

Oct. 31,2005

Filter Plugged Update

I wrote an article a couple of weeks ago about filters plugging within a couple of weeks from city water. I contacted a competitor who told me he was experiencing the same situation. I then pulled the filter as my customer had contacted the city and an inspector did attend. He was shown the substance and said he didn't know what it was as he had never seen anything like it. I was then contacted by phone and spoke with a chap by the name of Van Wyck who identified himself as second in command at the water works. He too admitted not to know what this substance may be and I provided my competitors name to him. He assured me there would be contact. Well weeks later my competitor as of Friday still has not heard from anyone at waterworks. Oh VanWyck did confirm the city had received a number of other complaints (3). Of course his receptionist had claimed "many", but why argue numbers, there were other complaints. Councillors were informed by affected customers and to date only one councillor has responded. Ralph Cipolla wrote "[iam waiting for an answer from public works they had it tested and there is nothing wrong with the drinking water i understand it could not confirmed yet but the algae sometimes causes this](#)". So they have had it tested but don't know what it is????

In response to my last article I have had a person start correspondence with me on this matter. At first he seemed somewhat informed but as our correspondence grew it became evident what his game was. You see he made outrageous statements like "[they are not responsible for maintaining water quality once it enters a private plumbing system](#)". With that statement the jig was up. I have been corresponding with this person and have a large number of statements that just don't make sense. On the one hand he claims to be educated but then makes silly statements worthy of Wayne Gardy or Colin Morton the Atomic Scientist from BC. We are puzzled to say the least. Anyway I will be sharing this bizarre correspondence with you verbatim in the near future. In the mean time his e-mail address is hondodegas@ I won't give you the rest of it but if you have hondodegas in your address book and would like to share the ending and his/her identity then you are welcome to do so in complete anonymity. You see this person has made it abundantly clear that although he offers some pretty ridiculous statements he values his privacy and only takes shots from the bush. I suggested he/she is a coward but???? So look for this very interesting correspondence in the next few days time permitting. Hondo is another fine example of just how desperate the Molson site proponents are if indeed they actually enlisted this person??? This story can only get more interesting. [By the way please go to We Get Letters page as Bob Bowles has submitted some important information that you maybe interested in.](#)

jim tolnoi

Oct. 30, 2005

Canada's Shame

As a political refugee to this wonderful country, province and region I appreciate what we have but also am aware that there are many imperfections that need justice. I came here at the age of 8 and soon assimilated into the Anglo society but not without problems. Because my family was white and fair skinned no one knew we were not just like them until our accents gave us away. Being the youngest in my family gave me the advantage of losing my accent as I assimilated rather quickly. My brother 3 years older had a little more problem but he too assimilated perfectly. My sister who was 9 years my senior, to this day has a very distinct accent and Hungarian is her first language at home. Oddly enough my brother also chose Hungarian as his home language having returned to Hungary for his bride. Seems I was odd man out in my family. Those early days living in Cabbage Town and attending Lansdowne Public School were tough as the DP (displaced person) label was placed on us. Within a year though I was fully integrated. With my blonde hair and freckles and no accent kids soon forgot that indeed I was a DP. Back then every other house on our short street (Classic Ave.) had a Hungarian family so my parents had cultural ties helping them with their home sickness as it was called. We finally moved away as did everyone on the street as Classic Ave. was tore down to make way for University expansion. With the move my parents cultural community dispersed in all directions. No longer did we hear Hungarian on the street we lived on as a first language. Family friends were still important but now they or we had to travel for contact. For us it was never the same and I for one as a kid did not have an extended family (aunts, uncles, grandparents) but also really didn't have a culture that was truly mine. Am I complaining??? Of course not, but I wanted you to know who I am and why my opinion on "Canada's Shame" is so strong.

"Canada's Shame" is it's treatment of our "Native" peoples. Since the conquest of these people (militarily, economically, culturally and spiritually) there has been a policy of discrimination. First to suffer were the natives who inhabited Eastern Canada from PEI to Ontario and later all the way to BC. As more and more Europeans came Natives who wandered the land freely were confined to smaller and smaller areas usually to land that would not and could not support them not unlike wildlife today in southern Ontario. With this confinement came dependence on the generosity of the conquerors. This ever increasing dependence was used against them by forcing Natives onto smaller and smaller and poorer quality land thus increasing their dependence. Add to this the systemic destruction of their culture and spiritual beliefs by the Christian Church's (they were savages after all) this to me was nothing less than "genocide". How would any parent feel if their children were taken and sent to residential schools to be punished if they spoke their native language or practiced their cultures only to be returned sporadically to the parent. Add to this the sexual abuse and forms of punishments that can only be classed as torture. What can anyone expect from these peoples but to be docile and be afraid of "**Speaking Out**". Authorities are then shocked when these oppressed peoples actually stand up to them and, they react with force as in the Dudley George case. On the whole natives are and have been too docile in my mind. You see no one stopped my family from speaking their mother tongue or practice their religion and culture. Yet natives

are still looked upon as wards and child like by the conquerers.

So it is with shame that I watch as the people of Kashechewan have had to endure what is nothing more than systemic torture and abuse. These people who have lived here for 10,000 years and not only survived but prospered as the land allowed, have been made refugees in their own land. Canada takes in refugees from all over the world. Not one of them have ever been treated like our natives. Remember I am a refugee and know first hand. A refugee gets off the plane or boat and is never forced to drink their own feces or urine. They are given nothing but help to assimilate but if they choose to live together in their own neighborhoods it is not only allowed but in fact encouraged. Look at China Town, or block after block of Italians, Portuguese in Cabbage Town and East Indians in Weston. Yet our native people are treated with contempt and dare I say hate???? The Chinese were discriminated against by the head tax. Yet today they enjoy prosperity and respect. The Japanese were discriminated against and their property confiscated. Today they are respected and compensation was made to them. Last week I watched the CBC production on the treatment of Italian Canadians during the Second World War. Today this community is vibrant with economic and political power. Yet our "Native People" are allowed to drink their own feces and urine for ten years in Kashechewan???? Is it just me or is this wrong to you as well???

I have been doing some research on what is and has taken place not only to Kashechewan but right across this country. There are 99 native communities across Canada with water problems. Fifty-six of these have been on boil water warnings for over a year. Sixteen have been on boil water warnings for 5 years. Now tell me, how long did it take to clean up the Walkerton water system???? How long did it take for the Ontario government to offer compensation to the victims??? Why, in Fridays Packet there is a story of contaminated water and boil water warning in Ramara and in Saturdays paper the warning is lifted. Yet authorities from Prime Ministers, Premiers of Ontario, Conservative and Liberal, MoE, Public Health and other officials who have known about Kashechewan for 10 years have done nothing. Now that they have been embarrassed a smoke and mirror action plan is contemplated but over 10 more years???? and of course the blame game begins. You are all guilty morally and criminally if you did nothing. My God if you treated your cat or dog like this you would be charged with cruelty. But hey! their only Indians Eh!!.

Kashechewan is a community that has only been in existence for about 10 years. These people were forced to move there. Now please some one explain to me why the Federal Government would first move these people onto a "**flood plain**"??? Then build infrastructure that could do nothing but force these people to drink their own "**feces and urine**". Everyone knows you don't "**sh*t**" in your own nest don't they???? Does the Prime Minister recycle his toilet water to the kitchen tap???? So unless there was a hidden agenda by the Government why did they build the infrastructure backwards??? Then they begin a process of actually poisoning the population. More E-coli equals more Chlorination. The use of poison gas was outlawed after the first world war. Yet in Kashechewan it is being used with the same effect on peoples skin as way back in 1917. Why was

this tolerated and even worse allowed in the first place?????

I believe the long term policy of Ottawa and the provinces has never changed. You see governments make deals and sign treaties but they are always written with double meaning. The poor trusting sucker who signs a deal is led to believe the meaning is in their favour. But then a new government or even new minister comes along and interprets it the other way. Example: Softwood Lumber Eh! Protest all they want but the truth is they have been had. Don't believe it??? Why! don't we have the example of our very own Casino Rama revenue sharing. The Mike Harris Conservative government comes along and expropriates 20% of the gross profit when the NDP government expressly said all revenue would be shared among the Native Communities and the McGinty Liberals continue the expropriation. White man has always spoken with forked tongue and nothing has changed. So the plan has always been to destroy "**native communities**" and "**native culture**" (See the history of our local Native people

<http://www.encode.com/rbs/rama/history.htm> or

<http://www.biographi.ca/EN/ShowBio.asp?Bioid=38742>. Not an easy task as the

downtrodden seem to find comfort among themselves and accept their fate quietly and take the abuse while desperately holding on to the familiar. Look at the Jews of Europe who went from homes and prosperity to Ghettos to Concentration Camps to Gas Chambers with nary a whimper. Why???? Because they were programmed and as they were good , honest people could never imagine anyone could be so evil as their jailers turned out to be. I believe the same psychology has and is being used on our "Natives". First you make the people dependent on the conqueror. Second you deprive parents from their children breaking the parent child cycle. Third you then move them to an inferior place. Fourth you force them to drink their own feces and urine. When that doesn't work quickly enough you poison them. Once sick you evacuate them for their own good. But wait will that work?? Of course not. They would still be a community and pose a threat wouldn't they. So you evacuate (disperse) them to wide spread communities thus ending their sense of being a people. But that is not enough to guarantee success yet. Then the government announces that they will rebuild the community but it will take 10 years ending any short term hope of reuniting. Ten years in the wilderness for a people together maybe tolerable and their society would survive. But if they are separated by distance and time it spells the end of them as a community. No community, no treaty, no more financial responsibility. It will work every time if allowed. Kashechewan and all other first nations make your stand or die as a culture and people forever. Fight this united because if this works many more of you will be drinking your own waste as the destruction of "native culture" continues.

<http://www.brandonu.ca/library/cjns/15.2/westart.pdf#search='Native%20peoples%20displacement%20canada'>

How many native people sit in the House of Commons???? How many native cabinet ministers are in the government??? How many of our previous Indian Affairs Ministers were Native people in the past??? Yet we have an East Indian Health Minister who has not been proactive to the plight of Kashechewan. We have had a Minister of Fisheries that was East Indian who tried very hard to take

the rights of Natives to fish away from them. We have had Italians, Ukrainians and any number of other nationalities as Ministers. Until there is representation from the Native communities within governments nothing will change. As Natives are a people with a form of self government they should be allowed to vote as a block for their representatives from the province they reside in. If they makeup say 10% of the population they should have the right to vote for 10% of Parliament. Native Candidates could still run for the party of their choice but campaign exclusively in the Native communities of that province. Once you have political power watch your people prosper. No Prime Minister or political party would ever again dare to ignore your basic needs or force you to drink your own waste, as the political consequences would be too great. Good luck, you all have my sympathy but more important my "Support" and the support of all compassionate, caring and thinking people. Maybe Kashechewan and it's peoples suffering will not have been for nothing if "Native Canadians" take control of their political destiny and demand basic rights **NOW??** After all don't military personell and foreign posted government workers have the right to choose where they want to vote???? So the idea is not new is it????/

jim tolnai

Oct. 29, 2005

Orillia-Style Accountability

By Allan Millard

At the brief, pro forma "public" meeting City Council held before it officially "took no action" on Phyllis Roberts' petition for democratic reform of the City's system of representation, several proponents of the status quo, i.e. the 4 wards, claimed that it "provides for an informed choice and accountability that the old at-large system just did not provide"(Doug Lewis as quoted in Orillia Today, Oct. 26, p.6). That claim is specious.

Curiously, our non-elected councillor made some muddled remarks which seemed to illustrate the absence of accountability in the ward system, but in the end he too voted to keep the system. What Garland spoke about, I think, was the situation where he and his fellow councillor from Ward 4 claimed on some issue to represent what their constituents wanted but were over-ruled by the votes of the other 6 councillors. While he may have been trying to make the point that ward-elected councillors can be more responsive to local pot-hole complaints, the important point he actually made was that the ward system is one big escape hatch on matters big and small.

I would go further than Garland and say that the ward system is designed for the politicians, and not just on grounds of election expenses. It is designed to let politicians promise whatever they want before the

election yet escape accountability afterwards, including the next election, by blaming the lack of implementation on all the others.

Let us take a hypothetical example. During an election a candidate promises to re-pave every road in the ward, provide increased police and fire-fighting services, and lower property taxes. The candidates in the other wards make similar promises. (Notice that the promises are not all ward-related but often City-wide issues - it makes no difference in this game.) After the election, the councillor's promises are shot down by the others and he/she shoots down the promises of the others. It doesn't have to come to a vote because the councillor can simply say to the ward that he/she tried but gave up when the others wouldn't agree. The voter is expected to sympathize.

The next election rolls around and the "Re-elect" signs go up. The voter can't hold his/her ward councillors accountable for breaking promises and the voter can't hold councillors in other wards accountable because he/she can't vote there.

Wards are designed by and for politicians and by far the greatest benefit they derive is the total lack of accountability to the electorate.

In my opinion a very unfortunate ward-system spin-off is the tendency for re-election of incumbents simply because they have enjoyed the limelight of elected office but can't be held accountable for their non-performance. A corollary is that ward-system elections can't be issue-oriented or principle-oriented and tend, therefore, to be based on personality, organization, and lawn signs.

Oct. 28, 2005

Pass the Buck While People Suffer

Well folks here is another example of how much you can trust your leaders. Here we have a community of 1,900 people who have been drinking their own feces and urine for the last ten years. They have been pleading with the federal government all this time and with the provincial government for a couple of years for help. The answer to these pleas was "eat more sh*t" basically. No one seemed to care. After all their just native people and poor aren't they???? Yes I am talking about Kashechewan a small reserve on James Bay. The first time I heard of this place and their problems was about 4 years ago when a program (Fifth Estate) I believe did a segment on them. I couldn't believe that our governments could not or would not help them. I felt back then that the show had publicized their plight surely something would be done. Never heard another whisper and I, like probably many others thought the problems were fixed. Now we know nothing was done and people's plight just became worse.

What will it take to have politicians listen and act in the interest of people. First who was the "**Expert**" that designed a water and sewage treatment plant in reverse??? Was it the genius who designed Orillia's which draws drinking water downstream from the sewage plant and dump??? You see Kashechewan's drinking water intake pipes are downstream from their raw sewage pipe. Add to this the fact that James Bay has four tides per day which brings raw sewage back to the intake pipe and we have a "**catastrophic**" problem. So who were the so called expert engineers that are responsible and where is their "**guarantee**"?? So much for "**blindly trusting experts**".

Then we have the federal government. Two prime ministers and who knows how many Indian Affairs ministers have known about this problem and did nothing for the last ten years. Oh! sure they kept increasing the chlorine content in the water but they never fixed the problem only made it worse. Now there is a health crisis. People have been literally poisoned by chlorine. One would have thought that citizens of this country no matter where they live or who they are should expect more. Martin and his government spends "**tens of millions**" sending the DART to far off lands to produce "**potable water**" when disaster strikes. Yet there has been a disaster brewing in our own province and country and our government can not be counted on to do the right thing for our own citizens who are allowed to drink their own waste. Martin and his whole cabinet along with Creitien and his cabinets over the years should be held criminally responsible for the harm done to these people. What has gone on for the last ten years to these people is nothing short of criminal and we know who the perpetrators are. Now hold them personally accountable. We need a police criminal investigation the same as for Walkerton.

Then there is our very own Premier McGuinty. His government ignored the pleas of these people and he is now trying to blame the Feds. The Feds are blaming the province. The victims in this story are immaterial to them. McGuinty only acted because this crime has hit the front pages of major newspapers and his effort now is only to save face and cover up. If Stan Koebel can be charged and sent to jail then why not those who knew about this and did nothing until they were embarrassed into acting. Aren't they just as guilty as the people who were responsible in Walkerton??? At least in Walkerton it only took days to address the problem although the community will suffer for years but the reserve was ignored for ten years. How many deaths or miscarriages or any number of other ailments were caused by our leaders lack of action??? Where was the MoE in all this for ten years??? Where were health officials for ten years??? And we are supposed to trust these people blindly???

Our problems in Orillia seem so tiny compared to what these people and especially their children have gone through but may not be insignificant if our politicians and regulators keep ignoring the obvious at the Molson site on West St.

Chief Leo Friday said yesterday:

"**This is a travesty**," he said. "If [the federal government] had listened about four years ago, this would have been prevented."

For us we can honestly say "If council had of listened to us (**Citizens Coalition**)

a year ago they would not have wasted **\$8,000,000** and have nothing to show for it not even a hole in the ground. If they had of listened to us a year ago the plume would not have been squeezed off site". Had the MoE listened to us and been proactive last year instead of defending the indefensible city position Mayor Pinocchio and the 8 Puppets would not have been able to piss away **\$8,000,000** of your hard earned money and started the migration of the plume off site. We warned no one listened.

Orillians' will be paying a very high price in health and money, not unlike the people of Kashechewan if we don't test the site properly and clean it up. When one of yours is poisoned, who will you blame??? Will you blame Mayor Pinocchio and the Puppets or the council of the day because these guys will be long gone??? After all didn't Pinocchio already say "**that will be for another council to deal with**". My friends if you do nothing today about "**our travesty**" then it is your own fault. Every tear you will shed for your child or grandchild when they become sick from the poison under this site, you and only you will be to blame if you have read this and do nothing about it. You have the opportunity to educate yourself on this property and it's dozens of poisons and act to force them to test and clean the site or move the MURF to a safe location. You now know from the former owner of the property Glen Phelps that this site was an "**industrial dump**". You now know that indeed there was "**systemic polluting**" on a huge scale as everyday business practice. You know from Mr. Phelps that "**millions of tons**" of contaminants were dumped on the site. What will it take to wake you up? Do we really need to "**take the risk**" so that a few might profit personally??? Ask yourself why this "**site**" is actually "**more important**" than the project itself to these people?? Kashechewan is one of another hundred communities that are in the same boat across Canada who have been ignored. Orillia is one of hundreds of communities throughout North America with the same problem. Do you want to be a Niagara Falls NY (**Love Canal**), Woburn Ma. or Endicott NY?? **Speak Out** it is your children, your home and your community. For more info see the pages above **Vapor Migration, Woburn, Dioxins** and please get involved before it is too late. You have the power and the right to demand a safe facility. Tell the mayor and council you will trust them when they start telling the truth, when they stop hiding test results and when they do the right thing.

You know what I find amazing and disheartening about the people of Orillia all at the same time??? Here we are opening our hearts and wallets for 5 year old Riley Luciano and Tyler Redman both boys literally battling for their lives without a second thought. **Amazing**. At the same time I find it very disheartening that the same people so concerned for these boys are unwilling to stand up for the future Riley's and Tyler's who council is willing to risk by not doing proper testing or clean up on the West St. "**industrial dump**". One does not have to be a rocket scientist to understand that this site as is will create many Riley's and Tyler's in the coming years. Mayor and council want you to accept an "**unnecessary risk**". So if you would rather "**help victims**" then do and say nothing. If you would rather "**prevent**" kids from "**becoming victims**" in the first place then get involved to make sure this site is cleaned up before allowing children to play on it????

jim tolnai

Oct. 27, 2005

Liar! Liar! Gardy's Pants are on Fire

Has anyone really paid attention to Wayne Gardy in this battle over the West St. site??? This guy has been spouting off outrageous bunk and just in case anyone has paid any attention to him we need to clarify what he has said.

