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Landowner Voices

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PHOTOS: Shirley Dolan photographs

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



Here We Go Again

by Tom Black

Hello Folks.

For many years the Ontario Landowners worked to help animal owners defend themselves against the animal rights extremists who had infiltrated the OSPCA (Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) under the McGuinty-Wynne years in the province.

We started a long drawn out attempt to prove the OSPCA Act was unconstitutional when it allowed police powers to a charity, without having to answer to a police board, the government or the people. We finally succeeded in 2018, but many worried that what would be set up to replace the OSPCA may turn out to be just as bad.

Well everything seemed to settle down for a short while and we didn't get too many calls at the OLA from people being abused by the new PAWS (Provincial Animal Welfare Services) people. Most of us were extremely worried when we saw the PC government replacing the old OSPCA department with many of the same people who were there before. Many of their members seemed to have a big hate-on for older farmers with beef cattle and horses. (Just my gut conclusion from many years of dealing with cases with similar themes).

Now we have the proof that nothing has changed in the mental attitude that is now running the Provincial Animal Welfare Services (PAWS). On December 16, 2021 PAWS removed 101 head of beef cattle from the farm of 76 year old Walter Ray from Lakefield, Ontario. The cattle were rounded up with 4-wheelers, injuring two cattle that had to be euthanized, plus injuring a contractor seriously, putting him in hospital. The PAWS people never charged Mr. Ray with anything! They instead charged him \$391,196 for boarding his stolen cattle at foster farms. Also they admitted that the cattle were not in distress and the Auction Barn at Hoards Station testified that the remainder of Mr.

Ray's cattle that he brought to the sale barn a few days later, were all in healthy state.

It seems that Mr. Ray's crime was having his cattle graze among an array of machinery and parts that they considered dangerous to the animals. Mr. Ray said that they have been grazing there without a problem for decades.

If PAWS can take his animals for this crime, then about 50% of all farmers will be having their animals stolen. I remember years back, when an auto wrecker used to let his neighbour graze cattle on the property to keep the weeds, trees and grass down among the hundred of old cars and trucks in his fields.

On August 8, 2022, Susan Clarke, Vice-Chair of the Animal Care Review Board presented a 37 page report on the hearing that took place in March. She said that there was no presented proof of any cattle in distress at the time they were taken. She also said that boarding and trucking charges were extremely out of sync with the real world and so she reduced the bill to Mr. Ray, to \$14,276.

OK, so it is great to see the Animal Care Review Board with a Vice-Chair that has a good grasp of right and wrong and some common sense. I only wish she could have granted Mr. Ray costs for his loss, for the hell that they put him through, his lawyer fees and replacement costs for his herd. I know that she could not really go that far and Mr. Ray will have to sue for all of that.

Here's the problem. According to the facts that came out, Mr. Ray was NOT guilty of any wrong doing, but these animal rights extremists (many of the same people that were part of the OSPCA) think that their opinion of how things should look on a farm, gives them the right to become judge, jury and executioner of any farmer that they think is an easy mark for their agenda. **



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



Ontario Landowners Association

www.Ontariol andowners.ca

Carleton (Ottawa)

Tim Mount

mount.haven@hotmail.com

Durham/York/Victoria

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

Dufferin

Gatineau Valley L.A.

Albert Kealey 819 422 3554 corazorn@gmail.com

Grey-Bruce

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

Hamilton/Halton L.A.

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

Huron-Perth

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

Lanark

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

Leeds & Grenville

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

Muskoka Landowners

Sandy Max

Niagara

Dave Honey

Prescott-Russell

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

Renfrew Nippissing Pembroke

Donna Burns 613-432-4352 donnaburns I@bell.net

Saugeen Regional

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

An Engineer's View of Government

by Roger Graves

People who discuss government and its various shortcomings, whether in the mainstream media or over your backyard fence, usually do so from the point of view of politicians and the people who elect them. I'd like to take a look at government from the viewpoint of an engineer; if an engineer were designing a new form of government, what things would they have in mind?

The first quality that any engineer should have in mind, whether they are designing an aircraft or building a bridge, is resilience. It's not too difficult to design something that will work under ideal conditions, but as we all know, conditions aren't always ideal. If you build a bridge that will only stand up if the wind doesn't blow too hard, don't expect much repeat business. Resilience means that whatever you design should work under just about any conditions you can throw at it.



And of course we know that conditions can deteriorate from time to time. Engineers call this Murphy's law: if something can go wrong, then sooner or later it will go wrong. Murphy's law is an absolute. It applies to everything. There is nothing in this world which is not subject to Murphy's law, including systems of government.

Parliamentary works democracy reasonably well because it has resilience built into it. Parliamentary democracy is basically a time-limited dictatorship. If we elect a majority government, of whatever stripe, we have in effect created a dictatorship that can do whatever it wants for the next few years. If we the people don't like what the government does we have little scope, short of bloody revolution, to do anything about it. But, and here is the resilience built into the system, every few years we have an election, and if enough people don't like the current government we can throw the nincompoops out and try some other, hopefully more competent, crew.

Contrast this with communist governments. Communists work on the basis that they represent the final word in morality and the brotherhood of man, so there is no need to have any other form of government. Indeed, even thinking about other

forms of government reveals you to be an evil-minded person who is trying to destroy this most wonderful form of government. Off to the gulag with him, comrades! And as Murphy's law inexorably dictates, sooner or later your wonderful government will come under the control of a Stalin or a Putin, and there will be no escape because your system lacks resilience.

The second quality that any system must have is what engineers call graceful degradation. Yes, I know, it

sounds rather like a duchess getting drunk, but what it means to an engineer is that if something goes wrong, as it inevitably will at some point (Murphy's law!), then instead of your system immediately collapsing into utter chaos and destruction it will enter a safe, albeit reduced capability, mode.

Suppose you are flying in a four-engined airliner such as a Boeing 747 and one of your engines quits. Perhaps a large bird was sucked into it, or the engine was just having a bad day. Whatever. The aircraft will not simply fall out of the sky, but will probably be able to reach its destination. True, you will not fly as fast and so will arrive late, and if you have any other problems your safety margin will be much reduced, but you will not be in any real danger.

