by the hands and twirl around till his feet are straight out behind him. There is a force which keeps the fish-line or yo-yo string or your brothers arms stretched straight out as the hook or yo-yo or brother orbit around you, and you have to brace yourself against the pull of the string or the kids arms.

So it is with planets. Instead of a string, we have the force of gravity between the planet and the sun, and as the planet rotates, it actually pulls the sun toward it. The bigger the planet, the bigger the force and astronomers actually use that movement of distant suns to estimate the size of their planets. If there were only one planet, the sun would move in a small circle following the orbit of the planet, but if there are multiple planets, the sun is drawn to them all and moves in a compromise between the planets. When Jupiter is on the same side of the sun as earth, we are actually measurably closer to the sun than when it is on the opposite side.

It turns out that those sophisticated scientists of 200 years ago were not able to measure the distance from earth to sun very accurately, and didn’t know that it is not a fixed distance. So the meter is just an arbitrary distance, based on an estimate, it is no more scientific as a base for measurement than King Henry’s foot.

However arbitrary and unscientific it might be, the metric system being

based on the number 10 is certainly more convenient than other systems, and over time the whole world has converted to it. Of course an argument could also be made that our number system would be much more usable if it were based on say 6, or 12, but it is based on 10 because we have ten digits (you didn't think that was a coincidence, did you?). So our number system is as arbitrary and unscientific as King Henry's foot. But it makes Napoleons arbitrary and unscientific system easier to use than such things as 16 and ½ feet to the rod.

The U.S. faces metrication -- The United States has for its own reasons stayed with King Henry's foot. Before these last decades in which it outsourced most of its manufacturing to Asia, its economy was as large as the rest of the world combined. It still dominates, is still the world's policeman, the modern equivalent of the Roman Emperor.

The cost of converting all that industry and commerce to another system with no particular reward was too much. Even though Napoleon assisted with the formation of the United States, his supposedly superior 'scientific base' did not impress and the US is about the last hold-out, still using the British system based on King Henry's foot.

Being on the same system as the US gave Canada some advantage, and as fully two thirds of Canada's dealings with the world were with the US, and as that advantage would far offset any disadvantage our being on King Henry's foot gave us with the rest of the world, our conversion to metric made no practical sense. So, why then would Canada go through the multigenerational upheaval and turmoil and multimillion dollar cost of converting to metric?

Why, indeed. My common sense Oxdrift friends were incensed. They argued that even if we needed to change some measurements to keep up with commerce, there is no useful purpose whatever in our having to learn that comfortable room temperature is 20, not 70, or that a 2 x 4 board would now be a 41 x 91 (really?). Liberal-educated me of course argued that we needed to get onside, after all we

were being told that the whole world including the US was going metric.

Remember, this happened just as Canada was beginning its change from a free and equal democracy to a government-centered quasi-democracy. Perhaps it was just a test, to see if we would put up with being manipulated and micro-ruled by the autocracy. At about the same time, we passed a law which gave the police a right to stop us at any time to see if our seat-belt was fastened, -- what an intrusion into our privacy! Another test! We flunked both tests, meekly went along like good little lambs. And the process of removing our personal freedom in favour of big government has proceeded since. Once again, the common sense of the common people was right, and I was wrong.

There is a delicious irony here,. We converted to metric in terms of things with no economic conflict, say room temperature, but not fully in more economically important things such as building materials, (plywood is still 4 feet by 8 feet!) where the cost of converting outweighed any possible benefit. And the pull of the mighty empire to the south is working, you might have noticed there is a distinct swing back to King Henry's foot, for example we see pounds gaining ground on grams in our supermarkets. Of course this might reverse itself as China grows to be the economic engine of the world. Interesting times. **

PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR!

PROUD TO SUPPORT BILL C-222

ALEX RUFF
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
BRUCE-GRAY-OWEN SOUND

CONSULTING OFFICE
1401 - 2ND AVENUE EAST SUITE 209
GRAND SOUND, BRANTFORD, ONTARIO
519-371-1009

Political Correctness Run Amok



by Dale Dawson

When I was a lad political correctness hadn't been invented yet and we sailed through the days insulting everyone equally. We criticized all comers without a thought. Thinking back to those days, I don't think many people got offended by the careless dialogue that was tossed about. The recipients in most cases would sling a barb of their own to equalise things. It's the way things were, but then it changed.

With superior beings leading, we became more civilized and became aware of how hurtful words can be. We became aware of our own shortcomings some years ago and became a kinder duller society. Then, like what often happens when changes occur, we overdo things to the point of ridiculousness. We are so civilized and polite now that we are as exciting as an inch worm crawling up a cabbage leaf.

Political correctness has been raised to Olympic levels and I'm tired of it. It has gone to extremes; we can be decent people without turning into tongue tied morons. Yes, I know that there is a segment of the population that stands there waiting for you to tell a joke that can be interpreted as derogatory to some three-legged goat in Outer Mongolia. Then they sadly make a judgemental comment. Most of these people are devoid of humour and never have had an original thought in their lives. Their new hobby is to act superior. They can be as dull as battleship grey paint on a Bentley.

By now I'm making some of you nervous; I also know that many of you agree with me. We are not racist. We are a generous caring people who still like to smile at life.

Political correctness was a good idea, before the muzzling started. I'm officially resigning from that club of

judgemental morons. I'm through with want-to-be intellectuals who have set themselves up as judge and jury over the way we speak.

At one time we could laugh at ourselves and there were grand uproarious parties. It was a time when a person didn't take offense every time someone poked fun at him or her for doing something stupid. It was a time of great story tellers who had never heard of political correctness and I have to say folks, they could make

It was a time of
great story tellers
who had never
heard of political
correctness and I
have to say folks,
they could make
you fall on the
floor laughing.

you fall on the floor laughing. They weren't nasty people and they meant no harm with their yarns. They told amusing tall tales about each other and themselves, but there wasn't anyone analysing their stories and taking them to task over some perceived insult. Also, if they were still around today, they wouldn't put up with being ridiculed by some bozo who wouldn't recognise the humour of the situation, because they were too busy judging the dialogue.

I think that it's great that we were educated enough to be considerate of others many years ago. We have now gone way past being politically correct. We've reached the point of where we

don't want to say something offensive, so we clam up and try to mime our way through a meeting or a party. Now folks attending a gathering carefully analyse their thoughts until the topic has changed from sock darning to basket weaving. The new topic will also have to be scrutinised carefully for politically correct pitfalls.

We should all learn sign language so that a slight slip of a finger could be missed by the judgemental fraternity. I know that I would quite cheerfully slip a few signs into each discussion to illustrate my opinion of those elite members of the human race who have tongue-tied a whole generation.

Now, I believe that there are good and bad in all people. None of us are perfect, but I feel that different people do have different characteristics. Some of them are endearing and some are less so. If we were all exactly the same, we would be so boring that even alien explorers would give earth a wide berth and do their refueling elsewhere.

The politically correct self-appointed referees have an ace hidden up their sleeve to play whenever one of us crosses the line. They play the race card! The race card has been responsible for letting the tail wag the dog in this country for years. In most cases someone speaking up has nothing to do with race, but a lot to do with common sense. We need to yell "Bull Feathers" whenever the snooty set tries to keep us from speaking our minds in a polite sensible way.

Now my dear readers, don't you think that it's past time that someone said what we are all thinking? Let's be kind, but let us not be patsies! Our opinion is valuable and should not be stifled.

Dale Dawson



SUFFERING IN SILENCE

Unfortunately, there are many forms of discrimination and harassment that plague the world today. Racism, the discrimination of someone because of their race is only one form. The current Liberal Government under Justin Trudeau has repeatedly said that there is no room for racism or any other form of discrimination in Canada, and yet this government and every government, going back to when Pierre Trudeau was first elected in 1968, have been and still are the biggest perpetrators of discrimination in Canada!

As a long-standing federal civil servant, I have seen many governments come and go and I can tell you with absolute certainty that they all have one thing in common. Their words and their actions regarding discrimination in Canada are a total HYPOCRISY!

This government is a Discriminatory Employer! THEY DISCRIMINATE AGAINST EVERYONE WHO IS NOT A FRENCH-SPEAKER!!

I know this to be true as 100% fact because for the last four decades, myself and 100's of thousands of English speaking Canadians have been living, working, and HURTING, in silence because of the discriminatory policies of our governments!

Back in 1982 when P.E.T. gave us a new constitution, he rewrote the Canadian Charter of Rights which was supposed to ensure ALL CANADIANS freedom from discrimination! P.E.T. had his own secret agenda for Canada BILINGUAL TODAY, FRENCH TOMORROW! With that agenda in mind, he changed our new Charter of Rights in a way that would forever change the social fabric of Canada! He copied the U.N. Charter of Rights leaving out DISCRIMINATION BASED ON LANGUAGE! This one simple change allowed him to totally change the structure of his government. Suddenly qualifications and seniority were meaningless in the Federal Government! In order to become a manager, the only prerequisite was that you had to be a French-speaker and only able to speak a little bit of English. Those English-speakers that were brave enough to challenge this new Francophone agenda soon discovered discrimination based on language was NO longer an offense subject to grievance because it was excluded from our Charter of Rights!

With a slip of the pen, P.E.T. had now ensured that he could staff all the managers' positions with French-speakers and English-speaking Canadians have no recourse other than to suffer in silence!

Over the past 4 decades, I personally have been a victim of these discriminatory policies including being denied an acting position for which I was the only one to apply. I have also been a witness to countless other cases; one that really stands out in my mind. A French lady acting in a manager's positions for 5 years was well-liked and well respected. She married an English gentleman and took his name. When the position came up for competition, she applied for it using her new married name. Two months went by before she received a letter telling her that she is not qualified. It turned out that the staffing committee, made up entirely of French-speakers who looked at the English name on her resume, never bothered to open it. The position was staffed by a French-speaker with far less experience. She went to the union, who were also mainly French speakers. They refused to help her, they said it was her own fault because she changed her name!

