

Landowner Voices

A photograph of three white flowers with yellow centers and large green leaves growing from a forest floor covered in brown leaves and twigs. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, and the leaves are large and lobed. The background is a dense layer of dry, brown leaves and twigs.

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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

May/June 2021



Hello Folks,

Climate Change

“Settled or Unsettled?”

Well it looks like North America has finally gotten the right people in place to get the work done to save the world from us capitalist, low-life, knuckle-dragging Neanderthals. They think that heating our homes with oil or wood in subarctic Canadian winters, plowing roads using diesel fuel in trucks so food and building supplies can be delivered, is a terrible thing.

Prime Minister Trudeau with Ms. Sophie in toe and Joe Biden now have the control to push their respective countries to push to have the internal combustion engine, outlawed by 2030 – that’s nine years folks.

Now I am not against electric cars, tractors, trucks, trains or planes. It would be great not to have to listen to that noisy clacking diesel engine or breath its fumes and who miss changing those dirty black oil and slippery filters? Oh! But I fear that trying to move so quickly to change to a whole new concept in powering our transportation, manufacturing, heating and cooking plus food production, will be a disaster that will destroy the economy of our North American society, if not re-evaluated and allowed to change as technology is developed to accommodate that change.

Politicians who have seemingly come to believe *‘what the imagination of cartoonists draw’* as future life on this planet will look like, have now gotten into positions of power and have bypassed the common sense calls from people who live and work in the real world with nature, in all its glory and fierceness. This is like building another Titanic that couldn’t sink and therefore didn’t really need to have enough lifeboats.

So back to my electric, quiet tractor of the future, blowing snow from the farm lanes and feeding cattle at -25 degree Celsius in a January

blizzard. What size of battery will I need to move the tractor, push the snow, run the lights, wipers and heater for eight hours a day? Then we get to summer and the hours are more than likely going to be 16 hours with the ‘air’ on.

I am convinced that no one in power, dreaming these grandiose changes, has ever been in that -25 ° C tractor. Unfortunately many of these politicians think they have to save the world from burning up by 2040 because there is a very hyper motivated group of people throughout the world that have been brainwashed by the ‘sky is falling’ rhetoric that has been promoted by emotional pleas from people like David Suzuki and Al Gore. These partial truth theories have been developed into a full-blown forecast for our world future that has been taught to our innocent children while we were not paying attention. We should have made the architects of these theories prove what they were saying before allowing them to teach it to our kids.

Someone who did a lot of fact checking in the past 20 years (besides Dr. Tim Ball) is Steve Koonin. He is a physicist who taught physics for nearly 30 years at ColTech. He has had a lot of opportunity to be involved in many boards and committees. He was also Undersecretary of Science for the US Department of Energy for the Obama government. He has also written a new book about what he found out after poring over many reports from the UN, the US government and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The quote that he repeats from what he learned is “Science doesn’t say what you think it says.” He just released a new book in May 2021 that he called *“Unsettled”* and in it he doesn’t dispute that there is a climate change, but he says “when you study these

reports there is no support for that kind of hysteria at all!” In this case he was referring to President Joe Bidens statement that climate change as an “existential threat”.

According to Koonin, the reports sat that:

1. The highest recorded temperatures haven’t gone up in 60 years.
2. That global temperature has only risen 1° Celsius in the last century
3. Heat waves are no more common today than they were in 1900
4. No detectable human influences on hurricanes
5. Global area burn by wild fires has declined by 25% since between 2003-2020 which is one of the lowest activity on record
6. Sea levels are still rising at about 1 ft. per century
7. If the U.S. went to ‘O’ carbon emissions it would only reduce the CO₂ in the world by 15%
8. On the economic side, he says that if the temperature went up 3 to 4 degrees globally, there would be a minimal impact on the global economy.

His conclusion is that *“the models we produce to predict the future climate have become more uncertain as they become more sophisticated which is opposite to what one would expect.”*

I hope some common sense can be brought to bear on this whole scenario where the fix to a perceived problem, becomes the destruction of our world as we know it. Politicians and their influences some day very soon, have to be convinced not to jump off the cliff like a bunch of lemmings and take the rest of us with them. **

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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CONTACT:

**30-6179 Perth Street
Richmond, ON, K0A 2Z0**

**613-838-4425
1-833-779-6821**

**goldie.ghamarico@pc.ola.org
goldiempp.ca**

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, as well as information regarding upcoming virtual town hall meetings & public consultations.

NEWS FROM QUEEN'S PARK

**ONTARIO SUPPORTING
AGRICULTURE**

The Ontario government is investing up to \$400,000 to support the increase of agri-literacy, awareness of careers in the agri-food industry and prepare students and youth who are interested in a dynamic career in the agri-food industry.

The agri-food literacy and awareness campaign is being implemented by

AgScape, an organization that delivers educational tools and curriculum-linked resources for students and educators across the province.

This funding will help AgScape grow the Teacher Ambassador Program which engages students in agri-food career activities. The program helps develop and distribute educational resources for students and educators for virtual and in-class learning, and provides professional development opportunities for educators through the Business of Food e-learning platform to enhance their knowledge and understanding of agriculture and food.

The increased investment in the Risk Management Program is in addition to a \$15 million Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program. Farmers and other operations have access to cost-share funding to help enhance health and safety measures for employees, such as purchasing personal protective equipment, medical testing equipment, enhanced cleaning and disinfection, and temporary or permanent modifications to enhance physical distancing. Support is also available for farmers who experience unexpected costs for housing and transportation as a result of a COVID-19 outbreak on their farm.

**CANADA AND ONTARIO
SUPPORTING FARMERS
THROUGH ENHANCED
INSURANCE PROTECTION**

The governments of Canada and Ontario are providing the best support possible to help farmers manage challenges beyond their control by enhancing AgriInsurance coverage for the 2020 growing season to include labour shortages due to COVID-19.

Ontario's agriculture industry, specifically farms growing fruits and vegetables like tomatoes, melons and peaches, are labour intensive and highly dependent on seasonal agricultural workers. COVID-19 has interrupted regular flows of worker travel and has resulted in some gaps in labour availability. This could result in some crops being unharvested and financial loss for the agri-food industry.

The federal government made a commitment on May 5th to work with the provinces and territories to explore possibilities for expanding the AgriInsurance program to include labour shortages as an eligible risk for the horticulture sector. This work with provincial and territorial partners would insure against lost production due to an insufficient workforce, should producers be unable to find enough labour to harvest.

Ontario farmers already enrolled in an eligible production insurance plan who suffer from crop losses due to labour disruptions during the 2020 growing season will have access to further insurance coverage through Agricorp. The added insurance coverage will include

- Inability to attract sufficient on farm labour due to COVID-19; and
- Illness or quarantine of on farm labour and the producer due to COVID-19

Farmers will be expected to notify Agricorp as soon as possible if they experience COVID-19 related labour disruptions that are having an impact on their crops.

Business Risk Management programs, including AgriInsurance, protect producers against significant risks that threaten the viability of their farm and are beyond their capacity to manage, such as weather, disease and pests. It is a business risk management program under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five year, \$3 billion commitment by Canada's federal, provincial and territorial governments to support Canada's agri-food and agri-products sectors

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**



Ontario Landowners Association
www.OntarioLandowners.ca

Carleton (Ottawa)

Tim Mount
mount.haven@hotmail.com

Durham/York/Victoria

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

Dufferin

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

Elliott Lake Landowner

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

Gatineau Valley L.A.

Albert Kealey 819 422 3554
corazorn@gmail.com

Grey-Bruce

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

Hamilton/Halton L.A.

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

Huron-Perth

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

Lanark

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

Leeds & Grenville

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

Muskoka Landowners

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

Niagara

Dave Honey

North Renfrew United

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

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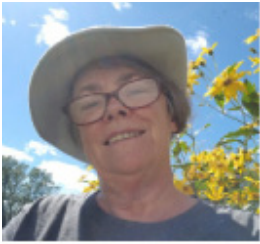
Philipp Mayr 613-679-4151
philimarffarms@aol.com

**Renfrew Nipissing
 Pembroke**

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

Saugeen Regional

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



A Dangerous Piece of Legislation

Brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs by the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms

by Shirley Dolan

The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms (JCCF) has submitted a brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs. The brief, written by Bruce Pardy, Professor of Law, and Jody Wells, JD candidate, calls the Federal government's Bill C-15 "useless, dangerous, and divisive". It goes on to say "Bill C-15: An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has been heralded as the means to build a better future for Indigenous people in Canada, and an important step towards reconciliation. It is neither. Instead, Bill C-15 and UNDRIP itself are based upon mistakes and myths. They will be an obstacle to the prosperity of ordinary Indigenous men, women, and children. Bill C-15 is useless, dangerous, and divisive."

According to the EPOCH Times: "The UN General Assembly adopted UNDRIP in September 2007, but Canada voted against it at the time—due to concerns over natural resources and land use." In December 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission listed ratifying UNDRIP as one of its national "calls to action" in its final report. In 2016, Canada officially adopted and promised to implement the declaration fully. According to the Fraser Institute, UNDRIP is not a convention or a treaty and is thus not legally binding unless it is adopted in legislation. Further,

Canada opposed UNDRIP at the United Nations because of a controversial feature that required free, prior, and informed (FPIC) consent by Indigenous peoples before economic development projects can take place on lands they inhabit or to which they may have a claim. FPIC and similar sweeping provisions in the document are not consistent with Canadian constitutional law. The government of Stephen Harper adopted it in 2010 with the proviso that it was a statement of aspirations but not legally binding. The same position was taken by the United States, Australia, and New Zealand. See <https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/squaring-the-circle-adopting-undrip-in-canada>.

Enter Federal Bill C-15, An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which is meant to legislate UNDRIP into Canadian law, a move which JCCF calls "useless, dangerous, and divisive". The Bill has passed second reading and is now before the Commons Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs. Read JCCF's brief as submitted to this Committee <https://www.jccf.ca/federal-bill-to-adopt-undrip-is-useless-dangerous-and-divisive/>. In November 2019, British Columbia adopted UNDRIP as law with their Bill 41. Tom Flannigan speculates in the Financial Post that "the adoption of Bill 41 led directly to the proliferation of

blockades on Canadian National Railway lines. Those traditional Wet'suwet'en chiefs who oppose the presence of the Coastal GasLink pipeline in their territory claimed that Bill 41 gave them a right to veto construction. Their assertions about Bill 41 and FPIC were echoed by other Indigenous advocates as well as the United Nations Commission on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. When the RCMP took down the barricades put up by supporters of the traditional Wet'suwet'en chiefs, sympathy blockades and demonstrations sprang up across the country." If Bill C-15 passes, can we anticipate more blockades stopping natural resource development across Canada?

JCCF's website <https://www.jccf.ca> states: "Founded in 2010 as a voice for freedom in Canada's courtrooms, the mission of the Justice Centre is to defend the constitutional freedoms of Canadians through litigation and education. We fight for Canada to become and remain a free society, where the equality of all Canadians and their individual freedoms are celebrated and respected." Among other legal challenges, their website lists several instances of Covid related legal activity.