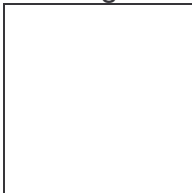
Wayne made a statement to me that "I don't know anyone who worked at Otaco". Well it turns out that indeed Wayne did and does know people who worked at Otaco. In fact he knows the big guy Glen Phelps. You see when we had our conversation with Glen about 8 months ago he told us that he had an extensive conversation with Wayne where he had warned him about the very site this guy is claiming to be safe. Yes Wayne actually had the information that was reported in yesterdays Packet. Wayne knew that this site was an "**industrial dump**". He knew the story about the systemic dumping, not only on the Otaco site but also from the tanneries. He also knew about the limitless "**carbon tetrachloride**"

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/contaminants/dw_contamfs/carbonte.html. He knew about Dorr Oliver and Fahramet using the site to dump their poisons. Yes councillor Wayne Gardy who claims to represent the interest of his ward and city has known all along that this site is a "**Love Canal**"

<http://www.epa.gov/history/topics/lovecanal/01.htm>. Did he warn city management, council or S&P??? Who knows??? But what we do know is he had information which he denied having and was and still is willing to risk our children's health and welfare inspite of his knowledge. Shame on you Wayne.

Wayne has also been spouting off about Derek Ford stating that if the building is moved this site is manageable. **Bulls*t** Wayne. You know and now everyone else knows it. What Derek said and your city experts have now admitted is that the present footprint is too toxic to build on. He then said that there maybe an area where the contamination is not "**catastrophic**" and if tested properly, and comes up clean enough then the building maybe moved. This is a long way from your bold face lie.

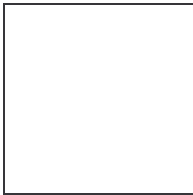
Now we have Wayne denying the cost of the non hole in the ground of over \$8,000,000 that these geniuses are responsible for. He claims our numbers are just not true but has never given his own amounts. Why??? Because he knows our numbers are true. So here is some proof that even this clown can't deny??? Oh! I forgot we are dealing with Wayne Gardy. Sorry.



The above PDF file contains the actual bill generated at the dump for the

2,604 truckloads of "Spill Cleanup Materials" that were delivered and dumped on Cell 7. The bill shows that 40,671.88 tons with fees charged of \$5,083,985.00 which represents 100% charged (representing about 2 years of the dumps life span). For Wayne or anyone else to deny this cost shows a definite lack of honesty or lack of intelligence. In Wayne's case I believe it is both. This isn't even creative accounting. 40,671.88 tons of space is worth \$5,083,983 and once filled it can not be resold. Therefore, there is a value that the dump can never realize. Wayne's and council's creative bookkeeping aside the project has cost over \$8,000,000 no matter what they say. Check with any accountant. If the product being sold is space and the space is filled and not paid for there is a loss of income and that is a direct cost to the business as it is spoiled inventory.

Then there is Wayne telling everyone that the hazardous fill taken to the dump was tested properly and the MOE had inspected it. Well Surprise! Surprise! as Gomer Pyle used to say. Here is another document which contradicts this statement.



For those who wish to have a look at the document. Note: First there was no testing of the Leachate Concentration even though many of the loads were soaking wet as witnessed by many and as our videos and pictures prove. In fact neither the yes or no box has been checked off. Therefore the next line does not apply which asks for Contaminants found under Reg. 347. Don't test then there is nothing there "**Right!**"???. The next line to look for is Method of Disposal: Please note that Controlled Disposal was checked off. But what is even more interesting is that in fact this soil was handled the same way as if Air Evaporation had been used which is not checked off. That's right because the leachate which was not tested had VOC's in it spreading the soil into thin layers over a wide area is the prescribed method to Air Evaporate under waste disposal guidelines. Now remember the Minister of the Environment and the MOE claimed this soil would be kept in windrows and tested properly. Can anyone show me where any of this happened???? Then we have the MOE inspection of this dirt and how it was disposed of. Go now to Ministry of Environment Notification: It seems Matt McNiece received a verbal notification without a date even being entered . Sloppy sloppy sloppy. The health and welfare of our community and environment is at stake and these guys can't even fill out the paper work properly??? Or???? Can they be trusted??? Not by me as there is too much evidence of monkey business or is that "shady business"??? Seems creative record keeping is going on at the dump too.

Finally we have Gardy saying that if VC gas was across the road then how come the Dorr Oliver office hasn't blown up or caught fire all these years??? Well! to begin with until last year no one had been stupid enough to disturb the site. According to Gardy's own experts there was no leaching off site last year. Since the disturbing of the site now there is leaching. But more importantly we

have had two mysterious fires. Then we had windows opened and now the tearing down of all four storage buildings including the one that burned. We have been informed by employees that management will not reveal the cause of the fire and Trent Elyea doesn't tell us what caused the fire but only that VC gas wasn't the cause. So if you don't know what caused it then how do you know it wasn't VC gas??? I had also read that an "electrical engineer" would be called in??? Was it arson or electrical???? Then of course there is the story that someone broke in and started the first fire in the middle of the night. But how does that explain the second fire on a work day at about 10 am???? There were all kinds of people around including construction crews working on the West St. sewer project. It was these people who told us they saw flames shooting 10 feet above the fence. Now the fence is about 8 feet making flames about 18 feet high. Has anyone out there ever seen a rubbish fire with 18 foot flames???? Would our dastardly "pattern thieves" dare to return in daylight??? And of course there were no patterns in the second shed only trash. Could there be a trash thief lurking in Orillia???

So people of Orillia you have been misled and continue to be misled. It seems Orillia has now discovered a new way of reducing crime. If there is a break in then open the windows so thieves don't have to break anything thus eliminating break ins. If that does not work tear down the target buildings so when the thieves return to steal patterns or trash there won't be any buildings to break into or to steal from thus reducing theft crimes as well. Curses! foiled again, will claim the dastardly evil villains as they twirl their moustaches????? Na!ha!ha!!!

jim tolnai

Oct. 26, 2005

What Lies Beneath & What Liars

Finally the Packet has done some investigative reporting. Today's headline can and should be read two ways. "What lies beneath" could be taken as chemicals in the ground or for people like me with a suspicious mind it could be What! Lies Beneath. I think whoever wrote the headline wanted to make a statement and it came through loud and clear. Glen Phelps at 92 is a pretty sharp cookie. Nothing wrong with his faculty nor his memory. He has shared with us what Speaking Out has been reporting for close to three years. For all you naysayers read'em and weep.

We have been feeding information to the Packet for years and until now they have never bothered using most of it. You may remember Colin McKim started talking to me outside at the last PLC meeting. He then followed that up with the hour and a half phone interview. On both occasions I told Colin about our conversations with Glen Phelps and that should he contact him just might be surprised at what facts Glen will share. Well this is the first information shared with the Packet that has resulted in some of the truth coming out. I say some because there are questions that should have been asked and answered. Colin was aware of the facts that I will now share and if he didn't ask the questions then that is too bad. If he did ask but failed to report then that is sad.

Glen admits the use of degreasers. In fact he says "The industrial use of

carbon tetrachloride was endless". Then he claims that even after being used the carbon tetrachloride was too valuable to flush down the drain or pour into a ditch (thank goodness). "We used to put it in drums and sell it to other industries that needed solvents". But Glen, wylie as he is at 92 knows better and although technically he wasn't lying he also didn't tell the rest of the story. You see there was a sludge left over after cleaning the oily parts. This sludge was not saleable and once filtered the sludge was put down the drains to the cribs. For anyone who wants simple proof it was located on the south side of the factory where there was, what was referred to as the barrel farm. There were sometimes literally thousands of empty 45 gallon barrels waiting for a buyer. These barrels represented the difference between what was sold, evaporated or sludge that went down the drain to the cribs. Tom Egan who presented information about the cribs witnessed two of them and the drains in the factory floor. So Glen was less than honest or maybe his memory is just fading on some of the more damning details???? Glen also tried to make light of this deadly chemical by comparing it's use with doing your laundry. As I said Glen's nobodies fool, he's sharp.

We have been saying that this property is nothing more than an **"industrial dump"** same as **"Love Canal"**. Glen has now proudly confirmed what we have reported to you and the disbelievers. His company was not the only one that dumped waste in the old swamp drained into Ben's Ditch. As we reported Long's and Fahramet, also discarded slag and **"other"** materials in the **OTACO** dump site. Do you suppose Glen allowed these companies to dump their poisons for **"FREE"** or do you suppose they paid a tippage fee??? I will have to go with tippage fees. Therefore if you are earning money from poisoning the land shouldn't some of that money at least be paying for cleaning it up??? Not according to Glen as he feels **"no moral duty"** to relieve modern day taxpayers (you and I) from the burden of cleanup costs. "I have an obligation to obey the law" says Glen. Yup! Glen is a sharpie all right. He knows there is no legal obligation for him to pay and Ralph Cipolla ought to know that too, what with his foolish request at council last night. So the only real test of a man is his **"morals"** in such a situation and Glen proudly proclaims **"he feels no moral duty"** meaning of course he has none. He tries to justify all this **"bullsh*t"** by claiming he paid taxes to the municipality. Now he claims to have paid hundreds of thousands in taxes that in his mind entitled him to poison the town I suppose??? Glen everyone else who did not pollute also paid taxes. So why do you feel we should have to pay for your part of this mess??? It is attitude like this which should strengthen our resolve to make polluting a crime against humanity and make a mandatory life sentence and confiscation of all assets the punishment for large polluters. With no regrets this guy has the gonads to **"hope OTACO's rich industrial past will shine as a bright part of Orillia's historic legacy"**. There is nothing shiny about the money mongering that went on and continues today. Orillia does not owe this family a debt of gratitude as Glen seems to imply. In fact Glen and his family owe everything to the people of Orillia who sacrificed and paid their taxes and now must pay again. Glen was not nor is he today concerned about **"health and safety"** when he proclaims **"more attention should be paid to the financial implications, particularly the operating**

cost". Incredible! he worries he might have to pay more taxes?????

Now doesn't all this look and sound exactly like what this council and city administration is trying to do???? We can't clean up because it's too costly??? Who is it going to hurt??? It must be safe we "**assume**"??? We don't need more testing??? Trust us??? Then there is my favourite when Mayor Pinocchio says "that will be the responsibility of a future council" in response to the question "**what happens if it goes wrong**"???? Well folks it has gone wrong, just look across the street where the mysterious fire was. Just like Glen who feels no moral duty these guys feel nothing either. When harm comes to people we can just say what Glen has said. "**We didn't know**"?????

A few interesting tidbits which I will be expanding on in the next few days. GL&V are tearing down all four storage buildings along West St. including the one that caught fire mysteriously. I say mysteriously because we have it from a number of employees there that management have said to them they will not be told what caused the fire. Then there is an interesting letter we received yesterday and is posted in the we get letters link. I had written quite some time ago that the Oval maybe targeted for a school. Well it seems I was half right. You see I had thought that the next Catholic High School might be the tenant. Well according to this letter it is the SCBE that is being urged to make an offer to the city. Another low down political decision by some on council to eliminate the Oval from the MURF equation. So make sure you go to we get letters. Folks keep them coming in. This controversy is only now becoming more interesting as finally the truth is starting to "**leach**" out.

jim tolnai

Oct. 25, 2005

The Democratic Ward: Orillia's Oxymoron.

By Allan Millard

I attended the special 'public' meeting of Council on ward vs. city-wide elections to show support for Phyllis Roberts and the democratic principles implicit in her petition. There was no chance that Council would vote to change the system but at least they got it over with quickly so that Phyllis and supporters can now move on to the Ontario Municipal Board (as a matter of right, by the way, under the Municipal Act).

It was an agonizing experience. After listening to the Tory establishment attempting vainly to rationalize a fundamentally anti-democratic system we then had to listen to more of the same claptrap from the Councillors (except Lauer, who stood alone in showing that it is claptrap). I imagine that I was not the only person who thought that the best evidence of how the ward system had failed Orillia was to look at the 6 councillors it allowed to get elected and at the

one they (and Lauer) appointed.

The majority of the audience was on Phyllis's side, but that is absolutely irrelevant, as is the fact that her petition contained only a few more names than required under the Municipal Act. What is relevant was the bankruptcy of ideas and logic of everyone who spoke in favour of retaining the wards. They were so bereft of principles that they started talking about how ward-elected councillors were able to rise above their parochialism and deal with city-wide issues (as they all are). Incredible. They did not see the incongruity of saying that voters should have no say in the election of 6 of the 8 admittedly dealing all the time with city-wide issues.

I was almost squirming with embarrassment for our City. I wanted to say: "Don't look at me. I didn't vote for any of them." There have been some very low points with our Council, but this 'debate' deserved a Razzie for the highest concentration of inanity per minute of any discussion yet.

I believe there is one consideration which trumps all others in a debate over an electoral system: How close does it come to the original meaning of "democracy" - rule by the people. When the numbers are large, we turn to electing representatives and we call it a "representative democracy". When the area is large we break it into constituencies and send the representatives to a parliament or legislative assembly. However, when the area is small, like Orillia, and there are no regional, cultural, or other interests to be represented or balanced, we don't need artificial divisions such as wards. More to the point, for both political and social reasons we should actively avoid artificial divisions (wards) until sheer numbers make it desirable.

Thus, in Orillia we have the luxury of being small enough to be able to have a democracy which is only one step removed from the real thing: Every citizen has the right to choose all of his or her representatives. Any unnecessary departure from that system must be seen not just as less democratic but as anti-democratic. Wards are not necessary in Orillia.

It is clear when one hears the hollow words from the likes of Doug Lewis or clones Downey or Fogarty that wards are good because it's good for them and their strategy of divide and conquer. Creating wards is done for the same reason that we used to have gerrymandering (which, if memory serves, started in the corrupt municipal politics of Chicago). In local terms, it is a lot easier to elect a Gardy in Ward 1 or a Downey in Ward 2 than it might be if there were city-wide elections.

Three final observations:

1. The electoral system is supposed to be for the benefit of the people, not the convenience of candidates, a point apparently lost on almost everyone who commented on the pro-ward side.
2. The decline in voter participation, from about 45% in 1997 (city-wide) to about 40% in 2000 and 35% in 2003 (a drop of 22%) is a direct result of instituting the wards. I know people who don't vote because they know they can do nothing about the choice of 6 councillors and I know some who don't vote because of the kinds of people who tend to thrive in, and perpetuate, an anti-democratic system.
3. The principal political problem in Orillia is not voter apathy - a too facile explanation if ever there was one. Don't blame the victims. It is the existence of a corrupting, insidious power game which breeds resignation, and contempt. The bad drives out the good.

Oct. 24, 2005

Counting Life in Ben's Ditch

About a month ago Bob Bowles and his group took on the job of doing a fish count in Mill Creek. These guys in co-operation with the MNR put on their waders and headed out to Scout Valley. Now this is no small undertaking and Bob along with other volunteers need to be thanked for their huge effort. The way this count works is both complex and simple. The MNR employee has an electric wand that puts a controlled voltage into the water. The people involved have to wear insulated gear so that they don't end up like the fish. As the current is introduced to the water fish are literally shocked into co-operating with their count. As the fish are immobilized they pop to the water surface and float belly up downstream. At the designated spot are people with nets catching and counting the fish as well as taking other pertinent information for data banks. Bob and his group stunned and counted about 1,200 fish in just one short stretch of Mill Creek proving at least to this writer that this stream is a vibrant ecosystem and needs to be preserved and protected. Good job Bob and thanks.

So after seeing Bob's success the Citizens Coalition decided that we would like to do a similar survey of Ben's Ditch. We approached the MNR and asked for their help. When we mentioned where we wanted to do the survey the MNR told us that this area was no longer Provincially Significant. Why! they had downgraded their designation to Municipally Significant at the behest of Orillia Officials albeit using questionable information furnished by the city. We then approached the city for help and they told us that indeed the area had been Municipally Significant but they decided to change that to Employment???? Didn't really make sense to us or to anyone else I might add but they weren't interested in helping us either. Why in fact before long there will not be an ecosystem there at all as the city is encouraging property owners to fill in this wetland connected to the ditch. They are so anxious to destroy this area that the city itself is supplying fill and possibly contaminated fill from it's own road construction and dumping it.

So for us it became extremely important that this survey be done as soon as

possible. Not having access to the fancy equipment that the MNR uses we decided to improvise. We went to the local Radio Shack and purchased batteries, wires, switches and electrodes and built our equipment. We needed to test it out and managed to sneak it into the council chambers. Deciding which councillors chair to wire was a bit disconcerting as councillors look stunned when an intelligent question is posed to them anyway. We decided to wire up all their chairs on a night that MURF business was being discussed. As we came upon the appointed time our brows dripped sweat and our palms became clammy. We hit the switch at just the right moment. As we watched in amazement their eyes glazed over. None of them questioned the hundreds of thousands in expenses as yet another S&P contract came to a vote. They leaned back in their chairs belly up, and their hands shot into the air and mayor Pinocchio said "carried" as he slumped belly up with that stunned look on his face. The city manager was seen with a confused look on his face looking at a switch like object in his hand clearly in the off position mumbling "I better fix this it's shorted out". It worked and now we could carry on to Ben's Ditch and do our survey plus we may have answered the question of councils stunned looks and voting pattern. Imagine our disappointment as we shot an electrical charge into the water and lifeless forms floated to the top belly up. Imagine the surprise of the people downstream as their nets filled?? But hey! why imagine here is an action shot of the scene just as it took place.

picture by: Jenine Baker

No wonder this area is considered insignificant by city management. Only life here, was eight councillors and one mayor floating belly up with that stunned look. Let me assure you we did no harm to them. Once we counted them and took information for our data bank (brain size, lack of gonads etc.), we dried them off and to the disappointment of the turtles, fish and frogs released them. One turtle was heard to say "bury them alive like they buried my mum". The idea was tempting but we are a peaceful group. They'll get buried in the next election we chorused. The turtle gave a knowing smile, the frogs croaked and the birds chirped waiting anxiously for the day their existence will no longer be in jeopardy.

jim tolnai

Oct. 23, 2005

Housekeeping

I need to do a bit of housekeeping to cleanup some misquotes and misconceptions. A week ago last Friday Colin McKim called me for an interview. After the last PLC meeting four or five of us were chatting outside the City Center and Colin joined us. Colin had been avoiding me for a while as I have been hard on him in regards to his reporting. Now I don't know if Colin is a free agent in what he writes or the slant it takes. One thing for sure his slant and stories have always been pro Molson site no matter how bad the test results. Reporting of contaminants and their implications have always been kept to a minimum. I suspect his editors and the paper's management are looking after the bottom line and for all I know maybe Colin believes everything he writes?? So I was

surprised when he started chatting to me. From ignoring me to the point of not returning a Hello! to engaging me in an interview. That was Tuesday and I fully expected something in the paper in the next day or two. Then on Friday I get this call. We spent almost an hour and a half from 11:45 to 1:15 on the phone. I passed on a ton of information to Colin (which he hasn't used) and of course my opinions as well. He was most interested in the fact that we were considering taking the city back to court. As our conversation went on I was making the point that the location on West St. is just about perfect but the site was nothing more than an **"industrial dump"**. I explained that we needed to go back to court in order to put a wooden stake through the heart of this monster (the site). Now at no time did I imply or refer to the MURF project as a monster. To be fair to Colin he certainly didn't write that I did either. But because he did not write the statement in the context it was used there are some who believe that I was referring to the MURF. Of course those who want to build on the **"industrial dump"** site without proper cleanup grabbed onto this and are trying to make hay from it. If this is the best they can do then all the best to them as they certainly are desperate. They need something to grab onto regardless of how silly it is considering all the bad news they have gotten so far with lots more coming. So for all those who may have believed that I am against a MURF or anyone in the Coalition is against the MURF one more time we are **"Pro MURF"** and **"Pro Safe Site"**. **Health and Safety** are **"Not Negotiable"**.

