

# Landowner Voices



LV

September October 2022

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# Landowner Voices

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**PHOTOS:** Shirley Dolan photographs, Ruby Mekker, Marlene Black

Read 'Landowner Voices' bi-monthly on the OLA website:  
[www.ontariolandowners.ca](http://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 2022**



# Bill 23: the "More Homes Built Faster Act"

*Hello Folks,*

*by Tom Black*

In late October, the Doug Ford Government introduced Bill 23 to the people of Ontario. It is a little early to try and predict what will be the end result of this bill if it gets passed, mostly because it is so big, and because it affects so many other pieces of legislation.

Bill 23 is the "More Homes Built Faster Act" and has a goal to speed up new production of 1.5 million new housing units in the next 10 years. The Bill takes aim at the "Gate Keepers" in the process to getting new development started in a timely manner and without the added development charges and parkland dedication fees. The proposed allowing of infill in residential areas would approve three houses on a lot where only one had been allowed. Also it looks like, basement apartments, tiny homes and granny flats or "garden suites" would be easier to get approved. Since Toronto is usually Premier Ford's focus, the housing crisis there could be part of the reason for this Act. In Toronto, 70% of all building sites are considered single-family houses. There are 1.1 million households in Toronto, so 70% of that would be about 750,000 houses zoned single family. If all of these put up 3 new houses where the old one was, there would be 2 x 750,000 or 1.5 million new houses. Now this is not going to happen, but if you spread that process across Ontario, you may start to see what Ford is looking at.

From my point of view, this Bill addresses many of the points that the OLA has been bringing forward for years. The biggest step in the right direction is the limiting of the control and abuse by the Conservation Authorities. They continually overstepped their mandates and assumed the power of control over private property, even when their legislation did not grant them the power. They were able to do this because towns, cities and municipal governments didn't want the job of dealing with overjealous environmentalists, and so

they gave power to the CA's by default.

The environmentalists will warn us again about Hurricane Hazel in 1954, but CA's won't accept responsibility for what seems to have been man-made flooding in the Ottawa River twice in the last 6 years.

This bill is another plus for me as a defender of farm land against development. Any infill in the big cities, saves farmland for another generation. It also saves on extending infrastructure far out from the centres of town, and takes advantage of the costs and planning for community public transportation.

Let's keep our fingers crossed folks and hope these new moves by Ford, result in a positive outcome for Ontario.

\*\*



*Vaughn Johnson and Bob Weirmeir came up to Ottawa to help with the IPM and stayed with us.*



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Kemptville**

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# 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*



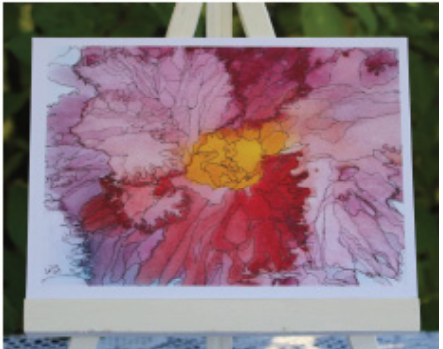
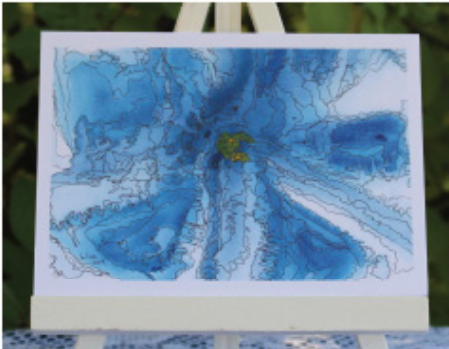
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# How to Run a Country

by Roger Graves

When we strip out the political verbiage, the only really important thing in running a country is economics. Economics decides whether you are rich or poor, whether your citizens are prosperous or starving, and this applies whether you have a socialist or capitalist society. Empty bellies are bad for individuals and for social stability, regardless of whether Karl Marx or Adam Smith is your guiding star.

As far as economics is concerned, there are only two things for most of us to be concerned with: creating wealth and distributing wealth.

People by themselves can be very good at creating wealth. On the one hand you have the Henry Fords and Elon Musks of this world, who create wealth on a fabulous scale. But don't forget the other end of the scale, say a family of Vietnamese boat people who came to Canada nearly half a century ago. Initially they worked at whatever they could, generally menial jobs, saved their money and in a few years opened a little corner store. Everyone in the family slaved away at all hours and eventually they opened a second store. Today they own a chain of stores and are quite wealthy, and their grandchildren are probably going to university or have graduated into newly-minted professionals.

Leaving people to their own devices to create wealth, without too much government interference, is what we call capitalism. Of course, governments can rarely resist the temptation to interfere, to try to organize people's lives, and when they do they usually throttle the wealth creation process. A government Department of Entrepreneurialism won't do anything to help people create wealth and in fact will usually hamper them by asking them to spend half their time filling out pointless forms.

Capitalism on its own tends to lead to an uneven distribution of wealth, where the rich get richer and by comparison the poor get poorer, if for no other reason than those who are good at making money continue to do so while those who aren't don't. However, if you are poor it's usually only in comparison with the rich. Today's so-called poor have a standard of living which would have put them firmly in the middle class a few generations ago, because as the overall wealth of a nation increases, everyone's standard of living goes up. A rising tide lifts all boats. No matter how wealthy your great-grandparents were, they didn't have iPhones, televisions or air conditioning.

Socialism is supposed to be very good at distributing wealth, and if you go to any modern university you will probably be taught how wonderfully effective it is at this. The problem is that while an uneven distribution of wealth can have its problems, artificially making everyone the same creates a whole lot more. Just suppose in a so-called ideal socialist state the tax system is arranged so that no matter how hard you work or how

brilliantly you organize things, at the end of the day you have no more money in your pocket than anyone else. So why bother to work hard? Indeed, why bother to work at all, if you get exactly the same as everyone else whether you work or not? There was a joke about this in Soviet Russia: "we pretend to work, and they pretend to pay us". When the Soviet Union collapsed about thirty years ago, it wasn't through military conquest but through economic collapse, because too few people had any incentive to work hard.

In the real world of course absolute equality of income never seems to happen. Socialism has this nasty habit of ending up as a dictatorship, and

When the Soviet Union collapsed about thirty years ago, it wasn't through military conquest but through economic collapse, because too few people had any incentive to work hard.



dictators always seem to feather their own nests at everyone else's expense. Socialist states always seem to end up with greater wealth disparity than capitalist states., and if wealth disparity becomes too great, then social unrest follows. If only the favoured few are driven around in limousines while the rest of us walk, the favoured few are going to need a well-trained security force to keep them safe. Take a look at North Korea or Venezuela to see how this works out in practice.

At this point I expect the Woke reader to inform me earnestly that in Scandinavia they have a perfect socialist system that ensures an equitable distribution of wealth, and that everyone is prosperous and happy.

