

Landowner Voices

A close-up photograph of a light brown horse with a white blaze on its face, leaning over a wooden fence and grazing in tall green grass. The horse's head is the central focus, with its ears perked up and its mouth near the grass. The background is a lush green field.

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Landowner Voices

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COVER PHOTO: Shirley Dolan took this photo of one of the horses on an Alberta Horse Farm..

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

September/October 2021



Hello Folks,

Views from the Farm

Well here we are, fall of 2021 and what a summer of turmoil we have been through. Here in Eastern Ontario, the weather has been very hot and very dry to the point where some areas had very little first cut hay, soybeans had trouble getting enough water to germinate and pastures were slow. Rain did come for most, just in time and the crops look pretty good. Farming is always about the weather first and prices second.

On the political front, it is looking at this time, like a minority government for either the Liberals or the Conservatives. While political promises from all parties would likely cost we, the people, more at tax time, the promises made by the NDP seem to be aiming at folks they perceive as wealthy. Landowners are often considered very wealthy by those who drive by big fields and barns in the country. The result of high capital gains taxes suggested by the NDP could completely destroy the ability of families to pass on the family farm or their small business. This would speed up what is already happening in this country's rural communities where disappearing small farms also eliminate the need for the small businesses that service these small farms. Farm machinery producers have had to refocus their production to sell to large corporate farms and drop many of their small equipment lines. Many of the smaller manufacturers have been bought up by the few remaining big players who had enough foresight or luck to have moved with the times to cater to the change of size in the farming industry.

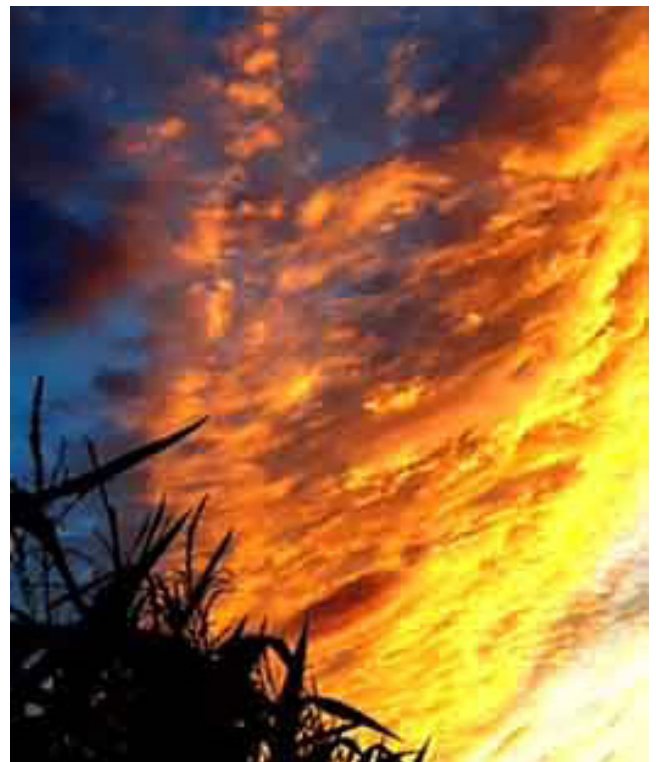
However, with big change often comes big problems for the modern farms. Most all new, complicated machinery comes with computer brains that control virtually everything about the machine. Unfortunately these electronic systems need trained technicians to calibrate function, diagnose failures and keep these new super machines going. The problem now is that in many areas, there are no dealers for fifty miles. Out west that can be one hundred miles. The diagnostic equipment is very expensive and many companies refuse to allow farmers to own the diagnostic equipment or the software to be able to fix their own equipment. To make things worse, now the Covid crisis has caused shortages of computer chips, hydraulic fittings, and even tires. This

has left existing dealers scrambling to source after-market parts from around the world.

So let's get back to the election of politicians to lead our country during this time of change in the world. All parties seem to want to drift to the left, where everything is free, granted by the state. Daycare, university tuition, guaranteed wage whether you work or not, and increasing minimum wage laws. This all results in a brainwashing program on our youth. They are not well informed on the history of the world as to how that utopian thought process has led to the failure of so many countries in the world, resulting in millions of lives lost and many more enslaved in a situation where they have no control of their family and future. It is so unfair to accuse our youth of being lazy and wanting everything given to them. The real truth is our modern kids are born with an open slate, the same as we were, and it is up to us to give them all our human history without prejudice so they can make their own informed decisions, instead of allowing the socialists complete control of their education diet.

We must consider well before we vote.

**



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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Autumn Memories

by Randy Vancourt

One of my strongest childhood memories is how the arrival of September always brought with it the inevitable return to school. I was a good, if slightly reluctant, student and the end of summer with its glorious freedoms never came easily. Long after I graduated the start of the school year still gave me chills not dissimilar to having Hannibal Lecter offer to share a meal of some fava beans and a nice Chianti.

Due to the pandemic our son stayed home from Grade One last year; we tried the online class offered by our school board but the comic value of watching his teacher's obvious computer ineptitude for five hours a day wore thin pretty quickly. My wife and I were both working from the house so we ended up homeschooling, a domain I had previously assumed was only occupied by hippies or crazy religious folks.

The social experiment is ongoing; our boy has reentered society in Grade 2 but is experiencing the same anxiety most kids go through when starting Grade 1. It may take a while for him to adapt to

mornings that start before 10 am and teachers that don't put wine in their coffee cups (I assume).

Our daughter has now started kindergarten with a vengeance. She has been playing "school" for months around the house, putting on her backpack and pretending to go to class. She attended her first

"Get me out of here." The reality of the daily grind didn't take long to sink in.

actual class today and when we went to pick her up afterwards she raised her arms up from behind the school fence and said, "Get me out of here." The reality of the daily grind didn't take long to sink in.

Of course we try to allay our kids' fears in the usual way; we tell them that we both went to school and how wonderful it was. We had so much fun and made loads of friends. However the truth is a bit more nuanced.

My Grade 1 teacher was a

gorgon, a perspective that has not softened with the passing decades. Every day after lunch she would inspect the class garbage can, pull out any food not consumed to her satisfaction then demand to know who had put it there. If the offender was identified this miscreant would then insist they eat the food in front of the rest of the class because, you know, hungry kids in Africa.

Grade 2? We never knew why but she frequently came to work slightly the worse for wear, laughing too much and slurring her words.

The Grade 3 teacher was pleasantly incompetent and rarely opened a textbook. She did however, spend days teaching students to dance around a Maypole to the Chet Atkins record, "Wheels."

Grade 4...she set the school on fire. Things calmed down a bit in Grade 5 but we made up for it in Grade 6. That teacher recently passed away and I was not shocked to see that former students' online comments were almost all negative. Quite a legacy to leave.

We all loved our principal, a wonderful, gentle man. The worst punishment a misbehaving student would receive was being made to go home for lunch. He also entertained us in class assemblies by marching around to “76 Trombones” while twirling a baton, which I suppose was what contributed to some parents pushing for his removal. I didn’t grow up in the most progressive town.

I can only assume that today’s teachers are a better crop than the ones I had. Certainly teacher training is far superior now, as is child psychology. In retrospect though I should really thank all these people for helping me develop a sense of humour and appreciation of the absurd that has served me well. I look forward to eventually regaling my own kids with these tales but perhaps I’ll wait a little while on that.

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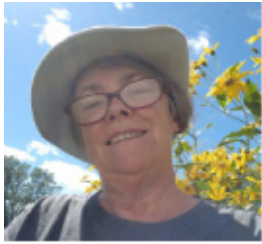
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Shutting Down Ontario's Electricity Supply

by Shirley Dolan

Why is the Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA) lobbying the Provincial government to shut down all gas-fired power plants? Helping our climate by phasing-out Ontario's gas plants | Ontario Clean Air Alliance OCAA states on their website that Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is looking into the possibility of doing just that (but at the same time requesting proposals for more gas-fired power). IESO is the Crown corporation responsible for operating the electricity market and directing the operation of the bulk electrical system in the province of Ontario.

According to IESO, on August 26, 2021, Ontario's projected peak demand for electricity was 23,500 MW This Hour's Data (ieso.ca). This is easily supplied by Ontario's electricity grid which I am told has a capacity of around 33,000 MW. This is excluding electricity generation from private generators such as those under the Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) program.

