

DRUTHERS

Truth • Love • Peace • Freedom

druthers.ca

August 2026 • Issue #69 • **FREE**

They Call It Long COVID

By Shawn Buckley | [Substack.com/@ShawnBuckleyLaw](https://substack.com/@ShawnBuckleyLaw)

The government and the mainstream media do not want the truth about Covid-19 vaccine injuries to come out. They want the government narrative to continue to be accepted.

For those of us who do not live within the mainstream media bubble, it is easy to forget that a large number of Canadians truly believe in things we find shocking. Those who watch the mainstream media believe that the Covid-19 vaccines saved lives. They believe that the injuries around them are caused by Long Covid.

If you believed that the Covid-19 vaccines saved lives, you would support them. If you believed that the injuries Canadians are suffering from are caused by Long Covid, you would support them. Indeed, you would view it as a moral imperative to support the vaccines—to prevent any more Canadians from being injured by Long Covid. This is where most Members of Parliament (MPs) are. They are part of the mainstream media crowd.

We will never see change until the mainstream media crowd, including MPs, understands that the injuries they now believe are Long Covid injuries are, in reality, vaccine injuries. In other words, we need to get out of the echo chamber.

The Allison Inquiry is the opportunity we have been waiting for to break out of the echo chamber.

Let me tell you how the Allison Inquiry came about.

On October 23, 2025, my wife, Teresa, and I were on Parliament Hill delivering the third-largest paper petition in Canadian history to MP Blaine Calkins. The next day, at a friend's request, we met with MP Dean Allison. During the meeting, he said he would like to hold an inquiry to allow Canadians injured by the Covid-19 vaccines to tell their stories. We said that if he decided to hold the inquiry, we might be willing to help.

Nothing happened for months until Teresa felt she should follow up with Dean. We began holding meetings to determine whether Dean would be willing to proceed. There were many roadblocks. Dean is a Conservative MP. He was worried that he could be kicked out of the party if he held the inquiry. He was also concerned that the mainstream media would go out of its way to attack him. Finally, Members of Parliament have no budget for independent inquiries. If the inquiry was to proceed, citizens would have to organize and fund it. That had never been done before with an MP.

We reached the point where Dean needed to make a decision. **Dean decided he needed to proceed with the inquiry regardless of the consequences.**

The Allison Inquiry is not a government inquiry.

**The injuries are real. The label is not.
Four days of testimony, live from
Parliament Hill, Sept 8 - 11. Make sure
your MP is watching.**



Visit allisoninquiry.com to learn more.

The government does not want a national conversation about vaccine injury. The Allison Inquiry is not connected to any political party. Teresa and I have organized volunteers to run the inquiry. We don't ask—and we don't care—about a volunteer's political affiliation. We have not been contacted by anyone from any political party. **The Allison Inquiry is citizen-organized, citizen-run, and citizen-funded.** All of the core volunteers have worked with us on other projects.

We held two press conferences, one on June 4 and another on July 9. These press conferences have sparked a conversation among Canadians who do not know that the Covid-19 vaccines can cause injury.

After the first press conference, two of Dean's Facebook posts had more than one million views within 24 hours. People began asking Dean whether their injuries could have been caused by the vaccine. At the second press conference, Michelle Worton, who is vaccine-injured, shared her story. One clip of her story received more than 1.6 million views. Many have openly voiced disbelief that her injuries were caused by the vaccine. They are still wrestling with the "new idea" that the vaccine has caused harm.

The fact that an MP is holding an inquiry into Covid-19 vaccine injuries is lending credibility to the idea that the vaccines caused and continue to cause injuries.

These are just two examples. For the first time that I am aware of, we have the opportunity to do what we have been waiting to do: share the truth with those who do not know.

The attacks on the Allison Inquiry have been vicious, but not entirely one-sided. For example, Liberal MP Doug Eyolfson went after Dean on X, saying:

"Vaccine hesitancy caused almost 3,000 deaths in Canada during the COVID pandemic. Now a Conservative MP is continuing to fuel vaccine hesitancy through misinformation and fear mongering. This is as frightening as it is disgraceful."

Even a year ago, we could have expected a mob to agree with MP Eyolfson and gang up on Dean as a vaccine denier. That group did show up to denigrate MP Allison. But a larger group showed up to disagree with MP Eyolfson. **If we stand together for the truth, there are enough of us to resist the bullying. We can have the conversation.**

The Allison Inquiry represents the first opportunity for the truth to leak into the mainstream. We cannot know whether another opportunity will arise. **We cannot waste this opportunity.** But there are many challenges.

The first challenge is getting MPs and senators to attend. MPs follow the mainstream news and have no idea what really happened during Covid. Pick any issue—PCR tests, dying with Covid rather than from it, and so on—and MPs know

nothing about it. Many in the freedom community are waiting for MPs to correct things and right the wrongs. This has not happened because MPs do not see any wrongs that need to be corrected.

Remember, most MPs believe that the vaccines saved millions. Most MPs believe that the injuries around us are caused by Long Covid. Most MPs believe it is dangerous to cause vaccine hesitancy. **Nothing will change until MPs are introduced to the truth. We must get MPs attending and watching the Allison Inquiry.**

It is now the summer of 2026. Few, if any, Canadian doctors are willing to speak openly against the vaccines at this point for fear of discipline from their regulatory colleges. I have also learned that MPs are afraid to publicly question the Covid-19 vaccines for fear of party and media censure. **The Allison Inquiry is likely our only opportunity to get MPs to watch vaccine-injured Canadians. Once they listen, they will be changed.**

Do you want to make a real difference? Then do all you can to get both your MP and your senators to attend. For help, visit covidtestimony.com/communicating-with-mps

The second challenge is for us to love the vaccine-injured. We have underestimated how hurt the vaccine-injured are and how much they need our support.

We have invited the vaccine-injured to apply

See 'Desperate to Speak' p.9



THE NEWS AND INFORMATION
"THEY" DON'T WANT YOU TO SEE.

by the people,
for the people

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

DRUTHERS.ca



MADE IN CANADA.
FOCUSED ON CANADA.
FOR CANADIANS.

After 41 Years as a Family Doctor, I Lost My Licence

By Dr. Sonja Kustka

For more than four decades, I had the privilege of serving my community as a family physician. I graduated from the University of Toronto Medical School in 1984 and spent **41 years caring for generations of patients**. I believed that **trust, informed consent, and confidentiality** were among the most sacred principles of medicine.

I never imagined that my career would end the way it did.

During the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, I issued a mask exemption for a six-year-old child based on what I believed were legitimate medical reasons. Soon afterward, I was reported to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO).

What followed was a **five-year regulatory process** that changed the course of my life.

The CPSO sought access to the medical records of patients who had received mask exemptions, PCR exemptions, vaccine exemptions, or prescriptions for ivermectin. These were never illegal to give or prescribe. I offered to provide **redacted records** in an effort to cooperate while protecting patient identities. That offer was declined.

When I informed my patients that their records had been requested, many expressed that they did not want their confidential information disclosed.

Several retained legal counsel, and the issue proceeded through the courts. My understanding of the outcome was that the CPSO was entitled to obtain those records despite the objections that had been raised.

Throughout this process, many of my patients stood beside me. They organized, sought legal advice, contacted elected officials and privacy advocates, and

publicly shared their concerns about **medical confidentiality**. Their courage and loyalty remain one of the greatest gifts of my professional life.

As the years passed, I faced disciplinary proceedings and ultimately had my **licence suspended in June 2025**. Overnight, approximately **3,000 patients lost access to their family doctor**.



Confronted with demands that I believe conflicted with my ethical obligations, I made the difficult decision to close my practice and resign rather than continue under those circumstances. My resignation was not accepted, and on April 18, 2026, my **medical licence was revoked**.

From my perspective, this experience raises profound questions about **patient privacy, physician independence, and the balance between regulatory oversight and professional judgment**. Others, including the CPSO, may have different interpretations of these events, and readers should consider all available

perspectives.

I also worry about the broader impact on health care. Ontario is facing a shortage of family physicians, and in my opinion, some experienced doctors have chosen to leave practice rather than endure lengthy investigations or regulatory proceedings. Whether one agrees with my views or not, the **loss of experienced physicians affects patients and communities** across the province.

Despite everything, I have no regrets. I remain deeply grateful to my patients, my family, my partner, and everyone who offered encouragement and support throughout this journey. Their faith in me carried me through some of the most difficult moments of my life.

If there is one message I hope Canadians take from my story, it is this: **ask questions, stay informed, and engage thoughtfully** in discussions about medical ethics, patient privacy, and the future of our health-care system. These issues belong to all of us, because every Canadian is, or will one day be, a patient.

If there is one final thought I would leave you with, it is this: **never underestimate the importance of advocating for yourself**. No one has a greater stake in your health than you do. Ask ques-

tions. Seek understanding. Make informed decisions that reflect your own values and conscience.

My hope is that Canadians continue to value the principles of **informed consent, patient privacy, and personal autonomy**, because these are not simply medical concepts—they are foundations of a trusting relationship between every patient and every physician.

Thank you for reading my story and for taking the time to reflect on the values that underpin the relationship between physicians and those they serve.

FREEDOM WINS!

- The fight for government transparency is heading to court! **Democracy Watch is preparing a constitutional challenge against Ontario's Bill 97—a sweeping law which retroactively shields records held by the Premier, cabinet ministers and parliamentary assistants from freedom-of-information requests.** The case could restore public access to key government communications and establish an influential constitutional precedent that governments cannot legislate themselves beyond public scrutiny.

- Apocalyptic crisis averted: After vigilant citizens discovered that New Orleans police had quietly posted a revised policy allowing weaponized drones with the superintendent's permission, they sounded the alarm and pressured city officials. Within days, the policy disappeared and was replaced with **an absolute ban on weapons and hazardous materials aboard police drones.**

- **The United States has slammed the door on a government-controlled digital dollar**, making it the first country to prohibit its own central bank from launching a Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC). President Trump's January 2025 executive order shut down federal efforts to develop or promote a CBDC, and the House has now passed legislation aiming to codify that ban into statutory law—which will make it far harder for a future administration to revive a system capable of tracking, restricting, or controlling Americans' everyday transactions.

- Two **charges of obstructing a peace officer against Toronto Charter auditor Chad Briand have been withdrawn by the Crown.** The charges arose after Briand filmed police activity from public property outside a Toronto police station in February 2025.