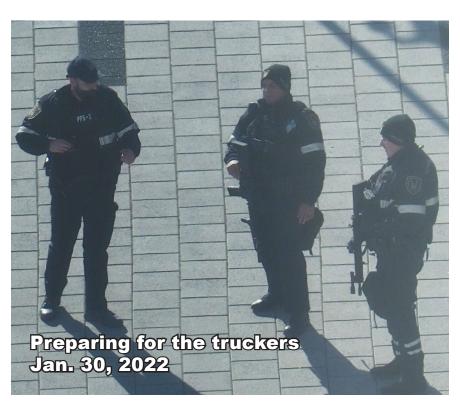
Now suppose a second engine quits. The aircraft will still be able to fly, although the pilot would be well advised to make for the nearest airport and land

as soon as possible. And then a third engine quits and you're left with only one engine. It probably won't be able to sustain level flight by itself so the aircraft will gradually lose height, but again it won't simply fall out of the sky. Provided there is somewhere you can land within a hundred miles or so you shouldn't come to any harm.

And finally your last engine quits. Again, you won't suddenly fall out of the sky but will be able to glide for a few miles. If there is somewhere nearby you can make an emergency landing you still have a good chance of survival.

So what does this have to do with government? It means that if some part of the government makes a stupid mistake or a malicious decision you shouldn't have to worry about catastrophic and irreversible effects such as being executed or starting World War Three. It's why, to take but one example, we have an appeals system in our courts. If a judge or a jury decides to convict you just because they don't like your face, you can always appeal the decision to a higher court, and if you still don't like their decision you can carry on, in theory at any rate, all the way up to the Supreme Court.

Of course, the more authoritarian a government becomes, the less chance there is that



a foolish decision on their part can be reversed. governments operate on Authoritarian assumption that they can do no wrong and that any decision they make is automatically wise, proper and right. Anyone who objects to their decisions is obviously a right-wing extremist with unacceptable views who should be ignored and have their bank accounts frozen, and of course if the government has the mainstream media in their pay there will be very little public outcry when this happens. Sounds familiar? We have just such a government in power right now. And that, dear reader, is what engineers would describe as non-graceful degradation – the nation lurches from one catastrophe to another as an out-ofcontrol government makes one foolish decision after another, with runaway inflation, mile-long passport queues and unnecessary lockdowns as some of the results.

Wouldn't it be nice if we had a government that has as its basic philosophy the idea that they work for us, and not the other way round? That the mere fact that they temporarily control the levers of power does not make them our lords and masters whom we must obey at all times? We can but hope.



Attacks on Food Security shows us that Agenda 2030 isn't slowing down

by MP Cheryl Gallant Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

It is encouraging to hear a growing number of my colleagues speaking out against the tenets of Agenda 2030. It is the sequel to Agenda 21, the supposed non-binding United Nations action plan for sustainable development arising from the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. Whereas Agenda 21 brought economically unsustainable wind and solar energy

generation to Ontario, Agenda 2030 appears to be focused on ensuring global poverty in all its forms. From food insecurity to lockdowns on freedom, we are detecting the flavour of Agenda 2030, and it tastes like crickets.

With this next agenda we are seeing attacks on our food security. Governments around the world have adopted policies, using the fear of climate change to rationalize their actions. After slapping more taxes onto fossil fuels and retroactive tariffs onto fertilizer, which has already doubled in price over last year,

the federal government now wants farmers to cut greenhouse gas emissions from fertilizers 30% by 2030.

Canadian farmers are where the Dutch farmers were in 2019 with the new nitrogen oxide limits slapped on them. Look where they are now. Food shortages. Empty grocery shelves. Atrocious food prices. That's a snapshot of what will happen in Canada 3 years from now.

While the federal government claims it

will not impose a cap on the use of fertilizer, the recently released discussion paper is troubling. The paper underlines the federal government's total commitment to an absolute reduction in nitrogen emissions from fertilizer, despite agricultural organizations calling for intensity-based emission reductions. Agricultural organizations believe some reductions can be achieved without

jeopardizing food security or bankrupting small farmers, but it will still fall short of an artificially imposed deadline of 2030.

Even the government's discussion paper highlights the fact that to achieve a political target of 30% by 2030, new technologies for enhanced efficiency fertilizers, and inhibitors to slow release of nitrogen, will first need to be invented, then adopted. All of this comes at a significant cost.

A big concern farmers should have after reading the discussion paper, is the extent to which these regulations will be

influenced by politics. Not all farms are the same. As result of wetter soil, farms in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces emit more nitrogen per hectare than farms in Ontario and the Prairie provinces. With a Liberal minority government heavily dependent on votes in Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces, farmers in rural Ontario and out West have legitimate concerns the costs will be largely born by them. Nearly one-third of the emissions target could be achieved by farmers in Eastern

Canada adopting split application / sidedress fertilizer techniques with rate adjustment based on sensors. Yet the discussion paper repeatedly emphasizes changes which Western farmers should make.

Finally, every Canadian should be concerned by the federal government's, ready, fire, aim approach to regulations. From firearms to fertilizer, the federal government is firing off policy without sufficient evidence of the effectiveness of a policy, or even basic data to aim the policy in the right direction. The federal government even acknowledges it lacks the ability to measure emission reductions on a farm-by-farm basis:

"While improvements in [emissions] reporting on N2O are underway and expected to be implemented in time for publication in 2022, these improvements do not yet capture on-farm activity related to fertilizer application practices due to a

lack of data at this scale." (Discussion Document: Reducing emissions arising from the application of fertilizer in Canada's agriculture sector)

The target of a 30% reduction in fertilizer emissions by 2030 is a political target. It is not based on science or evidence, because the government lacks the data. The regional variation of emissions invites political interference. The technology to achieve the political goal does not yet exist. What technology does exist requires a significant capital investment. Together, these new regulations seriously put Canada's food security at risk. As one of the largest exporters of crops, these regulations threaten the entire world's food supply.

I encourage all Canadians to participate in the federal government's consultations on fertilizer regulations by visiting cherylgallant.com/fertilizer.

**



Wins for Private Property Owners in Ontario

My House, My Flag

A homeowner in Port Colbourne put up a "F*** Trudeau" flag on her house following the September 2021 federal election to show her disappointment. She was asked to take it down because, the City said, it violated their property standards bylaw. The Canadian Constitution Foundation (CCF) assisted the homeowner is challenging the order. They won! The homeowner was allowed to keep the flag.

Supreme Court of Canada Grants Intervenor Status to Ontario Landowners Association

If the government makes a regulatory decision that infringes on your private property rights for a public benefit, while purposefully avoiding an obligation to pay you compensation, then you should be entitled to compensation - right? According to the current state of the law on de facto expropriation, a legal doctrine designed to protect private property owners' rights in those very circumstances, the answer may be "not necessarily." Luckily, on October 15, 2021, the OLA was granted leave to intervene in the Supreme Court of Canada case in Annapolis Group Inc. v. Halifax Regional Municipality ("Annapolis"). In this case, the Supreme Court has an opportunity to make it easier for private landowners to obtain compensation when their private property rights have been infringed in this manner, and the OLA will be arguing that the law needs to change. The case has been heard and we are awaiting the courts decision.