These are not isolated cases, it is clear cut discrimination against English-speakers, it's happening every single day and has been for the last 40 years!! THE ONLY WAY WE WILL END THIS DISCRIMINATION IS TO ELECT A GOVERNMENT THAT IS WILLING TO RESTORE LANGUAGE DISCRIMINATION TO OUR CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND A GOVERNMENT THAT HAS THE BACKBONE TO ENFORCE THE RIGHTS OF ITS CITIZENS THAT ARE VICTIMS OF LANGUAGE DISCRIMINATION!

No one province has the right to control our entire country! It's up to English-speaking Canadians!!! We must make LANGUAGE DISCRIMINATION the hottest subject in the next federal election. Find out where your MP stands on language discrimination. Let them know that you will not vote for them unless they are 100% opposed to language discrimination!!

English speaking Canadians have suffered far too long in silence, it is up to us to unite and to let our Government officials know that we are not going to tolerate it anymore!

Sincerely,

A Federal Public Service employee
(and victim of language discrimination!)

Would a class-action law suit be supported by Canadians who have suffered from this policy? Send your opinions to: info@languagefairness.ca

CLF Board of Directors

Gender and Sex

by Roger Graves

When I was very young, we used to play make-believe games in which we were pirates, or possibly cowboys. If we told our parents what we were, they would smile indulgently. However, if bedtime approached and we insisted that pirates didn't have to go to bed, the response was always the same: don't be so silly.

In today's world, there are so-called trans women, who are men who want us to believe that they are women, and trans men who are women who want us to believe that they are men. By all means indulge your beliefs, dress up how you will, but if those beliefs impinge unnecessarily on the rest of us, such as biological men using women's washrooms or competing with women in women's sports, the response should be much the same: don't be so silly.

One's sex is binary, it is determined at birth and does not change thereafter. A baby is born either male or female. As a male, it will have a Y-chromosome, will have a penis, will not subsequently menstruate, and will possess the capability to impregnate females but not subsequently to bear children. As a female it will not have a Y-chromosome, will have a vagina,

and post-puberty will have breasts, will menstruate and will (usually) be capable of bearing children. (Some women for one reason or another are unable to conceive, but this does not nullify their fundamental female nature.)

A few, a very few, human children are born as hermaphrodites, i.e. they have both male and female sexual organs, but the number is so small that they can be considered oddities or freaks rather than a third sex.

Although it is possible to remove some sexual features by surgical or chemical means, this merely results in mutilated bodies, but does not change the underlying sex of that person. A man with his penis surgically removed is simply a man without a penis. He is not, and never can be, a woman. Similarly, a girl that has been treated with puberty blocking drugs is simply a girl that has not been allowed to develop into a fully functioning mature woman, but she is still female.

Having stated the obvious about male and female sexes, there is a further element of our makeup as human beings, and that is the extent to which we exhibit masculine or feminine behaviour. Masculinity and femininity exist independently of male and female. Men can exhibit both

masculine and feminine behaviour, as indeed can women. While male and female are simply physical characteristics which are fixed at birth and do not change thereafter, masculinity and femininity are mental rather than physical attributes.

Some attempt at a definition of masculinity and femininity is called for here. I am aware that however I define them there will be many who will disagree with me. Nevertheless, I will attempt to do so.

A good starting point in any attempt to define human characteristics is to go back to primitive times, when towns, villages and farms did not exist and we were all hunter/gatherers. The task of the males was to hunt for food and to protect the females when danger threatened. The task of the females was to bear and raise children, and usually to gather edible plants. In their child-bearing roles the women would tend to seek out a male partner who could best provide them with food and security, while the men would look primarily for evidence of child-bearing capability, such as large breasts and pronounced waist/hip ratios. The resultant hourglass figure is still prized by the majority of men today, as is the broad-shouldered, six-pack figure by the majority of women.



Bulls (male)



Cows (female)

In such situations, maleness and masculinity generally would have coincided, as did femaleness and femininity. A male that exhibited largely feminine characteristics was unlikely to have much breeding success in a hunter/gatherer society. The primary feminine characteristic, as opposed to physical female characteristics, is that of nurturing, i.e. a state of mind which happily accepts the task of caring for others, and in particular caring for children. A feminine woman will gladly delegate the task of protection to a male partner, indeed will usually demand it of him, although if her children are threatened she is capable of responding with a surprising level of aggressiveness.

Masculine natures tend to exhibit aggression and competitiveness. Hunter/gatherers did not hunt large animals by being timid, and the ones who brought down the most game usually ate better and had first choice of women, so competitiveness led to the best chance for the propagation of one's genes. However, competitiveness makes cooperation difficult. Although teamwork and cooperation are generally necessary for successful hunting, it is probably a learned behaviour rather than an innate

disposition. (Playing team sports at school today is one way in which otherwise competitive males are taught cooperative behaviour.) In contrast, feminine natures tend to be better at cooperation since there is no necessity for competitiveness in nurturing and child rearing.

In summary, the primary feminine behavioural characteristics are nurturing and cooperation, while the primary masculine characteristics are competitiveness and aggression. This does not mean to say that all women exhibit purely feminine characteristics, nor that all men exhibit purely masculine characteristics. Indeed, the evidence would suggest that nearly everyone has both a masculine side and a feminine side. Gender can be defined as the extent to which masculinity or femininity dominates in a particular person. As a general rule, and only as a general rule, men tend to have a greater preponderance of masculine than feminine characteristics, and women more feminine than masculine. However, there can be masculine women and feminine men in which the opposite is true.

The question remains however of whether the disposition of these two characteristics is innate, or can

be learned or otherwise modified by circumstances – nature or nurture, in other words.

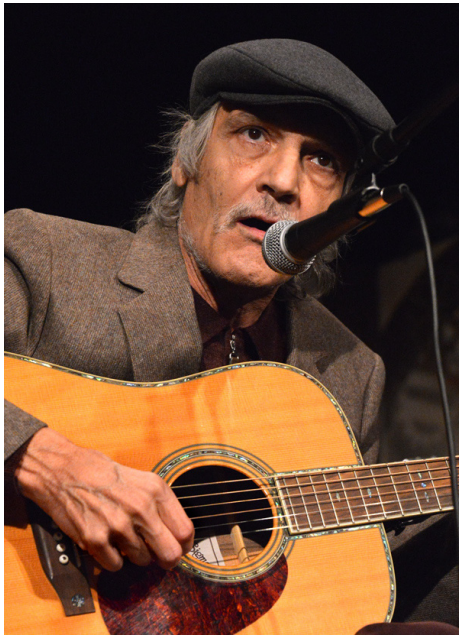
My observation is that a person's gender, by which I mean the extent to which masculine or feminine behavioural characteristics define them, does not change much throughout their lives. A masculine person remains masculine and a feminine person remains feminine, regardless of their physical sex. However, it is possible for people to temporarily adopt other characteristics when circumstances demand. For example, a friend of mine, who is a very feminine person, was thrust into a job in which she had to manage, i.e. enforce her will upon, a lot of rather fractious employees and from time to time had to fire non-performers. She managed this somewhat masculine task very well, but happily reverted to her previous feminine persona when she decided to stay home and raise a family.

The cult of gender fluidity which is much apparent in universities today insists that sex is non-binary, that there are dozens of different genders, and a man can become a woman and a woman a man just by proclaiming it to the world. As my parent's generation would have said, don't be so silly. *

Saving the Carbon Tax on the Farm

Jim Kehoe of Leeds County enjoys mowing and raking with his team of Suffolk Punch horses





A Sad State of Affairs

by Lyle Dillabough

So this is it. What it's all come down to. The end of all things as we once knew it? In 2008 I released a song

entitled, "Fading Away" and things certainly seem to be. The lyrics suggested, "our forefathers built this country, and everything they stood for is fading away." So true.

What gets me most is how everything is collapsing and how fast it is all happening. Also the stupidity and cowardice displayed by so many.

Our grandparents would never have acted this way. They would have stood together and faced this thing head on. No way would they have allowed their rights and livelihood to be taken from them so easily. They would choose to die rather than to allow that. They would "rise up and stand tall."

A few years ago someone stated that, "when the last of our grandparents generation (speaking about grandparents of the "baby boomers") passed, all common sense went with them" Sounds right to me.

They would, "rise up and stand tall" and made a stand. Today it's cowardice and extreme selfishness which is the order of the day.

Another wise statement states, "*when one runs away in fear they dig a pit for themselves which they will ultimately fall into and surely perish.*" One might buy a bit of time but... Wait for it.

I suspect dire results from all of this fear, suspicion and social isolation. No invading army required. We caved in fear and "divide and conquer" that was performed by our very selves.

Here is another important fact. The mainstream media doesn't tell the full story. They promote this fear and revel in it.

Whatever happened to true, balanced journalism? The economic, social, personal damage brought on by these measures has been devastating. Far worse then the effects of this virus.

It leaves one to ask, "what's next?"

Things don't look good.

People with my point of view are of the minority. But as the age old saying states, "*you can deny reality but you can't deny the consequences of reality.*"

We shall soon find out what these consequences are. I wish everyone the best and may you hold on, hold up and weather all of this. Should you be one who has faith that's a great advantage to you.

You are going to need it.

**

YOLKOWSKI MONUMENTS LTD.



Beautiful monuments
crafted locally at
64 MAIN ST., COBDEN, ON
**MANY MONUMENTS
NOW ON DISPLAY**

IN-HOME APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

Please call **(613) 646-2275**

or Toll Free **1-800-661-4354**

Website: www.yolkowskimonuments.ca



IS OUR PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM DEAD?

by Shirley Dolan



Aided and abetted by the RCMP, the federal government is continuing to add legal guns to the list of firearms that became prohibited by an Order in Council (OIC) on May 1st, 2020. Many gun owners will look at the list of firearms as published in the Canada Gazette and assume that their firearm is NOT prohibited if it is not on the list. The original list contained over 1,500 gun models. <http://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2020/2020-05-01-x3/html/sor-dors96-eng.html> But what may not be widely known is that the RCMP is quietly adding to the list of illegal guns. According to a gun-shop owner in Port Coquitlam, BC, quoted in TriCity News: “A firearm I have stocked this morning could be illegal by this afternoon,” he said. “There’s no way I know what’s legal to sell.” <https://www.tricitynews.com/news/port-coquitlam-gun-shop-flags-rcmp-quietly-adding-weapons-to-banned-list-1.24146933>

If gun shop owners are finding it hard to keep up with the growing list of prohibited guns, imagine private, individual hunters and sport shooters, individuals who legally owned a firearm, until May 1st. And they are not being informed that their gun may have just become prohibited; all guns being added to the list are prohibited retroactive to May 1st, 2020. Prohibited guns cannot be transported, sold, or used for hunting

or sport shooting (except in specific cases). And contrary to Minister Bill Blair was saying they were not on the list, the list includes firearms used by hunters and sport shooters. “Lawful firearms owners risk arrest” says MP Cheryl Gallant. <http://cherylgallant.com/blog/2020/06/19/lawful-firearms-owners-risk-arrest/>

If gun shop owners are finding it hard to keep up with the growing list of prohibited guns, imagine private, individual hunters and sport shooters, individuals who legally owned a firearm, until May 1st.