- **Food finally makes it into medical school:** In a major victory for preventive health, as part of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) nutrition initiative led by Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., 73 medical institutions across 36 states have committed to requiring at least 40 hours of nutrition education—or an equivalent competency program—starting in fall 2026.

- **New York has become the first US state to pause new hyperscale data centres.** Governor Kathy Hochul's July 14 executive order freezes incomplete state permit applications for facilities consuming 50 megawatts or more, giving regulators time to protect residents from soaring electricity bills, strained water supplies and costly grid expansions.

- **An Ontario court has struck down the province's ban on political messages on northern highway billboards**, ruling that the Ministry of Transportation violated Charter free-expression rights by blocking a billboard critical of the government's COVID-19 response. The decision confirms that governments cannot censor political speech simply because they dislike the message.

- **Britain dumps Digital ID after public revolt.** Nearly 3 million citizens signed a petition opposing the mandatory "BritCard," forcing the government to scrap the £1.8-billion scheme and redirect the money toward lowering electricity bills. It's a massive people-powered victory for privacy.

- **Troops fired over COVID shots return with back pay.** More than 230 US service members discharged for refusing the COVID-19 vaccine have now rejoined the military with restored rank and eligibility for back pay and benefits. Nearly 900 others have had their discharge records upgraded.

- **Germany ends routine COVID shots for healthy adults.** Germany's vaccine committee has dropped its COVID-19 vaccine recommendation for healthy adults—including healthy pregnant women—while raising the age for routine annual boosters from 60 to 75. The move comes after Sweden, Norway and Britain implemented similar policies. Officials cited widespread hybrid immunity and the low risk of severe illness among healthy adults—a welcome retreat from one-size-fits-all medicine.

- **Parts of Canada's mandatory long-form census are going to be challenged in court.** The Federal Court case argues that the government should not be able to force citizens—under threat of a fine—to reveal intimate details about their health, identity,

housing, daily routines and private lives.

- Parents push back—and Newfoundland backs down: After public outrage, **Newfoundland's government is reversing course on a policy blocking parents from accessing the medical records of children over 12.** Premier Tony Wakeham says legislation will be introduced to ensure "secrecy by default" does not come between parents and their children's health.

- Egg-price accountability finally cracks open: **Three major US egg producers accused by 17 states of colluding to inflate prices have reportedly agreed to pay \$3.3 million** and donate 53 million eggs.

- Canadians revolt against 47-year Rideau Hall gravy train: A new Leger poll found **71% of Canadians want Ottawa to scrap the taxpayer-funded expense accounts former governors general have enjoyed since 1979—now worth up to \$206,000 a year, for life** (plus 6 months after life). Nearly half a century later, taxpayers are finally demanding the royal treatment end.

- **BC pulls funding from SOGI 123 group.** The British Columbia government has announced it will discontinue provincial operating funding for the ARC Foundation, the organization responsible for developing and promoting Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) 123 materials in BC schools.

- **Law Society corrects Kamloops burial claim:** After lawyer James Heller sued for defamation over statements portraying him as racist and supportive of genocide denialism—when he had proposed making the training material more factually precise—the Law Society of BC settled the case and revised its mandatory course. The material now describes the Kamloops findings as approximately 200 radar "targets of interest" displaying characteristics consistent with possible burials—not confirmed human remains.

- Canada's gender-equality department couldn't handle public scrutiny: **Women and Gender Equality Canada shut down its X accounts** after officials said critical comments were causing employees "significant mental strains."

Embalmers' White Clot Findings Enter the Scientific Record

By Greg Harrison

From their appearance in the documentary *Died Suddenly* to detailed scientific analysis five years later, the unusual white fibrous structures reported by embalmers are now receiving systematic study.

Two recently published, peer-reviewed papers examine these observations from different angles—one through a multi-year international survey of embalmers and the other through molecular analysis of extracted material.

Published in the *International Journal of Innovative Research in Medical Science* (IJIRMS), the papers combine large-scale observational data with Raman spectroscopy to investigate what they describe as **an emerging systemic vascular pathology involving amyloid-like protein aggregates**.

The first study, *Self-Reported Observations of Unusual White Fibrous Structures in Embalmed Corpses: Multi-Year Survey Results from Embalmers in Five Countries, 2022–2025*, documents the reported frequency and characteristics of these structures across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand:

ijirms.in/index.php/ijirms/article/view/2201

The second study, *Raman Spectroscopic Characterization of Anomalous Intravascular Fibrous Casts: Evidence for Stage-Dependent β -Sheet-Enriched Protein Maturation*, examines their molecular composition and proposes that the structures may develop through a progressive protein-maturation process:

ijirms.in/index.php/ijirms/article/view/2202

Together, these papers represent **a critical milestone in documenting, characterizing, and explaining a pervasive, systemic vascular pathology that has emerged globally since 2021**. By bringing together large-scale epidemiological data and high-resolution molecular spectroscopy, they collectively identify a novel, potentially catastrophic disease process involving the formation of systemic, amyloid-like protein aggregates within the human vasculature.

The significance of these findings cannot be overstated. They provide the necessary scientific bridge between the anecdotal reports of frontline death-care professionals and the rigorous requirements of forensic pathology, characterizing these “white fibrous structures” not as standard blood clots, but as a new form of post-mortem—and likely ante-mortem—amyloidosis.

This summary details the epidemiological scope, the molecular proof, and the grave implications for global public health.

The Epidemiological Evidence

The first study, *Self-Reported Observations of Unusual White Fibrous Structures in Embalmed Corpses*, provides the necessary statistical foundation

for this investigation. For years, the medical establishment dismissed reports from embalmers as anecdotal, misidentified post-mortem clotting, or the result of embalming fluid interactions.

This study systematically dismantled that dismissal



through a four-year, international, cross-sectional survey of over 800 embalmers across five countries.

The Emerging Pattern

The core finding is the clear, temporal correlation between the observation of these structures and the post-2020 era. Respondents reported that these rubbery, fibrous, white masses were almost entirely absent from their practice prior to 2020. The first reports began to surface in 2020 and accelerated dramatically in 2021.

This timeline is a critical marker that demands immediate investigation into the environmental or therapeutic interventions introduced concurrently.

The consistency of these reports across five different nations suggests a common, systemic cause rather than localized procedural variation.

Prevalence and Scope

Perhaps more alarming than the timing is the prevalence. Embalmers reported seeing these structures in 19% to 27% of the corpses they prepared. In forensic and thanatological terms, **a 20%+ prevalence of a previously unseen, obstructive vascular pathology is not a medical curiosity; it is a population-level medical emergency.**

These structures are not merely “clots”; they are described as tough, elastic, and rubbery, often filling the entire vascular lumen and necessitating specialized techniques to bypass.

By documenting this as a consistent, multi-year, and international phenomenon, the study establishes a “safety signal” that is impossible to ignore. It suggests that these structures are the macroscopic endpoint of a pathology that is likely affecting a significant portion of the living population as well.

The Molecular Proof

While the first paper documents the “what,” the second paper, *Raman Spectroscopic Characterization of Anomalous Intravascular Fibrous Casts*, provides the “how” and the “why.” Using Raman microspectroscopy—a technique that probes the molecular architecture of proteins by analyzing the vibrational modes of the peptide backbone—this study definitively distinguishes these “white fibrous structures” from conventional post-mortem thrombi, or clots.

The Structural Signature

Raman spectroscopy revealed that these structures are characterized by an advanced state of β -sheet enrichment. In protein chemistry, the transition from a native-like, α -helical state—typical of soluble fibrinogen—to a β -sheet-rich configuration is the molecular hallmark of amyloidogenesis.

The study confirms that these structures are not “clots” in the traditional sense, but are instead atypical protein aggregates.

The researchers identified a “spectroscopic maturation pattern” in which the protein backbone progresses from a native-like state toward a highly ordered, aggregation-advanced β -sheet configuration.

This structural transition explains why these masses are so mechanically resilient, rubbery, and resistant to the body’s natural clot-dissolving mechanisms, known as fibrinolysis. **They are fundamentally built to be permanent.**

Compositional Anomaly

The Kjeldahl and ion-exchange chromatography analyses further confirm this non-canonical nature. The amino acid profile—marked by elevated proline and lysine with extremely low cysteine—differs fundamentally from human fibrinogen.

This compositional signature points toward an exogenous or highly altered protein source that is not consistent with standard blood-coagulation biology.

The lack of cysteine, in particular, is significant, as most native blood proteins rely on disulfide bonds for stability; these aggregates, however, are stabilized by the sheer force of their β -sheet-rich architecture.

Synthesizing the Findings

When we integrate the findings of these two papers with the forensic evidence provided by investigators like Tom Haviland, a coherent and devastating picture emerges: **we are witnessing a systemic, spike-protein-templated amyloidosis.**

Protein Misfolding as a “Prion-Like” Cascade

The data suggest that the “white fibrous structures” are the result of a templated misfolding reaction. The key pieces of the puzzle are as follows:

See ‘Puzzle Pieces are as Follows:’ p.10

Five Years Ago, I was Healthy

By Kenny Carmody | Substack.com/@KennyCarmody

Five years ago, I was a healthy, very active man in the prime of my life—an artist by heart and soul who had travelled to over 100 countries, maintained peak health and fitness, and ran or hiked miles in nature almost every day. **Simple, full, and free.**

Then, on July 21, 2021, I received the Moderna COVID vaccine. I felt it the moment it entered my body. Within days, a cytokine storm triggered a rare neuromuscular disease and multisystem damage. I went from the ICU to six brutal weeks in hospital, and nothing has been the same since.

Today, I am mostly bedridden, confined to my bedroom. **I cannot work. I cannot drive. I cannot grocery shop.** I can barely walk more than short distances on my best days. I have not travelled farther than a quarter mile from my house in years.

Every single day, I endure ischemic stroke-like episodes, a partially paralyzed diaphragm that makes breathing a struggle, severe neuropathic pain, esophagus and larynx spasms, severe swallowing issues that make eating difficult, severe trigeminal and occipital neuralgia, crushing fatigue, dysphagia that turns eating into an hour-long ordeal, neurodegeneration and neuromuscular disease diagnosed as ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), unspecified, and waves of symptoms that force me to be bedridden.

Doctors mostly dismissed me as psychosomatic, anxious, or worse. One diagnosis I had to sue to have



Kenny Carmody

removed from my record. I spent over \$60,000 chasing every treatment the injured community has tried.

Nothing gave lasting relief. I became my own doctor, turning to sunlight, grounding, circadian alignment, nature, and my faith in God—which is what carries me when the body wants to quit.