Love Canal was a monster that consumed children and babies in the womb. It too had a stake driven into it's heart. Then they started to suck out the evil poison and today over 30 years later they are still sucking but some areas are again safe and are being used. Costs so far have been in excess of 1 billion dollars US. Peoples denial that it couldn't happen here is infantile. These factories on West St. consumed vast quantities of chemicals and disposed of waste from them. Do you really believe that people who willingly located a dump on wetland on the shore of Lake Simcoe would never have buried barrels of chemicals or operated chemical cribs to get rid of the wastes cheaply on site??? And now the next generation refuses to test the site because if you don't test it's not there. The next generation is willing to locate the building directly over a lake of poison ignoring reality because doing it properly will cost money??? Yes the site is a monster and if allowed will consume children and infants in the womb as well unless it is cleaned up and managed with far more care than the present people in charge have shown. Don't forget the site is the **"heart"** of the city. An unhealthy heart does and will affect the body in unpleasant ways. Why take the **"risk"**???

Colin Morton PHD (piled higher and deeper)

For those of you who may not have guessed or figured it out Colin Morton from Vancouver is not just an interested party who would like a MURF built??? He is very much interested in having the MURF built nowhere else but on West St. You see it seems Mr. Morton's family are the owners of Francoz/Morton Steel on West St. just a few properties from the Molson site. It doesn't take a PHD to figure out why he spouted so much bunk. From his false assertion that there was no e-mail address or contact information on Speaking Out **"Unfortunately, your website does not provide an e-mail address"** to claiming that we are **"abusing**

our legal system", we are in "opposition to all development in or near the city", "There is no evidence of the pollution on which you've based your fear-mongering", that our members are "professional protesters such as Allan Millard, Colleen Cooney and Kelly Clune" and of course his claim that "Any reasonable person would find it hard to believe that a site apparently operated by **stealth** could have that many visitors in a year, let alone a day. We wondered why this man who didn't even live in Orillia but way out in Dalrymple in another County when he did live in the area and now in Vancouver was so aggressive about this site being perfect and clean. How could he be aware of what goes on in Orillia and why he gives a "**rats ass**"??? It didn't take long to figure it out. A few questions around town and a bit of Internet research found out his background and family connection. The family business Francoz/Morton Steel is located on property owned by ???? along with the junk yard property known as Francoz Metals. Back in the good old days batteries were heaped in piles, engine blocks leaked oils, old radiators leaked antifreeze and who knows what other chemicals. It would be safe to say that there is at least a slight chance that the property may contain some impurities. What better way to try and boost land values than to have the city spend tens of millions to improve the areas reputation. Note I didn't say improve the area only it's reputation. Have a look at the aerial picture.

As the picture shows the property is loaded with scrap and has been for many years. There most likely is better care taken today to not spill toxins but in the past such care was not an issue. I remember back in the mid sixties my brother and I taking an old battery down there to sell. We got a dollar for it I believe and were told to throw it on the pile. The pile was huge and there was a strong smell of acid as the batteries leaked. I'm sure there are others with stories to tell. So Colin Morton I suppose you would say that your families business location is pristine and that only someone with a wild imagination like the Coalition members could ever think different. Here is another person with a self interest spreading bunk. Need we say more???

jim tolnai

Oct. 22, 2005

Wetland Saved/Wetland Rehabilitated

Our efforts to stop the destruction of one of the most important wetlands in Orillia has now been confirmed. Even though a large portion has already been filled in the DFO has not only put an end to anymore filling permanently but also ordered 2,400 square meters of fill removed. Finally the environment wins even if it is only a small victory. Clearly this wetland was a fish habitat and city management knew it when they allowed Bob Keach to fill it or were negligent in their positions of trust if they didn't. Councillors back in the late 90's and the 2000/2003 council knew it's value. It was people on council of the day like Ann Marie Alexander who is responsible for the destruction of this jewel. What did you base your decision on Anne Marie when you people changed the "provincially significant wetland" to "municipally significant" to "employment area"? Did you make your decision based on emotions or was it based on "facts"?? Here is a

prime example of another "stupid" decision made without any knowledge of what was at stake they will claim. So Ann Marie will you take responsibility for this destruction or will you use the pat answer "I didn't know"????

By my calculations there is at least two plus meters thick of soil by 2,400 square meters. We know a large part of this dirt is contaminated with painted blocks, rebar containing cement and other garbage materials. Not only that but there is a very real chance that dirt dumped there by the city from the West St. sewer construction project maybe contaminated from the leaching off the MURF site that has now been confirmed. Removal of this massive amount of dirt will cost far more than the value of the land. Because the city issued permits for this filling, most likely because it was a handy place to dump their crap from West St. and indeed they dumped there, Bob should consult a lawyer immediately to make sure that the city will live up to their obligation to remove this stuff. I have no doubt that city management knew this area was valuable wetland and that it was a fish habitat. If they claim they didn't know then they ought to have known. Folks what kind of management is down there on Andrew St. if whenever the "sh*t" hits the fan they plead ignorance??? So Bob get a good lawyer who will go after these people and make them personally responsible.

So what do you think the removal costs will be. Well! the fill was free that the city brought there?? In order to remove it now the cost will astound you. First because there is painted blocks etc. mixed with the fill it is now contaminated. Contaminated fill sent to the dump costs \$128 per ton for tippage alone plus for loading and trucking ad another \$40 per ton. There is about 7,200 tons of dirt which makes up the 2,400 square meters. Disposal costs could realistically cost \$1,209,600. If the fill off West St. is tested and found to be contaminated with chemicals from the MURF site and it has been mixed so that all the fill is now contaminated then costs rise to \$400 per ton. That cost will be \$2,880,000.

But Bob's troubles aren't over yet. You see the MoE still has the obligation to order him to remove material dumped which is contaminated over and above the 2,400 square meters. So whoever the previous owner was Bob is now responsible. As the pictures show there are hundreds if not thousands of tons of contaminated materials. Were these dumped based on a city permit??? if not then why did the city not stop the filling??Did the city dump some of their own stuff there over the years??? And then don't forget the city has ordered that fill encroaching on city land by the trail must be removed by Mr. Keach even though some of it was dumped there by the city. I know I have pictures and witnessed it.

All this happened simply because both of mayor Pinocchio's councils did not make decisions based on facts and documented information but on hearsay (see Ann Marie Alexander story below) from staff reports, and changed land use without really knowing what they were doing or possibly knowing but hoping no one would notice??? This is a wake up call for all developers, city management and council. Do your due diligence and please don't destroy anymore wetland or

it will come back to bite you in the ass. As for council, immediately put a hold on anymore filling of all wetlands in the city and consult people like our very own Bob Bowles to help formulate a wetland policy not only for protecting but also remediation where possible. Our water and air quality must prevail. First project for remediation should be the unnecessarily destroyed wetland on the Molson property

jim tolnai

Oct. 21, 2005

MoE Praised????? Ann Marie Alexander?????

Well I'll be damned I must check if hell has frozen over. A pro city management, council supporter on the MURF site is praising the MoE. Wow. Where is this coming from all of a sudden??? Council and management have been criticizing the MoE and we have been praising them and now this guy Jerry Ford comes out of the blue and tries to steal our praise position. Come on Jerry get off of our bandwagon and get your own. Say! how about you praise council for giving themselves a 40% raise. Or how about you praise council for finding the non existing drums of toxins. What about praising them for allowing a huge wetland and natural flood reservoir to be filled in on James St. or about the destruction of the swamp and all living creatures on the MURF site last fall unnecessarily?? So Jerry please leave our praising alone and get your own. As for your suggestion of trusting "professional engineer"??? You mean the two engineers at the design committee meeting who are entrusted with the "**risk assessment**" and "**risk management**"? Who after working on the VC problem couldn't answer the simple question of "**is VC gas lighter or heavier than air**"????? Are those the experts your talking about??? Or what about the expert who last year at a news conference claimed asbestos was a rock and couldn't be tested for??? Are you talking about her??? Are you talking about the expert who at the last PLC meeting stated that remediation has never been planned and their orders are to only "**risk manage**". Now Jerry how could these experts know that "**no remediation**" is necessary without the "**risk assessment**" being completed and of course proper testing which has never been done to date???? You see Jerry they still don't know what the "true risks" are but are **professionally** going ahead with it. Are those the experts Jerry???

dictionary.com describes

risk assessment:

an estimate of the "**likelihood**" of adverse effects that may result from exposure to certain health hazards, esp. pollutants in the environment

risk management:

The process of analyzing exposure to [risk](#) and determining how to best handle such "**exposure**".

So Jerry how do you suppose they knew this project could be risk managed way back in 2002?? Would a competent professional dare risk looking like a fool by "**assuming**"??? Your right a competent professional wouldn't have made that

"**assumption**". Yet our "**professionals**?????" have are again **assuming** that the building can be moved without testing yet again.

clean:

Free from foreign matter or pollution; unadulterated: *clean air; clean drinking water.*

Jerry you may take as many risks in life as you want for yourself. But you council, city management or your experts do not have the right to risk others. That is what this is all about. As Derek Ford said to the PLC and especially Bob Leach "**why take the risk?**"? Whose child will you "**risk**" to be harmed by these toxins??? Come on Jerry name a child who you are willing to sacrifice to Leukemia, liver damage, lung damage or any number of other ailments??? You want to take a risk Jerry? Then name someone and let's sacrifice that child to prove us right and you wrong??? Well Jerry we won't play that game. We are unable to sacrifice any child unlike you and those you blindly support. You see we have a heart and we have a conscience. This isn't about having it our way and you know it. Tell council to stop lying and release the August test results now. If they won't, ask yourself why not?? You know if it was good news they would have plastered it all over the front page of the Packet. The location is good but the site is nothing more than an "**industrial dump**" end of story. Let's build the MURF elsewhere and clean this site properly. And yes the site is a monster and needs to have a stake driven into it's heart. Then through the hole let's suck out all the evil and turn it into an asset for this town.

What about Anne Marie Alexander's note in the Packet? We agree with her that decisions should be based on facts and not emotion. That is exactly why the "**Citizens Coalition**" has been asking for a proper and comprehensive testing of this site. Let's find out just what this site contains. The only way to find out is to do a proper grid of test holes. Then evaluate the results and "**remediate**" what needs remediation and "**risk manage**" what can be managed but let's do it honestly. "**Assuming**" as this council and city management along with S&P have been doing just does not work to anyone's benefit. Our position has always been from a "**Health and Safety**" need. Members of council have been proven over and over to make terrible decisions. Each time more tests are done the site shows even worse contamination. The piecemeal way these guys are handling this will cost millions more than it should. Why just look at the **\$8,000,000** spent so far with not even a hole to show for it. Kind of reminds you of the Simcoe College waste doesn't it??? Then they spend money with architects to choose another site. What emotion did they use to make the same decision of not testing before spending more money on architects?? I didn't think "**stupid**" was an emotion. Test the area properly first. When and only when they have the results decide if the building can go there safely depending on the results not on how they would like the place to look. This isn't rocket science but it is expensive. Because they don't want to spend the money to do a proper job they are willing to "**risk**"??? So far all the risks of not testing and dig, dump and fill have gone sour on these guys and so will the **health risk** gamble they want you to take.

Only problem?? whose child or grandchild will be first to accept the consequences of their "**risk taking**"??? Ask them to guarantee 100% that no one will be harmed by these toxins. Ask them the percentage of risk vs safety they guarantee. Is it 100% they will "**Gurantee**"?? after all aren't all risks about percentages??? Come on Ann Marie ask them then come and tell us their answer. You see we have asked.

We await the August test results with eager anticipation. They must be real bad as they won't release them.

Until people like Ann Marie Alexander, Jerry Ford, Jerry Wink, Colin Morton, and all the others who blindly spout off about trust yet have never been seen at any public meeting where information is readily available from con but very little from pro (which has to be fought for) then one has to wonder how they know anything???? The truth is they know nothing of the technical nature of this sight. All they know is we trust our officials and "**dang it**" we don't need to know any facts. Some may remember I challenged Jerry Wink, Jim Dykes, John Mundell and any others who have been conned to come out to the PLC meeting and see for themselves. Not one of them turned up. Neither did Ann Marie Alexander and I will bet you couldn't of found Jerry Ford there either. So where do they get their information from??? Truth is they have no information only their "**orders**" and "**script**". These people don't take the slightest interest in facts. Well! we deal in nothing but facts. That is why the MoE has now become active. We proved our case scientifically and now they act. That is why two judges have agreed with our facts and a third one will also agree very soon. These guys are now terrified that again we have become pro active to finally shutdown their foolish attempt to build on an "**industrial dump**" without proper safeguards and clean up, not unlike the board of education in Niagara Falls NY who did the same with "**Love Canal**". Only difference that was almost 50 years ago. You'd think people would have learned??? But not our guys. Not our critics. Not our fundraiser's. Same "**sh*t**" different day except for we the people who stand and fight them. **We have learned.**

jim tolnai

Oct. 20, 2005

Plugged Water Filter

There seems to be a problem with Orillia's water and the people in charge don't seem too concerned. Orillia's water is notorious for it's stink and lousy taste. Water straight from the tap has chlorine smell rivaling a swimming pool. Now there is a problem with plugged filters. Customers who have had whole house carbon filtration installed are experiencing filters plugging up in as little as two weeks where before they weren't plugged after a year. For good tasting and good smelling water we install whole house carbon filters which removes smell, odor and improves taste, therefore not requiring water purchase. About 4 weeks ago one of our customers was due for a filter change as the carbon media does deplete. We did the change and within two weeks their water pressure was almost non existent. About the same time there was a problem with a Reverse Osmosis system not producing water that had filters replaced only 8 weeks

earlier. When the sediment filter was removed it had a slimy jell covering it (see picture). The same was true of the whole house carbon filter. Normally filters are changed annually and I have never seen a whole house system plugged up whether in town (Barrie, Alliston, Orillia etc.) or on a well until now. Odd???

My first inclination was to ask someone else in the business if they had been experiencing any problems. The first competitor I spoke with confirmed that indeed he was having a problem with filters on Maple Drive. He had replaced filters 3 times in only 7 weeks. He described the filters as being covered in slime. Upon sawing one of the filters in half he noted that the filter was actually plugged solid on the outside and nothing had actually penetrated in more than an 1/8 of an inch. He thanked me for contacting him as he thought his was an isolated problem. He had been in touch with a Mr. Cole from the water works who assured him there was no problem with the cities water system.

We urged our customer to call the city water department to see if they had any problems with complaints. The water works secretary/receptionist confirmed that they have had a large number of complaints from people whose filters were plugging. So now we had three confirmations that this problem was not isolated to one area. Our customer asked for a city employee to attend and I just happened to be present when he arrived. I showed him the jelly like substance and he proclaimed to never having seen anything like it. He was also shown some pretty awful water that had been collected as samples. One sample which looked the colour of strong tea was collected after the water had been left running for 4 minutes. The next four samples were taken about two minute intervals for a total of 12 minutes of running time. The last sample still had some colour even after 12 minutes of running. Very odd??? These samples were shown to the city employee. He promised that when he returned to his office he would do a report and passed it on to a Ken VanWyck second in command.

That afternoon Ken phoned me and claimed there was no problem with the system. He said that our customers home is located on a deadened pipe and that sediment collects in these pipes as water sits in them. When I told him that there was also a problem on Maple Drive he became a bit more concerned as this pipe is not a dead end. I then asked if there had been any other complaints from around the city. At first he indicated no but a moment later he thought better and claimed yes there were some complaints. Yes he said there were three complaints and they were all from people with fridge filters. Remember the secretary claimed many??? It was determined that the problem wasn't the cities as the filters being used were the wrong size. You see filters are rated in microns. He claimed that the fridge manufacturer had supplied 1 micron filters instead of 20 micron therefore plugging up very quickly. Once 20 micron filters were installed the problem was fixed???? Funny I told him but my wholehouse filter was a 20 micron yet it plugged up. Besides I said how do you explain the filters on Maple??? He promised to get in touch with Doug my competitor and get his details. Four days after Doug is still waiting for a call. So much for giving a damn.

My customer then supplied samples of the water we had collected and asked that they be tested. Answer negative. He asked for them to come into his house

and collect samples themselves and see the problem first hand. They claimed that they had been to a neighbors house and checked it there finding nothing wrong. They specifically refused to check his house claiming that they couldn't get a good test because of the filter housing that is in line. What a load of "crap". Then our customer asked for compensation for the plugged filter. Refused. Folks this is a \$100 filter that lasted 2 weeks. It is a 20 micron which as filters go is not fine at all. Standard filter for systems on wells with UV systems is 5 microns. Why my own house I change the 5 micron filter only once a year and not because it is plugged. A municipal system should be filtering down to at least 15 microns yet a 20 micron filter plugs in 2 weeks with a strange substance????

If any of you folks are having a problem with filters plugging and have been told you are the only one you now know that to be untrue. Let me know what type of filters you have and how quickly they are plugging so that I can produce some sort of data. Water is life and needs to be treated seriously. The waterworks department attitude is not good enough. If there is a wide spread problem then let's find out. Most important we should be told what this jelly like substance is. The picture clearly shows the jelly. If you are not filtering then you are drinking this and of course bathing in it. We need a proper answer and not be ignored. Call me at 327-5717 or e-mail

mailto:jim@speakingout.biz There is something wrong with this cities administration. Citizens are not the enemy, they are the reason these people have a job. Both Doug's and our customers want honest answers and then a timely fix and not a song and dance.
jim tolnai

Oct. 19, 2005

Colin Morton The End

The following is an e-mail I received from Colin Morton in response to posting his letters to us. He identify's himself in his letter as indeed being the Colin Morton whose web-site address we published, only he seems some what upset at us that we published this information. Frankly I do not see what the big deal is. We maybe on opposing sides and everyone knows who I am and the Coalition members are why should everyone not know who supports the MURF site??? It was Colin who suggested we make public the financial's of the Coalition which I did. So why would Colin now be upset that we know who he is????

jim tolnai

----- Original Message -----

From: "A.C. (Colin) Morton"

To: "Jim Tolnai" <speakingout@speakingout.biz>

Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2005 12:00 PM

Subject: Re: Speaking Out

> On 17-Oct-05, at 12:18 PM, Jim Tolnai wrote:

>

>> Just a heads up for you to go to Speaking Out. I posted your letter and
>> comments on the News and Events page along with my comments clearing
up

>> our positions.

