

Landowner Voices

A photograph of a winter forest scene. The ground is covered in a thick layer of snow, with shadows cast by the trees. A wooden fence runs through the middle ground, curving to the right. The trees are mostly bare, with some snow on their branches. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

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Landowner Voices

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

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

March April 2021

POLITICAL WIND

by Tom Black



Hello Folks,

As the world continues to struggle to get ahead of Covid 19 with several new vaccines seemingly starting to have some effect on the infection rate, we here in Canada are probably looking at an election call from PM Trudeau. I know the analysts have been arguing back and forth about when, in the spring or in the fall, but all expect the call to come in the next 6 months.

No one would expect anything different. After all, there is no party that is going to stop Trudeau from winning a stronger minority or more probably a complete majority.

But how could that happen with all the corruption related to Aga Khan, S & C Lavalin, Blackface, the WE charity, the Julie Payette failure as the governor general and the mishandling of the sourcing of the Covid vaccine?

So why would Trudeau think that he could win an election at this time? The answer of course is that the Conservative Party of Canada has decided to move to the middle of the political spectrum. Erin O'Toole ran for the leadership of that party as a blue Tory, spouting all kinds of support for conservative membership from the middle to the right, even pro-life and church goers. The west believed he would support the oil industry, unlike Trudeau who happily accepted President Joe Biden's decision to kill the Keystone-XL pipeline. Trudeau basically hates Albertans because they complain about not getting pipelines approved to the east and the west and the south and therefore, it was karma in action when the USA cancelled the pipe.

Now Mr. O'Toole is trying to compete with Mr. Trudeau for his love of all things to do with China. It seems Mr. O'Toole couldn't find anyone in all of Canada to run the Research and Issues

management for the conservative party, so he hired Jake Enwright, the former Vice-President of Huawei Canada, the Chinese tech company that was built from stolen technology from Nortel that eventually destroyed the company. This is the same man who was working for Huawei when the two Michaels were taken prisoner.

Then O'Toole upped the anti on world pollution and vowed to out-Liberal Trudeau on his promise to meet the Canadian goals on pollution levels to the Paris Climate Accord. Harper set these goals in one of his attempts to move to the middle, but didn't have the support from his party to try to meet the promise. Then Trudeau took up the flag and actually let pollution rise during his first term, but O'Toole says he will hit the target. I suppose he will soon announce a bigger Carbon Tax than Justin.

We shouldn't blame it all on O'Toole because there has been an ongoing trend in the back rooms of the Conservative Party of Canada to move to the political centre. It was in play even back when Harper was PM and in fact, it cost him the election against Trudeau. O'Toole shifted his best attack dog, MP Pierre Poilievre from his portfolio as financial critic. This seemed to fly in the face of logic for anyone who followed the political theatre, but the majority conclusion on the street was that Pierre was outshining O'Toole in the eyes of the public and had to be put in a box. Derek Sloan was kicked out of the party for accepting a donation from someone who used a different name and who was registered with the Conservative Party and voted in the leadership election. This was obviously an excuse to remove an MP who was speaking for the social conservative side of the party. With that move, O'Toole sealed his fate in the next election.

I for one, do not like the label of social conservative because it was created to paint a negative picture of some of the best God fearing, generous, wonderful family people that one could ever meet. Our country and our laws were built around the Judeo-Christian ten commandments and has made us the envy of the world. So why would a conservative party and their leader think that they could move away from representing these people and still think they would win as a party?

It has been said that about 30% of conservative MP's are pro-life and so it would seem reasonable to assume that the so-called social conservative base of the party would be between 20 and 30% of the eligible voters. They also are good donators and volunteers. I know that I have worked with them and depending on how you define it, I may be one of those social conservatives. So you would have to gain a lot of votes from the flexible middle block of swing voters to make up for the loss of the social conservative vote if they stay home or throw their vote away. As Sean Speer – former advisor to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, wrote in the National Post on Jan. 16, 2020, he said, "A strategy of addition by subtraction for the Conservative Party, is flawed."

I agree with Mr. Speer. Erin O'Toole has already made that move. The only thing left to do is get this next election out of the way, so we can get started on the road to finding a leader who recognizes that all of us on the right of the political spectrum must be respected and represented in the policies that the party professes. Let's run the new Conservative Party like a democracy.

Can you imagine?

WHAT TO DO WHEN THEY COME FOR YOU

Updated version

- **Call** for support. Have an OLA contact list available
- **Be** polite, Be Assertive, Stand Your Ground.
- **Record** your visitors with phone, recorder, video, notes etc.
- **If police** with visitor, address them first: Why are you here? Under what authority?
- **If** the Police refer to “Keeping the Peace”, ask the question ... does that mean my Peace as well? Does this mean you intend to protect my rights as well?
- **Record name**, badge #, and headquarters. Get pictures of ID, license plates, vehicles etc. Request incident #.
- **If there is a Warrant** to Search, ask senior officer to read it allowed. Make sure that the Party who swore to the Warrant is present when the officer reads the Warrant. Assuming it is not the Police. For example, Conservation Authority has sword to the Warrant. It is important that everyone know and understand the limitations of the Warrant.
- **Ask** to see the Information to Obtain the warrant (ITO). If there is no ITO, make a verbal note to all that there is no ITO and you Protest the Execution of the Warrant. Do Not Interfere with the Warrant. Argue it later in court.
- Everything must be accurate; name, address, Signatures etc. If anything is wrong, tell the officer you protest the Warrant. That it is invalid for the following reasons. If the officer disagrees argue it in court. Verbal disagreement with the Warrant is not in itself, blocking or interfering with the Execution of the Warrant.
- **Only comply** with what is on the warrant, offer no extra information and verbally protest the extra search. Argue it in court.
- **If just an official;** bylaw etc, ask for 2 pieces govt. issued ID, proof of employment, employee # confirmation phone #(business cards don't count but keep one for later)
They have NO authority without a warrant, ask them to leave. Ask them 3x then call 911.
If they insist they have authority, make them show you. Remember Criminal code is Federal legislation and if no warrant they could be charged with trespass or mischief.
- **Ask** for insurance confirmation and sterile boots and clothing, You don't know where they've been. Follow bio-security measures.
- **If they are there on a complaint,** ask for the name and actual complaint as everyone is allowed to face their accuser. You might have to file a freedom of information request.

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

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

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HERE TO SERVE

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

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, or you can visit:
<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/>

NEWS FROM QUEEN'S PARK

VACCINE UPDATE

As of Feb 26, more than 600,000 vaccines have been administered in Ontario. Phase one of the vaccination process now includes seniors over the age of 80, who will be able to start booking appointments in early March. Ontario continues to expand capacity and increase efforts for phase two of the rollout, which is expected to begin in April. Ontario's plan for distribution

and administration of the vaccine can be found at Ontario.ca/CovidVaccine, or contact the Covid-19 hotline at 1-833-784-4397

ONTARIO IMPROVING FARM SAFETY FOR AGRI-FOOD WORKERS

The Government of Ontario is providing up to \$118,500 to develop specialized COVID-19 resources to better protect the health and safety of temporary foreign workers and others employed in the agri-food sector. Informed by health, cultural and support organizations, these new resources, entitled the "Cultural Resources Library," will be designed by the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association in a variety of languages and formats and will be distributed to farms, greenhouses and food processing operations across Ontario.

These new resources represent one of the many steps being taken to keep agri-food workers safe, as part of the province's Prevention, Control and Outbreak Support for Covid-19 in Ontario's Farm Workers. The strategy provides guidance on how to prevent and control COVID-19 on farms, protect farm worker safety and wellness, and maintain the sustainability and viability of the agri-food sector.

This project in partnership with the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association is one of the government's many initiatives launched in 2020 to assist the agriculture sector to meet challenges related to the COVID-19 outbreak, including:

- The launch of a portal to connect farms and other agri-food sector business with labour needs to job seekers;
- The investment of an additional \$50 million into the Risk Management Program, one year earlier than originally promised.

EXPANDING ONTARIO'S MEAT PROCESSING SECTOR

The governments of Canada and Ontario are expanding Ontario's

meat processing sector by investing \$127,000 to support a research initiative by Meat and Poultry Ontario (MPO). The project will identify opportunities to increase meat processing capacity in order to address a growing demand for abattoir services across the province.

The demand for processing facilities in Ontario, especially in the North, continues to grow. In response, MPO has begun researching a strategy that pairs skills development with innovative technologies to increase efficiency and capacity across the sector. This work builds on three additional federal-provincial funding programs introduced over the last year to deal with more urgent challenges:

- \$2 million for food safety initiatives
- \$2.25 million for provincial meat plants to make workplace modifications to increase worker health and safety during COVID
- \$4 million for rapid measures to increase capacity

Provincial abattoirs and provincially licensed processors have been consulted to understand the current state of their operations, the potential for growth and the technology requirements to support that growth. MPO will also work with farmers to understand both current and future needs for processing and packaging and how their needs differ based on where they are in the province.

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*



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The Cold War Continues, and Now We Are Losing

“Originally published in The Epoch Times, January 7-13, page B1, also available at <https://www.theepochtimes.com/the-cold-war-continues-and-now-we-are-losing_3631548.html>”

by Bruce Pardy

Commentary

I'm old enough, just barely, to remember watching Paul Henderson score his winning goal against the Soviets in the final game of the 1972 Summit Series. I knew that something important had happened, but I didn't fully understand what it was until much later. Yes, it was hockey, and our national pride was at stake, but there was more to it than that. Team Canada was fighting for our way of life against an adversary that sought to tear it down. The United States was the standard flag bearer in conflicts with the Soviets, but in September 1972 the Canadians were combatants in the Cold War.

We think that our side won the Cold War. After decades of political brinkmanship in the latter half of the 20th century, the USSR dissolved in 1991 and the West appeared victorious. But that wasn't the end of the story. The Cold War wasn't merely a conflict between nations but also a contest between competing political ideologies. The struggle between freedom and collectivism continues but has moved inside Western countries. The threat is now from our own leaders and citizens who appear to believe that Canada should be a socialist country.

And this time, the socialists are winning.

What lies before us is not Soviet-style communism with gulags and firing squads but our own distinctive made-in-Canada version of neo-Marxist progressive socialism. But don't get caught up in the labels: capitalism, communism, and fascism; democratic socialism and social democracy; liberalism and populism, to name just a few. The variations shouldn't obscure the main divide: either individuals are essentially free to pursue their own interests, express their own thoughts, and own their own property, or the state directs their actions, words, and beliefs to comport with official dogma.

“The human race divides politically into those who want people to be controlled, and those who have no such desire,” science fiction author Robert A. Heinlein has written. The concept of political correctness originated in the Soviet Union as a reminder, according to Angelo Codevilla, professor emeritus of International Relations at Boston University, “that the Party's interest is to be treated as a reality that ranks above reality itself.”

In its Canadian campaign, one of socialism's most potent weapons is our disbelief. We are apt to rationalize that the trends in this country do not portend actual socialism, but instead constitute merely a gloss on our unshakeable foundations of free-market liberalism. Unfortunately, that is not what the evidence suggests.

In modern Canada, socialist thinking has become part of the furniture. At its core is the belief that participation in public life requires comportment with progressive ideology. Legislation presently before Parliament will make it a criminal offence to counsel your child not to transition to a different gender; owning property is now regarded as a privilege that should be exercised in the public interest and taxed when it sits empty in busy urban centres; private health care is prohibited; businesses are expected to serve as social welfare agencies, providing benefits to employees even when the employees are unable to provide benefits to the business; doctors who publicly express divergent views on lockdowns or vaccines are apt to be censored or investigated; governments plan and manage the economy, and keep citizens “safe” from the risks of viruses and their own mistakes.

Great civilizations are not conquered from without until they have destroyed themselves from within, wrote historians

Will and Ariel Durant: “The essential causes of Rome's decline lay in her people, her morals, her class struggle, her failing trade, her bureaucratic despotism, her stifling taxes. ...” Do these features sound familiar?

Canada is in retreat, more interested in redistributing wealth than in producing it, more resolved to administer than to build, and more prone to languish than to strive. We trade freedom for the appearance of safety, and competition for the solidarity of victimhood. We are more comfortable with the goal of being equally poor than unequally wealthy. We impede and discredit our own energy exports. We punish risk and reward conformity. Our civil servants get lucrative salaries and pensions while governments shut down small businesses. Who in their right mind would now aspire to be an entrepreneur?

In typical Canadian style, our socialist revolution advances with earnest capitulation. But this fall from grace is not a uniquely Canadian phenomenon. As British doctor and writer Theodore Dalrymple has observed, “All that is necessary for evil to triumph, said Burke, is for good men to do nothing; and most good men nowadays can be relied upon to do precisely that. Where a reputation for intolerance is more feared than a reputation for vice itself, all manner of evil may be expected to flourish.”

Socialism will not work. It never does. But this time it may take Canada down with it.

Bruce Pardy is a law professor at Queen's University.

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Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times or Landowner Voices

**Hello from the
old Jackass**

To Mask or Not to Mask



Howdy folks,

During the last gruelling months of battling the Covid virus I have become a staunch ambassador of wearing a mask. Yes folks, I'm a firm believer that wearing a mask not only protects oneself but all others you may happen to interact with on a daily basis.

It's truly disheartening and absolutely ludicrous that some stubborn folks are so stupid or lazy that they obstinately refuse to don an innocuous mask.

Wake up you stupid people as I have seen your unmasked mugs and I candidly confess wearing a facial covering would enhance and improve your appearance. Masks have the magical capacity of hiding yellow teeth, ugly mugs and even acting as a barrier to bad breath.

My 87 year old dad residing in an old age facility contracted Covid and miraculously survived. This was not his first rodeo with death as he also survived the predations of the OSPCA and collaborated efforts of the O.P.P in an unprecedented warranted raid in 2006.

The ravages of that encounter took his health, desire and his ultimate faith in our faltering judicial system: but he endured.

As he battles the last of Covid symptoms, he wears an oxygen mask to survive out of necessity.

Why do some folks refuse to wear a mask when it can prevent transmission of the deadly virus?

Personally, I wore a mandated cloth mask at work last summer and must relate I've never felt better.

Prior to the mask decree I would wake up and hack and cough and spit in the most unflattering manner, much like an antique hit and miss engine. Since wearing the mask religiously, I feel truly reinvigorated and seriously

believe it has added several stolen years to my lifespan.

I'm not a fan of governmental decrees from big brother but a adamant wearing the simple unobtrusive mask makes sense and I may even continue the assignment when Covid is officially decreed nothing more than a conquered hellish nightmare.

Call me a stubborn Old Jackass but I'm more than willing to follow protocols of health advisors when it benefits my own well being and those of my neighbours.

To those that are fashion oriented and fear the bland mask may appear mundane and unfashionable, I suggest you shop around.

Retailers now offer all manner of colours and designs specifically catering to masks. Anything is available to shoppers be it skull and crossbones depictions to tiger and leopard prints.

They've even created masks from the cups of a brassiere.

My favourite mask is the one with the tiger print and it has received much admiration from the fairer sex.

I must profess I did have an

unforgettable encounter with two members of the anti-masking faction recently. While masked and social distancing in line to enter a store, a charming pair of unmasked deviants approached and insisted they were not aware it was Halloween. I astutely relayed both would benefit from face coverings as the rest of society would not have to endure their ugly mugs.

Both the ogress and cyclops uttered several choice profanities unfit for print and bid me a kindly adieu with a fingered salute.

I love happy endings and seeing these two degenerates vanish into the sunset courtesy of their smoking junk heap brought a tear to my eye.

I implore all wear a mask or if you refuse then wear a muzzle because your anti-mask rhetoric helps no one in defeating this deadly virus.

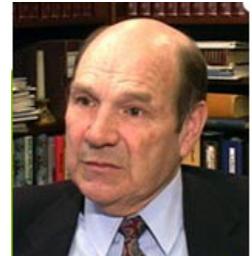
Perhaps if we had a mask with the OLA logo it would implore more people to wear one.