The amount of electricity from any one source varies to a degree. At 8 PM on August 26, IESO reported the supply from Ontario's assets as:

Source	Available Amount (MW)
Nuclear	10,196
Hydro	3,299
Gas	4,979
Wind	448
Solar	82
Biofuel	75

From this chart, we can see that gas-fired plants contribute a respectable share of our power. If we were to remove this source, with what would it be replaced? Wind and solar? Given that these two sources are intermittent suppliers of energy, it doesn't seem like a good fit. One of the little-

known facts is that wind turbines use external electricity to, among other things, run their lights, start and stop, and to power their microprocessors. Consumption of Electricity by Wind Turbines [AWE0.org] No-one has ever done the math, but it is conceivable that wind turbines are often running at a loss in terms of energy production.

OCAA is suggesting that Ontario accept power from Quebec's massive waterpower system as a means of phasing out the gas plants. But Ontario has hydro capacity that is not being used. Why import more from another province?

In defense of gas-fired plants, Parker Gallant suggests that they have saved Ontario from rolling brownouts during the August heat wave. Apparently, California will set up five temporary gas-fueled generators around existing power plants throughout the state to avoid blackouts and boost the state's grid.

One thing is clear – the groups lobbying for the shut-down of all fossil fuel usage is large, well-organized, vocal, and they have the ear of governments at all levels. The City of Ottawa, for example, wants to move away from the Ontario grid and invest in their own electricity supply by installing as many as 710 industrial wind turbines, approximately 36 sq. km of solar panels, and 122 large shipping containers of lithium batteries to replace all fossil fuel sources of energy, including electricity from natural gas.

Ruby Mekker, co-manager of Industrial Wind Action Canada asks the new Ministers of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (the Hon. David Piccini) and Energy (the Hon. Todd Smith) to shut down industrial wind turbines in Ontario. Now that makes sense! (next page)...

Perhaps more of us should be writing to our MPPs so they have a more balanced view of what constituents want.

**



Ruby Mekker explains the locations of the many wind turbines in the Nation Rise Wind Farms just east of Ottawa and the many issues that people were having with them. The people who came to the demonstration, July 27/21 in Embrum were concerned about the plan for over 700 Industrial Wind Turbines on Agricultural land in Ottawa. (see her letter to the Minister.)

“Minister Piccini, Minister Smith,

As we have come to expect in Ontario, “peak demand” generally occurs on hot summer days and the hour ending at hour 17 on August 20th was the most recent occurrence coming in at # 8 of “peak demand hours” so far this year.

Demand at the above hour reached 21,569 MW and the bulk of that needed demand was supplied by Nuclear, Hydro and Natural Gas generators. At that hour gas plants supplied 25.9% (5,587 MW) of demand while wind generators managed to produce only 0.45% (98 MW) of demand and the bulk (53 MW) of that came from the Greenwich Renewable Energy Project a 99 MW station located Northeast of Thunder Bay so none of their generation was useful in the well populated areas of the province. The other 40 plus wind turbine generating stations scattered throughout the province produced only 45 MW which probably didn’t even cover their consumption during that hour.

Recognizing that industrial wind turbines contribute very little to Ontario’s grid at times when power is most needed, recognizing the high cost to all Ontario ratepayers and knowing of the adverse health effects experienced by people living in these projects, I am asking that you shut down all industrial wind turbine operations in Ontario.

Ruby Mekker
Finch, Ontario”

Toby and Me

by Dale Dawson
daldawson@aol.com



People who classify man's best friend as "just a dog" have a lot to learn. I've been lucky to have had dogs in my life all through the years. They have all been different and special in their own way. Mankind could take lessons on loyalty and forgiveness from our canine friends.

Toby was a hobo. He was a long haired white dog of medium stature with a smiling face and kind brown eyes. We first heard of Toby when our son called with a story of a lovable stray dog that had to be put down and nobody wanted him. The local dog catcher had already taken the dog to a veterinary clinic, but Toby was such a charming fellow that the soft-hearted man had taken him back home again. The problem now according to the voice on the phone was, Toby's time had run out.

Don't you just hate it when you are put on the spot like that? My better half decided that we were getting low on dogs and that Toby would be a great addition to our family. An hour later

the front door opened and a white tornado charged through the house leaving flying debris in his wake. He was smiling happily as he lifted his leg and wrote his name on a nearby wall. This got my attention and I

He dug out one
of my daughter's
favorite trees
one day just for
practice. That
episode nearly had
us banished
from the Island.

leaped into action. I quickly scooped him up and tilted him onto his back. The plan was to neutralize his spraying apparatus by using gravity and it seemed to work.

There was another problem – the smell emitting from his coat brought tears to my eyes. Immediate action was needed. I held the squirming bundle upside down while my wife filled the bathtub with warm soapy water. Then the fun started. Toby applied the brakes and I ended up skidding him down the hall and then hoisting him up once more. At the bathroom door he managed to turn sideways and spread



eagle himself with all four paws clinging to the door frame. With great effort I managed to wrestle him into the tub where we both had a fine bath. The end result of the bath episode was that Toby sulkily refused to ever lift his leg indoors again. This was met with our approval.

We have a fenced area for our dogs which Toby took as an insult to his wondering ways. He immediately began conspiring with the beagle on a plan to break out. Digging was his specialty. He would dig like a front end loader while the beagle cheered him on. It was amazing to look out the window and see a big rooster tail of dirt flying skyward and the beagle dancing along the opposite fence creating a diversion. They escaped numerous times which raised my blood pressure to dangerous levels. They would usually come slinking back after midnight covered with mud. The beagle was always sad and apologetic, but Toby would just sit there smiling happily over their grand adventure.

The two dogs were soon joined by an abandoned German Shepherd that had hitchhiked home with us one cold March day. Toby quickly tried to entice the Shepherd into joining him and the beagle on a safari in the nearby woods. He was unsuccessful in this endeavor. The newcomer had been an abused city dweller and he knew a good thing when he found it.

Toby, being an experienced traveller enjoyed our trips to the Maritimes. We towed a U-Haul trailer on one occasion which Toby found very confusing. He sat backward the whole way voicing his disapproval at the following menace. Toby had never seen such blatant tailgating in all his life.

Our beloved canine liked PEI where the digging was easy. He dug out one of my daughter's favorite trees one day just for practice. That episode nearly had us banished from the Island.

Toby was a happy fellow that loved nearly everything and everybody – except skunks and men with ponytails. He would attack either one on sight. My wife and daughter hurried home from a walk one day without Toby after being accosted by a skunk. Apparently, all the humans and dogs present had chosen a hasty retreat – except Toby. He attacked. He saved them with his bravery and what thanks did he get? They called him unflattering names over their shoulders and left him to face the smelly foe. I took Toby's side on the issue and was given the unenviable task of bathing him. To make matters worse, we were banned from the house. I spent the next two hours in the dark wrestling Toby in and out of a washtub in the back yard. I was a tad ripe myself by the time the operation ended.

Dale Dawson

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Auditor General Releases Special Report on Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Ontario Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk issued 24 recommendations in a new report about the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. That includes 18 for the authority and six for the province. (Nathan Denette/The Canadian Press)

On September 27, 2018,, the Auditor General of Ontario, Bonnie Lysyk, released a special report on the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA), detailing a number of substantial operational issues at the organization.

Resulting from mounting concerns and criticism of the NPCA, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts of the Legislative Assembly asked the Auditor General last year to conduct an audit of the NPCA.

“Our audit also found that the governance structure established in the Conservation Authorities Act (Act) and weaknesses in the NPCA Board’s oversight were two of the key contributors to the operational problems at the NPCA that have been the subject of public concerns and criticisms,” said Lysyk in a release.

The report found that the NPCA has taken steps to improve its operations and has several initiatives under way. Nonetheless, the report states that the NPCA has significant operational issues to address in order to restore public trust and deliver its programs

and services economically, efficiently, and effectively.

NPCA’s chief administrative officer, Mark Brickell, released a statement that concurred with many of the findings in the special report. “NPCA concurs with, and is firmly aligned with, all of the recommendations of the Auditor General put forth in this report, most of which relate to process improvements and policy refinements.” Brickell points to the hiring of a procurement specialist and a compliance and enforcement officer as examples of the NPCA improving its operational accountability.

Some specific operational issues identified in the audit included:

- In the absence of a long-term staffing plan, the NPCA implemented four costly organizational restructurings between 2012 and 2017, which contributed to significant employee turnover, employee morale issues and grievances. As well, administrative spending rose 49 per cent between 2012 and 2017, while spending on watershed services dropped 18 per cent over the same period.

- Impacted by staff reductions, the NPCA is taking significantly more time to review both municipal development proposals (from an average of 16 days in 2013 to 38 days in 2017) and work-permit applications (from an average of 29 days in 2013 to 37 days in 2017).