Tree Cutting Bylaws

Elizabeth Marshall and Bob Weirmeir have been staving off a tree preservation bylaw since 2019. The Township of Blue Mountain has brought forward four drafts that have yet to be passed.

In Dufferin County, Charles Hooker spent five years fighting a proposed increase in the Dufferin County Tree Cutting bylaw fines (from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per tree) and was able to persuade the county council to revoke the bylaw in 2013.

Earlier this year Charles found that a Tree Cutting bylaw was proposed by the "Dufferin County Climate Action Plan". Charles was allowed to address the implementing committee where he extracted a promise from the committee not to pass the bylaw.

Shortly after the Carleton Landowners Association was formed, the organization fought a proposed bylaw which would have regulated tree cutting in rural Ottawa. More than a decade later, the City's increasingly difficult tree cutting bylaw does not apply to rural parts of the City.

Conservation Authorities

Conservation Halton brought a motion for leave to appeal a \$100,000 costs award. It was dismissed with costs by the Court of Appeal. Conservation Halton now must pay an additional \$5,000 on top of the original \$100,000.

At the OLA Spring Directors Meeting in Cobourg in April 2022, the main topic of discussion was conservation authorities. We brought our concerns to one of our guest speakers, the Hon. David Piccini, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Our president Jeff Bogaerts, in his capacity as a paralegal, continues to represent clients across Ontario in cases against conservation authorities.

Municipality Restrained from Interfering with Cottage Owners' use of Fire-Pit Lands Seasonal residents of cottage properties in Tiny Township obtained an injunction prohibiting the

municipality from interfering with their use of disputed lands containing fire-pits.

The applicants were owners of three cottages among a line of neighbouring lots on the waterfront of Georgian Bay and adjacent to grassy lands between their properties and a beach. The beach lands had been dedicated to the public by the original owners of the lands in 1931. However, the ownership of the grassy lands was in dispute as they had not been formally registered in the names of the cottage properties or the Township.

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.

There are six legal challenges to the OIC. In one of the challengers, 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.

In May 2021, the Court ordered the government to produce documents under seal, so that Associate Chief Justice Gagné could review them and determine if privilege was properly claimed.

The importance of this decision transcends this case. As many of you know, the government has been increasingly relying on "cabinet confidentiality" as a shield to refuse disclosure requests from litigants challenging administrative decisions. This decision represents an important check on the government's ability to hide behind cabinet confidentiality.

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/.

The OLA Marches On

The OLA continues 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, an online 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 in 2020 to join administrative resources. We've grown to include five county groups which include Carleton, Lanark, Leeds and Grenville, Stormont-Dundas and Prince Edward-Hastings-Northumberland.

Following two and a half years of lockdowns, the OLA and its chapters are returning to our practice of holding regular in-person meetings. The OLA held a successful Spring Directors Meeting in April 2022 in Cobourg, and we are planning to have our AGM in the same place in October. In September, starting on the 20th, the OLA will have a booth at the International Plowing Match in Kemptville.

This year, OLA members also supported several civil rights protests including the Truckers' Convoy. Although not strictly a property rights issue, the mandates and lockdowns embody the type of government overreach against which the OLA has long protested.



Veggie Bites 118

Combat Gardening





Greetings fellow gardeners,

Yesterday was delicious. The rain started mid-morning and kept going until the evening. All of my plants were singing, and I can see how happy they are this morning. After this joy we are now approaching heat warnings which is not something that I enjoy and neither do my plants. These are days when you want to be sure to water at least once a day. I will be watering my pots every morning and probably later if they appear to be flagging.

My zucchini has produced its first fruit. I had this first picking in a lovely salad, and it was fresh and delicious. If you want to try to grow a vegetable, zucchinis will never let you down. I have this zucchini in a large pot because I wanted to try to discourage cucumber beetles. Cucumber beetles are the scourge of zucchini and cucumber and anything in the squash family. You will see these striped beetles in and around the flowers. Try to pick and squish if you can. If you are dealing with a lot of these beetles, find an unaffected plant and cover it with a row cover. You will need to hand pollinate but at least you will get some zucchinis.



The lovely salad I had was a new one for me: Place 1 thinly sliced zucchini and 1 sliced tomato in a bag. Add a glug of olive oil, juice of a lemon and ½ cup of parmesan cheese.

by Judith Cox

Shake and dump into a bowl. I like to make this in the morning and let it sit in the fridge until supper (and yes I pick at it throughout the day).



One of my favorite perennial herbs of the season has started to bloom. Bee balm, or Monarda or Bergamot, is in the mint (Lamiaceae) family. This mighty plant with many names is a pollinator magnet. You can usually find it in red, pink, or purple and it is often a favourite of hummingbirds. I was at work this morning and when I sat down to take a break, I watched a hummingbird in the bee balm going from flower to flower. Bee balm makes a lovely tea to help with digestive issues and it is an antiseptic that you can use to treat rashes and cuts and even bee stings. The scent of bee balm is somewhat like a bergamot orange and that is why it is often called bergamot.

One of my favourite annual culinary herbs, the nasturtium, is in full bloom. While the lovely blooms will attract pollinators, they also attract beneficial predatory insects like lacewings and hoverflies. While I find cheese and nasturtium leaf sandwiches to be very yummy, this time of year I like to make herbal vinegar with nasturtium blooms. I carefully wash the flowers and put them in a mason jar. Cover the blooms with a good white wine vinegar and let it sit for three weeks. Drain and bottle the liquid. When my vinegar is ready, I can give you a couple of interesting recipes.

The too-many cats are not happy with the heat and are draped over furniture, in front of fans, and are flaked out on the tiles in the bathroom. I am preparing to water and am watching my plants closely. I am also watching my weather app and whispering....send rain. 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/



Nasturtium

Veggie Bites 122

Tenjoyed the cool breezes this morning as I did my chores. I can feel the humidity waiting for me just around the corner. The humidity has been quite the factor not only for my knees but also for my roses. This year I am finding that I have blackspot on several roses where I have never had blackspot before. Blackspot and mildew usually occur with high humidity and are usually not fatal. They make your rose bushes look terrible however, and that is disheartening. What blackspot will do is stress your rose. The best thing to do if you have it is to clean all around your rose right now and put any of the fungal-ridden foliage in the garbage or green bin. In the fall when it is time for the roses to go to bed for the winter thoroughly clean underneath the plant so those spores don't have a chance to reinfect your roses next year. Some roses, like my Rosa Mundi, are very susceptible to blackspot so I need to be diligent. I will be clearing up under that rose this week.