Sincerely,

THE OLD JACKASS



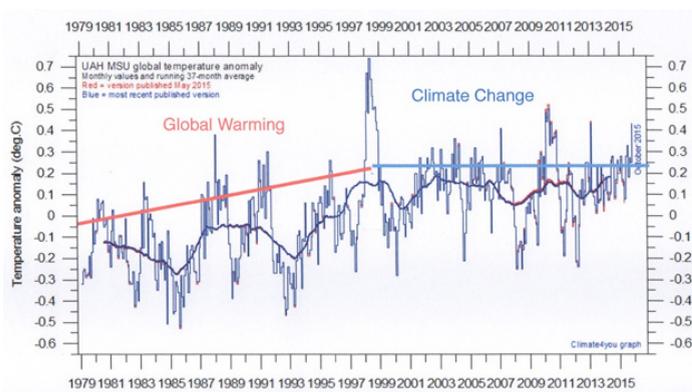
How to Detect Evidence of Global Warming Propaganda



by Dr. Tim Ball

The switch from Global Warming to Climate Change was deliberate because the facts did not fit the anthropogenic global warming hypothesis (AGW). Figure 1 shows the global surface temperature record since 1979. I added the general trend and the point in 1999 at which the hypothesis began to fail. From that point until today the CO2 level continued to rise while temperatures levelled and began to decline (Figure 2). The AGW hypothesis assumes that if CO2 increases the temperature will increase. Proper scientists would realize something was wrong and reexamine their science.

Figure 1



Here is the evidence of the deliberate change in name found in 2004 emails leaked from the Climatic Research Unit (CRU) email from the Minns/Tyndall Centre on the University of East Anglia (UEA) campus. CRU was the major center for the handful of scientists who controlled the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The email said,

“In my experience, global warming freezing is already a bit of a public relations problem with the media.”

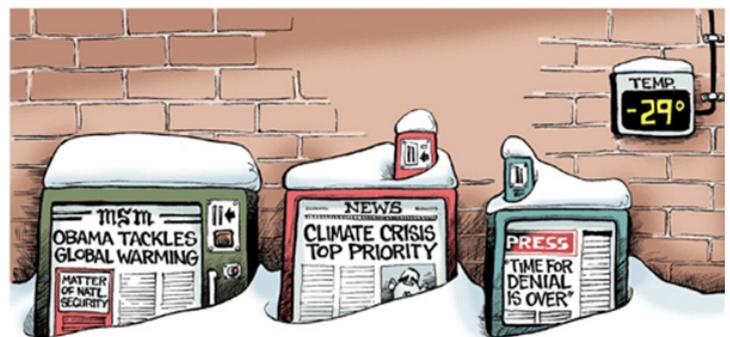
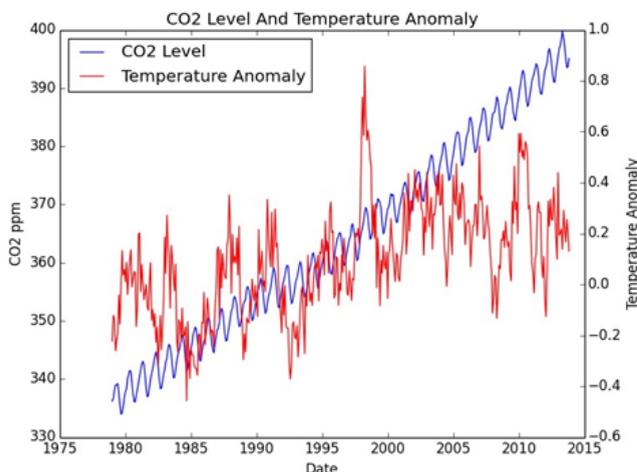
Swedish Chief Climate Negotiator Bo Kjellen replied,

“I agree with Nick that climate change might be a better labelling than global warming.”

The change was a propaganda sign for those who know what is going on. Cartoonists, who detect contradictions and illogic quickly produced commentary (Figure 3).

The scientists and governments pushing AGW, the greatest deception in history, simply moved the goalposts by changing from Global Warming to Climate Change. They also changed the personal attacks on those questioning from global warming skeptics to climate change deniers, with all the holocaust connotations. Either name is ridiculous because all scientists must be skeptics and I don't know of anyone who denies climate change. Indeed, my entire career involved educating people to how much climate changes naturally.

Figure 2



ksu@2008 12/17 (MS by Wash Post/Reuters/OWP)

Figure 3

The public sensed something was wrong but lacked the climate knowledge necessary to understand. This was part of the massive challenge facing the information society as Michael Crichton described in a 2003 speech.

I have been asked to talk about what I consider the most important challenge facing mankind, and I have a fundamental answer. The greatest challenge facing mankind is the challenge of distinguishing reality from fantasy, truth from propaganda. Perceiving the truth has always been a challenge to mankind, but in the information age (or as I think of it, the disinformation age) it takes on a special urgency and importance.

Courses in climatology are unnecessary, but common sense and identifying a few signs that indicate deflection and deception will put people on guard. They may trigger follow-up research to confirm or reject the concern. Usually, people simply put the issue aside, as opinion polls attest. Confusion exists even among those who understand the basics because despite the switch to climate change the issue is still global warming.

Global warming is a subset of environmentalism, so many of the tactics to deceive are similar. However, there is different terminology and emphasis. Any of the following should put the reader on alert:

1) Claims that natural events are unnatural, or normal events abnormal.

As Goethe said, “The unnatural, that too is natural.” What they mean is that it is due to humans, which means that humans are unnatural. It is the underlying anti-humanity theme of extreme environmentalism. Ingrid Newkirk of PETA

“Mankind is a cancer; we’re the biggest blight on the face of the earth.” Phasing out the human race will solve every problem on earth, social and environmental.”

The Club of Rome put it succinctly in their 1991 “The First Global Revolution: report.

“The real enemy then is humanity itself.”

2) It was the “warmest/wettest/driest/snowiest/windiest” ever.

The word “ever” is the flag. What they mean is that it was the most extreme in the official record, which is less than 50 years for about 15 percent of the world. That time period and percentage only applies to temperature; there is virtually no precipitation or wind data for 95 percent of the world for any time.

3) Speculation and exaggeration presented as unbiased fact.

Conditional words - “could,” “may” or “possibly” - that appear in the science papers vanish when the issue becomes political. They are often in the body of the article but

disappear in the active and definitive headlines, which is what people remember.

4) Exploitation of basic fear.

A common practice well-documented by Michael Crichton in his book *State of Fear*. Weather and climate fears are expressed in the classic example of Chicken Little that the sky is falling.

5) Playing on individual guilt.

The children are going to die; the planet is dying and you don’t care. The classic example is sea level rise, which is why it was central to Al Gore’s movie. Other examples include claims of animal extinction, coral reefs dying, people drowning on low-lying islands.

6) Taking advantage of public ignorance about science.

Mislabeling carbon dioxide as a pollutant by talking about “carbon pollution.”

Interchanging CO₂, which is a gas with carbon which is a solid.

Making meaningless assertions like “Climate change is real.”

Claiming “The science is settled” when science is never settled.

Claiming, “The debate is over”.

As George Will observed, “When a politician ... says “the debate is over,” you can be sure of two things: the debate is raging; and he’s losing it.”

Claiming there is a 97% consensus among scientists. Science is not about consensus. As Einstein said,

“No amount of experimentation can ever prove me right; a single experiment can prove me wrong.”

7) Continuously shifting goalposts.

Global warming fears dominated public consciousness; and then it was “climate change” now we are dealing with “climate chaos,” “climate catastrophe,” and “climate disruptions”.

8) Continuously “upping the ante” using the conditional.

“Greenhouse gas emissions, if continued at the present massive scale, will yield consequences that are - quite literally - apocalyptic. ... If these predictions hold true, the combined effect would be the death of not just millions but of billions of people- and the destruction of much of civilization on all continents.”

Always look at the body of the article because it will always be different from the headline. I realized years ago that headlines are active voice and definitive, but they stick with the reader. The content of the article usually includes words like “if,” as in the example, or maybe, could, possibly, etc. On December 20, 2016, *The Guardian* newspaper headline said, “This is the polar bear capital of the world, but the snow has gone.”

It then begins *Canada’s Hudson Bay is as ice-free in November as on a summer’s day and polar bears could be extinct here by mid-century. If the bears are in trouble, so are we.*

None of these conditions are unusual, but the entire goal is to create that illusion. How did the polar bears survive the 90 percent of the last 10,000 years (Figure 4)?

The headline talks about snow, but the article is about ice. It then makes an unconnected leap to the extinction of polar bears.

Summary

The most reliable tool is simple, healthy skepticism. Hindu Prince Gautama Siddhartha provided an interesting list.

Do not believe in anything simply because you have heard it.

Do not believe in anything simply because it is spoken and rumored by many.

Do not believe in anything simply because it is found written in your religious books.

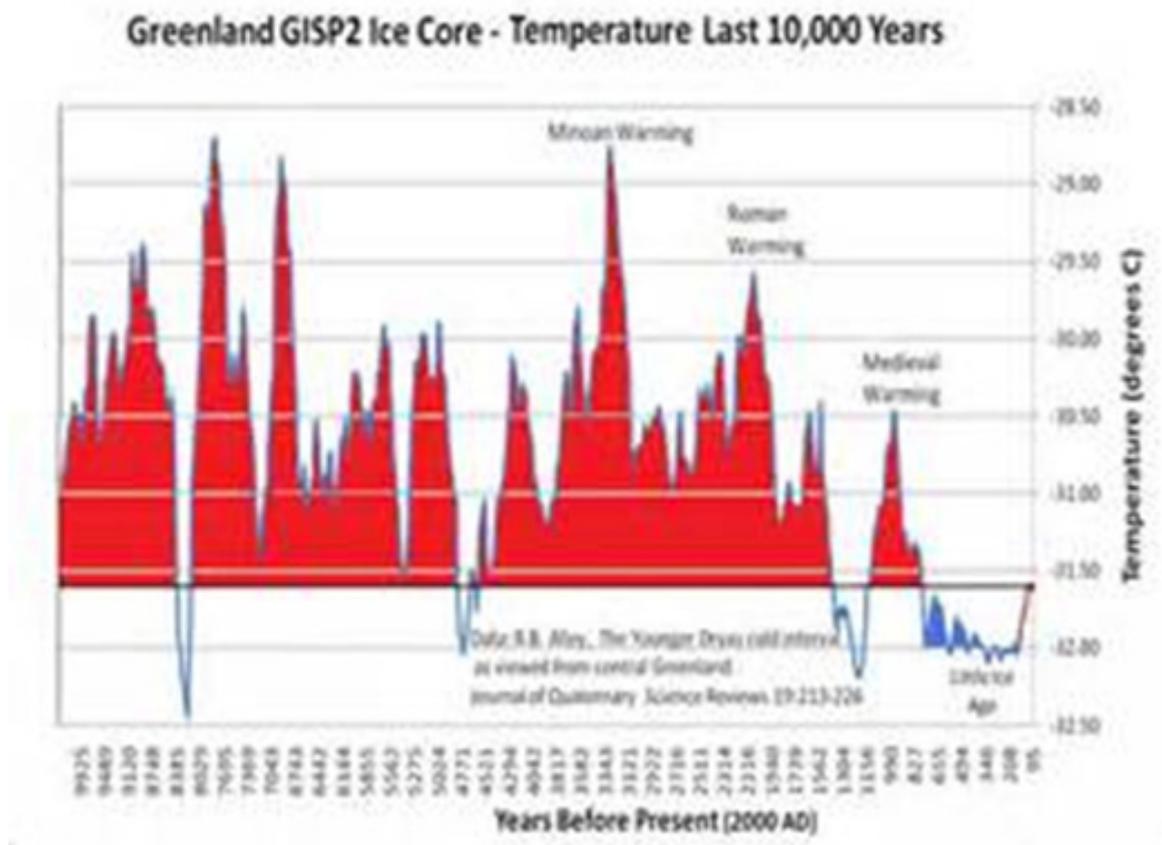
Do not believe in anything merely on the authority of your teachers and elders.

Do not believe in traditions because they have been handed down for many generations.

But after observation and analysis, when you find that anything agrees with reason and is conducive to the good and benefit of one and all, then accept it and live up to it

**

Figure 4







Real People in our Rural Towns

by Ian Cumming
Agricultural Journalist

All one can do through all this COVID – 19 madness is to tell the individual stories of what government actions have done to decent hard working people.

While most media focuses on the politicians and Health Units blathering, there are real people in our rural towns, hamlets and farms, and yes nursing homes, who have stories to tell.

My barber in the nearby town, is a no – nonsense middle aged French lady married to a Scot. Which enables her to pivot to the language, religion and politics of whomever from the Two Solitudes is sitting in her chair.

She's done this from the time she was a knee high girl. It was her dad's shop before her. He being a cultured Jean Beliveau type Frenchman that cut enough McLeod's hair, he could have accurately told you how the half McLeod in the White House was going to be.

The TV on 24 / 7 news is on in the background in this shop, which is often sworn at without filter in either official language.

The older lad, without a job because he can't mentally handle having one, but is kind and loves talking in either official language to anyone about weather, politics and a fictional love life, is accepted as a fixture here by all of us, sitting in that end chair for years.

Sitting here for hours on end because this lady – although she can box his ears and allows us to tease the dickens out of him – is really kind and knows, in this small town, this is his life, she and these men who come in.

She averaged cutting about 20 men's hair per day, generally at about \$20 a head if one left a tip. Which has payback as a rural journalist, because you unearth about \$600 worth of articles from a single visit.

Of course things were totally closed for her at the start of COVID and then again after Christmas. But that period in between things plummeted to three haircuts a day.

Her shop is smack by Main street, there is no parking by the building. So her competitor gathered in the fearful at the other end of town.

Her shop is
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town.

Who is in a mini mall and beside a parking lot, so can have people sign up outside the door, and then come to the door and signal to them sitting in their cars who is next.

The total government COVID compensation for this hard luck barber shop by Main street was \$6,000 total, she told me. "It's a good thing I own my building and don't have a mortgage." Her husband is a janitor and they have children to raise.

Where the lad was who sat hour after hour in that end chair, I didn't ask the several times I was in and felt guilty after for my silence? He wasn't sitting, the odd time I looked in through the

window, in the more professional place down the street in the mini mall.

In a nearby community another lady barber moved her chair into a bay in her husband's garage. A garage, of course, is essential under the law. So all the essential conversations of a rural community; weather, politics and an exaggerated love life, have continued.

Only now you can also get your oil changed and a haircut, plus get caught up on gossip, under the same roof at the same time.

Then there is the lass at the diner, getting close to 80 in age, yet with the energy of a 25 year old bustles around the place to make a living. The hard core older men cursing Trudeau and praising Trump at seven in the morning, the Liberal ladies for lunch and the throngs after church.

The Protestants are through the door first and are finishing up when the Catholics arrive. The Anglicans, with a foot in either religious camp, sit isolated.

She's also fed big community gatherings.

With her business shut down or severely restricted in numbers, depending on the Health Unit decree, there has been zero cents in compensation.

Being she also owns the attached little grocery store and that has stayed open as essential, she doesn't qualify for government assistance.

A store, that due to COVID, was restricted to one shopper at a time. **



THE THINGS WE CANNOT SAY

A Book Review by Marlene Black

A gripping novel. Author Kelly Rimmer paints a vivid picture of life in Poland before and during the Nazi occupation. We are

introduced early on, to an American modern day family with all the challenges they face and their elderly Polish grandmother who is not well and is in hospital. The author takes us back to the grandmother's early days in a small rural village in Poland when she and her sister and two brothers are helping their parents farm their small plot of land. The early days of the German invasion bring terrible hardships to the family and

their friends. We discover soon that the grandmother has not told her story to any of the family and it is with this mission in mind, that her young granddaughter embarks on a journey back to Poland to help reveal some hidden family secrets that will be lost with the death of her grandmother.

An excellent novel well worth reading.



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Lyle Dillabough

“The Ottawa Valley
Troubadour”

Sept. 29/59 - Jan. 30/2021

It is with great sadness that we announce that we have recently lost one of our well known writers, Lyle Dillabough. Lyle was recruited very early on when we were just beginning our magazine and we got to know him. We heard him playing his music at a local farmers market in Carleton Place and we spoke to him about writing for us. He was very enthusiastic and his poetic factual often historical, stories were always interesting to read. Lyle passed away Jan. 30, 2021 in hospital. We will miss him.

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Liberal NDP and Bloc Joined Forces to Vote Against Your Property Rights. Could your Right to Water Be Next?



By Cheryl Gallant, M.P.

By a vote of the combined Trudeau Liberals, and other socialist parties in Parliament, my Private Members Bill C-222, *An Act to amend the Expropriation Act (protection of private property)*, the effort to modernize expropriation laws, was defeated.

