



Caledonia Citizens' Alliance

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Informational Meeting
June 21, 2006
Caledonia Lions Hall, 7:00pm
Meeting Summary

The meeting began with John Gould, an organizer of the bus trip to Toronto, giving a recap of the events that occurred earlier that day. All in all it was a successful event. John indicated that there was a lot of media presence and the group was able to get their message out to a lot of significant people. The participants in the demonstration are to be commended for the professional and peaceful way that they all handled themselves.

Ralph Luimes, Jason Clark and Ken Hewitt then gave a summary of the meetings they had been involved in over the last few days. They informed those gathered at the meeting that they have taken several government officials on tours of the homes boarding the occupied area and were able to hear some of the stories from the residents themselves. It has been concluded that there will be meetings set up with government officials and all households living near Douglas Creek Estates to discuss each individual case on a one-on-one basis.

There was also a meeting held Monday afternoon with Provincial government officials and about 20 local business representatives to discuss and hear the concerns about the applications for the increased financial aid.

On Tuesday evening Ralph, Jason and Ken were invited to meet with some of Premier McGuinty's representatives and were given an opportunity to describe the situation in Caledonia and to make suggestions as to what they think the government should be doing. The meeting was very long and intense but in the end the message was clear - the protestors must leave the Douglas Creek Estates in order for any normalcy to return to Caledonia. The next morning this same group was also got the chance to sit down and speak with Premier McGuinty. The meeting was supposed to be a short 10-15 minute meeting but Mr. McGuinty sat and listened to these gentlemen for about 25 minutes. Several issues were brought up and again the message that the protestors must leave remained the strongest point.

The Alliance now considers that since the businesses are somewhat being looked after and meetings are going to be held with residents that their focus is now on the ownership and use of Douglas Creek Estates and getting the protestors off the land. It was strongly recommended to all citizens that they take some time and write letters to all the levels of government and tell them that the occupation must end, also include suggested uses for the land and ownership. Mention was made to the fact that although email is the quicker way to get the message out, an old fashion letter in an envelope is a lot harder to ignore. All the pertinent addresses are posted on the contact page of the Alliance website: www.caledoniacitizensalliance.com. All were also advised to talk to your neighbours and make sure they write their letters as well.

The next community meeting will be held upstairs at the Lions Hall on Wednesday June 28, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. There is also a meeting scheduled for Sunday June 25, at 7:00 p.m. upstairs at the Lions Hall for anyone that has or would like to sign up to volunteer for community relations or special events. We will leave the floor open for people to bring forth suggestions for possible future events.