>

> I did not give you permission to publish my e-mail address. Under the
> federal Privacy Act, you have no right to do so without my express
> permission. As I've already received one crackpot letter from one of
> your supporters, I ask that you remove it immediately. While you're at
> it, I ask that you remove Mr. Millard's inflammatory reference to my
> website; my comments are personal, and do not reflect those of my
> employer.

>

> Colin Morton,
> Vancouver, BC.

>

My Reply Oct. 18, 2005

First of all Colin you did give permission to publish your information including your e-mail address as it was you who filled in the comment form and only that form was posted which contained your e-mail address as you wrote it. You also refer to an inflammatory reference to your web-site by Mr. Millard? Allan did not write anything about your web-site and certainly nothing inflammatory. The comment and identification of your web-site was written by myself. By the way I did a Yahoo Canada search and there you were #6 on the list if indeed you are actually that person as you now claim to be. Our over 4,000 readers daily are most interested in knowing who you are and what your philosophy is. No one has accused your employer of having your opinions. Me thinks you are way too sensitive. We applaud your right to your opinion and we have not changed a letter or word of it. Of course we are also entitled to our opinion and the right to dispute your claims. For you now to become upset we frankly can't understand why. Didn't you call Allan Millard a professional protester and we published it??? Do you know Allan Millard??? Do you know Kelly Clune or Colleen Cooney??? They appreciate your interest in the MURF and are not at all upset with your portrayal of themselves. Only comment from Colleen when she read your description of her was "Huh!! professionals get paid. I have never been paid but have paid out plenty." So Colin keep an eye out for this controversy and express your opinion because it is only people with opinions who will change the world. By the way I would appreciate a copy of the crackpot letter. We certainly don't approve of crackpots and would dearly love to unmask this person and publish their opinions as well. There is no room in our fight for "crackpots" so let's expose them and maybe they will go away???

Colin has been e-mailing me several times today not threatening as such but demanding that his identity be removed from this web-site. As he solicited us this just won't happen. His participation has been interesting but unless he has new information it is time to stop the games. So Colin unless you can furnish us with

some new info or insight your 15 minutes of fame is coming to an end as your e-mails are becoming silly. Good luck and good life. We wish you all the best.
jim tolnai

Oct. 18, 2005

Colin Morton Who Are You??????

The following is a letter to Colin Morton who wrote "**Speaking Out**" criticizing just about everything and everyone who has anything to do with the "**Citizens Coalition**" or questions the wisdom of building on one of the worst contaminated "**industrial dumps**" in the world. The letter was sent to Colin Morton by Allan Millard and was copied to Speaking Out. Mr. Morton has been invited to identify himself and his background so that we maybe able to know him just a bit better. To this writing he has not responded as yet. Allan, and I am sure most have been left with the impression that this person must be a fictional character. I quite frankly don't know whether Colin Morton or someone pretending to be Colin Morton wrote the nonsense but do have suspicions??? So we embarked on a search and !!Shazam!!! we found an AC (Colin) Morton living and working in Vancouver who indeed is from the Orillia area (Lake Dalrymple). Now here is the mystery. This guy is a Nuclear Research Scientist armed to the teeth with education and knowledge. The question is can one believe that an educated man could write such nonsense??? Could a scientist whose very being is to investigate and test have such assinine opinions??? Would one Phd refer to another Phd as a "**pet expert**"? I can hardly wait to find out. In the meanwhile here is AC (Colin) Morton's website.

<http://trshare.triumf.ca/~morton/about/about.html>. You be the judge. Will the "**Real AC (Colin) Morton**" please standup????

Mr. Morton

I obtained your e-mail address from Jim Tolnai's website, Speaking Out. I have read the exchanges of messages and I am left with the impression that you are a fictional character. No real person who knows the slightest thing about what is happening in Orillia could write what you have written. Not to put too fine a point on it, you are wrong on every one of your assertions and I dare to say that we have strong evidence to support the assertion I have just made.

As an example only, I will deal with your comments on the legal action. I am the plaintiff. My lawyer and I gave fair warning that we would act if the City proceeded on an obviously reckless course. We were ignored even though the City knew (but did not reveal to us until after we had launched our action) that it had catastrophically high levels of various volatile organic compounds in the groundwater within the depth to be excavated for the rec centre. Those levels, recorded by the City's

consultants, ranged up to 82,600 times the Table 1 standard permitted by the Ministry of the Environment for vinyl chloride and almost 15,000 times for trichloroethylene. There were many other exceedances of other toxic wastes as well. Saturated soil containing that groundwater was dumped in the landfill. Contrary to what you think, there has been no debate over whether the materials dumped were "contaminated". The City has always admitted that. The issue, and this was argued in the courts, was whether hazardous wastes were being put into the landfill.

The action in court was not procedural and it was not for the purpose of delay. My pleadings raised issues of the City's avoidance of an environmental assessment and of harm to the environment, specifically Lake Simcoe because of the leachate (known from earlier Environmental Assessment Board hearings to be about 80 million litres per year) from the landfill. To obtain the injunction, which we did, we had to pass certain stiff legal and evidentiary tests. In addition, Judge Stong found that each of the substantive issues we raised were triable. In the course of the hearing the Judge remarked three times that the issues raised were very important, and after he made his ruling in our favour (and awarded costs to us) he said that he didn't fault anyone for bringing the matter to Court.

So I ask you, Mr. Morton, where does that leave your assertions? Who are you to fault us when a Judge, after a team of City lawyers did their best to belittle me and our issues, goes out of his way to say what he did. He didn't have to say it, but he did.

I should also mention that the City moved for leave to appeal the decision and was turned down by Judge Weekes. We asked for and were awarded \$4,000 in costs.

You should also know that the hearings took place in Barrie and that on the 4 days or parts of days in court, in November and February, the courtroom was full, yes full, of our supporters and not one person showed up on any of the days to support the City of Orillia.

The decisions of both Judge Stong and Judge Weekes are available on-line and were deemed important enough to be reported in the environmental law journals. Before you attempt to judge us and our actions perhaps you should read those decisions. It would be a good start on the way to becoming a believable being.

Allan Millard

Editor's Note: The last thing I wanted was to steal Bob Bowles thunder in the item below but feel the above is very important and time sensitive. So please read Bob's article as it is no less important in the scheme of things as both are of great environmental concern.

Oct. 18, 2005

Cleaning Up

Late Fall Work Parties by Twin Lakes Conservation Club in Mill Creek by Bob Bowles

The Twin Lakes Conservation Club have been working for the last ten years to remove limbs, beaver dams, and debris from the bottom reaches of Mill Creek but in the spring of 2005 the club decided to expand their focus and do a complete restoration of Mill Creek. The club hired a consultant, Sandy Agnew of Eco Medic Ecosystem Restoration Services to give the club a plan on how to accomplish the restoration. During the summer of 2005 club member Bob Bowles and Sandy Agnew walked the complete system from the headwaters in Oro-Medonte to the mouth at Lake Simcoe within the City of Orillia. They noticed several old tires in the stream along the distance so the club organized a work party on Wednesday, October 12, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. to remove these tires.

Club members Gord Blair, Bob Bowles, Don Brumby, Jenna Leslie, Steve McFadden, Gary Thiess, and Fred Thomas started at Line 15 where the creek enters the City of Orillia property and worked downstream towards the lake removing debris. At the end of the day they had removed one trailer and one truck load (1200 kg.) of garbage from the creek. This included 23 rubber tires (some with rims) ranging in size from small utility trailer tires to very large tractor tires but most averaging the size of a tractor trailer tire. Also removed were four 45 gal. steel drums, one old car battery, several pieces of plastic, abandoned old toys, and household garbage. This beautiful stream which runs through Scout Valley is now much more attractive and has increased flow with better fish habitat.

The club organized a second work party on Saturday, October 15, 2005 to remove a pile of wood debris that was blocking four culverts under the entrance to the Comfort Inn. Patsy Brown, Mike Richard, Warren Howes, Dave Mills, Fred Thomas, Gary Thiess, and Bob Bowles removed a pile of driftwood blocking the culverts at the Comfort Inn entrance road.

They then walked upstream past the Progress Industrial Park removing fallen limbs and drift wood blocking the flow of the creek. These work parties, approved by the MNR, were to only remove foreign material from the creek without disturbing the silt. These are the last of the work parties for the year to clean up Mill Creek and the club is now working with Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority to conduct fish and benthic invertebrate studies before the end of the year. The consultant's report to make further improvements to Mill Creek will be completed and received by the club in December, 2005. Removal of silt deposits in the stream will be first approved by DFO and MNR then removed next summer when impact is low to fish and wildlife.

The next meeting of the Twin Lakes Conservation Club will be held at Georgian College in room 1206 at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2005. Jack Imhof, the guru of trout stream restoration from the University of Guelph and Trout Unlimited will speak on how to improve Mill Creek and similar streams in the area. Anyone interested in joining in the work that the club is doing or would like to attend this special meeting are welcome and are asked to contact the President, Warren Howes at 327-9727 or Bob Bowles, Public Relations Chairman at 325-3149.

Another fine example of why Orillia is a great place to live, "people" who care. Thanks to one and all.

jim tolnai

Oct. 17, 2005

Critic from Vancouver

The following is a very lengthy item but I do hope you will all follow it with interest. I received a comment form from a Mr. Colin Morton. As this form is only setup for 200 characters I was not able to get his full letter. I then e-mailed him and this is my e-mail to him and then his response back and of course my response back again??? Does this make sense??? It will if you read

Name: Colin Morton

Email: acmorton@telus.net

Comments: As a former and, I hope, future resident of Orillia, I'm appalled by the actions of your so-called "Citizens Coalition." You do not speak for the citizens of Orillia; you speak only for those few who have bothered to support your cause. You have no right to presume otherwise.

As so-called "environmentalists," you should be rallying behind the city's attempts to clean up its industrial past. Instead, you've done everything you can, including abusing our legal system, to bring the construction of the much-needed recreation centre to a halt. Of course, given your opposition to all development in or near the city, I suppose I should not be surprised. You have never acted in the interest of the public, as evidenced by the lack of public support for your little group. Your actions smack of shameless self-promotion, and little else.

Science is not on your side. There is no evidence of the pollution on which you've based your fear-mongering, yet you continue to insist that it mus

My first reply to him:

Thanks for your comments. Unfortunately not all of your letter came through as there is a limit on the number of characters. If you wish to send the

whole document then please e-mail to jim@speakingout.biz and I will be happy to post it on our "we get letters" page. Whether you are pro or against you are entitled to your opinion and we will always honour that. As for whether we have support or not in the community we can certainly argue that point as we have strong support. Your impression of the city cleaning the site up is definitely mistaken. Why even the city manager and S&P as late as last Tuesday told the PLC that remediation (clean up) has never been an option. You are also mistaken that we are against building a MURF or anything else. All we ever asked for was proper testing and remediation if those tests prove it is needed. I must point out that the city and their experts are now saying that moving the footprint is a good thing as it will allow them to remediate the plume if needed. So not only is science on our side but so is S&P and Ian Brown city manager as far as the moving of the footprint is concerned. So please send your letter so we may share it with the over four thousand visitors to this site daily. As for abusing the legal system we have had two judges who have agreed with our case. So I guess if we won in court how could we have abused the system. We will be going back to court again and expect the same results. Maybe when a third judge agrees with us you will recognize that maybe we do have a worthwhile case.

jim tolnai

My second reply to him with his statements in red first.

Thanks for your reply. I will deal with your comments and concerns . I would love to do so. Unfortunately, your website does not provide > an e-mail address, only a form; as a result, I do not have a copy of > my letter.

Your first comment is that our web-site does not contain an e-mail address. Very clearly if you open the News and Events page you will see instructions on using the comments feature. Here is what it says.

Here is an easy way for you to comment. Keep your comments under 200 characters or we just won't get them. For full length letters please e-mail to jim@speakingout.biz.

There is also a Contact us page. what more would you suggest we do???

Colin

There is no evidence to support that claim. Only a half-dozen or so > members of your "coalition," including professional protesters such > as Allan Millard, Colleen Cooney and Kelly Clune, have publicly > stated their opposition. Your meetings, from which you have excluded > supporters of the project, have failed to draw more than a few dozen > in a city of 30,000. Even your attempts to rally support have failed > to draw more than a few dozen. To claim "strong support" on the

- > basis of small fraction of a percent of the population is wildly
- > optimistic.

me

Your second comment that we exclude opposition from our meetings can only come from some one who has been lied to and has no first hand knowledge. We have had 3 public meetings. They were all publicized and everyone was invited. We gave our case. Councillors who attended were given an opportunity to rebut our case or expand on theirs as well as the public, it was their choice to comment or not and we would not nor did we shut off the mic on anyone unlike council and mayor did to Allan Millard (we have video). Unlike the city management's one and only meeting on the MURF at Swanmore Hall where there was room for maybe 20 people to attend and no questions allowed from the public we had ours in large rooms with plenty of space for everyone. Our highest count for a meeting was 150 which is an excellent turn out for any issue. By the way for the Swanmore Hall meeting the Packet reported that even though it was a public meeting the public was not welcome (Peter Bowen). At the cities open house we counted less than a dozen people show up all day to hear and see their propoganda and it was better advertised than ours. You also may want to look at what percent of the population elected the present council. Why one of them wasn't even elected but appointed a month into this councils mandate. Go figure Eh!

Colin

The city is attempting to repurpose the site for civic use and taking

- > steps to remove or reduce the existing industrial contamination. Any
- > reasonable person would consider that "cleaning the site up".

me

Your next comment again comes from some one far removed and being fed false information. First of all the city is we the people. There are certain individuals who hold power and positions of trust for now who are abusing their position. If you are of mind to look for the truth it is not very hard to find. These people have never had any plans of cleaning nor remediating. Have a look at the budget for this project. Clearly they have budgeted \$6,000,000 for cover up. From the inception of this plan there was never any intent to do proper testing never mind cleaning up. The evidence is there if only you are willing to look.

Colin

From today's Packet:

- > "It would be a wooden stake in the heart of this monster."
- > Those are not the words of someone seeking improvements to a
- > project. Those are the words of someone seeking to kill a project.
- > The MURF is not, as you put it, a "monster." It is a much-needed
- > facility, but your group has made no suggestions as to how its
- > construction might go ahead. You have simply fought against it on

- > whatever grounds have presented themselves. You asked for proper
- > testing of the soil being removed; it was carried out, showing your
- > claims about contamination to be wrong. Being defeated on that, you
- > insisted that the vinyl chloride contamination would render the
- > building unusable; the city offered to move the building, rendering
- > your concerns baseless. Being beaten there, you're now demanding a
- > full environmental assessment. Any reasonable person would conclude
- > that your only goal is to kill the project, by forcing incessant
- > delays if necessary.

me

You quote from the Packet article

"It would be a wooden stake in the heart of this monster."

Yes that is exactly what I said. What Colin McKim did not finish writing or telling is that I was commenting on the site "**Not the MURF**" project. You see Colin we have made it abundantly clear that our fight is not the project. Our fight has always been a "health and safety" issue. I would ask you to support your theory with real evidence. Comb the Speaking Out site where we write the words (all the words) and show me where we have ever been anything but positive on a "recreation" facility?? We live here everyday and are more than aware that recreation facilities are needed. For council and city management it has always looked like the location was and is more important than the facility itself. Why???? Colin a bit of reasearch will go a long way in clearing up your misconceptions. Only! you really must do it yourself as anything we say you will not believe anyway. I agree the MURF is not a "monster" but the "**industrial dump**" they want to build on is. By the way we have always asked for a "Environmental Assessment". If you check back you will find this to be the case from day one. Again you have either been misled or are attempting to mislead??/

Colin

Your organization has held that the facility cannot safely be built

- > on the site; there is no evidence to support that claim. You have
- > argued in this letter that the city cannot pursue remediation, yet
- > you now state that they can if needed (in the process conceding that
- > it may not be). In short, you are arguing against your own position.
- > Throughout the entire "debate" on the future of the facility -- I use
- > scare quotes as the project seems to only be controversial to the
- > members of your group -- you have ignored fact in favour of rumour
- > and speculation. You have claimed that the soil removed from the
- > site was contaminated, yet there remains no evidence to support that
- > claim. You claim that the vinyl chloride in the soil will render the
- > facility unusable; again, there is no evidence to that effect, only
- > speculation. You claim that the facility cannot be built on the
- > site, yet there is no evidence that that is the case; even your pet
- > expert on the issue admits that, under his worst-case scenario,
- > simply changing the footprint would solve any problem. There is no

- > evidence to justify your ongoing opposition to the project; any
- > reasonable person would find that the science, such as it is, is
- > against you.

me

As I go on answering your reply I am amazed at how poorly you have been informed. Who ever is feeding you this tripe is doing you a great disservice. First of all we indeed have suggested on how this could be built and even suggested other sites. From the beginning we asked simple questions and access to public documents. We received no answers except "you don't need to know, trust us". Documents we were told were confidential and could not be released (Molson Environmental Study). We asked for test results done by the city and we were stonewalled etc. You say we asked for testing of the soil that went to the dump and got it? Our problem was that out of 40,000 tons of soil only 4 tests were done and they were composit tests. What they did was to collect samples from other locations on the property but always surface material some, that had sat around for months. They then took **surface** material from the footprint and mixed all these together. It was these samples that were tested. It is admitted by all that the groundwater on this site is the worst contaminant. There was no testing of any soil where there was groundwater contact. Volatile Organic Compounds are just that. If you mix, shake, rattle and role contaminants being volatile will evaporate. Again all this information is available from the cities own documents. By the way the issue at the dump is not finished. We will be asking the court to revisit that matter because of the way the soil was handled. You see the soil (40,000 tons) was to be kept in windrows so that testing could be done easily. The MOE was advised by the city of this and the Minister of the Environment stood in the legislature and announced and reassured us that indeed it would be done. While she spoke (and we have video) the city bulldozers were spreading the loads as they were dumped over a wide area in thin layers hoping that being volatile they would flash off. The cities lawyers assured Justice Stong by showing pictures that indeed the soil would be kept in windrows all the while city bulldozers were flattening the loads. So that matter will come back to haunt those responsible personally as well as the city very soon. Again you are misled that the city has offered to move the building. It was Derek Ford's suggestion that with the current site being too contaminated to consider building on, that maybe another site could be considered after doing proper testing. They again put the cart before the horse by spending money with the architects to suggest a new location. What they should have done was to first test the property and find the most suitable area and then ask the architects to work out a plan. Of course we take no comfort when David Lewis from S&P claims they do not need to do any testing because they believe the site favoured is OK?? Same sh*t different day. It is this type of thinking that has got them into so much trouble. If you take the time to really investigate both sides and being a reasonable person I am sure you will see the light. Again we have always been pro facility. We have wanted a safe and clean facility and that is **not negotiable**. Again you are wrong. We have not said it can't be safely built there. In fact all we

have asked for was proper testing so that we know what is there. Then deal with the problems. Some areas of the site can be "risk managed", others need cleaning and remediation. They are the ones who had one plan and one plan only. Again the evidence is there in MOE and city documents if only you would look. Look at their budget that is a great starting point.