Home ownership and private property go hand in hand.

Bill C-222, which would have amended the *Expropriation Act*, intended to provide some protections from government taking people's property without compensation. Given the absence of property rights in the Canadian Constitution, landowners must look to the Expropriation Act to protect their property rights.

While government MPs claim landowners do not need protection from big government, facts prove otherwise. In 1973, 18,600 acres of mostly farmland were expropriated from 800 farmers near Pickering, Ontario northeast of Toronto for an international airport that was never built.

Voting against Bill C-222, was the Liberal MP for Pickering-Uxbridge. One would think she would support property rights given the ongoing fight in her back yard. The backbench MP was forced to take a public position on property rights by voting against Bill C-222 along with other Liberal MPs.

Faced with ignoring public opinion, voters need to remind MPs like her, and the Liberal MPs from Quinte and

Kingston, who have big problems with Lake Ontario flooding made worse by **PLAN 2014**. MPs are in Ottawa to represent their constituents, not to represent Ottawa to their voters.

The protection of private property rights has never been more important to Canadians than today. With record numbers of Canadians purchasing homes, and pursuing quality of life, never has a government in Ottawa been more out of touch with the desires of average Canadians.

In the mind of a big government fan, more government is the answer to everything, even when it is obvious the problem was created by big government in the first place. The conservative answer to problems created by government, is less government.

Flooding in the Ottawa River and the Great Lakes is an unfortunate example showing the difference between Conservatives and the other parties. The other parties all supported Plan 2014, seen by many as contributing to the recent flooding on the Great Lakes. Its purpose was to increase water variability along waterfront properties for the creation of wetlands. While the Trudeau Liberals' approach was to finalize Plan 2014 in secret, I proposed a change to existing law for the protection of property rights.

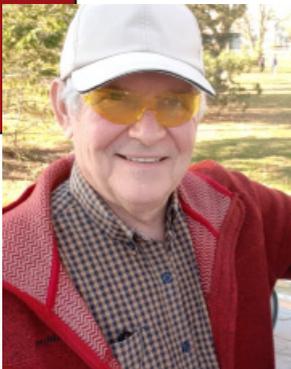
The latest federal government proposal responding to failed federal government policy is Motion 34. The motion seeks a study into the creation of a new federal bureaucracy, the Canada Water Agency. During debate on Motion 34, one Liberal MP, whose

riding borders Lake Ontario, claimed more wetlands needed to be created because the Great Lakes were drying up due to climate change. He claimed the fluctuating water levels are driven by climate change and blamed that for wetland loss in the watersheds around the Great Lakes. Fluctuating water levels are the aim of Plan 2014. Faced with 600 property owners in his Toronto riding being flooded by his government's wetland policy, he now feels government needs to drain Lake Ontario more quickly.

To suggest Liberal MPs are as confused about water flow as Justin Trudeau is about China, is to put it mildly. Now imagine how confused the mandate for the new Canada Water Agency, and its army of bureaucrats will be.

The people surrounding Trudeau today used to surround former Premiers McGuinty and Wynne. Rural landowners, understand how a "water bureaucracy" can take shape.

Trudeau, during a recent United Nations meeting, reiterated his pledge to set aside 30% Canada's lands and seas for conservation. Water on and beneath private property must never be included in any such pledge. **



DON'S THOUGHTS - DOES FLOODPLAIN DESIGNATION AFFECT PROPERTY VALUATION?

by Don Johnson

There are many claims by government authorities claiming their actions are not negative to the property owners property value. Indeed they sometimes claim they are increasing property value by their actions .

In Niagara the issue of flood plain designation came up, and it was reported that municipal staff and Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority personal stated in a presentation that “ a floodplain designation on properties does not affect the property value”!

Now for the readers I am a realtor with 35 years of considerable sales expertise and a significant reputation respective to sale of rural/ agricultural/ development land and residential properties

I must take exception to the comments of any party which might state or profess a position that “ a floodplain designation on properties does not affect the property “.

The argument that house prices are rising so there is no impact is spurious and speculative with no statistical backing that I am aware of.

Buyers seek properties with features and although many would like waterfront, properties with flowing water or properties with ponds the vast number of buyers have no interest in buying land that is designated flood plain due to several very significant reasons:

Firstly, if it is a true flood plain, dealing with flood damage becomes significant because the designation affects the owners ability to build on the site especially due to municipal and conservation authority issues which deny building permits.

These restrictions extend to modifying and expanding building footprints, which prevent property owners from improving or expanding the utility and use of their property.

When buying a property mortgage companies and banks insist a property owner have insurance sufficient to cover the mortgage. From my experience most insurance companies will not insure for water or storm damage in a designated flood plain which means it can not be insured or alternatively it requires significant up charging on the premium. This means buyers often back out of a purchase as they cannot meet the condition on insurability.

Property selling price value reflects the features or improvements a property has in the present and the future utility of a property. When the future utility is restricted eg by planning or by lack of services then the use value is

restricted to its current use. If you restrict its current use or place significant challenging use impediments on the property then the sellers only option is to use “reduced pricing” to entice and compensate a buyer who has the option to buy other properties.

In 2018, I took on sale of a home on 3 acres of land. The property was built prior to expansion of a 100 year flood plain line which took up 80% of the property. It took a year and half to obtain a sale and 4 offers fell through in part due to the flood plain designation. This was despite our advising prospects about the flood plain designation prior to their viewing the property. Of course we were also getting only about 1/4 to 1/3 the showings other area homes in the same price range were getting despite our home, buildings and land being superior. The owner eventually sold but in the meantime the realty market prices rose by a significant factor whereas her sales price did not, so in reality terms her sale price became discounted.

I have a client with a one acre rural building lot, severed several years ago. The conservation authority has subsequently identified wetlands on the adjacent property and placed a 30 meter wetland protection buffer around it. This buffer now encompasses 70% of her lot making it unbuildable and a 450 thousand dollar lot is now almost worthless for building purposes.

It will cost my client between 40 and 100 thousand dollars to challenge the ruling. So this property has been significantly impacted in a negative manner.

I am not advocating that people should be building in areas prone to flooding however the boundary mapping for flood plains is not an exact science and the repercussions of inaccurate mapping is significant to the property owner.

There is also the concept that government must stop property owners from building in any floodplain area. Of course when a municipality invokes floodplain rational to restrict a property owners right of use, the question must be asked does the municipality have this right to restrict or remove the properties utility.

I suggest when determining impact of flood plain designation one should be asking the local conservation authority to provide information identifying how many building permits , on land identified as floodplain have they approved in the past 5 years?

Ask, what is this number expressed as percentage of total building applications received that concerned flood

plains.

I also suggest asking Municipal planning staff if they were going to buy a building lot upon which they want to build a home and they have a choice of 2 properties , one in a designated flood plain area close to town and the other adjacent to it but without floodplain zoning - which would they buy if they were both the same size and same price?

You can expand this question to, if they could obtain a building permit but have significant more building roadblocks to overcome how would this affect their decision?

I might also suggest you ask the question “if the municipality is expropriating land for municipal use and it is designated as flood plain, will the city pay the same price per acre it will pay if land is not designated as flood plain?

If the answer is that the use designation affects the expropriation value then again despite the claim the designation is not harmful - they themselves are saying - not even the municipality actions are supporting the statement. The issue of flood plain mapping is contentious.

There is not a simple answer nor solution, however property ownership should give the owner the right to decide how he wants to use these lands which would include his right to build upon them. The concept that you own property but have no right to decide how it is used, is an oxymoron. For ownership means authority to decide how it is used.

The foundation of private property ownership in Ontario is determined by common law and the pre-confederation crown grants which are registered on title. These ownership rights give the property owner the authority to determine the use he wants his property to serve.

If there is a railway in a municipality, does the municipality have authority to stop it from laying track through a floodplain? We know the answer is NO!

If there are indigenous treaty lands does the municipality have the authority to stop them building in a flood plain?

We know the answer is NO!

That is because their rights are guaranteed by the Crown and verified by instruments of the Crown. Pre-confederation crown grants are legal instruments of the Crown and are so identified and recognized by Province of Ontario legislative act.

Identifying land as a floodplain is allowed, but designating these lands with a floodplain identification with use restrictions that infringes upon the property owners rights provided by the Crown, is not within the authority of the municipality nor that of the Province.

Section 14 of the municipal Act says the municipal bylaws are without effect when they are in conflict with superior instruments or authority.

The Canadian Constitution is very clear . The Crown and Instruments of the Crown are superior to Provincial and even federal interference. As such the province also has no

right to impose restrictions where these conflict and as such any legislation it creates interfering with the Crown grant rights are also without effect.

I would be pleased to discuss these issues with council members and legal staff however returning to the original intent of this thought:

I disagree with any any person making the statement that “a floodplain designation does not affect the property”.

I am also of the opinion that most realtors with experience in the province would also take exception to any such statement and encourage you to ask your local realtor for their opinion.

If the municipality and Conservation Authorities recognize and respect the property owners Crown Grant rights and act simply in a positive role of providing advice without restriction then perhaps the statement could be correct in the long term, however, it is my experience that municipalities and Conservation Authorities do not respect the Crown given ownership authority of property owners and as such designation of land as being flood plain land does affect the value of the land.

That’s my opinion!

Don Johnson B.Sc.Agr.

Sales Representative
Right at Home Realty Inc.

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Bill C-21 sets the Stage for a Spring Election

by Shirley Dolan

Signs of the Trudeau government calling a late spring election are all around us. The Liberals remain high enough in the polls to win a majority or at least a strong minority. I received a call from a polling company seeking voting intentions in the next election and the Fed's introduced Bill C-21 on February 16th in an attempt to get support from the gun control lobby.

Introduction of the Bill may have backfired though. It doesn't seem to have pleased anyone: gun control enthusiasts want stricter control while legal gun owners say it has gone too far.

Over the past couple of weeks, Ian Runkle, a Canadian Firearms Law and Criminal Defence lawyer from Edmonton has published a number of videos on his YouTube channel on Bill C-21. Parts of the Bill do make sense, he says, but many don't. Runkle provides a good overview of the Bill in his video "A Brief Overview of The Terrible Proposed Gun Laws (Bill C-21) - A Lawyer Explains". <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtjID8v2SZc> He describes the Bill as not a good bill; not likely to be passed in this session of parliament, and as election fodder.

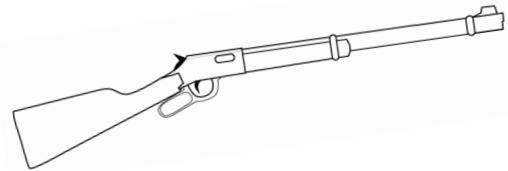
Some of the features of the Bill that Runkle finds problematic are:

- Increase of 10 to 14 years maximum sentencing. This will not have much effect given that the 10 years is rarely awarded but its good publicity
- Emergency firearm prohibition available to any random person as an ex parte order – no input from the accused – this could result in warrantless search and seizure
- Banning airsoft guns to basically rule out the entire sport
- Changing their own grandfathering clause and making it far worse
- Transferring authority for banning handguns to municipalities
- Suspension of licensing for 30 days and there is no provision in the Firearms Act to challenge it, meaning you must go to Federal court

- Home defence is still lawful in Canada, yet the Bill prohibits guns being advertised for this purpose, say in remote areas.

Trudeau acknowledged that gun crime is on the rise even since the May 1, 2020 gun control Order in Council, and then two days after this comment, his government introduced legislation to reduce sentences for serious gun crimes including weapons trafficking and importing.

It just doesn't make sense!



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Veggie Bites 43

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 snow has continued and is making my back garden look like a winter postcard. Although I am so excited to see the warmer seasons, I do love the clean, sharp, beauty of fresh snow.



Winter back garden

With the cold I have been using the furnace and the woodstove frequently, and that is adding to the dryness in my house. Dryness is not good for your houseplants or your little seedlings. My orchid tends to be susceptible to dry air in winter. It is very special to me as it was a gift from a friend. It has four buds, so soon I will have bright yellow orchid flowers and I would like it to continue giving me flowers over the coming years.

One of the first things I do to combat indoor dryness is to collect some shallow trays and spread pebbles all across the trays. I add about a half an inch of water to the trays and place my orchids and other plants on top of the pebbles. This increases the humidity in the plant compound so that it is no longer like a desert. I also mist my orchid along with some of the seedlings.

A couple of weeks ago, I planted some of the white sage seeds that were sent to me from California. This zone nine sage is a favourite of mine

but needs a long growing period if I am ever going to see flowers. I make a tea from this sage when I don't feel well. All zones of sage like an early start, although garden or common sage (*salvia officinalis*) is hardy enough to survive for years as a perennial in your garden. Herbs like sage, chives and rosemary do well with an early start.



Tiny white sage (*salvia apiana*)

If you are planning to plant out onion seedlings, this is the time of year to get those started. A good way to determine when to plant them is to remember that they need about eight weeks to grow before they are set outside. As they like to go out by around the first week of April, you can count back eight weeks from there. All of your seed packets should indicate if the seeds need to be started early, and will tell you the general time the plants should go outside.

I have noticed that my dragon fruit plant is taking over the world. I have been doing some research on it as I have had it for over five years, and have had no blossoms or fruit. You may notice more dragon fruit in your supermarket lately, and if you want to try to grow

a plant, they come very easily from seeds. Dragon fruit looks so cool! Like some sort of fancy fish. It tastes a bit like a kiwi fruit and adds great texture to a fruit salad. Once you cut the fruit, you will notice bright white flesh that is spotted with tiny black seeds. You scoop out the inside and do not eat the skin. While the dragon fruit is not poisonous, it has been observed that its skin may contain a lot of pesticide residue, so take care.



Dragon Fruit

According to my research, I should repot my plant into a large container so that it can increase its root growth and the possibility of flowering. Repotting means that it will not fit back in the plant compound and must contend with the too-many cats. The plant is a bit prickly, so perhaps that may help. It has been chewed on before and taken no harm. Once I have it happily growing in its large pot, I will start looking for flowers!

The cold has started rolling in. The snow is blowing about, and the air is painful. I am so happy that I had the chance to protect my perennials with the large amount of snow we received. Judith. (Email: lapisdragonarts@gmail.com) All Veggie Bites are available at the SGHS website: (<https://sites.google.com/site/sghortsoc/>)



Dragon fruit plant with sliced dragon fruit

Veggie Bites 44

Winter winds and cold corners are making me shiver. I have found myself a bit grumbly these days, so I decided to listen to a new podcast called BBC Gardeners' World Magazine. There were a couple of episodes on how gardening works its way into your mental well-being. I found it very relatable.

So, I wandered back to my plant compound and noticed something that made me so very happy. A few weeks ago, I had planted a bulb in a bulb-glass as an experiment and watched it as it formed lots of roots. Then nothing. Being the procrastinator that I am, I didn't toss it, I just shoved it to the back of my plant compound. And now? I see green! There it was, tucked in beside an African Violet that had started to bud, and the constant purple flowers of my Mona Lavender. I am making sure the water level is good and peeking at it regularly to see if it has grown.



Bulb growing!

While chatting with some gardening friends the other day, the subject of microgreens came up. One friend was harvesting his regularly and was very pleased with the results. I haven't started any yet, so I thought this warranted further investigation. Microgreens are basically the seedlings of edible vegetables like beets and kale, or herbs like basil or cilantro. Their popularity in the kitchen seemed to start in the eighties and now the few seedlings on offer have expanded to at least twenty-five. Microgreens are filled with nutrients along with concentrated, intense and unique flavours.

You can sprinkle a tray of soil with lettuce seeds and let them grow until they have a set of seed leaves (cotyledon) or the very first leaves you see. For some seeds, a set of true leaves which are the next set of leaves that you see, is next. When they are ready, harvest the microgreens with scissors and enjoy. They will grow again a few times. This is the easiest way to experiment with microgreens, but not the only way. Local nurseries sell special seeds for those who would like to start growing their own microgreens. I thought I might give myself a little treat, and so I decided to try a package of microgreen seeds



instead of just using some leftover lettuce seeds. Just to see if there is a difference. I ordered a blend which is not in stock yet, so I took a picture of a packet of some microgreens to show you what it looks like.