For three years, I have spoken out, documenting my journey, writing on X and Substack, calling for acknowledgment, proper diagnostic codes, real care, and accountability for what was done to us. **I stand with every vaccine-injured person who has been denied, dismissed, and abandoned.**

Yet suddenly, the story has gone silent. People are no longer talking about the people who became severely disabled after one shot. Support has dwindled. The institutions that told us it was safe have offered no honest accounting. **No real acknowledgment. No justice.**

The reality is that we did not recover when the headlines ended. **We are still here. I am still here.** Still mostly bedridden. **2026 has been brutal.** Still fighting every single day. Still waiting for the truth to be told.

Please share this—not for sympathy, but because thousands of vaccine-injured people deserve to know they have not been forgotten.

Prayer is what this world needs more than ever. Please don’t stop believing and dreaming of a better world. **God is not finished with us yet.**

May God bless you, and peace be with you.

For more from Kenny, follow him on x.com/kennycarmody

Accountability for the Vaccine-Injured: A Senator Steps Up

By Christopher Dreisbach | React19.org

Five years is a significant milestone in any chronic illness. People can endure extraordinary physical pain, financial hardship, and emotional suffering if they believe recovery is just around the corner. **Hope often carries them through.**

But after five years, hope itself begins to erode. Savings have been exhausted. Careers have been interrupted or lost. Retirement plans have disappeared. Marriages have been strained by the relentless burden of chronic illness and caregiving. Medical appointments that once promised answers begin to feel repetitive and futile. Gradually, the realization sets in that life may never return to what it once was. **Temporary hardship becomes permanent reality.** When physical suffering is compounded by financial ruin, social isolation, and the loss of future expectations, despair can become overwhelming.

For thousands of Americans permanently harmed during the Covid-19 vaccine rollout, that five-year milestone is arriving now. Over the past several months, a disturbing number of Covid-19 vaccine-injured individuals have either taken their own lives or survived suicide attempts. As a board member of React19, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting those injured by the Covid-19 vaccines, I have come to know many of these stories personally. **These are not statistics.** They are husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters who believed that if they persevered long enough, help would eventually arrive.

For many, it never did. What made their suffering especially devastating was not only the physical injury itself, but years spent feeling invisible. Many lost careers, homes, and financial security. Others depleted retirement savings or accumulated overwhelming medical debt. Almost all experienced some combination of disbelief, dismissal, and isolation. After years of being told their injuries were unlikely, unrelated, or simply impossible, many began to question whether anyone in authority would ever acknowledge what had happened.

Against that backdrop, the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations' recent interim report, *Failure to Warn: How Federal Health Agencies Downplayed and Hid Myocarditis and Other Adverse Events Associated with the Covid-19 Vaccines*, **represents an important turning point.** Drawing on internal government records and doc-

uments obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, the report concludes that federal health officials delayed acknowledging vaccine safety signals, withheld important information from the public, failed to respond fully to Congressional oversight, and repeatedly placed concerns about preserving public confidence above full transparency.



For the vaccine-injured community, **that public acknowledgment matters.** For the first time, many who were dismissed for years can point to official government findings confirming that safety concerns existed, were recognized internally, and were not fully communicated to the public. **Yet transparency alone is not enough.** A report that documents misconduct but produces no consequences may satisfy historians, but it offers little comfort to those whose lives were permanently altered by the conduct it describes. Facts matter. Investigations matter. **But they matter most when they lead to accountability.** Fortunately, Wisconsin Senator Ron Johnson, the chairman of the Subcommittee, has made clear that **this report is not the end of his work—it is the beginning.** Throughout the pandemic and the years that followed, Senator Johnson has courageously pressed federal agencies for answers, demanded documents, convened hearings, and, perhaps most importantly, gave Covid-19 vaccine-injured Americans an opportunity to tell their stories publicly. His message has remained remarkably consistent: **transparency is essential, but transparency must ultimately be followed by accountability.** **That accountability cannot stop with institutions.**

Too often, government failures are blamed on agencies, departments, or bureaucratic systems, as though decisions simply emerged from the machinery of government. **Institutions become shields behind which individuals disappear.** But institutions do not make decisions. **People do.** Government agencies did not conceal information. Individuals did. Government agencies did not ignore safety signals. Individuals did. Government agencies did not delay informing the public. Individuals did. Every significant decision described in Senator Johnson's report was made by identifiable people exercising authority and judgment. Accountability therefore requires more than institutional reform. It requires determining whether those entrusted with protecting the public fulfilled their responsibilities and, if they did not, whether they should face professional, civil, or criminal consequences. For the vaccine-injured community, **accountability is not about revenge.** It is about affirming a principle fundamental to every constitutional republic: **no public official is above responsibility, and every citizen deserves honesty from those entrusted with protecting public health.** Simply put, it is about justice. Certainly, justice cannot restore damaged nerves. It cannot erase years of pain, financial ruin, or shattered careers. It cannot bring back those who lost their battle with despair before recognition finally arrived. However, the pursuit of justice can restore something that has been steadily disappearing over the past five years. **Faith.** Faith that truth still matters. Faith that public service still carries responsibility. Faith that those who suffered were not forgotten. That may ultimately become Senator Johnson's greatest contribution, not simply exposing what happened, but demonstrating that **the search for truth does not end when the headlines fade.** For thousands of Americans who have waited five long years to be seen, heard, and believed, **that renewed faith may prove to be the best medicine of all.** *Christopher Dreisbach is a former Pennsylvania criminal defence lawyer and 2009 Advocate of the Year for his work with victims of violent crime. Following a life-altering vaccine injury, he became Legal Affairs Director at React19, a nonprofit supporting people affected by long-term COVID-19 vaccine adverse events.* **Originally published at brownstone.org**

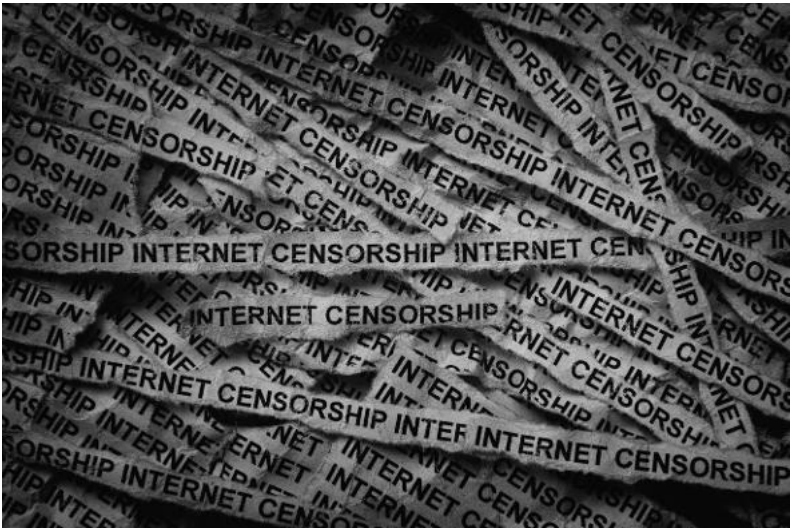
The Future of Free Speech

By Aaron Kheriaty | Brownstone.org

The following piece is adapted from my Foreword to the forthcoming volume, *Truth, Freedom of Speech and Modern-day Censorship* (En Route Books, 2026).

Freedom of speech is an integral aspect of authentic freedom, grounded in the distinctively human capacity to adhere to truth through persuasion rather than imposition. While truth is objective and independent of the knowing subject, it can only be received by the subject freely. We can contrast this with a thinly grounded notion of freedom as merely a pragmatic expedient to "get along" in a pluralistic society in which we assume that truth is more or less unattainable. In this thin form of liberalism, when it no longer appears the optimal empirical solution to maintain social comity or stability, freedom of speech will be easily abandoned. We have seen this dynamic play out in Western societies in the past decade, where elites now frequently insist that censorship is necessary to **"protect democracy" from the populist rabble.** Principled freedom that encourages the shared discovery of truth must always exclude violence against ideas. Such force reduces individuals to mere means and undermines the possibility of honest persuasion. Instead, public authorities should only intervene to prevent persecution or the propaganda of "truncation arguments"—that is, various forms of coercion

or incitement to violence—while permitting the open expression of opposing views, however controversial. The late Italian Catholic philosopher Augusto Del Noce illustrates this by insisting that even ideological adversaries, such as Fascists, should be permitted to voice their bad ideas (which they were not permitted to do in Italy immediately following World War II): "Let the Fascists also support their idea of violence if



they so wish; we will fight them with arguments, and the task will not really be too difficult," Del Noce confidently asserted. He warned that forcefully suppressing false speech only breeds underground myths and perpet-

uates defeated ideologies, as seen in the posthumous "Mussolini legend" that arose in the climate of postwar Italian censorship. Among the central problems with censorship is this: **the prohibition on pronouncing certain things often makes them seem true even when they are not.** Better to allow falsehoods to be voiced and refute them with arguments than to forcefully silence them before they can be spoken. Recovery of enduring principles on which to ground freedom of speech is essential as we face new challenges from the advent of enormously powerful digital technologies and global platforms of communication. Discovery in our *Missouri v. Biden* case revealed extensive coercion of digital platforms by the White House, the Surgeon General, the CDC, and other federal agencies to flag, suppress, deboost, or remove online content and accounts—via direct pressure, algorithmic changes affecting thousands of posts, or the actions of suborned third parties. This **"censorship-industrial complex"** targeted critics of the government's preferred Covid policies, election integrity, abortion, gender ideology, foreign policy, and other issues of public importance. As the appellate court noted in our case, given the vast reach of new digital technologies, the scope and scale of this censorship had no precedent in prior free

Federal Surveillance Tech Becomes Mandatory in New Cars by 2027

By Maddie | [Substack.com/@BooksBehindBorders](https://substack.com/@BooksBehindBorders)

Halfway through writing this article, I realized somebody had smashed my car window and cleaned me out. They stole my favourite sunglasses and a couple credit cards.

And before you say, “Maddie... why the hell were credit cards sitting in your car?”—trust me, I know. You’re right. I didn’t even realize those cards were still in there. I hadn’t touched them in at least a year.

Apparently, the masterminds behind the operation went on a luxury shopping spree at 7/11 and spent a few hundred bucks, so after I finish this, I’m probably going to track down which location it was and send everything to the cops. Or maybe I’ll cool off by then. Times are rough. Maybe they were buying baby formula. Maybe they just really needed taquitos. Who knows.