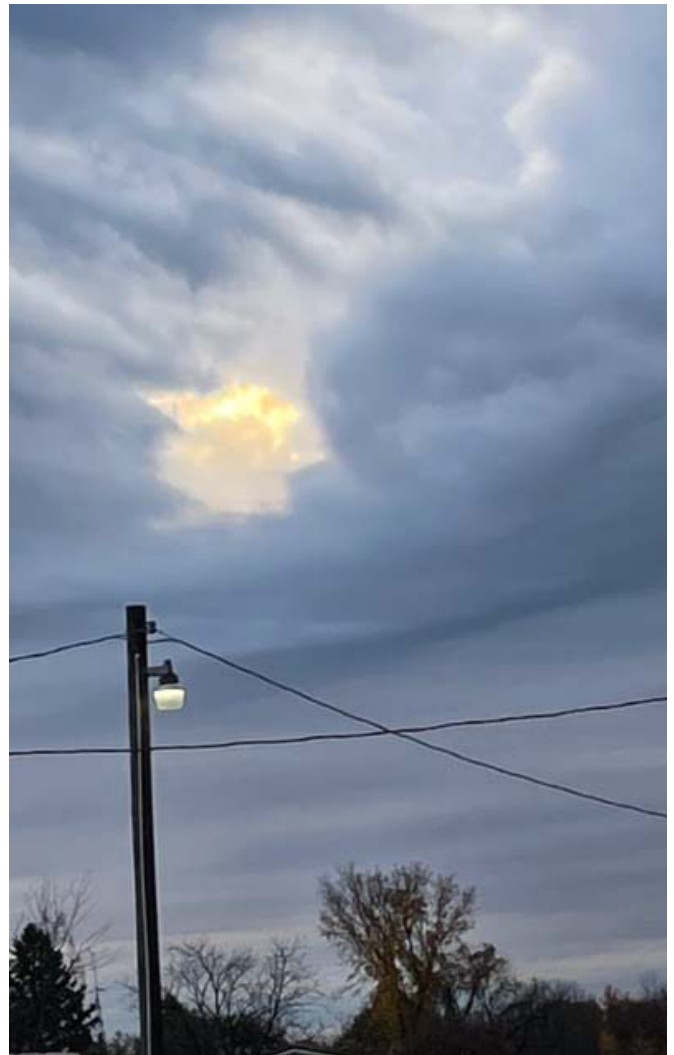
So how do those wonderful Scandinavian countries manage to do it? Quite simply, they aren't socialist. They tried socialism in the 1970's and 80's but found themselves going down a Venezuelan-like slippery slope and dropped socialism like a hot potato. Today, countries such as Denmark and Sweden are determinedly capitalistic with larger private sectors and smaller public sectors than Canada. However, unlike Canada, they have very high tax rates from which they provide such things as free university tuition, which of course makes them seem like paradise to students. In Canada we pay, on average, a little over 40% of our income on federal, provincial and municipal taxes combined. In Scandinavia, it's nearly 60%. (A well-known Swedish author found herself paying 102%, and promptly moved to Switzerland.) You pays your money and you takes your choice.

No system is perfect, and anyone trying to create one will usually end up with a tyrannical system in which everyone is ordered to be perfect – or else.

***Remember that World Economic Forum promotional video which told us that by 2030 “you’ll own nothing and you’ll be happy”? What it didn’t say, in true Soviet style, was that there would be whips and chains and prison camps for anyone who dared to say they weren’t happy.***

And of course if you want to see what the earnest seekers after perfection can really do, given the chance, take a look at Britain or Europe this winter and see the misery that their climate change activism has produced.

It would be nice to have a perfect system and no doubt the ivory-tower dreamers will go on looking for one. But on balance, the capitalist system seems to work best in practical terms. Capitalism in practical terms just means leaving everyone to do their own thing to the greatest possible extent, and making sure that government keeps its sticky paws out of things. Are you listening, Mr Trudeau? \*\*





# The Gatekeepers want you Gone!

by MP Cheryl Gallant  
Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke

Congratulations to the Ontario Landowners Association for their successful intervention in the October 21, 2022 judgement rendered by the Supreme Court of Canada regarding property rights.

The case involved government at the municipal level, in this case the City of Halifax, using regulations to effectively “take” property from a private owner while denying an expropriation was taking place. This is an important distinction. As recognized by the court, in common law, when an expropriation takes place a legal process must be followed to provide fair compensation. By removing all reasonable uses of the land, the Supreme Court recognized the land had been confiscated without compensation.

During the last Parliament I introduced Private Member’s Bill C-222, An Act to Amend the Expropriation Act with respect to protection of real private property. I am pleased to note that many of the issues I raised with my legislation are included in the recent Supreme Court judgement.

As I said at the time, there has been a disturbing trend in Canada toward what is referred to as regulatory or constructive taking of private property. This happens when government uses its statutory powers to regulate or restrict the property rights of an owner without acquiring title to the land being adversely affected.

The landowner feels the impact of the regulation as if the land had been expropriated. In Canada, government acquisition of land without owner’s consent is not subject to the Canadian

Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Landowners’ rights are found in expropriation legislation. The government must follow the law as to what land may be expropriated and must observe the procedures set out in legislation. By setting out exceptions in the Expropriation Act, my bill sought to remove some uncertainty from the existing legislation as to whether owners can be compensated.

My goal is to protect the private property rights of average Canadians.

Predictably, my legislation was defeated by the NDP/Liberal leftist coalition, and included separatist Quebec MPs, who do not believe in private property rights. The federal government was an intervenor in this case arguing against the Ontario Landowners Association and all private property owners.

Another one of the intervenors in this case arguing against private property rights was the Ecojustice Canada Society. The beneficiary of millions of dollars in government handouts, being supported in the tax system as a registered charity, this environmental group complained “the ruling will make it harder for governments to take actions such as protecting a species at risk, if it would limit activities on certain lands”. They went on to say “municipalities are going to be more reluctant to say no to developers. It’s going to be just much harder for cities to develop livable communities and avoid sprawl.” This totally misrepresents the ruling, which is to provide fair compensation when government takes your property. It is a typical “gatekeeper” argument that has helped cause the affordable housing crisis in Canada today.

More disturbing is the fact the Supreme Court decision was a split decision, with the court split almost entirely by party of appointment: four in the majority were Conservative appointments, the three dissenters being Justin Trudeau picks. Prior to the election of Trudeau in 2015, splits along those lines never happened.

As I said at the time, there has been a disturbing trend in Canada toward what is referred to as regulatory or constructive taking of private property. This happens when government uses its statutory powers to regulate or restrict the property rights of an owner without acquiring title..

With the takeover of the Liberal Party by far-left radicals, Canadians should be alarmed. Ottawa is expected to release its “National Adaptation Strategy” in a little less than a month, ahead of the United Nations COP 27 conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. The news just keeps getting worse.

At the time I proposed Bill C-222, Landowners in the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River watershed, including the Ottawa Valley, were feeling the effects of Plan 2014, an international agreement signed by Trudeau and U.S. President Joe Biden to the restore the “natural” water level regimes in Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River basins. Plan 2014 was intended to flood residential properties as a wetland restoration project. This was done

without telling property owners their waterfront was being confiscated to create wetlands.

The Federal government made the nebulous claim of climate change rather than take responsibility for its bad policies. Now recently, the Trudeau Environment Minister has publically stated that home owners should just move.

Flood Victims along Lake Ontario, the Ottawa River and on Moffat Street in the City of Pembroke will be expected to have moved by the time the next “flood of the century,” floods that seem to be occurring every few years since Trudeau was elected in 2015.

While the Supreme Court ruling was welcome news, it is clear as long as the current Federal government is in power, your property rights are at constant risk.

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# 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 in 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 130

Combat Gardening



by Judith Cox



*Greetings fellow gardeners,*

I stopped and drank in the view this morning on my way to open the chicken house. The trees were putting on such a show. I moved here over thirty years ago at this time of year, and these were the colours that welcomed me. Every year they reassure me that I made the right choice.



Beautiful Fall Colours



My happy sage plant

My sage was lovely this year. This is the garden sage that is wonderful to cook with and it will do well in your garden if it is in a sheltered spot. I harvest about half of it and leave the rest. The snow swirls around it and protects the plant.

After I harvested my plant, I removed all the clean, healthy leaves, washed them and baked them at 300 degrees in the oven for about ten minutes. After ten minutes I turned the oven off and left the sage in until the oven cooled. I stored the dried sage in a jar.



**Sage dried in the oven**

some reading, I have discovered that they are storing seeds. They have great memories which means they can remember where they have stashed their seeds. I have found that they are very busy and loving the sunflower seeds that I have left for them. Often, they will stash their seeds deep into crevices to hide them from other animals. And so, they are dancing about eating and stashing and hiding and the too-many cats are highly amused.