Shirley Dolan
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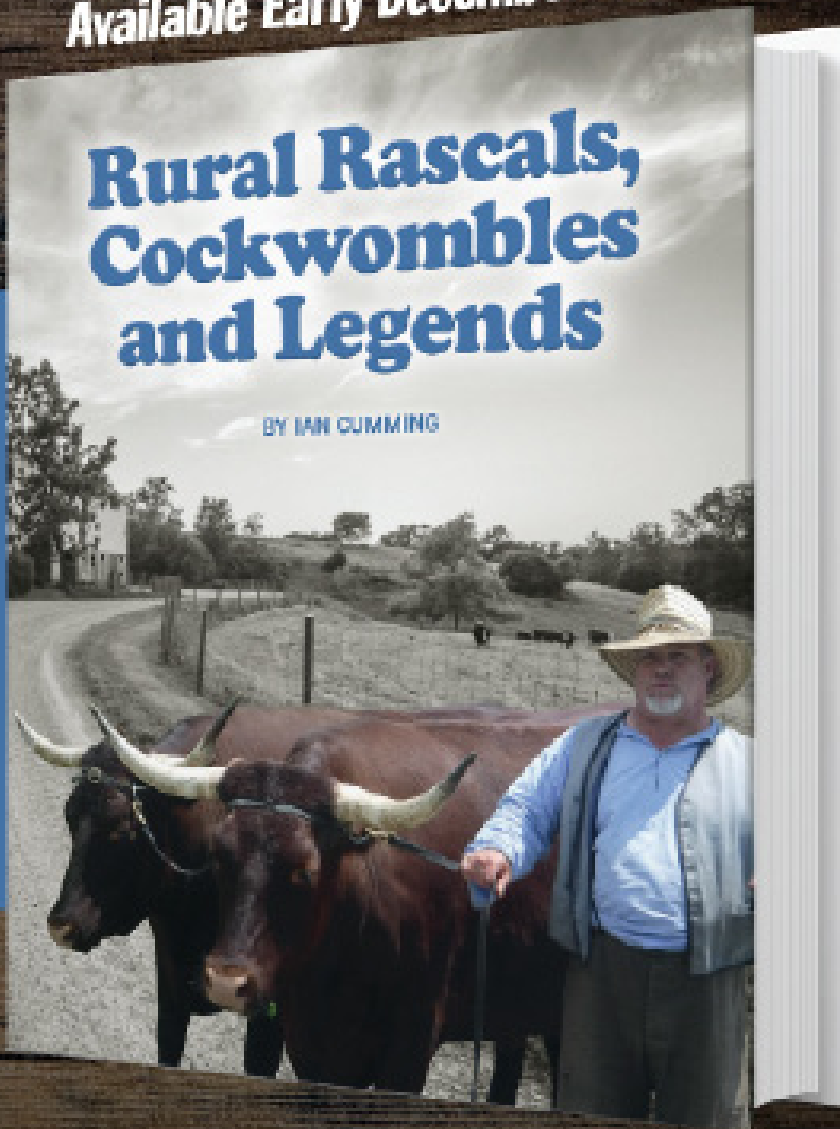
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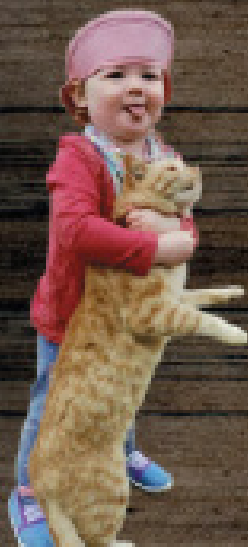
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Environmentalism Was Always and Only About Achieving World Socialist Government.



by Dr. Tim Ball

It is common sense to protect our environment, but what has occurred for 50 years is exploitation of that idea for a socialist agenda. We wasted 50 years believing that humans are not natural, and everything they do is destructive. We wasted and continue to waste trillions of dollars on unnecessary policies and useless technologies, all based on false assumptions, pseudoscience, and emotional bullying.

We now know 50 years later that every single prediction concerning the environmental demise of the Earth and the people, made in the original Earth Day Report, was wrong. We also know that every additional claim, such as overpopulation, global warming, sea level rise, desertification, deforestation, and sea ice collapse, among many others, were wrong. I challenge anyone to produce empirical evidence that proves anything happening today is outside any long-term record of natural activity.

Convince the people that the entire world is threatened, and you can convince them that no nation can save it. It is then easy to convince them that a world government is the only way to save the planet. The trouble is that none of it is true. The World is in good shape, and people are living longer and healthier lives in every nation.

Like the majority of people, Elaine Dewar assumed environmentalists were commendable even heroic people. She began research for a book singing their praises. It didn't take long to learn the basic premise was wrong. Following the traditional and proper methodology, rarely seen these days, Dewar identified the duplicitous characters involved in the Canadian environmental movement and laid them out in her book *Cloak of Green*. She spent five days at the UN with Canadian Maurice Strong arguably the world architect of official environmentalism. He founded and chaired the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) through which he implemented his plan for scientific and political world control. He was praised excessively, as in this article, *"The World Mourns One of its Greats: Maurice Strong Dies, His Legacy Lives On."* Another article recognized the evil he personified, *"Who is Global Warming Propagandist Maurice Strong?"* After the five days, Dewar concluded,

"Strong was using the U.N. as a platform to sell a global environment crisis and the Global Governance Agenda."

The environmental movement as the basis for a socialist world government was in the minds of people like Strong and fellow members of the Club of Rome

in the late 1960s. However, it was launched on the world on April 22, 1970, by a small group centered at Stanford University. The date is critical because it was the first Earth Day. It is also very important to know the choice was deliberate because it is the birthday of Vladimir Lenin. The environmental movement was a deliberate program to impose communism on the world.

The underlying theme of the environmental movement makes the following false assumptions.

- That almost all change is a result of human activity. The UN claim, using computer models, that 95%+ of temperature increase since 1950 is due to human-produced CO₂. This works because they don't consider most natural causes.
- That humans are unnatural. The 1990 *"Greenpeace Report on Global Warming"* says CO₂ is added to the atmosphere *"naturally and unnaturally."* Yes, that unnatural production is from humans.
- That we are not part of nature. Ingrid Newkirk, co-founder of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) comment explains.

"Mankind is a cancer; we're the biggest blight on the face of the earth." *"If you haven't given voluntary human extinction much thought before, the idea of a*

world with no people in it may seem strange. But, if you give it a chance, I think you might agree that the extinction of Homo Sapiens would mean survival for millions if not billions, of Earth-dwelling species. Phasing out the human race will solve every problem on earth, social and environmental."

- That we should be eliminated or dramatically reduced in number. In May 2015, the Pope produced *Laudate Si* an Encyclical about his view of the state of the Earth. It is a socialist diatribe, but that is not surprising since the main contributor was Hans Schellnhuber, a pantheist. This group believes the world population should be below 1 billion people.

- That if the western world reduces levels of CO2 production, the rest of the world will follow. China has 2,363 coal plants and is constructing 1,171 more. The US has 15 and is not constructing any.
- That alternate energies can replace or reduce fossil fuel use for power production. Recently major oil companies announced support for alternate energies. It is a smart public relation move, but it also increases their profit margins. Because alternate energies produce intermittent power, but the demand is continuous, it is necessary to provide fulltime backup power, known as 'spinning generation.'

The US can build as many clean-burning coal plants as they want and burn coal pollution free. They don't have to worry about CO2

because it is not a pollutant and is not causing climate change. There are no significant environmental problems threatening the world. All the stories about impending environmental doom are fictions deliberately created to make people surrender control to the government. None of them are based on actual measurements and all are evolved from illogical suppositions and assumptions. It was this way from the start with blaring, glaring, costly failures.

It is time to break the emotional stranglehold of those who used the environment to create global socialism. **



Woman with dementia locked into 10-year home-heating contract — with a \$15K lien on her property

Legal expert says bans on door-to-door sales not working — more protections needed

Rosa Marchitelli · CBC News ·
Posted: Apr 19, 2021 4:00



Mercedes Chacin de Fuchs, 82, and her son, Matt

When Matt Fuchs needed money to hire a home-care worker for his 82-year-old mother, who has dementia, he figured getting a line of credit based on the equity in her house would be easy. After all, the Toronto home was mostly paid off. Instead, the application was denied over a \$12,500 lien on the property for home heating and cooling equipment. Fuchs says he and his mother knew nothing about it. The lien was later increased to more than \$15,000.

Fuchs says the lien was put there after a company called Nationwide Home Comfort showed up at Mercedes Chacin de Fuchs's door in 2017 and convinced her to sign a 10-year rental contract for a furnace and air conditioner.

"They came in and convinced somebody that has cognitive issues that they needed something they didn't need," Fuchs told **Go Public**.

He says his mom, who also has Parkinson's disease, told him the salesperson said the company was

Those companies then slap liens on the property for the equipment, usually right away, that often aren't discovered by the homeowners until they go to sell or refinance

part of a provincial environmental program that saves homeowners money.

"She was duped. No doubt," Fuchs told **Go Public**. *"Later, when I found out that this was a widespread problem across Canada, I got even more disgusted."*

Tens of thousands of Canadians are locked into similar "unconscionable" deals, says paralegal John Robinson, who fights such contracts in court, including that of Fuchs and his mom. How it works, according to Robinson, is an HVAC company sells the contracts, mostly to seniors, people with disabilities or those with English as a second language. Then a different company buys that contract and starts collecting the monthly payments — providing "financing." That way, Robinson says, the financing company can say it had nothing to do with how the contracts were signed.

Those companies then slap liens on the property for the equipment, usually right away, that often aren't discovered by the homeowners until they go to sell or refinance, he says. In tiny print and written in legalese, Chacin de Fuchs's contract says *the company has*

"the right to register a security interest" on the property and that the owner waives the right to get a copy of the registration.

Robinson says land title departments in some cities allow companies to register security interests, or liens, without informing homeowners. The HVAC

companies “don’t [inform owners] because if they did, no one would agree to these agreements. No one would sign them,” Robinson said.

Less than a month after Chacin de Fuchs signed, her contract was taken over by a financing company called Home Trust, which slapped a \$12,500 lien on the property. A year later, in November 2018, the contract was sold to Crown Crest Capital, which replaced the first lien with its own security interest for more than \$15,000.

Getting answers from some of the companies is tough. *Go Public* found a lot of their websites are shut down, the phone numbers are out of service, and the emails bounce back.

Home Trust didn’t reply to *Go Public*’s repeated requests for comment. Nationwide Home Comfort is no longer operating, according to its former director Roman Berson, who now heads up two other HVAC companies. He says any claim of misrepresentation by the salesperson is “completely false” — Berson says Chacin de Fuchs invited the representative into her home by booking an appointment and that their vehicle was clearly marked with the Nationwide logo.

He says all Nationwide’s contracts now belong to Crown Crest Capital and another company. Crown Crest Capital, owned by Simply Group — a major player in the HVAC industry — said in an email to *Go Public* it has “worked so hard to counter bad practices” in the industry and has supported consumer protection reforms.

“Sometimes, customers facing financial challenges try to renege on their commitments after years of complaint-free leasing by claiming to have been misled at the time they signed up,” wrote vice president of customer experience Tasleemah Ladak.

Matt Fuchs says he discovered the \$15,000 lien on his mom’s home years after she signed the contract. (Tina MacKenzie/CBC)

In its statement of defence, Crown Crest Capital denies all allegations, saying it is only the financial

institution that took on the contract after it was signed.

In her email, Ladak also says less than 0.01 per cent of its accounts end up in litigation. The company would not say how many customers it has.

Ladak also said Crown Crest Capital does not have any liens on properties but instead registers “interest in the leased equipment” so future homeowners know the equipment won’t automatically become theirs.

Robinson calls that last point “semantics” saying, “it makes no difference what you call it, everyone knows what a lien is ... it’s the same thing.”



Joddy Prevost, right, and his wife, Cherie,

Another family, Joddy Prevost and his wife Cherie Prevost of Tillsonburg, Ont., found liens of almost \$17,000 on his dad’s property after Norm Prevost passed away in November 2019. He’d signed the contract two years earlier, when he was 73.

Joddy Prevost, right, and his wife, Cherie, say they had no choice but to pay out thousands of dollars on a contract his dad signed but didn’t understand. (Mark Bochsler/CBC)

“It was Ontario Energy Savings that was on all the papers, but when we called ... they said, ‘No, we just installed, you need to call whoever you purchased it from,’” Cherie said.

They were finally told the contract was owned by Utilebill, another major player in the industry. Utilebill wanted \$21,000 to buy the contract out, so Joddy hired a lawyer to negotiate with the company, ultimately paying \$15,600.

