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## Feedback

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### Simcoe Reformer Feedback

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**K. Jean Cottam** (Ottawa,Ontario), 2 days ago

Re Recent letter to the editor from William H. Gathercole of Guelph, Ontario (no date).

Mr. Gathercole is in the habit of charging alleged laymen, such as Gideon Forman or myself, with a lack of expertise on the issue of cosmetic pesticides and with sinister connections and motivations. Those of us who are alleged laymen base ourselves on the impeccable findings of independent science. This writer has been studying the effect of pesticides, initially in the context of the history of warfare, including chemical warfare, for many years. However, when the shoe is on the other foot, i.e. self-interested owners of chemical lawn care businesses with dubious educational credentials speak up and their comments are successfully challenged, Gathercole rushes to their rescue. Mr. Gathercole, there is more to human existence than what you call economic sense and "balanced view". The health of young children, the new generation, is more important than purely economic motivation including greed, a base human instinct. As to balance, this quality is sadly lacking on the part of those with connections to the chemical industry.

**James Chamberlain** (Waterford,Ontario), 6 days ago

We hear talk of a stimulus package to aid the automakers, lumber and now the steelmakers. The problem with a stimulus payout to specific groups is the money still ends up in the hands of the ones who are in trouble to start with. Look at AIG in the States. 170 billion dollars and they turn around and hand out \$165 million in bonus payouts mostly to top execs who were responsible for the economic mess that AIG is in. I think the stimulus money should go to John Q Public who would do more to spend it on products to bring us out of this recession than giving money to save a few. The Canadian government once talked about a \$30 billion package. That's \$900.59 for every man woman and child in Canada (Canada population 33,311,389 July 2008) to spend any way they want. That way everyone benefits from THEIR government money not just a certain few. In the U.S.A. they are talking an 800 billion dollar stimulus package which works out to \$2633.10 for every individual (USA population 303,824,640 July 2008). Doesn't it make more sense to have everyone treated equally to do what they want with their own money? The money does belong to the people after all. Some people will argue that we would spend it on products not made on our home soil but we do that now anyways. Besides that would be protectionism if we were only allowed to buy Canadian. I would rather see a mother, wondering where her next dollar is coming from, spend it on diapers or formula for their child than a top executive getting a 3 million dollar bonus.

**Russell Barth** (Nepean,ON), 6 days ago

To The Editor, RE: Drugs: crime and punishment

"It is illegal to knowingly have any of these drugs in your possession at any time, even if they do not belong to you. Unless, you are the holder of a valid "medicinal marijuana" certificate."

As a Federally Licensed Medical Marijuana User who is also married to one, I would like to comment on this.

First of all, Medical Marijuana users might be exempted from the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, but these exemption regulations (which have never been enacted as actual law) directly conflict with many provincial legislations.

This is the basis of my Ontario Human Rights Complaint against the Ontario Government (<http://www3.sympatico.ca/kegan23/rata-sept16HRC-response.pdf>).

For example, the MMAR allows license holders to possess marijuana, but the Ontario Liquor License Act forbids us from actually holding it in a licensed drinking establishment, or using it outside on their property. Furthermore, although we are federally allowed to "use" marijuana for medical purposes, the regulations are, at best, ambiguous, and non-binding. Patients are urged to use "common sense" when using their marijuana in public, which should mean that we are allowed to smoke our pot where ever tobacco is being used. But provincial laws forbid us from actually doing so.

For example, if I am driving and carrying my pot, I am not in violation of any traffic laws, but if someone else is driving and I am a passenger, they are in violation of the law, but I am not. According to provincial laws, I am technically not allowed to possess my medicine in a hospital, on a city bus, in a park, on the grounds of any school (even Universities), in my doctor's office, or even in my own home!

The federal pot licenses also allow the growing of medical marijuana in the users' home, but the Landlord Tenant act forbids it. It is a wildly absurd conundrum, and it is all due to the fact that the federal government refuses to legislate our rights into actual law.

It should also be noted that because the med-pot licenses are very difficult to get (due to government bureaucracy?), and onerous to those who can get them, they have been repeatedly ruled unconstitutional by many different courts. Even without an actual license, hundred of thousands of Canadians are protected from prosecution because of this mix-up. If they can afford to "lawyer-up".

And finally, one must consider that we have to carry special papers around with us to keep us out of jail because we have medical conditions that require marijuana. That is medical segregation! In Canada! In 2009! Okay, so it isn't Apartheid or the Warsaw Ghetto - but big things like that start out as little things like this. Canadians should be deeply offended by this - terrified, in fact.

**Russell Barth**  
 Federally Licensed Medical Marijuana User  
 Patients Against Ignorance and Discrimination on Cannabis  
 (PAIDOC)[www.paidoc.org](http://www.paidoc.org)

**Dave** (Simcoe,Ontario), 14 days ago

What makes these steel workers think they are better than other people ?They will put in their waiting period for unemployment benefits just like the "regular " people.They are not special and it's about time they face that fact.The president of your local at Nanticoke appears to think his "people" are above all the other people who have lost their jobs.  
 TO BAD, SO SAD !! Welcome to reality.