**Harold is happy watching the action**

Sage is such an amazing herb. I use it a lot in cooking. Chicken is made for sage, and sage adds a zip to any sauce. Sage has a history right back to the Romans and it has been used medicinally since then. Sage is good for digestive issues and is now being recommended for depression and Alzheimers. While I know that it helps with digestion, I would want to see more studies to determine if it helps with depression and Alzheimers. I have found that sage tea, which is high in antioxidants, is a great help if you have a cold or the flu. Sage tea is made with about a teaspoon of dried sage leaves, and I always add local honey as the tea is bitter. Drying herbs in the oven also works with oregano, parsley, thyme and almost any herb. I also dry my catnip which means my kitchen suddenly fills with too-many cats

I adore chickadees. They seem so happy and friendly, and they eat so many mosquitoes. They hang around in flocks and live in the thick cedars. The too-many cats and I have observed that the chickadees seem to be very active right now. After

I have been collecting seeds and emptying pots and trying not to get distracted by the beautiful colours. I leave a lot of my plants untouched, and they collect snow to protect the garden. I want to be sure to get a lot of seeds for our upcoming Seedy Saturday event in March. Enjoy your week. Judith. (Email: [sghorticultural@gmail.com](mailto:sghorticultural@gmail.com))

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

# Veggie Bites 131

On Saturday I helped with a project that has been ongoing for almost two years. Our horticultural society has adopted a park and we are filling it with native plants. We are hoping to create a great environment for birds and pollinators and other creatures as well as making it special for the people who live in the area. There were a number of volunteers planting the plants on Saturday and the park has started to become a beautiful space.

As our world prepares for winter, it can be a sad time for gardeners. Joining a horticultural society can help with that. Societies meet once a month and usually have speakers that explore interesting gardening topics. There are

opportunities to volunteer on the executive or participate in projects and plant sales. It depends how involved you want to be. The primary reason I recommend that you seek to join a society is that you will meet other gardeners. Each society has multiple levels of gardening experience, there are brand new gardeners and sometimes even master gardeners. I find the societies that I belong to keep me up to date with what is going on in the gardening world and give me the opportunity to meet lots of great people. The Ontario Horticultural Association ([www.gardenontario.org](http://www.gardenontario.org)) has lists of societies, giving you the opportunity to find one in your area.



Lee Boltwood Park, the project for SGHS – photo Brian Beattie

Well, it is time to put those fairy garden planters to bed. I have a few of these scattered about just to keep my visitors on their toes. A lot of fairy garden accessories can be used and reused if they are sturdy. Most of the ones that I want to keep are made of clay or ceramic. I carefully clean them and keep them wrapped in newspaper

in a box inside. I recommend that if you have any ceramic or clay pots that they should be cleaned and placed in an area where they will not freeze. Clay pots break when they freeze or when they thaw out. I have several clay pots along with a lot of plastic ones.





Little fairy garden accessories heading for storage



The Potting Shed

The old chicken coop is now a potting shed where I store all of my pots and at this time of year, I start to empty them. As you remove the soil from your pots and give them a quick wipe, check for damage, you can assess them and decide which ones to keep. A lot of plastic pots will show weakness after a while in the form of UV damage or too much use. If they are weak or broken, put them out for recycling.

My potting shed is a work in progress. For a while it was lovely but then it was vandalized by some sort of creature (probably a raccoon) who knocked everything to bits. I am in the process of reshelving everything. I have also found that people who do not wish to dispose of their pots have been dropping theirs off to add to the pile. This gives me more pots to share.

The too-many cats are pacing back and forth in front of the woodstove. The sky is grey and there is a nip in the air so perhaps a fire is in order. Enjoy your week. Judith. (Email: [sghorticultural@gmail.com](mailto:sghorticultural@gmail.com))

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





# Gun Facts and the Government Agenda

## *Don's Thoughts !*

*Don Johnson  
President Hamilton Halton  
Landowner Association*

The arrogance of the federal liberal government has no limits - it would be a true miracle if this government ever just addressed the real issues with an open mind - their closed minded belief in “the ends justify any action they take to achieve said ends” is the real root of the problem. Manipulating facts , ignoring the reality of the situation and beliefs that are not supported by facts — no wonder Canadians have lost their faith in the government , regardless of who is in power !

I am so happy the government is totally banning legal gun ownership - I feel so much safer that I don't have to worry about a crazed neighbour pulling out his 22 with a 20 shot clip and going ape!

Well in honesty, my concern about being a victim of gun violence in Canada has been “basically non existent” .

The facts are clear re Canadian homicide stats and guns :

In Canada there are roughly 759 homicides per year (\*1 all causes) of which guns account for approx 30% , closely followed by knives (approx 25%). Delving into the data re firearm homicides, the stats show that roughly half the firearms used in homicides were hand guns(\*2) Indeed less than 1% were fully automatic weapon homicides and deaths by, rifles and shotguns, were roughly 20% of the gun caused fatalities, accounting for approx 60 fatalities.

To put further context to the firearms

perspective : 307,000 Canadians died in 2021 (\*3) and under 300 were from firearms all types.

So what is it that requires this government to spend billions of dollars and commit vast resources to gain so little? It surely defies my sense of priority ranking of issues this government needs to face.

The Nova Scotia inquiry, per the national post of June 24, is even more troubling, because the evidence is in citing that the liberal government interfered with the RCMP investigation for the governments own political agenda reasons (\*4) : which appears in my judgement to be, “to justify by any means possible their desire for removal of guns from lawful ownership” .

So perhaps it is time we all emphatically tell the liberal/ndp MP's to stop wasting money and to direct these resources to far more important issues eg . National defence, Health, Seniors, Transportation infrastructure, energy or hundreds of other far more important and pressing issues.

That's the way I see it!

*Don Johnson*



## **Carleton Landowners host successful Annual General Meeting**

For those of you who joined us at the MacLaren homestead on Saturday September 10, 2022 for our Annual General Meeting, we thank you for making it a successful event. New and old friends joined us as we held our elections for our new board of directors, a group of enthusiastic and dedicated people ready to take on the challenges of government overreach for the next year.

This was our first AGM in four years. The Carleton Landowners Association (CLA) like most organizations, was locked down during the pandemic. It was so encouraging to be able to get together again.

Our guest speaker was Professor Bruce Parady. Those of us who follow Bruce had great

expectations about what he might share with us, and we were not disappointed. Following a half hour speech on critical theory, he then engaged the audience for another hour of chat on whatever topics we chose. A law professor from Queens University and the Executive Director of Rights Probe (About — Rights Probe), Parady was well able to provide thoughtful and insightful commentary.

Their website is: [www.rightsprobe.org/](http://www.rightsprobe.org/)

The afternoon concluded with a BBQ supper and some splendid music by Gary Patois.

Thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible and especially to the MacLaren family for their generous offer to host our meeting.



# What is a Reporter? What is Media?

by Ian Cumming  
Agricultural Journalist

## *What is a reporter? What is media?*

Perhaps the answer is that journalists and the media landscape are as varied as farmers and agriculture itself. But both journalists and farmers have guiding principles of integrity, supposedly operating on facts. Something is a verified fact, or it isn't. If there's a 90 per cent chance of rain you don't cut hay.

The rules guiding journalism are unspoken and not written down somewhere as commandments. But ones' peers, and the public, certainly sense when they are violated. Especially when most journalists begin singing from the same song sheet. Or collectively ignoring.

When the US National Drought Mitigation Center in late August has only 1.3 per cent of Vermont under severe drought, and half of Pennsylvania's counties being "normal" and the other half "dry," (two inches below average) why is there a "severe drought" article for that area?

On September 1, the US National Institute of Health quietly added Ivermectin to the list as one of five recommended "antiviral therapies" for COVID. For the media who followed the actual studies presented this is certainly no surprise. Only angry that it took this long.

Others are flabbergasted, having written "horse paste." Funny, but tragic.

With the challenges of operating with integrity, one also has to take into account massive government subsidization for journalists and

farmers. Does that justify echoing the government spinning of weather and scary Ivermectin? But as independent as one strives to be, the perception of being influenced by government dollars is there.