The couple says they felt they had no choice but to pay. Neither Ontario Energy Savings nor Utilebill responded to Go Public's questions.

Robinson, the paralegal, says such liens hold consumers hostage because people who sell or refinance their homes have no choice but to pay out the contract if they want to remove the lien.

Consumer protection agencies across the country have received over 2,000 complaints about HVAC contracts in the last five years.

Paralegal John Robinson says governments need to do a lot more to protect consumers against certain home heating and cooling companies. (Stephane Richer/CBC)

Ontario has laid the most charges, 1,235, against HVAC companies under its Consumer Protection Act, but its convictions are low, just five since 2017.

The province has a "consumer beware list" where the public can search for details on all charges laid against businesses and owners.

Cases involving these contracts have been flooding the courts, with consumers suing the companies over the contracts and vice versa, says Robinson.

He says the business — mostly led by just a few multimillion-dollar companies — is so lucrative it's worth it for the companies to fight in court or pay consumer protection fines.

In 2017 and 2018, Alberta and Ontario banned these kinds of door-to-door sales and required more transparency with the contracts.

Manitoba is set to follow, but Robinson says bans are just a small "Band-Aid" for a big problem.

Matt Fuchs is suing all the companies involved in the HVAC contract and the resulting liens on his mother's



home. (Tina MacKenzie/CBC) Crown Crest Capital also says it regrets the Fuchs sued before reaching out to the company directly.

He says the changes did nothing for the tens of thousands of Canadians still stuck with contracts and says some companies have learned to work around the rules — by soliciting new customers over the phone and under false pretenses, to get to the doorstep and say they were invited by the homeowner.

The rules also fail to address liens.

"Stop that and you'll solve the problem, because then they have no incentive ... There's no monetary incentive," Robinson said.

The Fuchs' case is now winding its way slowly, because of the pandemic, through the courts.

Robinson was able to negotiate a temporary removal of the lien with Home Trust — before Crown Crest Capital took over the contract — so the family could secure the line of credit and get the home care his mother needs. The lien was then put back on.

CBC News

The Importance of Private Property

Private property ownership is the source of personal, individual wealth for the average American.

by Tom DeWeese



Most Americans tend to think of private property simply as a home — the place where the family resides, store their belongings and find shelter and safety from the elements. It's where you live. It's yours because you pay the mortgage and the taxes. Most people don't give property ownership much more thought than that.

There was a time when property ownership was considered to be much more. Property, and the ability to own and control it, was life itself. The great economist, John Locke, whose writings and ideas had major influence on the nation's founders, believed that "life and liberty are secure only so long as the right of property is secure."

John Locke advocated that if property rights did not exist, then the incentive for an industrious person to develop and improve property would be destroyed; that the industrious person would be deprived of the fruits of his labor; that marauding bands would confiscate, by force, the goods produced by others; and that mankind would be impelled to remain on a bare-subsistence level of hand-to-mouth survival because the accumulation of anything of value would invite attack.

One only has to look to the example of the former Soviet Union to see clearly what happens to a society when an outlaw government exercises brute force to take control of private property. Under that tyrannical government,

each of Locke's predictions came true there.

Throughout its history, the Soviet government excused its every action under the banner of equality for all. There were no property rights, no freedom of enterprise, and no protections of individual actions. Instead, the Soviet government enforced redistribution of wealth schemes, confiscating homes from the rich and middle class.

The same basic redistribution schemes of the Soviets were later used by Zimbabwe's former dictator Robert Mugabe to destroy that agriculturally rich African nation. Mugabe confiscated farmland owned by white farmers and gave it to friends of his corrupt government — most of whom had never even seen a farm. The result was economic disaster, widespread poverty, and hunger in a land that had once fed the continent. The nation of South Africa is now following in the murderous footsteps of Robert Mugabe as it attacks white farmers, taking their property and again putting it in the hands of those who know nothing about running a farm.

Locke warned that human civilization would be reduced to the level of a pack of wolves and cease to exist because lack of control over your own actions caused fear and insecurity. Private property ownership, Locke argued, brought stability and wealth to individuals, leading to a prosperous society of man. That's because legal

ownership of property is the key to productive development. Private property ownership is the reason the United States became the wealthiest nation on earth, almost overnight. Free individuals, using their own land to create commerce and build personal wealth through the equity of their property, are the root of American success. Sixty percent of early American businesses were financed through the equity of property ownership. And sixty percent of American jobs were created through those successful businesses. That's how a free-market economy is built. Private property ownership is the source of personal, individual wealth for the average American.

Clearly John Locke's warnings have been vindicated. Private property ownership is much more than a house. It is the root of a prosperous, healthy, human society based on the individual's freedom to live a life of his own, gaining from the fruits of his own labor. Take that option away and the people always react the same way. They stop producing.

Tom DeWeese is one of the nation's leading advocates of individual liberty, free enterprise, private property rights, personal privacy, back-to-basics education and American sovereignty and independence. He serves as founder and president of the American Policy Center and editor of The DeWeese Report



“If it Doesn’t Pay - You Don’t do it”

*by Ian Cumming
Agricultural Journalist*

It was midnight in New Zealand earlier this year and the dairy farmer sitting at his laptop in his home was trying to shake the cobwebs of fatigue. He was about to virtually deliver a worldwide talk, to others in the middle of their day, on his farm management.

The coffee soon kicked into his veins after his power kip that he was waking up from and the presentation was great. But for a few minutes at the start, until his brain became fully engaged, he was on a bit of a ramble.

However one line he said during that incoherent introduction resonated crystal clear. He was trying to explain the agriculture industry in his nation, that has operated without government funding since the government declared financial insolvency in the mid 1980’s.

It forced individual farmers, organizations and processors into the operating reality that “if it doesn’t pay, you don’t do it,” he said.

Of course that is the same everywhere, and the boundaries of what is financially possible with low interest rates, interest only loans and technology have dramatically expanded.

But it is also clear that here in our country, massive federal government funding for agriculture, is also part of that equation.

With their funds injected at

a substantial level in every major and minor agriculture organization, plus into the coffers of individual farms, banks and processors.

It’s a 365 page list, also handed out to the rest of society, that one of our reporters uncovered. But it does beg the question that if that farmers sleepy description of their reality, ever came about here, what would change?

**It forced
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that “if it doesn’t
pay, you don’t do
it,” he said.**

To be fair to individual farmers, or organizations and unfairly savaging one or a dozen, (such as a dairy farm in New York that got \$120,000 of Canadian federal government money) let’s just analyze massively government funded Canadian agriculture media.

Never knew that was a fact until two years ago. Nobody has ever dictated what I can or cannot write.

But when visiting in the UK, I had a meeting with an editor of a British farming publication. Leaving that great meeting with

the understanding that about two articles per month on agriculture technology able to make farmers money, at \$400 an article, was in the works.

I left behind some weekly papers and monthly magazines for him to read and then soon after came his appalled reaction. It states right there in your paper that you’re funded by government, he vented. That was incomprehensible to him, that didn’t even warrant an explanation.

I was left in the no win of being an idiot and not knowing, (which I was) or knowing and being a government paid patsy. There were no articles requested.

Now I can be like the 4 – H dad that once confessed at ringside that the calf his daughter was leading “is only one week overage” and say that the publication I write for, according to this documentation, is at the bottom end of government financial aid.

Mainly centering on subsidizing mailing costs and if you take the \$1,604,549 grant to the media organization on a per paper basis, it comes to \$15,094 per year.

A Canadian farm media company with a handful of agriculture publications that you can count on your fingers received, \$1,049, 976 the same year. Their largest single publication received \$1,207, 816 on its own that year.

A provincial agriculture publication outside of Ontario received \$843,618.

In case the federal government missed part of what rural folks might read, a Canadian hunting publication got \$605,605.

Are the influences subtle, or blatant? Or do they exist?

When an agricultural lobby organization receives two grants in the same year of \$732,839 plus \$753,576, from the government its producers pay it to lobby, is that a problem?

When that same organization has its annual conference and dictates that there is no agriculture media allowed – other than whom they approve – and there is wimpy pushback from agriculture subsidized media, who send a letter in protest, but then stay away, is that a problem?

Yes, you can have one journalist (me) break that decree and cover what went on, such as a former PM having some harsh data and messages. But that is easily drowned out when all the subsidized hyperventilate in chorus at the same time on the hardness of butter.

I'm not a conspiracy theorist, but I do follow the money.

So should you.

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Report From Parliament May-June 2021



By Cheryl Gallant, M.P.

The much-delayed disastrous federal deficit budget of 2021 announced the creation of a new “Canada Water Agency.” Big government promises to get bigger.

This was easily predicted in my previous Landowners’ article. The longest delayed federal budget in Canadian history contained a tidal wave of spending promises in anticipation of an unwanted election. It includes a 17.4-million-dollar expense to create the new “Canada Water Agency.” The budget is silent on how all the expensive promises are to be paid for.

In addition to spending on election bribes like 13 million to teach people how to camp, (we used to call that Boy Scouts and Girl Guides), the pre-election budget spends additional millions on more studies and surveys to “identify opportunities” to create more rules and regulations.

For private landowners, this new water agency will be staffed with bureaucrats looking for ways to justify high salaries, and make your lives miserable after they finish wasting taxpayer dollars on more studies.

Back in the real world, waterfront property owners have been requesting practical help to protect properties from flooding. Landowners adversely affected by flooding have told me the creation of a Canadian equivalent of the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers to protect homes from bad government policy, climate change, as well as unforeseen catastrophic climate events is needed. This would lift the financial burden from small municipalities, who lack the expertise and the tax base from existing property owners, to fund infrastructure improvements. A Canadian Corp. of Engineers would de-politicize disaster relief. The clear need to build Canadian capacity as well as eliminate the middleman from federal government contracting abuses is evident.

Canadians have seen this with prices overpaid for the procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE), and vaccines to protect against COVID-19.

In the U.S., the Army Corp of Engineers has the equipment, knowledge, manpower and financial resources to get the job done. Once called in, they complete their task as professionals, on a non-partisan basis. They get the job done.

In the 2021 deficit budget, the federal government plans to spend billions of your tax dollars encouraging flooding.

First there is 1.4 billion for the “restoration of wetlands and shorelines.” This matches the budget promise of withdrawing from public use 25 percent of lands and oceans by 2025, (rising to 30 percent by 2030).

While a further 2.3 billion dollars is in the budget to expropriate a million square kilometers of land and water, the budget is also silent on compensation to flood victims of bad government policy like PLAN 2014. Plan 2014 is the policy brought in by the current Federal Government to create 26,000 hectares (64,000 acres) of wetland by flooding private property owners’ waterfront property. (While public outcry has forced the government to back down for now, Plan 2014 is still on the books).

The “natural” place in the budget for compensation is on page 182. The “Natural” Infrastructure Fund adds \$200 million to “natural” infrastructure (i.e. wetlands and marshes) and “hybrid” infrastructure projects to “prevent costly natural events.” Unfortunately, the 2021 deficit budget is silent on the definition of what is meant by hybrid infrastructure.

It is again silent on whether or not provinces and their citizens would be compensated, including

for the loss of provincial Crown Land. My private members legislation, Bill C-222, would have required the federal government to follow a legal process, including compensation, for an expropriation. The 2021 deficit budget does not include compensation for landowners adversely affected by federal government climate policy.

So, what happens when government starts expropriating large tracts of land?

In 1973, 18,600 acres of mostly farmland, much of it class A, was expropriated from 800 farmers near Pickering, Ontario northeast of Toronto for an international airport that was never built. It was assembled and preserved at great expense for economic development, a future airport, and greenspace for the good of all Canadians. Most of those original owners are gone.

These lands are currently leased at mostly agricultural rather than commercial rates, and benefit a small number of individuals and businesses. Most of the land is leased to five large commercial farms.