Rather than purchase an expensive potting system, I use a disposable food storage container that has a see-through plastic lid. I poke holes in the bottom for drainage. Two inches or so of seed-starting soil should do it. Make sure you moisten it well and give it time for the water to run through. Scatter the seeds across the soil and gently sift soil over the top of the seeds. Put the lid on and then lift the lid to spray lightly each day as you wait for germination. I will show you how my microgreens are doing as they go along. I plan to put mine in the plant compound, but you could place your microgreens in a sunny window or on a table under a lamp. Try to find a full spectrum lightbulb for that lamp so you can add to your success.

In addition to purchasing seeds at local nurseries, there are many microgreen growers in our area. I found <http://valleymicrogreens.ca> to be quite informative. This site not only shows how the microgreens are grown hydroponically, but also shows the various types of vegetables that are used. An interesting way to explore growing vegetables indoors.

Well, I am off to repair the second shelf of my plant compound. There seems to be a small tear in the netting and the too-many cats have discovered the begonia.

Judith.

(Email: lapisdragonarts@gmail.com) All Veggie Bites are available at the SGHS website: (<https://sites.google.com/site/sghortsoc/>)

Science is a Religion



by Mel Fisher

Wells. To quote a corny old joke, that is a deep subject. For you young folk, a well is where we rural folk get our water. A hole dug in the ground, a shallow well in the soil down to bedrock, or a deep well a hole drilled down into bedrock.

Alvin Patterson was one of those salt of the earth types, dedicated to his job and his family, and he was famous for his water-witching ability. Some folks, but not all by any stretch, can ‘witch’, detect where there is groundwater, most commonly by walking around with a forked green tree branch held out with one hand on each branch and the main stem pointing ahead. When they pass over a vein of ground water, the stick goes down. Some do it with a steel bar or even a wire coat hanger! This unexplained ability is denied and scoffed at by educated folks who believe that if science cannot explain it, it does not exist. In spite of all the scorn, witching is routinely used by utilities to follow their underground pipelines! Sort of like in spite of all the scorn, Police routinely use psychics to help solve cases!

When I needed to dig a well at my new farm, back in the 60’s, I asked Alvin if he would witch a well for me. He told me that he grew up in Manitoba, and the family business was witching and digging wells. He said there the groundwater is found in larger streams, so witching was like shooting fish in a barrel. But here

in our glacial lake Agassiz clay, the groundwater is in fine streams. So he would witch for me, but as he could not guarantee results, he would not ask for any pay. An honest man.

He came out to the farm, and I was surprised when he asked me, “So, where would you like the well?” I said I thought he would be telling me that, and he replied there is water all around, so he might as well look first in a convenient location.



He got out a forked green poplar branch, and we walked around the area I favoured, and after a while he picked a spot where, he indicated, two groundwater streams crossed one above the other so I would have twice as much chance at a good flow. He asked if I had ever tried witching, I said no, so he gave me the forked stick and I walked across the area, but got nothing. Then he took me by the hand, and we each took a leg of the forked

stick in the other hand. As we marched over the area he had identified as water-bearing, the stick went down – I tried so hard to hold it up that some of the bark was loosened – the bark didn’t loosen on his side so he wasn’t consciously pushing it down. Some of us have it, some don’t.

Alvin then laid down flat on the ground, holding a little fibreglass fishing rod by the wrong end so it made a rainbow shape, the butt end of it being over the spot he had marked for my well location. The rod dipped and recovered 27 times, then stopped, and he announced I would have water at 27 feet down. There were I think four nickels taped to the butt end of the rod, presumably to calibrate it to read in feet.

My brother-in-law Norm and I dug a six inch diameter test hole in the clay soil using a fence-post auger, with extension pipes to go deeper. At 27 feet, we struck a hardpan. An ice pick is a tool for ice fishing, a heavy bar with one sharp end and an eye for a rope on the other end. If it chops through the ice unexpectedly quickly, the rope allows you to recover your icepick from the bottom of the lake! I dropped my ice pick down the hole on the end of the rope; it fractured the hardpan, and the test hole filled with water. The well digger went on past that, in spite of water flooding in, but didn’t get far.

I hear you say “Unscientific! Hocus Pocus !” OK, but the proof of the pudding is in the eating,

and water was exactly where Alvin said it would be. That 50 year old well has never failed, producing more good spring water than we could use, even watering 25 cattle, 2 horses, 40 sheep, a hundred chickens, and a houseful of teenagers all at once!

Sadly, our world has changed, and we are too conscious now of what others think. So most people have their well drilled into bedrock rather than appear to be an 'unscientific redneck' by having

a shallow well witched. At a loss, they get much greater cost and often lower quality water.

The notion that 'Science' can explain everything, so we do not need a Religion or a God, is itself a Religion. Like all Religions it is a belief in an unproven and unprovable thesis. Unlike other Religions, the science of the day is proven wrong every time we make a new discovery; the more we learn the more we realize how little we know. For example, "Science"

considered bats to be blind, clumsy fellows, flopping aimlessly around until SONAR was invented and suddenly bats became such clever fellows, navigating by sound!

Until science can explain something as basic as Alvin's 'unscientific' witching ability, believers that Science can explain everything should show a little more humility. **



Editors Note:

I had to comment on this article because I have my own story about mystical magic. When I was a newly married farmer's wife, I accompanied my husband, Tom on his truck route. His job was to pick up milk from the farmers and deliver it to the dairy. On this one day, I went into the milk barn and was chatting with the farmer. In his hand he had these 2 pieces of wire, each bent into an "L" shape, approximately 18 inches long on one side and 6 inches long on the other. The subject came up as to whether a person has the ability to witch for water. I said that I had no idea and he said "let's find out." His barn was a long dairy barn with cement floors and cows in it.

He said that he knew where the water line was under the cement and asked me to try and find it holding the short leg of the 'L', one in each hand with the long sections pointed forward. I held my hand relaxed holding the wire and walked slowly forward with the wires in front of me and after about 20-25 metres of walking, the wires started to move towards each other and as I kept walking, they crossed, continued to turn and pointed backwards at me. The farmer then said that where the lines had crossed was where the water line was. I turned around and went back and they did the same thing again. Tom tried it and they did not move. I later told my father about what happened and he said that he too had

the ability to find water so I can attest, that these events really do happen. Years later Tom asked me to come up to the neighbour's house where he was attempting to dig up their well head to fix the pipes. After digging up most of the front yard, Tom asked me to try and find it using the wires. It took about a minute and they dug down and found the well in a completely different spot than the owner remembered. He forgot that they had built a porch onto their front steps and so this distorted his memory of where the well was located.....

In both instances, I found water, so these witching for water stories have a special meaning for me ..Marlene



WORDS MATTER

by Liz Marshall

ENTRY – 1. ... UNLAWFUL ENTRY – 1. The crime of entering another’s real property, by fraud or other illegal means, without the owner’s consent. Cf. TRESPASS (1). 2. An alien’s crossing of a border into a country without proper documents. [Cases: Aliens, Immigration, and Citizenship 771]. Black’s Law Dictionary, 9th Edition, 2009, p. 613
RIGHT OF ENTRY – see POWER OF TERMINATION.

POWER OF TERMINATION – (1919) A future interest retained by a grantor after conveying a fee simple subject to a condition subsequent, so that the grantee’s estate terminates (upon breach of the condition) only if the grantor exercises the right to retake it. – Also termed right of entry; right of reentry; right of entry for breach of condition; right of entry condition broken. See fee simple subject to a condition subsequent under fee simple. Black’s Law Dictionary, 9th Edition, 2009, p. 1290

FORCIBLE – Effected by force or threat of force against opposition or resistance.
“[In the law of trespass, the] term ‘forcible’ is used in a wide and somewhat unnatural sense to include any act of physical interference with the person or property of another. To lay one’s finger on another person without lawful justification is as much a forcible injury in the eye of the law, and therefore a trespass, as to beat him with a stick. To walk peacefully across another man’s land is a forcible injury and a trespass, no less than to break into his house *vi et armis*. So, also, it is probably a trespass deliberately to put matter where natural forces will take it on to the plaintiff’s land.” R.F.V. Heuston, *Salmond of the law of Torts* 5 (17th ed. 1977). Black’s Law Dictionary, 9th Edition, 2009, p. 718.

FORCIBLE ENTRY. – A taking of possession with a strong hand and with violence, which is both a civil and criminal injury. The civil injury is remedied by immediate restitution of the ejected possessor, the criminal injury, being a breach of the peace, is punished by fine. 3 Step. Com. 36.. Dictionary of Jurisprudence, J.J.S. Wharton, Esq., 1847-48, pg. 261
An entry with strong hand, or with multitude of people, as distinguished from a peaceable entry. Stat. 5 Ric. II. c. 8. 2 N. Y. Rev. St. [507,] 418, ss. 1.-- A violent actual entry into a house or land. *Termes de la ley*. Cowell. -- An offence against the public peace, committed by violently taking possession of lands and tenements with menaces, force and

arms, and without the authority of law. 4 Bl. Com. 148. 4 Steph. Com. 280. 2 Chitt. Gen. Pr. 231, 233, et seq. Lewis’ U. S. Crim. Law, 274, et seq. U. S. Bigest and Supplement, *Forcible Entry and Detainer*. New Law Dictionary: and Glossary: Containing Full Definition of The Principal Terms of the Common and Civil Law, ...Compiled on the basis of Spelman’s Glossary, By Alexander M. Burrill, Counsellor at Law, p. 501.

FORCIBLE ENTRY AND DETAINER - 1. The act of violently and unlawfully taking possession of lands and tenements without lawful authority.
“To walk across another’s land, or to enter his building, without privilege, is a trespass, but this in itself, while a civil wrong, is not a crime. However, if an entry upon real estate is accomplished by violence or intimidation, or if such methods are employed for detention after a peaceable entry, there is a crime according to English law, known as forcible entry and detainer. This was a common law offense in England, although supplemented by English statutes that are old enough to be common law in this country...It has sometimes been said that there are two separate offenses – (1) forcible entry and (2) forcible detainer. This may be true under the peculiar wording of some particular statute, but in general it seems to be one offense which may be committed in two different ways.” Rollin M. Perkins & Ronald N. Boyce, *Criminal Law* 487-88 (3rd ed. 1982.) Black’s Law Dictionary, 9th Edition, 2009, p. 719.

For those Municipal Councillors passing unlawful by-laws this may be something to seriously think about...

Criminal Code of Canada Current to January 10, 2021

“Forcible Entry and Detainer

Forcible entry

72 (1) A person commits forcible entry when that person enters real property that is in the actual and peaceable possession of another in a manner that is likely to cause a breach of the peace or reasonable apprehension of a breach of the peace.

Matters not material

(1.1) For the purposes of subsection (1), it is immaterial whether or not a person is entitled to enter the real property or whether or not that person has any intention of taking possession of the real property.

Forcible detainer

(2) A person commits forcible detainer when, being in actual possession of real property without colour of right, he detains it in a manner that is likely to cause a breach of the peace or reasonable apprehension of a breach of the peace, against a person who is entitled by law to possession of it.

Questions of law

(3) The questions whether a person is in actual and peaceable possession or is in actual possession without colour of right are questions of law.

R.S., 1985, c. C-46, s. 72; R.S., 1985, c. 27 (1st Supp.), s. 10; 1992, c. 1, s. 60(F).”

That said, when a government entity decides to make regulations and/or by-laws which express placing a “hold” on property with a certain geographical area, particularly a municipality, perhaps it should revisit that, as it would seem unless it has actually acquired the “land” and/or “real estate” it may not have lawful jurisdiction to make such a determination or it could be, it would seem, a “forcible entry and detainer” couldn’t it?

This could be why words matter...

by Elizabeth F. Marshall,
President All Rights Research Ltd.,
Non-Partisan Advocate

Director of Research Ontario Landowners Association

Author – “Property Rights 101: An Introduction”

Director – Canadian Justice Review Board

Legal Research – Queen’s Counsel, Lawyers, Law Offices, etc.,

Legislative Research – MPs, MPPs, Municipal Councillors,
I am not a lawyer and do not give legal advice. Any

information relayed is for informational purposes only.

Please contact a lawyer. “The rule is the public interest

is always paramount but NEVER when it is at the expense

of a private individual.” Ontario Legislative Assembly,

February 11, 1965 – Vol. 1, p. 478.

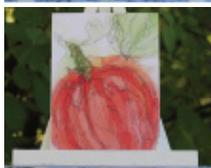
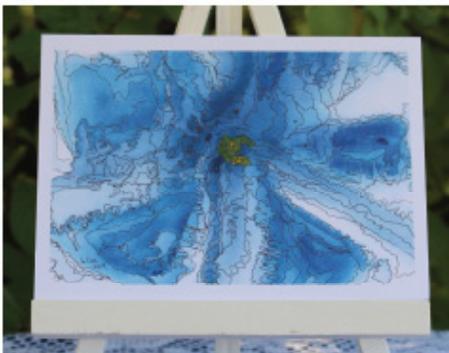


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Ottawa's New Official Plan Goes Off the Rails

by Shirley Dolan

The City of Ottawa started their New Official Plan process in March 2019 with a website (<https://engage.ottawa.ca/the-new-official-plan>), discussion papers, open houses, and the formation of an Ambassadors Working Group to introduce the Official Plan (OP) to communities. The Carleton Landowners Association (CLA) attended the open houses and invited one of the Ambassadors to provide an overview at one of our public meetings. We worked with the Ambassador to provide early comments on the OP and continue to do so.

What started out as a reasonable process soon became non-transparent and secretive in 2020 during the pandemic. The website is out-of-date, the Ambassadors Group is not being informed of new additions, and the public is left out of the loop. The Draft OP was delivered in November 2020 but it was two very late additions to the plan in January 2021 that raised the ire of City of Ottawa residents and developers: the Gold Belt Concept and the addition of Tewn lands into the urban boundary, without proper public consultation.

These two items were discussed at a Special Joint Meeting of Planning and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on January 26th. Despite residents having less than a week to review the Gold Belt concept (if you even knew about it), the Committee voted to include it in the OP despite all of the delegates expressing their concern about the lack of time to study the change.

At this same Joint Meeting, councillors voted to remove high-scoring land from the urban boundary and replace it with a large parcel as requested by an organization called the Algonquins of Ontario. There was no notice that this change was a possibility.

The Gold Belt Concept

According to their report, staff was asking the Joint Committee for approval to “*establish a Gold Belt in the new Official Plan ..., such that the Gold Belt be primarily composed of Agricultural Resource lands, aggregate resource areas and natural areas and with the intent that this Belt be established to contain future urban expansion in the City of Ottawa until the end of the century*”.

Why, asked rural residents, do we need this extra layer if the areas in question (Agricultural Resource lands, aggregate resource areas and natural areas) are already protected?

When questioned about the addition of the Gold Belt, councillors were quick to explain that no new restrictions were being added.

Why, asked rural residents, do we need this extra layer if the areas in question (Agricultural Resource lands, aggregate resource areas and natural areas) are already protected?

By the end of the Joint Meeting, the Gold Belt had been voted into the OP. Next stop was the Council meeting on February 10th leaving little time for the CLA to organize our resources and let our members know

what was happening. At our board meeting on February 8th, we agreed that President Tim Mount should write the Mayor and Councillors asking them to DROP the concept. Many of the CLA directors and members also wrote requesting that the Gold Belt concept be dropped.