In a letter from the RCMP, gun owners are being told only “to stay tuned”, and all the while, the list gets longer. The RCMP’s website <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/need-know-the-government-canadas-new-prohibition-certain-firearms-and-devices> does provide a link to the original list of prohibited guns, and gives information on what the prohibition means to gun owners. Also announced is a two-year amnesty period (up to April 30th, 2022) during

which you can do nothing with your firearm except store it safely. A buy-back program will apparently be available at a later date (stay tuned) but here’s the kicker. To put a compensation program in place, Parliament must pass a bill giving the government this authorization ... and Parliament is not sitting. And is it likely that any compensation package that this government comes up with will be fair? Some gun collectors have a hefty investment in their collection.

The Trudeau government seized the opportunity to pass an Order in Council (OIC) to ban firearms. There was no debate in Parliament, no discussion with stakeholders, no sober second thought and Canadians were in Lockdown because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Orders in Council are predominantly used by the Prime Minister to make political appointments. There have been other controversial uses of an OIC, including Order-in-Council P.C. 1486, issued by Prime Minister Mackenzie King in 1942 to officially begin Japanese Canadian internment. All Japanese Canadians within 100 miles of the British Columbia coast – designated as a “protected area” – were forced to relocate east to the BC interior and other provinces, sometimes with only 24 hours to do so. <https://digitize.library.ubc.ca/digitizers-blog/japanese-canadian-internment-at-tashme/>.



Perhaps less well known is the Order in Council by the Canadian government, in 1914, for the registration and in certain cases for the internment of aliens of “enemy nationality”. Between 1914 and 1920, 8,579 “enemy aliens” were detained in internment camps. Upon each individual’s arrest, whatever valuables they might have had were seized. Some of this confiscated money was stolen. This OIC primarily targeted Ukrainians. <http://www.infoukes.com/history/internment/booklet01/>

It may be that Orders in Council should not be used to enact legislation that infringes on citizens’ basic rights. To the Ontario Landowners Association (OLA), the May 1st OIC is a clear violation of property rights. When asked to support the legal challenge that will soon be brought in Federal Court by Arkadi Bouchelev, Barrister and Solicitor, the OLA agreed.

Since the discussions with Mr. Bouchelev, many other court challenges have come to our attention. To be clear, it does not appear if any of the challenges are based on property rights. However, we encourage you to support them. Here is a list of some of those challenges:

1. **Arkadi Bouchelev** Application for Judicial Review <https://www.gofundme.com/f/gun-ban-court-challenge-judicial-review>
2. **Solomon Friedman**, a Toronto Lawyer, is requesting a judicial review on behalf of a gun store in BC (filed) <https://nationalpost.com/news/court-challenge-seeks-to-overturn-federal-gun-ban/wcm/e8ff3d53-6de9-407f-8897-5c6a81ebcaa0>. The Canadian Taxpayers Association is seeking financial support to apply for intervener status in this challenge <https://www.taxpayer.com/donate/scrap-the-gun-ban-and-buy-back>
3. **The Canadian Coalition for Firearm Rights** has filed an application <https://firearmrights.ca/en/legal-action-filed-will-you-help/>.
4. Read what the **Canadian Sports Shooting Association** has to say about the OIC <https://cssa-cila.org/billblairlied/>.

5. There is also information about **other challenges and about the OIC** at <https://www.wolverinesupplies.com/order-in-council#?sortValue=0>.

6. **Go Fund Me** page initiated by John Hipwell to support a Judicial Review of the OIC. <https://ca.gofundme.com/f/judicial-oic-challenge-john-hipwell-amp-ed-burlew>

A word of caution: the OLA has been down the litigation road before when we launched a charter challenge against the OSPCA Act in Ontario Superior Court. After five and a half years of legal wrangling, we had our day in court and received a positive decision (OSPCA enforcement powers are unconstitutional) and the court gave the government one year to remedy the situation. Even though the new provincial government was moving in this direction, they still appealed, and we lost at the Ontario Court of Appeal.

It remains to be seen how the various court challenges will play out. Will there be a change of government before any decision is rendered? Will a new government revoke the Order in Council? Will the OIC be replaced by an Act which basically achieves the same thing?

In closing, let me say that I do not own a gun, never have and likely never will but I am appalled at the federal government’s abuse of our Parliamentary system in passing the May 1st OIC. And let me thank those gun owners and advocates with whom I spoke in preparing this article. **

The Tangled Web of Government



by Marlene Black

Greetings from my house to yours,

Hope all is well with everyone despite these difficult times with restrictions and isolations. It is indeed a new world.

I haven't been too busy: online groceries have now morphed into 'going to the grocery store wearing a mask', total isolation has been replaced with a few women friends distanced across a large porch drinking our coffee and chatting, my dog has been to the groomers and is so happy not to have lopsided ears and shaggy patches of fur and Toms "Beatle's" hair cut has been trimmed thanks to my daughter Laura and so life goes on if at a different pace. Despite the pandemic, our potato bugs are thriving, laying lots of little orange eggs under the leaves that we often miss so new batches appear. Some of our seeds didn't see much water and punished us by staying hidden in the soil surrounded by the weeds that were happy to grow. You get the picture. However, this recent rain has helped the rest of the garden thrive somewhat.

Tom has been filling his days looking for more ways to fill his days. He started with hatching eggs in the incubator several times. Then

he needed to find places for these baby chickens, so tubs were found as well as lights to go in them while paying special attention to the barn cat that thought we'd ordered him some Kentucky fried chicken bites. When the chickens grew a bit they needed to go outside so Tom built some housing for the chickens. Our daughter Laura

Renfrew and conservation commands in Ottawa. You'd think common sense would have prevailed with the bigger picture of saving lives and distancing. But oh no, bylaw was in the face of our friend who stuck a fishing pole into the water off a beach for a ten minute break, with others doing the same off in the distance. Yes, he got an



decided to order some guinea hens because she heard that they eat potato bugs and ticks. That was good enough reason to order 25 from somewhere in Ontario. Well Tom thought he'd better order some ducks and geese with her order and that created lots more work building pens and gates and places for them to keep dry. They are mixing well with the 3 lambs that we have 'baaing' in the background. He is also fencing to keep the cows in and has spent hours on the tractors getting fields ready for grains and hay.

Landowner phone calls have started to come in to many of us. Ditch problems in Oxford Norfolk, bylaw problems in Stormont Dundas, deer wintering-yard designations in

\$880 ticket from an aggressive bylaw officer who clearly invaded his space and charged him with breaking the emergency rules. But these injustices are only the tip of the iceberg.

If you are curious as to why we never seem to win too often against government officials, unlawful laws, tickets that make no sense, court cases that are in our favour but we end up losing and conservation commands that go against nature, common sense and the benefit of the owners, read on...If it looks like you might win a court case, don't be surprised if just before trial, they drop the charges. If you have a pile of documenting evidence to support your case and despite you attending court early,



you can't find your name or court room anywhere and find out later that court happened, you missed it and you lost because there was no evidence presented at the proceedings, don't be surprised. Don't be surprised if the sympathetic judge that seemed to be agreeing with you, is sick the next day and a Godzilla lawyer is the replacement and everything goes south. It's sort of like these by-election results when 400 votes were counted but only 300 people voted. The deck is stacked against the good, honest, hard-working citizens trying to jump through hoops and follow the ever changing rules to 'get stuff done' and then I remember, many levels of government aren't there to help you. Have you ever had meetings with city planners, municipal councillors or conservation authorities and wondered why they don't seem to be listening to your situation. I don't think they are and I don't think they care. It's like they're putting in time pretending to care but knowing full well that despite your evidence as to why you need a ditch cleaned out, or why you should be allowed to have a house on your 40 acres or why you can't put up a deck when all your neighbours have one, they will pull out a new rule, new designation, new evidence and stamp your request "NO". Believe me, their job has nothing to do with helping you. Your wishes are not part of their plans and you are probably just a thorn in the side of their agenda.

We have an excellent position paper submitted to the Landowner Voices in this issue which traces the early days of Canadian history and the struggles and battles that occurred between the settlers in the new world and the British rulers. Check out Charles Finner's article on page 40 of the history of our government and how the original purpose of government in a free society was to protect the

freedom and the just rights of every citizen equally. Find out how unjust discrimination was built into Canadian government institutions from the start. It's a long read but well worth it.

Oh what a tangled web we weave, when first we practise to deceive...Walter Scott

Hope you all continue to stay well and hopefully welcome a few more people into your bubble zone. **



Landowner Voices has received a submission that raises issues that we believe may be important to understanding and resolving some of the divisions that are evident in Canada today.

Systemic Racism? - It's Much wider and deeper than that!

The recent upwelling of claims that Canada is “systemically racist” raises much wider and deeper concerns about the extent to which unjust discrimination has been built into Canada’s institutions of government and law.

Unjust discrimination arises when some persons are treated differently than others because of factors that have nothing to do with the matter at hand. Such discrimination becomes systemic in our government institutions when the laws, programs and activities of government deal with persons not as equal human beings but as members of some designated group.