Either way, weirdly enough, it ties perfectly into what I wanted to talk about today, so let’s get into it.

Before we begin today’s episode of *We’re Speedrunning Toward a Totalitarian Surveillance State, and Everybody’s Pretending It’s Normal*, I want to make something very clear about where I stand on all of this: **You have every right to know what your government is doing, and they have NO RIGHT to know what you are doing. That is why we are called private citizens, and they are called public servants.**

But somewhere along the way, that relationship got flipped completely upside down. The government hides behind classified files, redactions, secrecy laws, and closed-door meetings while demanding total visibility into your finances, communications, location, purchases, movement, habits, and behaviour. **A society where rulers live in privacy while the population lives under surveillance is the very definition of tyranny.**

And now that surveillance infrastructure is making its way directly into your car.

For years, surveillance mostly existed outside the vehicle: traffic cameras, licence plate readers, GPS tracking, toll scanners, facial recognition systems, cell-phone metadata, etc. But now the surveillance is moving inside the cabin with you.

Beginning in 2027, new vehicles sold in the U.S. will reportedly include driver monitoring systems capable

of tracking eye movement, attention, distraction, and behaviour behind the wheel. Supporters say it’s about reducing distracted driving deaths. Critics—or, honestly, just people capable of pattern recognition—see something much bigger: the normalization of constant



biometric surveillance disguised as “safety.”

Because once the camera exists, the question is no longer whether the data gets used. **The question is, who eventually gets access to it?** Insurance companies? Car manufacturers? Law enforcement? Advertisers? Regulators? AI systems building behavioural profiles on millions of drivers in real time?

If history has shown us anything, it’s that these systems never stay “limited.” They always start with some emotionally manipulative sales pitch about “safety” or “convenience,” and then, a few years later, the technology somehow becomes permanent and gets used for things nobody ever voted on, approved, or even had a real say in. **The infrastructure built for “safety” today somehow always turns into the infrastructure for control tomorrow.**

Your phone watches you. Your traffic lights watch you. Your TV watches you. Your city watches you. **And now your car watches you too.**

Which brings me back to my car getting broken into today.

My vehicle already has this technology. If I glance away from the road for more than two seconds, it starts yelling, “WATCH THE ROAD,” at me like I’m a teenager learning how to drive. Which means there is obviously a camera monitoring me constantly while I’m inside the vehicle.

So here’s my question: If somebody smashed my window today, then there should theoretically be footage of it. Can I access that footage? Or is this one of those situations where the system only exists to monitor me, while the actual owner of the vehicle somehow has less access to the data than the corporations collecting it?

I think we all know the answer to that. Nothing says “freedom” quite like having a camera pointed at your face every time you drive somewhere, all in the name of “safety,” of course.

The Questions We Should Be Asking

Where exactly does this data go? Who owns it? Who can access it? How long is it stored? Can it be sold? Can it be subpoenaed? Who’s watching the footage? Can it be used against you?

What happens when the system flags somebody incorrectly? And let’s be honest—it’s not if that happens. It’s when.

If your car decides you’re “impaired,” what happens next? Does it lock you out? Shut the vehicle down? Call the authorities? Notify your insurance company?

What happens if it locks somebody out in the middle of a dangerous neighbourhood or on the side of a highway at night? Will there even be a manual override? Who becomes legally responsible when the system inevitably screws up?

What exact behaviours are being classified as “impairment” in the first place? Who decides those standards?

How long before insurance companies start using this data to raise rates? How long before it shows up in courtrooms? How long before employers want access to it? How long before “unsafe driving behaviour” becomes another algorithmic score attached to your identity?

How long before it becomes normal for the government to have a “kill switch” tied directly to your car?

What else am I overlooking?

Originally published at substack.com/@booksbehindborders

Censoring Tens of Thousands

Continued from p.4

speech cases in the US. In the words of the district court judge, what our case uncovered was arguably the “worst violation of free speech in United States history.”

Previous cases of censorship by overzealous government officials typically dealt with one-time offenses: a single article suppressed, a few paragraphs struck from a book, a journalistic story killed before it saw the light of day.

But what we saw in our age of social media was entirely new, facilitated by the powerful reach of advanced digital technologies: **government action censoring tens of thousands of ordinary Americans hundreds of thousands of times.**

For many Americans like me who were on the receiving end of this, such actions felt very personal: every citizen with a Twitter or Facebook account became a potential “newspaper editor” or “journalist” targeted for suppression by government speech police.

Often this censorship was done by identifiable political actors, as when the White House’s director of digital communications Rob Flaherty browbeat a senior executive at Facebook into submission, as I described in detail in a *Wall Street Journal* piece co-authored with one of our lawyers in the case.

In that instance, documents we obtained on discovery implicated an identifiable government official who could be held accountable and brought before the bar of justice.

However, much of the government censorship was far more subtle and indirect. More often, it did not require a detectable person flagging a specific post or account for censure.

In the US, the First Amendment bars government from engaging in viewpoint-based censorship, while the state-action doctrine bars government from circumventing constitutional strictures by suborning private companies to accomplish forbidden ends indi-

rectly, which also occurred.

Our case revealed that in some circumstances, government pressure resulted in social media platform’s changing their algorithms and terms of service in order to automate and conceal the process of government-sponsored censorship.

In this regime, those silenced may not even realize that they are being censored, as the algorithm simply limits the reach of their posts such that it is impossible for them to spread organically or “go viral” and accrue influence.

In the new context of digitally mediated censorship, subtle algorithmic manipulation can create an illusion of free speech while effectively controlling the reach and impact of communications online.

If an investigator or journalist asks X or Facebook to see its algorithm, the company will not be able to produce it, for the coding has been outsourced to thousands of programming consultants, each of whom are responsible for only one small piece of the entire puzzle.

This produces opaque means of information control with no clear locus of moral agency or accountability. **Censorship goes underground, where it is governed by machines, which, unlike human officials, cannot be challenged in court or held to account.**

The future of censorship will involve outsourcing most of this work to AI. With large language models now capable of digesting and synthesizing enormous swathes of online speech, our ability to communicate in the digital realm will soon be controlled by invisible yet immensely powerful bots.

Even if government actors are prevented from censoring online, and even if we beat back the egregious EU Digital Services Act and other authoritarian mechanisms of state-sponsored censorship, private companies with vested ideological interests, armed with the tools of advanced AI, will remain a serious hazard to

free speech.

This global threat from powerful private actors may prove to be every bit as severe, and considerably more powerful, than government-sponsored censorship.

(For reasons that go beyond the scope of this article, my own view is that under US law these platforms should be treated as common carriers rather than editors of content, which would mean that private companies or their algorithms could not suppress constitutionally protected forms of speech.)

We are witnessing emerge in real time this pervasive and tenacious machinery of power, propaganda, and technological control. The response will require vigilance, legal precedents, and structural reforms to allow for open online discourse in our digital future.

Aaron Kheriaty is a Senior Brownstone Institute Counselor and a Scholar at the Ethics and Public Policy Center. He formerly taught psychiatry and directed Medical Ethics at the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine.

Originally published at brownstone.org

Advertisement

Time for ACTION

Raise Awareness

Share the Truth

THEY LIED.ca

Canada Considered Suing Citizens Over “False and Misleading” Social Media Posts

By Cindy Harper | reclaimthenet.org

The Canadian government drew up a plan to take individual citizens to court over what they post online. That plan sat inside a 35-page internal memo from the Department of Industry, most of it blacked out before the public could see it.

Blacklock’s Reporter pried the document loose through an Access to Information request. Dated March 31 and titled “Misinformation And Disinformation Strategy,” it belongs to the department run by Minister Mélanie Joly, known as Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED). The memo weighs “legal action” against people who post what the government calls “false and misleading information” on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

What kind of legal action? The redactions hide that. What survives the black ink is the logic. “This strategy seeks to uphold the integrity of and public trust in government information,” the memo says. **The department is appointing itself guardian of its own reputation, with lawsuits as one available tool.**

Here is who would decide. ISED itself would judge whether a post is “factually incorrect, misleading or out of context.” **The same department that dislikes a post gets to rule on whether the post is true.** No court makes that call first and no independent reviewer checks the work. The government writes the definition of misinformation and then enforces it against the people it defines.

The memo describes any punishment as “proportionate and subject to senior level approval.” That language reassures no one. Proportion gets

measured by the same officials pushing the complaint, and senior approval means a manager signs off, not a judge.

Officials already watch. Managers “already monitor the department’s official social media channels and

media outlets on a daily basis for comments and recurring inaccuracies,” the memo says. The strategy would push that surveillance from reaction toward “prevention and early detection,” catching disfavored speech earlier in its life.

The chilling effect writes itself. A citizen who knows a federal department is reading posts, grading them for accuracy, and holding a lawsuit in reserve thinks twice before typing. **The threat does the work a courtroom never has to.**

The government’s own files admit the problem. Its research found Canadians feel capable of spotting fake news and do not want Ottawa “declaring what is true or not.” The memo concedes that answering misinformation can amplify it, and that going after individuals risks “further backlash.” **The department understood the public would object and mapped the plan anyway.**

Compare the tune from four years back. This same Liberal government declared that “the rights and freedoms that individuals have offline must also be protected online.” That promise reads differently next to a memo about suing people for their posts.

Ottawa has not explained how the monitoring runs, how often lawsuits were floated, or what a post must do to land on the department’s radar. The memo sets no threshold. It names no outside check. **It leaves a federal department free to decide which citizens spoke falsely and what the price should be.**

A government sure of its facts answers speech with more speech. This one drafted a plan to answer speech with lawyers.

Originally published at reclaimthenet.org



Justice Centre Launches National Campaign Opposing Bill C-34, The Safe Social Media Act

By Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms | jccf.ca

The Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms announces the launch of a national campaign urging Canadians to contact their Members of Parliament in opposition to Bill C-34, the *Safe Social Media Act*.

Canadian Identity and Culture Minister Marc Miller introduced the legislation on June 10, 2026. A Government of Canada news release stated that the legislation will combat online harms “by ensuring that social media services and artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots are responsible for addressing harm before it occurs.”

Bill C-34 goes far beyond protecting children from harmful online content and prohibiting AI companies from encouraging users to commit crimes. It implements a social media ban for minors, effectively regulates AI chatbot inputs and outputs, and grants the federal Cabinet broad powers to regulate the internet in the future.

Section 27(1) will force regulated social media services to prevent Canadians under age 16 from accessing social media through age-verification and age-estimation measures. To keep minors off social media, all Canadians will have to verify their age and identity.