I mentioned my Hubbard squash a while back. Some thirsty animal had been digging about next to it after I had watered. I put down a bowl of water, adding a rock and a stick so the toad wouldn't get stuck, and I have had no more digging. I also wrapped the base of the stem of my squash in tinfoil as a squash borer deterrent and it seems to have worked. I have used this method with success before and was pleased to hear Nikki Jabbour mention it in her latest vegetable book. That being said, my zucchini has not done as well. I enjoyed the first few zucchinis of the season a week or two ago and found growing them in a pot seemed to discourage the cucumber beetle. I never thought about the squash borer and when I went to check on them on Sunday, I found those fat nasty grubs had destroyed my zucchini plant. I pulled the whole plant and gave it, grubs and all, to the chickens. Lesson learned. I never got around to planting a second or third plant, so it is off to the



Ingredients for my vinaigrette

Nasturtium Vinaigrette

½ cup olive oil (or oil of your choice)

¼ cup nasturtium vinegar 1 tablespoon finely chopped basil 1 teaspoon minced garlic (or more should you wish)

Combine these ingredients in a bottle or mason jar, put the lid on and shake it really well.

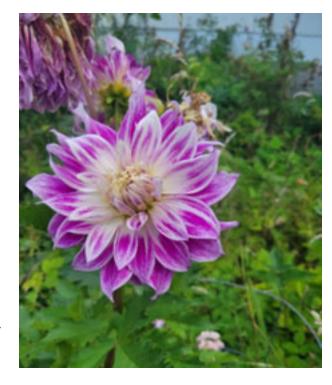
I shake the vinaigrette every time before I use it and then keep it in the fridge.



Shaken Nasturtium Vinaigrette

Just a reminder that the dahlias are blooming. Such a happy flower and enjoyed by many pollinators. Dahlias come in many sizes and colours so take note of the ones that you like for next year. 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/



My newest dahlia! Still searching for the name tag.





Municipal politicians need to get an Education in Authority and Passing of Bylaws

Don Johnson
President Hamilton Halton
Landowner Association

Don's Thoughts!

Municipal politicians need to get an education in authority and passing of bylaws.

No where in the Ontario municipal act does it say they have authority over private lands.

The expropriation act is very clear - where an authority which has the right to expropriate removes or restricts a property owner right to use his land or uses the property owners assets to its own benefit, eg a municipal private property tree cutting bylaw to intensify urban tree canopy, they are required to pay compensation to the harmed property owner.

Check your property deed. If it says you own your property "fee simple and subject to reservations in your crown grant": the crown grant referred to is that which was issued to the original settler/individual/ corporation transferring the authority of the crown to private property ownership. It almost always say's you own and have authority over all the trees, underwood's, water and everything else on the property less a few minerals reserved for the crown.

Section 9 of the Constitution Act of Canada says the Crown is the highest authority in the land, and, section 109 of the Constitution Act of Canada says the Province of Ontario never acquired any authority where there is an "interest or trust for other than the province issued prior to 1867"! Your property crown grant, registered as a land patent prior to 1867 is such an instrument. In the Province of Ontario these are almost all usually issued by King George 3rd or 4th, or Queen Victoria. In the Eastern provinces these grants go back even further in many cases.

So the key question one must ask is, "under what authority or right does a local politician have to interfere with your constitutionally recognized rights? Moreover, "under what guise of power does the province ignore your right to use your land without interference"?

Happy birthday Canada, 145 years of freedom - oh wait a minute! - some where after our 100th birthday, Canada based on 800 years of English common law, died and a socialistic/ communist goblin took over, removing individual rights and freedoms our ancestors fought and died for, and, our legislatures have decided they have the absolute authority, indeed the absolute right, to nullify our guaranteed constitutional rights! The governmental has decreed it has the power to ignore our constitutional rights by simply invoking a "not withstanding" legislation which subordinates our individual rights to the authority of the state. Our rights become unalienable (subject to what the government decides they are), not inalienable (guaranteed and not subject to governmental override) that our Constitution is suppose to protect.!

If history has taught us anything, it is that we the citizens must always stand up to authority, no matter how well intentioned a leaders reasons are. If a leaders actions violate the constitution and are not within the authority to rule that the Constitution Act of Canada has provided, we must stand up and hold them accountable or we relinquish our authority for evermore.

"Notwithstanding" is the paved road to the demise of the Canada our forefathers gave us! It changes the destiny of our nation from one which cherishes and protects our individual rights and freedoms, to a new destination of power elites, dictatorships and the demise of citizen rights and freedoms.

When it comes to our municipalities, they are under the authority of the Province. If the Province does not have authority then the Province can not delegate authority to a municipality to do what the Province lacks the authority to do.

When we see by-laws, legislation and Acts of Parliament being passed the first question we should ask of our leaders is "please identify where you get the authority to enact "what ever the action is" you are enacting! Ask for the specific part of whatever general source they quote as their authority, then it is our duty as citizens, that we ensure they do not overstep their authority at the expense of our individual rights and freedoms! **

These are the personal views and comments of the writer.





You Can't Keep Hurting People Without Backlash

by Ian Cumming Agricultural Journalist

Dad always loved to tell the story about being at a farming cousin's funeral out on the Prairies, the crowd by the graveside, the minister just finishing his words of comfort. One

of the deceased cousin's brothers, Jimmy, turned to another brother.

"Bruce," he said, "Trudeau's got to go."

Dad was the eastern lad, with Liberal sympathies, being tolerated that day in this western clan of hardcore Prairie farmers. Their mom being dads fathers sister. There were four brothers out there, who during the Depression had one drivers licence in the car shared between them.

All ending up with vast acreages and cussing Liberals in Ottawa.

Bruce had a fleet of combines which he floated down to Texas and harvested wheat with a rough and ready crew back up into Canada, following the grain ripening.

When the Trudeau junior won the Liberal leadership, dad phoned Jimmy out in a nursing home to tease him. Even his deaf ear got every word of the cussing back, which caused him to double over in laughter. But as much has dad sparred with the best of them, I never, ever heard him accuse anyone on the opposite side of the political spectrum as someone who wasn't a proud Canadian.

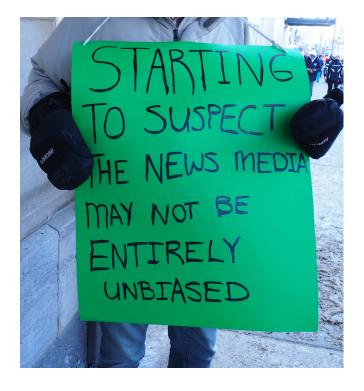
His most brutal, political sparring partner – and great friend – was D.A. Ross, who flew the third most bombing missions of any Allied pilot in the Second World War. Ross might have

left the United Church when they started to shelter Vietnam draft dodgers here in Canada, but how that translates into not being a true, proud Canadian, can only be proclaimed by a

smug self - proclaimed Messiah (to quote dad) without a smidgen of history, or even a sense of anyone else's reality.

