

## **Correction: Why not volunteer a bit of Truth?**

Mar 31, 2008

I received a phone call from Bo Chausse regarding his and Mark Watson's presentation before Haldimand Council. Their presentation can be found [here](#).

Bo had spoken to Councilor Grice who corrected him on some of the factual details that had been posted on our site. On our site is posted the following, "Bo & Mark during their presentation at Haldimand Council on March 25 learned that Haldimand Council returned \$30,000 to McGuinty that was earmarked to help residents."

Bo believes that the following needs to be posted to correct any false information that is found on our site.

The Council did return \$20,000 (not \$30,000) to the Ontario Government. This is because the \$20,000 was part of the Resident Settlement Package that McGuinty offered to those living near DCE. The Province had allotted a set amount to be paid out to those living within a predetermined mapped area. The Province did provide an extra \$20,000 in case they had not correctly counted the number of homes in this area. As such, the money was not given to the County to use for the benefit of residents but assigned by the Province to be used in extra amounts for each resident found within the mapped area.

The Council did not have any authority to use the money in any way at all. Thus, once each resident had received the allotted amount the extra was returned to the Province.

I agree completely with Bo that these details need to be provided to the public so no misleading information is posted through [www.CaledoniaWakeUpCall.com](http://www.CaledoniaWakeUpCall.com)

However, the title of this editorial includes the phrase, "Why not volunteer a bit of Truth?" These were the words Bo said to me as we spoke. I told him it would be a great title for a story and he agreed.

All media outlets have to run corrections on a regular basis and as such it is not much of an issue that we find ourselves doing the same. However, there is also an important story about why such a correction is needed.

As Bo stated to me he couldn't understand why Councilor Grice or any Council member continuously refuse to volunteer information to the public. In fact, one of the main problems in Caledonia have been the repeated examples by those in positions of power who refuse to communicate with those who put them in power.

Both the OPP and Politicians at each level of Government claim to want open dialogue with the public but never get around to achieving it.

A year ago Councilor Grice held a public meeting and promised he would do more to provide the public with the means of open communication. However, no such meetings have occurred. Instead he wrote a Press Release to inform the public and sent it to the media to be printed.

Michael Bryant came to Caledonia in November 2007 and made a point of claiming that he would meet with individuals and had his people take down people's names and phone numbers. Instead of meeting with people Bryant created the YouTube videos as his form of communication.

Even MP Diane Finley, on May 29, 2006 posted on her website the following words (Colour added):

**“I would like to thank each and every one of you for taking the time to write me and share your concerns with respects to the situation in Caledonia. Your personal observations and insights have been a valuable tool for me here in Ottawa, as I continue to push for a speedy and peaceful resolution to this situation.**

**I also want to thank you for sharing your coordinates with me so as to establish a regular means of contact. From here on in, I will be sending out updates such as this every week until this situation’s resolved, so that you can be kept as informed as possible. As you deserve to be.”**

**So much for weekly updates. It became just another example of the endless lies told by our political leaders who claim to believe in accountability. Please note that Ms. Finley does admit that the public “deserve to be” informed.**

**Why is it so hard for Council and the OPP to voluntarily meet with the public and provide information so people are not left with misinformation? Are we not a democracy in which we believe that an informed public or a better educated public is something to work towards?**

**After two years, why is the public continuously fighting just to get a bit of the Truth?**

**For many this is the most frustrating part of what has happened.**