With a view to avoiding diversions that lead away from the core topic, I emphasize that this is not concerned with whether some Canadians, as individuals, act in ways that are unjustly-discriminatory on the basis of race or sex or language or religion or any other grounds. Some do. Most do not. As I see it, most Canadians are not racist. Most fully accept that every individual must be subject to the same just laws rather than on the basis of what their ethnic, religious, linguistic or racial characteristics may be. But what individuals may do is not the focus here.

Systemic discrimination has a long history in Canada's institutions of government and law – and the discriminatory actions have increased as governments have moved away from the notion that they must act as Trustees with a duty to protect the rights of all citizens equally and increasingly accepted the notion that governments have the right to impose laws and policies that treat persons differently – based on the group to which persons can accidentally be assigned.

This map illustrates the territorial divisions of North America in 1713, following the Treaty of Utrecht. The legend identifies the following regions and features:

- France:** Shaded in light blue.
- Great Britain:** Shaded in light red.
- Territories ceded by France to Great Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713:** Shaded in purple.
- Spain:** Shaded in light orange.
- Cities:** Marked with small circles.
- Forts:** Marked with small crosses.

The map shows the following territories and key locations:

- Canada:** Divided into French territory (light blue) and territories ceded to Great Britain (purple). Key locations include Fort Bourbon, Fort Dauphin, Fort La Reine, Fort Saint-Pierre, Fort Michilimackinac, Fort Beauharnois, Fort Frontenac, Fort Detroit, Fort Duquesne, and Montreal (1642).
- Upper Country:** A region within French Canada, including Fort Saint-Pierre and Fort Michilimackinac.
- Upper Louisiana (Illinois Country):** A region within French Louisiana, including Fort Orleans, Fort Saint-Louis, and Fort de Chartres.
- Lower Louisiana:** A region within French Louisiana, including Fort Rosalie and Baton Rouge (1720).
- LAUISIANA:** The central French territory, including Fort Orleans, Fort Saint-Louis, Fort de Chartres, Fort Rosalie, and Baton Rouge (1720).
- ACADIA:** A region within French territory, including Fort-Royal (1605) and Louisbourg (1719).
- Newfoundland:** A region within French territory, including Plaisance (1662).
- Great Britain:** Includes the eastern coast of North America, including Boston (1630), New York (1626), Philadelphia (1681), Baltimore (1729), Charleston (1680), Savannah (1733), and Mobile (1702).
- Spain:** Includes the southwestern coast of North America, including La Nouvelle-Orleans (1718) and Biloxi (1699).

The map also shows the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Atlantic Ocean to the east, and the Gulf of Mexico to the south.

40 Landowner Voices - July/August 2020

The situation did not change when Britain acquired those French territories in 1763. It can be seen in the policies that were imposed by the governors in Britain's various colonies in the Americas at the time of the Royal Proclamation of 1763. It is dominant in the Act which replaced the Proclamation – the Quebec Act of 1774. It can be seen in the special provisions that were made for some limited groups in the British North America Act in 1867. It was dramatically increased and firmly solidified in the Constitution Act of 1982 – and particularly in the provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms explicitly allows governments to treat persons differently on multiple grounds – including on the basis of the belief that members of some groups should be treated differently if they or their ancestors can be seen to be disadvantaged because of their race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.

The Charter is explicit in stating that governments can subject persons to different laws, programs or activities. It allows government to give privileges to some persons and to exempt some from the laws that apply to others – effectively on the basis of the groups to which they may accidentally belong or on the basis of the groups to which governments may decide they can arbitrarily be assigned.

Governments have increasingly taken advantage of that “constitutional right” and they have chosen to treat persons differently on the discriminatory basis of the group to which a person may accidentally belong.

Adding to the claims for more special laws

The recent chorus from government and public alike that insists that Canada is “Systemically Racist” serves as a basis for discriminating even more – by adding weight to the claims made by persons

of one particular race for special treatment – thus dividing us even more.

The current protests arose from the abusive murder by police in the United States. Those protests have focused on systemic **racism** by the police **against blacks**. Consequently, the ongoing protests have led to demands for special laws, special programs or special activities that will deal with discriminatory actions against members of that particular group.

The push for special treatment for one group inevitably leads those who belong to other groups to claim unjust discrimination against them – and that leads to demand for special laws, programs or activities that will benefit their group as well.

A growing diversity of claims – growing division, resentment and anger

As more and more groups succeed in getting special treatment, more and more groups will inevitably form – seeking special laws, programs or activities to improve what they see as their own disadvantaged status. The cycle is endless.

Even when the demands of all major groups have been satisfied, some persons within those groups will perceive that they are even more disadvantaged than others and they will demand further benefits for members of their sub-group – and that will go on and on.

One week the concerns may be unjust discrimination against blacks. The next week may bring attention to abuses against the Inuit. The next day might bring forth examples of the injustices that have been inflicted on the Japanese or some particular sub-group of women, or on those who do not speak any of the official languages or on those of a particular sex or gender.

Demands for special treatment, benefits or reparations can also extend to claims based on discriminatory actions being done against the ancestors of those who belong to a particular group – actions that

were done decades or centuries ago – and even actions that were done in a different country or a different continent. The basis for such claims becomes infinite.

Ultimately one can expect claims to be made by every person – because of the fact that every person suffers under some special circumstance or circumstances that create disadvantages for them. Satisfying all of those claims would lead to the creation of special laws, programs and activities for every person – so that they can deal with the effects of the circumstances that have put them in a special situation of need.

The inevitable outcome of government subjecting different persons to different laws, programs and activities to deal with the discrimination that can be seen to have been practiced against them is that there will be ever-increasing demands for special treatment – and that will lead to ever-increasing division, resentment and anger among the citizens of our land.

Group privilege – “racism” – You can't say that!

The focus on classes of persons – or groups of persons – who feel that they must gain privileges to overcome some perceived disadvantage has already had profoundly negative effects on the ability to speak about real issues that cause harm to the citizens of Canada.

During the course of the COVID pandemic, it has proven to be difficult to mention the abuses by the Chinese governments against the citizens of China. Even implied criticism of China or the Chinese government for its actions against the people of Tibet, the practitioners of the religion of the Falun Gong, the Uighurs, the people of Hong Kong or the people of Taiwan can lead to accusations that one is encouraging racism against the people of China and even against persons who are of Chinese descent. Those who raise such concerns can even be accused of outright racism.

Silence becomes the only way to

avoid the charge.

Accordingly, one sees little meaningful discussion about such things as the failure of the government of China to implement adequate controls over the spread of Covid-19 at the start of the outbreak – or about the negative effects that China's Belt and Road initiative is having on those who live in countries that choose to join that Chinese economic plan.

Such an enforced silence can prevent our own government from doing what it must do to protect the indisputable rights of the citizens of Canada. How can governments speak out to protect the rights and just interests of its own citizens if the mere raising of a concern about the actions of a country or its actions or its policies immediately leads to the accusation of racism?

The focus on "race" has negative impacts on discussion of other matters of importance within Canada as well. The charge of "racism" is frequently used – with great success – to suppress the expression of real and important issues and concerns. The levelling of that charge has proven to be so effective that it has created an ever-growing list of thoughts that one must not dare to have and to a growing list of words that one must definitely never say.

Core Beliefs, Principles

I have little doubt that most Canadians are firmly committed to the principles of freedom and real and equal justice and that they believe that Canada's governments share that commitment.

Those beliefs go hand-in-hand with the rhetoric about the superiority of Canada.

The principles have a deeper root as well.

Those principles are deeply imbedded in the heritage of government and law that we inherited from Britain. They have a much longer history, too. They can be traced back to the time of Ancient Sumer and Egypt, their refinement is evident in the civilizations of Ancient Greece and Rome. One can

see a further clarification during the time of Christian Europe and a fuller refinement of those principles during the Age of the Enlightenment. Those principles were seen to underpin the system of government and law that existed in Britain at the time when Canada was founded.

Those principles insist:

- that all persons are equal, that all are free to think and do what they choose provided that they do not harm the equal right of any other person, and
- that the first and most important duty of government is to ensure that all persons are treated according to the principles of real and equal justice.

History shows that, when those principles were repressed, divisions and conflicts inevitably arose. It was only when the principles were re-asserted and (at least partly) applied, that the societies could move forward constructively again.

The Canadian Myth – Perception vs. reality – Privilege vs. Principle

The myths about the superiority of Canada have caused us to ignore the actual facts of our history. The prevalence of those myths clouds our understanding of the purpose of government and it causes us to ignore the fact that our governments have often acted contrary to those principles despite the loud proclamation of them and despite the fact that history has shown that adherence to those principles is essential if a society hopes to be civil and civilized.

One sees evidence of our imperfect past in the divisions and conflicts that emerged in Canada's history – and one sees evidence of impacts of the further departure of Canada's governments and courts from those principles in the growing contempt that is shown by those in government for the rights of citizens as well as in the growing concerns that are expressed by Canadians that they do not trust our governments or our courts and that they can find no party or candidate that

they can actually support.

If we are to move past the growing disagreements that divide us, we must remove the blinders that lead us to ignore the facts about Canada's history and its present – and start speaking honestly about our past and about what we have become. We must get past the growing pressures to avoid saying things that appear to be true and that appear to be necessary to say.

Systemic discrimination from the start – with many modern additions

The myth that Canada has acted in accordance with those long-standing principles and that Canada is among the most free, most tolerant, most equal, most welcoming and most diverse country in the World has been widely propagated. The extent to which systemic discrimination has been institutionalized has been obscured by the successful propagation of that myth.

While there is no doubt that those principles are deeply entrenched in the heritage of government and law that Canada inherited from Britain, there is also no doubt that the core principles that underlie that heritage are not reflected in much of what is done by Canada's governments and by much of what is passed off as "justice" in Canada's courts.

Discrimination is evident in the laws and policies of governments in Canada during France's Ancien Regime, when Britain acquired those territories from France in 1763, when the BNA Act established independence for Canada in 1867, and when Canada's constitution was revised and a Charter was added in 1982. Systemic discrimination has become a much stronger force in the actions of governments since then – as governments have increasingly demonstrated their determination to give privileges and benefits to those whom they favour – at the expense of the freedoms and rights of others.