As would Jimmy's words to Bruce at the graveside years ago, be somehow interpreted as armed insurrection. You press a segment of society into desperation, with legislation trampling their finances and personal moral fiber, they will slap back. That's nothing to do with what those affected feel about their nation, but rather how they feel

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about those who are leading their nation with policies that are ruining them.

Are journalists, being recorders of their time, not supposed to write what those people are saying, detailing how they have been trampled? Most don't these days, because, apparently, it labels you as a traitor against your nation.

There were 55 tractor and truck convoys in eight provinces the other Saturday supporting the plight of the Dutch farmers and only one agriculture journalist featured one.

Why?

According to the actual Dutch environmental legislation, if you read it, farmers are supposed to reduce emissions from their individual operations by 12, 45, 75 or 95 per cent, depending on the area of the country they live in.

Written in law. Right now, with timelines of implementation.

I know, its history, but the last words the great author Ralph Connor wrote about ordinary people, was meeting with the train load of desperate Canadians making their way from the west to Ottawa, protesting during the Depression.

Connor – his real name was Charles Gordon – was a minister, who loved the very rural soul and the people of this nation. When political leaders some decades earlier drove a wedge between French and English on the issue of World War One recruitment, he laid into them. Noting how a French lady who helped his mother in his dads' manse, used to sing him songs in French, when a little boy

Connor went as a chaplain to World War One, helping those as best he could in the carnage of the trenches. Being there, experiencing something, kind of helps to understand.

The most - vile broadsides, such as questioning ones' patriotism, proclaimed mainly by those who didn't personally experience the



Convoy, have emerged along with the demonizing of those not following a government narrative.

Or, heaven forbid, people saying "enough."

In early January, weeks before the Convoy, with no hint of one in the air, at that border truck stop and seeing the mood, I wrote the latest COVID regulations imposed against truckers, "wasn't going to end well."

It didn't, did it? With more to come this September 11th in Saskatchewan.

I was no damn prophet. I just know and understand hurting people.

Which also includes proud Canadians.

Ian Cumming Agricultural Journalist



The Docket

By Jeff D. Bogaerts

Summons To Appear – Information - First Appearance – Part III

There is a knock on the door and the person standing there is asking for "......". You say yes, I am "......", and they give you a piece of paper. It should be a yellow piece of paper, and in the past, it was, but after COVID, maybe not.

The "Summons To Appear" (STA) may be delivered by any number of people such as, Police, by-law officer, building inspector, conservation officer, MNRF, MOE, MOT, MOH and so on.

The important part is that it is a STA on some date and time, at some address and a courtroom number. It will also state that you have been charged with an offence under a Provincial Act, the section of the act, what the actual charge is and the date of the alleged offence.

If it is not a Provincial Act, then it is a Federal Act such as the Criminal Code. This article will deal only with Provincial Acts.

What do you do next? At this point you have options. Appear in court as yourself, which is called self-represented, by a Lawyer, a Paralegal, or an Agent. Regardless of what you do, you must appear or make sure that someone will appear on your behalf. If you or no one else shows up, then a "Bench Warrant" for your Arrest will be issued on a charge of "Fail To Appear". No matter how you feel about the charge, ... be there!

If you hire a Lawyer or Paralegal for representation, they will know the process. If that is the case, then this article is complete.

However, I am writing this article for educational purposes and for the public to understand the process of the Justice system. I am writing this for the benefit of a self-represented accused.

You are the accused, that is your new title. I am also writing this in the context of an offence committed under a Provincial Act and a "Part III" offence. The "Provincial Offences Act" (POA) is the legislation that governs how a Part III offence is processed in the courts.

The POA also has a Part I and a Part II section. For this article we are dealing only with Part III. As part of your education, you must have access to E-Laws Ontario. This is a website managed by the Ontario Government that contains the Acts and Regulations for Ontario. You must become familiar with this site. It also contains the Legislation that you have been charged under. In addition to E-Laws, there is the CanLII website. The CanLII website is free access to Case Law and other areas of law for your reference.

<u>e-Laws | Ontario.ca</u> <u>Canadian Legal</u> <u>Information Institute | CanLII</u>

The date of your "First Appearance", is not the beginning of your journey. Before you appear in court you want to obtain "Disclosure" from the Prosecutor. Disclosure contains the "Evidence" that will be used against you in your case. The sooner you obtain disclosure the sooner you can formulate a defence strategy or decide to plead guilty and negotiate a penalty for the offence.

To obtain disclosure you must ask for it. It is your right to have it, but it is your responsibility to ask for it. You can wait until your first appearance and ask for it then. By doing so you have put it "on the record" that you have "requested disclosure". The alternative is to contact the office of the prosecutor and make a request or an application for disclosure.

There are several ways to do so. The County where you live manages Provincial Offences. Call the main number and ask for the Office of the Prosecutor or ask for the website address where the form asking for disclosure can be filled out and submitted. Be patient when working your way through the bureaucracy. You will eventually get to where you need to be.

I strongly recommend that you obtain a logbook, diary, notepad etc. You must write everything down. Every person you speak to, date, time, place, address, email, phone number, content of the call etc. Do not try to rely on your memory.

I recommend that you do not wait for your first appearance to ask for disclosure. By asking for it as soon as possible, at your first appearance you can put it on the record that you have requested disclosure, but you have not received it. The prosecution will speak to why it is not available. Your case will then be put over to another date giving time for the prosecution to obtain disclosure for you. In the interim, you may receive it by email, especially if you filled out the request for disclosure form at the County website.

Whatever time court begins, show up at least 30 minutes before. Look for the prosecutor who will be the person with a stack of files standing at the table to the right of where the judge sits. Tell them your name so they know you are in court. For a first appearance, you are not going to enter a plea. On the tables in front of the judge you will find the docket sheets. They are in alphabetical order. Scan down to find your name. To the left of your name, you will find your docket number(s).

If you are able, use ZOOM for your appearance, obtain the link from the court or it may have been sent to you. There are options to use either video or audio. I recommend that you use the video option. You will need a good internet link and a webcam. If you have a smart phone, you can use it. Make sure you have a full charge on the battery. Download the Zoom software and do a test of video and audio before court. At the bottom of the main Zoom website, you can find the Test Zoom link.