A concerned farmer approached me at a gathering the other afternoon, introduced himself, read me every week, but had a festering question. He is about the 30th farmer to bring this issue up face to face just this year – with probably a one in 50 ratio that will ask – so, uncomfortable as it is for all involved, it needs to be discussed, or at least acknowledged.

*"I have been told," he said, "that your paper gets government funding." Then cited an amount. "So, who am I to believe in media anymore?"*

Actually, based on the last documented figures I saw, I cited him an amount that was 60 per cent higher. He was taken aback.

I then cited the millions that the same documents had shown going to other agriculture publications.

I made the point that I've never been influenced by any government official on any level. Nor does anyone, even at this paper, tell me what or what not to write. I never interfere with any other journalists and always do my own thing.

In all honesty one often wonders why what you consider great news, for better or worse, like a truckers' convoy beamed around the world, or the largest hacking of agriculture on the North American continent, is ignored by agriculture media?

Farmers wonder too. When there are 55 tractor protests on one day in eight Canadian provinces supporting Holland, and agriculture media reports on one.

But I, do report on news, I said.

“I know that,” he replied. “There is no organization that you haven’t pissed off over the years, you just don’t care what people think of you. That is why I asked you.”

The media lines have become blurred between reporting or featuring an item or issue, versus advertising. The funding to write it not being a reporters’ pay cheque, but a grant from someone, or group, seeking self congratulations or promotion of a point of view, I said.

It can be something as innocuous as a new calf barn, to animal welfare abuse on factory farms, or the threat of global warming. There is no masthead saying “advertisement.”

A lot of media waste a ton of ink and online venting about politics.

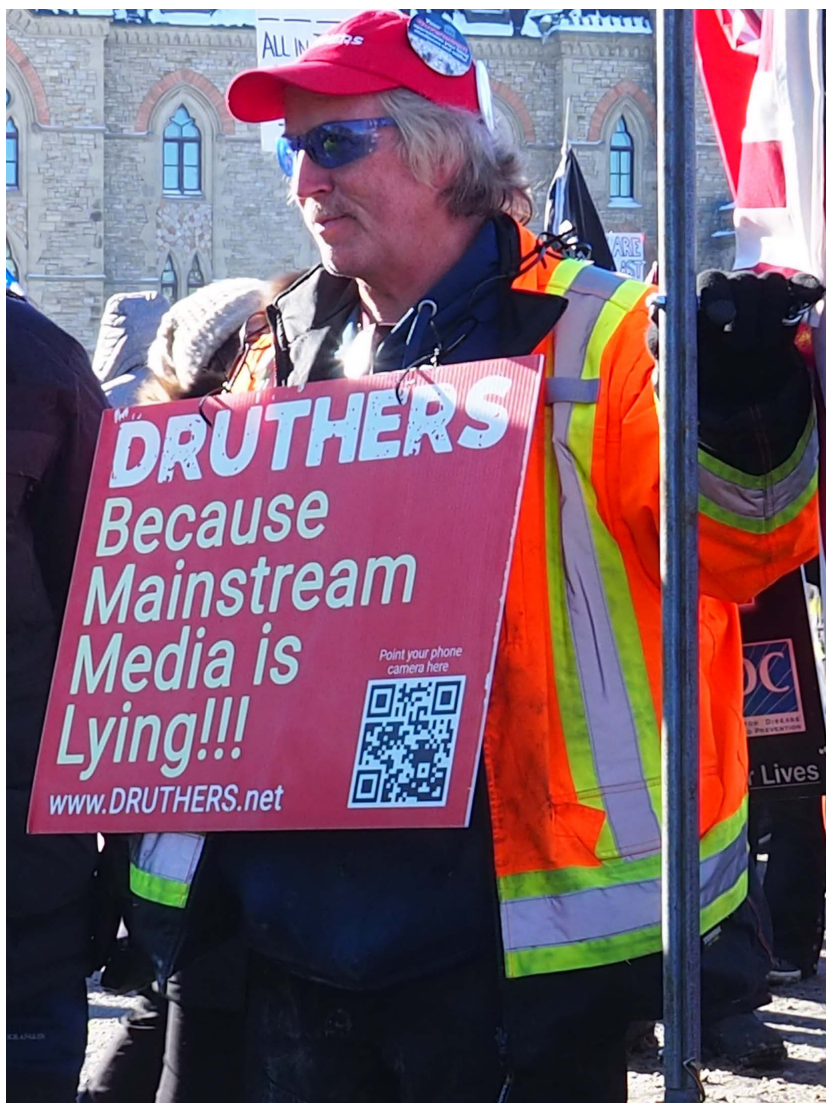
Flailing against individual politicians is the safest, most brainless journalism one can practice, I said. These zealous journalists, whether online, or

mailbox stuffers, proclaim, “we’re not government subsidized,” while pointing the finger at those that are. Depending on a funding base, provoked with emotional rants, background be damned, keeps coffers full.

But when threatened to be sued or advertising pulled by agriculture’s powerful players, not a politician, or going against the morality of their funding base, they stay miles away from reporting those issues.

If you can read variety in a publication, it’s as good as it gets.

\*\*





# The Docket

By  
Jeff D. Bogaerts

## Disclosure and Counsel Pre-Trial

So far you have had your first (not-guilty) court appearance, requested Disclosure in court, put it on the record, requested disclosure from the prosecution and have either filled out a form requesting Disclosure or sent a letter to the prosecutor. Requesting disclosure is now done.

During the first appearance, you set another court date where issues are To Be Spoken To. For example, have you received Disclosure or are you still waiting. Well, if you are still waiting there is not much you can do until you get the evidence from the prosecution that supports the offence that you have been charged with. If you have not received Disclosure, then state on the record that you have not received it yet and when can you expect to receive it? The JP may ask the prosecution what is causing the delay and how much longer will it be before the Disclosure is available? Next is to set a date, To Be Spoken To, and return on that date. This concludes your appearance before the court, say thank-you your Worship or your Honour and leave the court.

From the first day that you received the Summons To Appear, you should have been researching everything you can about the charge. If it is a municipal by-law then download a copy of the by-law and read it inside out and understand it. If the by-law uses a Provincial Act for the authority to pass the by-law then read and understand the act. I will not go into detail here because we are now speaking to evidence, research, trial preparation, case law etc.

We will take the position that you have received disclosure before your next court appearance.

Open the disclosure package and review the contents. The charges, the Summons To Appear, the “Information”, which is a document that was sworn to by the person making the charges against you (e.g. by-law officer, building inspector), a copy of the by-law, statements made by witnesses, the notes from the by-law officer, other documents that will be used at trial by the prosecution and so on.

There are questions to be asked and the evidence provided should be checked for accuracy, e.g. did everything that occurred, occur on the dates identified, if not, this is an issue. Is the charge the correct charge, for example, were you charged with failing to stop at a stop sign, or did you stop at the stop sign but in the wrong place, yes that is a charge. What if your property is zoned on your tax assessment as agricultural but zoned in the planning office as residential? The point is you are looking for accuracy and flaws in the evidence. This may not be easy, but keep going as it will educate you to what you are up against.

The Counsel Pre-Trial, an off the record discussion with the prosecution to determine issues. For example, are they offering you a plea deal? Are you prepared to counter offer? You can say, I will think about it and get back to you. However, if a plea deal is not what you want, then where do you go from here?

First, you never offer any evidence, make any statements or admissions in any way. This is where your legal representative comes into the picture. However, if you are self-represented, then know you are not required to give the prosecution anything or answer questions as evidence towards

the case. They are required to prove their case against you. There are other discussions around this but not for what we are discussing here. We will get into this later.

While doing your research and review of the disclosure, you find that there is evidence missing that you feel should be in the disclosure package, ask for it. You may be told by the prosecutor, I will provide it or no, I will not provide it. You have the right to ask for it and if they say no, why not. If you are satisfied with the disclosure package content, then you will move on to create your defence strategy and prepare for the next phase of the case, the Judicial Pre-Trial.

