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# ❖ Speaking Out ❖

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Issue 21 July 2004

The Truth is Mighty and Will Prevail

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## Grid-Tied Solar

by: Jim Tolnai

Our electrical supply or lack of seems to be getting more and more press. Should we go nuclear or natural gas generation? Some lip service is being paid to renewable energy but for the most part that is all it is. Seems utilities and politicians have their brains wrapped around Mega projects even though this thinking has been proven wrong on a Mega scale. Back in the 60's Ontario tied it's cart to the Nuclear horse. Now we know that it was a fools paradise. Sure we have had low cost power which was artificial and imposed by politicians and yes Ontario prospered for a short time, but now it is time to pay. These Mega projects are now past their prime. Maintenance costs are huge compared to the cost of construction and we have nowhere to put the Toxic waste that has been generated. This stuff will stay Toxic for the next 10,000 years. Seems the politicians of the sixties never thought ahead to the next century and the consequence of their decisions. Now we have a new set of politicians wanting to repeat their predecessors mistakes. So what is the answer?

Mega projects are sexy because you see this giant and everyone is impressed by giants. But are giants really that awesome? Why don't we start looking at smaller scale development and act? Politicians and people who work in the industry will tell you that small scale is not feasible because of the huge need. These people are willing to squabble for years about our huge need and how only Mega projects will save us, all the while nothing is being done. Of course there is a method in their madness. Squabble long enough until there really is a Crisis and we will allow them to do anything they want. They create the Crisis only to have their way and build the Mega Project.

So how do we stop the Mega Project merry go round and actually start doing

something before we are in crisis? How about a street by street solution? Yes it can be done but only with the co-operation of the very people who want to do business as usual. We need to either convince them or force them to change their thinking. Back during the municipal election I spoke about this very concept. It was as relevant then as it is today. Orillia with it's unique position of having it's own generating capacity can be a leader in this country to promote renewable energy. We need to tackle our energy problem today not ten years from now. We need to tackle our problem first from one house to one street to one neighborhood to one ward to one city at a time. It is not that we can't do this. The fact is that people like John Mattinson and the OPC board don't have any interest in anything but large scale.

So here is the plan. With the huge profits OPC is generating let's start a Self Sufficient Energy Program. Don't think city wide. Think one house or building at a time. Let's start with city hall. Right in the center of our city sits a building three stories high. No trees, clear expanse, enough room on that roof to place, say twenty solar panels. Tie these panels into



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the grid and start producing energy. Sure these panels won't produce enough energy to supply city hall with all their needs, but it certainly will add to the overall supply. Does it have to be expensive? Of course not. OPC can experiment and train on this first project so that they will have the expertise to move to the next challenge. Take the huge OPC profits and subsidize people to install their own panels and make it affordable to tap into the grid but only if the householder makes every effort possible to keep their consumption as low as possible. With a few basic changes like energy efficient light bulbs, household loads can be decreased by 10%. OPC is in the business of renting water heaters. This profitable business should invest into systems that will use solar to pre-heat water before it goes into the actual heater. Hot water is one of the largest users of power. We heat water all night long when we don't use it just so that it will be there for us in the morning. OPC should be making on demand water heaters available to rental customers. This would most likely cut 5% from a household's energy bill. With preheating the water there would be another 5% savings equalling 10%. So we can cut consumption by 20% plus add at least 30% more power generation to the grid if a household would install 2 or 3 solar panels to their roof. Let's multiply this by just 25% of households in Orillia and all commercial buildings. Looks like we could increase available power by at least 30% with out burning any fossil fuels or building nuclear plants.

Folks this is doable and it does not have to cost huge dollars. The technology is there, the money is there. The only thing lacking is the will by people in power.

There are countless places on the internet where success stories prove what I am saying. Go to [www.homepower.com](http://www.homepower.com) and read about a town called Ashland pg3



## We Hit a Nerve

by: doug peddle

Wow!! Did I ever hit a nerve with last months article. I wrote how Mayor Stevens in his former career as mayor of Severn disregarded concerns of citizens that council was wrong to approve a subdivision in a flood plain area. I wrote how the Mayor's judgment was flawed then and it is flawed now about the MURF site. (See Flawed at [www.speakingout.biz](http://www.speakingout.biz) Issue 20)

I happened to be at city hall on June 21 when the mayor spotted me. He approached angry and yelling that I "needed to get his permission before I wrote about his former life". Obviously I hit a Nerve. He claimed I had my facts all wrong as usual but when I asked him what facts were wrong he refused to specify or even challenge any of my story. So Mr. Mayor here is a challenge for you. If you want to clear up any facts I will be happy to make page 2 available to you in next months issue. Write your side of the story. If my facts were incorrect then tell us where we erred. Speaking Out is not above looking at all evidence provided and report the truth. So calm down and take pen in hand. Let everyone know your side.