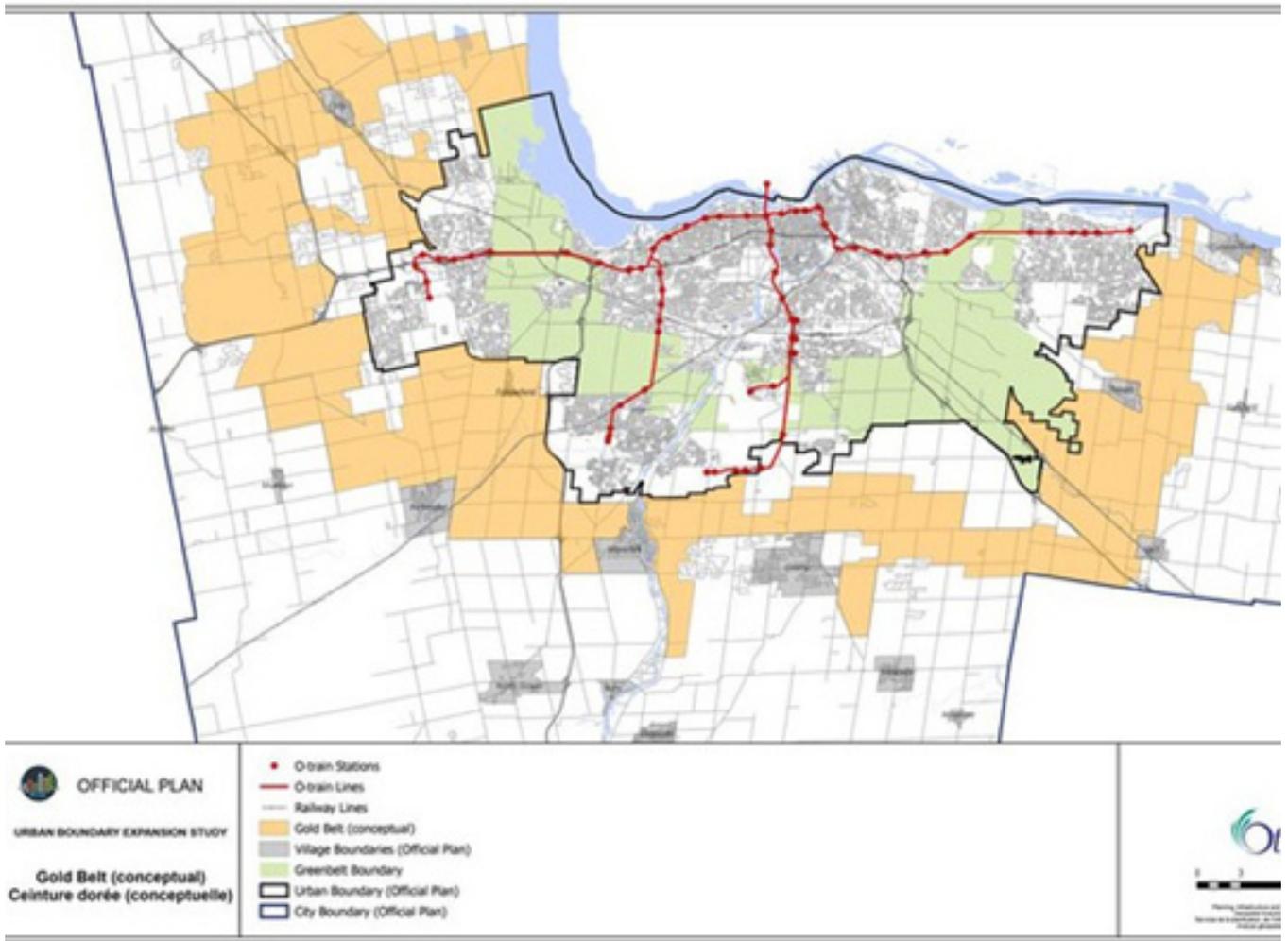
And it was! A motion to scrap the Gold Belt concept was unanimously passed. Even staff supported the exclusion of the idea. Stephen Willis, General Manager for Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development, stated that he had received more comments on the Gold Belt than any other topic in the OP. He said it had led to confusion and anxiety and was unnecessary.

Thanks to the CLA and other organizations and residents who opposed the Gold Belt and got it stopped.

Last Minute Tinkering with the Urban Boundary

One of the decisions to be made at the Joint Committee on January 26th was what parcels of land were to be included in the New Official Plan's urban boundary – an important decision for developers because the boundary would define where the City could grow up to the year 2046.

The OP has taken a strong position on urban intensification, with an intensification target that increases to 60 per cent in the 2041 to 2046 period, the highest of any City in Canada. The amount of greenfield lands needed to meet the increasing percentage of intensification was determined to be 1,281 gross hectares. The new greenfield areas were selected using the results of the land evaluation undertaken by City staff using the criteria approved by Council. By the



time of the Joint Meeting, 1,011 gross hectares had been identified as Category 1 lands and were earmarked for immediate inclusion into the urban boundary. Additional studies over the next 15 years would look at identifying the additional 270 hectares (likely Category 2 lands adjacent to the Category 1 lands) required to make-up the total 1,281 gross hectares.

Staff’s carefully studied recommendations came to a screeching halt when the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) insisted, as the first delegates at the Joint Meeting, that their lands (known as Tewin) in East Ottawa must be added now, notwithstanding the fact that the 445.35 hectares in question scored poorly.

A motion was put forth to remove 175 hectares of Category 1

land in South March and to redirect them to Tewin. Staff were told to add 445.35 hectares into the Urban Boundary on the lands identified as Tewin, and that staff focus on the creation of a new community on the Tewin lands.

This decision, which was accepted at the Feb 10th Council meeting, was made without public consultation and is expected to result in a future development of a whole new outlying community of 45,000 near the Amazon warehouse.

Who are the Algonquins of Ontario and why was their request to have lands included in the urban boundary accepted rather than higher scoring lands identified by staff? The answer may lie in the motion to include the lands, which stated in part:

“WHEREAS City Council is committed to reconciliation with local Indigenous communities and recognizes the importance of working with the Algonquins of Ontario as a meaningful opportunity towards achieving that goal; and

WHEREAS in February 2018, City Council approved a formal commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation action plan that includes supporting opportunities to weave Indigenous communities into the socioeconomic fabric of Ottawa in an environmentally sustainable way”.

Council made the decision about reconciliation rather than on sound planning practices!



So now, not only did the City displease residents by not consulting with them before making the decision, they also antagonized the Algonquin community to the extent that Algonquin Elder Claudette Commanda, from Kitigan Zibi First Nation expressed shock over the land deal. In her opinion, the Tewin development is not reconciliation because that process took place between a municipal government and an organization and not between nations. She was not alone in her criticism of the deal as Algonquin leaders and chiefs weighed in on what had taken place, some calling the move “wreck-conciliation”.

I tend to agree with this thinking. By all appearances, the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) operate as an organization, one that has partnered with local developers to purchase a large plot of land and build a community of 45,000. The request to include the lands should have been considered under planning parameters, not as an act of reconciliation. But staff has been directed to extend support

and allowances to Tewin that likely would not be offered to other developers. For example, the motion to include the 445.35 hectares in the urban boundary came with directions:

So now, not only did the City displease residents by not consulting with them before making the decision, they also antagonized the Algonquin community to the extent that Algonquin Elder Claudette Commanda, from Kitigan Zibi First Nation expressed shock over the land deal.

- that staff be directed to work with the Algonquins of Ontario between now and June to identify the specific lands in the land use

schedule of the new Official Plan, and that it be understood that it is Council’s intent, in the spirit of a positive and constructive working relationship with the Algonquins of Ontario and a respect for their objectives for Tewin, that the planning process for this new community will be an expeditious and collaborative planning process

- that staff be directed to work with the Algonquins of Ontario and their representatives to help secure funding from the federal and provincial governments to support the Tewin development

My comments should not be interpreted as support for or opposition to the idea of an indigenous community in Ottawa. It is a commentary on a secretive and wrong-headed process that has led to bad feelings amongst the Algonquin communities and residents kept out of the loop towards the deal and the City of Ottawa.

The following is a letter written to the Commissioner of Official Languages in response to his statement below::



Statement from the Commissioner of Official Languages on the Government of Quebec's position on the modernization of the Official Languages Act

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gatineau, Quebec, February 5, 2021

*Commissioner of Official Languages **Raymond Th berge** made the following statement today:
The Official Languages Act protects the right of all Canadians to receive services in the official language of their choice, and these rights are guaranteed for both English-speaking Canadians and French-speaking Canadians.*

Commissioner,

With the greatest respect your statement, in red above, is so far from the truth and the reason for the existence of Canadians for Language Fairness (CLF) fighting for the Rights of non-French speaking Canadians such as myself.

I am a living classic example of an English person who was forced to quit a very high position in The Royal Canadian Mint in 1980. I was General Manager of the Numismatic Division, in Hull, from 1973 to 1980. On June 6, 1975, Yvon Gari py was appointed to the #1 position and very rudely, brutally and abruptly dismissed Master of the Mint Gordon Hunter when he arrived for work that same morning. That event was very traumatic for Gordon and he passed away just six months later. From the moment Gari py arrived there was a very concerted effort to terminate and replace many Anglophones with Francophones regardless of the qualifications of the latter. I have a list of names of the people who lost their Crown Corporation jobs and dreams of retiring with a respectable pension. The problem those people faced no chance of regaining a job in the Public Service because they didn't speak French.

During my tenure the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal resulted in a coin program that generated approximately \$200 million

in gross sales and \$50 million in net profit, and the mint produced 8.4 million troy ounces of silver coins, the highest silver consumption for coins in the world.

I WAS SOLEY RESPONSIBLE FOR SETTING UP AND MANAGING THE PRODUCTION OF ALL THE NUMISMATIC OLYMPIC COINS, INCLUDING GOLD. Reconstructing the interior of the factory in the Queens Printing Bureau, in Hull, finding and acquiring several major pieces of machinery and equipment, increasing the workforce from ~100 to 450 for 24x7 operation was no small feat while working within the constraints waiting for a government bill to approve the manufacture of the coins.

The 1976 Montreal Olympic Coinage represented the largest and most successful Olympic program in numismatic history. The Royal Canadian Mint used twelve tons of Silver in the production of their 28 different Five and Ten Dollars coins, I vaguely recall the act to authorise the production of coins was passed around June in 1973, the first the year of production and Japan ordered the first several thousand coins for delivery around October of the same year. A formidable task since some of the machinery required was about two years delivery. Nevertheless, I managed to acquire what was needed, even negotiating the rerouting, from Germany, two machines destined

for Russia for a small financial compensation to Russia.

The act for the production of coins..... <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/O-9.1/page-1.html>

and more
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Canadian_Mint_Olympic_coins#1976_Montreal_Olympic_Coins

Suffice to say, modesty permitting, I was one of few Professional Engineers with the knowledge and contacts to accomplish such a mammoth task setting up and managing the Olympic Coin production from 1973 to 1976.

Within the month of Gari py arriving, he froze my salary indefinitely, saying I was overpaid. On the contrary, by normal government guidelines where salary is geared to number of employees supervised I was grossly underpaid, particularly since my operation was 24x7. As the days and months passed various members of my staff were made to report to a new manager in head office, effectively reducing my control of the Numismatic Division. You will understand and recognise that this was simply pressure being applied to force me to quit since being high profile it would have been more difficult to just terminate me. I was resisting dismissal, or rather quitting, while seeking other employment which was proving rather difficult due to another barrier. Government employees are

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seeking other employment which was proving rather difficult due to another barrier. Government employees are not treated with the same respect by Consultants advertising jobs for the private sector. I finally discovered, from a Consultant, that my applications were being rejected because they would not submit them to their client; applications from people applying from government positions would go straight into file 13. Just another problem facing Anglophones in addition to not speaking French.

The final year of my time with RCM was very stressful, affecting my health and life. In 1980 a friend and colleague in the RCM Ottawa division alerted me to a clandestine despicable plot that was forming at the top to discredit and force me to quit. Suffice to say I was going to be accused of sexual harassment and have no idea what woman they chose from the head office to cooperate in this dastardly deed. One thing for sure only I and the conspirators would know the truth but once accused, an innocent man has no defence, it's game over. Fortunately I did secure other employment and quit but have never recovered to the same level in terms of salary.

Today I survive and manage on CPP and OAS. My future with RCM was terminated along with the promise of a substantial government pension. At the time of leaving there was ~\$28k in my RCM Pension Portfolio and I was obliged to withdraw it on leaving. As you know with government pensions, person contributes \$1, employer contributes \$1.

RCM declined to recognise \$14k as deferred income and would not pay it to me, of the remaining \$14K I lost almost half in tax. So much for recognition of seven years of loyal and devoted service, much of which was spent at the factory for 24 hours straight as sometimes needed. I have approached Members of Parliament, to no avail, for recognition and compensation, being forced to quit my job and a secure future simply for being English and not bilingual.

It has been many years since the onset of replacing Anglophones with Francophones in the Federal Government and today, mission accomplished it is no longer really necessary. Today the practice is to deny opportunities to Anglophones with Mandatory Bilingualism.

In conclusion Commissioner, and again with respect, your statement below does not reflect the reality in Canada today. Anglophones all across Canada including Quebec are neither protected nor have the Rights and Freedoms guaranteed by the Charter. If in your position of influence you can rectify this gross injustice 75% of Canadians would be most appreciative.

Here is an interesting juxtaposition: the Production Manager of the Royal Mint, England supervised the production of a Medallion for the Queens Jubilee; he was awarded the OBE. For my contribution managing one of the most successful Olympic Programmes in Canada, I got the boot instead of an Order of Canada Medal.

Regards,
Ken Davies

.....
This poignant letter above, perhaps more than any other first-hand account, demonstrates unequivocally that the initial **Official Languages Act (OLA)** of 1969, and later amended in 1988, and now yet again poised to be amended (made more draconian), was and is nothing more but a zero-sum game to elevate a linguistic minority at the (great) expense of the English speaking majority.

All of this nonsense began back in the mid 1960s with the “recommendations” of the Laurandean-Dunton Commission that set these malevolent and civic-grinding wheels in motion. The participants on that Commission must have thought long and hard how these recommendations could be presented (obscured) as somehow palatable to the always-appeasing English political

class and the larger English speaking majority so they a) would not smell the rat the OLA was in actuality and b) while making the case that something was needed to appease the aspirations of the strong pro-independence movement within Quebec which later spilled over into the bloodshed of the FLQ crisis.

But even then, with the English elements “accepting” (having been bamboozled with) the initial OLA with an Act of Parliament, there was still plenty of (French) unease regarding its constitutionality. And so, to head off any potential legal challenges at the Supreme Court, Pierre Elliot Trudeau managed to embed the salient features of the OLA in his 1982 Constitution Act - the highest law in the land - while foisting on Canada, in the late 1970s, the deliberately distracting narrative that the Canadian Constitution had to be brought home from Great Britain.

As suggested on previous occasions, that traditional Canadian Constitution never quite made it home from Great Britain. It was sabotaged - mugged, beaten, robbed - on its way back across the pond and in its place came a piece of statutory and constitutional barbarism that never looked anything like the traditional Constitution with its universal human rights. The new Constitution was no real Constitution with its “Charter.” It was a vile piece of deliberately deformed legislation that carefully masked the real intent of elevating a minority language tribe over the majority English tribe and to even go beyond that to the point whereby this zero-sum game would one day have the one side completely “eat the lunch” of the other.

The 1969 OLA, amended in 1988, gave Canada that hideous “Official Bilingualism” and thereby set in motion the creation of a brand new class of privileged citizens who could qualify under the new pro-French language requirements. And with the passage of the Official Languages Act in Parliament, Pierre Trudeau

simultaneously declared the top 2000 federal public service positions to be “officially bilingual” and thus set in motion the ethnic cleansing process of English speakers from the federal public service.

The 1982 Constitution Act and its Charter with its call for full “equality” between English and French has been nothing short of an unmitigated disaster. Far from leveling the playing field for a linguistic minority caught in an overwhelming sea of North American English, it now has the distinction of reaching the point of achieving the exact opposite of what perhaps it sought to avoid: the break-up of Canada that began with Quebec’s threatening independence.

This corrupted (1982) Canadian Constitution was not and is not a true universal Constitution with equal rights under the law for everyone as a sound constitution should be. Instead, it was designed to give rise to a whole new class of French speaking people - a new and privileged aristocracy - that would one day, in the not too distant future, own and control all of Canada. In the words of the current prime minister, “Canada belongs to Quebec.” And, in the process, bankrupting a great Dominion that once had a promising future.

Indeed. In the words of the late Lord Acton, “Constitutions are written not to enshrine those in power but to prevent that from happening.”

But not in Canada.

Al Speyers
Member
Canadians for Language Fairness



Teenagers Unleashed

The Geezer's
Corner

by Dale Dawson
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One quiet summer day in -- I would hazard a guess the year 1954, three bored teenagers sat beside the lake tossing pebbles haphazardly in moody silence. I was one of them and the others were Gary and Doug. It was one of those hot still days that would likely end up in a raging thunderstorm. "What are we going to do?" I asked, not expecting to get an answer.

"We could go swimming." Gary offered. "We need to do something different; all of this swimming is giving me dry rot," I complained. "Let's go to town," Doug suggested. "It's ten miles, but we could hitch a ride." We quickly agreed that a trip to town might break the monotony and we made our way to what was loosely termed the highway. We were lucky as Lenard Legg the local mailman came and generously gave us a ride the whole way, letting us off in front of the post office on Main Street.