However, if you want more disclosure and you are not going to get it, you will have to make an application before the court for a Motion for Disclosure. This is where you bring your argument for missing disclosure into court and argue before the justice as to why you should have it. The justice will decide whether you will receive it or not. This too is another article in your travels through the court system. If you need to make a Motion for Disclosure, start the paperwork necessary to file the motion in the court. At your next scheduled appearance, you will be required to inform the court that you have received disclosure but in your opinion not full disclosure and a motion is being made. The justice will want to set another date to return to court for a status on the motion or the outcome of the motion decision. This process of obtaining disclosure can become difficult and cause a problem within the court system. You do not want the justice to think that there is a deliberate delay of proceedings as this will not go well for you. Make sure that what you are asking for in disclosure is relevant to the charge and if you do then stand your ground.

If you have received all the disclosure and you had your CPT and there are no issues so far, then the next step is the Judicial Pre-Trial, or JPT. Some courts will require a JPT only when the trial will exceed a half day or full day of trial. If a JPT is required, then call the court and ask for the trial

coordinator. The trial coordinator will give you a list of dates when JPTs are being heard. Get dates at least over the next 3 months, call the prosecutor and determine which dates they are available. Call the trial coordinator back and book the agreed to date.

At the next court appearance, you will be able to tell the court that a JPT has been scheduled. Some courts will want to schedule a return court date sometime after your JPT and some courts will book the next court date during the JPT.

If you are asked to waive “11b” at any time you must be aware of what this means. You need to educate yourself on Section 11(b) of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms before you decide to waive your rights. You can waive your rights for your entire case, parts of your case or not at all. Be Aware.

The next article will deal with the Judicial Pre-Trial. This link is to Ontario court forms.

<http://ontariocourtforms.on.ca/en/>

October 25, 2022.

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# The OLA goes to the International Plowing Match



The Ontario Landowners had a booth this year at the International Plowing Match from September 20-24, 2022. It was held in Kemptville on the previous Kemptville College grounds and was a big event to get organized and run smoothly with many exhibitors and a good crowd. The weather had its moments with strong winds one day, some rain another and a few cold ones but overall, the sun peeked through enough that the people kept coming. The OLA had a great booth that was set up by Tom Black and Saugeen Landowners, President Bob Weimeir and Vaughn Johnstone who came up together on Sunday, set up the tent and signs on Monday and were there, manning the booth, until Thursday.. We hosted them at our house and had a great time chatting into the evening. A great helper and friend who spent most days there was Stan Thayer so a thank you to him for his work. On Wednesday night, Editor of

the Farmers Forum Patrick Meagher came to our house with pizza and drinks to interview the Bob and Vaughn about some of their 'wins' and how they accomplished them. The next week a 2 page article appeared in the Farmers Forum which was a great read.

There were many visitors to the tent and a steady stream of traffic going by. Day 2 had a parade of exhibitors and Bob with a couple of other landowners, participated and drove his truck, complete with lots of signs, along the parade route. There were enough helpers throughout the week, that most members took time out to wander the grounds, looking at interesting exhibits, listening to music, watching the rodeo and the cowgirls performing on their horses.

An ever present helper, complete with signs, handouts, egg-salad sandwiches and cookies was Ruby Mekker. She lives surrounded by industrial



wind turbines and has made it her mission to inform all rural and urban residents of what they might be getting into if they sign YES to bringing in these monsters. There is much information on the health hazards, sleep disturbances and water problems that are linked to these turbines and Ruby is a wealth of knowledge.

Thank you to all the many, many landowners who came out to help out at our OLA booth, to meet and educate people to the many issues that the landowners deal with on a regular basis. \*\*



Jack MacLaren, Jean Serge Brisson, Janet MacLaren, Ruby Mekker, Stan Thayer, Marlene/Tom Black

## WHY ARE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS FAILING THE PEOPLE? WHERE IS THEIR LOYALTY?

*How would you feel when someone you trusted, lied to you, deceived you, and slowly took away things that belonged to you right out from under your nose?*

Well, in my opinion, that's been happening to ALL of us for several years who have owned property, be it a home, a farm, a business or whatever ....and none of us realized this because it's been done so quietly in the background by those working within our governments – the very ones whom we trusted that were supposed to protect us. I'm not saying that everyone who works within the government is deceitful, because I believe many of them have also been deceived and manipulated to approve decisions and act in a way that ultimately brings harm to the very people who trusted them. Did you ever hear the saying:

*“The best way to take control over a people and control them utterly is to take a little of their freedom at a time, to erode rights by a thousand tiny and almost imperceptible reductions. In this way the people will not see those rights and freedoms being removed until past the point at which these changes cannot be reversed.”*

Think about our education system and how its changed from when we were young. A deliberate plan to slowly remove significant historical events from **our schooling and training** so that we won't know our rights and the Laws that were created to protect what we own. Manipulating through their method of teaching or training to indoctrinate newly elected officials to believe their role is to *protect the municipal corporation* and make IT stronger – the opposite to what they are supposed to do under the authority of the Municipal Act and other Legislative Acts that protects the investment interests of the private property owners. Even when these municipal councils are confronted with the actual sections of the various pieces of legislation that show where their authority lies,

it seems municipal councils are under a spell to continue on the path of direction on how they've been trained and allow themselves to remain under the control of the senior staff and ignore the information written in Law. It is either that, or they know by this point, if they dare to go against what they've been led to believe, their career as a municipal council member comes to a quick end, such as what it appears to have taken place in this last election. With the end result being, they shall continue to approve bylaws, etc. that allow government intrusion which will interfere in our ability to maintain affordability in keeping our homes, operate our small businesses and farming practices.

The LAWS were created to protect us. The LAWS were created to allow Private property owners and farmers to enjoy the use of their lands and profit from them, to allow small business owners to sell their wares to the public and profit from them, to allow private homeowners to invest in their homes and profit from their investments. That's what Private Property ownership is all about – that's why there are LAWS in various legislative acts to protect Private Property – that's how the likes of Bill Gates, George Soros and Justin Trudeau became so wealthy ... using our capitalism democracy to gain more wealth. But those same Laws don't seem to apply anymore ... at least not for the general population. I've taken the time to read a lot of the Municipal Act and Planning Act. I've learned to understand the language. I've learned to recognize how our municipal staff and councils present their new bylaws or changes in bylaws to the public to purposely mislead the public to believe one thing, without revealing their true motive for these changes. Transparency – they will not reveal to

the public. Example – a dog tag bylaw. Under the authority of the Municipal Act, they do not have the authority or power to force a dog or cat owner to purchase a license. Under the Act, they can only impound or muzzle these animals running at large. However, still with this knowledge in mind .... they present to the public by putting up public notices to remind the public that they must purchase their dog license or cat license every year by the end of March. Now ... that is deceitful, but they do that because it shows them the public doesn't know any better – they don't read the Municipal Act – they won't question it; and it's an easy way to collect fraudulent revenue for the municipality.

Why would an elected municipal council member go along with this deceit? Probably because they DON'T READ the Municipal Act – the authority they are to refer to in governing the municipality – the LAW they are to follow that protects all of us. Instead, they act under the direction of whatever they are told by their senior Staff.

**WHY** don't they read the Municipal Act? Maybe it's because they are **trained** by former CAO's (the senior staff). And **WHAT** are our new councils "trained" to believe? Are they trained to follow the Municipal Act? It doesn't seem likely if they don't know it. Do they not realize their roles? If they read the Municipal Act and the Municipal Councillors Guide (put out by the province – Ministry of Municipal Housing & Affairs), they would know their role is to "protect the interests" of the *incorporated inhabitants (sec 4 of Municipal Act)* ... the shareholders – the property owners who **invest** into the municipal corporation. They would know that it is **THEY** who direct the senior staff (CAO's and Planners) on how to operate the municipal corporation. They would know that under sec. 238 of the Municipal Act for Procedural Bylaws, they are to hold PUBLIC MEETINGS where they shall be totally TRANSPARENT to the public when revealing proposed changes (bylaws) to the operation of the municipal corporation and be accountable to the public for any actions they may take ... but most importantly, they are to seek the approval of the public for their actions and not

to deceive or mislead the public with their actions that will financially hurt the investments of the Private Property owners.