An Access of Information request on who is leasing the airport lands shows that the majority of the rest of the land is leased by a handful of unknown individuals and entities who have had their names redacted. This lack of transparency raises the opportunity for corruption and insider influencing.

The local MP for Pickering-Uxbridge, (the same Liberal MP who voted against private property rights), is sponsoring a petition envisioning turning over management of the Pickering Airport land—leases from Transport Canada to Parks Canada, and extending these leases. Such a transfer would void the reason the land was expropriated in the first place. This would shift the focus from economic development and jobs for the benefit of all, to land use for the benefit of the Big Five. This is a nifty trick for those lucky enough to have a land—lease, but certainly not in the interests of the taxpayers, who paid for the billion-dollar public land reserve.

What happens to the million square kilometers of land and water deficit budget 2021 proposes to expropriate? Will this land slip into the hands of a few privileged insiders? Rules can change with the stroke of the pen.

This is just one example why the current federal government and its supporters cannot be trusted with the public purse. This government virtue-signals constantly about the environment to hide a hidden agenda.

Meanwhile, the rich get richer and the rest of Canadians who work hard, play by the rules, and pay their fair share of taxes, get left further and further behind by the federal government. **



Vaccination Passports-

The Thin Edge of the Wedge

by Roger Graves

You've probably heard of vaccination passports. The idea is that everyone who has been vaccinated against Covid will have proof of this, probably in an electronic form that you can display on your smart phone. When you go somewhere such as a restaurant or a shopping mall you just display this on the way in and everyone will know you're safe because you've been vaccinated. Of course, those who don't have a vaccination passport won't be let in because they won't have been vaccinated and aren't safe. Sounds easy doesn't it, the kind of thing that all good citizens should be happy to have?

And of course, this will be just a temporary measure which will be discontinued when the Covid crisis is over, right? Wrong! There is nothing more permanent than a temporary government program. (Income tax was originally a temporary program for the duration of World War One, and look how that turned out.) Your smart phone-based vaccination passport could quite easily be arranged to contain a record of everywhere you go, purely for your own benefit of course so you can be warned if your path has crossed that of an unvaccinated person. Naturally the fact that the authorities will be able to remotely access your passport and so track you and have a permanent record of the places you visit will just be a side effect. You can just imagine government bureaucrats salivating at the thought.

When Covid is no longer a

threat, governments will find all sorts of reasons why the passport system needs to be kept (have you been vaccinated for, say, measles? is your car licence up to date? do you owe any income tax?) and vaccination passports will gradually morph into internal passports which every citizen will be required to have and produce to a competent authority – a policeman, perhaps – on demand.

Wrong!
There is
nothing more
permanent
than a
temporary
government
program.

Now where have we seen this idea before? Almost all totalitarian states have or had some form of internal passport. Soviet Russia had them: you couldn't travel outside your local area without showing it and explaining why you wanted to travel. Communist China has a particularly insidious form of it today, known as the social credit system. Chinese citizens get social credit demerits for so-called antisocial behaviour, such as traffic violations, non-payment of taxes, or criticizing the government. Too many demerits and you can be barred from purchasing airline or train tickets,

or placed on a blacklist which employers can reference when hiring staff. Students can be denied entry into university if their parents have poor social credit scores. In contrast, those with high merit scores achieved by, for example, praising the government on social media, will receive discounts at hotels, privileged access to medical services and so on.

According to the Chinese State Council the system will “allow the trustworthy to roam everywhere under heaven while making it hard for the discredited to take a single step.” It's a wonderful way of making sure everyone keeps on being good little citizens, because they know they will be instantly slapped down if they take a single step out of line. And you think the Trudeau government wouldn't love to have such a system in Canada?

In the Soviet Union, internal passports were simply pieces of paper, and collecting data from them was necessarily done manually. The system worked, more or less, but it was slow and clumsy. The Chinese system however doesn't require physical passports, just a vast database (and the Chinese are very good at this sort of thing) which will record everyone's merit and demerit scores. It's helped by the very advanced facial recognition technology the Chinese have developed which enables you to be recognized wherever you go and whatever you try to do. Who needs security forces, as the Soviets did in the form of their KGB, when you have an all-encompassing

system such as this for keeping everyone in line?

And so back to vaccination passports. On the surface they may seem to be a good idea, a way for us to transition smoothly out of the Covid crisis. Trouble is, it wouldn't stop there, and China today gives us a good idea of where it would end up.

The urge to control people is universal, although it's usually presented to us as a minor restriction for our own good. (To quote H.L.Mencken, the urge to save humanity is almost always a false front for the urge to rule.) An ability to control people

in this way would gladden the hearts of government bureaucrats everywhere who see their fellow humans merely as things to be ordered and controlled.

Here in the West we already have several of these people control systems. For example, credit card companies maintain credit scores on you which can affect your ability to get a mortgage or a car loan, while social media companies such as YouTube and Twitter can limit your access or throw you off altogether if they don't like what you say. However these are private companies which in the last

To quote
H.L.Mencken,
the urge to
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front for the
urge to rule

resort could be sanctioned by the government. But how do you sanction such systems if it is the government itself that is running them?

As a citizen of Canada I have the right to go into any public space without having to ask the permission of any government official or displaying an internal passport, and I want to keep it that way. Nobody, but nobody, has the right to track my movements or pass judgement on my words or actions, provided they are within the law. Let's keep it that way, and let's make a start by tossing out any wedge systems such as vaccination passports.

**





Veggie Bites 54

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,

This very early spring seems to be continuing. The too-many cats are sniffing the air in the screened porch, and I am ready to start preparing my garden. My main concern is compressing the soil. If I walk on the garden a lot, I will force the air out of the soil, making it like concrete. That makes plant growth difficult. And so, I am working from the edge with my special hand rake.



Hand rake

I love this rake and see it as an extension of me as I work. It cleans up on the surface without greatly disturbing the soil. I use it in my perennial beds, and the larger rake to clean up the sunflower shells under the feeder. If you are a lawn person, you want to be sure the roots of your grass are established before you start raking. The way to test is to pull at a corner of the lawn

and see how easily the grass comes out. Look into overseeding soon as well. Try choosing a grass seed mix that has perennial fescues and rye grass rather than Kentucky Blue.

Before I add all this 'brown' material to my composter, I want to review what is going on with my compost. My compost is cooked and ready to go onto the garden, so I am removing it from the composter and setting it aside to use. Now the composter is ready for my spring clean-up. My hügelkultur is growing steadily but no longer receiving my kitchen waste. I will add the hay and straw from the chicken compound for the next layer. I am still leaving a lot of the large clumps and sticks in the perennial garden for overwintering creatures, as well as lightly stacking this material in a safe place for a while.

Colour is coming back to my garden. The crocuses are jewel-like in the early morning, the bloodroot opens up to the spring sunshine, and the daffodils are ready to burst into flower. The scilla or squills (in the family Asparagaceae,) are forming a carpet of blues. Soon the wood violets will start to bloom and the colour will move into purples. As I continued to poke around, I found the bed where I had planted the garlic seeds in the fall. Last year I left several of my garlic scapes to set seeds and I collected those seeds in the fall. The bulbs of garlic are pushing up, but these little seeds are also doing well. They look

like chives and smell like garlic. I wanted to see what would happen if I planted the seeds, and so the experiment continues.



Growing garlic seeds

My bulb barrel is still growing. You can see the red orach springing forward. (Actually, if you do plant red orach, you will have it returning in lots of places as it seeds itself readily.) I think the bulb leaves look like allium; we shall see. I added the sparkly gold tinsel because it shivers and moves in the wind and the squirrels do not like it!



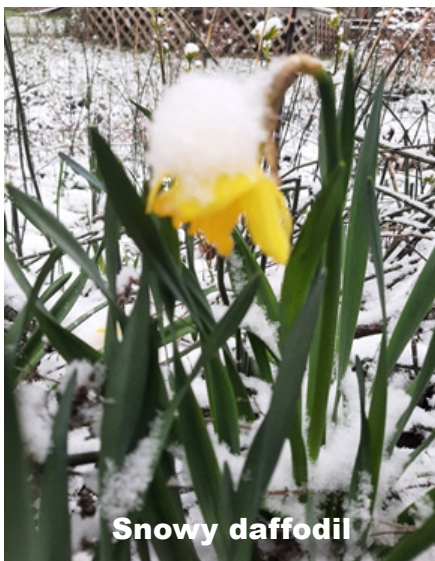
Bulb pot with tinsel

At this point I know how exciting it is to have the early warmth and no rain, but this is not normal weather for mid-April. Remember that it is April showers that bring May flowers. The garden needs lots of rain and time to wake up. If you are truly aching to start a planter, then you will be safe with the icicle pansies that are now on offer. Enjoy your week. Judith. (Email: lapisdragonarts@gmail.com) All Veggie Bites are available at the SGHS website: (<https://sites.google.com/site/sghortsoc/>)

Veggie Bites 55

It would seem that the more typical April weather has arrived. I noted the cooler temperatures when I woke up this morning, covered in too-many cats. Hopefully, you have resisted the urge to plant anything in the ground. If so, all will be well. Most of the flowering bulbs will wait out the cold and continue on. I worry about my little cherry bush that flowered so early, and my cherry crop may not be that great this year.

The snow is like a blanket during these cold temperatures, so most of the blooms should bounce back as the warmth returns.



Snowy daffodil

The rhubarb is growing well in its new location, and it is time to add a nice mulch of compost around it. As you can see from the picture, it is planted with lots of leafy soil and it is quite happy. The extra compost should encourage more growth, which I want, because I really love rhubarb.



Rhubarb

It is approaching the time of year when our plant stands are seeming to be quite full. I have planted up several tomato plants and there are other seedlings that would like to be potted up as well. In my case, I am very restricted in my use of space and need to find ways to keep too-many curious cats out of my seedlings. I will plant some other seeds, such as cucumbers, on my outdoor sheltered plant shelf in early May.



Plant stand

This week I started digging a trench for my potatoes that I am making a good six inches or more deep and hoping that it will do well. I shall be waiting a while to plant out the potatoes as the trench is full of snow at the moment. The reason I am going back to the trench after trying pots, is that I want to see if the trench will give me more potatoes. I have managed to save a few of my grandpa's potatoes over the winter, and this year I decided to grow a crop of Yukon gold as well. If you want to grow potatoes, be sure to get your seed potatoes soon. Most nurseries have drive-by service and will choose good potatoes for you. The nurseries usually have a nice selection, and you may find other interesting selections online.

If you only have room for potatoes in pots, then by all means go for it! You want to be sure that there is about three inches of soil in the pot, place the potato on it and cover up the potato with good soil. As soon as you see green growth, cover it up! Continue to do this until you reach the top of the pot. It is important to keep covering any green bits with soil as potatoes form along the stems that are covered by the soil.

Do not be discouraged by the weather, this is only April. Keep watering your seedlings and continue preparing for our new gardening season. Enjoy your week. Judith.

(Email: lapisdragonarts@gmail.com) Veggie Bites are available at <https://gardeningcalendar.ca/articles/veggie-bites/>



The Dangerous Green House Gas Ruling

by Liz Marshall

This Green House Gas ruling is more dangerous than you think...

Some may think the Carbon tax is a good thing and some may think it isn't – that isn't what this is about. This is about the fact that, even though the ruling said this is a one off, it really isn't. Precedent has been set.

So, what does that mean? Firstly, it means that at any time the Federal government can put in any kind of "back-stop" it wants and there isn't anything anyone can do about it. Not you and not the provinces – even if that back-stop violates provincial jurisdiction or your constitutional rights.

Secondly, this ruling takes away the very foundation of Canadian law. This is the Federal government (Executive and Legislators) ruling in the Court. This wasn't a ruling by 9 Supreme Court Judges – it was a ruling by the Governor General and indirectly the Privy Council, which is/can be made up of the Ministers of the sitting governing party.