Core principles of enduring societies

If we are to have a constructive discussion about what it would take

to have Canada function in the way that many Canadians believe it should, we must understand the role that the core principles that we inherited from Britain play in maintaining a society that is civil and civilized.

In order to have a meaningful discussion of the heritage of government and law which we inherited from Britain, we must examine the actual heritage and we must get past the attempts to block such a discussion on the basis of the claims that will inevitably be made – that that heritage must be rejected outright because that heritage is inherently “colonial”, “patriarchal” and infused with “white privilege”.

The core principles of government and law that we inherited from Britain are nothing of the sort. On the contrary, those principles reject the subordination of anyone. They insist that all persons are equal no matter what religion, race, sex or gender they may be. They insist on the freedom of all and they insist that all have the equal right to truly just treatment under truly just laws.

The substance and the justification of those principles in the West

Those core principles of freedom and real and equal justice have persisted over millennia. No matter how badly governments have deviated from them, they have been articulated again and again and they have been used as the justification for institutional change, for revolutions and for civil wars when governments departed too far from them.

The principles start from the premise that every persons really matter as a human being – that all persons have the right to make up their own mind – that all persons are free to choose their own path in life (for better or worse) as long as they do not harm the rights of other citizens, and that no person has any right to abuse or exploit any other person – or treat any other person as his slave.

The administrative principles that derive from that premise define the role of government as that of a trustee who has the absolute duty to protect

the freedoms, the rights and the just interests of every single citizen. They demand the equal application of truly just laws.

Simply put, each and every person really matters – and governments exist primarily (if not solely) to protect the rights of persons.

Those enduring principles have been justified on several grounds over the past four thousand years.

Throughout the long history of the west, the most common justification for those premises and principles came from the prevailing belief that an all-knowing and all-powerful God had created the universe and that that God loves all of the persons whom he had put on this Earth. God was seen to have created each human being in his image – every single person as a separate valued individual – each with a soul of their own and each with a free will. That loving God was seen to be the source of laws that dictated that every person must respect the equal rights of every other person and deal with others according to the principles of fundamental justice.

Those same core principles were articulated again and again in slightly different forms for more than three thousand years – sometimes on a foundation of “God’s law”, at other times on the basis of “The Laws of Natural Justice” (“The Laws of Nature”) and on other occasions on the basis of “The Laws dictated by Sound Reason” (“The Laws of Right Reason”).

Not only does history show that societies prospered when those principles were upheld, it shows that when those principles were set aside, divisions and conflicts arose within the societies and governments were replaced in an effort to re-establish those principles.

While it is no longer believed that a firm and indisputable proof can be given that governments must adhere to those principles, there is little doubt that those principles inevitably flow from the belief that each and every person matters, that no person has any right to exploit, abuse or enslave any other person.

If one accepts those premises as true, then those enduring principles must be applied by our governments.

Trusteeship vs. Power

Those who make the argument that the governments of England and Canada have lost legitimacy because they have not acted according to those principles are, no doubt, correct. Those who argue that those who have occupied positions of power in our government institutions have not followed those principles are correct as well.

That, however, is a condemnation of those who have held and who hold power. It is not a condemnation of the principles.

One must distinguish between what government has a duty to do – and what those in government actually do. If one throws the principles away because a person in a position of trust violated the trust and undermined the principles, one is left with nothing to guide the actions of those who will ever hold power.

There is a particular danger associated with giving the type of power that governments wield to those who hold offices in government institutions.

Positions of power act as very potent magnets for those who are intent on abusing that power. The greater the power, the stronger the attraction, and so high public offices have been vigorously pursued by those who were intent on imposing their own agendas and on exploiting those positions to secure benefits for themselves and their friends.

Since there is no power greater than that which is held by the institutions of government, there is no effective check on the abuse of that power. While some limited control is afforded through the electoral process, the effectiveness of that check on breach of trust is reduced when the choices that one faces at an election are between persons and parties who are intent on abusing the power to provide privileges to different persons or different groups.

Throughout history many of those who have held public office have been guilty of massive abuse of the power assigned to government – in a great breach of trust. One sees examples again and again in the history of the West. Kings have claimed a divine right to impose their own will and many Prime Ministers and Presidents of today believe that their election has given them the right to pass laws that force all citizens to abandon their own goals and to do what those political leaders want them to do.

While there have been many examples of breach of trust and abuse of power in the past, over the longer term those principles have been resurrected and re-imposed when willful and abusive governments set them aside – but the restoration process has not always been easy or smooth. Often abuse of one sort is followed by abuse of another.

The political options that appear readily available to us today suggest that, no matter which political party gets elected, more abuse is in the cards.

One can barely see the core principles in the actions of those who hold the highest positions of trust in our system of government today. Instead, one sees a growing distrust of those who seek public office, of those who lead our political parties (and those who vie to lead them), and of those who hold positions as senior advisors, as bureaucrats and as operatives in the back rooms.

One sees the disaffection with those who run key institutions of government being voiced in the many protests that we see today – and the disaffection is evident both among those who organize the protests and in those who come to join in the counter-protests to press a different point of view.

The disaffection is plain; the avenues for remedy are limited; the way ahead is far from clear.

Our long history suggests that when such disaffection becomes strong, the only constructive way forward is to re-assert and re-apply the principles of freedom and real

and equal justice. If we are to avoid greater division now, those principles must be restored.

Principles departed

There is little doubt that we are now in a time when those enduring principles have been significantly eroded. The abuse of power has become so deeply institutionalized that many obstacles stand in the way of re-establishing those principles as the foundation of our governments and our laws.

In the mind of many, governments are no longer seen as trustees who have a duty to protect the rights of all. Instead, they are often seen as institutions of raw power.

Many have lost sight of why our governments exist in the first place – and of what it is that those in government offices have a duty to do.

Many have come to believe that those that have successfully played the games that are required to get elected have gained the right to impose whatever agenda they want – that they have the “right” to pass whatever laws are required to force citizens to fall into line behind the goals and policies that those who control the government wish to pursue.

Many who compete for public office are firmly of that mind. To them, government is nothing but raw power – to be used to impose an agenda.

Many who work in government institutions believe that the information that they have access to gives them the right to impose their conclusions on a public that is unaware of the facts or incapable of coming to the right conclusions.

Among the politically-active, many firmly believe that the role of government is to impose the decisions that they profess to “know” are “for the good of everyone” and they work hard to see that the governments that are elected will impose the policies that they want everyone to follow.

Among the non-politically-active, many have come to accept that those in power “know” what is best for us – or, at least, that those in power have

the right to force us to fall in line with their agenda and their commands.

Even among citizens who see those who hold government offices as trustees who have a duty to protect the freedom and the rights of all citizens – equally – few see much prospect that the attitudes and practices that have become so deeply embedded in those institutions can be changed.

What they might see as a more realistic option than restoring the commitment to freedom and real and equal justice, is replacing the officials who are abusing the powers of government to impose one agenda, with a different group of politicians and bureaucrats who will abuse the powers of government to impose a different agenda.

Restoring the principles of freedom and real and equal justice to a position of primacy is, without doubt, a very daunting task. It requires a re-articulation of what it means to have a society in which all persons are free and it requires a greater awareness of the importance and implications of those principles among ordinary citizens.

Rules in a free society

A society that is committed to freedom and to real and equal justice must operate in a very different way than is dictated by the way in which our governments have evolved over the last fifty years and in which they increasingly operate today.

In a society where persons are free and where they are given equal protection under truly just laws, the rules that governments apply must be of a very different character than the commands of those who are determined to impose their will.

Governments that impose their will on citizens are fully compatible with countries that enslave their citizens – but such governments are not compatible with the notion that the country is a society of free persons – all with real and equal rights – and all with the right to think what they think and to do what they want to do – so long as they do not harm the rights of any other member of the society.

The long history of the West has shown that the rules and laws that can apply in a society of free persons have a very particular character:

- the only rules that can legitimately be enforced **must have the character of prohibitions against doing harm** to the rights or just interests of any other members of the state; and
- no legitimate law can have the character of a command that orders citizens to do what any other person (including those who hold government office) deems to be “good” or “desirable”.
 - o Every person must be free from coercion. All have the right to think what they think and to do what they choose to do – so long as their actions do not cause harm to the equal right of every other member of the state.

Since those conclusions derive directly from the principles that were understood to govern the heritage of government and law that we inherited from Britain, those characteristics describe the laws that can legitimately apply in Canada – if we are to live up to the promise of freedom and real and equal justice.

Canada's foundation of privilege and discrimination

I believe that most Canadians would defend the principles of freedom and real and equal justice. I believe, too, that many Canadians believe that the institutions of government in Canada are founded on those principles.

Nonetheless, governments are often seen to have departed from those principles and Canada's history shows that the seeking and granting of privilege has been a dominant characteristic of the political system in Canada from the start.

History also shows that governments operated closer to and further from the principles of freedom and real and equal justice at different times – and the extent to which actions

have deviated from those principles is reflected, for example, in the various iterations of our constitution, in the rules that govern the operation of Parliament, in the extent to which the power to write laws and regulations and to enforce them have been delegated to bureaucrats, in the extent to which the legal system has allowed equal and quick access to the courts.

A review of those documents and procedures shows that freedom and real and equal justice have always been given lip-service. However, privilege, imposition and inequality have been constant features of Canada's system of government.

Our history shows that the principles of freedom and real and equal justice were poorly reflected in the governments of New France and in the governments that were established after the French territories were transferred to Britain in 1763. Those principles were most strongly reflected (though still far from perfectly) from the time of the proclamation of the British North America Act in 1867 until the proclamation of the Constitution Act of 1982.

Since 1982 one has seen a steady decline in the commitment to freedom and real and equal justice. One contributing factor is The Charter of Rights and Freedoms that is incorporated into the Constitution Act of 1982.

That Charter includes many provisions that allow governments to act in arbitrary ways – and it explicitly allows governments to pass laws, to implement programs and to undertake activities that treat some Canadians differently from others.

In short, discrimination has become deeply entrenched in our government institutions.

