

PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION!

WE, the undersigned citizens of Canada, call upon the House of Commons in Parliament assembled:

To rescind all plans for an airport and non-agricultural uses on the Federal Lands in Durham Region; and to act, instead, to preserve the watersheds and agricultural land of this irreplaceable natural resource, for the long-term benefit of all Canadians.

Land Over Landings has launched a “**Petition to the House of Commons – Federal Lands in Durham Region**”. It will be presented to the House by Matthew Kellway, NDP Member of Parliament and Critic for Urban Affairs. We ask everyone to download it, print it, gather signatures, and send them in.

A pdf of the petition can be accessed on the home page of our website and on all our social media sites.

Note that the Federal Government accepts only formal paper petitions (no online versions). The petition cannot be altered in any way. All signatures must be made in ink. Please print your name under your signature, and include your full address.

Mail the signed originals (containing 1 or more signatures) to: Matthew Kellway, MP – House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6. No postage is required.

Thank you !

A FULL HOUSE FOR CLAREMONT PUBLIC INFO MEETING, OCT. 22

Wearing his trademark pink shirt and white cowboy hat, rancher Carl Cosack addressed a packed Claremont Community Centre last week, delivering not a barn-burner of a speech but a barn-raiser, calling on everyone to join the growing movement to save farmland and fresh water.

Cosack heads up the North Dufferin Agricultural and Community Taskforce (NDACT), which fought against, and defeated, a major hedge-fund’s attempt to build a mega-quarry in Melancthon Township, on prime farmland that supplies most of the GTA’s potatoes! And he also heads up Food and Water First, the movement formed to fight for laws to protect foodlands and water.

With sidekick Donna Tranquada, best known as a CBC journalist but now committed worker with F&WF, Cosack praised the efforts of all who fought to stop the Pickering



Carl Cosack and Donna Tranquada. Photos by K. Mulveney.

airport plans so long ago, and the efforts of those who continue to fight – and not just against an airport, this time, but also against plans to allow industrial and commercial development on the Federal Lands. He particularly encouraged the generation and promotion of an alternative vision for the Lands, and offered suggestions on ways to proceed.

Cosack and Tranquada emphasized the need for positive energy, and the importance of working with politicians and business to achieve our objectives. They met and mingled with the crowd, swapping stories and strategies with POP veterans (the folks who wrote the book on grassroots movements), and with those who continue to lead the charge in North Pickering. They applauded the energy in the room, and the upbeat song composed for Land Over Landings by Peter Byberg and given its first public

performance that night by Peter and friends. And they pledged to continue to work with us in this shared cause.

We assured our guests that our vision and theirs are the same, that we're engaged in developing a viable agricultural solution for the Lands (one version, outlined in Lorne Almack's "Prospectus," is accessible through our website; see "What's at Stake"). We assured our audience that we have been meeting and will continue to meet with all levels of government. We've long known that positive energy is our greatest strength: **We have the might of right!**

Food and Water First have just released two short and very sweet videos, featuring Carl, Melancthon farmer Brent Preston, chef Michael Stadlander, and actress Rachel McAdam – all about the importance of protecting our prime farmland. Don't miss them.

• **Why Food and Water Must Come First**
(music, no dialogue): <https://vimeo.com/77293457>

• **People for Food and Water**
(with dialogue): <https://vimeo.com/77280156>
Produced by Jason Van Bruggen / DOT DOT DASH, 2013.

TORONTO BECOMES A FOOD & WATER FIRST CITY!

On October 2, Toronto City Council formally voted to declare Toronto a Food & Water First City! Ontario's (and Canada's) biggest municipality sees the wisdom in protecting our finite farmland and fresh-water sources. Who'll be next?

WE'RE ON THE RADAR OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA!

In October, the Ajax-Pickering Federal Liberal Riding Association approved a policy resolution to protect the Pickering Lands. On November 2, the resolution went before the Central Region in Whitby for debate and voting, and achieved **6th place**. It now moves forward to the full Ontario policy debate in Kingston, on November 23.

"COMMON GROUND"

A policy proposal has been submitted to the Ontario Liberal Party's open policy development initiative, "Common Ground," recommending that the Ontario Liberal Party press the federal government to protect the agricultural integrity of the Federal Lands.

We ask you to please vote on this proposal. You don't have to be an Ontario Liberal to comment on it or to "agree/disagree" with it. Have your say today and help move this proposal into the top ten issues:
<http://commonground.ideascale.com/a/dtd/Protection-of-the-Pickering-Lands/20525-25935>

COMING UP...

Canadian Federation of University Women, Pickering
Representatives of Land Over Landings will be speaking at the November meeting of the Pickering chapter of CFUW and explaining why saving our best farmland trumps airports and sprawl every time.

A "Foodie Drinks" Evening

Sandra Budden Campbell, author of *The Movable Airport* (1973), has invited Land Over Landings to participate in one of a series of evenings designed to let people mingle, network, and build new relationships around food in Toronto. Food and Water First, who stopped the mega-quarry with events like Foodstock and Soupstock, will join us to share experiences and describe the next great campaign to preserve Ontario's water resources and the land that feeds us. November 12, 7-10 p.m., at The Quail and Firkin, 1055 Yonge Street, north of Rosedale Station.

Food for Thought

In 2010, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated that, despite strict regulations, nearly 80 million litres of de-icing fluid drains into surface water from U.S. airports every year. Are Canadian airports any different? What would an airport do to the important freshwater streams that cross the Federal Lands?

LAND OVER LANDINGS

Because Food is a **GROWING** concern

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