



www.landoverlandings.com

UPDATE #7

Dec. 3, 2013

NO FLY ZONE!



This is artist Heather Rigby's work, produced on the Federal Lands. The symbol is 30 metres wide, created with the help of local farmer and Land Over Landings member Ron Tapscott, who did the initial ploughing and planting. Our team of volunteers did the subsequent mowing and raking. Huge thanks to Heather, and to Michael Robertson of High Perspective Hang Gliding Club, who offered his land as a canvas, and Club pilot Graziano Mele for the stunning aerial image. The message is clear: This is a NO FLY ZONE – except for hang gliders, paper airplanes, kites, and birds!

SINCE OUR LAST UPDATE...

As we head into the final month of the year, we can only note that it's been one helluva six months, starting on June 11. So engaged have we been that we've reluctantly had to cancel our annual New Year's Dance. Just too little time, too much to do!

Where We've Been

On October 19 we staffed a booth at The Village Market at Toronto Waldorf School, where we distributed Reality Check flyers and engaged market-goers in discussion, shared our vision for sustainable agricultural uses, and recommended ways to take action against the airport plan. We met no one who was in favour of it. Our thanks to Anne Della Rosa for making the arrangements.

Anne also made a presentation to the Richmond Hill Naturalists on November 21, and succeeded in collecting more signatures for our petition.

Thanks to Cookie Roscoe, we had a successful day at The Stop's Farmers Market at Wychwood Barns in Toronto. We'd met Cookie at the "Foodie

HELP NEEDED!

We desperately need someone to head up our fundraising activities. If you have experience in this area and care about this cause, please contact us at 905-649-2433 or info@landoverlandings.com.



Consider signing the petition of NoJetsTO, a group opposing jets and expansion at Billy Bishop Airport. <http://www.nojetsto.ca/take-action/>

WE'RE GOING INTERNATIONAL!

PhD candidate Chris Miller has had his paper, "Land Over Landings: Contesting Development of Foodland in Pickering, Ontario, Canada," accepted for presentation at the Second World Congress of Environmental History, in Guimarães, Portugal, July 8-12, 2014. Chris is studying history at Concordia University and is writing his doctoral thesis on the history of the proposed Pickering airport.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Would you like Land Over Landings to make a presentation to your club or group? Contact us at 905-649-2433 or at info@landoverlandings.com.

Drinks” event at the Quail and Firkin pub on Yonge St., on November 12 – an evening coordinated by Sandra Campbell, Darcy Higgins of Food Forward, and Donna Tranquada of Food and Water First. We and F&WF were the featured guests. Lots of networking with our city supporters, great contacts made.

We also made a presentation at the Ajax chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women, which led in turn to an invitation via Marilyn Hedge to join the Oshawa Chapter for lunch and a tour of the new Durham College (Whitby Campus) Centre for Food. The tour was great. The food was absolutely fabulous. What a gem in our midst!

On the Political Front

We’ve made progress in bringing our cause to the attention of the federal and provincial Liberals. A proposed policy initiative to protect the Pickering Federal Lands passed in the top ten resolutions of the Ajax-Pickering Federal Liberal Association, and at the Central Ontario level in Whitby, and was enthusiastically received at the all-Ontario meeting in Kingston. While it did not move on to the national convention, we thank David Masters and Jim Calder for their efforts, which resulted in a huge amount of exposure for Land Over Landings and our position, and an invitation from MP Ted Hsu to meet with the Ontario Caucus of the Federal Liberals. At the provincial level, an initiative called “Common Ground,” whereby any member of the public can suggest ideas to the provincial party and anyone can vote for or against them, saw a resolution to protect the Lands finish 58th out of over 1,700 ideas, and 12th in the category of Sustainable Communities. Clearly a strong message was sent to Premier Wynne’s government.

Members of our Political Committee also met with other politicians, including MP Chris Alexander, who continues to state his opposition to a Pickering airport.

Our Petition to the House of Commons, to be presented by NDP Urban Affairs Critic Matthew Kellway, continues to gather signatures. Please download it and help get more signatures as you meet with old friends and new over the holidays. You’ll find a link to it on our home page at <http://landoverlandings.com/pdf/House-of-Commons-Petition-Federal-Lands-in-Durham.pdf>

COMING UP...

Visits to Vimy Ridge Public School, Richmond Hill United Church on January 12, the new Probus (professional and business) Club of Stouffville on March 13, and a trip to Ottawa to blitz politicians.

Our next and final UPDATE of the year will include a review of 2013 and a look at what the new year holds in store. Stay tuned.

As you make your holiday plans we suggest you **Love Your Local** – local businesses, local community, and, of course, local food and drink! Keep it simple, keep it green, and keep it close to home. This benefits all of us.

INVITATION

Join our sister organization, Friends of the Rouge Watershed, for their Annual Wreath Making Event, on Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Hillside Outdoor Education School. For further information and to register, e-mail leigh@frw.ca

DID YOU KNOW?

You can keep abreast of news about the Federal Lands and related issues by regularly checking the **In the Media** pages of our website.

Food for Thought

Land degradation is the loss of the ability to produce food, either temporarily or permanently... The countries with the worst land degradation as a proportion of the affected world area are Russia, Canada, the U.S., and Australia. The countries with the worst losses of primary productivity are Canada, Indonesia, Brazil, China, and Australia.

~ science writer Julian Cribb

LAND OVER LANDINGS Because Food is a **GROWING** concern

info@landoverlandings.com

landoverlanding@gmail.com

www.landoverlandings.com

905-649-2433



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