Again you have been misled. As stated earlier the issue of soil at the dump is not a dead issue and you will be seeing action in the very near future. As for evidence of the present footprint being unsafe what better evidence than they are willing to move it?? Do you really believe they are attempting to appease us??? Their latest tests which is being withheld not only from us but councillors and the MOE as I write this prompted the change of heart. You are really being conned on this one. As for our "pet expert" ?? Dr. Ford is a world renowned hydrogeologist whose cv: is 50 pages long. He is retired from teaching but is still active doing consulting work all over the world. Whoever told you that he has said " simply changing the footprint would solve any problem" is simply a liar. Can't call them anything else and you have bought in to it?? What he said and we have video. It is now agreed that the present footprint is too contaminated to build on. I would suggest that possibly a new site maybe found after proper testing that might accommodate the building. Because **we** do want the facility it was **we** who suggested moving the footprint but only if the area is safe.

Colin

I only found your site through a Google search on "Orillia Citizens > Coalition". Even then, I had to manually search through half a page > of results before I found it. There is nothing on your home page to > identify your group, let alone your opposition to the MURF, and I > could find no sites that link to it. I found it purely by dogged > determination, as it appears to have only been publicized to a small > group of supporters (which may explain the lack of letters > criticizing your actions). Any reasonable person would find it hard > to believe that a site apparently operated by stealth could have that > many visitors in a year, let alone a day.

me

You keep referring to reasonable people yet your information is unreasonable. First of all if you bothered to read the "about us page" you will know that "Speaking Out" is not a "Citizen's Coalition" site although I am a member. Although the MURF is the top issue it is not the only issue Speaking Out gets involved with. It is locally based and we are not hiding as you claim. Contact information is clear and precise. You implying that we do not get the traffic because we are not at the top of Googles page is ludicrous (Yahoo Canada oddly enough has the top 2 listings of us when you do the same search). We are local with local issues. Local people log on daily. Last month we had 143,044 visits. These are not my numbers but numbers generated by the server where I am hosted. For you to say we operate by stealth yet we have such huge numbers speaks for itself. You found us but I am sure not the way you have

stated. Throughout your letter you keep stating way too much mis-information to not have been programmed by some one. Most of your criticisms are old thinking even for councillors except Gardy. They have publicly stated that we are not opposed to the MURF but we are wrong about the site. They have through Ralph Cipolla admitted that we are now "concerned citizens" Quite a leap from rable rousers???

You claim we have delayed the project. Nothing could be further from the truth. The **contamination of the site** has delayed the project as every round of new tests shows increasingly worst site conditions and now there is proof of off site leaching. You see all we did was bring the contamination to light. Once the MOE was informed it is they who have said do more testing there is a problem here or else??? Do you suppose they are just picking on the city for fun or do you suppose they are just preventing harm to Orillia and area????

Colin

You have used the courts to delay the project on procedural grounds.
> You have not successfully argued any matter of substance. Any
> reasonable person would consider that an abuse of our legal system.

me

As for the judges decisions you can order a transcript from the Barrie court and learn the facts for your self. Even as we stood in court the city was moving dirt to the dump so how can you say we delayed the project?? The second court action was initiated by the city on appeal. Again mis-informed or misrepresenting facts. The next court date will be our doing and is coming soon You will be able to follow it right here.

Colin

While I do not have a complete record of my initial message to you, I
> do recall one question that has nagged at me for some time. Who's
> paying your bills? Lawyers and publicity don't come cheap. You've
> demanded full disclosure from the city; are you willing to open your
> books to the public?

Sincerely,

>

> Colin Morton,
> Vancouver, BC, Canada

me

You are absolutely right " Lawyers and publicity don't come cheap". Yes we have demanded full disclosure from the city. Should we have anything less?? Why should we have to demand full disclosure shouldn't that be a given in a democracy unless they are hiding something??? As for our financial disclosure there really isn't much to tell. Our expenses have so far been about \$10,000 which are fully paid (The city for the same case spent \$125,000 for their lawyers

one of whom is married to Lori Koughan project manager/secretary for the city). We still have about \$400 in the bank. This money was raised out of our own pockets and the pockets of people who cared to give. We held a garage sale where people donated their items and that raised \$2,500 of the \$10,000. We had a meeting with our lawyer on Saturday and all of us pledged to raise the funds needed for our next court challenge from ourselves and anyone else who cares about the health and welfare of Orillia and it's citizens. In fact one person took \$600 from his wallet (all he had which he was planning on using for something else) and handed it in with a promise of more. Another stood and said there would be a cheque for \$1,000 this week to cover initial legal expenses. Now that is "**civic committment**" unlike councillors giving themselves a greedy 40% wage increase. Unlike council and city management who tax us and then come back for more when that is wasted stupidly and without thought to how hard taxpayers had to work in order to earn it. \$8,000,000 so far and we don't even have a hole in the ground yet. It is "**our money**" not the taxpayers we spend. But if you care to help we will gladly accept as much as you can give. All our donors have full access to our financial information anytime they wish. Why in fact I just gave a financial report to all who read this as we have nothing to hide. The city management and council are not as generous with taxpayers when questions of accountability are posed to them. We will have a "**forensic audit**" soon, you can bank on that.

Make your cheque payable and send to:
The Citizens Coalition of Orillia and Area
13 Creighton St.
Orillia, Ont.
L3V 1A9

Or you can direct deposit at any branch of TD/Canada Trust
Citizens Coalition of Orillia and Area acct. # 0596 5210352

I hope this has answered your questions and concerns.

By the way if any funds are left over we will be donating it to a local cause.

jim tolnoi

Hey! Colin maybe you can share your background and your connection to Orillia with our readers.

Oct. 16, 2005

More PLC Meeting

It was good to see councillors Smith, Cipolla, Lauer and Gardy made the effort to attend the PLC meeting last Tuesday night. It wasn't surprising that the other five didn't show but maybe the ones who came will report back to them. It is also hoped that the attending councillors made note of the non answers that their experts tried to get by with. It is also hoped that these councillors will make an effort to find out about the apparent conflict of interest which Gartner Lee has undertake if they have not been aware until now????

You see David Stinson suggested that he had been talking to a chap who is involved with bio remediation and suggested that maybe this man could give a presentation to the PLC at some point. Bob Leach of Gartner Lee who is doing a

"**peer review**" suggested that a single option of remediation was not the way to go and that it would be wiser to have a "**suite of options**". Now remembering from earlier in the evening how Bob was quite adamant that "**remediation wasn't necessary**" as "**risk management**" was all that was needed I was puzzled. Why would he all of a sudden change 180 degrees? Why, Bob even suggested that this man of Stinson's might even be a **vendor** suggesting that he might not be impartial. Very strange????

A few minutes later the picture was put into focus. Mary Lou Kirby returned to David Stinson's offer of bio remediation information. Mary Lou stated that it was her understanding that Gartner Lee had been retained by the city to do a study and report of remediation methods for the site???? Don Richardson looked somewhat embarrassed by this revelation and even stated "**this is the first I have heard of this contract**". Lori Koughan confirmed that indeed Gartner Lee had been retained. Well! well! well! This does indeed change everything now doesn't it??? What we have here is a conflict of interest don't we??? A company who was hired to do a "peer review" and must remain impartial or risk the impression of bias if not actually being biased is now a dreaded "**vendor**" actually working on the site even before the "**peer review**" is finished???? People had through the night picked up on Bob Leach's change in participation. Why Don Munro had earlier commented on how the "**peer reviewers**" were not offering their advice. Bob Leach through out the night had been talking "risk management" even though the "risk assessment" is not anywhere close to being finished. He spoke what I call the company line and to be honest many of us were puzzled. He stated that as far as he was concerned there was no need to move the building to another area. Of course he admitted that should there be remediation necessary it would be more difficult to do but horizontal drilling was available and could be done from on sight. Dr. Ford pointed out that horizontal drilling and remediation is ten (**10**) times more expensive than vertical drilling. Now say the cost of remediation was \$5,000,000 (which doesn't buy much remediation) vertically? Bob's recommendation would then cost \$50,000,000? I wonder how Bob can justify his position??? I wonder where the professional ethics he spoke of at the first two meetings are now???

City council must immediately demand answers from Ian Brown on how he can justify hiring a company who must be impartial or seem to be impartial in reviewing S&P's work if they were not aware of this new development??? If they are aware then shame on them. Gartner Lee can no longer claim to be impartial as they now have a financial interest in the site and their opinion is no longer relevant or valid. They can also not chair the PLC any longer as well. This is another example of the way council and management run this town. Sickens me to no end as it should sicken all of you reading this. We need a "**forensic audit**" and we need it now. What has the MOE got to say about this Huh!?????

jim tolnai

Oct. 15, 2005

PLC Meeting Myths

My last writing was titled PLC Truths so I thought it only fitting that I would

write about the myths that council, city management along with their experts are trying to create. Don Richardson began the meeting by attempting to stress that the committees mandate was only the MURF site and that off site contamination was not part of this process. You see this attempt to stifle the PLC has been going on from the very first meeting and is nothing new. City management has been very active in with holding pertinent information from the PLC as well as the public and in trying to manipulate the contents of the minutes and in just out and out lying. As we have been diligent in getting out accurate information unlike the city and Packet I have videotaped all three meetings. Now this is obviously a **"burr"** under the packet and city managements saddle because we can and of course do prove their lies and not shy about saying so.

The first myth to bust is that somehow off site and on site contamination are separate matters. Nothing can be further from the truth. You see the risk assessment is all about finding. That's right it is about testing and testing until you can say without a doubt that this site contains these chemicals, this is the levels and this is how they are moving about on or off the site. Until a "risk assessment" is complete there can be no conclusions as to how the site should be treated. Yet David Lewis and Ian Brown admitted the other night that councils mandate to them was to "risk manage" and that remediation has never been an option (too expensive)??? Now I want to remind all of you that in the beginning these people told us the following.

1. The site is safe and other than some foundry type contaminants no more testing is required.
2. We can not release the Molson environmental report done specifically for the land transfer as there is a "confidentiality agreement" and Molson's will sue the city if we breach it.
3. This site has so many holes that it is like a pin cushion and no more testing is required. (27 holes 35 acre site????)
4. We can assure you there is no leaching of contaminants off site.
5. The site does not contain any buried barrels of chemicals and investigation is not necessary.
6. There is no problem even though 81,000 times higher levels of VC was found than allowed by MOE standards. This was deemed good news by Ralph Cipolla because he and their experts claimed once again it is not moving off site.
7. The soil sent to the dump is not hazardous and four samples tested from a three plus acre excavation 2 meters deep proves it????
8. The soil taken to the dump will be kept in windrows and tested.
9. The safety plan for the dig, dump and fill will be adhered to. Trucks will be washed, West St. will be washed daily and no water from on site will be discharged into the city sewer system. Air quality will be monitored and work shutdown if it exceeds safe levels.
10. We have to proceed with this work so that construction can begin next spring (spring 2005)
11. We know everything there is to know about this site and we can safely go ahead.
12. We can design a venting system to take off the VC gas. Yes there are

systems like this being used but because these projects are Hush! Hush! we can not tell you where they are. But you know we have been venting "methane" the technology is there??? No I can't tell you where there are any VC venting systems but they are out there trust us.

13. We have decided to look at moving the building to another site in order to appease those in the community who are against building on the present footprint.

14. It will not cost as much to dig another footprint because we can use the soil on site already.

15. We do not have to move any soil off site.

16. We do not have to do any testing on this new footprint as we believe (assume) it to be contaminated but not as badly as the original even though we have not tested.

17. MURF foe Dr. Derek Ford comes on side with our plan to move the footprint.

18. Moving the building was our idea??? Implied

These are just a few of the lies or the politically correct "**mis-speak**" that these people have uttered. Everyone now knows the answer to all of the above and knows who in this battle have been lying. They still want to do exactly the same thing as last year and the year before and the year before that all the way back to before the property was even transferred to the city. They are proposing that even before they have the "risk assessment" complete they can "risk manage" the site????? You see finally the geo technical cloth (fancy name for a tarp so they can charge a higher price) has been removed from the pile of "Bulls**t. They never had any intention of clean up or remediation. There was only one plan, even before they knew what this site contained???? Or did they actually know all along what this site contained and hoped we wouldn't ever catch on, or at least until the project was built???? That my friends would be considered criminal conduct if true. What do you think????? The myth that off site and on site are not one and the same thing belongs on the above list.

Here is another bit of information you maybe interested in. With the movement of the footprint council and city management and S&P have admitted the old site is too contaminated to build on which so far has cost us over \$8,000,000

\$900,000 for environmental investigation????

\$2,000,000 for the Beamish dig, dump and fill

\$5, 063,000 tippage fees

\$125,000 legal fees

Total

\$8,088,000

That works out to \$269.60 for every man woman and child living in Orillia. Which simply means that more people will have to use the food bank. People can't afford this kind of financial boondoggle. A family of four spends about this much on groceries per month. Those living paycheque to paycheque will be required to pay their share of this "**mistake**?????" leaving no groceries for four months. Now that is hardship. And they are not finished wasting more money as yet. Compare this to the Liberal Ad Scam. You are all upset about the \$100,000,000 dollars wasted as you should be, but in reality that boondoggle cost every man, woman

and child in Orillia a mear \$3.33 each allowing all of us to at least still eat.
Wonder what part of the \$3 1/2 million dollars Gerry Wink is trying to raise will go
towards this \$8 million dollar "**mistake**"?????
jim tolnai

Oct. 15, 2005

PLC Meeting Truths

Last nights PLC meeting saw the same experts acting Pinnocchioish as in the past. David Lewis from S&P and Bob Leach from Gartner Lee in typical fashion were asked questions which they gave gibberish answers to. It's not hard to see why city management and some councillors have so much faith in these guys. With overwhelming evidence they still stick to the company line even though they have been proven less than honest on many occasions. Our favourit expert Cynthia Robins wasn't there last night. Could her lack of knowledge of VC gas last week along with her embarrassment be the cause of her absence??? Nothing new was learned as people who are hell bent on leather to build mouthed the same old words failing to convince anyone. There were some juicy tidbits that I will share with you which will show just how ill prepared these people are when intelligent questions are asked that require an intelligent response.

One question from the audience was "as there was an obvious "**hot spot**" in the footprint area who should be held responsible for piling the dirt on top". David Lewis was asked to respond and his answer was a non answer. He claims they "**get new information**". It is possible that if you put a hole ten feet south you would get higher numbers. Well isn't testing for just that purpose? Even to a layman it makes common sense that if you find "**catastrophic**" levels that you indeed would look ten feet south and ten feet north before allowing any excavation or dewatering?? If as a professional your client insists that no more testing is to take place then "**professional ethics**" dictates that Shaheen and Peaker should have retired from the file. As they clearly did not it is incumbent on the professional to take responsibility. If Shaheen and Peaker actually advised council that it would be **OK!** not to test further and dig, dump and fill could go ahead then their "**professional abilities**" must be questioned. Readers are reminded that there are a huge number of lawsuits against S&P many of which are based on inadequate testing or not identifying problems when tests should have raised **red flags** and further investigation was necessary. David Lewis in not answering the direct and intelligent question shows what kind of company and individuals we are asked to have faith in.

Here are the facts. As far back as 2002 S&P testing had shown high levels of toxins which should have raised "**red flags**". In Aug. and Sept. of 2004 three holes showed "**catastrophic**" levels of VC. Dr. Ford stated "**these levels should have started trumpets blowing**". City council management and S&P did not release this information to the public. In fact we did not find out about these levels until the city open house where a large 3 ring binder was sitting on a table with the drilling results. Because our group has some very committed and astute members the fine toothed comb came out and the numbers were found.

Council members were informed of these "**catastrophic**" numbers by us yet they unanimously voted to award the dig, dump and fill contract. So to answer who is responsible "**they all are**". City management, council and Shaheen and Peaker knew these levels were present. Councillors knew or should have known the results of their actions and in fact were warned personally by us before voting to continue. For any of them to try now to disassociate themselves of guilt is a farce. The **\$8,000,000** wasted dollars was unnecessary if only they had of listened to the Coalition or drilled ten feet south as David Lewis suggested last night for a cost of maybe **\$5,000**. Councillors and city management in their reckless haste is responsible personally and S&P is definitely responsible professionally and Cynthia Robins personally. By the way at the design committee meeting it was suggested that because of winter approaching the project is in the same position as last year and possibly digging the new footprint should be started before testing the new site. **Dejavu!!!! "Stupid is as Stupid does"**. Need we say more?????

jim tolnai

note: more info will be available at this site as we review the 2 1/2 hours of video tape we made of this meeting. there is just too much information to serve up for one column.

Oct. 11, 2005

PLC Meeting

Tonight at 7 p.m. the MURF Public Liaison Committee is meeting at the Council Chambers , City Centre. The Citizens Coalition urges you to attend to see and hear the facts. Council is committing **you** to spending up to and maybe more than **\$100,000,000 (one hundred million dollars)** for a facility that should never have been more than \$30,000,000. They have through sheer stupidity created an environmental situation which could most likely turn in to a real disaster of Love Canal proportions if tests show the aquifer has been compromised. Remember city managers and mayor are with holding test results even today from the PLC vital to their mandate. Come on out and invest a few hours in your community and your wallet. We know the city would prefer you stayed at home in blissful ignorance. The less you know the more they can getaway with. So again please come on out it is your right, your money, your health and your environment.

jim tolnai

Oct. 10, 2005

Welcome to Pinocchioville

I read Saturdays Packet front page story "Murf bubble" and I am still shaking my head in disbelief. Now either Gerry Winks memory is going or "stupid grows on trees" in Orillia. The story goes like this. In 86 Gerry was deputy mayor and the Community Centre was condemned. This posed a huge problem to council and there was debate as to what to do. Ideas were floated, one of them being to tear down the building and erect a bubble so that the ice surface could be used while building a new twin pad facility. Council of the day which Gerry was a part

of opted to spend \$2,000,000 for repairs instead. Now so far without supporting numbers this may make sense and one could believe a sensible decision might of been made. Now remember I say this only because the numbers are not yet available in the story.

Gerry's tale continues. It seems Wink and the supporters of a new facility persisted and came back in 87 with a plan. A site where the OPP Headquarters is now was chosen and senior government funding was pledged to the tune of 2/3 the projects cost. Now here is where it gets interesting. The estimated cost of the project with land costs was 8 to 10 million dollars. Let's say \$9,000,000 was the true figure. If this is right then Orillia would have had two new arenas with meeting rooms for \$1,000,000 more than what council spent on repairs. Does this scenario make any sense??? Were mayor and council of the day really that stupid just a year earlier they didn't go after the same funding??? Was the option of fundraising not discussed. Why even if fundraising would have picked up nothing doesn't an extra ice surface for \$1,000,000 sound like a great deal??? Sure it does. Can I believe this story??? Not on your life. Me thinks something smells in Pinocchioville. Remember Wink was a member of this council.

Now that the Gerry Wink story has been told of how as Orillia's Recreation Champion he retired from public life in disappointment, what happens next??? Seems for the last 19 years Gerry's failure has haunted him to the point where he is back to right, the wrongs of the past??? The story proclaims proudly that, "This is the first high profile position he's had since then and he welcomes the opportunity to give something back to the community that's been his home since 1973." Oh! Oh! whenever a consummate insider, former politician claims he wants to give back the first thing I think of is "what did he take that was not rightfully his in the first place"??? The next thing I think of is that the backroom people who really run this town know that members of the present council don't have a prayer in hell of getting elected nor can the clones being groomed as I write this be elected either. Gerry! is a player, so why not recycle him on the pretext of being a former supporter of recreation? Why not rewrite history and make him the hero who lost the battle but returns to fight the war. Clean hands after 19 years but willing to tow the backroom line???? Anyone believe Gerry is not going to announce his candidacy having ridden high on the campaigns back???