**Nestor Rosa** (Simcoe,Ontario), 14 days ago

Regarding "NEW HOMES CRUMBLE", Monday March 9.

Home ownership has been and continues to be a dream for many. This is certainly the objective of the residents at the South Park Development. These units, built over a three-year period, have provided an opportunity for families to downsize or purchase smaller and more comfortable units, often as retirement homes.

Many new homes have items that require final adjustment or attention. The most recently built homes by a Barrie, Ontario developer, are still under the New Homes Warranty period and the builder is obligated to provide acceptable corrections. Homes in the South Park Development, constructed earlier have had their issues attended to and for others, the owners are working with the builder to correct whatever issue still remain

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 **Articles & Blogs**

**Friday the 13th Belongs to the Bikers**  
 Looking below the fold on the front page of Today's Reformer we see that yet another group is dissatisfied with how things are changing with

**Storm on the brink of elimination**  
 Norwich showed why they finished in 1st place once again as they "stormed" back from a 4 - 0 first period deficit to win the



**Time to Review Municipal Salaries**  
 Re: Simcoe Reformer Tuesday March 23, "Storm Warnings". I read this editorial which commented positively on Mayor Dennis Travale's recent presentation of the economic

**Norwich dirty stick work behind the play...**  
 Norwich is wearing down the Storm with deliberate, dirty and vicious use of their sticks behind the play. These cowardly, sneaky and deliberate attempts to injure

**Generous To A Fault**  
 Norfolk County, like most municipalities, puts larger construction projects out for tender. All the specifics of the job are outlined in the RFT (Request For

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unresolved.

We purchased our unit in the last phase of the development and have one year left for the builder to resolve any outstanding issues. We like our place. We downsized to meet our retirement life style. South Park is ideal for us since it is within walking distance of a food market, shopping center, churches, recreation center and the fair grounds. Our unit has some outstanding issues to be fixed but what newly constructed home does not. We made the move to downsize early enough to enjoy our new home, wonderful neighbors and the South Park Community.

Nestor Rosa  
South Park Resident

[Bert Seeliger](#) (Clear Creek,Ontario), 1 month ago

Re. Cheyl MacDonald's column "Disliking is no reason to erase part of history".

I found the article very interesting and informative.

Having said this: The statement on the "Battle of Waterloo" is not quite correct.

The facts are that the British alone would have not been able to defeat the French forces. As per Wikipedia and other historic documents: The Seventh Coalition, including a Prussian army under the command of Gebhard von Blücher and an Anglo-Allied army under the command of the Duke of Wellington defeated the French forces.

Best regards

[Wayne Gulden](#) (Stella,Ontario), 1 month ago

Kate Jordan of the MOE mentions a report from an "independent expert" that said "our policies are sound". Probably she's referring to the Ramakrishnan report. Here's a more complete quote from that report. "The Ministry of the Environment's procedures to assess wind farm noise levels follow a simple procedure that is sound for most situations. However, additional concerns still need to be addressed in the next round of revisions to their assessment process." Hardly as conclusive as Ms. Jordan would have you believe.

What constitutes "most situations"? So far, out of the 7 large Ontario farms in production, at least 4 have generated complaints, including people moving and houses being bought out. Of these 7, 2 have just recently come into production and the odds are good that they will generate complaints as well.

If you have the time and inclination to look into the details, you can find the entire report on my amherstislandwindinfo.com site, under "noise" then "problems with those rules". Close by you can also find a detailed response to the report, which points out the substantial problems with it, including these words. "All of the science that is needed is complete. All of the measurements that are needed to support the science are in the literature and of course in the files of the wind industry. If MOE continues to bury its head in the sand on this issue, then it is doing a grave disservice to the rural population of Ontario which is having these turbines placed within 1.5 km of their homes."

[Jeff Harti](#) (Aurora,ON), 1 month ago

RE: Norfolk wind turbines: Whirling controversy

I found this article and the variety of views expressed in it to be quite interesting. I am a Masters student researching the social and economic aspects of wind farm development and as such it interests me to see the very opposite views of those who live similar distances from these wind turbines.

I would like to try to come-up with a better explanation of why this is and to help with this I would like to anyone who lives near these wind turbines. If you are interested in talking to me, I would be happy to come down and interview you in person.

I feel that the social aspects of wind power development especially have not been properly addressed and that is why I am trying to collect the experiences (both positive and negative) of those who have live near these projects.

Please send me an email or call me at: 905-713-3392 if you are interested.

Thank you,

Jeff Harti

[d laprise](#) (Langton,Ontario), 1 month ago

Today Feb 6 the insert to the news paper had a big sales pitch about the "Heat surge" flameless fire. This is a con game. Nothing but a radiant heater in a big box. The heater is worth less than \$20 at Canadian Tire and it will increase your hydro bill. Suggest more attention be paid to your advertismentnets.

[Bob Boles](#) (Port Dover,Ontario), 1 month ago

To raise our taxes at this time is insanity. People are losing their jobs, homes. Business's are going under. Our homes have lost 10% of their value in one year. What planet do these politicians live on. I would suggest they start cutting costs somewhere, anywhere.

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