### Presentation

We at Speaking Out have been concerned about our children's safety in regards to the Toxic MURF site. On Wednesday June 30 I attended and gave a presentation of these concerns to the Simcoe County Health Unit Board. All relevant documents were given to the entire board. Originally I was to have 15 minutes and 15 minutes only. To the credit of the chair and board, my presentation was allowed to go to almost a half hour. I found the

board members were concerned and hope they will look at my presentation as a Health issue and leave politics out of their deliberations. I was disappointed that Orillias representative on the board, Councillor Smith did not attend the meeting but hey maybe I could meet with him one on one.

### No Interviews

I tried to get appointments with our local candidates for the Federal Election. Peter Stock said he was willing but I could not nail down a time even though I was available anytime. Being retired my time is my own and I have absolutely no scheduling conflicts. Say, do you think that maybe Stock did not want to answer my questions?? Will he claim we could not get together on a mutually agreed on time??

Then there is Paul DeVilliers. Anyone remember that song "Silence is Golden" It seems our little rag is not worthy of an interview. Too bad????

Mary Lou Kirby at first agreed to meet but on reflection, she refused unless we submitted our questions in writing before hand. Now I wonder if Orillia Today or the Packet had to submit their questions in writing before the interview? The Green Party claims to have an honest agenda yet their candidate will not submit to an interview??? What about it Green Party would you like to sit down with me and do an interview? Do you want us to get your message out?? You see we at Speaking Out are Pro Green. Give us a call and let's get together?????

The only candidate who genuinely was willing to be interviewed was Jen Hill of the NDP. She was willing and accommodating to get her message out. No restrictions, no phone tag just a willingness to get her message out. Maybe Jen had never heard of Speaking Out so there was no fear factor??? Not likely, as the folks at her place of employment, her campaign manager and workers are all aware of our little rag. No, I believe that Jen had nothing to worry about. Her campaign and intentions were honorable and honest. Did we miss our chance for an excellent representative???

## Criminal Charges

For the past year or more we have been inundated with stories about corruption at the highest level of business. Remember the Enron, World Com and many more company executives being shackled and hauled off to jail, tried, convicted and sentenced? Remember the politicians who took campaign contributions from these guys being outraged, claiming public trust in the financial sector had to be maintained????

So now we have Dalton McGinty claiming that Eves and company cooked the books of Ontario. He says they lied about the books being balanced. McGinty claims that after taking office he was shocked to find a 6 Billion \$\$\$\$ deficit. He claims that we were collectively lied to by Eves so he had no choice but to make up the deficit by taxing us. He justifies this tax grab because of the cooked books.

Wait a minute! Something does not add up. If the Treasurer, President or CEO of a publicly traded company gives a false financial picture they are hauled off in shackles. Now I don't disagree with this in the least. These people are liars and crooks and have hurt their shareholders and deserve to be prosecuted. But is the law enforced evenly????

Why is the former Treasurer, Premier and Cabinet of the PC government not treated to the same fate??? McGinty claims they cooked the books, hid losses (deficit) and lied about the financial position of the largest Corporation in Ontario (exactly what the executives did). With over 10,000,000 shareholders we can all agree that the Enron, World Com and now Nortel frauds are small potato's in comparison. If McGinty has evidence of this fraud as he claims then it is his duty to furnish it to the OPP Anti Rackets Unit and the RCMP. Let this fraud be dealt with by the Criminal Justice System. So what about it Mr. McGinty and cabinet? If there was mis-representation, lies and fudging of the books then charges are appropriate. But if you knew about the deficit and the books were not cooked then you defrauded all who voted Liberal because of your lies. Which is it FRAUD or FRAUD???

jim tolnai

Power continued:

Oregon [www.ashland.or.us/Index.asp](http://www.ashland.or.us/Index.asp) where the local utility and town fathers encourage people to do just what I have written about. Do a search for on demand water heaters and check the stats. The energy savings are huge. Yes we can fix our energy crisis before it even starts. But only with your pushing and shoving of the people we put in power. Don't be fooled by OPC's line that it is not economical. Of course it's not economical for them to lose their monopoly. Of course it's not economical for them to sell you less power. Their self interest of bigger and bigger profits at your expense is definitely in their interest as is the building of Mega Projects.