The entrenchment of the right to impose unequal laws in the core document that underpins our system of government can not be seen in any other way than as building the right to act in discriminatory treatment into the very heart of our government institutions.

Since 1982 Canadians have seen governments treat citizens of Canada

differently – based on the group or groups to which they accidentally belong. The granting of privileged treatment to the members of some groups has led to demands from more and more groups for special laws and special treatment for them. As a result, Canada sees itself in a situation where Canadians are increasingly divided, increasingly seeing themselves as being disadvantaged and discriminated against, and resentful of the privileges that they see being granted to others.

Calls for real and equal justice for everyone – and even calls for real and equal respect – are drowned out in the calls to address the particular claims of the particular group that has gained control of the public megaphone at the time.

The current push for unequal laws fits in well with Canada's history of systemic discrimination – and with the determination of those in government institutions to grant privileges to some – at the expense of the principles of real and equal justice. Canada's institutions of government have always leaned that way – and the built-in bias against equal treatment and just laws has become deeply entrenched.

CANADA'S HISTORY OF DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination in the French Colonies in Canada under France's Ancien Regime

Prior to the transfer of the French lands in Canada to England at the end of the Seven Year's War – the system of government that applied in the French colonies in America was France's “Ancien Regime”. Under that system, massive privileges were given to the aristocracy and the Clergy and ordinary citizens were subject to control, exploitation and abuse.

At the time when Britain gained the French colonies in the Americas (by the Treaty of Paris of 1763), the domination of the habitants by the Seigneurs and the clergy was well established and widely accepted in the French Colony.

The discriminatory practices of

the Ancien Regime were not viewed in that way in France itself. There, the ordinary citizens resented and despised the system of privilege and exploitation that was imposed on them by the Ancien Regime.

Opposition to that regime led to the French Revolution only twenty six years after Britain acquired the French Territories in the Americas. The discriminatory practices of the Ancien Regime were so strongly detested in France that many of the aristocrats and clergy who had participated in that regime were sent to the guillotine – accompanied by cheering from the citizens of France.

The clergy was as strongly detested as the aristocracy, because they were seen to be agents of the Aristocracy who helped to impose the discriminatory policies of the Regime. That animosity is reflected in the fact that the new constitution imposed by the revolutionary government included no reference to the Catholic Church, to Christianity or even to God. Even the indirect reference to Christ was removed from the Calendar. The year of the revolution would no longer be referred to as “the year of our lord 1789”. A new calendar was started – and the Revolution became year ONE.

In France the aristocracy was gone. The Church was gone. Christ was gone. God was gone. The rights of persons could no longer derive from “God’s law”. They would now be spelled out in a new document written by man – the “Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen”.

Yet the control of the Aristocracy and the clergy continued in Canada – along with the discrimination that was built into the government and the laws of the Ancien Regime.

The Ancien Regime in Canada

When Britain took over the French colonies in the Americas, there was no equivalent resentment of those discriminatory laws. The Seigneurs and the clergy enjoyed similar privileges and the habitants were subject to repressive laws – but opposition was at a much lower level. What is more, when Britain

took possession of those colonies, the concerns of the Seigneurs, the clergy and the habitants were focused more on keeping as many of the rights that they had than with gaining the full freedoms and the right to real and equal justice that had been enjoyed by those in the English colonies in the Americas.

Discrimination in the Thirteen Colonies after 1763

When Britain took control of Quebec after the Seven Year’s War, Britain’s approach to the old English Colonies changed.

Prior to 1763 those in the Thirteen Colonies had enjoyed “the Rights of Englishmen” in a much more complete way than most of the residents of England. Many had come to those colonies so that they could avoid the arrangements that reduced access to those rights in England and elsewhere, and the governing structures that had been established in those American colonies gave greater assurance of full access to those rights.

Britain’s approach to the colonies changed after 1763.

Britain had incurred a significant debt in the course of the Seven Year’s War and, after the War, it experienced a significant reduction in economic and manufacturing activity – in part as a result of the reduced demand for materials for the war. With a view to restoring the British economy, Britain imposed restrictions on what those in the Colonies could do.

The colonies were to revert to the role of supplying raw goods to supply industries in Britain. Manufacturing was to be reduced in the Americas and the colonies were to become part of a growing market for goods manufactured in Britain.

As further measures to strengthen economic benefits for England, the raw goods from America were to be shipped to and from Britain in British ships, and those in the colonies were to pay a tax on the goods to the British Crown.

Those new policies were imposed by the British governors – and their orders were backed up by the stationing of British troops in the

Colonies – including in the homes of some colonists.

The new policies were seen to be deeply discriminatory and as a direct attack on the rights that they had already enjoyed. The rights of Englishmen were seen to be being removed and a condition of serfdom and servitude was seen to be being imposed on those in the Thirteen Colonies. The laws were seen to put colonists in the position of hewers of wood and suppliers of raw goods and as consumers of goods that would give huge profits to an exploitative business and government elite in England.

Those new policies were met with strong protests and with demands that the “rights of Englishmen” be restored.

Nonetheless, Britain continued to impose the discriminatory policies.

Rebellious acts were common and arguments for revolution began to grow.

Resulting actions in the new British Province of Quebec

The British governor in the new province of Quebec did not feel the same pressure from the imposition of those orders from Britain. In the former French colony of Quebec those rights-restricting policies fit quite well with the pre-existing situation in Quebec.

The Seigneurs, the clergy and the habitants who swore allegiance to the British Crown saw little change from the situation that applied before. Domination of the ordinary habitant by a privileged elite continued to be the order of the day.

Nonetheless, the British government and the Governor of Quebec were fully aware of the opposition and of the revolts that were occurring in the Thirteen Colonies. They were also aware of the attempts of the American colonists to get the habitants in Quebec to join with them in demanding that they be granted the full freedoms and “rights of Englishmen”.

To counter those pressures, and to secure the loyalty of those in the province of Quebec, the British granted some major concessions to

those who lived in the former French colonies. For example, the Catholic Church was allowed to continue to collect tithes from the habitants, and the Seigneurs were assured the ongoing right to their property when Britain allowed the laws of the Ancien Regime that dealt with civil and property matters to continue to apply. That left the Seigneurs and the clergy in control. The habitants, perhaps having expected a significant reduction in their limited rights after the war, were largely satisfied by being able to keep most of the limited rights that they had previously had.

The changes made by Britain in Quebec solidified the pre-existing discrimination between elite and the habitants by locking the practices and some of the laws of Ancien Regime into the laws that would apply to Quebec.

In the place of the principles of freedom and real and equal justice that had previously applied in the British colonies, the rules of the Ancien Regime that created privileges for those who belong to the elite were locked into law – and the habitants were left in an unequal position.

In place of “the rights of Englishmen”, discrimination was being built into the system of government and law that would be applied in the lands included in Canada today.

The Royal Proclamation of 1763 – Interim Governing Arrangements

Those changes were partially implemented by the Royal Proclamation of 1763 which was issued eight months after France formally turned over its colonies in the Americas to Britain.

Given the way in which the Royal Proclamation is now most frequently described in Canada, it is important to stress that it was a PROCLAMATION not a treaty. That is, it was a one-sided command issued by the King of England. It outlined the governing arrangements that the King was **temporarily** imposing on the lands that had recently been acquired by the British Crown.

The King simply proclaimed how

those territories were to be governed for the time being.

It provided no long term assurances to anyone.

The Proclamation confirmed the establishment of four new governments that would control some parts of those new territories and, for the remaining territories it prohibited any actions being taken until formal governing structures had been established – unless the King gave special permission for some limited arrangements to be made in the meantime.

It was not, as many in Canada now contend, a treaty that accorded special rights or privileges to the original tribes that occupied those lands in North America.

The provisions that affect the lands that are still within the boundaries of Canada, adjusted some boundaries of existing British colonies to include some of the newly acquired lands. The province of Nova Scotia was enlarged by adding Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton. Newfoundland territory was

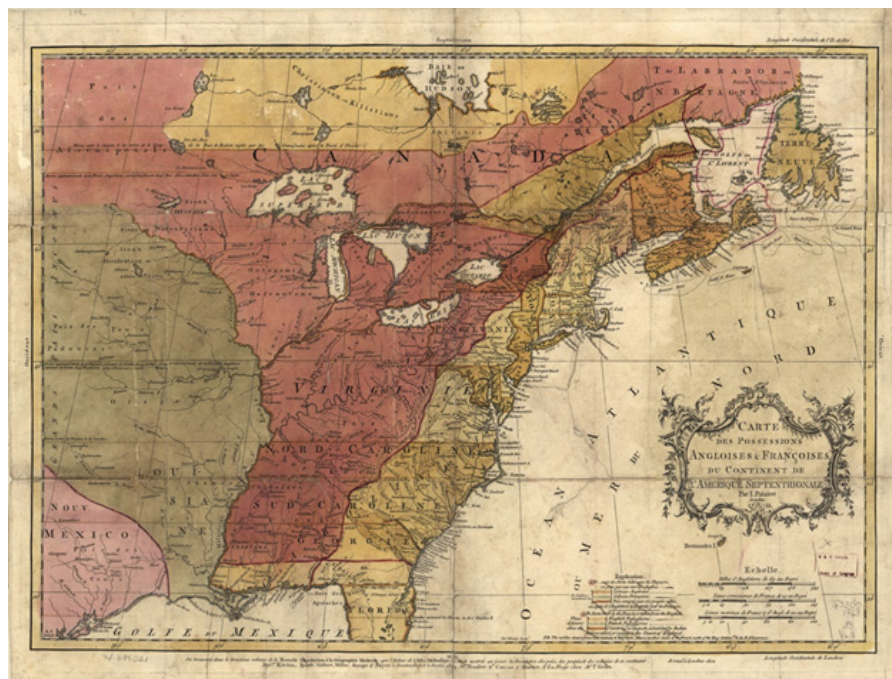
expanded by adding Anticosti and the Madeleine Islands and the coast of Labrador was put under the control of Newfoundland.

As well, the Proclamation established a new Province of Quebec along part of the Saint Lawrence River and part of the Ottawa River and put an interim government in place for that new province. As Map 2 shows, that the lands covered by the government of Quebec were much different from those of the Quebec of today.