If the legislation passes, Canadians will be forced to surrender more of their personal information to the government or foreign social media companies in order to express their views, participate in public dis-

course, and access information about the world.

Sections 48 to 58 will effectively regulate what Canadians can say to AI chatbots and what AI chatbots can say to Canadians. Faced with vague obligations and significant financial penalties for non-compliance



(up to three percent of global revenue), AI companies will be forced to monitor all Canadians’ private AI conversations and may increasingly report private, law-abiding conversations to police.

Furthermore, section 53(e) will give future regulators broad powers to prohibit what AI chatbots may say in the future. Canadians increasingly rely on AI chatbots and search tools in place of traditional search

engines. Our experts warn that government authority over AI chatbot outputs may have serious implications for Canadians’ access to information.

Part 2 will establish a Digital Safety Commission of three to five full-time members, to be appointed by the federal Cabinet, with broad power to regulate online content.

According to privacy expert and law professor Michael Geist, the federal cabinet and Digital Safety Commission will have power to determine 50 major questions not addressed in Bill C-34, including which social media platforms and AI companies will be affected, what counts as “significant psychological or physical harm” in online content, and how the government will restrict minors’ access to social media. Parliament will have limited oversight over these decisions.

The Justice Centre invites concerned Canadians to participate in this national campaign by using the Justice Centre’s online letter-writing software¹ to send a pre-written letter to their Members of Parliament and to Prime Minister Mark Carney.

1. jccf.ca/stop-bill-c-34-the-so-called-safe-social-media-act

The Justice Centre is Canada’s leading civil liberties organization fighting for Charter rights and freedoms in the courts of law and in the court of public opinion. Founded in 2010, the Justice Centre funds lawyers across Canada, relies entirely on voluntary donations to carry out its mission, and issues official tax receipts to donors.

Advertisements

Think Canada
— INVITES YOU TO —

HEALTH UNDER FIRE

Freedom of Conscience and Health

NOVEMBER 13-14

• REGISTRATION REQUIRED •

University of Toronto – Scarborough

Keynote Speakers:

DR. PETER McCULLOUGH

DR. CONRAD VINE

Register at: thinkcanada.net

CHP
CANADA

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE
PARTY OF CANADA

A political party
dedicated to:

• LIFE!

• FAMILY!

• FREEDOM!

CHP.ca

The only civil liberties organization
to call for an end to harmful and
unscientific Covid lockdowns.

Justice Centre
for Constitutional Freedoms

@jccfcanada

www.jccf.ca

Sanity vs. Madness

By Liam DeBoer | BlendrNews.com

In a pathocracy, the moral man becomes the criminal. The resisters see through all of it. They keep their empathy and their moral clarity, and for that they are hunted, censored, and scapegoated for refusing to kneel.

The doctor who questioned the consensus lost his license. The professor who would not recite the creed lost his post.

Then, there are the bystanders: the confused, frightened majority who slowly absorbed the regime’s norms just to stay out of trouble.

Lobaczewski measured them. Roughly 6% of a population forms the active structure of pathocratic rule. Another 12% adapts to serve it, and the remaining 82%—the great mass of normal people—never accept the system in their hearts.

But they learn to police themselves. No external



sensor is needed once a hypersensitive sensor lives inside each citizen, and the terrorizing of thought is

accomplished by the society itself. Their silence becomes the oxygen that lets the fire spread.

This is the end state of “Ponerogenesis”: truth called dangerous, sanity labeled extremism—the system rewarding the disordered and punishing the good.

Call it liberalism or call it progressivism if you like. Lobaczewski would call it the psychological coup, and he left us one final warning:

“Nothing poisons the human soul more than moralizing about behaviour that is pathological in origin, because the moralistic reading closes the door to real understanding.”

Until we grasp that we’re fighting pathological people rather than merely bad ideas, we will keep surrendering ground. This was never left versus right. It’s sanity versus madness—and until sanity takes the power back, the collapse will go on.

Originally published on Instagram @liam_out_loud

Homeopathy for Uncertain Times

What Horses, Family, and Farm Life Taught Me About Preparedness

By Shirley Guertin | Substack.com/@ShirleyGuertin

I remember one particular horse show during an Ottawa heatwave. Riders kept their horses in whatever shade they could find while waiting for their turn to go into the show ring. The horses stood quietly, saving their energy in the heat.

A teenage girl who had come with our group to help was sitting alone in the shade of the horse trailer. Her face was flushed a deep red, and she looked miserable.

She told me this happened to her often when she was out in the sun. The headache had come on suddenly and was throbbing badly. Someone had already tried to help by bringing her ice, but it wasn’t touching the pain.

Her symptoms were clear. I gave her a homeopathic remedy that matched what she was experiencing.

Within twenty minutes, the headache eased and then disappeared.

She was surprised. She told me she frequently got headaches like this from the sun and that nothing had ever helped her before. To me, it was simply what happens when the right homeopathic remedy meets the right situation at the right time. At the time, I didn’t think of it as anything remarkable. It was simply a matter of understanding what was in front of me and responding appropriately.

Only later did I begin to understand how important that kind of knowledge really is. We are living in a time when many people are rethinking preparedness and self-reliance, and medical preparedness is part of that. Knowing how to respond when something begins can change the course of what follows.

For nearly fifty years, I ran a riding school and bred Canadian Sport Horses. At one point, we had over sixty horses in our care. There were constant opportunities to use homeopathy. Horses came in sore from hard work. Wounds needed to heal cleanly. Injuries required careful support. Over time, homeopathic remedies became part of daily care.

One of those horses was a school horse named Maggie.

Colic is the number one killer of horses. No one who has spent time around horses ever takes colic lightly. When Maggie first showed signs, we walked her, gave her remedies and watched her closely. When she did not improve quickly, we called the veterinarian.

By the time the vet arrived, Maggie was in serious distress. She kept throwing herself to the ground, trying to roll, which can make colic far more dangerous by twisting the gut. We struggled to keep her standing, but she was becoming more distressed and weaker. At one point, she could barely remain on her feet and was leaning heavily against the barn aisle wall.

The vet told us the only thing left to try to save her was to send her to the veterinary hospital three hours away. Those hospitals can save lives, but the cost runs into many thousands of dollars, and even then, there

are no guarantees. The vet began contacting the hospital while we stayed with Maggie.

I was still searching for the right remedy. I reached down and felt her legs. They were ice cold.

In that moment, the picture became clear. I gave the remedy that matched her condition.

Within minutes, Maggie stopped trying to roll. She stood on her own without leaning on the wall. The panic left her eyes. Her expression changed. She became present again.



Maggie lived for many more years and taught many more riders the ropes.

Experiences like that teach you something fundamental. The greatest opportunity to help often exists at the beginning, when something first shifts. Recognizing that moment and knowing how to respond can make all the difference.

I saw this again while attending a homeopathy course myself.

A woman had volunteered to be a teaching case. She came because she had recently been diagnosed with diabetes. She was devastated. She realized this was permanent, that it would define the rest of her life.

As our teacher, an experienced homeopath, carefully took her case, something important emerged. Her symptoms had begun shortly after the sudden death of her husband.

The remedy was chosen based on the full picture of her experience. It was a well-known remedy, commonly used in cases of profound grief.

Two months later, when she returned to the class, her blood sugar had normalized, and the diabetes was gone, to the astonishment of her doctors.

What stayed with me was not only the outcome but also what it revealed. When the underlying disturbance was recognized and addressed, the body was able to return to balance. It also raised an obvious question. Had that same remedy been given at the time of her bereavement, might the illness never have taken hold at all?

Homeopathy treats the person as a whole rather than focusing on isolated symptoms. Physical symptoms, emotional state, and the circumstances surrounding an illness are all part of the picture.

Over time, homeopathy evolved into something that could be used not only by trained practitioners but also in the home. In 1833, Constantine Hering wrote the first guide for the home prescriber. His book, along with a small kit of remedies, travelled west with pioneer families and became known simply as “The Box and the Book.” It was used by people who travelled and settled far from medical care, faced illness and injury without assistance, and learned to observe and respond for themselves because their survival depended on it.

We are living in a time when many people are thinking again about self-reliance. They are storing food, learning to grow it, saving seeds, and preparing in ways that would have seemed unnecessary not long ago. Medical preparedness belongs to that same awareness.

It does not mean replacing doctors or managing situations beyond one’s ability. It means having the knowledge to recognize what is happening and to respond appropriately when something begins.

Preparation takes many forms. For some, it is food on the shelf or seeds in the ground. For others, it is learning practical skills.

And some choose to place a small box of remedies on the shelf, knowing that when the moment comes, they will understand how to use them.

Shirley Guertin has used homeopathy for more than 30 years and now teaches Homeopathy for People and Their Pets, an introductory online course designed to make homeopathy practical and approachable. A pay-what-you-can option is available, and half of all proceeds support organizations protecting health freedom. For more information, contact ShirleyGuertin@protonmail.com.

Originally published at Substack.com/@ShirleyGuertin

Advertisement



RALLY IN THE VALLEY

2026



SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

11:00 AM-4:30 PM

Waterfront Amphitheatre

Pembroke, Ontario

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Helen Grus • Denis Rancourt, PhD
Lisa Miron • Nick Pineault

ALSO SPEAKING

Marian P. Laderoute, PhD • Riccardo Brun Del Re, PhD
Gen Choquette • Brian Derkson • Dallas Fillion
Pastor Paul Degraaf • Dr. Chris Shoemaker • Vlad Tepes

FREE EVENT • ALL ARE WELCOME

GATHER • LEARN • CONNECT

Cell Towers Without Consent

Silenced Communities & Automatic Approvals

By Margreet van den Berg

Brookfield Asset Management “owns” the backbone of the global economy and is one of the largest investors in global infrastructure. That backbone includes data centres, power generators, power lines, fibre and cell towers, all essential for AI. In May this year, the government of Canada released its “National Strategy for an Electrified Canadian Economy: Powering Canada Strong,” and in June its “National Artificial Intelligence Strategy: AI for All.” **Mark Carney and company are aligned with Brookfield’s views and aspirations.**

Cell towers are essential for AI. Is that why Minister Mélanie Joly’s Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) proposes sweeping changes to cell tower approval processes in Canada, intended to drastically reduce local say while giving telecommunications companies almost free rein over when and where cell towers are installed? ISED’s motivation? Red tape reduction. **Since when is public consultation red tape?**

In May 2026, ISED opened a consultation on its proposals: the first round closed on July 16, and the second round is open until August 25. Most people, including municipalities, are largely unaware of both proposals and the consultation. In early July, Canadians for Safe Technology (C4ST) started a petition calling for the consultation to pause and for an independent, comprehensive public review process, similar in scope to one done 20 years ago. Consider signing C4ST’s petition: c4st.org/eng/petition_ised.php.