Gerry says "I believe the city's done the right thing. They've hired professionals and we need to have confidence in those professional." So where does Gerry get all his information from to make such a statement??? We have not seen him come out to any of the functions whether city or Coalition initiated. No sign of him at either of the PLC meetings held. No sign of him at the Design Committee meeting held just last week where city experts could not answer a simple question on vinyl chloride gas. No contact with anyone from the Citizens Coalition to at least get our side. So where has Gerry got his information??? Couldn't be from the MOE as they have condemned the city and their experts plans of dealing with the toxins. In fact they ordered them to **smarten up**. How much investigation has Gerry done on this project in order to come up with his unconditional support??? To be able to make up ones mind wouldn't talking to

the opposition be helpful??? You know what??? He, has done nothing as far as I can see. For almost three years he has been silent and invisible. He, as the potential puppet was programmed and now repeats the company line as if he believes it and the Packet spreads it thick. The Packet claims the fundraising is not about the site, but about the facility regardless where it will be built. Gerry says different when he unconditionally repeats the company line. Does Gerry even know that this site is nothing more than an "**Industrial Dump**"? Not likely. It would be a great idea for him and his other committee members like Jim Dykes and John Mundell to look at the facts as well. You see neither of them have ever shown up to any information meetings either, so they too are running blind or on defective information. Might be an idea for you guys to come out on Tuesday night (Oct. 11 7pm Council Chambers, City Centre) for the next PLC meeting to listen and learn. The public is welcome and indeed we the Citizens Coalition urge you to attend.

Gerry says that back in 87 "council probably made the **right decision** at the time" which means there is no "**wrong to right**". Which means there really was nothing to bother his conscience all these years and there really was no "**burst bubble**". If the financial decision back then to not get an extra ice surface for \$1 million dollars was right according to Gerry, then how on earth can spending \$36,000,000 on just the hole to place this building in be right today???? In fact one can argue this is far worse financially. As for the spin that "It's an opportunity to revitalize the whole south end of town" just does not hold water. The south end is doing just fine. New housing is going up in single and multi residential units. Why there are probably more housing units in planning and actually being built in the south end than anywhere else in town except **maybe** Westridge. From some of the least expensive (mobile homes) to over million dollar (Brewery Lane) price ranges. True there is very little commercial activity but there never was much of that to begin with. No this spin does not work. Besides the former story line was that this project would revitalize the Downtown which is to the north. Can two areas be revitalized in one small town of 30,000 while developing Westridge at the same time??? Not unless you believe in the Tooth Fairy and Santa Clause. Who knows maybe Gerry Wink does????? **Remember nothing happens by accident in Orillia**, but accidents do happen. The only "**Motion this Community**" will make is the motion of emptying wallets for a **\$36,000,000** dollar hole. Then another **\$50,000,000** for the facility and another **\$20,000,000** plus for clean up and off site remediation. Remember! so far these guys have spent \$8,000,000 and there isn't even a hole in the ground yet. Welcome to Pinocchioville.

jim tolnai

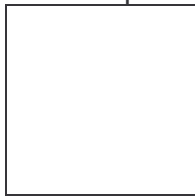
Oct. 9, 2005

MOE Not Amused???

I'm not sure why city management and S&P are antagonizing the MOE but they must have a plan I suppose?? You see throughout this fight the MOE have supported the cities efforts until just recently. MOE officials sat through news conferences and allowed S&P and city officials to mislead the public. They

participated in the city sponsored "Open House" last year and indeed to anyone looking in, the MOE and city officials blended in so that one couldn't tell which was which. But that has been changing and now the relationship has taken a 180 degree turn. The difference I suppose is that MOE officials have now realized that between what the city officials and S&P say and reality there is a wide difference. MOE officials have found out that no matter how co-operative they have been with the city and gave them more leeway than deserved the city had no intention of abiding by the rules or even close. When we proved what the city had been doing was wrong and the MOE became uneasy about the relationship, mayor, council and city management turned on the MOE claiming the rules had changed and the MOE was at fault for not clarifying issues. Now the tone from the city is that, the MOE in enforcing too harshly the pathetic rules and regulations that we do have and are the cause of Orillia's woes, and if only the MOE wouldn't be so darned demanding this project could proceed. If you believe that I have waterfront property for sale in New Orleans at bargain prices.

When the provincial order was issued back in August against the city it was not done lightly. It was done as a result of failed honesty by city officials and the loss of trust by the MOE in anything the city and their experts have said and done. The MOE officials found out to their shock and dismay that what we had been saying and fighting for was actually true and had merit. We the Citizens Coalition weren't and are not the Bad Guys in this drama. The MOE through their order identified the deficiency in the Pre Submission and now demanded proper testing and reporting they had discovered to be lacking big time. They ordered the city to address all these concerns by Sept. 23, 2005. A meeting was held between the city officials, S&P and MOE to clarify what the city had to address in their report. On Sept 23 late in the afternoon city officials faxed their response to



the MOE.

The city through S&P addressed 12 areas of concern that the MOE had. Clarification at the Sept. 13 meeting was held for the benefit of the city in order to help them to submit an acceptable document. The MOE bent over backwards to help the city comply. Sort of like a teacher during a test allowing textbooks to be used to help everyone pass. Well shock of shocks when the test was submitted to the MOE for marking. You would think that city management and S&P would actually know better wouldn't you??? When the MOE marked the test they found that the city had received a miserable **16%** mark not unlike their marks for the pre-submission earlier. That's right the MOE only agreed with the cities Sept. 23 submission 2 out of 12. In fact many statements made by S&P and the city were deemed to be false. S&P had stated or implied that the MOE had approved some things when indeed the MOE says "**not true**". So for your information here is the



MOE letter and critique of the cities submission.

The MOE uses diplomatic terms unlike myself but the meaning is the same. A statement like "**ministry staff did not comment**" or "**The ministry has not agreed**" in answer to what the city and S&P wrote. In good old fashioned speak they are really saying you are "**lying**" no matter how you try to candy coat it. So please compare the S&P submission to the MOE reply and tell me if you think the city has failed or not?

The good of all this is that when the Risk Assessment is being reviewed the MOE will be doing it with magnifying glasses. We don't believe that S&P could do an acceptable RA on this property even if it wanted to but the MOE's extra vigilance is appreciated. The wasted \$8,000,000 spent and the last two years of wasted time could have gone a long way towards clean up. The property is nothing more than an old "**industrial dump site**". Just because it is located in the center of Orillia doesn't change that. Instead of spending huge amounts of money trying to build on it right now which won't happen the way they want to do it, the money should have been spent on starting a proper clean up program. In 10 to 15 years we could have a clean and safe piece of property. As it is being cleaned these areas could be developed slowly. But that would take vision and these guys have already admitted they have non.

jim tolnai

Oct. 8, 2005

City Management Hiding Test Results

For weeks now we have been asking for test result from off site and on site wells that were drilled in August. We know samples were harvested and testing was only supposed to take five days. We kept getting the answer that the results are not in yet. So last week when Colin McKim wrote in his article that vinyl chloride was found in off site wells we began to investigate. Colleen Cooney a volunteer PLC member who had been requesting this information contacted Don Richardson who is the paid chairman of the PLC. When Colleen informed him of the news article Don assured her that it must be a "**reporting error**".

Not wanting to accept this argument Colleen contacted Colin McKim author of the article. In a taped message Colin left he said that Lori Koughan was the person who had told him the intermediate and deep off site wells showed vinyl chloride concentrations. Colin did say that he might of misunderstood but didn't think so as Lori was very clear in what she stated. Colleen than e-mailed Lori Koughan to find out what was going on. You see if anyone needs this information it is the members of the PLC. The following e-mail records will show how frustrating it is to deal with city staff and council.

TO: Don Richardson, Chair of PLC

Lori Koughan, Special Projects Manager, City of Orillia

Don, this is a follow-up to our telephone conversation this afternoon re on-site and off-site test results which took place this summer.

You informed me that test results were not available for the Oct. 11th PLC meeting as David Lewis is working on a full report which will be presented later. In our telephone conversation today you mentioned that the City has not yet been given the test results from the summer testing program. You said that you thought that the report in the Packet and Times, which indicated that "vinyl chloride turned up in samples taken off-site this summer" was a "reporting error".

I contacted the author of the Packet and Times report, Colin McKim. Mr. McKim told me that the information he had received came from Ms. Lori Koughan, Special Projects Manager, and that the whole point of having to do a Risk Assessment for off-site property was that vinyl chloride (VC) was found at the medium and deep test wells off-site. Previously VC had not been detected at the shallow level.

Perhaps Ms. Koughan would care to comment.

Colleen Cooney

From: [Lori Koughan](#)

To: ['Colleen Cooney'](#) ; ['Lori Koughan'](#) ; ['Don Richardson'](#)

Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2005 10:50 AM

Subject: RE: MURF - Test results

The only off site testing that was previously done was three shallow wells on West Street last year. No vinyl chloride was detected in these wells.

The recent round of testing off-site on West Street was to expand testing that had been undertaken on the site in the summer, which indicated high levels of vinyl chloride at depth under the footprint of the building. The modeling completed for this site characterization work indicated that there could be off-site migration of the vinyl chloride.

The City notified the Ministry of the test results and advised that there was the potential for off-site migration. As a result of this, the Ministry issued a Provincial Officers' Order for the site.

I have clarified this with the Packet.

Doug Peddle contacted Colin McKim and he confirmed that there would be a retraction of the off site test results as Lori had convinced him that he had misunderstood. So yesterday at the design management meeting Doug approached Dave Lewis of S&P and asked him why the test results aren't being released. Dave said he wanted to release them to the PLC but the city had instructed him not to. He was asked if the city had the results and the answer again was yes. Colleen Cooney and Lillian Marsden then approached Lewis who again confirmed that the city did have the results. Colleen then invited Colin over and again the facts were confirmed. Colin by now quite upset of being had called Lori over to explain herself. Of course Lori being an Apprentice Pinocchio tried to

talk her way out of this **hotspot**. She explained that yes the city had the results but that they would not release them until some time in Dec. As her nose grew and grew it looks like we have caught them in another lie. Whoda thunk it????

So the people who are to judge the Risk Assessment process and it's validity for the publics interest are having crucial information withheld from them through a series of lies and misleading statements. Seems the results must be real **bad** for them to keep it a secret. Where is the MOE in all this? We were under the impression that the MOE has told the city in no uncertain terms to make information available to the public and especially the Public Liaison Committee? So for all who are interested **vinyl chloride** has been squeezed off the site and confirmed to be in the Intermediate and Deep wells. This has been stated publicly by David Lewis of S&P regardless of what Lori Koughan says in her pitiful effort at cover up and hide the truth. So with proof of VC across the road our theory that it was VC gas which might of caused the GL&V fires is not so far fetched now is it? By the way windows in the GL&V buildings remain open. Is the Orillia Fire Department aware of this??? Has Lori Koughan notified the dept.??? Has S&P notified the fire dept.?? Has the Fire Chief informed the Fire Marshall? Has there been efforts to test all buildings in the immediate area for VC gas??? If not when will action be taken??? If we have another fire and there is injury who will be held responsible??? Will it be the people hiding the facts?? Would there be criminal culpability for loss and injury should it happen??? Let's hope no one will be hurt???

jim tolnai

Oct. 7, 2005

Design Committee Farce

I attended the MURF Design Committee meeting today at city hall. What a disappointment?? What a crock?? What a bunch of Wimps these councilors are?? Here was their opportunity to ask questions and demand answers from "**experts**" they claimed would happen. What happened??? What did anyone learn?? **Nothing** absolutely **Nothing**. I will attempt to cover just a few points which will show just how dishonest this whole process is.

Councillor Smith asked a very simple question from Dave Lewis of S&P.
Q: Has the venting system for VC gas you are proposing ever been used on any project and where is this project.

A: UM! Ah! Oh! Ah! Mmmm. Lewis then went on trying to avoid answering the question. Like Leach at the PLC meetings who was asked the same question several times and spoke of these types of projects being kept Hush! Hush! Lewis did exactly the same. Always returning to ventilation systems for methane he wiggled and squirmed. Finally his answer was he "did not personally know of any projects this badly contaminated which had used this type of system" but suggested Gartner Lee would be in a better position to answer. Folks Leach is the Chairman of Gartner Lee and he did not know of any projects after having been asked on no less than three occasions and Lewis was there at the time so

he knows full well Gartner Lee could in fact not answer the question. Lewis then attempted to mislead again by implying the MOE has had experience with this type of system. Truth is that Ian Mitchell at the PLC had been asked if there was this type of system approved in Ontario. He came back with the answer "**No**". No one in Ontario had ever applied for permission to install never mind design such a system for VC gas. When Smith said "so you guarantee this system" Lewis did not say such system would come with a gurantee.

The stupidest question from a councillor was one from Spears. After having been told by Lewis that he knew of no project using such a system Spears asks if Lewis knew of any such systems that had exploded or failed. Now what do you think Lewis answered? Of course it was no. He just finished telling us he knew of no systems in existence to begin with. So how does Spears expect he would then have knowledge of systems that had failed?? Then Paul asks, so you are saying these systems are safe? Of course if Lewis doesn't know of the existence of these systems and not one of these **non existing** systems have blown up then the **non existing** systems must be safe as long as **non existing** VC gas is being vented right??? Sure convinced Paul Spears that this **non existing** ventilation system is the way to go.

The next is funny if this affair wasn't so serious. George Morano again asked a simple question.

Q: To Cynthia Robins or David Lewis S&P "Is VC gas lighter or heavier than air?"

A: David Lewis turned to Cynthia as he didn't know. Cynthia without batting an eye said "I don't know, I forget", Lori (Koughan) do you know she asked? Now at this point Derek Ford spoke up to answer the question seeming to irritate Ralph Cipola who asked the audience to refrain from participating. What is distressing is that the two city hired experts couldn't answer a simple question on VC gas. How on earth can anyone have faith in these people who are supposed to be experts? I mean come on two Environmental Engineers who are doing a **Risk Assessment** that will impact on the health of this community and they have to ask a secretary (Lori Koughan) for the answer??? By the way not even an environmental secretary. Folks don't you think the first requirement for anyone connected to this project would be to at least know something about VC gas??? But then the mayor and council have faith, only I can't see why??? By the way the answer is 2X's the weight of air. For your information Cynthia if you are reading this (we know you are) it means twice the weight of air. Mind boggling isn't it???

They then turned their attention to the fact that a new hole would have to be dug for the foot print and more dirt piled wide and deep to dewater some more. I suppose they missed squeezing all of the toxins off site on their first try and are going to take another stab at it?? Now for those with short memories I would like to remind you how last year we were told that the dirt trucked in would be used as cover for the site after its use ended for dewatering except for the soil below grade because it would be contaminated by groundwater. Well today the question was asked of cost to do this again. Both the Architects and S&P said that it would not really cost two million dollars to do this again because they could use the same soil. First of all the bottom soil there is now contaminated as they

said it would be so roughly 25% or 65,000 tons can't be used because the soil on the bottom would end up on the top and just spread more contamination in the air and ground as well as be in contact with people if used as cover. The next problem would be that after the new surcharging process is complete a quarter of that soil will be contaminated using the same logic, which is another 65,000 tons. You see they claim that the new site is contaminated only not as badly as the present site but well over allowable limits without telling us what the numbers are. How they know this is beyond me as there has been virtually no testing (that they admit) done in these areas but let's believe them for now? So using their figures of needing at least $\frac{3}{4}$ as much fill as originally for the new hole and subtracting 50% loss of usable fill for reuse on site due to contamination show me how it will cost less than the earlier dig, dump and fill? The question of what to do with the contaminated soil removed from the new footprint did not elicit comfort either. Again the one and only proposal was to dig out all the surcharge material from hole #1 and refill it with dirt from hole #2. Are you with me??? But now what do you do with the bottom contaminated dirt from holes #1 and #2 which is of course contaminated as well using the same logic when it needs to be removed for construction? Does anyone remember that game we used to play with 5 chairs in a circle and six kids trying to sit down when the music stopped? Everytime, there would be one child out of the game who didn't get the chair. Then another chair would be removed and the game starts all over again. Well that is the same game these guys are trying to play only they add an extra pile of contaminated dirt when the music stops and there is only one hole. There is only one "hole" but there will be three piles of contaminated dirt. Come on guys at least recognize the rules even if you don't have any intention of playing by them??? Quit "**Bulls**ting**" us and get on with "**Bankrupting**" this town out in the open?? So options? Well there is the option of taking it again to the dump on the shores of Lake Simcoe costing \$128 per ton tippage? Cost 130,000 tons X \$128= \$16,640,000, or pricing out trucking and tippage fees to other dump sites in Ontario. Let me guess how much that will cost. 130,000 tons of contaminated soil at \$200 per ton equals a minimum \$26,000,000 plus \$2,000,000 for all the new site work. Folks add another \$28,000,000 to the original \$8,000,000 already spent which now will have cost us \$36,000,000 and all we have is another hole plus 40,000 tons of Hazardous dirt from the original hole still on the shores of Lake Simcoe which will have to be removed to another secure landfill at a cost of \$8,000,000. Yup! Makes a whole lot of sense to these guys. Why they seemed delighted with the prospect of getting the job done. Imagine the bargain price of only \$44,000,000 and we are the proud owners of one beauty of a hole in the ground.

Now here is where we are. Remember in my article Oct. 1 "Open Window Strange Sight" ? Here is what I wrote.

" So expect in the next few days or weeks to see another round of requests for more money to do more testing because the test results were bad and more is required. Yup! that's how it works and has worked for the last few years. Think I might be wrong?? We'll see. Have patience grasshopper the truth will prevail".

Well guess what David Lewis told the committee and councilors? That's right

more holes, more testing are in the process of being proposed to council for approval. I guess the truth has prevailed. Just one more thing of note. David Lewis said that yes the Risk Assessment once handed to the MOE will take 22 weeks but, and this is interesting, "there hasn't been a Risk Assessment submitted to the MOE that did not come back for changes". And then we will be back to square one only to begin the process again except \$36,000,000 poorer. Of course this delay will give Cynthia Robins some time to bone up on here knowledge of Toxic Chemicals and bank some more real big money while she tries again to get it right???? For anyone who thinks I'm making this up we recorded every word. I know it's hard to believe but we do have the recording to prove it. Can it get any worst??? Yup! stay tuned.

Just a quick observation. In yesterdays Packet editorial "Community in motion: say Yes".

"This city needs-desperately needs- to rally around this campaign. And to do that, we need to understand that Your Community in Motion is **not raising money for the site, but for the recreation centre**, wherever it may eventually be built.

Here is what Jerry Wink Campaign Chairman was quoted in yesterdays Orillia Today:

"We are confident that the environmental issues, through the risk management, will not only be identified, but there will be a method of satisfactorily handling those contaminants that will allow us to **proceed at this site."**

Need we say more????