- The NPCA does not consistently track or respond to complaints about potential violations (e.g., when wetlands are destroyed or debris is dumped in waterways) within its jurisdiction. The report found that one-quarter of the complaints reviewed about possible Act violations between 2013 and 2017 were still open.

- The NPCA proposed a pilot project to allow provincially significant wetlands in Thundering Waters to be destroyed and to recreate a wetland area three times as large elsewhere, to facilitate development in Thundering Waters. However, the NPCA had not studied the site’s ecosystem to determine if it contained unique features that cannot be replicated.

- For more than half of the \$3.8 million in purchases

between 2013 and 2017 reviewed by the office of the Auditor General, the NPCA did not adhere to its own policies for the competitive acquisition of goods and services.

Overall, the report makes 24 recommendations, including to addressing conflict of interest among board members; the lack of assessment of board and CAO performance; appropriate identification of flood-prone areas; inconsistency in criteria used to review development

proposals and work permit applications; a one-year suspension of the program to improve water quality and funding for that program not appropriately directed during its operation; and misspending nearly one-third of the \$3-million Welland River Restoration Fund. **



Did You Know?

Many rural residents are unaware that the City of Ottawa is planning to build more than 700 industrial wind turbines on rural Ottawa farmlands.

Yet, there is no cost-benefit analysis, no impact analysis, and no full honest accounting of what reliance on costly intermittent renewables such as wind (and solar) will cost Ottawa's energy consumers.

Ottawa Wind Concerns writes "Ottawa's Energy Evolution plan trashes city Healthy Environments policy". www.OttawaWindConcerns.com

Wind power is mentioned in the City's NEW Official Plan and further discussed in its Energy Evolution plan (approved in October 2020). The final draft of the NEW Official Plan is scheduled to be released on August



20th, 2021. Comments can be made at engage.ottawa.ca/the-new-official-plan.

If you think, as we do, that industrial wind turbines are NOT a good solution for Ottawa, let your councillor know before it's TOO LATE!

Why so quiet about something that will change rural life in Ottawa forever?

Plans to develop an all-electric city under the management of Hydro Ottawa are contained in the Energy Evolution document approved by council in October 2020 ... while we were thinking about COVID.

All the City of Ottawa councillors accepted the plan to construct more than 700 industrial wind turbines on rural lands. They say there is currently no actual process to apply for large scale wind projects in Ontario BUT if there were, you can bet your councillor would support it.



Think before you sign!

Have you been approached by an industrial wind turbine company to host industrial wind turbines on your property? Although there is currently no actual process to apply for large scale wind projects in Ontario, political will changes quickly. We ask that you think before you sign!

ABOUT

- Strained relations with neighbours, friends, and family
- Health concerns from industrial wind turbines
- Safety issues
- Bird and bat deaths
- Potential harm to your well water
- Reduced property value
- Non-disclosure agreements which mean the landowners cannot complain about any negative effects, e.g., noise, flashing lights, altered water well function,
- Restrictions on what you can do with your land
- Noise pollution and harm
- No more pristine rural landscape
- Electricity costs go up for everyone

The Carleton Landowners Association wishes to thank Ottawa Wind Concerns for their ongoing efforts to raise awareness about the City's plans for the construction of more than 700 industrial wind turbines on prime farmland.

Please consider supporting them with a donation to help with their sign campaign. The signs are making a difference! Send a cheque to Ottawa Wind Concerns with a note "Signs" to:

Wind Concerns Ontario
PO Box 91047
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(We are using WCO's mailbox as we don't have one)

OntarioLandowners.ca





Media Spin bullies honest Journalism

*by Ian Cumming
Agricultural Journalist*

A wise lady on an Agriculture mental health webinar last winter, talking about keeping yourself on track, advised that “conversations with the winners is different.”

A perk of this job is to talk with them whenever you want, and agriculture has scores of winners to interact with.

A recent nine – hour round trip to a Quebec dairy farm with three friends, two dairy farmers, plus a retired school teacher farming neighbour, made for such an outing.

In my mailbox the next morning was a hand – written note. “Many thanks for the day, at Holstein heaven. What a treat. I also recognized the wonders of your work as a reporter for farmers.”

My neighbour had stood the day before in the control room beside multiple milking robots and kept saying, “I used to milk by hand.” He saw us react when the door was slid open and we probably saw the best show cow in the world right now, newly calved.

But where he really connected was when our hosts shared in detail about the child on that farm that could not walk

or feed himself. My neighbour is a deeply religious man who loves a severely autistic son – which he didn’t relate to the lady telling the heartfelt story – but one saw the respect he had for her.

I once had put in print that this was the smartest lady that I ever met. For the rest of the tour that day, as far as my neighbour was concerned, she walked on water.

But just as this dairy producer has other cows to put milkers on twice a day, not of the caliber of that show winner, a reporter has to continually write articles. That are not always of the winners that are in this industry.

The flip side of agriculture journalism from covering honest, smart, enterprising farmers, and those providing technology and service to them, has turned into something downright strange and sinister. Its as if the public’s intelligence should be scorned.

Governments spout absolute tripe. Nearly all of them, at all levels and parties. Why do some journalists feel compelled to quote them?

But that is only part of it. Perhaps it took that farm visit to provide the contrast, in

order to call out the political side of controlled agriculture journalism for what it has become.

It was the next day reading the online comments of one of those agriculture media “professionals,” where a four – word phrase the person made, summed up what we are letting smug media advisors make of a great profession.

“The stories you stopped” was the online self congratulatory phrase cited as a badge of honour, amongst the elite of this manipulation. Therefore, controlling what hard working, honest farmers should or shouldn’t know.

What stories have they “stopped” exactly? COVID bumbling? The debt? Chinese investment in agriculture? The court challenge against reactionary legislation? Great crops mocking climate disaster decrees?

You can keep things on the back burner, or those veering from the official narrative under sustained attacks for a while. But when, for instance, sections of the whole country of India legalize the use of Ivermectin for millions over the age of 18 and COVID deaths start to plummet, people

notice when Canadian government subsidized media ignores that.

But on the other hand, point out these verified facts quoting medical experts – as a reporter should – and the organized vilification is launched.

Lets' take the fair city of Kingston and its esteemed, oh so in tune moral council, recent masterful diversion.

Tearing down Sir John A's statue, because he bumbled at assimilation of native people well over 150 years ago, is a head fake for the brainless. The brilliance of it has these media advisors prints all over it.

But in this pandering to the vandals political realm, today, now, why did council allow 88 Chinese workers crowded worse than caged layers, in five small houses?

While the new facility they built with imported material is malfunctioning and crumbling in some situations. At least Sir John A's railroad kept the trains on the tracks.

In access to information documents, there were warnings to council of documented China food safety concerns.

In this lifetime, you'll never "stop" journalists who respect the public and the "wonders of our work."

**



Cows and Churches



by Mel Fisher

A page from Willie Brant's diary -- Went over to Joe's place this morning to see if I can give him a hand. Time to scratch together what hay we can; I am OK, I just have a couple of goats to feed, but he has a herd of cattle. He was out in the yard greasing up his old haying equipment, and greeted me with "Hi, c'mon in, it's time for a break for a coffee before we get out into the field."

We got settled; Joe put out some stitious-looking cookies, or are they crackers, and a couple of mugs of coffee. "So, how's it look for feed this year?" from me, his reply "Well, I could try to cut some of the old abandoned fields around here, but I don't think I will bother, I will just have to let a few cows go, time to shrink my operation anyway". I added "Wonder what this drought will do to the price of beef," and Joe said "hard to tell. Guys will be sending in some old cows, but these mostly get made into hamburger and dog food, regular cuts come from young stock. So maybe hamburger goes down for a while, but if we reduce the herd there won't be as many calves and maybe the regular cuts will go up in the next couple of years, maybe in the end there will be more money for producers", this said around a mouthful of cookie.

Silence for a minute, then Joe said "I just ran across something interesting. The claim is made that after decades of shrinking, religious congregations of all kinds are growing handsomely this past year or so. Christianity is especially growing in Africa, and China, and Europe. How do you explain that? I put that together with an Ontario study which found that congregations of more traditional churches are growing, especially among young people, while those churches who have adopted the more modern, less restrictive model are still shrinking."

"So, what does this have to do with cows - did I miss something?" from me; he came back with "No, I just haven't had a chance to talk about

this new idea, you haven't been around for a while." So I said "OK, there is more to this new idea than some church studies, lay it on me, there is still too much dew on the grass for us to get at the hay", and Joe laid his latest theory out.