Squelch Local and Municipal Voices Opposing New Cell Towers

ISED intends to reduce public participation; weaken municipal authority and local decision-making; and reduce transparency and accountability. C4ST’s petition provides details on how. **Cell towers less than 15 metres won’t need any approval.** For taller towers, the community will be informed only through an online portal and a sign posted at the proposed site. No more notification packages by mail or announcements in local newspapers. ISED decides which concerns are “acceptable,” reasonable and relevant.

Concerns about health and visual impacts are excluded. Only residents living within three times the height of a proposed tower would receive responses to concerns. Others, including outside experts—medical or scientific—would be excluded from that process. Municipal cell tower siting protocols will be replaced by a one-size-fits-all national process. Instead of 120 days, municipalities—Land Use Authorities—would have only 45 days to review proposals and consult with residents.

Failure to respond within that timeframe means automatic approval. ISED would no longer keep records of communications; proponents would control the records. What about access to information requests and privacy concerns?

Engaging or Enraging a Community?

Even today, most Canadians and municipal councils are unaware that cell towers cannot be placed just anywhere. They require a local consultation and decision-making process, based on the current CPC-2-0-03 protocol or local siting protocols. Land Use Authorities and municipalities must always vote concurrence or non-concurrence on a tower.

Until now, proponents—wireless carriers or infrastructure companies proposing a cell tower, such as Rogers, Bell, TELUS and Shared Tower—have been required to mail or hand-deliver notification packages to nearby residents, schools, public institutions and community gathering places, and to neighbouring land-use authorities, businesses and property owners within a radius of three times the tower height.

They also have to announce their plans in a local newspaper, but ISED wants to get rid of that. Too old-fashioned! Yet ISED and Statistics Canada fall under the same Minister of Industry, Mélanie Joly.

What does Statistics Canada do when it wants Canadians to fill in the Census? It sends paper mail—more than once. And if you don’t fill in either the digital or paper questionnaire, a human might come knocking on your door.

So, if the government really wants to hear from you, it uses old-fashioned paper mail and humans. Imagine proponents coming to your door, making sure you know they are planning a cell tower close to you!

The 2004 Townsend report, an in-depth review conducted under then-Minister of Industry Allan Rock, deemed leaving citizens out of cell tower decision-making a primary driver of community outrage. **The**



proposed changes do exactly that: water down public engagement. Does the government not care? Who really wrote ISED’s proposals?

Why Weaken Public and Local Say?

In 2016, Klaus Schwab of the World Economic Forum wrote a book and coined the term “the 4th Industrial Revolution” (4IR). The idea of 4IR serves as a roadmap for businesses and politicians alike. Cell towers are central to this roadmap. Buzzwords such as Digital Transformation, Innovation, Resilience, Sovereign and AI for All should convince people that nothing should get in the way of laying the groundwork to make it happen. During the 2020 COVID lockdowns, a large number of cell towers and small-cell transmitters were installed while people watched from behind their windows. Since then, cell towers have become year-round Christmas trees with ever more ornaments. This spiderweb-type infrastructure keeps growing. **When will it be enough?**

The lines between the public and private sectors are blurred. An example of the revolving-door mechanism: Navdeep Bains stepped down as Minister of Industry in 2021, then popped up as Rogers’ chief corporate affairs officer in 2023. Rogers is one of Canada’s Big Telecom Three, along with Bell and TELUS. And now, lo and behold, Mr. Bains wants to become the leader of the provincial Liberal Party in Ontario.

ISED’s current proposals favour the industry. Why? Has the pushback grown over the years? More municipal councils are not automatically approving cell towers and have voted non-concurrence. An increasing number of Canadians are engaging in the consultation process, attending municipal council meetings, informing councils and residents about the potential health effects of cell tower radiation and its impact on property values, expressing concern about environmental impacts, asking for absolute proof of the need for yet another tower, and pointing out how proponents fail to follow the existing protocol and try to duck essential questions.

Health Canada Says It’s Safe

Health concerns are one of the main reasons Canadians do **not** want a cell tower near their homes, schools, churches, playgrounds, sports grounds and workplaces. Yet precisely this concern is dismissed by ISED. **It is too absurd for words.** ISED has adopted Health Canada’s obsolete safety guidelines, Safety Code 6, and washes its hands of the crowd. ISED hides behind the claim that exposure to radiofrequency radiation is safe, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Of course, when Health Canada says something is safe, it must be so.

But how do both departments explain away the fact that insurance companies exclude health damage from radiofrequency radiation from their insurance policies? How do they explain away the fact that insurance companies consider RF radiation a pollutant, comparing it with asbestos and expecting the damage to appear after a long latency? How do they explain away

the fact that cell tower building companies, such as American Tower, openly admit in their annual reports that they might not have “adequate insurance coverage”?

Why does the government of Canada not inform Canadians that the WHO’s IARC, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, classified radiofrequency radiation as a Class 2B possible carcinogen in 2011? And that former members of this IARC, such as

Lennart Hardell from Sweden, call for a reclassification based on up-to-date and clear evidence of carcinogenicity?

How does Health Canada explain that even one of its own, James MacNamee, was part of a World Health Organization-commissioned study, published April 25, 2025, that found “high certainty” in the evidence linking radiofrequency radiation exposure to cancer in animals?

How does Health Canada explain that telecom companies worldwide warn their shareholders about potential threats, such as public health concerns and litigation, to their “business and financial performance”? Bell states it might have to retrofit its wireless infrastructure and handsets to achieve compliance if regulations change.

“Sooner or later we have to change the way we live,” warned Per Segerbäck in a 2018 Dutch documentary called

Ubiquity. Segerbäck is a former Ericsson mobile phone pioneer, injured by his work, and now a board member of Europeans for Safe Connections. The documentary is one of many about people around the world who can no longer live in this sea of ubiquitous, synthetic forms of radiation. People around the world move away from wireless communication technology, either by force majeure or by choice. They do **not** want to be forced, tracked, traced or radiated 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. **They do not consent.**

What to Do?

ISED claims that wireless services are vital and “much like roads or electricity,” and that “Canadians expect these services to be ubiquitous, high quality and affordable.” Yes, communication services are vital, but only wired services should be ubiquitous: fibre to the premises. Fibre to the premises offers a high-quality alternative: faster, more secure, more resilient, healthier and more environmentally friendly than much of the wireless services. **Canadians deserve high-quality, ubiquitous fibre to the premises, comparable to roads and electricity.** It is a question of priorities—government priorities.

What is happening in Canada is also unfolding around the world, including south of our border, where a movement has begun—www.704nomore.org—“envisioning a future without federal overreach where local governments and communities are empowered to make informed decisions about cell tower and antenna siting based on all relevant factors, including health and environmental effects.”

Local voices are not red tape. Whether people have health concerns, property-value concerns, concerns about the effect of cell tower radiation on the natural environment, or concerns about fire and falling hazards, no federal government should tell Canadians which concerns are reasonable and relevant. And those concerns are based on new information that Mark Carney’s government refuses to acknowledge, even daring to classify it as misinformation.

Canada’s government and Brookfield both ignore the fact that they promote an uninsured technology. Please consider signing the Canadians for Safe Technology petition to pause this consultation and call for an independent, much more thorough review. Tell your neighbours and councillors about it. Talk to or write to your MP and your provincial representative. **Turn any potential community rage into constructive action.**

For anyone who wants to let the government know, consider participating in the second round of comments in ISED’s consultation.

Find it at: <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/spectrum-management-telecommunications/en/learn-more/key-documents/consultations/consultation-amendments-tower-siting-process-and-decision-roaming-tower-sharing-and-annual-reporting>

With Great Power

By Joseph Bourne and BlendrNews.com

The story of Spider-Man will forever be remembered for a single line, delivered to Peter as the dying words of Uncle Ben: **“With great power comes great responsibility.”**

He did not say that only because the statement is true. He said it because, by our very nature, **power corrupts us.**

That is why, in our Westminster system, we divide power in many ways. We separate the courts from the legislature, then split those powers even further between judges, ministers, and Parliament itself. We cannot allow power to be concentrated in one place. That road leads, almost without fail, **to corruption.**

The current Liberal government does not seem to be heeding Uncle Ben’s warning.

In the spring sitting of 2025, the government passed a total of **five bills.** This spring sitting, it passed 24. Of those, 21 were introduced by the ruling party—and **19** were passed into law.

As a matter of fact, all of these bills were passed after the government already had a majority. The spring sitting began on February 2, and by April 13, the government had formed its majority through multiple floor crossings. Since then, it has **forced through** several laws, many of them controversial.

In this case, many of the bills were contested by other parties because they bordered on authoritarianism: laws that could erode Canadians’ **privacy, security, and basic rights.** It is important to note these laws and assess how they could change Canada.

These are the bills I believe will shape Canada the most:

Bill C-9, for the first time in Canadian law, **defines “hatred”** and makes it a criminal offence to willfully promote hate through the use of symbols, including those tied to terrorist entities. That means the list of symbols deemed unacceptable will almost certainly grow.

This bill received serious scrutiny when the Bloc agreed to support it only if the Liberals removed the **religious exemption.** The law also makes it illegal to block access to places of worship, which has led many to ask whether protesting near places of worship could be treated as unlawful.

Josh Dehaas, a Toronto lawyer, recently joined David Leis on Leaders on the Frontier and criticized Bill C-9, saying, *“we already have intimidation laws on the books”* and *“these laws are **not being enforced.**”*

The government seems to be unnecessarily expanding powers and pushing for laws using lack of enforcement as an excuse.

Bill C-22, the “lawful access” bill, has already drawn warnings from VPN services, including NordVPN and Windscribe VPN, which have said they may **leave Canada if the bill becomes law.**

This is one of the biggest expansions of government surveillance power

Canada has seen in years. It would allow police and other public officers to **demand subscriber information and request data from telecommunications** and online service providers, including some based outside Canada that serve Canadians. It would also allow secrecy requirements in some cases. Meaning people will **have no idea if the government is looking**

through their personal data.

Critics warn it could sharply weaken digital privacy, expand government access to personal data, and push privacy-focused companies out of Canada.