That left a large part of the territory that had been acquired from France without a formal government structure. The areas where formal government structures had not been finalized are shown in red on Map 2.

With respect to those lands, the Proclamation blocked any encroachment or deals by the other provinces or by private individuals so as to ensure that no obstruction was put in place that would constrain the Crown from imposing the government structure that it finally decided to put in place.

Consistent with that prohibition against action in those remaining



Map 2 – Territories acquired from France by the Treaty of Paris, 1763.

Note: This French map was chosen because it was prepared in the same year as the Treaty of Paris and the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and because it allows for easy identification of the North American territories that Britain acquired from France and it also shows the limited boundaries that were under the control of the new province of Quebec.

lands, the Proclamation stated that the “several Nations or Tribes of Indians” who lived within those territories “should not be molested or disturbed” – but the prohibition against encroaching on those territories applied “**for the present, and until our further pleasure be known**”.

Not only does that confirm that those provisions of the Proclamation dealt only with the lands where no formal government had yet been established (and therefore did not apply in the Province of Quebec) it also leaves no doubt that those provisions were temporary – reflecting “our royal will and pleasure, for the present” – and that the Crown would change them when “our further pleasure be known”. As well, the Proclamation explicitly confirms the Crown’s authority to allow settlement in those territories even before a final decision had been taken on the government of those lands – with the “especial leave and licence” of the Crown.

The Quebec Act - 1774

The British Crown made its further pleasure with respect to those new territories known when the English King proclaimed the Quebec Act in 1774.

The Quebec Act dramatically increased the land area that was to be governed by Quebec – including most of the territories in which expansion or development had been prohibited by the provisions set out in the Royal Proclamation of 1763.

Royal Proclamation “Revoked, Annulled and Made Void”

What is more, the Quebec Act completely revoked the provisions of the Proclamation as it applied to the territories in the newly-expanded Quebec. That put all of the lands within the newly expanded province of Quebec under the full control of the Governor of Quebec.

(“... **the said Proclamation, so far as the same relates to the said Province of Quebec** ... and all and every the Ordinance and Ordinances made by the Governor and Council

of Quebec ... are hereby **revoked, annulled, and made void**, from and after the First Day of May, One thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.”)

The wording could not be clearer. Together with the boundaries described in the Act, that leaves absolutely no doubt that the Royal Proclamation no longer applied to any of the lands that within the expanded boundaries of Quebec – and that includes all of the lands that lie within Canada’s boundaries today.

Map 3 shows the enlarged boundaries of Quebec resulting from the Quebec Act.

That map also shows the boundaries of the lands where government arrangements had not yet been made (grey area in Map 3) and where the provisions of the Proclamation still applied – including the provision that discussed the territories within which “several Nations or Tribes of Indians” lived – and where those “Nations or Tribes” “should not be molested or disturbed”. All of those lands are within the Boundaries of the present-day United States.

Entrenching Discriminatory Practices of the Ancien Regime

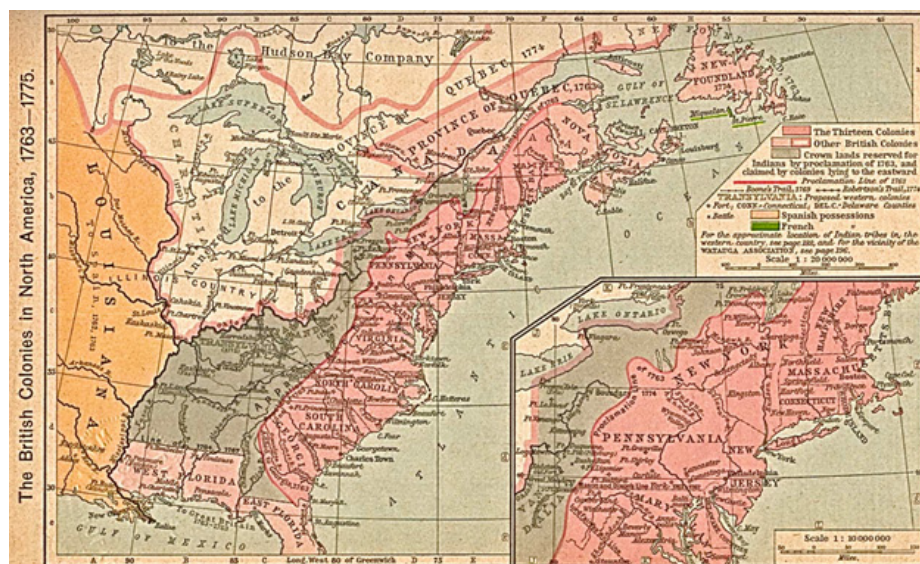
In addition to vastly enlarging the province of Quebec, the Quebec Act of 1774 established a new government structure for that enlarged province. The new structure was vastly different from that which had existed in the Thirteen Colonies prior to the Seven Year’s War.

The Act effectively imposed some of the restrictive policies, laws and governing structures that had existed in New France prior to 1763.

Specifically, it made a number of financial and legal concessions to the Catholic Church, to the Seigneurs and to the Clergy – thus securing support for Britain from the group that controlled the habitants in the territories that had been owned by France.

Not only did those changes bring support from the dominant class in Quebec, they were also strongly supported by British business class who took control of the resources of Quebec.

What is more, the discrimination that was confirmed between the rights of the governing elite and the



Map 3 – Expansion of Quebec – Quebec Act, 1774

As far as lands that are within present day Canada are concerned, no matter what interpretation one would want to place on the provisions set out in the Proclamation, the Royal Proclamation had no legal force at all.

ordinary citizens was fully compatible with the new policies that Britain had begun to impose on those in the Thirteen Colonies since the end of the Seven Year’s War.

No longer were those in the colonies to enjoy the full freedom and the full “rights of Englishmen”.

Reaction in the Thirteen Colonies

The provision of the Quebec Act brought the Thirteen Colonies into full revolt. The citizens of those colonies saw the Act as a clear confirmation that the restrictive policies that had been imposed by the British governors after 1763 were being permanently imposed. Not only was economic activity severely harmed, the “rights of Englishmen” that the colonists had struggled so hard to secure were being undermined and some of the divisive and discriminatory policies of the Ancien Regime were being formally enacted as law.

The government of Britain was seen to have undermined the principles of freedom and real and equal justice. It was seen to be imposing laws and policies that were systemically discriminatory.

Not only did the redefined boundaries of Quebec include lands that had formerly been claimed by the Thirteen Colonies, the land that they had previously claimed between the newly-outlined boundaries of Thirteen Colonies and the new boundary of Quebec remained subject to the provisions of the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and so they remained under the direct control of the British Crown and they were firmly off-limits to those in the older British colonies.

In short, the English in the Thirteen Colonies saw the Quebec Act as a further confirmation that Britain was intent on treating them in unjust and discriminatory ways – in ways that denied their equal enjoyment of the “rights of Englishmen”. In place of the guarantee of those rights, those in the former British colonies saw concessions made to the Seigneurs and the clergy in Quebec Act that institutionalized discrimination on the basis of class and connections – it locked in the privilege-granting and rights-destroying policies of the Ancien Regime.

While the policies that had been

imposed by Britain and the Governors of the Thirteen Colonies had caused major protests in those colonies, the Quebec Act was one of the major grievances that led to the American Revolutionary war in 1775 and to the signing of the Declaration of Independence by those in the Thirteen Colonies in 1776.

Continuing Discrimination in Canada after the American Revolution

Following the American Revolution the situation did not improve in Canada. On the contrary, the governing structure in Canada more forcefully divided Canadians into a governing elite who claimed strong privilege and ordinary citizens who did not enjoy the “rights of Englishmen” or the access to real and equal justice that was promised by those principles.

Discrimination became more systemic, in part, because of the dislocations that occurred as a result of the Revolutionary War.

Many moved from the United States to Canada because they wished to remain loyal to Britain. Others moved because they were dislocated by the battles and uncertainties of the war. Still others, however, were forced to leave the United States because they had been involved in imposing the discriminatory and rights-destroying policies that were promulgated on the Thirteen Colonies after 1763. That former elite in the Colonies joined with others in Canada who wished to have the discriminatory practices continue.

That led to the creation of two controlling elites in Canada – the “Family Compact” and the “Chateau Clique”. Those groups, including the Lieutenant Governors, were able to exercise effective control over the legislatures – and they continued to abuse the powers of government so as to enrich their families and their friends.

The domination of ordinary Canadians continued through the War of 1812 and beyond the unsuccessful rebellions in 1837 by William Lyon Mackenzie in Upper Canada and Louis-

Joseph Papineau in Lower Canada.

Even when the Legislatures were given control over the executive councils, the dominant elite still found ways to ensure that their privileges remained. Concerns continued to be expressed about the operation of the courts, about privileges granted to the churches and about the granting of major contracts to the business elites.

Limited Privilege built into the BNA Act:

The discriminatory treatment that was built into previous actions was significantly reduced in the provisions of the British North America Act of 1867.

While an explicit privilege was created for those who sent their children to those schools that were designated as eligible to receive public funding, the BNA Act did remove much of the institutionalized discrimination.

Nonetheless, the pattern of collaboration between certain elite business groups and government continued to play a major role in the laws that were passed and in the deals that were made. Such back-room deal-making continued on much the same scale over the next century and the legal system became increasingly entrenched in practices that made it difficult for ordinary citizens and the poor to have their rights protected against the abuses of government, the wealthy and the well connected.

Discrimination continued to be systemic, but it was not heavily built into the constitution or the laws.

Canada’s Charter and Systemic Discrimination:

That changed with the passage of the Constitution Act of 1982.

Canada’s Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which forms Part 1 of that Act contains provisions that permit and encourage discrimination.

Provisions in the Charter expressly allow governments to divide individual Canadians into accidental groups that are put in competition for the receiving of privileges or the loss of rights.