He said every civilization has a set of rules or guidelines to go by, ours was our Christian religion for the last few thousand years. But now we are ruled by a self-appointed elite who have invented their own set of rules and thrown out the Christian way of life. The family based way of life, a father, a mother, raising kids and being taken care of by the kids in their old age, living in and serving a community. The new rules are utter selfishness, just doing what comes naturally, no responsibility for looking after themselves much less family or community. And we see insanity and lies everywhere we look, clearly the new rules are not working, our society is in trouble. Young people see no future for themselves, and some are starting to look for answers by looking at the way of life of their grandfathers, and so the rise in interest in religion!

I thought about this on my way home, and tried to put it in perspective. Insanity and lies is the word, we see contradictions every day on the news, so we have no real idea as to what is going on. It isn't likely good, might it lead to war? Inflation? Depression? Our self-important educated elite do not seem to even realize what a mess they have created. Our politicians and political parties and media are all part of the problem, not much help there.

Maybe Joe is right, maybe the only real hope we have of turning this ship around is our churches.

I think I will go to church on Sunday. Haven't been for a while, what with the lockdown and so on.

Blog and facebook Aug 11/21

Carleton Landowner Meeting at Shirley Dolan's Farm, August 23, 2021



Monday, August 23 saw 19 Carleton Landowner members enjoy a lovely, relaxing meeting among friends. Shirley Dolan offered her farm, the weather was good and all were happy to be able to meet again in person. Previous meetings were held at Tim and Diane's farm.

CLA President Tim Mount chaired the meeting and Shirley Dolan took notes for the minutes. Some of the key points up for discussion were:

- Shirley informed everyone that the New Official Plan for Ottawa includes a proposed 710 wind turbines for rural Ottawa with no specific locations decided. There was concern about the many health issues and irritation that these turbines cause to neighbours as well as doubts as to their effectiveness during winter and when the wind isn't blowing.
- Shirley Dolan handed out copies of the flyer that she designed outlining. This was an information only flyer as many rural residents did not seem to know about the wind turbines coming. Marlene and Shirley mailed out 546 of these flyers to unaddressed farms in the Ottawa area. The 2 sided flyer is on page 14 and 15 of this magazine.
- A great information talk from Bruce Crustie on the Hobbs drain and issues he was having with municipal drains and the dumping of huge amounts of water on private property.
- Tim opened the meeting to further discussions on any other issues.
- The meeting adjourned as the sun was setting in the distance.

ARE UNLAWFUL OFFICIAL PLANS THE TOOL TO TAKE CONTROL OF PRIVATE PROPERTY?

Opinion Piece Submitted by Donna Burns

On Thursday, August 19th the Renfrew County Council held a “public meeting” through computer access only for the purpose of approving their Official Plan Amendment from the previous Official Plan that was adopted by the province in March 2020. It was very obvious to those who have computer access and technology to view this public meeting, that it was already pre-arranged to adopt these Amendments that night regardless of what input the public had submitted. Immediately following the “public input”, the council did a “recorded” vote to unanimously adopt it. There was no discussion during the meeting or no plans for discussion following the meeting. Four Days later those who provided written or verbal submissions received a “Notice of Decision” from the County where it states the “*Subject Lands: Amendment applies to all lands within the County of Renfrew*” and IF they wish to “appeal” their decision, that they must pay \$1,100.00 to the Minister of Finance”.

Imagine...paying \$1100.00 (payable to the province) for each submission to appeal their decision for an UNLAWFUL Official Plan bylaw. Even the Province approved the UNLAWFUL official plan – they had to know, when they approved it, that the County did not follow the rules of the Municipal Act and Planning Act when they created this official plan. Approximately 800 property owners submitted letters to the County Council the first time, objecting to the Official Plan and demanding the provincial designations that were unlawfully applied against their private properties be removed. This was ignored, even though they were reminded and provided with the various sections of the Municipal Act and Planning Act which states: **they must acquire the land with the consent of the property**

owner before they can develop any feature of the Official Plan.

The County Council was also made aware of the **Legal Nonconforming Rights** for Property Owners under Sec 34 of the Planning Act. On May 14, 2021, Gowlings WLG Municipal Group published an article stating: “*LEGAL NONCONFORMING RIGHTS are one of the most powerful protections to landowners under land use planning law.*” **Legal nonconforming rights** mean that a municipality does NOT have the authority to pass a new bylaw against a property that has already been classified for a specific purpose.

*“The concept is codified in s. 34(9) of the Planning Act, which explicitly provides that a zoning by-law **cannot prohibit the use of land, a building, or a structure** that was lawfully commenced on the date the by-law was passed. Under the common law, the **protections for legally nonconforming rights are even stronger.** A series of decisions dating back to the 1950s, including from the Supreme Court of Canada, have established that owners also have a right to evolve or reasonably expand or intensify a legally nonconforming use.”*

Therefore, it would seem if there never was a “water setback land restriction” on a property when it was purchased by a property owner, then the municipality cannot enforce that water setback restriction today in the form of a bylaw; or if there is a property that was never zoned as EP (environmentally protected) when it was acquired by a property owner, then a municipality cannot zone it retroactively. Also, it would seem, they cannot demand that a property owner pay thousands of dollars for an “environmental impact study” (approx. \$18,000.00) if he should wish to put a new structure on his property that

would “expand his legal nonconforming use”. Perhaps this also applies to “trailer bylaws” that many municipalities try to enforce against private property owners. If a private property owner wishes to put a trailer on his land, where does a municipality have the authority to prevent him from doing so under the legal nonconforming rights? Of course, there is also the fact, that municipalities **MUST ACQUIRE** the land before they can exercise their authority on it! “They cannot zone it, if they do not own it!” The link for this article on legal nonconforming rights is: <https://gowlingwlg.com/en/insights-resources/articles/2021/legal-nonconforming-rights-trilogy-in-ontario/>

In 2013, we challenged our local municipality on the validity of their dog tag bylaw as a result of being charged for failing to purchase a dog tag that tied us up in the court system for 5 years. We showed that the municipality was misleading the public to believe that they have the authority to charge a fee for the ownership of a dog when in reality, the Municipal Act states, in section 103 and section 105, that the Municipality only has authority to impound or muzzle dogs, running at large. The Official Plan appears also to mislead the public, to believe the municipality has the authority to regulate what you can and cannot do on your private property... when, in reality, the Municipal



Having been provided with the various sections of the Municipal Act and Planning Act in the past and then being reminded again for a second time, it appears that County Council, the CAO, and Planner are not doing their due diligence to verify the information outlining where their authority begins and ends within these two Acts. In my opinion, this clearly illustrates their Official Plan bylaw has exceeded their authority in law and therefore, this by-law is UNLAWFUL. Which reminds me of the Whitewater Region dog tag bylaw.

Act states they **must enter into an agreement with the property owner to either expropriate, purchase or lease the property BEFORE they can exercise their authority on that property.**

It is my opinion, Renfrew County Council has knowingly exceeded their authority and is continuing to take control of private property from the people, by using official plans to do so. In so doing, this may: (a) devalue the private properties; (b) restrict the use of private properties sufficiently, hoping the property owner will give up and walk away; and (c) enforce regulation on private properties that will demand

costly studies before a property owner can expand or make any improvement to his land/property. Actions like this, show that the Council Members have more interest in serving the needs of the Municipal Corporation, than they do in protecting the welfare and legal interests of the constituents – the shareholders of this Municipality who have trusted them to protect their investments. Their actions are throwing property owners under the bus.

This is the **2nd time**, this has happened with Renfrew County Council. Based on this fact alone, how can they plead “Immunity” under section 448(1) of the Municipal Act, that they were ... “*acting in good faith*” ... under the instructions of another person? The Councillors guide, issued by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, explains the role of Councillors and that they are required to READ the Municipal Act in its entirety, to know it and to understand it, **before** they approve any bylaw, such as the Official Plan. IF, they had read and understood the Municipal Act, they would know:

1. a) **Sec 6**, explains that they must expropriate, purchase or lease land belonging to a property owner and compensate them fairly in accordance to the “provincial” Expropriations Act. Since Council has NOT entered into agreements with the property owners, yet they still applied provincial land designations on those properties without compensation, this is called “**constructive expropriation**”; and, **under the Municipal Act, they do not have authority to do so.**

1. b) **322\12** of the Municipal Act for “Local Improvements” states: “private” means with respect to a work or property that is not owned by the municipality. And further, in Part III under that Regulation, sec. 36(1) states: “any undertaking works as local improvements on private property require the consent of the property owners”. **The official plan is “community improvements for the local municipality” – did they get consent of the property owners?**

1. c) **Sections 10 and 11** state: “A municipality may pass a bylaw on a “public asset” that must be acquired before they can exercise their authority on it. **Any property a municipality acquires, through expropriation, purchase or lease, must be for the use of the public (a public asset). Once the Official Plan is adopted, it then becomes a “bylaw”. Did they legally “acquire” all the lands within the County to enforce their authority on it?**

1. d) **Section 14** states: “A bylaw” is of no effect, if it conflicts with any provincial or federal act, or any instrument (Crown Land Patent Grant) of a legislative nature”.