And what does this tell us? If we allow this ruling to stand and become law, in Canada, that means the Federal government and the Governor General can rule on anything at any time while the Governor General is considered one of the Supreme Court Judges.

So, we need to look at what is really wrong with this and we need to find a way to fix this, before it's too late. Now the Supreme Court of Canada Judges have ruled a number of times, saying that there can be no interference or influence, by government, in the Courts. They already know this so I don't know why they didn't demand that the Governor General remove himself from being involved in this ruling. Mind you he should have done that on his own and he would have saved all of this.

The other thing is how do we fix this. Throughout history there have been times when the King or Queen, including their representatives, have ruled in the Courts. At one time, it got so bad that a piece of legislation was passed to shut down certain Courts used by the King and the Privy Council. In the process of abolishing these courts it was determined that because the King and his Privy Council had made such unconstitutional rulings that those ruling all had to be investigated and the ones that were really bad had to be made void.

Parliament did that through this Act of legislation. It isn't like this can be used all the time, there has to be certain criteria. The criteria are that if the King/Queen, or their representative, are doing a ruling in the Court those entities

can actually remove Judges; they are deciding on whether their own legislation should be law or not; if they're judging and influencing the other Judges you won't have any defence – just like what happened in those Court that were abolished. So, basically the GHG ruling is unconstitutional because the Queen's representative ruled on it.

Everything is in the Constitution and it seems this is merely government using the Governor General to amend the Constitution without Parliament, without the provinces and without your knowledge or consent. And what can we do about all of this?

Get your letters in to your MP and demand that this ruling be voided as unconstitutional. They can do it and so can you – but only if you tell them what you want...

This Green House Gas ruling is more dangerous than you think... and now you know why... **



My Secret Job

by Randy Vancourt

Throughout history musicians have had a secret side job that not everyone knows about: we call it “church.” We may have been performing in a theatre or club on Saturday night, but lots of us drag ourselves out of bed early Sunday morning to become an organist, conductor or choir member.

Over the years I have been Music Director for various denominations; I like to cover all the bases just in case. I’ve been at my current church for about 6 years now and have been fortunate enough to remain working during this pandemic. Within a few days of the first lockdown we shifted gears and I now spend my week recording hymns and editing video (everything shot separately) to create the weekly online service. It’s been an interesting experiment; while I certainly miss seeing everyone each week, not having to rush out on Sunday morning has been a treat. I guess you might say worldwide pandemics have an upside...

I was sitting in the empty sanctuary recording music recently when I was struck by just how many hours I have spent performing in churches. Whether for Sunday services, weddings, funerals, concerts or benefit shows, there are probably no venues that have hosted more musicians over the centuries.

Maybe it’s because they were traditionally designed to be extremely resonant, but singing in a church tends to add an enormity

to the sound that doesn’t occur in most other places. From Luciano Pavarotti recording his famous 1978 Christmas concert at Montreal’s Notre-Dame basilica, to the Cowboy Junkies’ renowned album, “The Trinity Sessions” (recorded at Toronto’s Church of the Holy Trinity), churches have frequently been the go-to location for musical events.

My experience as a church musician began back when I was 16 and became the summer organist at my local church. For my first outing I was allowed to choose all the hymns so I picked many of my favourites. After the service a few people pointed out that all of my choices, every single one, were hymns that are usually used at funerals. I’m pretty sure “uplifting” would not describe that first attempt; to this day I can’t hear “Abide With Me” without cringing at the memory.

My second service had better selections but a different problem. The church had a nice organ than was amplified through a large sound system, with volume controlled by a foot pedal. I sat behind a small wall but could see the congregation in a large mirror over the organ. As I pounded into the opening hymn I became aware that I couldn’t hear anyone singing. I looked up at the mirror and saw people moving their mouths but strangely none of their sound was reaching me.

It turned out I had accidentally fully depressed the volume pedal

and the organ was blasting at earsplitting levels throughout the church. Every hymn was played at the same thunderous level. Congregations are known to have a certain amount of elderly members with hearing issues, but I feel that morning I may have contributed to their number.

Weddings are always a joy to play; funerals are a bit more delicate, especially when the requests include me singing something. Getting through Amazing Grace without choking is hard enough at the funeral of a stranger, but when it’s for a friend or relative it can be a real challenge.

At times like that though, I feel nothing the family wants musically should be out of bounds. I would hate to be remembered as that guy who ruined grandma’s sendoff by not playing her favourite song, even if it was “Baby Got Back.” I’ve played Irish reels, jazz standards, Broadway tunes...one of my favourites was a family who wanted only Johnny Cash music during the service. I put a lot of work into choosing the songs for that one, and in spite of the great temptation I made sure that we did not include “Ring of Fire.”

With the requests I’ve had over the years I honestly won’t be shocked the day someone asks for Another One Bites The Dust, Only The Good Die Young or I Will Survive...come to think of it, those could work for weddings too. **

www.randyvancourt.com

Real Justice?



Howdy folks,

Disgusted, disillusioned, deflated and deeply depressed would truly exemplify my recent state of mind as it pertains to the recent acquittal of a trespassing animal activist involving a mink farm break in.

Remember that kindly activist that took the law into his own hands and climbed a mink farm's security fence and subsequently posted his footage on YouTube for the entire world to see?

Malcolm Klimowicz was even brazen enough to post personal information relating to the legally sanctioned farm owner Mr. Freeman for the world to see.

Apparently I've been adhering to the false belief that you could not break into other people's property and openly brag and display your exploits for the entire inquiring world to see without dire end results.

It's disturbing to see that as our world evolves relating to animal activism these folks in an earlier time would have had the book thrown at them.

Now their crimes are overlooked and they are depicted as modern day heroes with an almost similar notoriety of the legendary Robin Hood.

Well, if all this malevolent behaviour has been officially sanctioned as legal, I decree what's good for the goose must also be good for the gander.

In essence, why don't we turn the tables on these cunning activists and give them some of their own bitter medicine.

Would it be offensive to openly suggest we target these activists and enter their homes and target their most private sanctum, the bedroom? These activists believe animals are truly in reality equals to human beings. They're adamant animals should have the same legal status in courts as their human counterparts. I'm sincerely seriously afraid what we might encounter in exploits and reconnaissance of these animal activist nut cases.

Have they taken this animal/human equality to the next level and may be so enamoured with their idealism's that they may even be practising the illegal sexual practice of bestiality? I believe anything is possible when your mind has been altered by a diet of greens and almond milk.

Entering their domains, exposing their personal exploits would certainly lead to charges but would they also lead to acquittal like in the Klimowicz case?

What has happened to our revered Judges that they now can rule a blatantly guilty activist as being not guilty of any crimes? Have they become so liberal courtesy of the new marijuana laws that they too are nothing more than zombies on the bench?

I thank the judge in this case as you have openly bolstered these

activists with your generous acquittal and you have made Klimowicz a veritable god-like guru to animal activists around the world to be emulated and admired.

Further to this animal activist theme, I was recently appalled by a local news story relating to a horse rescue.

Several young ladies were featured on the boob-tube pandering for funds to keep their kindly scheme operating. You know hay is an expensive commodity?

No kidding ladies but I'm getting upset with these bogus rescues and persistent pleas for help.

If you want my respect get off your lazy begging asses and get a real paying job. Fund your own rescue through your own sweat and callouses.

The rest of the world doesn't owe you a dime so you can buy a new truck and fancy horse trailer. If it's that tough go stand at a street corner and I'm sure you'll make a few honest bucks.

If I come on as crude and masochistic I'd agree wholeheartedly because I've had enough of these beggars hiding behind money making agendas based on begging for funds to fuel pipe dreams and vacations to the Bahamas.

Sincerely,
THE OLD JACKASS

Rents and Mortgages



by Mel Fisher

A page from Willy Brant's *Adiary* -- It hit me about midnight, while waiting to go to sleep, and kept me awake most of the night. I know my neighbour Big Joe is always up by 7, so I was at his house at 7:05 this morning.

Joe was up, coffee perking away and greeted me with "Hi, saw you coming, just put a couple of extra eggs in the fry pan, what gets you out so early today?"

So I told him about my sleepless night. "Of course we all know lots of people are out of work and small businesses are bleeding to death in this lockdown, but what got me going was a business-person complaining that her biggest problem was she still had to pay rent even though her business wasn't bringing in any cash. She couldn't borrow any more, so the writing was on the wall, bankruptcy!"

"Yup" from Joe, while he poured a couple of cups of coffee "I bet that's pretty common alright. Why would that keep you awake?"

"What hit me at midnight was, why would the government force her to close her door, but not also force her landlord to suspend rent for the down period? Force her to lose big time, while the landlord doesn't lose a cent – still maximum profit! Why?"

"Well", Joe answered, with a bit of hesitation, "Maybe it has to do with the landlord has a mortgage, so he will face bankruptcy as well – " trailed off, with some question in his voice.

"That's the other half of what bothered me" I added, "If they took away all the business's income, why would they not also suspend all debt payments as well, including mortgages? Doesn't the government represent all the people? Why pick on just small business? I find that very troubling!"

"Wow", said Joe, "I hadn't really thought about that. Yes, it is very troubling". Silence while he served up the eggs and more coffee - we farmers always enjoy breakfast. Then we cleaned up the table, and sat thinking. Before the silence got too long, Joe drawled out, obviously thinking out loud "So let's think about this, some folks say we have a movement toward a World Government dominated by the over-educated and overly rich while the rest of us become non-citizens, they call it The New World Order and the UN is involved". I butted in "And the over-educated and overly rich think they will be the boss, good luck with that!"

Joe ignored this, and went on "So, if this lockdown was about human health, it would make sense to suspend rent and debt payments

and share the financial pain among us all including the wealthy who hold the mortgages. But the way they have done it is destroying the poor and middle class, and the rich get richer! Makes you think maybe those doubting folk are right, it is politics, not health!. Little buddy, your picking up on this was very insightful, I hadn't thought about it that way!"