This country was built one building, one road, one farm, one village at a time. We can build our renewable energy system one rooftop at a time. The so called selfserving experts will dazzle you with figures but never with facts. Do your due dilligence and then get pro-active. We have left our children with a huge debt and virtually nothing to show for it. Don't let this happen to the next generation.

Orillia has the opportunity to become the Renewable Energy Centre of Ontario or even Canada. Our forefathers had vision to be the first community to harness electricity generation. Let's build on their legacy and make our own. Let's Partner with Georgian College to offer courses and even a research center for renewable energy. People who are working to bring a University to Orillia could entice an institution here based on our willingness to open the future using renewable energy. The benefits to our community are endless and all based on a Renewable Energy Program. What better place to locate manufacturing of Solar and Wind products than a community that offers support. Clean, secure renewable energy is reality if we are willing to follow through.

## Surprise!!! New Prime Minister is a Lawyer

by: Jim Tolnai

Am I surprised that Paul Martin is our new Prime Minister? Does the sun rise in the east? Of course I'm not surprised. All this phony rhetoric about it being too close to call was a load of crap. If you read last months Speaking Out I wrote that Martin was way ahead of Harper. Even though all media reported that the race was too close to call and that indeed Harper could be our next Prime Minister. I stuck to my theory and was proven right. I wrote that in the race, Martin's gate was a half mile ahead of where Harper was starting. No doubt about it, the race was not fair. You see, my theory and research has proven that the chances of a Non Lawyer achieving the top office is nearly impossible. Please see my article Scandal in Issue 17 which can be down loaded at [www.speakingout.biz](http://www.speakingout.biz). After doing research I found that since Confederation we have had 21 Prime Ministers. Out of these, 17 were Lawyers. Now it seems we have 22 Prime Ministers with 18 being lawyers. Please read the article and I am sure you will see the pattern is there. So for me, there was no surprise.

I also called for a minority government with the NDP holding the balance of Power. This is true only to the extent that they seem to be shy by one vote. So unless there are recounts in their favour, the balance of Power will lie with the one independent elected. I strongly believe that we the people, have an opportunity to be treated as if we actually mattered by a minority government. Remember, all the good stuff in the past came about because of minority governments (healthcare etc.). So the election was exactly as I had figured it would be.

Stephen Harper never had a chance. Now the knives will come out and Stephen will be replaced with the person who actually was crowned for the job. But before he could succeed in actually winning the top prize the Red Necks had to be treated to another defeat in order to get them to accept Peter McKay as their savior. Guess what McKay did for a living before politics? I watched with fascination how McKay praised Harper on his effort to oust the Evil Liberals. I definitely saw McKay chewing at the bit to get going with the execution. So mark my words,

the next election is 18 months away. Peter McKay will be the leader of the Conservative Party and will win the election. It is in the cards, the body language and faces of the people in the know. People like Mulrooney, Peter's father Elmer McKay, and dozens of other top people who deserted the PC Party to form this new party. Funny how everyone thought that the PC's were absorbed by the Alliance. The old war-horses let them think that and allowed these people to fail once again. Now the White Knight Lawyer McKay will ride to the rescue. The Red Necks will either accept their overthrow or quit politics all together. Either way the Mulrooney bunch will have won. So Stephen and all you other suckers, wake up, you have been had. It's nothing more than a bait and switch scam and you are the victims.

Never ceases to amaze me how clever the Power really is. You see folks it doesn't matter to the movers and shakers which party wins. It only matters that they be able to control the person at the top. Why do you think large corporations donate to both parties. Why do you think law firms have some partners working for one party while the others work for another. They are covering all their bets so we lose and they win everytime. The 4 times in the history of Canada that we had a non lawyer as Prime Minister were aberrations to the norm. So if you don't believe me, check it out for yourself. The history can not be distorted on these facts.

All of you who became emotionally involved thinking you were working for a cause are Suckers too. The election will be decided in the Boardroom not in your livingroom. Once the right person is found which ever party he belongs to does not matter, the puppeteers will make sure he wins. In one fell swoop the backroom boys got rid of people like David Orchard who was a pain in the ass and the Alliance which was even a bigger pain. Brilliant?????