Log into the court Zoom link and wait until you are allowed into the courtroom. Ask for the court clerk and identify yourself. The "Virtual" Zoom appearance is not that different in procedure than in person. After speaking to the clerk, stay muted until your case is called.

When court is in session, the cases are usually called first for lawyers, paralegals, agents, and self represented. However, this may not occur as the clerk, trial co-ordinator and available staff may change what cases are called in what order. So, if you are a self rep, pull up a chair and make yourself comfortable while you wait. Use this time to watch the proceedings. It is an opportunity to see how the court operates.

Finally, you hear your name called. Walk up to the front and stand on the left. This is for Defendants. Speak your full name for the record when asked. If the presiding Justice is wearing a Green Sash address them as Your Worship. If the sash is red, it is Your Honour.

The Justice will ask if you have legal representation to which your will say no, I am self-represented. The Justice may suggest that you obtain legal representation. There will be the discussion for disclosure as to whether you have received it or not. Finally, a date to return to court

Some of the issues you are facing next is whether you have received "Full Disclosure". If you feel you have not, then write to the prosecutor and request what is missing. The prosecutor may

say no, you have all that is necessary. In which case you may require a "Motion" to obtain the disclosure you feel is missing.

If you are going to trial, you will need to set a date for trial. If the trial will be more than 2 to 4 hours, a "*Judicial Pre-trial*" may be required. Each court will determine if a JPT is required based on the complexity and estimated length of the trial.

If after having received disclosure, you wish to plead guilty, contact the prosecutor and negotiate a penalty. Be negotiable but not overly agreeable. Is this is your first offence. Do you have reasons for what happen that are reasonable. You have financial difficulties, Family issues etc. You do not have to accept what is placed in front of you the first time.

If you can not negotiate a reasonable penalty, then at the next appearance put it on the record that you want to plead guilty, but you can not obtain an acceptable penalty from the prosecutor. Depending on your local court, the Justice may hear the facts that day, or set it over for taking your guilty plea and hearing your argument for a penalty you feel is reasonable. The case will more likely being set over to another date.

The next article will be Disclosure and the Judicial Pre-trial.



The Contrarian

GUNS are **TOOLS**



by Mel Fisher

In my youth, here in the Northwest, every farm house had guns. A heavy rifle, Winchester 30-30 was popular, big enough to stop a bear from breaking into the pig barn, or bring down a deer from across the field for winter's meat. A light rifle, generally 22 cal, accurate enough to take that pesky magpie from the top of a tree in the chicken yard, or a partridge or rabbit for supper, or clean up groundhogs, skunks, and such pesky critters as might be causing trouble around the yard. Some, especially trappers had hand guns, for up close work.

Part of growing up was learning how to shoot, it takes practice and acquired skill to hit what you are aiming at, so you kill the varmint humanely rather than wounding and torturing it. One of our highlights was a 'chicken shoot' – a farmer with chickens to spare would sponsor an event where each of his friends and neighbours paid cash, a fraction of the value of a chicken, each would shoot at a target, and the shot closest to the bullseye won the chicken! Live chicken, take it home and clean it up for the stew pot!

The point I am making is that guns are an integral part of life close to nature, but we rural folk would not even think of shooting at anyone, even an intruder, any more than we would attack someone with an ax or a pitchfork or use our tractor to run over their car! In country life, guns are tools, not weapons!

Sadly, that is not the case in the criminal environment of cities, especially in the US.

So we have the appalling case in Texas where an 18 year old goes into a grade school and keeps on shooting and killing kids until he is himself shot by police. In effect, he has committed suicide in the most horrific way we can imagine. The gun did not shoot the kids, the 18 year old did. An 18 year old, obviously mentally ill, but still somebodies kid, his parents have to be every bit as saddened as the parents of the innocent school victims.

The utterly politicized American press went into hysterics, using this to promote one of their pet causes, "gun control"; even the President goes off on it. Before they learned any of the facts surrounding the incident, before they found the shooter had a terrible teen-hood, bullied, harassed, but no sympathy or help was offered or available even after he showed such obvious signs of sufficient mental distress that suicide was likely.

Worse yet, even beyond the pale, our immaculate Canadian leadership decided to use the publicity around this event to criminalize and harass even more law-abiding rural Canadians, how sick can you get?

It has been thoroughly demonstrated that "gun control" merely inconveniences the rural people for whom a gun is a tool to make their way of life possible, while having little effect on crime - - the criminal element will still have their guns. And "gun control" is not central to this case – the distraught teenager could have committed equally appalling suicide by use of a home-made bomb or whatever!

Perhaps instead of focusing on the gun, we ought to look at the evils of a society which has created an under-class of teenage boys who see no future for themselves, no way to make a satisfactory life in our divided culture, too many of which end up suicidal. Perhaps the appropriate reaction to such a situation is to address the situation too many young men find themselves in and provide psychological, spiritual, sociological help, rather than focus on guns!

But our elite is intent on ruling with an iron fist and see this as an opportunity to advance their agenda. Note that one of the first things Hitler did when he got full control was to confiscate all privately held guns! Don't know how the German farmers handled such situations as a bear determined to get into the chicken coop!

**



ELECTION EXCITEMENT



Howdy folks,

Living in a small amalgamated rural municipality it's apparent that the approaching municipal election has surprisingly created more interest and debate than any other in recent years.

Our beloved Municipality of Bayham, much like the rest of Ontario, has experienced a tsunami in real estate sales courtesy of cash laden city folks seeking a bargain and their own piece of heaven.

Sorry to relate, this influx of big city educated folk also comes with it's own set of problems when new city folk and long time rural residents lock horns and clash with differing idealism's and goals.

It's no surprise these newly settled city slickers have brought their big city mentality along with all it's mandated necessities with them.

Unfortunately as expected there has been a dramatic increase in by-law complaints and many delusional new comers are demanding a full time by-law enforcement official at their beck and call.

Sorry to relate folks if you're demanding this brown shirt, dictatorial mentality of intimidating your neighbours I appeal stay in the city where such theatrics are the norm and accepted as an essential service.

What I find truly unjust and appalling is that those souls accused of a by-law infraction will never know the identity of their tormentor courtesy of current by-law structure.

This concept is completely wrong and if the complainant was known to the accused I predict

nuisance complaints would drop substantially to the point of non-existence.

It is easy to stir up dirt and openly cause distress all the while hiding under the protective umbrella of anonymity.

Our current Mayor is seeking re-election with two new mayoral contenders as of this writing.

The current Mayor is approachable, an eager listener and is a life time resident with much skin in the game. He is certainly not a fly by night contender who cares nothing for the municipality and only fiscally enhancing his own bottom line.

