

No Democracy in Haldimand County

Aug 7, 2007

The McGuinty Friendly council in Haldimand is once again trying to help McGuinty in the upcoming election. You will remember that council refused to include McGuinty in their press release a few weeks ago and solely blamed the Federal Government for the ongoing occupations in Caledonia.

In truth you cannot call it an occupation any longer since McGuinty bought the land back on July 5, 2006 and publicly stated the Native Protesters could live in the homes on DCE for FREE and received FREE hydro and water – paid for by the taxpayers of Ontario.

Remember also that MPP Toby Barrett stated in his press release on July 23, 2007, "The rule of law is of particular interest along the Grand River and across this country. Illegal land seizures, the illegal tobacco trade, and the burden of government regulation have done more than cripple our area's economy - they have caused many to question whether we are all governed by the same set of laws."

Under the Canadian Constitution it is the Province that enforces the laws and in Caledonia it is the ONTARIO Provincial Police that has failed to enforce Court Injunctions, Court Orders and the Criminal Code of Canada.

Councilor Grice spoke with a few residents yesterday and failed to explain why suddenly McGuinty was no longer responsible. I should remind people that Mr. Grice was quite clear during his election campaign that Haldimand County was refusing to deal with the occupation because they say "its' a Provincial or Federal Government issue;"

He did give Mayor Trainer credit that she, and she only, was speaking out. Now that Mr. Grice has been elected he has decided to say, "its' a Federal Government issue;" If you were to listen to McGuinty's news interviews over the past 3 months you would find that Mr. Grice and the other councilors are repeating the exact same words.

Isn't it amazing what happens to people once they are elected – I guess Grice's promises to residents are as good as McGuinty's promises to 'not raise taxes.'

There is no way that council doesn't understand the above facts. Mr. Grice and other councilors are well aware of the fact that McGuinty owns the land and has allowed the Native Protesters to live there. By the way, Property Ownership in the Canadian Constitution is a Provincial Issue not Federal.

This brings us to the what is really going on in Haldimand County. Councilors, like Mr. Grice, have sold out the residents of Caledonia to help McGuinty in the upcoming election. {Additional proof – [Link](#), [Link](#)}

Council Members go to McGuinty Liberal Photo OP:

Two council members left early today and reports are they went with Lorraine Bergstrand for a photo op at Stelco. Bergstrand is the McGuinty Liberal Candidate running against Toby Barrett. The Mayor was asked to go as well but she decided that being at council meetings was more important than helping McGuinty Liberals in Haldimand County.

McGuinty wants to silence the Mayor and the council is the current weapon of choice for McGuinty.

The current motion to have all email to/from Mayor Trainer copied to all council members is an example of trying to control communication within Haldimand County. You will note that the motion doesn't say all email to/from any council members will be copied to other people – just emails to and from the Mayor.

The only person who has a voice at Haldimand Council is being targeted.

We can assure you that any future emails to/from Mayor Trainer will be quickly shared with the OPP, McGuinty Government and Native occupiers. I find it quite amazing that Fantino's email threatening Haldimand Council appeared on Native web sites hours before we received our copy from a council member.

Battle lines have been drawn:

Council tried to secretly pass this motion before residents could find out about it. The Mayor only became aware of the wording last Thursday just before the long weekend when most people would be away.

Today Council voted against allowing any residents to speak on this topic – this is Democracy?

Here we have elected officials who are clearly saying that you cannot hold them accountable. They are screaming at you in plain words that you cannot have a voice. They are clearly saying that they don't care what you think.

Council immediately adjourned the meeting and went to an in-camera meeting.

A resident immediately spoke out that the Supreme Court had ruled against such in-camera meetings. The councilors didn't care and they adjourned to another room.

Afternoon Meeting:

The Council returned after lunch and the motion about Mayor Trainer's emails was still on the schedule. Two Council members, including Sloat, left at 2:10 to make it to their 'promote-McGuinty- Bergstrand-we-love-Liberals' photo op.

Council continued and voted on some important items – some were for expenditures of over \$100,000.

Finally the email motion came forward and the council voted to stop and to put it off until Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 pm. I guess there were enough council members to vote spending money but not enough to talk about the Email Motion.

Clearly Council is hoping people will not show up two days in a row.