- Did they read the provincial **Real Property Limitations Act** that defines what “land” is and what it includes? Also sec. 3 of this Act states: “no entry, distress or ACTION shall be made on behalf of Her Majesty (the province) for the recovery of any land until AFTER it has been accrued. **The provincial designations are an “action” and “distress” is when a property owner is prevented to make any change to his property without paying thousands of dollars for a “study”.**
- Did they read the provincial **Farming Food and Protection Act** (sec 6) that states: “no municipal bylaw applies to restrict a normal farm practice carried on as part of an agricultural operation”. Definition of a “normal farm practice” is at the beginning of the Act. **“Wetlands” or “Environmental Protected” is a provincial designation that often interfere with a farming operation.**
- Did they read the provincial **Forestry Act**, sections 11 & 12 that state: the land must be acquired before the municipality can create bylaws to regulate it. **Example: tree cutting bylaw.**

1. e) **Section 135** of the Municipal Act states: a municipality must refer to the **Forestry Act** before making any bylaws to the woodlands.

Public interest in Renfrew was strong as seen by the attendance at the Sept. 23, 2016 information meeting about the Official Plan



Under the Criminal Code Act there is also Section 430(1)(c) under Mischief states: “Every one commits mischief who wilfully obstructs, interrupts or interferes with the lawful use, enjoyment, operation of property is guilty of an indictable offence with possible imprisonment up to two years; or guilty of an offence on a summary conviction (means no jury).

What is wrong with municipal councils, planners and CAO's that they would put themselves at risk of civil action brought against them for doing harm to a private property owner? Do they really believe they are “immune” from the decisions they make? When they campaign at election time and promise to make sure their local government is transparent and accountable for their actions, what happens once they get elected? Why do they remain silent and not question the actions of the staff that, clearly, they would not consent to, if these decisions were applied against their own properties?

When Pierre Trudeau amended the 1867 Constitution (British North American Act) in 1982, he did **not include** Property & Civil Rights because the provinces DID NOT want the Federal Government to have control over their public and private lands. Property Rights ARE protected under the Province of Ontario wherein it states:

1. *In all matters of controversy relative to property and civil rights, resort shall be had to the laws of England as they stood on the 15th day of October, 1792, as the rule for the decision of the same, and all matters relative to testimony and legal proof in the investigation of fact and the forms thereof in the courts of Ontario shall be regulated by the rules of evidence established in England, as they existed on that day...*

Now that this information is “out in the open” for ALL to see, hopefully we won't suddenly learn that there are “big changes” to our legislation that gives more power to government and removes our right for the protection of private property. THAT would certainly confirm that government plans to remove property from the people, wouldn't it? The purpose of this article is to educate the public about private property rights and that there is legislation in place that protects government from misleading you to believe THEY have total control over the use of your property – they cannot have that control UNLESS you consent to it. Think about who you VOTE for. Are they taking the position to **protect** your investment; or are they taking the position to **remove** your investment from you? Actions speak louder than wordsremember that.

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Veggie Bites 72

Combat Gardening



by Judith Cox



Greetings fellow gardeners,

We got some cooler temperatures, and the world is finally comfortable. I am not a fan of high heat and humidity. The radish seedpods are quite delicious in my salads and the flea beetles found my radish seedlings. I am curious to see if the radish will form with only sticks for leaves.

How are your peppers? This is my best pepper year ever. I know it is because I started my seeds in February. In previous years I never got this lovely, lush growth and all the fruit, I have three types of peppers: pimento, paprika and jalapeno. In February when I planted the pimento pepper seeds, they were frustratingly slow. Now I have peppers turning red and soon these sweet red fruits will be ready to eat. I am going to try to save the seeds from the peppers, but I am not sure if they will be viable. Probably best to buy more seeds, collect seeds as well and do a comparison. The jalapeno and paprika peppers were given to

me and also started in good time. I am not sure what to do with the paprika pepper and will be doing some research. My jalapeno is looking hot! I am not a fan of spicy food, but I do like a little bite in my salsa. They will fit perfectly into my recipe. I shall be making salsa this week. As I grow an interesting variety of tomatoes, my salsa is quite colourful with splashes of red, yellow, and orange. Usually, I chop everything instead of using a food processor as I prefer the chunky texture.

This spring I agreed to take part in a project led by a PhD student. In the spring she placed two 'bee hotels' in my garden with one in the sun and one in partial shade. I check on them from time to time. It was so exciting to see leaf-cutter bees adding leaves to the structures. And oh, what an amazing number of earwigs live in my garden! Another student came by to record the many types of flowers and pollinators that were in the garden, and we had a nice visit. On Sunday the two students returned to check on the boxes and to take note of the flowers and pollinators. Apparently, there is a specific bee that feeds on creeping bellflower. Creeping bellflower is quite invasive in my garden, but perhaps I should be a little more tolerant of this weed. Seeing these students so excited about all my pollinators makes me happy and of course grateful that these pollinators also visit my vegetable garden.



Pimento Pepper



Bee hotel

The pole beans and nasturtiums I potted up last week have doubled, which is wonderful. It gives me the incentive to try more late summer crops. I am preparing to start the peas and as soon as I finish harvesting my lettuce I shall start more.

Although the nighttime temperatures are more manageable, this humidity that creeps in during the day is annoying. Many of my vegetables feel the same way so I am watching out for mold and mildew. Enjoy your week. Judith. (Email: sghorticultural@gmail.com) Veggie Bites are

available at <https://sghorticultural.wixsite.com/website> or <https://gardeningcalendar.ca/articles/veggie-bites/>



Veggie Bites 64

This week I melted! It was so hot and there never seemed to be a break from the heat. I am hopeful that we will soon see rain. Regular watering is so important and I also moved a few tender potted plants into shadier spots.

I have had a number of inquiries about slow-growing or no growth on cucumbers. While we often have problems with cucumbers due to lack

of water, a primary reason for this slow growth is lack of pollination. It is one of the major reasons that I include flowers in my vegetable garden. There is a lovely flower that I have started to grow that attracts a huge number of bees. I like growing cosmos but the orange cosmos I found seems to be a real bee magnet. Just one plant is huge and produces a large number of flowers. If you continue to find that there are no cucumbers forming, then take a small paintbrush and brush the yellow flowers and do the pollinating yourself.



Orange Cosmos

Last week I picked a large number of tomatoes and excitedly set about preparing my salsa. My salsa turned out very well and I got a request for my recipe. This recipe is for canned salsa, but you can make salsa without cooking it so that you can eat it right away or store it in the refrigerator.

Classic Salsa

8 or 9 cups of chopped tomatoes (you can peel them, but I don't)
 2 ½ cups of chopped green bell peppers
 2 ½ cups of chopped onions
 1 – 4 jalapenos (depending on how much heat you like. I used one.)
 6 – 8 cloves of garlic chopped
 6 teaspoons pickling salt
 1 cup of white vinegar
 1 (12 ounce) can of tomato paste
 Put everything in a big pot and simmer for at least 20 minutes

Boil your jars and then add the salsa. You can do a hot water bath as well if you wish. Enjoy the rest of the nice weather.



Judith. (Email: sghorticultural@gmail.com) Veggie Bites are available at <https://sghorticultural.wixsite.com/website> or <https://gardeningcalendar.ca/articles/veggie-bites/>

At present I am hoping that my vegetables will hang in there until the heat breaks. The plastic bottles that I pushed into the pots of my tomatoes have been invaluable in helping to get water to the roots. The black Krim tomatoes have been ripening well and are quite juicy while the tiny yellow pear tomatoes are always in my salads. Heritage tomatoes are very fussy and are not happy with this heat, so my yield has been reduced. Pots of lettuce appreciate my daily watering and the vining vegetables are continuing to produce. The new pole beans are loving the heat as long as the water continues, and the zucchinis seem to be happy to grow. September is ready to make an appearance so many of our vegetables are ready to finish their run. There is still time to plant lettuce and chard and other leafy greens, while carrots and parsnips will continue to thrive well into a hard frost.