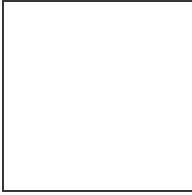
jim tolnai

Oct. 6, 2005

Pinocchio and Puppets at it Again

I am beginning to wonder if this council or mayor are for real, maybe just a joke or a bad dream and we will wake up soon???? It seems they can't help themselves from stepping into the stuff Ralph Cipolla brought back from the Bull Run he went to. From Gardy's pre council show musings to the "Public Forum" at the end of council these guys have just lost it plain and simple. Thanks to today's technology we can capture their image and words so people can see and hear what is actually said and how it is said. Unlike in the bad old days when politicians needed to worry only about the control of the local paper.

I will start you off with wise words from Councillor Smith in regards to the West St. site. He is dead on as to why this area just does not cut it in the short term. If the contamination is cleaned up there is no one I have spoken to who does not agree it is the perfect location, but only if it is cleaned up. That will require years to accomplish and by the way must be done anyway's. So in order for a MURF to be built now a new site or sites must be chosen. You can download the video clip Smith Oct.



If your computer does not auto download then Right click on Smith Oct. 3 and click **Save Target As** then download and enjoy the video clip.

Smith is right and about time some one woke up, we need to move on. The location maybe great but the environmental's are all wrong. Gardy in the same show says the contaminants have been there for years and there has been no explosions or fires. Until August that may have been true all though I doubt it. It is also true that due to the characteristics of the site it had very little ground water if any that flowed off, until Gardy and company decided to dig and fill causing a sponge effect. Where Shaheen and Peaker claimed there was no leaching prior to last October off site now their tests show VC gas at the deep and Intermediate depth wells across the road. There is probably no leaching at the shallow depth due to the extremely dry year we have had but what will happen when we do get wet weather? So now everyone should ask Wayne Gardy what caused the fires in the GL&V sheds and why all of a sudden are their windows opened??? Wayne has this information and is being dishonest in not stating these facts.

Then a caller asks how much has been spent so far on the project. Smith answered truthfully that so far expenses have been \$8,000,000. Gardy on the hand wanted to play politics and again mislead people. He claims the over \$5,000,000 in tippage fees was just a bookkeeping entry. It is obvious that Wayne does not understand accounting or value. So Wayne here is a lesson. Let's say you have an apartment to rent in your house. You set the rent say at \$800 per month and you have tenants lining up to rent it. Then out of the blue your mother in law shows up bags in hand and your wife turns all the prospective tenants away and moves mom in. Of course mom and wife say "Wayne mother won't be paying any rent but it won't cost you anything because the apartment was empty anyway". Now Wayne you know that if you don't realize the value of the apartment or the space at the dump you are indeed out that money which means in the real world not where you live it becomes a cost of either running your house or operating the dump and in effect costs you either \$800 for mom or \$5,000,000 in tippage fees. Whether the city sells the space at the dump or decides to use it to house "**Hazardous**" soil, the space and revenue are gone. Can't be much simpler than that Wayne can it??? Why with you and most if not all councillors thinking like this, what other little gems are we to find when a "**Forensic Audit**" will be done on city finances???

Wayne then goes on to tell us that in all the years that factories have been across the road from the West St. site there have not been any explosions nor fires??? Now we know there have been fires and even transformer explosions, but most important is the two fires in August at GL&V. In all the years no one has disturbed the site and placed a quarter of a million tons of dirt onto it specifically for "dewatering". Wayne dewater means just that. It moves water away from the

footprint to somewhere else. Now Wayne if last year there was no finding of VC gas in off site wells and this year they found it in the deep and intermediate depth wells why do you suppose that is??? Well! as the Citizens Coalition warned about disturbing the site and what would happen, you went ahead and now we have off site contamination. We also have two mysterious fires that remain unexplained and windows thrown open on buildings to let fresh air into storage and empty structures. I know Wayne you are not very good at arithmetic but two and two does equal four regardless of claiming it is three.

Now to Mayor Pinocchio. For those who missed the end of council Monday night Mayor and Puppets were up to their usual antics. You see when the mayor called for the "Public Forum" which is the only chance that people have of communicating with all councillors at the same time and is a corner stone of our democracy Mayor Pinocchio decided that some people will not be allowed their right of free speech. As Allan Millard was approaching the microphone the mayor informed him that he would not be allowed to speak. Now as no councillor jumped to his feet to protect a citizen and taxpayer's right to speak we can only assume that they went along and had agreed previously to this decision. I remind mayor and council that meetings and deals outside of public meetings is forbidden by the municipal act. There are many queer happenings at council meetings that leads one to believe that possibly decisions had been made earlier and only rubberstamped in public. I also remind Francis Smith of how you told me you believed in "Democracy" so do you only believe in democracy sometimes??? Anyway one councillor (Lauer) may have been left out of the loop as he asked a question (which must have been "why can't he speak") of the mayor which was not audible but the mayor's answer was. "Because we have litigation against him". Now why would the mayor say that??? The city does not have litigation against Allan Millard and never did. The city has never sued Allan so how can the mayor say that they have litigation "**against**" him???? Another example of his misleading ways. He follows that up with "I won't allow him to ridicule and abuse council". Wow! would the mayor like to show us when Allan abused council? Why, we have video available in Allans article below which shows Garland and Downey abusing Allan? Allan Millard is a gentleman. What is more important he is an "Intelligent" gentleman. The truth is mayor and council don't want to hear the truth especially intelligent truth. Besides how could the mayor have known what Allan was going to say??? Is he a mind reader??? I think not, but he does "**assume**" a lot. This was an exercise in denying a persons right to address people in power who have many things to answer for, past, present and future and just don't want to hear any criticism. Orillia has slipped back at least a hundred years in our political rights evolution. Sad day for all of us. It is obvious we desperately need a political revolution and replace these people along with city management.

jim tolnai

Oct. 5, 2005

Orillia's DNA

(Dissent Not Allowed)

This is not a complicated story because, in spite of the twists and turns, there is a thread throughout, and that thread is unfairness. Sure, there is arrogance, double standards, and abuse of power, but they can all be subsumed in "unfairness".

The latest chapter in Orillia's shameful governance began when I spoke up at what is laughingly called the "Open Public Forum" at the end of the Council Meeting on April 4. I was indeed very critical of Council's performance and cited an example of unwise decision-making and one of corruption (spending our money on advertising to make themselves look good). I must have touched a nerve because, as I found out in June, the City Manager took it upon himself to try to discredit me publicly by misrepresenting to the MoE what I had said.

An outline of events is given in a letter dated Sept. 27 and sent to the Mayor and all Councillors. I have asked Jim Tolnai to put it up on Speaking Out and I hope people will read it. I tried to make it a self-contained account but if I failed I will be pleased to supply the documents alluded to but not included or to answer questions. (My e-mail <mailto:millard-harnden@sympatico.ca>) I delivered the letter before noon on Sept. 28 which, according to Council's rules, meant that it would appear on the agenda of the Oct. 3 Meeting.

On Friday I received a telephone call from Laura Lee, Manager of Council Services, who informed me that because my letter was inflammatory it was her duty not to allow it to go on the agenda. (However, she said each Member of Council would be given a copy. With asbestos gloves?) I asked her in what way was it inflammatory and she gave no specific example. I invite readers to examine my letter and let me know what they find inflammatory because I am genuinely puzzled. I have re-read it and don't see anything that is not justified by the facts, but then I know I am too close to the subject. (After all, I was the one who was publicly criticized, by name, and whose words were twisted.)

I am tempted to infer that what Ian Brown and the Council think is inflammatory is any dissent and any comment on the emperor's new clothes. Truth and fairness are irrelevant.

But back to Laura Lee. She also said something about having a duty to prevent the City from being sued. Even as a retired lawyer I find that one hard to follow. Would I sue? No, because it's my letter. Would the MoE sue? No, because, I said they acted fairly and carefully. Would the Mayor or Councillors sue the City over my letter? (Stop laughing!) Who's

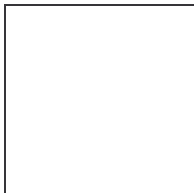
left? Ian Brown? Is Laura Lee trying to tell me that Brown would sue the City if it dared to put my letter on the agenda and subject him to the same public scrutiny he subjected me to? This is beginning to sound like that goofy CBC TV series "This is Wonderland", especially when Councillors got copies anyway.

Laura Lee also said that letters from me were sent to William Koughan, the City's solicitor with the obvious conflict of interest. Am I supposed to be intimidated? And she said something about my status as one who is still in litigation with the City. This, apparently, places me in the category of a second-class citizen, which is another form of intimidation. I am not to be accorded any right to defend myself, to receive information any other citizen can get, or even to address Council. I will invent a new quasi-legal term just for Orillia: "dissent chill".

Not quite finished with Laura Lee. When I said I had been no more inflammatory than Ian Brown had been in his June 13 report to Council, she looked that up and said, but Mr. Brown had not been inflammatory. I agreed. My point was made.

My final comment was that there was a double standard at City Hall and Laura Lee said only: I'm sorry you feel that way. Would someone please tell me how else one is to feel about the way the City operates? I am sorry that Laura Lee seems not to understand what a double standard is and that her actions and words are part of the problem.

I had originally intended to sum up with lessons to be learned, but I think anyone who follows the thread does not need me to say any more. I will jump to a practical lesson: The current Council must be changed and the City's administration overhauled. Please view the video from June 27 and you decide if I or council were out of line???



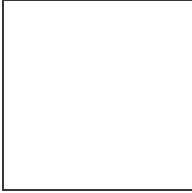
If your computer does not auto download then Right click on ALLAN.wmv and click **Save Target As** then download and enjoy the video clip.

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I went to the Council meeting on Oct. 3 and when I stood before the

microphone at the end of the meeting the Mayor informed me that I would not be allowed to speak in the "Open Public Forum". No reason given that I heard but please watch the video to hear what the microphone picked up.



If your computer does not auto download then Right click on Public Forum and click **Save Target As** then download and enjoy the video clip.

I will write about that separately, but I simply wish to add the footnote that I had no intention of even mentioning Ian Brown or the issues described above. I was planning to move on from incompetence and corruption to deception. I will write about that shortly, but for now I have my hands full with the City blocking the Foxfell affordable housing project in such a way that they may succeed in killing it.

Letter to Council Sept. 27, 2005

Allan Millard
231 Westmount Drive South
Orillia ON L3V 6E5
September 27, 2005
Letter to the Mayor and All Members of Council
Orillia City Centre
50 Andrew Street South
Orillia

Re: Misrepresentation and Defamation

Further to my letter dated September 14 to the Mayor and copied to all Councillors, I have been given what purports to be a copy of the City Manager's e-mail dated April 14, 2005 to Phil Bye, an official of the Ministry of the Environment in its Barrie office. That e-mail constitutes proof beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Brown misrepresented me. Accordingly, I repeat the demand in my earlier letter for public apologies from Mr. Brown and from Councillor Downey who accused me of "abusing" staff (Brown) when all I had done was state the truth about what he had done to me.

In case you have forgotten, the sequence of events is as follows:

April 4: I spoke at the so-called "Open Public Forum" (OPF).

April 14: E-mail from Brown to Bye.

May 31: Letter from Seabrook (MoE) to Brown.

June 13: Brown Report and Recommendation to Council.

June 20: Recommendation adopted by Council Committee.

June 27: Rubber-stamped by Council. I spoke at the OPF.

The only document or statement not on the public record is the e-mail. Here it is, as given to me:

Thank you again to you and your colleagues for taking the time to meet with the

Steering Committee on Monday. I believe the information shared will be of considerable assistance in Council's deliberations regarding the future direction of the MURF project.

As mentioned to Chris Hyde, there is already one item in the MOE comments on the PSF which is being misinterpreted by a certain segment of the local community. It relates to the comments under Site Characterization, Note 2, confirming that composite samples for volatile COC's cannot be relied on for the purposes of risk assessment. Our consultants confirmed to you at the meeting that they understood this and were not relying on such samples for risk assessment.

However, Mr. Millard appeared before Council at its last meeting to harangue the Councillors for corruption and incompetence, citing the fact that the above MOE comment shows that the sampling technique used for the purpose of O/Reg 347/558 was wrong and illegal and that the material deposited at the Waste Diversion Site should be removed. Similar allegations are being published on the Coalition's website.

It would be appreciated if you could have the appropriate MOE officials clarify in writing whether the comment regarding composite samples for risk assessment of volatile COC's has any relevance or application to the sampling procedures used by the City for the purposes of O/Reg 347/588. Ian

1. I did not misinterpret anything. I knew that the MoE comment on the PSF related only to the risk assessment. I had the MoE comments in my hand on April 4, as you may recall, and I read out to you somewhat more than Mr. Brown alludes to in his e-mail. The passage I read to you includes this: "Risk assessment for these COC cannot rely on the results of samples which have been composited, ...". That should make it abundantly clear that Mr. Brown was (a) misrepresenting what I said on April 4, (b) misleading the MoE on the real point of my comments, and (c) asking the MoE "to clarify in writing" what was already in writing and which was not put in question by anything I said or implied.
2. I did not refer to O/Reg 347/588. Mr. Brown appears to be trying to impress you and the MoE, but I think it is what a barrister would call a leading question.
3. I did not use the word "illegal". I used the word "fraudulent" to describe the sampling method for material destined for the landfill. The method could not be "illegal" because the Regulations don't prescribe a manner, or method. But it could be and was fraudulent because the samples were deliberately taken from the dry fill stratum when the consultants knew, and the City knew, that extraordinarily high levels of 'hazardous waste' and 'hazardous waste chemicals' (as defined in the Regulations) were in the groundwater which saturated the lower half of the proposed excavation.
4. The fraudulent testing which let you approve of dumping hazardous waste in our landfill was only an example I used to illustrate why you did not deserve the pay raise you gave yourselves. I read the MoE comment to you because it echoed what I had said in public presentations which at least 4 of you had attended. The MoE comment was clear vindication of my criticism because it told you exactly what I had been saying, viz. "...the process of combining samples allows the loss of volatile constituents prior to analysis." I did not allege a

'retroactive' application of the MoE comment (although you should be asking yourselves why the MoE said, in the passage I read to you, "...the consultant is reminded ..."), but I did find support for what I have been saying. It is a misrepresentation to allege a retroactive application.

5. Although I have often said that the 40,000+ tonnes must be removed from our landfill, I do not believe I said it at the OPF on April 4.

Now that you have the complete record, I hope you will review the MoE letter of May 31 as well as Mr. Brown's recommendation and "discussion" of June 13. If you do you will find some interesting discrepancies. The most glaring is that the MoE does not, in Mr. Brown's words, give a "response to Mr. Millard's allegation". The MoE official (Chris Hyde) who wrote the letter was wise enough to realize that he was responding to Mr. Brown's allegations of my alleged allegations and the letter is careful never to assume anything about what I may have alleged. Perhaps this comes with experience in dealing with Mr. Brown.

The second egregious discrepancy is Mr. Brown's conclusion that my "interpretation that the PSF comments related to soil testing methodology under Regulation 347 was incorrect" whereas the MoE letter does not say that. Mr. Brown chooses to misrepresent the MoE letter. That would seem to qualify as "misrepresentation squared".

Finally, I cannot resist the temptation to point out how selective Mr. Brown can be. He draws what he wishes were there from a letter he asked to receive on a false premise (clarification of a non-issue), but he ignores what could be awkward. The MoE letter says (end of para. 2):

"Although Regulation 347 does not specify the particular manner in which samples must be taken, the samples should be representative of the material being sampled."

If we turn to Shaheen & Peaker's Report dated Nov. 2, 2004 we find Cynthia Robins writing in a letter dated Nov. 2 and tacked on at the end that it was the City (Koughan or Brown) that gave the order for only 4 samples to be taken to be representative of 40,000 tonnes of material sitting in approx. 3.8 acres. Don't you think it would be a good idea to ask Mr. Brown why the City, not its consultants, were deciding a statistical/scientific question of considerable import, and how a handful of dry, aerated fill could be representative of all the soil and groundwater to a depth of 2 metres in an acre? (Lack of 'representativeness' is the third part of the testing fraud.)

Instead of letting Mr. Brown engage in misrepresentation and public attacks on the intelligence and integrity of citizens your time might be better spent asking him to answer the serious MURF-related questions raised by me and many other citizens over the past two years.

And it would be nice to think that Council does not have a double standard of fairness when dealing with staff and the general public.

Yours sincerely,

Allan Millard

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c.c. Press
Ministry of the Environment (Barrie Office)

Oct. 4, 2005

Sleeping Children Around the World

Our family is proud to report that our Annual Hungarian Goulash Cook Out has again been successful in exceeding the previous years total. For eight years in a row we have hosted a good old fashioned cookout to raise money for one of the best charities we have ever been associated with. Sleeping Children was started by Murray Dryden who when traveling through third world countries saw how children existed. Not only were they going to bed hungry, but they in fact had no bed. Just picture yourself hungry and weak but unable to get even a few hours of comfortable uninterrupted sleep. Fly's, mosquito's, the dirt floor with no mattress and your only 5, 10 maybe 12 years old. When Murray saw this he vowed to come back to Canada and help as many children as he possibly could. Murray was a man of modest means but began his life's work at middle age determined to make a difference. He died two years ago in his eighties working for the children right to the end. Our family is proud to be associated with the fine people at SCAW and Murray's son Dave.

Murray was not a famous man unlike his two sons Dave and Ken Dryden of NHL fame but he and his wife sure had a love and caring for those least able to help themselves. For 35 years since Murray started SCAW, bed kits have been distributed in many of the poorest countries around the world. In fact 700,000 children have received bed kits over the years. Not bad for one man and woman who had a dream and desire to help. SCAW is unique because every cent of your donation goes directly to the children. No administration, no office overhead. You see Murray funded all these expenses out of pocket for all those years. Even now Murray in death has left to SCAW all his worldly possessions including his home which was and remains headquarters. His son Dave who attended our cookout again this year told us that there is enough income from the estate annually that all expenses will be covered in perpetuity. The dream and hope is that for the 40th Anniversary of SCAW 1,000,000 bed kits will have been distributed. The Tolnai family will certainly do it's share to make this dream a reality. We hope that you our friends and even enemies will look at what and who SCAW is helping and open your hearts and wallets to these unfortunate children. You may not like me, but how can any person with heart and conscience not feel for the children?

For \$30 a child receives a bed kit that he/she will treasure for years. Volunteers who have made multiple trips (at their own expense) to distribute kits have told stories of meeting children 5 years later who received this gift and it is still their pride and joy. The kits are looked after as prize possessions. Not only that but SCAW has the kits produced locally in each country so that the economy gets a wonderful boost. Every cent of your donation is used for the kits.

Depending on the country some kits become very elaborate with more clothing added or plastic dishes. Things we take for granted these children do not have until you decide to help out. So click on the following link <http://www.scaw.org> Check it out and then send your "cheque", or donate on line. You will receive a tax deductible receipt and I can assure you every cent of your donation will benefit only the children.

So it is with great pride our family announces that \$3769.00 has been sent to SCAW this year. We wish to thank all our friends and guests who came and enjoyed the afternoon and of course the plentiful food. And a great big thank you to those who didn't make it but sent their cheques along anyway. Indeed you are citizens of the world who take your responsibility to mankind seriously. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts and hope to see you next year for our 9th in a row. Mean time here is a great idea, for Christmas why not make a \$30 or even better \$60 family gift to SCAW. Each \$30 buys one kit. You will receive back a photo of the child you helped. I can assure you when you receive your picture it will make you feel wonderful. Guaranteed.