Our mayor on a previous council voted against a submarine proposed as "free" which eventually cost in excess of seven million dollars in debt to every man, woman and child residing in Bayham.

I must relate many new urban residents foolishly backed the submarine proposal and now sheepishly insist they were opposed and aware of the scam.

As for the other Mayoral candidates, they appear to be fine folk but they lack the lustre and appeal for a long time resident with common sense and long ties to the area.

Contenders for council and deputymayor is a totally different can of worms. In my very own riding a long time councillor voted against a petition and the wishes of the people she was elected to represent. I'm truly sorry for her luck; but in essence she has shot herself in the foot. The Vienna Lions Community Centre was and fortunately still is an integral part of the Municipality of Bayham and especially Vienna.

I also wish the deputy-mayor the best but will be voting for another candidate. Our deputy-mayor spins much like a weather vane and in my opinion is as genuine and valid as a wooden nickel.

Unfortunately as of the writing she is sole contender for the position.

I envision a Municipality ruled by approachable folks where everyone will live happily ever after and emulate our cherished municipal motto "Opportunity is yours."

'Will you vote?' is the question but for who? is the ultimate dilemma.

Sincerely,

THE OLD JACKASS







Break a Leg

by Randy Vancourt www.randyvancourt.com

"Break a leg!" is a common wish that performers offer one another just before going on stage. In spite of its negative connotation, it's actually meant to convey good luck. For some reason in the theatre it's considered bad luck to say good luck; no one is really clear why.

It's also not the only good luck tradition. I'm originally from Quebec where the more common wish is, "Merde." In Opera it's customary to say, "Toi, toi, toi" which is meant to imitate the sound of someone spitting – and you thought opera singers were classy.

Clearly all this wishing of good luck is meant to offset the fact that so many things that can go disastrously wrong on stage. Actors forget their lines, props break, costumes rip. I once had a wall fall over on me during a show. My wife was in a production of the opera Tosca where someone accidentally shot the tenor. Imagine the carnage if we didn't wish each other luck!

At one point I was fortunate to be cast as in a touring musical production called The Legend of The Dumbells. This show told the true story of a group of performers who entertained Canadian troops during the First World War. The Dumbells were hugely famous during the war and from 1919 to 1932 they toured their shows across North America, even ending up on Broadway in 1921.

I was privileged to work on this show with director/choreographer Alan Lund; if you are above a certain age you no doubt recall the famous dance team of Alan and Blanche Lund. Alan went on to direct and choreograph hundreds of CBC television shows, and as Artistic Director of the Charlottetown Festival he was responsible for the original stage version of Anne of Green Gables, which has been running there every summer since 1965.

Our show was large -15 people on stage with an orchestra in the pit. The set rotated and there was smoke and explosions. The potential for problems was quite evident.

Fortunately our show was fairly incident-free. The only little snag we hit was one performance when two of the actors, one of them a full foot taller than the other, accidentally got their pants switched. We learned that night that a poignant ballad about losing comrades in the War should not be performed by guys in comically ill-fitting trousers. They remained stoic while the rest of the cast and orchestra tried in vain to control our laughter. At least our tears were real.

Then we arrived at the Nepean Arts Centre, near Ottawa. Unfortunately the local stage crew had neglected to "spike" the edge of the stage. Spiking means to put glow tape (tape that is visible in the dark) in various spots on the stage so the actors can find their way in the dark.

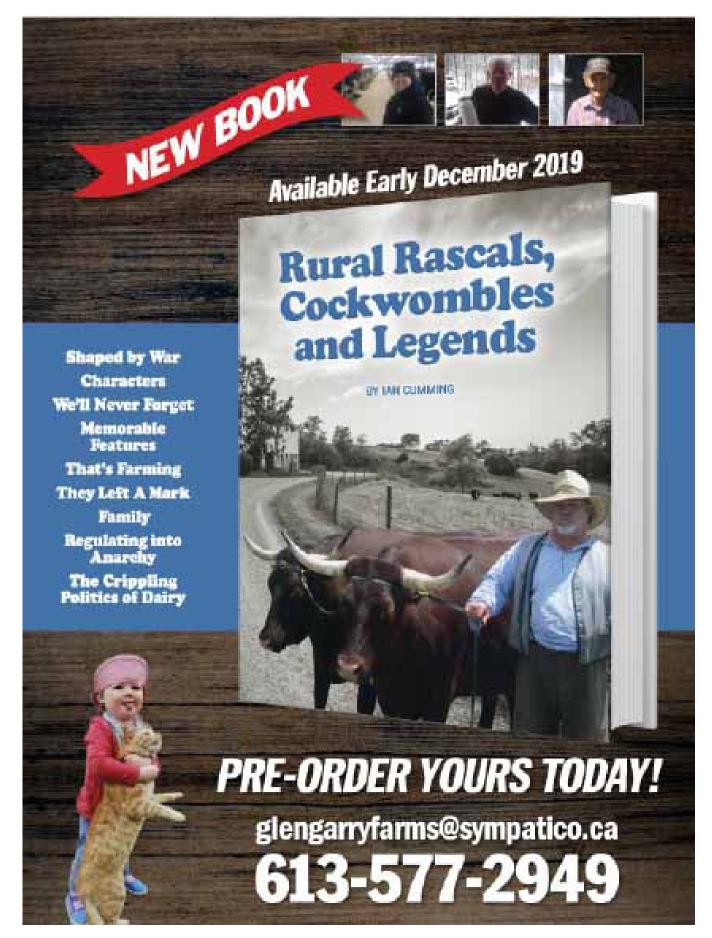
Obviously this practice is even more vital when performing with an orchestra pit - a huge, gaping cavern directly in front of the stage. Add in bright stage lights that have the habit of blinding you a bit at the best of times, and we had the perfect storm.

I had just begun a duet with Tim Murphy (who was dressed as a woman); an old music hall tune called "Give Me A Cozy Little Corner." Halfway through the song I briefly looked away from Tim, then turned back a second later. Somehow within that tiny span of time, Tim had vanished. I was alone on an empty stage; he had completely disappeared.

My brain took a few seconds to process what must have happened. Without a clearly marked edge, Tim had unwittingly walked off the stage and into the orchestra pit. He had fallen right onto the musicians, and barely missed impaling himself on the drummer's cymbal stand.

I courageously continued the duet with my invisible co-star, not exactly clear on what was happening. Suddenly Tim popped up from inside the orchestra pit, still in one piece, arms held high in the air like an Olympic gymnast in drag, and we finished the number to enormous applause.

And best of all, he didn't break a leg. **



Hello to all.