The Unvaxxed

The New Discrimination

by Michael Ilgert



While most Canadians no longer discriminate against women, gays, people of colour, indigenous folks and so on, those who feel superior have a new target...the not fully vaxxed against Covid-19!

Being not fully vaccinated against Covid-19 does not mean you are sick, it does not mean you don't care, it does not mean you are an asshole, it does not mean you are akin to a drunk driver.

So why are some of you reflecting those views on others?

In 2020, none of us were fully vaccinated to the Covid-19 virus. Did those adjectives above describe you? In fact in my experience, not being fully vaccinated to Covid-19 means you are a critical thinker! In addition, it may mean you have a healthy distrust of big government, big pharma and the modern health system. It means you have asked yourself and others these questions: Is the vaccine safe, is it effective, what are the short, medium and long term adverse side effects? Do I really even need the vaccine?

Some of you have accepted the possible risks and received your jabs. That was your choice and that is fine. Others have either not accepted the risks or are waiting on more information on long term adverse side effects and have chosen not to get the vaccine now or perhaps never. That is their choice and that is also fine.

As I write this, there is a stark polarization of views. Governments, health networks and large corporations are demanding a vaccine mandate for all while many of the formerly hesitant are digging in and saying a resounding NO!

The mainstream media Covid 19 fear porn is ramped up to the nth degree now! They offer no alternative option or other viewpoints than everyone becoming vaccinated.

During this Canadian election campaign, the major parties are also promoting a vaccine mandate except Max Bernier of the Peoples Party of Canada who prefers personal choice on this matter.

Those who are refusing the jab point to the US VAERS site (Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System) where it reports over 13,000 deaths from Vaccines since late December 2020 plus hundreds of thousands of short and long term serious adverse reactions, many which have prevented those inoculated from returning to work. Many familiar with the the VAERS reporting system claim that this is less than 10% of actual events.

The Canadian government also has a list of adverse side effects on their website. So far some fully vaccinated are experiencing blood clots, menstrual changes, abdominal pain, shortness of breath, Bell's Palsy, seizures and many more!

Some scientists are admitting we don't know all the long term adverse side effects at this time.

The rules are that getting a vaccine must be an informed choice. Have you been told how many died so far and what some others are going through? If you are not able to work after, who will compensate?

Are you asking enough questions? Do the answers satisfy you?

Although the vaccines have been shown to be mostly effective to Covid 19, at least in the short term, they have been shown in recent studies to wear off after 3 to 6 months requiring a booster shot.

What has though, been rarely talked about during the pandemic is our immune system and how to improve it to protect our bodies not only to a virus but most diseases!

This writer is NOT a medical doctor or certified nutritionist but I will offer a version of

what some doctors and nutritionists are saying to help us stay healthy.

- Fresh air and sunshine. Walk 30 to 60 minutes each day.
- Paleo-Keto diet or similar consisting of a large amount of animal products especially grass fed beef and lamb, organ meats, wild caught fish
- Healthy fats like butter, lard, coconut oil and olive oil
- Some vegetables and fruit but not high glycemic
- Lots of water and green teas
- Stay away from most processed foods especially sugar and flour and heated seed oils
- Positive human interactions including social interactions and hugs and a job that brings dignity, satisfaction and pay cheque!
- Limit watching of television and social media

No one knows how this pandemic will play out. Many have officially died from covid 19 although they admit over 90% had existing cormorbidities like heart disease, obesity, cancer and more.

More are dying now from the vaccine and/or getting Covid even after being vaccinated.

Educate yourself, use common sense, be responsible for your own health!!

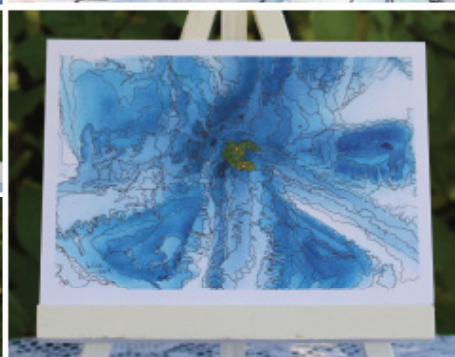
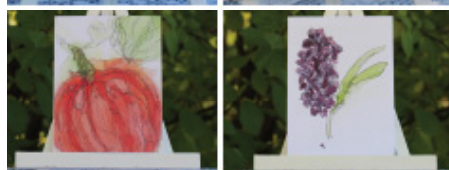
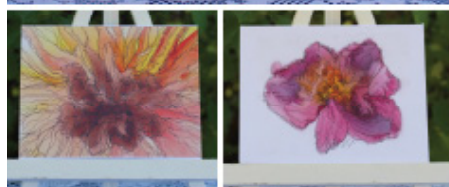
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**Hello from the
old Jackass**

Same Old Song and Dance



Howdy folks,

What transforms normal sane individuals into callous, manipulative androids when they are elected to municipal office?

Recently I've been disgusted and completely disillusioned with our municipal council in the amalgamated Municipality of Bayham. I considered this elected council to be a vast improvement to an earlier bunch of clowns who endorsed acting as a guarantor for a "free" submarine in the municipal setting of Port Burwell.

As I have disclosed in an earlier story, the submarine arrived and as predicted by me, myself and I, the thousands of interested tourists laden with cash never arrived.

The Elgin Military Museum failed to pay the loan and our little Municipality was on the hook to pay the massive bill.

Two contractors also sued for neglected payment of bills and our Municipality settled for \$200,000 out of court.

As you can guess, I am irate that we have the largest lemon in the province. Alas, none of these financial geniuses are no longer on our council and can inflict no further damage or shame.

A new election saw new improved faces including a new mayor who I endorsed and all was well in the land where "Opportunity is Yours."

Recently our elected officials all came to the consensus that the Vienna Community Centre was surplus. Prior to this apocalyptic brain freeze they sold the old Municipal office and moved them into the Community Centre located in Straffordville. At the time, they spent about a cool two million refurbishing this white elephant and decreed it the "hub" of the community.

Now these visionaries insist the Vienna Centre is surplus and they are intent on selling it and putting the proceeds into the competitor in Straffordville.

Incidentally folks, the centre in Vienna cost substantially less to heat courtesy of a geothermal

system and was never condemned unlike its competitor. You can put lipstick on a pig and it will still be a pig.

I reiterate, the Vienna Centre is a fully paid entity unlike its Straffordville cousin.

It doesn't appear money is an issue as Bayham council has been spending money like a drunken sailor in Disneyland.

Had they been honest and said there was a crisis and proceeds of the Vienna sale would be used to pay the submarine debt I would have been quiet. However, I can not stomach the devious manner in which they are completing their mandate to deceive the public.

Alas, out of adversity and necessity a new community group has been formed. These folks call themselves "BRATS." This appropriate moniker stands for Bayham Residents Asking for Transparency. I couldn't think of a better label as there is zero transparency being shown right from the very beginning of this political farce.

The "Brats" group have obtained a petition with 2070 names affixed wanting the Vienna Community Centre to remain open.

I've never seen so many folks aligned in agreement over such an issue. Sadly many feel it is a done deal and the turkey is already in the oven.

Had Sir Winston Churchill held such a defeatist attitude, all would be currently dining on wiener schnitzel and wearing lederhosen in jolly old England.

It's the Old Jackass loudly braying, "never give up."

Sincerely,

The Old Jackass



How Much Freedom are you Willing to Give Up?

by Liz Marshall

Thought of the Day – Are Canadians prepared to have their media and internet use undermined, and/or removed, by government, and particularly, by this government? That is for you and your elected officials to decide...

There has been some reporting on Bill C-10 [“An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts”],^[1] including an Independent Senator taking a very strong stand against it, but what of Bill C-36 [“An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canadian Human Rights Act and to make related amendments to another Act (hate propaganda, hate crimes and hate speech)”]^[2]?

The reason for asking this is because we are in an election and there are serious questions to be asked about the policy foundation of these 2 Bills.

As we know Pierre Elliott Trudeau was a professed communist. The Department of National Defence is quoted as stating:

“Trudeau was a trickster, always looking to shock. As a young civil servant in the Privy Council Office in Ottawa, he opposed Canada’s joining in the Korean War, or sending troops to Europe for NATO. Then, after leaving the public service, he had visited Moscow to attend an economics conference in 1952, telling everyone he was a Communist, something noted by U.S. Embassy officials.”^[3]

It follows, unfortunately, that under the tutorship of Father to son, the same ideology would prevail. This also flows through the present-day

Liberal Party. That said, not all Liberals have been made aware of this extended principle, that has taken a party with roots in protection, to a party of division and extremes, particularly regarding Canadian’s on-going support for freedom of the press and freedom of speech, including social media.