Supporters argue that giving law enforcement this power creates less friction when they are investigating serious and time-sensitive crimes. That may be true—but giving the state this kind of power will also erode privacy for Canadians.

So the question is simple: is mass surveillance a decent trade-off for online safety?

Bill C-20, the Build Canada Homes Act, would turn



the federal affordable housing agency into a Crown corporation.

The bill gives the agency the power to own, develop, transfer, and finance property for development. On its face, that may not sound very controversial. However, in practice, the government has already used this kind of thinking to justify **buying condos** from Canadian developers who are unable to sell them.

Many are calling out the move, arguing that it is little more than a **bailout for developers** who should be left to take the loss in the free market.

The bigger question is whether the Liberals can use this as a long-term strategy to stop Canadians from taking a loss on inflated property values. If so, taxpayers could be forced to cover the difference when property owners cannot sell at the prices they expected.

In 2024, Canada was ranked **second highest** in the world for **house-price-to-income ratios.** Nine in ten Canadians say they are concerned about the current state of housing. Three in five Canadians are worried about their ability to pay rent or their mortgage, and three in five are worried about losing their home or rental unit.

With Canada’s housing situation getting worse, Canadians may be tempted to support more government housing, but they will also be forced to **pay the bill for it.**

Bill C-16, the Protecting Victims Act, makes broad changes to Canada’s criminal justice system. It creates new offences for coercive control in intimate relationships, strengthens laws against child sexual exploitation and online abuse, expands protections for victims, and changes sentencing rules.

Supporters say it modernizes the Criminal Code and better protects victims.

Critics argue that parts of **the bill could weaken sentencing by giving judges more discretion instead of keeping mandatory minimum penalties for certain offences.**

There is also concern that some reforms could end up putting the rights of offenders ahead of deterrence and public safety. Lately, judges have already been leaning toward lighter sentences and bail decisions. In too many cases, that has ended tragically. We see it written into law for some minority groups as well, like **Gladue Reports for Indigenous people,** for example. They can receive lighter sentences simply for their background. Equal under the law no longer seems to be a tenet in Canadian courtrooms.

The Liberals no longer have anyone who can truly hold them accountable, thanks to their majority. The Senate is filled with **senators recommended by Justin Trudeau.** The circumstances now allow the government to move quickly and carry out its agenda with little meaningful resistance.

Hate has now been defined by law, turning a subjective feeling into something that can be weighed through circumstantial evidence and left largely to the judgment of a court. Churches are worried about how Bill C-9 could affect religious speech and their ability to preach Scripture in public.

With that in mind, the government will also have the ability to seek personal data from users on social media. An investigation into a hate crime would almost certainly be enough for an officer to justify such a request.

We also have bills coming that would force Canadians to use **ID verification to access social media,** framed as laws meant to protect children. In practice, that will likely mean some form of biometric scan or digital identity check just to use major online platforms.

Power is being gathered. Speech is being defined. Privacy is being weakened. Housing is being pulled deeper into the hands of the state. Criminal law is being reshaped.

And all of it is happening under a government that gained the power to move quickly, then wasted no time using it.

That is exactly why power must be divided, checked, and watched closely.

Uncle Ben was right.

Joseph Bourne is a political commentator and independent journalist, bringing the truth and holding the government accountable.

Originally published at blendrnews.com

Desperate to Speak

Continued from p.1

through the inquiry website to be witnesses. We have been overwhelmed with applications. They are desperate to share their stories. We are learning that it is challenging and traumatic for many vaccine-injured people to fill in the application form. Some are cognitively injured and cannot complete it. Some are so traumatized by being gaslit and mistreated by the medical community that filling in a medical-type form is re-traumatizing. Other issues have revealed to us that this group of Canadians is very fragile. They are fragile because they have been mistreated and are suffering. They are fragile because we have silenced them. **We have refused to hear their voices. They are desperate to speak.**

For those who do not understand how important it is for us to give the vaccine-injured a voice, I urge you to watch Michelle Worton at the July 9 press conference. You can watch her at covidtestimony.com/pressers

The third challenge is getting the resources to conduct the inquiry. MPs will sit as panel members, but the Allison Inquiry is citizen-organized and citizen-funded. The injured will be able to testify only if you fund their travel. Our lawmakers will learn about vaccine injury only if we fund the inquiry so that it can happen.

As I write this, we simply do not have the funding to proceed. Please visit the website and donate.

I invite you to participate in the Allison Inquiry. Do all you can to ensure your MP attends. If you are vaccine-injured, share your story. If someone cannot share their story because they are deceased or too ill to participate, share it on their behalf. Support us financially. Do everything you can to promote the inquiry.

The Allison Inquiry will be livestreamed from Parliament Hill on September 8, 9, 10, and 11. Don’t miss this historic event. Don’t miss this historic opportunity!

Visit allisoninquiry.com to learn more.

Druthers Community Classifieds

Unlock your brain’s full potential with our premium brain food formula. Experience sharper focus, enhanced memory, and peak cognitive performance. Don’t let mental fog hold you back—fuel your mind with the nutrition it deserves. Transform your thinking today! Offering True Hope products, with support, with The TTrue Health Care Team <https://shop.truehealthcanada.ca/true-hope-products/> Vegan friendly, Canadian made 1 - 2 3 6 - 3 0 1 - 6 4 4 4

FIND OUT what officials won’t tell you about our history in the Bible & its predictions for our national security now. Read The Death & Resurrection of the West Foretold in Prophecy, by independent, Canadian investigator Ralph T. Kenney. First pages & blog free at **ralph757.com.**

NEW BOOK. *Do-it-Yourself HOME CHRISTIANITY: How to Please God and Receive His Help, Without Preachers, Churches, or Money,* by independent, Canadian investigator Ralph T. Kenney. Be ready for whatever comes. First chapter & blog free at **ralph757.com.** Click white tab on upper right of website.

ReMag® liquid Pico Ionic Magnesium 100% Absorbable, zero binders, fillers, or synthetics. No Laxative Effect, does not disrupt digestion. Optimizes Energy: Supports ATP creation for sustained endurance and strength. Aids Hydration & Recovery: prevents cramping, fatigue, and muscle breakdown. QUALIFIED GUIDANCE INCL www.shop.true-healthcanada.ca 2 3 6 - 3 0 1 - 6 4 4 4

Have your classified printed in 150,000 or more copies and distributed all over Canada. druthers.ca/ads

The “Illiterate” Herbalist

By Liz Reitzig | [Substack.com/@LizReitzig](#)

One of my all-time favourite herbalists never read a word about herbs, medicine, or anatomy. In fact, she was technically “illiterate” until the day she died.

But she was clearly *plant-literate*.

In fact, many of our ancestors were plant literate with or without ever having learned to read or write.

Imagine you’re out with some friends in a city. You’re driving to your next destination, and you realize that it’s time to refuel—both the car and your bellies.

What do you look for?

You’d most likely look for fuel and food signs.

How will you know them when you see them?

You’ll know because you’ve seen them thousands of times.

You know what a gas station sign looks like, how to find a fast food place, and what the major ones are. You’ll know from one glance whether they sell burgers, burritos, or a bucket of chicken.

Yet you didn’t read a book about them.

And these logos don’t have words explaining what they are.

You know because you’ve seen these logos thousands of times, and you have immediate, unconscious associations with them.

Consider the logos you see every day. You don’t need context or explanations. You know all these brands, what they offer, and what category they belong to. Sometimes you don’t even need the logo. These brands have established strong connections in our

brains, ensuring that when we see certain connected images, such as mascots or even a portion of their logo, we automatically think of them.

Plants are like that too.

They are a mental map of seasons, places, food, and medicine.

And that’s how the famous underground railroad



conductor, Harriet Tubman, a woman we would label “illiterate,” knew which plants would feed her passengers and which plants would heal her soldiers of dysentery, clean their wounds, and treat infections.

Although most Americans know her only as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, she was so much more than that.

She was a total badass.

Puzzle Pieces are as Follows:

Continued from p.3

Proteolytic Activation: The spike protein, when circulating systemically, is proteolytically cleaved by host enzymes, such as neutrophil elastase, which was identified in the compositional analysis.**The Seed:** This cleavage releases specific peptide sequences—the “WALTZ sequences”—that contain high-probability amyloidogenic motifs. These sequences act as “seeds,” or templates, for protein misfolding.

Templated Recruitment: These seeds possess a high affinity for fibrinogen. When they encounter soluble fibrinogen in the blood, they induce a conformational change, forcing the fibrinogen to misfold into a rigid, β -sheet-rich amyloid fibril.

Self-Propagation: This is the “prionic” element. Once the amyloid scaffold is initiated, it acts as a permanent, reactive surface that continuously “scavenges” and converts the remaining soluble fibrinogen in the blood. This explains why the structures appear to branch, grow, and “gel” even post-removal—they are self-propagating, thermodynamics-driven reactors.

The Clinical and Diagnostic Crisis

The existence of this pathology is serious for three primary reasons that threaten the integrity of modern clinical practice.

1. Resistance to Standard Physiology

Normal blood clots are dynamic, temporary structures designed to be broken down by the body’s fibrinolytic system. These “white fibrous structures” are effectively the opposite: they are structurally matured amyloid fibrils that are inherently resistant to proteolysis.

They are built to be permanent. Their presence in the vasculature creates obstructive masses that the body cannot naturally clear, leading to chronic, systemic vascular compromise that can persist for years, potentially decades.

2. Systemic, Not Localized

These are not isolated events. **The 20% prevalence rate reported by embalmers indicates a systemic exposure.**

This suggests that the “seed” for this amyloidosis is circulating widely within the population, and the “white clots” are simply the macroscopic manifestation of a process occurring at the microscopic level throughout the entire circulatory system.

This implies that many patients currently suffering from unexplained cardiovascular issues, “long-term” inflammation, or peripheral vascular resistance may be harboring these microscopic amyloid seeds.

3. The Failure of Diagnostic Detection

Perhaps the most concerning aspect is the failure of

the medical establishment to even detect this pathology. Because these structures are fundamentally different from standard clots, they often go undetected or are misdiagnosed.