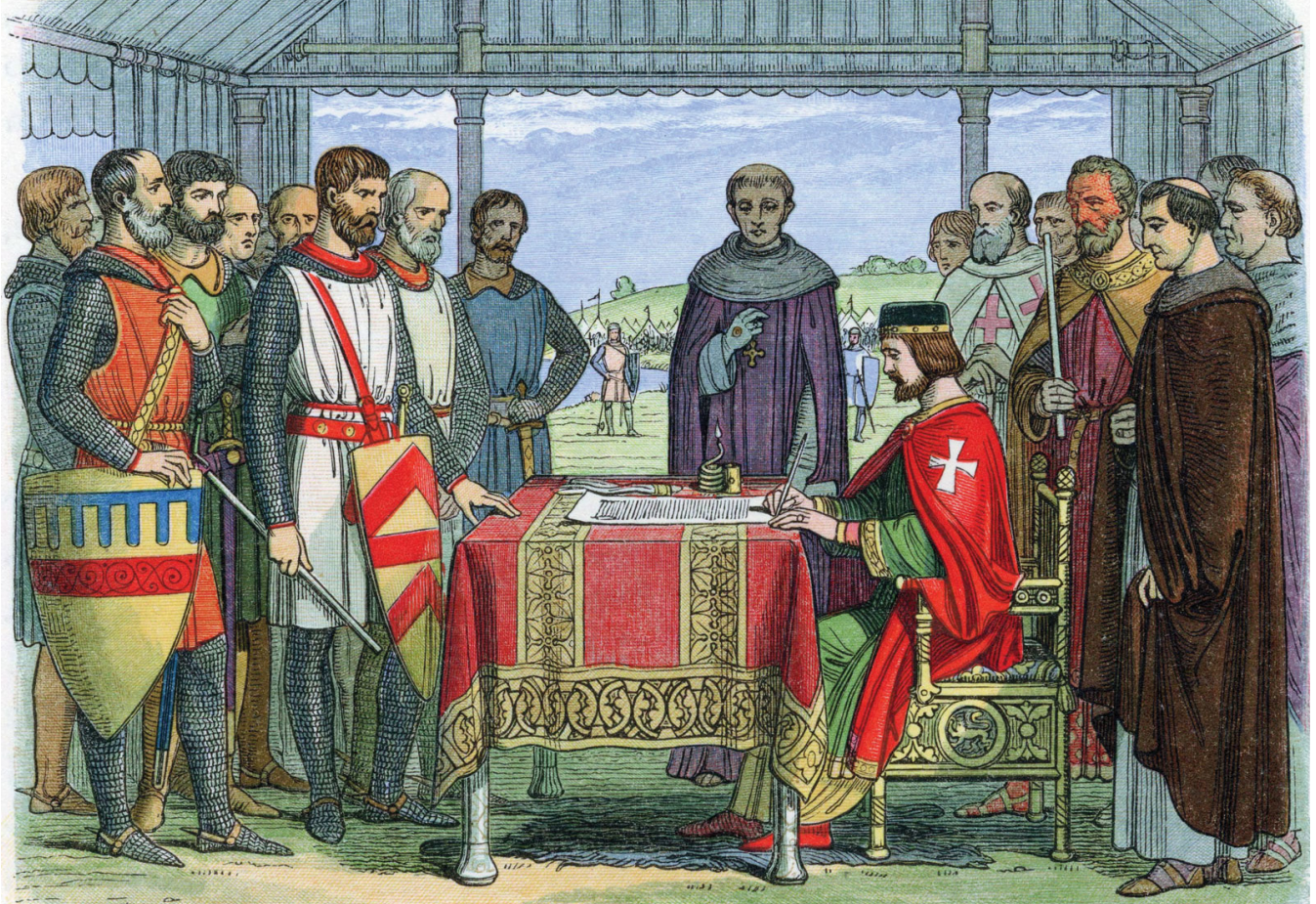
Not sure, that might have been a compliment. So I added "They are doing it that way worldwide! So it's a worldwide move to impoverish small business and the middle class. That's pretty scary!"

"Yep", says Joe, but there is nothing a couple of farmers out here in Partridge township can do about it, so don't let it keep you up at night! One day at a time!"

He is right, I have to stop worrying about what I can't do anything about. Easy to say, not so easy to do, the old brain won't stop worrying because I tell it to. Maybe I will take a sleeping pill tonight. **

Magna Carta ~ An Ancient Charter that Lives

by John Schwartzentruber



In times long past, Kings and Queens ruled the lands in which our forefathers lived. Enjoying relatively unchallenged power, they collected burdensome taxes and removed the rights of the common people, reducing them to grinding poverty, starvation and want. One day the King might be a friend and give out land and titles, but if a lord or baron fell out of favour with the monarch, the next day might find him on the road, dispossessed of all lands and rights.

Eventually the common people grew weary of the oppression from the throne and the murmur of

discontent would break out in open rebellion. Thus it was that 801 years ago, on June 15, 1215, King John reluctantly signed the Magna Carta in Runnymede, England to stave off a revolt against his rule by barons unhappy with his heavy-handed misrule. Church of England Archbishop Stephen Langton was the document's main architect, an action influenced strongly by his concern for God-given human dignity. This historic document guaranteed certain rights for the people.

Among the benefits guaranteed under the Great Charter is a trial by

a jury of one's peers, a vast relief in comparison to the former system where the "Crown" could virtually impose sentences at will without even the need to prove guilt. It also included a prohibition against new taxes without the permission of some representatives of the people. Thus, for the first time, the Crown had to be responsible to the people. The authority of the monarchy was no longer absolute and liberty accompanied by justice were the enshrined right of every man, woman and child in the Dominion.

Today, the impact of this ancient document is still very

much felt - not only is it the basis of democratic government and the parliamentary process, it provides the foundation of constitutional law which stands as our lawful protection against encroachment by the “Crown”.

Ironically, as a result of its success in establishing checks and balances between governments and the people by whom they are elected to serve, we have become complacent in protecting those very rights and freedoms that the Magna Carta was designed to provide (indeed, it appears that many are even willing to give corrupt government a greater mandate in our affairs).

Having a full understanding of this reality moved former U.S. President Thomas Jefferson to make this profound statement: “The price of Liberty is eternal vigilance.” indicating that it is the duty of every citizen to guard against the steady, insidious creep of grasping government

bureaucracy. In simplest terms, we cannot “just trust government” to do the right thing. And we have many recent examples that verify that truth.

For most of us, it is far easier to just sit back and allow the Crown, or legislators, to make new laws that slowly erode our liberties rather than being engaged and influential in the process - sometimes because of indifference, while at other times just not understanding how much power we are actually capable of wielding as free citizens in a democracy or republic.

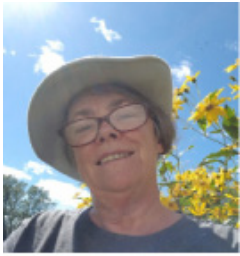
In spite of its antiquity, the Magna Carta, or Great Charter, is very much a superior Act of outstanding influence today because while King John lies long dead, his grasping spirit of oppressiveness dies reluctantly and continues to extend its cold reach from the grave. Therefore, it needs to be repelled by those who are “eternally vigilant” against the

strangle of malignant government overreach.

How is the democratic system to function effectively? It is an ongoing challenge to strive to find a balance between property rights and the level of government necessary to maintain some semblance of law and order. The Huron Perth Landowner’s Association meets regularly to discuss matters that arise on a local level as well as much broader legislative or judicial issues. All are welcome to attend and explore participation in an active and effective group of people. **

*John Schwartzentruber,
Huron-Perth Landowner’s
Association*





What will the City of Ottawa Look Like in 20 Years?

by Shirley Dolan

As I mentioned in my March OLA ENews article about the City of Ottawa's New Official Plan (Ottawa's New Official Plan Goes Off the Rails), what started out as a reasonable process soon became non-transparent and secretive in 2020 during the pandemic. The pandemic is still here, and the process has not improved – in fact, if anything, it has deteriorated.

My complaints with the process are:

1. All public engagement since the last draft of the New Official Plan was released in November 2020 has been through social media. This doesn't work well in rural Ottawa where broadband service is poor.

2. The New Official Plan public engagement website page is badly designed and out-of-date. Information is presented willy-nilly, and not in chronological order, as it should be. There are no timeline details between "Draft Official Plan Tabled in late 2020" and "Council Votes on the New Official Plan Fall 2021". We know that another version of the OP will be tabled in June 2021. <https://engage.ottawa.ca/the-new-official-plan>

3. Official Plan companion documents are difficult, if not impossible to find. The next step in any OP is a series of Master Plans but there is no mention of them on the engagement page, despite a promise by staff at their March 24th virtual meeting on the OP, to add them. By following a trail of breadcrumbs, I discovered the Energy Evolution Strategy document which shows that the Climate Change Master Plan is well on its way to completion. <https://engage.ottawa.ca/energy-evolution>.

4. The process continues to be non-transparent. Assuming we are connected and are trying to follow the process and study the documents, how are we supposed to know what documents are important and what the timelines for review are if this information is not available or not apparent on the engagement website. On March 24, 2021, the City had a virtual meeting titled New Official Plan Q&A. I attended and it was informative BUT we were told that although the meeting was being recorded, the session would not be made available to the public. I can't image why not!

5. Calls to delay the Official Plan have not been addressed at Committee or at Council. The Mayor, Jan Harder, Chair of Planning Committee, and Eli El-Chantiry, Chair of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee stated they will not put the request on their agendas. We are living in a changed world where intensification may not be the best strategy. I wrote to City staff on March 12 in support of the Federation of Community Associations' request to delay the City's Official Plan process to 2023. My letter also contained many questions about the direction the City is taking with their Official Plan and Energy Evolution Strategy. Other than getting a "Thank You for your Letter" response, I have had no reply. It is a fact that Covid cases are higher in densely populated areas. It is also a fact that more people are working at home, and these people are seeking housing outside of the City's boundaries. Is the City making the right decision by implementing a strategy that is "unprecedented in both action and investment" and seeks to achieve a higher population density than any other city in Canada?

Given the state of the Official Plan process, is it any wonder why more people are not asking where and why the City is going in the direction outlined in their OP and Energy Evolution Strategy? Here is my review of the Energy Evolution Strategy <https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/mtgviewer.aspx?meetid=7925&doctype=agenda&itemid=402444>

This document describes what Ottawa will look like in the next 20 to 30 years. "Developed in collaboration with more than 40 staff representing six departments, almost 200 public and private stakeholders representing more than 90 organizations, and the Climate Change Council Sponsors Group, Energy Evolution is a community-wide initiative with a vision to transform Ottawa into a thriving city powered by clean, renewable energy."

Published in September 2020 and received by Council at its October 28 meeting, this document outlines priority projects over the next five years to achieve Ottawa's GHG reduction targets. These targets align with those from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to realize the target of reducing

emissions by 100% by 2050. To achieve this (P. 12):

- All fossil fuels will have to be phased out;
- Heating and transportation systems will have to be nearly fully electrified or transition to zero emission;
- Waste heat utilization and renewable natural gas production will have to be added;
- Sufficient renewable electricity (mostly wind and solar) generation and electricity storage will be required to meet demand and offset emissions on the provincial grid.

Terms such as ambitious and aggressive have been used in the document to describe the strategy. “For Ottawa to achieve its short, mid, and long-term GHG reduction targets, the model calls for implementation of the aggressive scenario in almost all cases and in some cases, the model demands actions that exceed the aggressive scenario”.

What will it cost? “Out of the estimated \$7.4B investment required by the municipality, \$3.2B is required over the next five years to undertake the priority projects identified in Section 4. Of that, \$2.6B is required for the transit network alone.” On October 28, 2020, Council approved that the 2019 Hydro Ottawa dividend surplus of \$2.6M be used to fund a proposed spending plan in support of Energy Evolution projects. See the proposed spending plan at: <https://app05.ottawa.ca/sirepub/cache/2/>

What changes might we see?

- Reduced dwelling sizes (p. 49)
- The majority of trips to be made by sustainable modes by 2046 (p. 49)

- Local energy generation and storage by renewable energy. Today, less than 6% of energy consumes in Ottawa is generated in Ottawa. (p. 50) 100% of new homes are net zero emissions by 2030. (p. 54)
 - Existing building will be retrofitted, and new builds constructed to use heat pumps and electricity as natural gas, propane heating oil and diesel are phased out. (p. 51) Electricity becomes the primary fuel for all building types ... (p. 53)
 - (E)lectric vehicles must replace internal combustion engines and the use of diesel and gasoline as a fuel source for both personal and commercial vehicles. (p. 58) Electric vehicles (EVs) comprise 90% of new personal vehicle sales by 2030 and 100% by 2040. (p. 59)
 - ByWard Market and part of downtown Ottawa are car free by 2030 and Congestion charges, EV only areas and increased parking fees. (p. 60)
 - 98% of organics diverted by 2024 and 100% of paper waste diverted by 2042. (p.64)
 - Where will it be built? By 2025, the City plans to install: (p. 69)
 - o 150 MW Solar
 - o 20 MW Wind
 - o 20 MW Hydro
 - o 20 MW Electricity Storage
- If the photo below describes a place where you want to live, work and play, then fair dinkum. If not, what do we do about it?





‘Weight of the world’ lifted as City of Welland backs off farmland expropriation

*By Jordan Snobelen,
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter March 13, 2021*

Last summer, the ticking clock inside of Marsha Rempel’s Welland farmhouse became a tone of foreboding, counting down the remaining seconds of Rempel’s time on her family’s farmland.

Welland city council had voted last year to send Rempel packing and expropriate the farmland with plans to convert it into an industrial park.

Unbeknownst to her, the property had previously been rezoned as “gateway economic centre” for general industrial use.

Tumultuous months were spent by Rempel, a typically private person, fighting to remain.