What can be a comparable to Bills C-10 and C-36? One merely has to look at the Amnesty International paper, from 2014, to understand that these Bills have already been enacted in Russia. These 2 Bills are merely the tip of the ice-berg when one reads the 11 page document by Amnesty International – “VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, ASSOCIATION AND ASSEMBLY IN RUSSIA.”^[4]

To explain the term “Roskomnadzor,” is the state agency responsible for oversight of the media, comparable to Canada’s CRTC. From the Amnesty International document:

“Broadcast television remains the main source of news and political analysis for the majority of people in Russia, and all national TV channels have long been predominantly espousing official views. Satellite and cable channels are for the most part apolitical and focused on entertainment. Dozhd TV is a rare exception, known for its independent reporting and providing a platform to a wide range of views. It has come under increasing pressure in recent months, as its coverage of EuroMaydan and the subsequent events in Ukraine has diverged from the Kremlin sponsored narrative. In January 2014, Dozhd TV invited its viewers’ opinions on whether Leningrad should have been surrendered to the

Germans during World War Two to save lives in the besieged city. It was heavily criticised by the political establishment and mainstream media. Several satellite and cable TV networks promptly and simultaneously annulled their contracts with Dozhd TV and took it off air. It has continued to broadcast online, but its income has dwindled. It runs at a loss and relies on “crowdfunding” to survive.¹”

The footnote from this paragraph reads as follows and is comparable to Bill C-36:

“1 This wasn’t all. In August 2014, a court in Moscow ruled that Dozhd TV should pay RUB 200,000 (USD 5,500) to three individuals who had launched complaints against it for “offending their dignity” by asking the question about the besieged Leningrad.”

This is the beginning of the very slippery slope government has put Canada and Canadians on. To continue.

“NEW LEGISLATION STIFLING MEDIA FREEDOM

Since the return of Vladimir Putin to presidency in May 2012, several pieces of legislation have been rapidly passed through parliament, including the following:

- The offence of libel was reintroduced, just eight months after its decriminalization under President Medvedev.
- Russia’s Criminal Code was amended to criminalise religious blasphemy.
- A federal law was passed banning “propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations among minors”.
- A raft of restrictions have been introduced to increase government control over the internet.”

And the following, from Amnesty International, is comparable Bill C-10 regarding social media.

“CLAMPDOWN ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ON THE INTERNET

As print and broadcast media were increasingly closed off to people with dissenting views, the internet became an essential platform for independent voices in Russia, and an essential vehicle for political communication. It has been widely used to disseminate independent news, organize protest and other civil society initiatives, report violations and raise funding for various causes.

Several laws have been passed over the last two years progressively enabling the government to restrict the information available on, and the organization of activities through, the internet. The Law “On Information, Information Technologies and Protection of Information”, adopted in December 2013 with minimal public scrutiny or parliamentary debate and enacted on 1 February 2014, provides the Prosecutor’s Office with the authority to block access to websites though direct orders (executed by Roskomnadzor) when it concludes that the website incites mass riots, extremist activities or unauthorized public assemblies.² [2 Notably, anti-extremism legislation has been repeatedly used in Russia arbitrarily in recent years, to persecute and harass religious minority groups, law-abiding NGOs, civil society activists and government critics. The demonstration in Bolotnaya Square in Moscow on 6 May 2012, which resulted in some violence by a minority of protesters, was qualified by the authorities as “mass riots” when there were none, so that the prosecution could wage heavier charges against participants, including several peaceful protesters.]

These powers were first used within a month of laws adoption, when access was blocked to four popular online resources. Three were news outlets known for their critical political reporting, Grani.ru, Ezhednevnyi Zhurnal [“Daily Journal”] and Kaskarov.ru. The Prosecutor’s Office noted their reports and re-posts about a series of spontaneous (and therefore “unlawful” under Russian law) peaceful

protests in Moscow in previous days, and decided that the tone of the reporting constituted “incitement of unlawful actions”. The blog of the well-known anti-graft campaigner and political activist Aleksei Navalny was blocked because he was under house arrest (even though, Navalny argued in court, it was being updated by his wife and not him). Repeated legal challenges have all failed.

Further legislation was introduced in May 2014 targeting social media: it requires any internet-based resource receiving more than 3,000 daily visits to register with Roskomnadzor and be bound by the same rules as mainstream media. Popular bloggers now must publish their real name and address on their webpage, and accept responsibility for publishing “unchecked information” as well as for libel arising from comments left on their page by readers. There are severe penalties for violation of this law, including a fine of up to RUB 500,000 (US\$ 14,000) and suspension of blogging for up to 30 days.”

To ensure Canadians understand the ramifications of this – this is always how it starts but any government that would promote these types of violations should never be in power in Canada as this is a complete affront to everything that is good, honest and right about Canada. It is a violation of Canadian’s constitutional rights but as expressed in the Amnesty International document, like in Russia, the government will only pass legislation to remove your rights but only if you allow them to.

Are Canadians prepared to have their media and internet use undermined, and/or removed, by government, and particularly, by this government? That is for you and your elected officials to decide...

REFERENCES:

[1] Bill C-10

An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts

Sponsor

Steven Guilbeault Liberal

Status

In committee (Senate), as of June 29, 2021
<https://openparliament.ca/bills/43-2/C-10/>

[2] C36

BILL C-36

An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canadian Human Rights Act and to make related amendments to another Act (hate propaganda, hate crimes and hate speech)

<https://parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/43-2/bill/C-36/first-reading>

[3] Gouzenko to Gorbachev: Canada’s Cold War
J.L. Granatstein

Jack Granatstein, OC, PhD, one of Canada’s most renowned historians, has written extensively on Canada’s military history and defence issues. He was Director and CEO of the Canadian War Museum from 1998 to 2000.

<http://www.journal.forces.gc.ca/vol12/no1/41-granatstein-eng.asp>

[4] <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/eur46/048/2014/en/> **





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Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority

Another interesting CA story comes from our Niagara Landowners. It involves the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority (LTVCA) dated May 19, 2021. The LTVCA sold an 8 acre piece of donated property this year for \$9,000. Malahide resident Jim Crane, whose great uncle established the Iona Station-based conservation area, was not happy. His great uncle, Dr. James Crane, a well-known conservationist, had planted a forest of 7,000 trees, including about 90 different species, on the lot in 1938. The property changed hands several times over the years. In 1955, Dr. Crane sold his property to the University of Western Ontario, which was then transferred to the County of Elgin in 1961. In 1976, Elgin County transferred the property to the LTVCA. In each case, it was sold on the same conditions: for \$1, and that it was to remain a conservation area.

Jim Crane was puzzled as to why this ‘donated’ land which was deemed ‘conservation’ was sold in the first place and why it was sold at such a low price. Real estate appraisers at the time had agreed that a regular building lot of that size would be worth at least \$200,000. However, they also pointed out the several stipulations attached to the sale that would reduce the value, including the zoning as conservation, and the challenge of building a lot where it would not disturb the forest. The reason given for the sale by LTVCA Conservation Lands and Services Manager was that: *“There were no facilities, no trails, virtually nothing there,”* he said, *adding that the LTVCA paid \$985.75 in taxes on the property annually, as well as tree maintenance costs.*

A restrictive covenant, was applied to the property which the LTVCA felt would protect the features of the land. *“The restrictive covenant said you can’t disturb the trees, period”.* This piece of property did not remain untouched though, as

work was being done removing trees and brush by the new owner and it was soon discovered that “A permit for a house has been granted for the property, according to Southwold Township. There has also been a gravel driveway installed on the lot.”

The LTVCA admitted that they didn’t believe that the new owners could build on the land with the restrictive covenant.

Despite this violation of dishonouring a covenant by removing trees and preparing for a house, there does not appear to be any charges laid. This is the opposite of what happened to the following landowner.

A landowner member, Mr. Joe Hill was charged with a violation for cutting trees and shrubs, on his agricultural land without a permit. The land was not farmed for one generation. Joe Hill took possession of the family farm (original crown land given to his great grandfather) and asked a neighbouring farmer to clear the land with his bush hog.

A bylaw officer driving by entered the property and told the farmer to stop the work (Township of Cayuga). Joe Hill was charged with the violation of cutting trees without a permit from the township. Joe lost in court. He has been waiting for the courts to decide, since before Covid, whether they will allow him to appeal the courts decision. He would still like to bring his farm into production.

Our courts punish a farmer for cutting nuisance trees and shrubs, but no punishment for cutting protected trees (covenant) planted by Dr. James Crane, a well-known conservationist, who planted a forest of 7,000 trees, including about 90 different species, on the lot in 1938.