We smugly walked down the street peering in all the store windows until the street merged into the residential section. We crossed over and walked back up the street staring in all of the windows. The novelty was wearing off this grand adventure. So, we crossed over and walked back down again. After a bit, I noticed that there was only two of us and I looked back to see Doug peering into the liquor store with his nose pressed against the glass. We went back and pressed our noses against the glass also. "We should buy a bottle in case we have to walk back home," I commented. "I've watched my old man walking after he downed a bottle of hooch and I can tell you he didn't walk any better," Doug mumbled.

We argued the various merits of alcohol for a few minutes and I won the debate when I said, "Guys, this is store bought booze -- it's bound to be better than the back woods

concoctions that are so prevalent at home." Well, who could argue with that kind of logic? We entered the store and leaned against the counter. You didn't get to serve yourself in those days. "What can I get you fellas?" A friendly clerk with thick glasses asked.

Of course, it was at that time that we started counting our change. "How much is your cheapest wine?" Gary asked as Doug elbowed him in the ribs. "I can give you a nice bottle of Saint George wine for only one dollar and eighty cents." I thought the price was a bit steep. I'd heard that moon shine was going much cheaper than that, but there was a chance it would make you blind. I didn't mention that to the clerk! We each scraped together sixty cents and handed it to the guy. He gave us a large bottle in a brown paper bag and we proudly left the store. There was no more parading up and down the street. We headed straight out the east end of town walking briskly like we were in a hurry to get back home.

Two miles out of town we came to White's bridge that spanned the North River; after the bridge the road would wind its way into the hills. As we were crossing the bridge someone had a great idea; we should go down under the bridge and sample our wine. That's about the last thing that I can remember clearly. I know we joyfully passed the bottle back and forth until it was empty and we all became extremely witty. Gary who was usually as amusing as an undertaker at a karaoke bar found a humorous part of his personality that he'd managed to keep hidden over the years.

Now, as I was saying, things were a bit bleary as the contents of the bottle diminished, but I can fuzzily remember Doug walking on the railing

of the bridge. (a feat that he could have never accomplished while sober} I do remember having an idea which I offered out loud {Dumb idea} "Say boys, do you not think that we should walk back to town and buy another bottle?" Would you believe that my plan was met with great approval?

We wove our way back to town and wobbled into the store where the same clerk was lucky enough to serve us. "Awe it's you guys again, I expect that the wine met with your approval." "It behooves us," I slurred and tried again, "to pool our remaining funds in order to purchase another bottle of your finest Saint George wine." I began fumbling in my pocket for some money.

We managed to scrape enough together to satisfy the clerk and were soon on our way. It began to rain. Soon thunder and lightning were added to the mix, but we just clasped our t-shirts tightly and marched in a crooked line out of town.

A kindly motorist by the name of Mack Walker picked us up. He knew us or knew our fathers, "You boys going to Lakefield? I'll run you back there."

Well, that was the last thing we wanted, so when we came to White's bridge, we told him that's where we were going. He put up a valid argument, such as "Nobody lives here boys -- There's an awful storm going on boys."

We stupidly got out and made our way down under the bridge again, where we demolished the second bottle of wine. Things went into super fuzzy after that and became a lot less funny.

I don't remember much of it, but we did manage to stagger soberly into the village the next morning where we were in plenty of trouble.

Dale Dawson



Any Day Now

by *Randy Vancourt*

Saying, “When Covid is over,” is starting to sound an awful lot like saying, “When the Leafs win the Stanley Cup.”

Some of you might have seen this witticism spreading around the Internet recently and it’s beginning to feel painfully true. When the lockdowns began a year ago some of us naively imagined that this whole roller coaster ride would be over within a few months. Summer led us to hope we had turned a corner but like some conniving theatre understudy, that second wave was just standing in the wings, patiently waiting for us to fall into the orchestra pit.

Now we have multiple mutations and talk of a third wave... interestingly, this is pretty well the same pattern followed by the 1918 pandemic. If I didn’t know better I would say it’s almost like we could learn something from history.

It’s been an interesting social experiment, spending 24/7 in isolation with our kids all this time. They seem to still like us so I guess we’re doing something right - or more likely at 3 and 6 years old they have just forgotten that there is a world outside our backyard. I’m pretty sure they know that other people exist but only because of Amazon deliveries and the guy who brings us pizza.

Both my wife and I are fortunate that we didn’t lose our incomes and have continued to work via Zoom; with the added fun of homeschooling thrown into the mix this past year has actually been more

hectic than usual. Those weekly get-togethers for online drinks that some people enjoy don’t work too well when you’re busy with bedtime stories.

I felt a bit cheated listening to my friends go on about all the exciting ways they filled their enforced spare time. I already play guitar and speak French so I guess I was ahead of the game there, but I do wish I had been able to find the time to read more novels or try new recipes. It’s tragic but I didn’t bake a single loaf of bread all year!

However, we have watched a lot of kids’ television these past 12 months. A lot. The current obsession is the Australian cartoon, “Bluey.” It’s not too well known here but it’s the most popular show in Australia and music from its soundtrack recently hit number 1 on the charts there. It’s actually a really good show - all 104 seven-minute episodes, which run on a loop in our living room. It’s also sort of educational in that our kids now know “dunny” is Australian slang for a toilet.

I admit to being a little envious of friends on Facebook who trade suggestions about which Netflix series to binge watch. It seems the only time my wife and I get to enjoy non-animated programs is during the short period of free time each night between getting our kids to sleep and watching Lisa LaFlamme gradually turn grey. In fact we see so few live humans on our screens that my daughter refers to any show that isn’t a cartoon as “the news.”

My wife has been good at keeping the kids busy with activities. We could start our own Etsy site with the output of crafts, assuming there is a market for squiggly drawings of cats and indescribable creatures made out of self-drying clay.

Our son has developed a strong interest in robots lately, which I take as a sign that those Astro Boy reruns are having an impact. We are working our way through every movie ever made that features robots and kids, including the Steve Guttenberg 1986 classic “Short Circuit” and its entirely unnecessary sequel, “Short Circuit 2.” One of the main characters in both films is of Indian descent but played by a white actor in brown face. It doesn’t really age well.

My boy just asked me to draw up the design for a lab he wants us to build in the backyard. This is where he will construct his robots for what I can only assume will be an android army intent on world domination... okay, maybe I’ve watched too many robot films. It’s hard to tell anymore.

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Population and Power

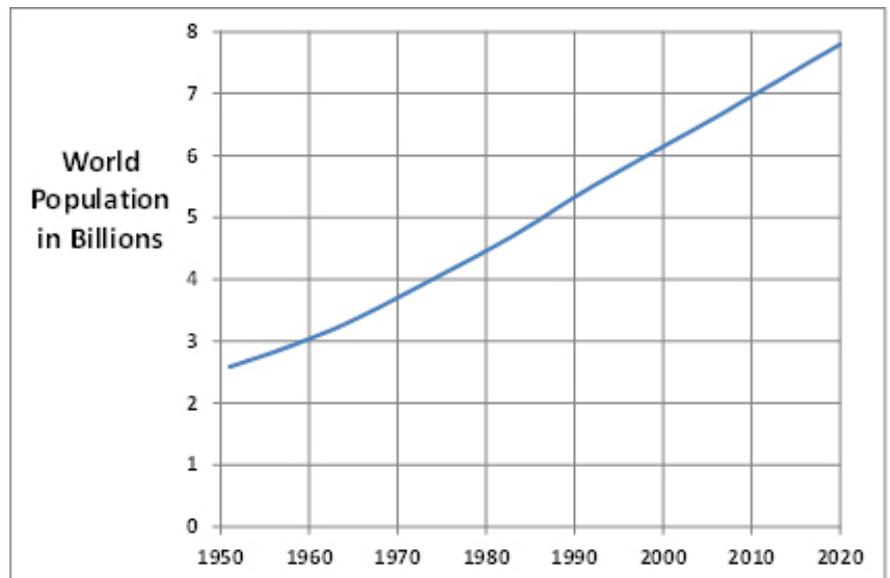
by Roger Graves

The world's population is growing. In 1960 it was 3 billion, increasing to 5 billion by 1987 and 6 billion by 1999. Today it is 7.8 billion and increasing at a steady rate of about 80 million per year. Yet Canada and most other first world nations need to import people from other parts of the world to keep their numbers up. If we had no immigration, Canada's population would be falling, not rising. So where do all these other people live?

Population growth is highest in Africa and Asia, with some fairly respectable growth rates in Latin America. Meanwhile, North America, Europe and Australia/New Zealand are generally declining, or at least would be without continued immigration. Why the differences?

The main reason why there are so many more people every year is that more children are surviving to adulthood, particularly in the third world. Average life expectancy on a worldwide basis was 50 years in 1960, but is over 72 years today. This is not so much because adults are living longer today, but because fewer children are dying young. If a lot of children die young, the average lifespan of a population is dragged down, no matter how long the adults live.

There are several reasons why child mortality is much lower today, including improved sanitation (better drinking water and sewage treatment), medical advances (many childhood diseases are no longer the killers they used to be), and massive increases in agricultural productivity. Between 1960 and today while the world population grew two-and-a half times, overall cereal production quadrupled, which means that the available food per person grew about 50% in that time. (And by the way, this was done with very little increase in land use; most of the increase occurred because of improved crop yields.) People as a whole, and children in particular, are



a lot less likely to die of malnutrition today than they were in in 1960. Thirty or forty years ago we were constantly bombarded with fundraising appeals to provide food for starving children in various parts of the third world, but you don't see so much of that nowadays.

Over-population is a far greater threat to our world than fossil fuels. The only sure way to control population is to help poor countries become wealthier, and the best way to do this is to help them set up fossil fuel based electricity systems.

In a world in which many children die young, women will tend to have a lot of pregnancies in the hope that at least some of their children will survive. In theory, as those advances in sanitation, medicine

and agriculture occur, there should be less need for all those pregnancies and women will stop having so many children. But here we run up against an economic problem. Whereas in rich countries children are cost centres - they represent expenditures for their families - in poor countries children are profit centres: they represent earnings for their families. If you are a poor family in a poor country, your children will probably be sent out to work at the earliest possible age. It is quite normal in some countries to see five year olds working in fields helping their mothers, and by the time they are twelve or thirteen they will be full members of the workforce. The more children you have, the wealthier you are, at least by local standards. Any reduction in child mortality will simply result in larger families and can cause the population to skyrocket. For example, in 1960 Ethiopia had a population of just over 20 million. Today it is almost 115 million, an increase of nearly a factor of 6, and none of that increase is likely to have been due to immigration. For comparison, Canada's population increased from 17.8 million in 1960 to 37.9 million today, an increase of just

over a factor of 2, and the bulk of that increase was due to immigration, not childbirth.

As societies become generally wealthier and there is less need for families to send their children out to work, children gradually transition from being profit centres (the larger the family the better) to being cost centres (smaller families are better because they are less expensive), and family sizes will automatically decrease. If we want to reduce population growth on our planet, there is only one sure way to do it: help poorer countries become wealthier. Help farmers grow cash crops instead of mere subsistence farming, help entrepreneurs set up small industries and help those industries grow, help them find both internal and overseas markets for their cash crops and products. But in order to do this, they need a reliable source of electricity. You can't run a machine shop without electricity. If your agricultural machinery uses diesel

power, somewhere along the way you are going to need electric pumps to get that diesel to you. You can't have piped water without electric pumps, nor run adequate sewage systems. On the home front, electric cooking and lighting make families, and women in particular, much more productive.

The problem we have today is that most of the elites in the first world are so hooked on the idea of renewable energy that they will not help third world countries to have any source of power other than wind and solar. And as we well know, wind and solar are not reliable sources of electricity. If you want steady, reliable electric power, and barring extremely expensive solutions such as large hydro dams and nuclear power, the only solutions are fossil fuels – coal, oil and gas. The question we have to ask ourselves is which is more of a threat to our planet – fossil fuels or over-population?

If you have read any of my previous articles on the subject, you

will know what I think of the so-called dangers of fossil fuels; there is very little danger, if any. The link between fossil fuels and global warming is tenuous at best. However, would you like to live in a world with twice the present population, say 15 billion, which we could quite easily reach by the end of this century? A world in which Toronto, for example, had 20 million inhabitants and sprawled over most of the farmland in southern Ontario?

Over-population is a far greater threat to our world than fossil fuels. The only sure way to control population is to help poor countries become wealthier, and the best way to do this is to help them set up fossil fuel based electricity systems. And by the way, this is exactly what China is doing in Africa and other parts of the third world. As a result, this is the nation that is going to have the most influence in the world for most of this century.





The Growing China Threat

Author's note: For years US leaders have pandered to Communist China, ignoring the growing danger from a powerful and hostile enemy. Suddenly our nation finds itself in the middle of a health crisis that started in China, and then we discovered that almost all of our medicines and other vital products are made and controlled by China. Now that the focus is on that relationship, we are also being shocked by how many American industries are actually owned or controlled by them. Well, there is actually much more to the story. In June, 2014, I released the following article to alert Americans of the dangers of dealing with the Red Chinese, specifically through an immigration program called EB-5. Perhaps now, in light of this new crisis more Americans will take greater note of my warnings. With these new developments, I am re-releasing the article. Tom DeWeese

IS THE U.S. BEING COLONIZED BY RED CHINA?

By Tom DeWeese

For the past few decades the Communist regime of China has been driving toward world supremacy, both economically and militarily. The regime's main target has been, and is, the United States of America. China's plan to grab power has been clever and unprecedented, seeking victory without firing a shot, reducing its targets to mere frogs in a boiling pot.

Pundits and politicians alike, when excusing their strategic dealings with China, are quick to remind their audiences that today's China is a "centuries old civilization" rich in tradition and ancient religious discipline. A Confucian civilization that is still upset over wrongdoings during the European colonization period.

Such a view is wrong. The China we are confronted with today is nothing like that pre-nineteenth century nation. Since the reign of Mao began in 1949, Communist China, much to the dismay, torture, and death of its own citizens, has been governed by tyrannical thugs, thirsty to expand their dictatorial

regime and unrelenting in their hatred of Western Civilization and the United States.

Militarily, China has literally surrounded the US. Once there was a Monroe Doctrine to forbid any foreign power to exert influence in American's back yard, meaning South, Central and North America. All nations respected that doctrine as America vigorously imposed it. That is until China played on the growing weakness of American foreign policy, as when Jimmy Carter gave away the Panama Canal and scuttled all American bases in one of the most strategic locations of American defense. Since then, China has established relationships and bases in several South and Central American nations.

The Chinese are now building the world's largest and most powerful navy, aggressively challenging US naval passage in international waters; it now claims the entire South China Sea as an internal Chinese lake; and it is building an aggressive space program that will give it the ability to counter

US satellite supremacy, resulting in its ability to spy on every location on Earth and counter US military supremacy.

The difference between the Chinese threat today and what turned out to be a hollow challenge to the free world by the Soviet Union during the Cold War, is economics. The genius of the Chinese system is that they are using its growing industrial might to create wealth the Soviets could never have dreamed of possessing. China is using its vast wealth (trillions of dollars) compiled from the glut of Chinese goods sold in American stores, to buy its power. It's buying American debt and wielding heavy influence on the American economy.

Now, however, that Chinese economic power is taking a bizarre and exceptionally dangerous turn in local American communities, America, it appears, is on the brink of being colonized, because China is fast becoming the largest land owner in America.

This fact is mostly a result of a program through the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service (USCIS), called Immigrant Investor Regional Centers. The program is known in Washington-Speak as EB-5 Centers, so called because they represent a fifth category of employment-based immigration. In reality, it's a foreign investment program pretending to be a jobs program. To qualify through the plan, applicants must invest \$1,000,000 in a US business or at least \$500,000 if the business is in an area of high unemployment or rural area. That investment must create or preserve 10 full-time American jobs. In exchange, the immigrant will initially gain legal residency and U.S. Green Cards for their entire family. If the enterprise continues and jobs are created, then the applicant can apply for permanent residence.

