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583 lost days, \$290 million dollars and counting

Barrett highlights damage done by land dispute at Caledonia debate

Caledonia — Last night's all-candidates debate in Caledonia saw PC Candidate Toby Barrett detail the trail of loss due to McGuinty inaction on the Grand River land dispute.

"I've just received estimates of a \$290 million taxpayer borne cost for the land-dispute – this includes the purchase of DCE, payments to Jane Stewart, cost of policing and damaged hydro one towers" Barrett intoned. "Add to that the rest of the costs to Haldimand and Brant – I think of unemployment, lost business, lost construction, and ongoing lawsuits."

Since February 2006, Toby Barrett has been the only provincial representative to maintain a constant presence at Caledonia, while speaking on behalf of residents at Queens Park.

Barrett has sent out 40 news releases, and 14 columns and issued ongoing monthly updates to maintain a constant line of communication with concerned residents. At Queens Park, Barrett stood in the Ontario Legislature close to 50 times to deliver questions, statements and speeches to ensure the voices of Caledonia are not ignored.

Barrett went on to reiterate that John Tory has visited Caledonia nine times since the occupation began – McGuinty has yet to show himself - and announced the Conservative plan to restore "rule of law" during his most recent stop.

"In Caledonia, John Tory made it clear: no one is above the law, or beneath its protection - under a John Tory government court orders and court injunctions, like Justice Marshall's, will be enforced," Barrett asserted. "No-one has the right to "occupy" land anywhere or burn bridges or transformers; as Tory said in Caledonia we will beef up the trespassing legislation – and the fines – to deal with illegal occupations...."

"Unfortunately, as Thanksgiving Day approaches there are now 290 million reasons for organizers and residents to rally on this holiday all because the McGuinty Liberals have failed them." Barrett went on to say following the debate. "I regret that this is the situation and I will continue to call for a resolution to this ordeal so that community members don't have to spend other holidays taking action when government should be."

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