We don't see that ....do we? When they hold Public Meetings, are they transparent? Do they seek the approval of the public; or do they just dictate what they are going to do? How do they advertise these Public Meetings? Do they do it discreetly; or do they make every effort to ensure all property owners are contacted and aware of these meetings? Do they hold them at a location and time that will accommodate the majority of public members and at a time when most people are not still at work or having their supper?

If they read the Municipal or Planning Acts or other legislative acts that are LAW, they would know they do not have authority on Private Property to regulate or enforce restrictions on it ... WITHOUT THE CONSENT of the Property Owner. Anytime you have contacted your local municipality to build a garage or whatever on it, have the municipal staff ever asked your permission first to allow them to dig test holes on your property for Indian artifacts or whatever, or your permission to check for environmentally protected species or plants where you give them written consent to do it? Or, have you been led to believe by them that YOU need THEIR PERMISSION first to test YOUR Private Property and that YOU must pay for these tests to be done BEFORE they will grant you permission to build on your Private Property? Now ... that is deceitful, also. That is taking money out of YOUR pocket that may not be necessary. Because if there is no agreement from any previous owner registered on the Title to your property that authorizes them to designate your property as Heritage or Environmentally Protected, then where is their authority to force you to pay for a permit to have this assessment done? This, in my opinion, is similar to paying for a dog license that is not within the authority of the legislative acts.

Again, it seems you are being misled and deceived. Why? Because the public do not read the Municipal, Planning or other Legislative Acts to

make them aware of the LAWS. They believe and trust their government representatives to protect their interests. It is easy to manipulate and control the public to make them believe something that is not true. This is how municipal governments become stronger and the Property Owners (the investors) lose control of their investments. NO TRANSPARENCY and NO ACCOUNTABILITY shown by those whom we elect to protect our interests.

Former CAO's train the new municipal councils. It would seem they train them the same way they are trained .... to **make the municipal corporation the "investor"**. When municipal councils do not read and follow the authority of the Municipal Act, they are working against the people who trusted them to protect their investments. You can't make the municipal corporation "the investor" and still protect the investments of the already existing property and business owners that have invested into that municipality. Is that not a conflict when one side makes regulations and restrictions that decreases the operation and value of the property owners' investment and gives more power and control to the single municipal corporate investor? It appears to me that both the municipal council members AND the staff are all property owners (shareholders) in their respective municipalities. Yet neither read and follow the Municipal Act or other Legislative Acts to understand the purpose of municipal government. It appears that none of them understand that Private Property is protected in LAW. When they ignore the Law, do they not realize the decisions they make today will harm their friends, neighbours and family down the road, including themselves, when they are no longer useful?

It appears to me that the CAO's and Planners are being educated and trained to believe that government has the authority to regulate and plan for land they do not own – they are not taught to read the LAW as it is written. However, their jobs last a lot longer than our elected municipal councillors. I recall a Planner telling me one time, that he knew what I was saying was correct .... but, he was close to retirement and he wasn't

going to do anything differently that might affect his pension. Is that how it is now? No integrity. No concerns for the future of property ownership for our friends, family and so on? Just continue to ignore the Law to keep that pay cheque coming!

NOW is the time for the people to become assertive and demand their municipal leaders be accountable and transparent .... make them do their jobs. When you have been deceived, lied to and have lost the value of what you own ... you go to the LAW for restitution. Well then, let's use the LAW. Some of us know it and we can teach others. To start with .... demand more public meetings. That is OUR right. We will use the LAW that is written to protect our properties – our investments and demand the Laws be respected and followed. There shall be no more erosion of our rights and freedoms, no more misleading the public to indoctrinate them to follow another path of direction that invisibly steals what we own. We are NOT past the point of no return! WE are the "incorporated inhabitants" (the shareholders/ investors) that are tired of the deceit and betrayal that has been thrust upon us, we are tired of our elected political officials who have been used and manipulated to work against us. We will turn things around, as they should be and STAND IN THE LAW as it was written in the Magna Carta hundreds of years ago to protect the people!

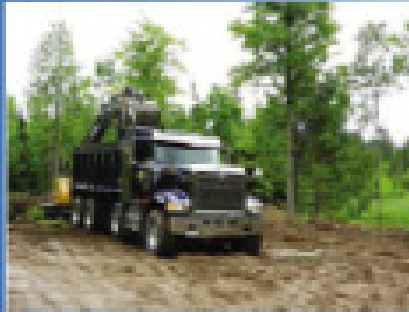
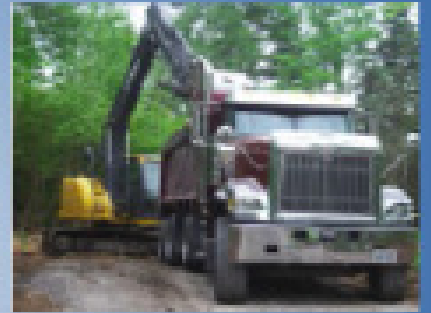
*by Donna Burns, President,  
Renfrew, Nipissing Pembroke Landowners*

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# OLA Holds First AGM since 2019



Many of you will remember our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 2019 in Arnprior. Our speaker was Tom DeWeese, president of the American Policy Centre. Then we had a pandemic and governments shut down gatherings so there were no in-person meetings of the OLA in 2020 or 2021.

In April of 2022, we got back into our regular meetings with our Spring Directors' Meeting at the new Cobourg Legion. This location worked very well for us and so it was decided that we would hold our AGM there in the Fall.

40 people attended to elect our 2022-2023 OLA Executive, enjoy a delicious salad and cold cuts buffet, and to listen to speakers Ruby Mekker and Dave Hemingway on wind turbine concerns, Tom Black on the return of animal activists, and Tony Kaluzny and Joan Olech on their court case on crown land patents.

The big news from our President Jeff Bogaerts was:

- In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in favour of property owners, on de-facto expropriation, in the Annapolis Group Inc v. Halifax Regional Municipality. The OLA was an invited intervener in the case.
- The OLA is growing – a new chapter in East Gwillimbury was announced.

Our Executive for 2022-2023 was acclaimed, as follows:

- President, Jeff Bogaerts
- Co-Vice-Presidents, Donna Burns and Bob Weirmeir
- Governors: Stefanos Karatopis, Vaughn Johnstone, Ed Kaminski, and Russ Robson

Thanks to everyone who took the time to attend and participate in our AGM.

# Once Again Ontario Ratepayer Dollars, are Blowing in the Wind

by Parker Gallant

September 26th was another day where Ontario's ratepayers and taxpayers were burdened with paying lots of our after-tax dollars to IWT (industrial wind turbines) owners for energy surplus to our demand!

The approximately 4,900 MW of IWT cranked out 64,726 MW (55% of their capacity) and received the contracted price of \$135/MWh. Additionally, it appears IESO (Independent

As it turned out IESO was busy yesterday selling our excess generation to our neighbours in Michigan, New York and Quebec

Electricity System Operator) also had them curtail 6,100 MW (5.2% of capacity) for which they received \$120/MWh. In total the cash they will be paid is about \$9,470,000 (\$8,738,000 for grid accepted generation plus \$732,000 for curtailed generation).

The annoying part of the foregoing costs to us Ontarians is, we didn't need the IWT generation as so frequently happens during the Spring and Fall seasons when demand is low. The peak demand yesterday occurred at Hour 17 (hour ending at 5 PM) which was 15,657 MW versus the 20,000 MW plus peak demands we frequently see during warm summer days. The latter is when those IWT often generate a miserly 5 to 10% of their capacity.