News of the story spread across the country. Phone calls poured in, family members and a community group stepped up, signatures were added to a petition and letters arrived at her doorstep.

Asked this past February where she would go, Rempel said she

didn’t know. She still has family living in Welland, including her mother, Eleanor, but she now felt unwelcome.

“There are times you just feel sick about it,” she said at the time, thumbing through yellowed black and white photographs and archived documents of the family’s 150-year history on the land.

Finally, on the evening of March 2, the “weight of the world” was lifted from Rempel’s shoulders as the looming threat of expropriation vanished in an 8-3 vote by city council to stop the taking of the property.

Passed down through generations of farmers since 1859, Rempel’s grandparents, Frank and Mary Watters, previously owned the family homestead, known as the Watters Farm. Once home to farm animals, the majority of the then 67-acre property produced oats, wheat, red clover and corn.

In 1984, four years after Frank

died, Mary had grown tired of having responsibility for the property and the deed was transferred to Rempel. Mary later died in 1997.

The farmland is now rented out and planted with cash crops like winter wheat and soy beans, generating some income for Rempel, who is now 57 and retired.

“Basically when I wasn’t in school, I was here,” Rempel said of her childhood. “It was always a happy place.”

Ward 4 Coun. Bryan Green originally voted in favour of expropriation but eventually had a change of heart and brought forward two failed motions to rescind the move.

“I reflected on it, the significance of it ... if this wasn’t the only option, then I didn’t believe the expropriation should proceed,” he said.

Ward 2 Coun. David McLeod, one of three councillors who voted against stopping the expropriation on March 2, has remained unmoved

since the beginning.

Though “sensitive to the loss of agricultural land,” McLeod said he had to make a “decision that plans for the future” and citizens deserve an answer for how leadership will continue to grow Welland’s job base.

“I know it wasn’t necessarily a popular decision, I could have easily thrown my vote on the pile and carried on,” he said.

Ward 6 Coun. Bonnie Fokkens advocated throughout for Rempel, one of her constituents, believing the class three soils on Rempel’s land need to be preserved.

“I’m so proud of Marsha’s courage and the people that supported her,” Fokkens said. **

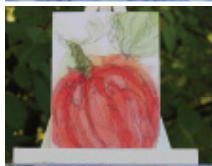
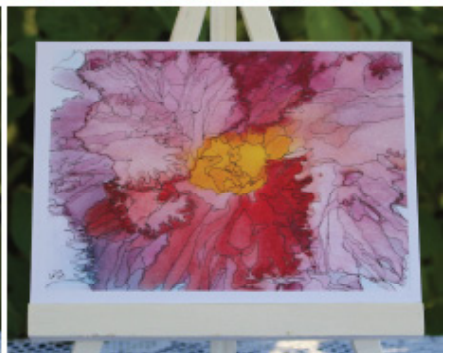
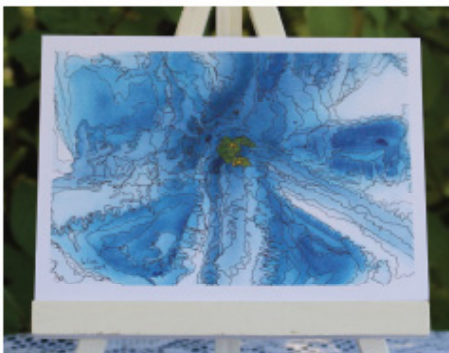


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DON'S THOUGHTS -

JUSTIN TRUDEAU - "THE GREAT RESET"

A CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER???

by Don Johnson

We can certainly define the past year, with its significant, indeed unprecedented, attacks on our constitutionally guaranteed freedoms, as stormy waters. One need simply compare our memory of life two years ago, with today, and there is not a doubt that both our civil and non-civil liberties have been constrained and put under attack.

Politicians at all levels, federal, provincial and municipal have all seized Covid as a golden opportunity to pursue their goals. They attack our rights under the guise of being a caring benevolent democracy, but, their actions are those of a left wing, dictatorial, national socialist, dare I say the "C" word, governing ideology.

Our own Prime Minister, when asked "what are his government's goals"; identified his desire, to bring about "a great reset", of the Canadian economy and Canadian society.

Our Prime Minister has not said the words, but by his actions, it is my belief that he is of the opinion, "it is our obligation as Canadians to subordinate ourselves to a concept that we are world citizens" and as such, we must subordinate our Canadian rights to those of the world.

If this seems far-fetched, perhaps you can explain to me

what is the purpose of the Canadian Government and the Provinces having all signed onto the UN agenda 2030 and its sustainability goals. Based on my understanding of agenda 2030, it is a direct attack on our right to own real property and it is in contravention to the 800+ years of English common law roots upon which, our country and society, is built, and our constitution is founded upon.

So let us place ourselves in our Prime Ministers shoes and ask "how does he overcome the problem of a constitution which will be difficult to change". How can he bring about his "Great Reset"?

To change the Constitution requires the consent of the people and that of the 13 Provinces/Territories agreeing to the changes. Not sure, but the way things are going, we likely also need the approval of all the indigenous natives also. Now that's not impossible but it is most definitely difficult and anything that really changes the constitution to increase his authority to effect his "great reset", will likely get shot down.

We need to study our Prime Minister and really try to understand who he is, and, what makes him tick.

I for one must say, I have had an epiphany. I admit I have no respect for his father and that clouded my

views of, the who and what which makes his son, our prime minister, tick. He came onto the scene as a "young, vibrant, pretty boy" with no experience in business, economics, world affairs, law or even balancing his own check book. Indeed, his life was one of entitlement and privilege and I further understand he is recipient of the "Trudeau Foundation Trust Fund" with its questionable receipt of significant donations from the Canadian Government under Chretien, and, from around the world, including even "china". At best, based on his lack of credentials, my expectations for him as prime minister were, that he would serve as a talking head for his backroom guys and be thrown a couple of insignificant bones to keep him in line.

But I have had an epiphany and come to a realization that I underestimated him and that he has a ruthless streak which although well hidden in public, has allowed him to take control with his selected henchmen. It is now apparent to me that he is driven by an insatiable goal to outshine his father and he won't be satisfied to be just a Canadian Prime Minister who, with time, will become a history footnote.

His ambitions are loftier and it appears to me his goal is to become a world statesman, using Canadian tax payer dollars and destruction of

Canadian rights and freedoms, as his staircase to becoming possibly the Secretary General of the UN as his crowning achievement.

Based on what I am observing, he has become a very dangerous politician. His actions reveal he doesn't believe rules apply to him till he is caught, at which time it is either ignore the criticism or plead guilty and bury it by deflection. The fact that the government is providing 600 million dollars of Government funding to the Canadian press to assist them in hiring journalists and allegedly to keep their doors open, makes it highly improbable that we can say we have a free and independent press of any significance left in Canada that will hold him accountable for anything but the most egregious of activities.

To effect fast and lasting significant changes to our way of life is exceptionally difficult, especially if he does it within the system.

To achieve and succeed in his "Great Reset", he needs to break eggs to make his desired omelette. But effecting change can get him kicked out of power so how did other leaders achieve their changes and stay in power? Well, he looks out to the world for others who have effected great changes in societies. Unfortunately it appears he has come to admire a certain type of leader, he is attracted to governments based on totalitarian ideas, leaders such as Xi Jinping of China, just as his father was inspired by Castro of Cuba, Mao of Cuba, Marx and Lenin of Russia.

His professed admiration for China's communist government leads me to believe our prime minister is at the point where he

is of the belief that "his perceived need for change, his "Great Reset", justifies any means he uses to accomplish this change".

I ask you, can you name any leaders in history that have utilized the same rational and the results of that action?

So how can he take the lessons from these role models and use them to achieve his goal.

Firstly he needs to change and dilute the views of Canadian citizens. This he does by use of state sponsored propaganda and with assistance of allies and organizations that, for their own reasons, want to see his desired changes happening because they will benefit from them.

Dilution is easy and you simply allow massive amounts of immigration into the country to grow the population and over ten years while roughly 3 million Canadians will die, 5 + million immigrants will come to replace them. Did anyone question there might be more than humanitarian reasons that the federal government wants to allow 3 million new immigrants to settle in Canada - in the next 5 years??

Propaganda isn't a real problem. All the government needs to do is identify a couple issues that command's the public's attention, then, it in great fanfare sets out to solve and protect the citizens. Wars are great for deflecting the attention of the public from domestic issues that might cause trouble for a government, but they are not really needed because if you control the education system, over ten years you can indoctrinate 4 million students who will become of voting

age replacing almost 3 million Canadian who will pass away during this period.

So do the math. In ten years, Canada's population of 37 million sees 6 million new citizens, has 4 million new voters and then loses 3 million of what we can say are mostly old guard Canadians and voila, come ten years from now, Canada will have a population of 43 million and a definite shift in political opinions.

Our prime minister is young, and perhaps he has time to effect all the changes he wants, but, based on history a time comes that the citizens decide he needs to go. Now his father had 15 years as Prime Minister which made him number 3 in longevity (after Mackenzie Kings 21 years and Mac Donald's 18 years) so being already 5 years into his term, history says he needs to effect a quickening of the pace.

So how can he avoid the constitutional problems to affect his "Great Reset" and also quicken the pace?

Well, you create an environment that allows you to circumvent the constitution and you find a way to boost your propaganda and indoctrination.

Does anyone see where my thoughts are headed?

You seize the opportunity to disarm the citizens of legally obtained firearms in the guise of stopping crime caused by illegally obtained guns. There are 160,000 auto accidents a year in Canada and about 2,700 citizens are killed, maybe we should ban the auto, whoops that's a bad example cause government is already wanting us

to all use public transit and stop using gas fueled vehicles. How's that working for you this past year?

Does anyone wonder if perhaps the Government in its infinite wisdom in declaring Covid as being a clear and present danger, an emergency of such stature, that it is a "not withstanding" event, which justified its (government) actions to suspend parliament, and, then too stifle parliamentary procedures; which also overturn's the constitutional rights of citizens, might be beneficial to the Prime Minister and his executive. Of course this decision was made by the Prime Minister and his cabinet and somehow wasn't put to parliament. Indeed how could it be as he declared the emergency and sent them all home.

How's does his unsanctioned 350 billion dollar deficit last year, which will be another 100 billion deficit or more in 2021, strike you as good government. We sure know he is spending a lot of money on Green Energy as a way to stop Covid.

Talking about Green Energy, let's consider the massive levels of propaganda promoting "the end of the world is coming due to climate change" (well global warming became a problem when the stats and data showed it wasn't happening) caused by man created carbon emissions. Forgive me for living, eating, breathing, passing wind and doing other life required necessities. Dang it, of course this is another event that requires the Government be able to overturn our constitutional rights and freedoms thusly the need for the government of Canada to take action and to force Canada and all Canadians to become a green, carbon free, sustainable society.

It's also a pretty good reason to attack property rights by declaring that Municipalities must now govern themselves to promote carbon reduction emissions. Too bad municipal councils haven't read the municipal act nor do they understand they don't have legal authority to impose this mandate onto private property, nor do they have authority to overturn "the conveyancing act", "the expropriations Act" and 150 + years of property common law precedents by the courts, by declaring private owned trees as property of the state. Read the Municipal Act of Ontario if I'm wrong I will be happy if you would be able to educate me to my error.

But of course we have a supreme court in which the Chief justice, put in power by the Prime Minister, ignores the law and takes it upon himself to make a ruling when he should have reclused himself and he declares the state of climate emergency is sufficient grounds to overturn precedents and to give the government authority it does not have the constitutional right to exercise. Wow! What Constitutional restraints??

I must say, the level of this Green Inspired Propaganda would have made Joseph Goebbels green with envy, if he was alive to see it.