According to government reports, since it started in 1990, the EB-5 visa program has brought approximately \$6.7 billion to the US and has created 95,000 jobs. Entrepreneurs across the nation have set up regional centers for foreign investment to market local EB-5 projects to investors. There are now at least 480 EB-5 regional centers located in all 50 states. California alone has 116 of the centers. Many of these projects are focusing on building housing developments. Others are concerned with buying up dairy farms, cattle ranches, meat packing plants, and other sources of American food supplies. Still more are centered on getting a piece of American energy sources. Some of the centers are state run, others are private investment entities.

Beyond the Green Cards and residency, the immigrants running these projects can also expect government sponsored benefits such as federal and state grants (taxpayer dollars) tax breaks or perhaps no sales taxes on supplies and materials they purchase to put the projects in place. Along with federal agencies, the projects work directly with state and county development corporations for more cooperation and help getting through the regulatory mine fields that ordinary American companies must endure.

EB-5 Immigrant Investor Regional Centers are promoted as jobs programs and as a way to help financially-strapped communities to bring in much needed money. As a result, the projects are growing across the nation with little concern expressed over the impact and end result of such foreign involvement in American communities. Marriot and Hilton hotel chains have successfully worked EB-5 investment deals to build new hotels. Sony Pictures Entertainment and Warner Brothers have used EB-5 investments to fund film projects. Even the new home of the NBA's Brooklyn Nets, Barclay Center, was funded through EB-5 investments.

While the program is open to immigrants from around world, the main interest appears to be from Communist China. According to a report by Michael Snyder ("Chinese Buying Land in US Communities all over America"), in 2012 – 2013, 6,900 visas were issued to Chinese nationals out of a total of 8,567 EB-5 visas issued. In 2014, the number of applicants was 50% higher – again driven by Chinese applicants.

When considering this large influx of Chinese – funded projects, it must be understood that there are no private companies in China that are free to act on their own. China is a Communist regime. Nothing happens there without the express permission and backing of the government. Individuals posing as Chinese corporate leaders are part of that government. They simply wouldn't have that position if not approved by the government. For the most part they are a front. 43% of all corporate profits in China are produced by companies that the Chinese government controls outright. And all the rest of their companies are subservient to the power of the government and are very careful not to stray. Individual Chinese citizens are not free to invest as they wish or to leave the country by their own decision. It takes a complicated process through the Chinese bureaucracy for that to happen. And that's why massive Chinese investments in the EB-5 program are cause for alarm. What are they up to?

In San Francisco, CA, China Vanke signed a deal for a \$620 million luxury condo project. In Oakland, CA, another Chinese company (Zarsion) signed a deal for \$1.5 billion for a development deal. In Irvine, CA a housing development will include some of the nation's largest developers using Chinese money. In New York City, Zhang Xin, CEO of Soho China joined with Banco Safra Bank of Brazil to buy a piece of the General Motors Building in Midtown. A Chinese developer, Dalian Wanda Group, has planned to build a luxury hotel in Manhattan. In Florida, Chinese investors have put \$30 million into the state's Charter Schools, intending to invest even more. 12 Chinese investors put \$16 million into an aquaculture project on 100 acres in Fellsmere, FL. In Virginia, the Chinese bought Smithfield Foods and its 460 large farms and facilities in 26 states, employing tens of thousands of Americans. More recent efforts show the Chinese making major investments in the Detroit auto industry. In Thomasville, Alabama, the Golden Dragon Precise Copper Tube Group is negotiating with city officials to build a new plant. The town has planned to give them a 40-acre site that includes a 50,000 square foot building built by the city – with tax payer money. More such projects have been in the works in Idaho, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and literally every state in the Union.

Americans were shocked to witness a near massacre in the Nevada desert as rancher Cliven Bundy stood his ground against an army of government agents from the Bureau of Land Management. He was accused of letting his cattle graze on public lands, endangering the Desert Tortoise, even though cattle and the Desert Tortoise have coexisted on the range for 100 years. But for this excuse the federal government amassed an army? Not so fast. There is much more to the story. It seems a certain U.S. Senator had been involved with EB-5 real estate deals for some time. And that issue had close ties to the Bundy situation.

ENN Energy Group wanted to build a 5 billion dollar solar farm in the

Dry Lake Solar Energy Zone, on which Bundy's farm is located. Who were the investors for ENN? The Chinese, using the EB-5 program. Who represented ENN in its negotiations? Rory Reid, Senator Harry Reid's son. This little band had already run 52 other ranchers in the area. Bundy is the last one left. So was the BLM there in force for turtles or as the private enforcement machine of a corrupt Senator seeking to fill his pockets with cash? Senator Reid is the one who said, "This isn't over yet." He's apparently was in a position to know.

However, Reid isn't the only public figure involved in EB-5 schemes. A little research will also reveal an EB-5 deal by Anthony Rodham, Hillary Clinton's brother and former son in law of Barbra Boxer. Also in that deal was Terry McAuliffe, former Clinton advisor and former Governor of Virginia. These two gained EB-5 investments for their car company. And then there is Alejandro Mayorkas, who helped push through the deal for McAuliffe and Rodham. Mayorkas was the number two man at the Department of Homeland Security, aided in getting that position through some questionable maneuvering during his confirmation hearings by none other Senator Harry Reid.

But perhaps the most aggressive Chinese project has taken place in Sullivan County, New York in the Catskill Mountains. This project is called China City. It will eventually cover over 2,000 acres spread over the towns of Thompson and Mamakating. It will include a Chinese-themed gambling/entertainment complex, hotels, China-related businesses, a high school, a college and 1,000 residences. According to the plan, every province of China will have an office there and the city will be full of symbols of Chinese culture. When finished it would be a \$6 billion project, including a \$65 million federal grant of tax payer money along with the other incentives such as tax breaks on building supplies and property taxes.

At a public meeting, a local citizen asked the China City spokesman if

Americans will be allowed to live there. The vague answer was "well, you can visit our amusement park and stay in our hotels." Is this how Americans are to be treated in their own country, in a project paid in part by American taxpayer dollars? And exactly what American jobs will be created (as required) in a planned city where no Americans can live? Will the Chinese government send its own workers to do the construction of the city? And what security process will be used to assure such workers are not involved in espionage?

This is a legitimate concern when dealing with the Communist Chinese government. While brilliant in its strategy, it is single minded in its goal – supremacy. The United States has always stood in its way to achieve that supremacy. But the waning American economy and a US government that no longer sees communism as a threat, makes us vulnerable to a power that knows exactly what it seeks.

American communities are so hungry for money that they will ignore almost anything. Red flags should go up when locals are told they can't live in China City. Why? Is this simply about an investment opportunity, or is China City, and other Chinese investments, actually to be Chinese colonies? Why will it house offices from every China province? Do we know what those offices are to do? Who will man them? Obviously that is not where the 10 permanent American jobs will come from.

It's important to note that the Canadian government decided to halt its immigrant investor program due to the large number of Chinese applications that were found to be fraught with fraud and corruption and to be of little economic benefit to the country. Meanwhile, the US is expanding such programs to make it much easier for foreign investment and ultimately unfettered foreign espionage. We're creating special foreign trade zones (FTZ) designed to give special US customs treatment to US companies that go along with the EB-5 projects. That means security will be lacking in the interest of "good relations."

Yet, it was just over a decade ago that US intelligence discovered the Chinese had taken control of both ends of the Panama Canal. Using a shell company called Hutchison Whampoa, which was wholly owned by the Chinese People's Liberation Army, it negotiated a 25 to 50 year lease for the Canal ports. As the United States pulled out of our Panamanian bases and headed home, corrupt Panamanian officials were busy selling former US property to the highest bidders and Columbian drug lords, Russian Mafia and a horde of Chinese "immigrants" filled the void. It was like the bar scene in Star Wars.

Would the Chinese put in missile bases with weapons that could reach the US? As Bill Clinton assured us that everything was just fine, the Chinese were busy negotiating with the Cuban Communist regime and several other South American countries to create a Chinese presence in the entire region surrounding the Panama Canal. They now considered it their territory for the taking.

Is this now what faces American cities where EB-5 investment programs are being imposed with Chinese Communist money? As a new assault by hordes of Chinese "immigrants" legally invade our nation, filling housing developments and building their own cities, our culture will be affected. Even our system of government could change in areas where Chinese populations begin to grow and perhaps even outnumber Americans. All from an enemy we let through the front door in a government program, based more on greed than American interests.

Like the invasion of the body snatchers, it appears the Chinese, aided by a compliant American government, have a well-devised strategic plan to literally colonize the once great United States of America – without ever firing a shot.

Special thanks to New York Property Rights activist Lynn Teger for her help in researching this article.

Beware of the 'Refuge and Debris' label.



by Marlene Black

Hello everyone,

The same old problem keeps resurfacing. Where in the Municipal Act is the authority given to staff, to destroy peoples lives, to order people to clean up their property, tools, workshop, etc. 'or else' and if they don't do it, give the Municipality authority to demolish everything on their property, including their working tools, their sheds, their three car garage and then take off with whatever useful objects they want to take. Oh yea, and on what authority can they just smash and destroy anything they want...like the owners boat. This recently happened in the Town of Fort Erie and I have pictures.. Hopefully we will see if there is a solution to this situation but usually there isn't and once again, a government agency has succeeded in destroying another one of its citizens.

Municipal Act of Ontario

In conjunction with section 4, section 9 of the Municipal Act expresses that the municipalities only have the *same rights, powers, privileges, and capacities of the natural person. It also expresses that they also only have the same authority as a natural person.* A "natural person" cannot commit trespass on to private property as expressed in the Criminal Code of Canada (see page 27). This includes the trespass of creating by-laws that violate a private property owner's right to use his/its property as he/it sees fit.

Under section 5 "Powers exercised by council", subsection 3 it states that municipalities can only create by-laws in the same capacity and under the same power as a natural person could, meaning that a natural person can only create "by-laws" or have authority over what belongs to that person

(section 9 Municipal Act). This in turn limits the ability of municipalities to create by-laws for any enforcement beyond its authority. In conjunction with section 9, subsection 4 of section 5 express that this limitation is applicable to all municipal powers, whether bestowed by the Municipal Act or any other Act

** Implementation of "property standard by-laws" are only to be *implemented on properties that are owned by the Municipalities, properties that are under the management of corporations that are created and regulated by the Municipalities as in Social Housing, public utilities corporations created by municipalities, or properties that the Municipalities have entered into agreements with the owners of certain public facilities/social housing and agreements entered into with private property owners.*

Any property standard by-laws that are being implemented on private property, outside of the aforementioned criteria, are a violation of the Building Code, the Criminal Code of Canada, the Planning Act, and the Municipal Act.

For all the landowners who find themselves on the wrong side of municipal bylaws about their yards, remember to have a gate across which is closed because police and bylaw need a warrant to open the gate unless you let them in. **



A landowner found out first hand the power of the municipality of Fort Erie to destroy his life. They seem to think they have the power to crush those who don't agree with their definition of junk.. your treasures are meaningless to them..ie. obey or we'll crush you.

Doherty et al. v. Attorney General of Canada; Federal Court File No. T-677-20

On January 18, 2021, the Federal Court heard the injunction motion argued by the Applicants' lawyer, Arkadi Bouchelev. The interim injunction was filed by a group of private applicants to allow owners of firearms affected by the Order in Council to continue enjoying their private property while this case is being litigated. Arguments in favor of the injunction were also made by the Canadian Coalition for Firearms Rights (CCFR) counsel, Laura Warner, and the self-represented litigant, Christine Generoux. The Court has reserved judgment and we are waiting for the Associate Chief Justice to release her decision.

The virtual hearing, which was open to the public, had a limit of 1,000 participants. Over 2,300 individuals registered to observe the proceeding, making it the highest attended Federal Court hearing in history and suggesting a high degree of public interest in the case.

In his submissions to the court, Mr. Bouchelev pointed out the fact that there is no legal definition of the terms "variant" or "modified version", which has resulted in widespread confusion among the public. Even firearms experts cannot agree on what those terms mean. Neither term is defined in the Criminal Code, Firearms Act or any of the regulations. Murray Smith, the former manager of the RCMP Specialized Firearms Support Services division, who testified on behalf of the government, was unable to provide a clear and unambiguous definition. Mr. Smith also confirmed that the RCMP opposed defining the term "variant" in the Criminal Code when the Standing Joint Committee on the Scrutiny of Regulations (a joint house of commons/senate committee that looks at flaws in regulations) recommended that a definition be established.

This lack of clarity creates a potential legal trap for as many 2.2 million Canadian gun owners. Since the term "variant" has no fixed meaning, it's definition can be stretched to cover virtually any firearm. Travis Bader, a renowned firearms expert from British Columbia and the owner of the Silvercore training facility, provided an affidavit citing several examples

of the RCMP classifying firearms as prohibited variants even though they could not be considered as such based on their technical design.

A similar legal trap is created by the similarly vague "bore diameter" and "muzzle energy" restrictions contained in the new Regulation. Mr. Bouchelev argued that the way the Regulation is written, innocent gun owners could end up unknowingly violating the law and being charged with serious criminal offences. For these and other reasons, the Applicants asked the Court to stay the Regulation while their main application is making its way through the court systems.

While we are all eagerly awaiting the decision of the Associate Chief Justice, it is important to remember that this injunction application is just one step in what is turning out to be a lengthy and expensive legal fight with the federal government. The Applicants are not businesses seeking financial compensation from the government. They are also not asking for special exemptions that would only benefit them. The Applicants are nine regular guys who said, "enough is enough" and are fighting to overturn Regulation for the benefit of all Canadian gun owners.

The Applicants do not have deep pockets and rely on continued support from the public to stay in this fight.

Editor's Note: The OLA asks that you consider making a donation at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/93sve-gun-ban-court-challenge-judicial-review>.



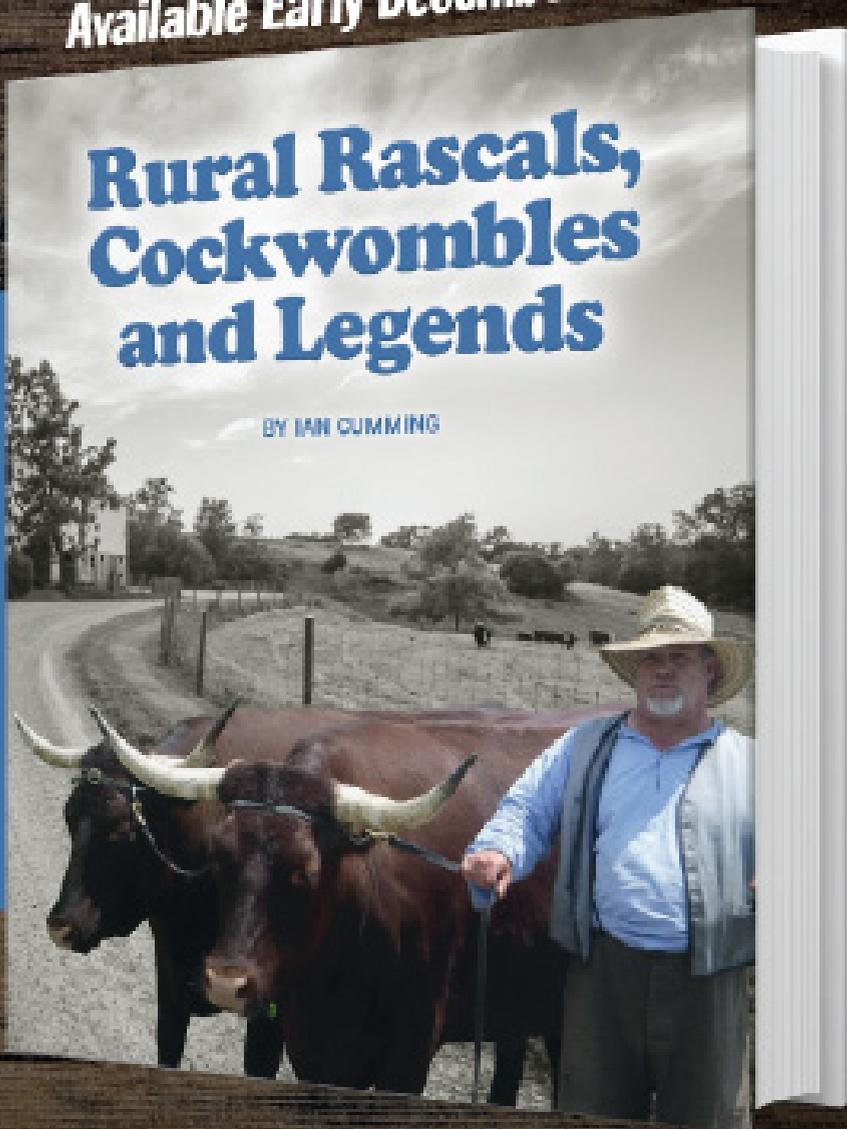
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Wins for Private Property Owners in Ontario

Support for Legal Gun Owners

On May 1st, 2020, the Trudeau government banned 1,500 firearms by an Order in Council (OIC). They continue to add more guns to this list. This very wrong-headed and ineffective remedy to gun crime has garnered huge support for legal gun owners, including:

- Six legal challenges to the OIC. In one of the challenges, Toronto lawyer Arkadi Bouchelev represents a group of ten public interest litigants in their judicial review. The case is supported by the Ontario Landowners Association by a Go Fund Me Page.