As it turned out IESO was busy yesterday selling our excess generation to our neighbours in Michigan, New York and Quebec who gobbled up 61,181 MW (94.5% of IWT generation) of the unneeded surplus. What normally happens when those IWT are generating those unneeded megawatts is the market price is always low. Yesterday was no exception as IESO sold off the foregoing for the average HOEP (hourly Ontario

export price) market price of \$13.36/MWh so it produced revenue of only \$817,000 meaning it barely paid for the cost of just the curtailed generation!

Those "first-to-the-grid" rights the McGuinty/Wynne led Ontario Liberal Party gave to the IWT owners via the FIT (feed-in-tariff) contracts continues to harm us and impacts the costs of electricity in the province eating up family and business money during these inflationary times.

Just more "money for nothing" from us compliant ratepayers/taxpayers doing nothing to reduce emissions while picking our pockets!

Parker Gallant

*Parker Gallant Energy Perspectives*





# Farm Livin'

by Randy Vancourt

[www.randyvancourt.com](http://www.randyvancourt.com)

Although we were both raised in small towns, my wife and I spent many hours on family farms as kids since our parents all grew up there. I well recall many Sundays at my aunt's farm where I discovered the questionable joy of using a large outhouse (3 holes, no waiting!) There was a barn just outside the kitchen door and the privy was connected to the far side so in winter you didn't have to brave the elements. It seemed the very definition of building a better mousetrap.

It was also on that farm that I had the terrifying experience of being chased through a field...although in retrospect that story would sound a lot more exciting if I had been running from a bull rather than a rooster.

Our own kids' first farm experience was a few summers ago; we were travelling and decided to take them to a working farm that also welcomed visitors during one month each summer.

My wife and I were both a bit shocked at the state of the place; rusting farm implements left out in the open to slice yourself on, buildings in various states of precarious repair. My favourite part was the cattle chute that had been turned into a maze for the kids to run through...without cleaning out the manure. We started calling this place Sepsis Farm since we were becoming concerned about our children's health.

Our son managed to step on something in the barnyard that went through his shoe and into his foot. Within 24 hours this led to his foot painfully swelling up, a high fever and an emergency trip to the doctor. Not the best way to instill a love of the land in him.

This past summer, following a few years

of Covid isolation, it was finally time to bring our kids to my wife's family farm. Originally started by her grandfather and now run by several uncles and cousins, they switched from livestock to specializing in canola years ago, so we weren't quite as worried about the need for a tetanus shot.

We had a wonderful day visiting and exploring. My wife's cousin showed up with her two older kids and they immediately hit it off with ours. Out from the barn came a small ATV and a go-cart, both gas-powered. The older cousins each took one of our little ones on board and started blasting around the





farm. My survival instincts made me a little concerned that there were no helmets but I figured at least the ground was softer to land on than pavement.

Following supper the kids ran outside again to play. Exiting the farmhouse a moment later I was suddenly treated to the sight of our 4-year-old daughter now DRIVING the go-cart past me. In fairness, she was doing a good job and at least her older cousin was in the passenger seat. She was then followed by our 7-year-old son riding the ATV all by himself. Very fast.

The cousins had taught them how to drive but I don't think my son really understood the concept of the throttle, as he seemed to be holding on for dear life as he flew past us. I started yelling at him to ease up on the handgrip but in his nervousness he just kept a vice-like hold on it.

A second later my daughter managed to flood her engine (don't kindergartens teach the proper use of a choke anymore?) so I was helping her when suddenly we heard her brother screaming from across the field. We took off at a run and found that he had driven the ATV full speed, head on into a tree. Once we ensured he was unharmed, I asked him why he hadn't used the brake and he said he didn't know how. I made a mental note that in the future, learning how to brake should always be the first driving lesson.

I'm happy to say that, in spite of our son's propensity for injuring himself, both kids have nothing but good memories of the experience and look forward to their next farm visit. As for me, I'm just thankful there were no chickens.

**My favourite part was the cattle chute that had been turned into a maze for the kids to run through... without cleaning out the manure.**

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## Supreme Court of Canada Grants Intervenor Status to Ontario Landowners Association

*Annapolis Group Inc. v. Halifax Regional Municipality, 2022 SCC 36*

### Private Landowner Property Rights Improved by Decision of Supreme Court of Canada

On October 21, 2022, the Supreme Court of Canada released its decision in *Annapolis Group Inc. v. Halifax Regional Municipality, 2022 SCC 36*. The Ontario Landowners Association was granted leave to intervene in the appeal and made key submissions before the Supreme Court regarding the test that ought to be applied in cases involving claims of *de facto* expropriation – a legal doctrine designed to protect private property owners’ rights in cases where the government has made a regulatory decision infringing on their property rights. The decision in Annapolis has important implications for private landowners across the country as the Supreme Court has relaxed the test for establishing *de facto* expropriation and has made clear that the intention of the government authority in question is relevant to the analysis.

The appeal in *Annapolis* involved questions about the legal test private landowners are required to establish when making a claim of *de facto* expropriation against the government. In the *Annapolis* case, the private landowner claiming *de facto* expropriation was a land developer, and the government authority was a municipality that wanted to acquire the developer’s lands for a public park. However, the municipality deliberately avoided zoning the lands as parkland (which would have required it to purchase the lands under municipal legislation), and instead passed a resolution that had the effect of prohibiting the developer from engaging in any further development of its land. In the decision under appeal before the Supreme Court, the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal held there was no *de facto* expropriation despite clear motive on behalf of the government to avoid its obligation to pay, on the basis that the government had not actually acquired title to the lands in question.

On appeal, the OLA submitted that: (1) government motive ought to play a role in *de facto* expropriation cases; and (2) the Supreme Court should abandon the requirement in prior jurisprudence that the government must acquire a proprietary interest in the property in order for there to be a *de facto* expropriation.

Consistent with the submissions of the OLA, the Supreme Court of Canada granted Annapolis’ appeal and reversed the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal’s decision. The Supreme Court of Canada held that:

1. While the government authority’s intention is not an element of the test for *de facto* expropriation, intention is relevant to the inquiry. The objectives pursued by the government may very well support a finding that the landowner has lost reasonable use of their land.

2. An *actual* acquisition of the private landowners’ property rights is not necessary to establish *de facto* expropriation; rather, if the government authority has obtained an *advantage* in respect of the lands that is sufficient to ground a claim.

The Supreme Court’s decision in *Annapolis* will make it easier for private landowners to establish that the test for *de facto* expropriation is made out in cases where their private property rights have been impacted by state action. The OLA is proud to have been able to contribute to the development of the law in Canada on this important topic affecting private landowners in Ontario and across the country.

Ontario Landowners Association  
[www.ontariolandowners.ca](http://www.ontariolandowners.ca)

*Hello to all,*



I hope that everyone is doing well and keeping any intruders onto your property, at arms length. We are cruising along here with our ‘new’ very ancient Gleaner combine. Some days we get a good run out of it and others, it is back in the shop for repairs. The only good thing about it all is that Jesse, our son is learning a whole lot about repairing combines and running them. We did get a run of good weather and have most of the fields cut. A small hiccup again with the combine meant that we didn’t finish these small fields. Oh well. It’s farming as they say.

We had a great trip down to Cobourg for our Landowner AGM. We stayed overnight in the King Georges Inn which used to be the jail many years ago. Except for the lights which didn’t work and would have kept us in the dark, all went well. Lucky for us, we found a lamp that did turned so we had light. There was no front desk and the outside door and the door at the top of the stairs both locked. You called a number when you arrived and they came and let you in. A different experience from the usual hotels..plus you dropped your keys in a box when you left as no one was around.

The new Cobourg Legion was great, roomy and well lit and we all enjoyed our morning coffee and muffins and our lunch. The rest of the day we learned from the experiences of the speakers what some of the tricks were to navigating through years of court procedure or the endless frustrations with government red tape. All the things that landowners are challenged with on a regular basis. We wondered if any government agency really cares about our

problems as we heard that the many health issues that are plaguing the people living near wind turbines are not being addressed or are being swept under a rug. It made many of us wonder if we are all puppets on a stage and there is someone else pulling the strings.