Among the very troubling Sections of the Charter are the following:

- Section 23 which sets out discriminatory rights of access to education in one of Canada's official languages;
- Section 15(2) which explicitly empowers governments to pass laws and to implement programs and to undertake activities that treat persons differently on the basis of their accidental membership in groups that can claim to be disadvantaged in some way; and
- Section 25 which has had the effect of dividing Canadians on the basis of racial origin. That Section has had the effect of giving status to claims that some might make about the meaning of the Royal Proclamation of 1763 – even though that Proclamation was completely “revoked, annulled, and made void” in 1774 for all lands that are within the current boundaries of Canada.

Those three sections, among others, have served to undermine the core principles of civil societies and civil government in the West. They have given strong arguments to those who deny that all persons are equal and that all are entitled to have those equal rights protected by the equal application and enforcement of truly just laws.

Instead, they have opened the door to a system of government that practices systemic discrimination – one in which persons who belong to a particular religion, race, social background, class or any other identifying characteristic can demand that they are treated under different laws, that they are exempt from the laws that apply to other Canadians, that they are entitled to be given benefits under special programs that apply only to them, and that governments must engage in other activities that give privileges to them.

The fact that governments in Canada have acceded to such demands by some groups has led other groups to make similar – or larger – demands for privileged treatment.

Since 1982, the shift to “identity politics” has marked the political landscape in Canada – and the shift towards systemic discrimination has been marked. If one looks back over the last 48 years, one can readily identify numerous examples of groups that have successfully made demands for government support, government funding, or access to government services that are not available to others. One can see it in the hiring practices of the government – and in those of many other private companies as well.

At any time when those belonging to a particular group are given priority over those who do not belong to that group for any services, programs, opportunities or anything else, that is discriminatory. At any time that such practices are engaged in or promoted by government, that constitutes systemic discrimination.

It exists in Canada –and its effects have already caused immense harm.

As one example, consider the blockades that were put in place on rail lines across Canada by activists who were protesting the construction of a pipeline across some First Nations Lands in British Columbia – despite the approval of the pipeline by the elected leaders of those First Nations people.

Those blockades caused a major disruption to Canada's economy.

An injunction was sought by CN against one particularly damaging blockade in Ontario and the court gave an order that the blockade be removed.

Not only did the police not act on that injunction, the federal government and the government of Ontario ignored it too.

As a result, CN went back to the court to seek redress. On that second occasion the Judge left no doubt about his order and about what he expected would be done to comply.

His comments were reported by the CBC as follows:

“Justice William Chalmers granted CN the extension and expressed frustration with the OPP's failure to enact the injunction to this point.”

“Chalmers said the injunction is NOT SUPPOSED TO BE USED AS A

LEVER TO OPEN CONVERSATIONS between the police and protesters. Rather, he said, IT IS MEANT TO BRING UNLAWFUL CONDUCT TO AN END.””

“The judge said the OPP should ARREST AND CHARGE the protesters and hand over the names of the protesters to CN so they ... PURSUE CIVIL LITIGATION FOR DAMAGES.”

Even with that firm and formal admonishment by the court, the lawful order is ignored by those on the blockade, by the federal and provincial governments and by the police. Not only did they chose to ignore the law, they ignored two very explicit orders by a judge that they act to enforce the law.

Governments and the police allowed the blockade to continue. The damage to the economy and to the rights of other citizens was ignored by governments and police alike.

It is almost certain that no legal action will be taken by governments or the police against those who showed a firm determination to ignore the law and the orders of the court.

It is almost as certain that no legal action by any of those who suffered serious financial damage as a result of the illegal action would ever be able to collect damages through action in the courts.

That case is just one of many that supports the belief that the institutions of government that were created on the founding belief that all persons are equal and that all must be equally subject to truly just laws no longer support the principles of freedom and of real and equal justice under truly just laws.

Instead they are committed to abuse the powers of government that were given to them for precisely that purpose for another purpose entirely – to impose a system of government and law that is committed to systemic discrimination.

From Discrimination to Chaos

It would involve a determination to live in a world of make-believe if one thought that things will stop where they are.

Canada's government has made a commitment to sign a Declaration of the United Nations that would not only remove the rights of all Canadians, but also remove the authority and the legitimacy of all governments and all government institutions in Canada.

The declaration that I refer to is the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. That Declaration has found very wide support among members of all political parties, among officials in international organizations and among many ordinary people who have accepted that the governments and laws have no legitimacy because they were imposed by those who were irredeemably damaged by virtue of their "white privilege".

In their desire to ensure that "the right thing" is done, they are prepared to throw away the principles of freedom and of real and equal justice that constitute the most valuable inheritance that we have received from four millennia of Western thought and reason.

One is left to hope that those who have given such strong support to that Document will eventually read it and begin to recognize how the formal entrenchment of that document would take us far beyond systemic discrimination and lock us into perpetual chaos.

Consider some of the actual provisions – and the implications that would arise if those provisions were enforced.

Article 26(1) of that Declaration is very clear. It says:

Article 26

"1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired."

There is little doubt that many persons of indigenous descent would take full advantage of that provision. Inevitably the claim would be made – and justified – that the ancestors of one indigenous person or another had "used" every square centimeter of land and water that exists in all parts of Canada.

In fact, multiple claims would undoubtedly be made by members of multiple first nations groups.

As a result, those who are not of aboriginal descent and who hold title to private lands – and no Canadian of non-aboriginal descent who claims an interest in the public lands or roads or rivers that are owned by federal, provincial or municipal governments would have any rights on those lands.

The rights, according to Article 26(1) of the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, belong to the indigenous peoples whose ancestors have used them.

Any government that is so committed to treating persons differently on the basis of race that it would so completely abandon the rights of the citizens of its country to the lands that they own is committed to chaos.

What citizens would accept the implementation of such a law? Who would not use all of their powers to demand that they abandon the properties that they have justly acquired? Who would not fight to defend what they believe they legitimately own?

Who would accept that they must abandon their right to use the lands, roads, sewers, rivers, hydro plants, transmission lines and all other things that are owned by the public?

Who would accept that the signing of a Declaration which is founded on a commitment to systemic discrimination – to granting the ownership of everything to persons on the basis of race?

Who would defend the indigenous peoples when the non-indigenous rose up to defend what they believe justly belong to them?

The Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples does not stop there. Article 27 of the Declaration goes even further. It says that we must accept that the laws that must be applied to the lands, territories

and resources on all lands that were once used by ancestors of indigenous peoples are the laws of the indigenous peoples.

Article 27

"States shall establish and implement, ... a ... process, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems... PERTAINING TO THEIR LANDS, TERRITORIES AND RESOURCES INCLUDING THOSE WHICH WERE TRADITIONALLY OWNED OR OTHERWISE OCCUPIED OR USED."

Since Clause 26(1) so readily lends itself to the interpretation that the indigenous peoples own ALL of the land in ALL PARTS of Canada, Section 27 can readily be seen to dictate that the laws of indigenous peoples apply on all lands, territories and resources in all parts of the country.

Any Canadian government that would agree to such provisions would be agreeing that none of governments in Canada have any jurisdiction over any of the lands of Canada – and that none of the laws of Canada, its provinces, territories or municipal governments apply anywhere in Canada – or to any of the people who live in Canada.

In a general sense, all lands would belong to the indigenous peoples, and all lands would be subject to the laws of the indigenous people.

In a practical sense, the multiple indigenous peoples who would make competing claims of ownership for those lands would be left to fight it out among themselves to determine who would get the right to impose whatever laws the victors chose to impose.

The wording is clear. It is unambiguous. While some might argue that it is possible to interpret the words in a different way, why would those who want separate treatment and separate rights for indigenous peoples ever interpret those words in any more

restrictive way?

While that may appear to present an extreme example of what might occur, it may not be far-fetched at all. The scenario derives from a document that was developed over many years at the United Nations and that has been signed by many countries. It derives, as well, from the stated commitment of our current Prime Minister to sign Canada on to that Declaration. Committing Canada to such a preposterous and discriminatory document would ensure violence followed by violence and chaos.

And where from here?

Unfortunately, governments in Canada have embraced the principles of systemic discrimination by governments that are so deeply embedded in Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

That commitment does not lead solely to acquiescence to the demands of the most vocal persons of first-nations ancestry. It leads to acquiescence to the demands that arise from any group that can claim to be disadvantaged in any way.

That opens the door to demand

after demand – from group after group – and from sub-group after sub-group – each one competing for special status, special privileges and special laws.

Such demands will never end when discrimination is not simply allowed by the system of government – but when it is actively praised and promoted by those who hold power in those vital public institutions.

It is long past time that we moved away from the imposition of laws, programs and activities that are based on systemic discrimination.

It is long past time that we move away from insisting that persons must be treated differently on the basis of the group to which they accidentally belong – or to which they may be arbitrarily assigned or choose to be assigned.

It is long past time that we recognize the wisdom that lies behind the principles that lie behind the Western heritage of government and law.

It is long past time that we gave

due recognition to lessons learned over some four thousand years in the societies that led to the refinement of those principles.

It is long past time that we marshalled our efforts to restore the principles of freedom and real and equal justice to a place of primacy in our system of government and law.

It is long past time that we take determined action to stop systemic discrimination – and to restore the principles that will give us the prospect of having a society where civility can return and in which it can prevail.

Only if we move in that direction will there be any prospect of avoiding more divisions and more systemic discrimination – and more of the hatred and strife that it creates.

It is only if we move in that direction that there will be any prospect of having a society that all can defend. **



**PIERRE
POILIEVRE**

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CARLETON

Contact Information:

1139 Mill St., Manotick
Tel: (613) 692-3331
Pierre.Poilievre@parl.gc.ca

 PierrePoilievreMP
 @PierrePoilievre
Website: PierreMP.ca

elmenterprises.com

YOUR EXCAVATION AND WASTE WATER TREATMENT SPECIALIST



*Planning on building
a new home, let us help...*

*Let us do your ground work
from start to finish!*



**Clearing a Lot Building a Road
Digging a Basement Sand and
Gravel Topsoil and Garden Soil
613-859-9108**

**WE NOW OFFER
ROCK
BREAKING**

MANY DIFFERENT OPTIONS FOR SEPTIC SYSTEMS

Owned and Operated by Evans and Lindsay McNab

elmenterprises.com