My grandson this year in his grade nine geography class was being taught that the Greenbelt is good and that it is necessary that it be expanded to save the world from global climate change. I asked him what he thought and he said "my teacher is crazy but if I want to pass the course I have to shut up and agree with him"

Watch out what we say to our children cause one day who knows

what the state might do to those of us who might not agree with its views.

"The Great Reset!".

Well I don't know just what it is our Prime Minister wants to change to make things better for Canadians, but, based on everything government has done over the past number of years, we as Canadian citizens have more poverty, wealth disparity, destruction of our raw resource and industrial sectors, crime, public safety concerns, increasing grass roots anger with government policies and political unrest, than I can recall in the past sixty years.

I'd be happy to have a zoom meeting with the Prime Minister to allow him to tell me what it is he really wants to reset, but till he does, I have to base my conjectures on his actions, and, based on my epiphany, our Prime Minister has himself become "a very clear and present danger" to Canada and to our way of life.

That's my thoughts!

*Don Johnson
President Hamilton Halton
Landowner Association*

I am not a lawyer and this is not legal advise. These are my opinions, which are protected by "section 29(b) Freedom of Expression: The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

WHAT TO DO BEFORE THEY COME FOR YOU

Many of you will be familiar with a guide called “What to do WHEN They Come for You”. Written several years ago to help landowners cope with unwanted visitors who enter their property unannounced and uninvited, this guide is available in every edition of the Landowner Voices online magazine. At one time, we also had this information printed on small business-size cards that we made available to members and the general public at Landowner meetings.

The information in the guideline is more important than ever in the uncertain times introduced by governments in the hope of controlling COVID. No matter where you stand on these restrictions, especially in Ontario, of lockdown measures and the removal of civil liberties, it is a good idea to know your rights if/when an unwanted visitor comes knocking on your door.

For our “What to do When They Come for You” document, please see one of the editions of the online Landowner Voices magazine at <https://ontariolandowners.ca/>. We thought we should also provide some guidance on what to do BEFORE they come for you. Two simple suggestions:

- Make sure you have a barrier across the entrance to your property. This can be a gate or a chain, or even a rope – something to signal that there is no right of first entry.

- Post a no trespassing sign. In Ontario, a four-inch red dot is a universal no trespassing sign. You will sometimes see these painted on trees in woodlots along the fence line to indicate that trespassing, without permission of the owner, is not allowed. We prefer our OLA Back Off Government/No Trespassing signs. While the red dot may not be understood by everyone, there is no mistaking the message on our OLA signs. Contact your local Ontario Landowners Group <https://ontariolandowners.ca/ontario-landowners-association-ola-chapters/> to obtain a sign. For a limited time, we are offering the signs at no cost to members and for a small donation to non-members.



- It's a good idea to record (video or audio) any discussions with unwanted visitors about their right to enter your property so make sure your smart phone or other recording device is charged at all times.
- The National Farmers Union also offers some information on unwanted visitors to private property in Ontario. See <https://nfuontario.ca/new/know-your-rights-when-dealing-with-trespassers/>.

by the OLA



I'm From the Government and I'm Here to Help!



by Marlene Black

Many years ago, the president of the Ontario Landowners Association, Jack MacLaren, farmer and seed salesman, decided to take a stab at being an MPP at Queen's Park. There was a conservative MPP already in the position and had been for 30 years but the rural people were having problems with various levels of government and no solutions seemed to be coming forth. The Liberal government was in power at the time. At the leadership convention, Jack won and became our MPP. He did not have a government attitude but rather a landowner attitude which was if there is a problem, you solve it. Despite all the pushback against such an innovative idea, he tried to carry that message through to those who called him for help.

One of the many examples of the success of this technique was the "Ramp for Larry" story. One

day, a reporter called Jack to ask his opinion on a story that was in the news. In March of 2011, Larry Torrington lost his right leg below the knee due to complications from diabetes and had been in hospital getting therapy for 5 months. He was due for release in August but was unable to go home because he needed government funding to be able to build a wheelchair accessible ramp to his home.

The call came to Jack less than 2 weeks before Christmas. Larry had been in the hospital 3 months longer than necessary. When the reporter asked Jack for his opinion on the governments failure in this situation, he was not expecting the answer he got. "A ramp," said Jack. I know how to build a ramp and I know lots of rural guys who do also. We can build him that ramp and get him home for Christmas...and he did. A small group of guys went to Larry's

house and measured the yard and set about designing the ramp. Then off to a lumber store where the bulk of the material was donated to help out. Bob Ralph offered his shop in Richmond to build the sections for the ramp which was installed in Larry's yard just days before Christmas. It was a small example of what ordinary people can do when they set their minds to it.

Another example of get'er done was when a worried mother called on a Friday to Jack's office. He answered the phone and she told him her story of trying for two years to get the school bus to come to her street so that she didn't have to wait with her autistic son, at a busy intersection. Calls to bus lines, school boards etc. had not yielded her any movement. Jack said, "I'll be over to see your situation" and he did. The next week, the bus stopped at her house.





When I hear stories about bad water in some of our reservations, I think, we know well drillers. Why can't they just go and dig some wells. The answer eludes me. Part of it could be politics or red tape or perhaps people who are not 'solution-driven'. We've heard them all before. Can't clean that ditch until we hire a consulting firm and do a study and pay them \$100,000 before we put the report on the shelf and two years later, still a clogged ditch.

The City of Ottawa has 90 planners working on figuring out how to plan for our future, and they are pretty determined that they will get rid of oil and gas and maybe outlaw wood heat. "Who knows?" Their meetings are moving along without the public consultation in person because, you know, can't have meetings. We hear that windmills are coming to Ottawa. Does anyone have a plan for where they are going? Whose farm fields will be destroyed?

I have heard many smart men and women talking about the problems of getting rid of oil and gas and living on electricity only. I remember well, the ice storm of '98 and how our 400 family community of Munster Hamlet was in crisis. That was the only source of heat for those houses and they were desperate. No oil, no gas and no wood stoves and it was winter. The people all left to stay with friends or relatives in Ottawa, a few stayed behind with candles, huddled under blankets heating the room to save an expensive piano. What goes through the minds of bureaucrats that they would even think of getting rid of oil, gas and wood heat when we live in a country that is so cold for at least 1/3rd of the year and is

covered with renewable trees. Did anyone watch the news recently when Texas had a deep cold freeze and people were stranded with no food or water or heat. The windmills sat idle. The City of Ottawa shouldn't put all their eggs in one basket. We need several sources of heat to get through our winters.

It is time to bring common sense into the minds of those rule makers who think they are going green and saving the world. Take a look at all the problems that have happened elsewhere with wind power. The wind doesn't blow when you need it, windmills often don't turn at night, or in the very hot summers or in the extreme cold winters, so they don't work when you need them. Not to mention the huge truckloads of cement that are beneath each windmill. The creation of cement is one of the biggest releases of CO2 into the atmosphere. Windmills coming into rural communities have been very detrimental to the community as a whole, pitting neighbours against neighbours. The windmills that we visited in southern Ontario had houses on them and everyone we talked to, were renters. The cheap rent enabled them to put up with the constant whoosing noise and sun flicker. We need to put a stop to this insanity. We need that land to grow food on.

Whether it's an unwanted designation, destructive bylaws or rules that make no sense, our message to the City of Ottawa should be clear: Leave our farmland alone! **



Larry Arrives Home

Poncho and the Kidd

by Dale Dawson
daldawson@aol.com



It was a time when giants walked among us. They weren't found on television sets or the silver screen as those marvels were not a part of our younger days. Our early entertainment was ladled out in generous portions to all who would listen by those hard working and harder living woodsmen that strode the back country with reckless abandon. Although it was long ago, I can still remember many of their names and can picture them clearly in my mind. Some came to the lumber camp and stayed, eventually raising families in the area. Others remained a short period and then resumed their never ending search for fame and fortune. Some had travelled far and were hardened survivors of wars or other major conflicts. They all has a story to tell and the children of the area were eager listeners. On winter evenings, we could be found hiding in obscure corners and stairwells instead of in our beds being mesmerized by exciting tales. The tales were always more electrifying when told beside a crackling box stove on a cold winter night.

"Did you people ever notice that rebellions always occur in hot countries? I tell you boys that it's the heat that puts people out of sorts and makes them testy. You never hear of anyone starting a donnybrook in the far north." Patrick Fitzroy pointed his pipe around the room to emphasize his argument. The room was silent, so the burly man went on, "Now you take Mexico – that country is darn hot and there is always some new

upstart wanting to take over the reins of power. If you sent those hooligans up to the artic, they'd calm down soon enough."

Old Drummond Kidd seemed lost in thought as he sat staring at the stove. "Boys, did I ever tell you about the time that Poncho Villa chased me out of Mexico?" "I didn't know that you were ever in Mexico Drummy, but tell us about it," Fitzroy muttered, while packing his pipe with Zig-Zag tobacco.

"Well, I had a rundown hardscrabble farm about two days ride out of Juarez where I grew corn and kept a few chickens. As usual, there was a revolution going on at that time too. I didn't realize until just now that it was all on account of the heat. Poncho Villa was the big bull of the woods down there and he led a large ragtag army. Now, one of old Poncho's problem was that he had a lot more bullets than he had food for his troops. His men pillaged and looted their way across the land like a hoard of hungry army ants.

I was hoeing weeds one day when a few well-armed men rode up and inspected my cornfield. A scruffy looking sawed off fella, wrapped in a mustache and ammo belts, walked his horse over to where I was leaning on my hoe." "Buenos Dias, Gringo! You have some fine corn here, which will be needed by our great and mighty General, Poncho Villa. He will be leading our glorious army past your farm and this corn will be used to feed his men."

"I told the little pipsqueak that

I reckoned that old Poncho's money was as good as anyone else's. He was wearing a sarcastic sneer as he rode off.

It was the following Tuesday along about sundown when all hell broke loose. I was sitting on the porch enjoying the sunset when a small army of horsemen rode into the yard. I figured they were there to negotiate a fair price for my corn. They started shooting from a hundred yards off and cut two legs off my favorite chair which I happened to be sitting on at the time."

"My God, Drummy, what did you do?" Pat wheezed through the pipe smoke. "Well I sprang out of the kindling that had been my chair and hoofed it into the cornfield and I can tell you lads that I wasn't wasting any time. I was picking them up and laying them down. The bullets were whizzin' past me and I was whizzin' past the bullets. It was a good thing that it was getting dark and my overalls were a might dusty. Those varmints couldn't draw a proper bead on me. I was some scared boys and I knew that old Poncho was nippin' at my backside, so I never stopped running until I splashed across the Rio Grande."

We stared in awe at the white headed old man and wondered how much of his story was true.

"So, you never collected any money for your corn Drummy?"

"Nope. Old Poncho was never much at paying fair market value.

I can't digest corn to this day."

**



A Blast from the Past.... (November 2007) Fighting for archery owner, Bob Mackie against the Niagara Escarpment Commission, NEC (above) and Garry and Marg Kelly having some fun at a landowner party (below)



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 Yakubuski, 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!

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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

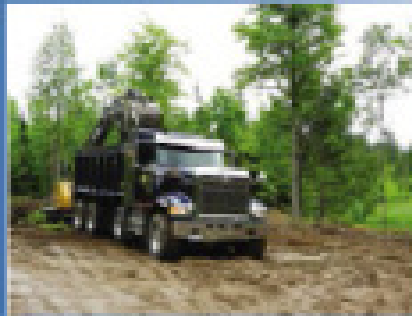
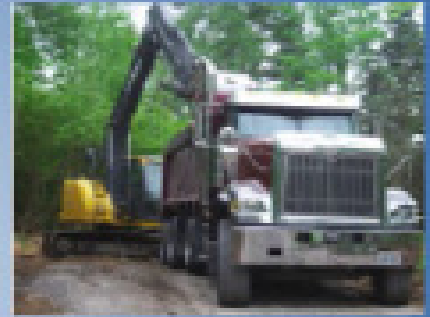
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