- The Canadian Coalition for Firearms held an Integrity March in September 2020 where a reported 5,000 citizens (including Landowners) from across Canada turned up to show support for hunters and sport shooters.

- Did you know that two of the parliamentary petitions against Trudeau's May 1 gun ban closed with the highest number of signatures in Canadian history? That's right! Canadians are opposing the gun ban in records numbers. A petition by MP Michelle Rempel Garner closed on September 2, 2020 with 230,905 signatures, the highest in Canadian history. Earlier in the year, a petition by MP Glen Motz closed with 175,310 signatures, the second highest in Canadian history.

- In November, the National Police Federation, representing 20,000 RCMP members, said the Liberal government's firearms ban is unlikely to curb gun violence in Canada, and is calling on Ottawa to instead introduce "evidence-based" measures to ensure public safety.

As of November 2020, the federal government had so far failed to secure a private-sector contractor to design a federal buyback program, in which Ottawa will reimburse owners for the firearms that it deemed prohibited. Explicitly named companies that it hoped might offer a bid on the contract, including accountancy firms Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP and Ernst & Young LLP have shown no interest in the \$78 million contract.

Trespass Bill Strengthened for Farm Properties

In June 2020, Bill 156, Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020 received Royal Assent. This Bill protects farm animals, the food supply, farmers and others from risks that are created when trespassers enter places where farm animals are kept or when persons engage in unauthorized interactions with farm animals. The risks include the risk of exposing farm animals to disease and stress, as well as the risk of introducing contaminants into the food supply.

Eastern Ontario Wins

In June 2020, Christina Suffel and her family run afoul of a North Dundas bylaw prohibiting the keeping of livestock — including chickens — on residential property.

The municipality ordered Suffel to remove her eight rabbits, two miniature donkeys, two horses and "large number" of poultry and waterfowl from her three-acre Inkerman Road yard by June 12. With the help of the Carleton Landowners Association, Suffel persuaded North Dundas to review this new bylaw and for now, she is keeping her animals.

In the Town of Carleton Place, a proposed power of entry bylaw was unanimously defeated by council on November 24. According to InsideOttawaValley.com "If passed, the bylaw would have allowed municipal bylaw officers to enter land (outdoor private property, grounds, yards or vacant lots) at any reasonable time for the purpose of carrying out an inspection, ensuring bylaws, directions, orders and conditions of a licence were being complied with ... The will of the people was heard loud and clear ... this bylaw is not something the community wants," (Councillor) Fritz said."

Reversal of Official Plan "Deer Feeding Areas" Restrictions in Renfrew County

Renfrew County's New Official Plan contained new mapping for "deer wintering areas" which upset many residents of the County because of the restrictions on development. Following conversations with MPP John Yakabuski, county officials, and the provincial government, these areas were removed from the county's Official Plan.

Land Titles Information Available for Free, Online

All Land Registry Offices closed their doors to the public on October 13th, 2020. Many landowners (and genealogists) rely on the old microfilm records to do title searches back to the original crown land grant. The good news is that these records are readily available online and free of charge. Instructions on how to access these historical books is available on the OLA Website at

<https://ontariolandowners.ca/news/land-registry-offices-closing-to-the-public-by-shirley-dolan/>.

Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act

On November 5, 2020, the Ontario Government introduced Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020. This omnibus bill was tabled by the Hon. Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance.

Schedule 6 of the Bill addresses amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act with the intention of returning the CAs to their original mandate.

This Bill received, which received Royal Assent on December 8, 2020, contains many changes which are welcome news to property owners and to the agriculture sector.

Some highlights:

- Returns the Conservation Authorities (CAs) to their core mandate
- Removes the authority of the CAs to expropriate lands
- Requires participating municipalities to appoint municipal councillors as conservation authorities' members and that these members generally act on behalf of their municipalities.
- Enables the minister to appoint a member to the conservation authority from the agriculture sector.

These changes were brought about in great part by the efforts of the OLA Executive, County Groups, our Researcher Elizabeth Marshall and everyone who has ever contacted the OLA for assistance because of a CA encroaching on their right to use, enjoy, and profit from their private property.

Resolution of the Freedom of Information Request for Farm Businesses

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs stirred a wave of anger in the farm community when it disclosed it would release the names of Farm Business Register (FRB) members in response to a request made under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. It followed passage of a law tightening trespass laws on Ontario farms.

Good news! Farmers across Ontario with FBR numbers will not have their names released to an anonymous party. The Information and Privacy Commissioner (IPC) of Ontario informed Keith Currie, OFA President, on Nov. 12 that the request has been withdrawn.

East Gwillimbury

In East Gwillimbury, property “lockdowns” caused by the two-year appeal process brought on by the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA) was stressful to say the least, especially for those who had plans in those two years or who may have lost out on home sales or equity. This was a major battle and a bittersweet victory.

The East Gwillimbury Landowners Association (EGLA) fought hard to stop these regulations and together they were successful. They no longer have the proposed Environmental

Protection zones on 25,000 (accumulative) acres of their property, and the appeal is now officially dropped by the LSRCA. Landowners who were targeted by the strict regulations are now able to enjoy their original land use zones from the 1997 bylaw.

The OLA Marches On

The COVID-19 restrictions on meetings have been difficult for the Ontario Landowners and county groups. The OLA had no choice but to cancel both the Spring Directors Meeting in the Spring 2020 and our Annual General Meeting this Fall. We have stepped up other forms of communication to fill the gap of face-to-face meetings. The OLA and some county groups are using ZOOM, a video conferencing application, to keep in touch. We continue to provide the latest in landowner news on our Facebook page, and through the OLA ENews. In September-October 2019, we introduced our first edition of the Landowner Voices, a magazine by landowners for landowners and everyone interested in property rights and rural life. In Eastern Ontario, recognizing that not everyone is connected to the internet, four county groups got together to join administrative resources and did a mail out to all members.

Congratulations

OLA President Jeff Bogaerts was selected for the 2020 Outstanding Graduate Human Services award by Career Colleges Ontario. Jeff completed the 12-month Paralegal program at the Algonquin Careers Academy (Ottawa Campus) in just 9 months. According to the Algonquin Careers Academy website: Jeff is one of those paralegals who is driven by his personal values and need to take action. Since receiving his Paralegal license, he has proven over and over again how his skills, experience and drive can make real changes for good, not only for the people of his community, but of his province.

Elizabeth Marshall has been elected to the position of Chair of the Canadian Justice Review Board. Liz Marshall has been a long-time member of the OLA as a board member, speaker, author, political candidate, and a tenacious advocate for Property Rights. She is currently the Director of Research for the OLA and has written numerous articles and reports on Property Rights. Liz was interviewed on the Daniel Smith Show about the Gun Ban introduced in May and has been invited to speak at the 2020 Ontario Libertarian Party annual general meeting.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ONTARIO LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION (OLA)

Who are the Ontario Landowners and where did we come from?

Well, to understand how this movement got started, we would have to say that if government and their agencies had been doing their job of helping people solve their problems, supporting and encouraging new building and local businesses, and serving the public as they are paid to do, then the landowner movement would have died on the drawing board.

Unfortunately, this is not the case and because of this failure at all levels of government, the landowner movement is growing across Ontario. Our early start was in 2003 in Lanark, when disgruntled landowners received no assistance from authorities when deer destroyed their crops. Their frustration spread across the province and resulted in new landowner groups forming, all fighting similar issues, all suffering under the increasingly heavy weight of oppressive rules and regulations, fines and court challenges and all ready to say, "enough is enough". We hope that you will join this chorus for change with the goal of encouraging a more compassionate and caring government that returns to its mandate of "serving the public".

The Ontario Landowners Association, which formed in 2005, has chapters across the province, each with its own President, Vice-President, treasurer and secretary as well as many volunteers and supporters. Flexibility is a necessary quality in these people because most of us have other jobs, many are farmers, and all of us have busy family lives. Because we are volunteers, we all do what we can, when we can. The Ontario Landowners Association has a President, two co-vice-presidents, and four governors, who keep in touch with monthly conference calls and meetings. The OLA Annual General Meeting is a public meeting and open to all who are concerned with private property rights. The AGM is held in a central location each Fall and often involves an overnight stay for those who have travelled some distance. Each Spring, there is a Directors' Meeting, an opportunity for the chapter representatives to meet face-to-face with the OLA Executive to discuss local issues and share experiences. Each county group sends a delegate to these meetings to represent the local landowners.

Our focus comes from property owners and their stories of injustices. For example, Conservation Authorities have assumed too much power over private land. We are working on taking back what is ours. The Ministry of Natural Resources is another body that likes to assume power over private property, and we are trying to assist landowners who have been charged for doing what they should be doing on their land such as cleaning ditches or improving the landscape. Municipalities across the province have forgotten the rights that were granted to the citizens of this province: the right to life, liberty and use and enjoyment of property. They have assumed power they don't have and seem bent on discouraging landowners from obtaining building permits or doing work on their property. Hefty fines, unreasonable demands and an unwillingness to work with the

property owner for a mutually beneficial outcome, has soured many citizens. As the Midland Free Press noted in its May 2000 article regarding the Roundtree and Tiny Township court battle over beach usage "*If you don't own it, you cannot plan for it*".

We encourage you to follow us along the path to regaining the freedom we once had and in doing so, to honour the fallen soldiers who died in battlefields far away and the early pioneers that built this land, so that Canada would remain strong and free. Let us not forget that.

How to keep in touch

The OLA has a website www.ontariolandowners.ca and a Facebook page. Look for Ontario Landowners Association on Facebook. On our website, you can sign up for our FREE monthly E-Newsletter which is delivered to your inbox on the first of each month. We also have a FREE online magazine called Landowner Voices. Published every two months, LV can be read, downloaded, and printed from our website.

We encourage you to buy an annual membership for \$60. You can sign up online at <https://ontariolandowners.ca/product/ola-yearly-membership/> or use the downloadable mail in form <https://ontariolandowners.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/OLA-Membership-Application-06202019-2.pdf>.

You can also join by contacting your local OLA chapter <https://ontariolandowners.ca/ontario-landowners-association-ola-chapters/>.

Here's how it works: \$25 of the membership fee stays with the OLA (our head office), \$25 goes to the chapter, and the remaining \$10 is put into our litigation fund www.fixthelaw.ca. The litigation fund is used to support court challenges that could help improve private property rights.

The Carleton Landowners Association has monthly board meetings. Everyone with an interest in private property rights is welcome. We also host Public Meetings on specific topics of interest to our member and the public. Membership fees are used to rent meeting spaces, host our website, mailouts to members.

The OLA uses the membership fees to host their website and to cover expenses for their AGM and Spring Directors' Meeting. Our last AGM was held in October 2019 in Arnprior, Ontario with guest speaker Tom DeWeese from the American Policy Centre. More than 80 people attended. The Carleton Landowners Association shared costs of the meeting with the OLA and the Renfrew Landowners Association.

Elizabeth Marshall, our Director of Research has written many reports on Conservation Authorities, Municipal planning and by-laws, Crown Land Patents. The reports are free for download on our website at <https://ontariolandowners.ca/ontario-landowners-association-ola-chapters/>.

We are all volunteers. We do this because we believe in private property rights and want to share what we know about your rights with you!

**



The ONTARIO LANDOWNERS Association

*To all past and present landowners,
(This is a copy of a mailout that was recently sent to many
of our members)*

We hope that you are all managing well during this difficult COVID time. Because of the pandemic rules, the Ontario Landowners Association has been unable to hold face to face meetings. We have been active though and we wanted to keep you up to date on what we have been doing.

Some of you may not have heard from us for some time and we want to change that. First off, we have a very strong and active executive that we'd like to introduce to you:

President of the OLA – Jeff Bogaerts: jdbogaerts@bellnet.ca
Co-Vice President - Donna Burns: donnaburns1@bell.net
Co-Vice President – Bob Weirmeir: saugeenregionalla@outlook.com
Governor – Duaine McKinley: mckinley@xplornet.com
Governor – Ed Kaminski: olakaminski@bell.net
Governor – Vaughn Johnstone: tvjohnstone@gmail.com
Governor – Stefanos Karatopis: stefanos.karatopis@gmail.com

The OLA Executive and the county group representatives meet regularly, most recently using Zoom and they are planning a Zoom Annual General Meeting.

Some of the projects that we are working on are supporting landowners against some very aggressive by-law officers and conservation authority officers. In addition, last year many in the OLA attended public consultation meetings throughout Ontario, by invitation from MPP Jeff Yurek (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks). The purpose of the meetings was for us to provide input on how the conservation authorities should and should not operate.

We are heavily involved in protesting the May 1st Order in Council (OIC) by the Federal Government that banned over 1500 firearms and turned legal gun owning citizens into criminals. We are supporting all six Federal appeals of the OIC. For example, one of the OLA governors, Stefanos Karatopis, has initiated a Go-Fund-Me site to support the judicial review and interim injunction filed by Toronto Lawyer Arkadi Bouchelev. For more information, see <https://www.gofundme.com/f/gun-ban-court-challenge-judicial-review/>. We also attended the Integrity March on September 12 at Parliament Hill hosted by the Canadian Coalition for Firearm Rights.

We are also doing something new in Eastern Ontario. We are combining administrative and financial resources to better communicate with you. This letter is part of this communication. The four county groups participating are Carleton, Lanark, Leeds & Grenville, and Stormont Dundas. All four county groups will remain autonomous within the OLA and will continue to function

independently to address issues in their area. Combining our resources will allow more time for county groups to focus on issues.

The Ontario Landowners are all volunteers who donate many hours of our time and money to do the work that needs to be done. However, we do require funds to support our website, to buy signs and literature, to hold meetings where we rent halls, pay for guest speakers, and mailouts to our members. Your memberships and/or donations help us continue to advocate for private property rights.

An annual membership is \$60 per household. This money supports both your county group and the OLA. If you feel that you can help us, we have enclosed a membership/donation form and a self-addressed envelope. We appreciate any support that you can give us.

In keeping with the combined administration, please make your cheques payable to:

Eastern Ontario Landowners

One of the benefits of this new system is better communications with our members and supporters. If you have an email address, we will add you to our OLA monthly Enews list. You will receive our "electronic-newsletter" in your inbox on the first of every month which includes articles of interest to landowners. You will also receive a notification of publication of our FREE and printable, online, Landowner Voices magazine. Both the magazine and the Enews are hosted on the OLA website. Check out past issues and articles at <https://ontariolandowners.ca/news/>. The OLA also has a very active Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/OntarioLandownersAssociation>.

Finally, when we are able to have face to face meetings once again, we'll let you know about any events happening in Eastern Ontario. Please make sure to include your email address on your membership/donation form or send us an email at info@ontariolandowners.ca to let us know you want to be included in the Eastern Ontario contact list. If you have a friend or neighbour who might be interested in joining us, please let us know. Don't have email? Call Shirley at 613-623-0675. Please also let us know if you would like to be removed from our list.

Contacts for Eastern Ontario Landowner County Groups:

1. Ottawa/Carleton – Tim Mount mount.haven@hotmail.com
2. Lanark, Lennox & Addington, Frontenac – Jeff Bogaerts jdbogaerts@bellnet.ca
3. Stormont Dundas – Christina Suffel christinasuffel@yahoo.com
4. Leeds & Grenville – Duaine McKinley mckinley@xplornet.com

Thank you very much for your past support. We couldn't have done all we did without you.

Shirley Dolan, email: sjdolan@xplornet.com Phone 613-623-0675 and Marlene Black

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