It’s Hallowe’en tomorrow so I hope you all get through the spooky day. A few miles up the road is the Saunder’s Farm with it’s Haunted scary ride through the woods where you meet all sorts of creatures and the kids do a lot of screaming. They converted their Saunders Strawberry Farm many years ago into a fun place for kids with mazes, tractor rides, puppet shows and of course, haunted Hallowe’en antics etc. The reason I mention this is for a good month before October 31st there is a steady stream of traffic through the day and night, heading out to that farm and it is often hard to find a space for tractors and other farm machinery to get across the road. Oh well. Another reason why there are so few farms left around this area. We’re part of Ottawa now and our rural voice is often but a squeak and not worth listening too. I should clarify, they might listen but they won’t take action.

We all enjoyed celebrating our win at the Supreme Court where we were intervenors on a property rights issue. Check out MP Cheryl Gallant’s article (pg. 10) where she congratulates the Landowners for the win and an abbreviated summary of the case on page 34.

Here’s hoping all is well in your neck of the woods.

*by Marlene Black*



Hi folks,

*A letter from our 'wind turbine activist' Ruby Mekker*



I have been in contact with Professor Blair Rutherford from Carleton University since the summer. He is a Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. He wanted his students to understand industrial wind turbine projects from various aspects; health, political, power source etc. and we made it happen. This is my account of the event:

Monday was a wet, misty day but the tour went ahead. Christine Burke of Dover Township drove about 8 hours Saturday to attend, bringing a sample of her well water (see pictures). I am very saddened to say Christine did not have a peaceful time here; she was bothered by the turbines, mostly ear issues and unable to sleep. She told me there was definitely something going on in our home; inside and out. I find that very disturbing because where do we turn to to find out? What about the homes with even more turbines? What are those turbines doing to us? This now makes three visitors reporting ear issues while in our home. Are any of you experiencing similar happenings?

Back to the tour. Four of us met the bus in Embrun and joined the tour. We went south out of Embrun making two stops where the people explained what was happening to them when the turbines are operational. We explained the background of the project - marginal wind, West Quebec Seismic Fault, vulnerable aquifer, migratory path, objected to by the people, lack of help from any level of government etc.

We drove by the substation, through Crysler, through Berwick where we drove by the home that is so close to the turbine, ending up back at our home where Christine and I had spread out our information. There the students met separately with the four of us and asked questions.

All were shocked to see how close the turbines were to homes, the clusters to homes and were appalled for two reasons:

1 - the lack of recognition of the health issues of people living with industrial wind turbines; the fact that the current Minister of Health has known since 2009 and has done nothing, our local Medical Officer of Health and Board of Health response, lack of assistance

2 - the history of the water in Dover and even more appalled by the lack of recognition by governments (at all levels) of the seriousness of the situation, now with scientific proof of the metal content of the sediment.

You could feel their interest; they stayed longer than was expected, asking questions and expressing their thanks as they left.

In summary, we felt we were able to help 16 students and 1 professor to better understand life in an industrial wind turbine project.

*Ruby and Christine*

Additional water information:

Dr. Keith Ben:, "It was my pleasure to participate in the expert panel on the recent All-Hazard Investigation of Well Water in Chatham-Kent...I continue to hope that the relevant branches of government will investigate, with some urgency, the potential for health hazards associated with solids suspended in well water in areas of industrial wind turbine development within Chatham-Kent."

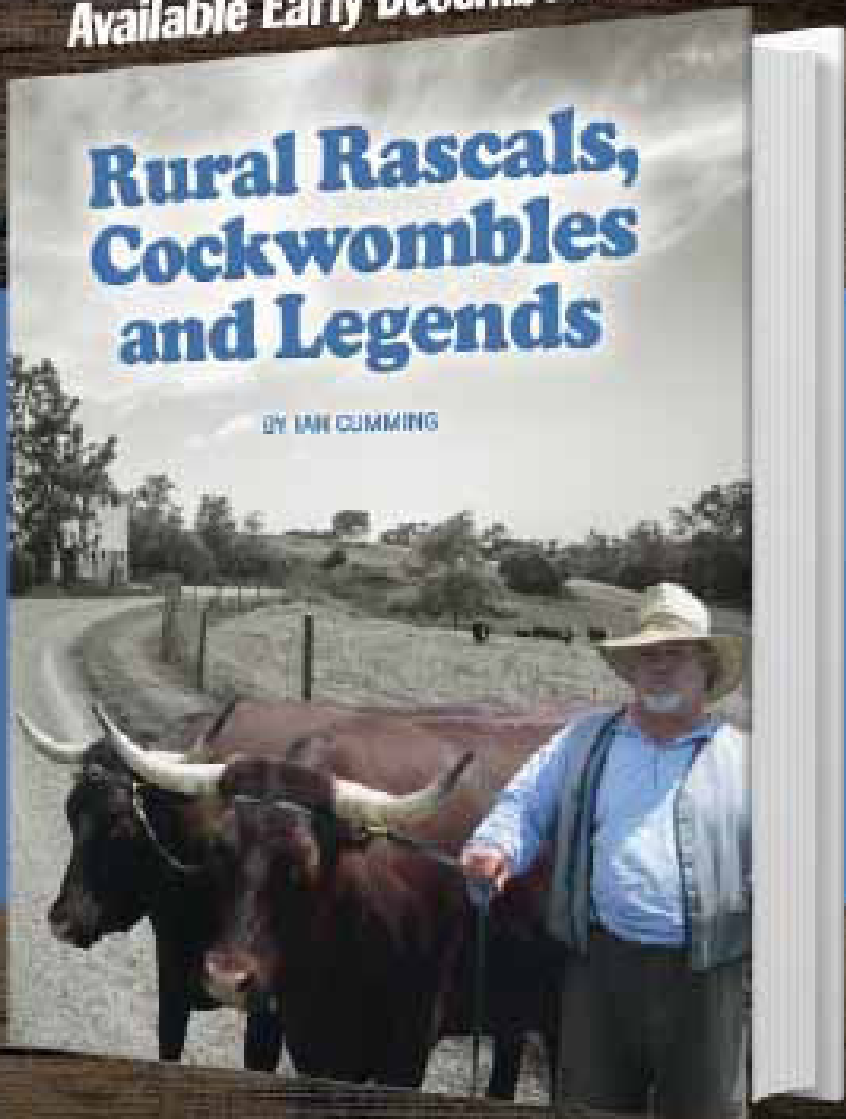
<https://www.chathamdailynews.ca/opinion/letters/letter-more-water-sampling-warranted-in-rural-north-kent>

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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](mailto:jdbogaerts@bellnet.ca)  
Co-Vice President - Donna Burns: [donnaburns1@bell.net](mailto:donnaburns1@bell.net)  
Co-Vice President – Bob Weirmeir: [saugeenregionalla@outlook.com](mailto:saugeenregionalla@outlook.com)  
Governor – Ed Kaminski: [olakaminski@bell.net](mailto:olakaminski@bell.net)  
Governor – Vaughn Johnstone: [tvjohnstone@gmail.com](mailto:tvjohnstone@gmail.com)  
Governor – Stefanos Karatopis: [stefanos.karatopis@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mount.haven@hotmail.com)
2. Lanark, Lennox & Addington, Frontenac – Jeff Bogaerts [jdbogaerts@bellnet.ca](mailto:jdbogaerts@bellnet.ca)
3. Stormont Dundas – Christina Suffel [christinasuffel@yahoo.com](mailto:christinasuffel@yahoo.com)
4. Leeds & Grenville – Duaine McKinley [mckinley@xplornet.com](mailto: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](mailto: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-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](http://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](http://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 Yakubuski, county officials, and the provincial government, these areas were removed from the county's Official Plan.

## Land Titles Information Available for Free, Online

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

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

## Amendments to the Conservation Authorities Act

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



# 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\**