Oct. 3, 2005

Setting the Record Straight

First everyone needs to know that no one from the Citizens Coalition or our supporters are against a MURF. Nor are we against the location. Our concern has always been a Health and Safety one. Very early we recognized the dangers of the site and attempted to bring this to the attention of councillors and city management on friendly terms only to be rebuffed for no apparent good reason some what like the welcome David Stinson received at council last Monday. So the lies perpetrated by the Packet and council about our agenda that we want to stop the project is one more example why these people just can not be trusted. Our resolve only hardened and here we are today. The city has spent \$8,000,000 so far and will have to spend millions more in cleaning up or purchasing off site properties and who knows how much in legal fees for the next say 20 years. All because ???????

Colin McKims' Friday column completes the support marathon that always precedes Bad News from the city. McKim and the Packet who have it seems sold their sole to the company store spouts ridiculous rhetoric in a pitiful attempt to get up on the fence yet making excuses for council and city management. For the past three years the Packet, through a number of reporters have worked hard to hide the truth about the MURF site from the public. What truth they couldn't hide because of people like Doug Peddle and I at first and then the dedicated people of the Citizens Coalition, they worked harder to dismiss and discredit us. One constant throughout was their support regardless of what council, mayor and especially the city management said or did no matter how ridiculous and untrue. You see the Packet sells a huge amount of ad space to the city. Naturally one looks after ones own interest just like mayor and council doesn't one. So we have never been surprised only disappointed that there does not seem to be Freedom of the press in Orillia. I know they will claim different but over the last 40 years

that I have been reading the Packet when push came to shove the bottom line always won out in my opinion.

So Colin's "Not all doom and gloom when it comes to city projects" starts off with "There is an atmosphere of gloom and desperation hanging above city hall these days". Now why is that do you suppose?? Colin claims that "Big projects begun in the public interest with fanfare of optimism and bouncy expectation, have spiraled downward in a welter of complications, delays and second guessing". Nothing could be further from the truth. I don't for a minute believe that Mayor Pinocchio or Boss Hogg began the Molson Project in the **public's interest**. If an unbiased person would take a look and see how this deal came about with secrecy and lies that these two spun they could come to only one conclusion. **This site was never in the public interest to acquire**. Nor was it in the **"public interest"** to spend \$8,000,000 to dig a hole and then fill it before proper testing and depositing **40,000** tons of **Hazardous** soil on the shores of Lake Simcoe. There were and are no **complications** outside of what mayor and city manager with the help of the Packet have created for themselves. They knew the site was **Toxic** and they knew that not enough testing was done. That is why their effort was always to claim the site is clean and more testing was **"not"** necessary repeating the lie over and over again. That is why they lied about not being able to make the **Molson Environmental Study** public. You see that would complicate their effort to ram this site down our throats. **Delays??** What delays?? Are you talking about their timetable of building a MURF on land known to be **"Toxic"** without testing and in effect poisoning a \$50,000,000 center and citizens to boot plus who knows how many off site properties?? Are you blaming the good citizens who asked questions and demanded answers? Aren't we lucky we had the delay and people who willing worked to change their timetable. **Second-guessing?** The people fighting for properly testing and cleaning the site before building never guessed, never mind second guessed. We always knew what had to be done and done properly. It was the Packet, mayor, council and city manager who was second guessing all the time. We know, We don't know, Our experts told us, Our experts didn't tell us, There are no drums, There are drums, the MOE supports us, the MOE doesn't support us and my favourite **Let's not test what is in the drums let's Guess**. Why? Because the whole project was and is based on one lie after another. **How can lying be in the public's interest???** It is in no ones interest except the **Liars'**.

Colin personally respects council for getting their hands dirty by tackling a brownfield instead of a Greenfield on the outskirts of town. Hey Colin how can you believe this rubbish never mind write it?? The Molson property was targeted long before most of these councilors knew it was the choice. Question is did Molson do the targeting?? The reason for this projects size is that there was only one property that could accommodate all of it east of #11. Back in the mid 90's plans were being developed to change the official plan. Provincially Significant Wetlands had to be changed to Municipally Significant and then downgraded to an Environmentally Sensitive Overlay and to make sure of no opposition wetland had to be destroyed permanently as councils behavior on the James St. wetland proves. This then sets aside all obstacles from a zoning perspective. We have

the documents from the OMB to prove it which by the way City staff wouldn't release to us (more cover up) so at our own expense and time had to trip to Toronto. These documents show the numbered company (Molson) who owned the site was involved back in the 90's. Coincidence??? All that was needed was for Ian Brown and other senior staff to control the citizen committees hand picked and guide the plans already made. Naturally these citizens were made to actually believe they had a choice in the site selection. Smooth. Very smooth. But not because most councillors knew what they were approving. So to give these guys credit is a stretch to say the least. Remember "Nothing happens in Orillia by accident". But accidents do happen in Orillia (Citizens Coalition).

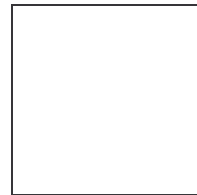
Then Colin says "The West St. property turns out to be far more polluted than preliminary studies indicated is unfortunate". There is nothing unfortunate about it. The **Appraisal** tells about the contamination with ample warning, the **Molson Environmental Report** tells of contamination which should have raised "**Red Flags**" and lastly the **Transfer Agreement** is a real eye opener which no one can justify signing in the "**Public's Interest**". But to Mayor Pinocchio's and Ian Brown's credit they did a superb job of making sure honest councillor's eyes were sealed shut. Of course once these councillors were caught up in the deceit they were forced by "**pride**" to try and save face and have gone along with all the "**Bull Sh**t**" ever since. Oh! once in a while a councillor would get antsy and attempt to "**Speak Out**" but they were silenced, we don't know how, but we do know why. Colin may respect these people but I for one can have nothing but **contempt** for even the honest ones for being such cowards that they would put an entire population at **risk** to save face. Colin continues "It's obvious now that more testing on the former foundry site should have been conducted before detailed architectural drawings and site design were completed". Really?? Where were you Colin, Packet and councillors when we begged for more and proper testing which was so obviously needed? Where were you when we brought proof in the form of documents and expert opinion which you filed or threw away and did not use or wrote pathetic stories dismissing their importance which so obviously proved our contention? Where were you in asking common sense questions when the so obvious Bull was flying. Yes you were there but only to help spread the obvious "**Bull Sh**t**" thicker and thicker. Now that the truth is coming out you are obviously trying to make excuses for yourselves?? You and the Packet have obviously just about no "**credibility**" left on this subject along with mayor, council and city manager.

Then Colin goes on to write about the University fiasco we have become embroiled in. Now folks remember that Pinocchio has been dealing with the university for quite some time along with Bob Lamb and it was they who offered the two buildings to them as if they were available even though the province owns them. Colin has the nerve to ask "Did someone drop the ball, or did the rules change at the last minute"? The ball wasn't dropped. Pinocchio never had a ball to drop and we know councillors don't have any. Like most everything this guy says or does there is always a lie present. The mayor now says he didn't realize the buildings weren't available but yet he specifically said they were. Then he claims to be surprised that the province didn't fall all over him for his

generosity of bringing an unwanted tenant??? Same **Sh**t** different day but always the same person speaking it. Luckily the mayor just happens to know that a good friend of his "**might**" have 30,000 sq. ft. of space available. Isn't Orillia and the University lucky that just by **accident** this space is available???? Like with the MURF site where once cornered by their own lies they claimed the MOE changed the rules which wasn't true either, Colin now tries to fool you by suggesting maybe the rules changed in order to cover up for the mayor. Nothing had changed in either case. Same "**Sh**t**" different project but always the same mayor???

I will end this by quoting from an article I had written way back in December of 2002 which I believe foretold the mess we are in today. If you wish to read the whole article go to the Previous Issues page and klick on Issue 2 and then page 3 Mayor Admits No Vision. You see "Mayor Stevens and several councillors attended a Chamber of Commerce breakfast where questions were posed to them. One of the questions posed was concerning the mayor's and council's vision for the future of Orillia. The mayor's answer could have been written by Stephen Leacock himself it was so funny. He stated that neither he nor council really had a vision for Orillia and that "**we're creating a vision as we go**". Not so funny now is it?? Those words were culled from the article written in the Packet. Any wonder why we are where we are today??? None of the councillors at the breakfast disagreed with or questioned him. Now we know it wasn't **Murphy's Law** at work as Colin claims but mayor, council and city management's **incompetence & dishonesty**. And the dishonesty continues. The Packet owes their readers and all Orillians an apology. We also need a **Forensic Audit** of the cities affairs. Will we get either? Yes! but not until after the next election.

Here is another municipal Recreation Center deal that went sour in Guelph Ontario. Stupid politicians and their stupid deals are not exclusive to Orillia. When reading this pay special attention to the spin that Guelph's expert, mayor, city manager and city treasurer put on this deal they endorsed. Also note they all claimed the city core would be revitalized. Never happened and 4 years later the "**interim**" city manager now spouts that the failure is actually an opportunity??? Now remember back to the spin from our own officials. Sound familiar???? I can hardly wait until our "**interim**" city manager spins his/her story.



As I said same "**Sh**t**" only now different town.
jim tolnai

Oct. 2, 2005

I wrote the following story back in Dec. 2004. My attempt to warn mayor and council fell on deaf ears. These guys have an agenda that they won't change. The Packet, Doug Lewis, mayor & council along with city management and

others claim they are doing this to rebuild downtown. As the story below and new information that our VC gas has moved off site proves, they are instead **destroying** our city. In Endicott New York IBM did the right thing from the very start and still managed to contaminate 480 plus properties. Now that was doing the right thing. How many properties do you suppose these guys will contaminate or have contaminated already by doing the wrong thing??? Will someone's home have to burn to the ground before people will wake up??? Will someone actually have to be hurt or killed before people open their eyes??? Who will you, Joe public hold accountable when this happens and you look in the mirror???? Think it can't happen here??? I'm sure the people of Endicott NY thought the same. I'm sure the people of Woburn and Niagara Falls NY were the same. Folks "Sh**t" happens and this town is not immune from it. Added to the misfortune of our industrial heritage we have a bunch of incompetents in power making it far worse than it ever needed to be. Houston we have a problem. Every ounce of VC gas pushed off site is the fault of this mayor and council as well as city management. What happens from here on is everyone's fault who ignores the warning and does not get involved by demanding that this site be handled properly. We have had two "**mysterious fires**" and luckily they were unoccupied buildings. The next might not be. If you ignore this warning as well, then don't be surprised if neighborhoods will have to be evacuated in the future as these contaminants make their way to other areas. The farther it spreads the wider it spreads the less chance there is of stopping it. This is not rocket science but only common sense which seems in short supply around city hall. On the other hand Orillia will become famous for it's "**Open Window**" policy??? Instead of a chicken in every pot , we will have "**windows opened**" in every house. Think I'm kidding????

Danger Danger????

by: jim tolnai Dec. 2004

What does it take for people to wake up and smell the coffee. We have a major industrial dump site in the heart of the city and council seems not to care that proper cleanup is not done. The consequences will be devastating to our environment, health and pocket book. According to the cities own experts who have not done a thorough program of test holes there seems to be a large plume of vinyl chloride directly under the foot print of the MURF building. All anyone has to do is look at the results of three test holes. All of them exceed the MOE limits by as much as 82,000 times

You see three test holes were done back in Sept. and Oct. These holes were done north to south in a straight line. All of them showed exceedence by thousands of times and the middle one was actually showing exceedence of 82,000 times higher than safe levels. But the city chose not to order further holes east and west to establish the size of the plume. This decision goes a long way to explaining why excavation only went down four feet instead of the eight feet originally announced. You see the contaminants are in the ground water below the four foot level. Had they hit this contaminant they would have had some major problems so it seems that if we don't hit it, how can it be there??? But what are the dangers of not dealing with these contaminants? In researching other similar sites I have posted two examples on the www.speakingout.biz web-site on the Vapour Migration page.

I will attempt to educate you and possibly council on the consequences of not dealing honestly and safely with these toxins. The first example of a disaster taking place is in

Endicott New York. You see IBM has a plant there that spilled toxins on their property not unlike the MURF site. Since 1980 IBM has been frantically trying to save the drinking water supply from contamination. You see once this stuff is in the ground water it will travel for miles contaminating as it goes. It takes years but the process although slow goes on round the clock. IBM realizing the problem did the following.

"Since 1980, IBM has sought to protect the village drinking water supply by halting the spread of groundwater contamination. That process involves the use of pumping wells to capture the contaminated groundwater so it can be treated to remove the VOCs. Although groundwater data indicate that this program has been effective, it typically takes many years (possibly decades) to clean up the groundwater. IBM is currently evaluating possible actions to expedite groundwater source containment and removal. They are also evaluating potential enhancements to the groundwater remedial program that would shrink the plume as quickly as possible so that it is under fewer buildings as time goes on. The results of that evaluation are expected by the end of 2003".

Further problems were encountered as IBM the State of New York and Broome County realized the following.

"In Fall, 2002, New York State, Broome County and IBM determined that there is a potential for migration of the VOCs from the groundwater through the soil as vapors into buildings above. Consequently, the Agencies and IBM developed an action plan to determine whether vapor migration related to the groundwater contamination is occurring, and, if so, to cut off the vapor migration pathways. The results of the investigation indicate that vapor migration has impacted the indoor air in buildings above the plume. As of July 2003, IBM had identified and offered to install vapor mitigation systems at 480 properties in the Village of Endicott and the Town of Union. The agencies estimate that 85 to 95 % of the buildings which need mitigation systems to intercept the IBM-related contaminant vapors have now been identified".

How much more evidence do people need that what is happening down on West St. is just not right. What will it take for people to understand that this stuff has short term effects but that the long term effects are far worse. As this stuff creeps underground over the years it will affect any building it comes into contact with that has cracks in it's foundation. Not only that but as the MURF will be built directly above the plume as cracks in the foundation occur (and there will be cracks) the building will become a dangerous place to use. You see we are dealing with levels of 41,000 parts per billion. The MOE says that anything over .5 parts is hazardous. Do you or I have to be experts to figure out that we have a problem? And these guys say it is an acceptable risk. Acceptable to who? The sick child and it's family or to councillors and experts who are untouched. Shame

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The plume traveled all the way to Union Center some 5 miles north. Please see map below

Oct. 1, 2005

Open Windows Strange Sight

Hey! What's going on??? I was driving south on West St and as I passed the four metal clad buildings owned by GL&V I noticed three had their top windows opened. Being in a bit of a hurry I decided to go back later and snap some pictures. As you can clearly see these top windows have actually been removed. Why?? Why just as fall and winter is approaching??? Won't birds fly in or squirrels and maybe raccoons move in?? Why Oh! why???

You may recall that there was a \$350,000 fire back in August in one of these buildings. The story then and I suppose now is that someone had broken into this building and started the fire. Now the building contains old wood patterns which are not particularly valuable to anyone except to GL&V to make castings from. In order to steal these patterns a truck and tow motor would have been needed. As there have been no culprits found we assume the police are still working on the case. If you scroll down to Aug. 16 & 18 stories you will refresh your memory.

So I began wondering, why leave these windows open if there is a gang of pattern thieves roaming the country side. If we have had one break in why make it easier for these villains by opening a window for them?? Aren't the police and GL&V concerned these guys will return and clean out the other three warehouses??? Boy if I had been broken into I would be putting bars on the windows not opening them. Wouldn't you???

Again my little brain is twisting and turning until "**Bingo**" I have a brain storm. Could it be that there was no break in??? Do you suppose we have been misled as to the circumstances of this fire??? We have not heard much about fire number two on this site a week or so after the first either, have we??? Wonder Why?? Could we have been right about these fires being caused by VC gas seeping into the building??? Remember VC gas ignites at 42 degrees C which is less than your hot water is in the pipe. Say you had a bit of gas leaking into your house and were unable to stop it. What would you do??? 1. Light a cigarette and think about?? 2. Close up the house real tight so that the gas couldn't escape outside but have a very good chance of another fire or even a explosion?? Or would you throw open some windows and doors and deprive the gas from collecting and catching fire??? If you picked #1 you are an idiot. If you picked # 2 you are still an idiot but possibly still alive as long as you didn't stay in the house??? If you picked door number three you could be an executive working for GL&V as well as Fire Chief and Police Chief all rolled into one.

So where does council and their MURF **experts** come into this. Well until these geniuses pushed the plume off site GL&V had been a safe place to do business I suppose. But lo and behold these guys tinker and now windows must be kept open. Spontaneous fires ignite and pattern burglaries are made easier by the new open door (window) policy. Yet as we speculate Mayor Pinocchio and the Puppets don't want to release the new test results. You see just before the first fire the experts were drilling monitoring wells in front of these buildings. The wells were harvested for samples but as yet our friends at city hall won't release these results. PLC members have been notified that these results won't be shared with them at their next meeting which isn't till Oct. 11. Why??? Is there a good reason. Could it be they have not received the test results back yet??? No

it has been confirmed that indeed the city has the results. Is it because they don't have time to e-mail these results to PLC members?? Or is it because the results are bad and they are trying to work out a "spin" ? Remember when I wrote that, before these people release "Bad News" they always come out with support for the MURF site, ridiculous as it maybe?? Well we have Colin McKim's article written and re-written and then we have Doug Lewis' article this week. Well folks the only thing left might be one or two letters to the editor in favour and then we will get the "Bad News". So expect in the next few days or weeks to see another round of requests for more money to do more testing because the test results were bad and more testing is required. Yup! that's how it works and has worked for the last few years. Think I might be wrong?? We'll see. Have patience grasshopper the truth will prevail. Meanwhile I will drive by these properties just a bit faster than normal. Wouldn't want to get involved with any spontaneous combustion or God help us from those nasty pattern burglars???

jim tolnoi

Comment: I wrote this article before Fridays Packet was delivered. It seems the City's "BAD NEWS" has now been released. The front page story by Colin McKim states "When vinyl chloride turned up in samples taken off-site this summer". Bingo here is the bad news. What does this mean??? Well for anyone owning property anywhere nearby I would suggest you get yourself a lawyer. Might I recommend our most able lawyer Eric Gillespi who represents Allam Millard/Citizens Coalition and has won twice for us already? I would also get down to city hall and be knocking on Mayor Pinocchio's door demanding that he have testing done for VC gas in my building. If I lived along Barrie Rd. in particular I would be demanding testing of my basement for gases. So far the Citizens Coalition have been dead on with our scientific, common sense predictions. We told you and them what would happen if they disturbed the site. We predicted that VC Gas would show up off site and that fires and explosions were a real possibility. Well hello! Before anyone is hurt let's act to protect these people. If buildings empty of humans can catch fire at 3 am just think what could happen to people in their homes while asleep. Now that they have admitted and made public that the VC gas is off site and across the road it is time to act. By the way these guys still don't get it. You can not proceed building on this site until you stop the flow off site. Again they are putting the cart before the horse. You can not move the building until you test the entire property properly. You can not complete a risk assessment until you have tested properly. The risk assessment they want to submit will not be accepted by the MOE without clear knowledge of just what is on this site. Save our money council and start the clean up now. Even Doug Lewis agrees that we must clean up not cover up.