Where is the justice?



Reap the Rewards of Fresh, Local Produce

by Shirley Dolan

This year, there is no shortage of places to buy fresh fruits and vegetables. Produce stands are popping up everywhere, partly because of the Covid-19 pandemic and the trend towards home gardening. Where I live in rural west Ottawa, you can hardly drive more than a couple

swears is the best you can buy. Drop by and check it out. You won't be disappointed. You may even get some culinary tips from Joe. A few years ago, he shared with me his recipe for sliced cucumber, with a twist of lime and some salt. Delicious!

Crops seem to be about a month ahead of most years. I keep a diary of what's happening in the garden and my flowers and vegetables appear to be flowering and producing several weeks ahead of previous years.



of kilometres without finding one. If you can't find what you're looking for in your own garden, chances are you will find it at a roadside stand not too far away.

One such enterprise is Joe's Vegetable Stand in the Home Hardware parking lot in Arnprior. Run by Joe Townley, who has been in the business since his teen years, there is not much you can't find there. This includes fresh strawberries, wild blueberries, peaches, and all kinds of fresh vegetables, including Hudson's corn, which Joe



This is certainly true of our tomatoes. This year, we planted three types of cherry, beefsteak, lemon boy, roma and plum and all are producing well. They are bigger and more plentiful and only

a few are sporting “blossom rot” which was a big problem last year.

Make the most of this late summer and fall season by enjoying a meal that includes fresh fruits and vegetables from your garden or a roadside stand. Pick it, eat it, preserve it, take a picture of it. **

by Shirley Dolan



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

Oh, what a Tangled Web they weave, when first they practise to deceive....



Hello to all,

Wow, hard to believe we are actually getting through September. I don't know about you but with all this extra time on my hands, I have been watching and reading the various videos, emails etc. that people are sending me. I must admit, there is a lot of confusion in the world and it is very hard to distinguish truth from manipulation. I am afraid that I have started to see a bit of that manipulation and it opens one's eye to start looking.

I remember one video of a lady using tic toc showing many different newspapers from around the world, and the dates in the papers weren't the same but ranged from Jan, 2021 to July 2021. The newspapers were from Australia, Kentucky, Hawaii, Idaho, Trinidad, Oregon, Lithuania, Saskatchewan, Mississippi, Mazara, Tajikistan, north Dakota, and Pondicherry and all headlines read "233 new Covid cases" were found in these different places. That just seemed weird to me. But true or not, I don't know. It leaves one questioning the validity of other news reports.

Like everyone else, in the first 2 weeks of 'flatten the curve, stay home for 14 days,' I huddled in the house, mask in hand going nowhere. Then with nothing to do I started watching some world renowned doctors saying some opposing views to the mainstream narrative and I started to get suspicious. None of these doctors were against the vaccine. They just wondered if vaccinating everyone, could backfire with the new variants. The

first video was moderated by Dr. Sam Dube from Ottawa. He had on his zoom call, four doctors: Dr. Chris Milburn from Cape Breton, Dr. Charles Hoffer from British Columbia, Dr. Francis Christian from Saskatoon and Dr. Roger Hodgkinson from Edmonton.

All four doctors had similar concerns about the lack of discussion on treatment protocols, lack of informed consent, lack of human trials for the vaccine and suppression of anyone asking questions. It seems that 'informed consent' which is what is always supposed to happen in the doctor/patient relationship was absent. There was little explanation about the vaccines and Dr. Hoff said that he was seeing evidence of harm and he asked the provincial board what they should be doing? He was suspended for his challenge of the accepted narrative. Dr. Christian spoke about how major world class scientific voices were being suppressed. At that time he said there was evidence in some of his patients of myocarditis, which is heart problems and in the USA there were over 6000 deaths from the vaccine and he felt that this should not be ignored. He too was suspended. Dr. Chris Milburn, head of emergency room services who discussed uncertainty around the COVID vaccine said there was no scientific basis to shut down schools temporarily across the province. He was fired from his role as head of emergency medicine for the eastern zone. Dr. Roger Hodgkinson talked about the fear that was being

by Marlene Black

generated and the choice of Income versus Ethics as it was obvious to him that anyone who challenged the narrative, could lose their job. He too questioned the need for lockdowns.

Some other doctors that I came across were Dr. Peter McCullough and Dr. Pierre Kory both whom worked extensively with Covid patients and have several videos talking about their successful improvements of Covid patients. For several months now I have heard that a combination of Ivermectin, Hydroxychloroquine, monoclonal antibody treatments, zinc and vitamin D which have been used for years on non-Covid patients, have some antiviral positive outcomes. One recurring theme from all of them was that whenever they questioned the one world-wide narrative, they were silenced. Many of them posted videos on Youtube of their successful treatments of patients. These were taken down by Youtube. They started their videos with "hopefully you will be able to watch this as we have been censored". It didn't make sense that apparently good doctors trying to encourage caution with some of the one-size-fits-all behaviours, and show what was working for their patients, were silenced. So if you want to see a 'not' Youtube, visit the newest new platform: Brandnewtube.com.

It's easy to go down the rabbit hole if you take all videos as serious truth but it is genuinely difficult to separate at times. For now, we soldier on taking a good bunch

of vitamins that support immune health, zinc, Quercetin and Vitamin C & D. Vaccine passports are a trip to the dark side in my opinion. There is still no guarantee that you won't get Covid or spread Covid if you are fully vaccinated so a passport makes no sense.

Initially I think, most all agreed to the conditions that we were told to follow: Stay at home, don't visit anyone, wear a mask as they shut down all restaurants, shut down all gyms and shut down all clothing stores, ie. shut down everything but the big box stores and your grocery store. Why did they not allow the small businesses that had poured so much money into making their place, safe, to keep open? Again, where is the science on these closures? Many were unable to recover.

There is no doubt that FEAR has controlled the narrative and made it easier to get total compliance. But people are starting to wonder, how far do we go with these ever evolving messages. Most people have been double vaccinated and that seems to be working. However, it seems a booster shot is around the corner. They are now starting to recognize that people who caught Covid may have a natural immunity to the virus. Time will tell.

Having seen some nefarious behaviour from government entities when dealing with the injustices among landowners, I have been left with a suspicious nature when it comes to government officials wanting to help. I guess I look for an ulterior motive. I still remember a few years back when the government paid peach farmers to cut down all their peach trees, trees that were full of fruit. The last canning plant in Ontario had shut down and would not sell to the farmers who tried to buy it. Now we get our peaches from China and Greece. Check the labels of

canned peaches and you'll see. A better solution would be using that money to open a plant in Ontario.

Now the last weird news I've heard is from several American farmers saying that they have received notice from their government that they will pay them more than the going price, to destroy their crops. Has anyone else heard of this and what is the motive? Farmers are using their cell phones to post pictures of this crop destruction? Should we be suspicious? What's the reason for that action and again...Is it true?

*For a different point of view try these websites: **Frankspeech.com** (detailed account of how the Dominion machines were on-line and hackable in the 2020 USA election), NewsMax (google it) and **FLCCC.net***

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Wins for Private Property Owners in Ontario

Support for Legal Gun Owners

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

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

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

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

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

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

Trespass Bill Strengthened for Farm Properties

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

Eastern Ontario Wins

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

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

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

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

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

Land Titles Information Available for Free, Online

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

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

Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act

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

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

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

Some highlights:

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

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

Resolution of the Freedom of Information Request for Farm Businesses

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

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

East Gwillimbury

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

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

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

The OLA Marches On

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

Congratulations

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

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

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ONTARIO LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION (OLA)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How to keep in touch

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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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

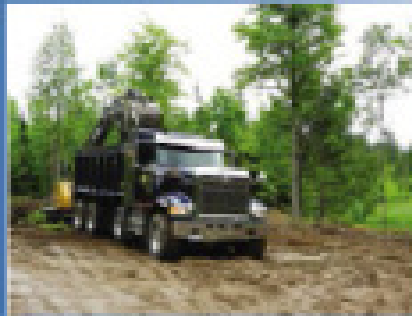
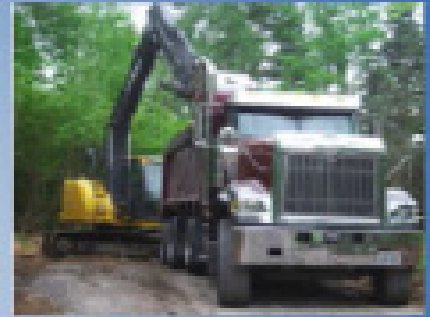
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