Well I am a bit late with this issue as I had a short vacation. Yes, Shirley Dolan and I along with Jack and Janet decided that we would like to be part of the award ceremony in Calgary that had chosen Tamara Lich of the Freedom Convoy in Ottawa to be the winner of this years George Jonas Freedom Award. George Jonas was a famous Hungarian-born, Canadian author and columnist (1935-2016) who wrote on the importance of freedoms. The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms (JCCF) which recognizes and honours one individual each year who has contributed significantly to advancing and preserving freedom in Canada was hosting the award ceremony in Calgary.

For her part in leading the convoy, Lich was charged on Feb. 17 with mischief, counselling mischief, intimidation, counselling intimidation, counselling obstruction of police and obstructing police. The allegations have not been proven in court. All together, she spent 49 days in jail in Ottawa. It was touch and go as to whether she would be able to attend the Calgary awards event as she missed the Vancouver ceremony because she was still in jail. Luckily, she was ordered to be released from jail for a second time on July 26 after the Ontario Superior Court of Justice found errors in the decision to revoke her bail two weeks before.

It was an exciting evening as we mingled and met many people before we sat down to hear the speeches. The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedom introduced the speakers and explained how they choose the award, a difficult decision often, as there are many great candidates. Next we saw a condensed video called "The Convoy that United Canada" which had clips of the convoy travelling across Canada, the thousands of waving supporters and the horrible end where horses were brought in to move the crowds out.

Tamara was next and gave a great speech, empowering all of us to do our bit to save our country as she outlined how our basic freedoms in Canada are under attack. "All the routine pleasures—the stable life, your belief that people are fundamentally good—that you naively took for granted, they're all dissolving before our very eyes," she said.

"The new Canada taking shape does not resemble

anything I want for my grandchildren," said Lich at the Thursday event. "In fact, for many of us, we hardly recognize our beloved country anymore."

Lich said the last two years have shown with every crisis, there are two separate crises. She said these two crises are "the actual event and the chaos sown from the paranoia that follows that event."

According to her, the change-makers of the world are not the academics and intellectuals, but regular people, those who know how to unite, give ideas, have energy, and stay strong. "One big challenge for us is to keep sane, keep focused, and not let hatred and division get the better of us." She is very concerned that there are some tough times ahead for all of us and feels that we need to be prepared.

Former Newfoundland and Labrador premier the Honourable Brian Peckford spoke after Lich, describing how past judicial activism "made the soil fertile for Charter abuses in the last two years." He said the federal government abused Canadians' charter rights during the pandemic in unprecedented ways.

All in all, it was a great meeting. About 350 people attended the event which included a catered dinner at assigned round tables. We met some very interesting people there and it was a welcome environment with many small business owners in attendance.

The rest of our Calgary vacation was getting to see the city, We travelled on their light rail, a smooth ride proving to us that light rail can work, and we used the odd taxi. We toured a building with a garden on the top floor and then took in all the other stores in the mall, enjoying a coffee and homemade pastries. We went up the Calgary Tower, saw a video of it being built and got a great view of the city. On another day we went to a special garden in the middle of the city called the Readers Rock Garden. Beautiful rocky pathways with shrubs, flowers and trees everywhere and benches to sit on. All pathways led to a quaint house/cottage at the top surrounded by Hollyhocks where you could have a meal or a coffee and a treat. Interspersed between sight-seeing were excursions on foot and later, enjoying pizza in a restaurant beside the hotel. One of our fun relaxing excursions was the frequently empty, but great swimming pool and hot tub which we visited at least 3 or 4 times. A great vacation I would say.





The following is a letter sent by Ruby Mekker, to the mayoralty candidates who are running in the upcoming municipal election in Ottawa. She is wanting to make them aware of the plan for over 700 Industrial Wind Turbines coming to a field somewhere?

My name is Ruby Mekker and I am a former resident of Ottawa.

Recently, I was interviewed by Mckenzie Donovan of Ottawa Times Magazine, which resulted in the publication of No recourse: Ontario's green energy dream has turned into a nightmare, July28, 2022. It can be found at https://bit.ly/3zAkcj1

I respectfully bring this to your attention to hopefully assist your understanding of what happens with industrial wind turbine projects as written by an Ottawa reporter.

My correspondence is specific to the unreliability of industrial wind turbine projects (Texas) and "green" sources of energy now recognized by the European Union - nuclear and natural gas.

There is documented production of Ontario's 2,663 industrial wind turbines, the time of day of maximum production and the lower production during "work day" hours; all taken from the Sygration website: https://www.sygration.com/gendata/today.html

Yesterday Ontario's total wind turbines out of approximately 18,000 MW produced:

TOTAL WIND

1366	1315	1148	994	812	665	455
402	482	495	482	465	477	459
456	426	398	399	324	243	243
260	236	198				

Today

TOTAL WIND

192	169	219	260	260	208	162
121	120	218				

Reviewing this website clearly demonstrates the unreliability of wind power for a power grid for the province.

Recognizing that currently the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Hydro are in support of a "net zero by 2030" policy, I believe, as both a born and raised former resident of Ottawa, now having endured the construction and operation of an industrial wind turbine project, it is important for mayoralty candidates and City of Ottawa residents to fully understand the facts and long term consequences of such a plan.

There have been days with multiple hours of less than 100 Mw of power being produced. It is my understanding the City of Ottawa alone requires over 1,700 Mw of power hourly. Before committing ratepayers of Ottawa to the current proposal I respectfully suggest there are questions that must be answered before a commitment is made.

- what are the documented/proven benefits of the proposed wind and solar additions to the city, to the ratepayer
- how can Hydro Ottawa ensure wind and solar projects will not negatively impact Ottawa's power grid's reliability,
- as mayor, what would be your justification for imposing the human and environmental costs on the City of Ottawa ratepayers and
- where are the cost/benefit statements justifying the added financial costs to the ratepayers to be shared with Ottawa city voters

I would like to offer you both, as mayoralty candidates, an opportunity to meet with me and tour the Nation Rise Wind project for a better understanding of what an industrial wind turbine project entails.

Mr. Donovan ends his article with:

"With governments at all levels looking to move away from fossil fuels, the idea of wind farms on green spaces within the City of Ottawa is not farfetched....

Ruby Mekker firmly believes her health and livelihood have been affected by the negative impacts of wind turbines. After spending the afternoon with her and Joe, it's hard to say that she is not wrong."

I hope you will consider my suggestion.

Ruby Mekker





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

 ${\tt Governor-Duaine\ McKinley:\ mckinley@xplornet.com}$

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

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-vicepresidents, 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 signup 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!

**

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 Micelle 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.

Wins...cont'd

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.

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.

THIS IS INFORMATION ONLY, NOT LEGAL ADVICE



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