

INC'D IN!

Yes, we're now Land Over Landings Inc. On June 11, our Inaugural General Meeting got under way with Peter Byberg leading us in a rousing rendition of his (and our) song, "The Land That We Love." Pre-incorporation chair, Mary Delaney, explained in more detail why we'd incorporated after 10 years: To seek major funding for a



formal study of agriculture's economic potential on the Federal Lands. We've been told by experts that the potential is even greater than we thought. But such studies cost big bucks, so it will be grants we're after next. Mary also outlined our activities during



the past year: for instance, our meetings with federal ministers and candidates; the news monitoring that keeps us up-to-date on everything related to the Lands, global aviation, and food security matters; the research we're doing; the reports we're producing on topics specific to the Federal Lands. Making the future of this area a main election issue in local ridings is the next task – for *all* of us who want to see these Lands stay farmland.

Elections followed. All nominees on the slate were acclaimed, and nominations from the floor filled the vacant positions. We're pleased to welcome Maggie Channon and Michael Fearon to the executive committee. See all positions on the next page.

Our guest speaker was environmentalist Bill Lishman, who guided us through a funny, moving, and fascinating look at his life as a

SUPER VOLUNTEER!

When 10-year-old Ella Kakouros, of Claremont, learned about the story of the Federal Lands, she immediately asked: "Mom, what can I do to help?" And she meant it.



Ella, left, and her sister Abby, getting the message across loud and clear.

On Saturday, June 13, at the Annual Claremont Community Yard Sale, she and her sister set up a table of baked goods, backed it up with a big "No Picking Airport" sign, donned their NPA t-shirts, and set out our petition in front of a notice that read: "Please sign our petition against the airport. Donations go to Land Over Landings."

The impressive result? Four pages of signatures and \$62 in donations. Thank you Ella, for your super idea and your dedication. We think you're terrific!

Food for Thought

This month, the food for thought is all in the blockbuster speech Mary delivered at our Inaugural General Meeting. Don't miss it! You'll find the link on the Home page of our website.

sculptor, pilot, flier with birds, inventor, explorer, advocate, and activist. Bill's theme was "Passion and Perseverance," and he has clearly felt the former and exercised the latter all his life. He and his wife Paula were among those expropriated in 1972 to make way for a Pickering Airport, and that announcement triggered 43 years of battling the airport plan with People or Planes and then with Land Over Landings. One of his current preoccupations is ensuring the continued protection of the beautiful Oak Ridges Moraine and its crucial water sources.



All in all, a great meeting, and we thank the many who turned out to vote us in and spur us on. *Airport never, farmland forever!*

OUR SUBMISSION TO THE CROMBIE PANEL

Along with a great many other individuals and organizations across the province, Land Over Landings submitted recommendations last month to the Co-ordinated Review of the Growth and Greenbelt Plans. We strongly support the Province's moves to limit and direct urban growth, and its goal to protect natural habitat and agricultural land. But there is scope for improvement in the Plans, and we urged the Province to strengthen them in a number of ways.

Among our recommendations:

- that the Greenbelt be grown to incorporate as much farmland as possible (including all the Class 1 farmland of the Federal Lands that will never be used for an airport);
- that farmers whose property becomes part of the Greenbelt be compensated, not penalized, for their loss of freedom of action; and give them the necessary flexibility to increase production and help feed the world's growing population;
- that farming be valued and treated as the major economic driver it is;
- that food and water security be given precedence in new legislation;
- that watersheds be protected within the Greenbelt;
- that urban boundary expansion onto the Moraine and Greenbelt be banned for at least 10 years.

You can read our full submission at www.landoverlandings.com.

LOL EXECUTIVE FOR 2015-16

Gord McGregor, Honorary Chair
Mary Delaney, Chair
Jim Miller, Vice-Chair
David Masters, Treasurer
Gabrielle Untermann, Secretary
Pat Valentine, Communications
Peter Rodrigues, Events
Maggie Channon, Fundraising
Alexis Whalen, Membership
Joanne Azevedo, Volunteer Coord.
Heather Rigby, Officer at Large
Michael Fearon, Officer at Large

THE NEXT GENERATION STEPS UP

Helping out (and speaking out) at our Inaugural General Meeting were three young women who are going to go far, and who we're proud to have in our midst, fighting to preserve food and water sources: Nicole Norris, Jayden Rae, and Reid Williamson. Remember those names and faces; you'll be seeing them again.

Nicole



Jayden



Reid



Land Over Landings
Because food is a
GROWING concern!

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