## We Get Letters

### Cabbies Excluded

As you may know the Police Services Board held a meeting on Monday June 14th in the Council Chambers in regards to the new bylaws that they purposed. Well, actually it was a meeting to warn everyone of stiffer fines for the new bylaws that were to come. It was awful nice of Mr. Pye to warn everyone, especially the out of town companies that come in and do business in Orillia with no penalties or action taken by the city against them.

It was very interesting to hear Mr. Pye state that the Police Services Board is appointed both by council and the Province, he said that the Board always welcomed members of the taxi industry to the board but they had just not been appointed. So the question is why wouldn't council approach people from that industry to sit on a board that governs it?

Also Mr. Pye stated that the Casino is within the 5 km limit that was set where no flat rate could be used but must be full meter. When asked if he could drive from Champlain Monument to Fern Resort, his reply was "across the water that would be quite a feat". He was then questioned as to why the set boundary ran that same path. Mr. Pye's only response was that if people wanted to discuss the boundary issue he would be more than happy to. Both these questions were asked by myself. I also asked why By-law officers did not have the right to stop and question out of town taxi's as to their routes and fares. Mr. Pye stated that the By-law enforcement officers always had the right to enforce the by-laws and stop the taxi's. When asked why they were not doing so, the reply was that is something you would have to ask council.

The fact still remains you have ex-police officers on the police services board who deem once a criminal always a criminal and no quarter will

be given to people who after ten, or twenty years have changed their life around. You have a man who works for the Casino and is giving the heads up to the Rama companies about the city by-laws and how they can get around them. Plus there are By-law officers not doing or refusing to do or being ordered not to do their jobs. You pick on that one.

The simple solution a "transportation commission". A commission that handles taxis, limos, buses and delivery companies. Get this out of the hands of the Police Services Board and into the hands of those who know something about the industry. You don't ask a drywaller to be a meat inspector do you? Then why would you not have people involved in the industry working to improve the industry.

Thank You

Nick Montague

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### Letters Welcome

Your letters and stories are welcome. Share your opinions and views with our many thousands of readers. We are growing leaps and bounds. In June we had over 2,400 visitors to [www.speakingout.biz](http://www.speakingout.biz). It is humbling to have complete strangers stopping me in the street to wish our little rag success. Our support is much larger than anyone could imagine.

We can now send copies of Speaking Out by e-mail. If you want to subscribe to get your copy hot off the press send us your e-mail address and we will put you on our subscribers list. Of course subscription is FREE so if you want to read our perspective on things then don't delay and send that e-mail address to [jim@speakingout.biz](mailto:jim@speakingout.biz). Of course you are welcome to print copies and distribute them to friends and family not on the net.  
Jim Tolnai

## Doesn't Make Sense

It never ceases to amaze me why council does not take responsibility for city transportation. Why are we asking our police to look after enforcement of the taxi bylaw? This is a licensing issue. Let the police go after criminals, not people who are only trying to earn a living. We are constantly hearing how over worked our police are. It takes them hours to respond to serious crimes and we ask them to police taxis. Not only does it not make common sense, it does not make economic sense. We have perfectly capable city bylaw officers. They should be enforcing all bylaws. My understanding is that a constable is paid around \$60,000 per year. A bylaw officer around \$30,000. Wouldn't it make sense to stop and think about this situation? Then make the right decision. Appoint a transportation committee with representation from the stake holders. Get their recommendation on how to improve the system and end this bickering once and for all. So come on council act for the benefit of the riders as well as the drivers.

### I Made a Mistake

In last months issue I made a factual error in my story Liars Olympic. I stated that the Mulrooney government brought in the metric system legislation in spite of promising not to. In fact it was the Trudeau government who passed the legislation. What Mulrooney did was to promise that if elected he would rescind the legislation and then reneged on his promise. Thanks to a reader by the name of Norbert who brought the mistake to my attention. He was concerned that my critics would rake me over the coals. So critics here I am willing and able to be raked. Yes I made a mmmmmmmistake.  
jim tolnai

### Extra!! Extra!!

Now you can read Speaking Out at the Orillia Public Library. Yes folks the Library now has copies of Speaking Out available for your reading pleasure. So please go and ask for your copy and get all the latest News!!