Standard clinical assays for clotting, such as D-dimer tests or coagulation panels, are designed for fibrin-based thrombi. They are often incapable of detecting these amyloid-like aggregates, meaning patients may suffer from systemic obstruction and vascular inflammation while appearing “normal” on standard diagnostic tests. **This diagnostic blind spot allows the pathology to progress unchecked until it reaches a critical, life-threatening mass.**

The Forensic Imperative

The data presented in these two papers, when taken together, constitute **a forensic identification of a new, systemic protein-misfolding disease.**

The epidemiological survey, Paper #1, provides the scope and temporal onset, while the structural analysis, Paper #2, identifies the pathological hallmark—a systemic, spike-protein-templated amyloidosis. We are no longer dealing with a fringe hypothesis; we are dealing with documented, reproducible, and widespread spectroscopic evidence of a fundamental structural remodeling of human blood proteins.

This situation requires an immediate and transparent response from the global medical and research communities. Priority must be given to:

- **Ultrastructural characterization** of these aggregates via X-ray fibre diffraction and transmission electron microscopy to confirm the cross- β architecture.
- **Proteomic identification** of the constituent proteins to confirm the role of the spike-protein motifs.
- **Development of diagnostic protocols** capable of detecting amyloidogenic protein misfolding in the living patient.

The “white fibrous structures” encountered by embalmers are the macroscopic “canary in the coal mine.” **They are the definitive evidence of a systemic pathology that alters the very architecture of the blood.**

Continuing to ignore this evidence—or categorizing it as a post-mortem artifact—is not just scientifically unsound; it is a failure of medical responsibility in the face of an emerging and pervasive systemic health crisis.

The evidence is now in the public record; the only remaining question is how long it will take for the institutions tasked with protecting public health to confront this new, unprecedented biological reality.

She was an excellent Underground Railroad conductor, in part because she knew the plants along her escape route and what they were for. She used specific plants to keep babies asleep, others to keep dogs from following scents, and still others to keep her charges nourished along the long, slow journey to freedom.

In addition to what she is most famous for—serving as a conductor on the Underground Railroad—she was also the first woman to lead an armed military operation in the United States. This operation was the Combahee Ferry Raid, in which she freed hundreds of enslaved people.

Part of the reason the army chose her for this role was her expertise in foraging for food and herbal medicine.

Can you imagine what it took to cure soldiers from dysentery, heal bloody wounds, and chase away infections?

But that was Harriet. She knew plants.

Of course she had amazing teachers and plenty of exposure.

This experience with plants and understanding what they were for is similar to our repetitive exposure to logos.

We are inundated with hundreds to thousands of logos daily, and our brains take shortcuts called heuristics.

You don’t consciously think: “Oh, that’s a fast food logo; I can get a burger there.”

It’s practically instantaneous. You see it, and your brain maps out your past experiences. It pings prejudices or affinities for the brand, and even the memories that go with it, including emotional responses to their marketing.

It’s a whole brain and body knowing.

With basic exposure, and even a little bit of teaching, anyone can begin to become familiar with plants the way we are already familiar with hundreds, maybe thousands, of logos.

(And, I would argue, our brains were made for plant and animal identification rather than brand logos. Brands have co-opted that part of our brains to sell us stuff.)

Imagine seeing a plant somewhere in the wild and immediately knowing what it helps with, how to harvest it, and what it means about the climate/region and season you’re in.

Just like we map out meaning and understanding with the logos we see every day, we can do the same with plants.

We can all be more like Harriet.

Her kind of literacy, and indeed the plant literacy practiced by people throughout history and across the world, is the type of literacy that we can relearn to celebrate.

From identifying and foraging herbs to making our own herbal medicines in our own kitchens, becoming plant literate is how we truly democratize our medicine.

Originally published at [substack.com/@lizreitzig](#)

SUPPORT INDEPENDENT MEDIA

DRUTHERS

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION

\$96

/ YEAR

Papers are free; fee is for shipping & handling.

delivered monthly to your mailbox

SUBSCRIBE NOW

DRUTHERS.CA/SUBSCRIBE

Canada’s Public Forests Don’t Belong to Multinational Lumber Corporations

By Maureen Hutchinson-Parker | StopTheSprayCanada.ca

Canada’s public forests are being clear-cut, then chemically treated with herbicides to kill the aspen, birch, berry bushes, shrubs and other vegetation that naturally begins growing back. Why? Because those plants and trees compete with the commercially valuable conifers the forest industry wants to grow. In other words, nature starts rebuilding a diverse forest, and Chemical Forestry steps in to decide that nature is growing the wrong forest.

The justification we hear again and again is that herbicide spraying is “cost-effective.”

Cost-effective for whom?

For approximately 70 years, Canadian forests have been subjected to chemical vegetation control. In the early decades, forestry programs used chemicals including 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T—the two herbicidal components of Agent Orange. As concerns about dioxin contamination and human health grew, the use of 2,4,5-T ended around 1980, but Chemical Forestry remained. Glyphosate eventually became the dominant herbicide used, along with other herbicides in some areas. **The chemicals change. The spraying continues.**

And people fought it from the beginning. Residents, Indigenous communities, hunters, trappers, foragers and families watched forests being clear-cut and then saw helicopters return to spray chemicals over the land as it tried to grow back. The obvious question was: “It is bad enough that the forest has been clear-cut, but now you are going to poison what is trying to regenerate?” They worried about their water, wildlife, berries, medicinal plants, pollinators, traditional foods and chemical exposure. They protested. They wrote letters. They passed formal resolutions demanding that governments cease spraying.

Generations later, people are still fighting the same fight.

The first formal resolution we have documented is dated September 1989, when the Chiefs of Nishnawbe Aski Nation opposed Ontario “unilaterally” conducting chemical spraying on their lands and demanded an immediate end to the practice. This was seven years after Canada’s Constitution recognized and affirmed Aboriginal and treaty rights under section 35. **Yet the spraying continued.**

When people challenge the province about Chemical Forestry, they are told to go to the feds because herbicides are registered by Health Canada. So people go to the federal government, only to be told that forestry is provincially managed. Then the province points to industry. Industry points to its permits and licences. Foresters point to provincial policy. Round and round it goes, and somehow everyone has an excuse while nobody takes responsibility for protecting the forest from the poison. **Welcome to the Blame Circle.**

Meanwhile, Canada has already studied this issue. In 1999, after years of examining the state of the boreal forest, a Senate subcommittee released *Competing Realities: The Boreal Forest at Risk*. It concluded, **“All herbicide and chemical pesticide use in the boreal forest should be phased out as soon as possible.”** The report recognized that forests are more than timber supplies and need to be protected. It devoted an entire chapter to “Aboriginal Realities” and addressed

Aboriginal and treaty rights and the responsibilities governments have toward First Nations and Métis people.

Québecers gained protection when Québec stopped herbicide spraying in public forests in 2001, and industry adapted. Other provinces continued spraying. Forestry companies across Canada have now had a quarter of a century to develop and use non-chemical



approaches.

Yet the practice continues in other provinces because it is considered “cost-effective.”

When governments and industry talk about herbicides being cost-effective, we need to ask whose costs are being counted and whose are being ignored. Is it cost-effective for wildlife feeding in treated forests? For pollinators? For an Indigenous family gathering traditional foods and medicines? For someone picking blueberries? For the hunter, trapper or angler? For communities concerned about their watersheds and wildfire? For future generations inheriting the decisions we make today?

And after more than two decades of proof that non-chemical forestry is possible, the costs of finally transitioning away from Chemical Forestry should not be blamed on the people demanding protection now. The public should not be threatened with economic losses because the practice was allowed to continue for so very long.

Governments are supposed to manage our public forests in the public interest. **Forests are not farms. And forest composition matters to fire behaviour.** Natural Resources Canada says deciduous forests burn more slowly after green-up and rarely support crown fires, while coniferous forests can support extreme crown fires that are often uncontrollable. As Canada faces rising temperatures, longer fire seasons and a long-term increase in the area burned, **why are we poisoning biodiversity to favour commercially valuable conifers?**

Ontario itself acknowledged in 2009 that unnecessary pesticide exposure warranted action when it introduced its cosmetic pesticide ban, restricting the cosmetic use of pesticides containing chemicals including glyphosate and 2,4-D. **Protecting children and families from unnecessary pesticide exposure around homes, parks and schools was considered important. Yet forestry remained exempt.** Rural and Indigenous communities continued asking why these chemicals could still be applied across public forests that are

home to wildlife and pollinators, and where people depend on clean water, and on healthy forests to hunt, fish, trap, gather medicines and harvest forest foods.

Why did protection from chemical exposure matter in one postal code but seemingly not another?

And now, in 2026, the questions surrounding glyphosate have become impossible to dismiss.

In December 2025, the influential Williams, Kroes and Munro glyphosate safety review, published in 2000, was formally retracted following serious concerns about undisclosed Monsanto involvement and the integrity of the paper. Safe Food Matters has continued its legal challenge arising from Health Canada’s 2017 re-evaluation of glyphosate, which renewed its registration for another 15 years. In a separate case, the organization and its allies challenged Health Canada’s 2022 renewal of the glyphosate-based herbicide Mad Dog Plus—and they won. In February 2025, the Federal Court found the decision unreasonable and set the renewal aside, requiring the federal pesticide regulator to reconsider the decision and properly address newer scientific evidence. Mad Dog Plus was later discontinued, and Health Canada’s Pest Management Regulatory Agency cancelled its registration and began a phase-out.

To top it all off, in March 2026, international scientists and experts meeting in Seattle issued new warnings about glyphosate and glyphosate-based herbicides, raising concerns about **health effects beyond cancer**, including reproductive, endocrine, neurological, metabolic, liver and kidney effects.

People have fought Chemical Forestry for generations. Indigenous leaders and municipalities have passed resolutions demanding that it stop. Canada’s own Senate recommended phasing chemical herbicides out of the boreal forest as soon as possible. Québec proved a quarter of a century ago that forestry can continue without chemical herbicide spraying in public forests. A major glyphosate safety review has now been retracted. Court challenges continue. Scientists are issuing new warnings.

And still, in 2026, the spraying continues.

At what point does somebody in government finally say that perhaps we should stop poisoning a forest to grow a forest?

The issue is no longer that governments do not know people object. They know. Industry knows. Foresters know. Politicians know. The federal government knows. The provinces know. **They have known for generations.**

“Cost-effective” for industry is not a magic phrase that makes everything acceptable. Something can be cheaper for a corporation while carrying costs that never appear on its balance sheet. The public bears those costs.

Communities bear them. Our waterways and ecosystems bear them. Wildlife bears them. Future generations bear them.

Enough with the Blame Circle. Enough pointing fingers. Enough hiding behind registrations, licences and policies.

It is time for governments to find their backbone, protect our forests and Stop the Spray.

Take action at StopTheSprayCanada.ca and contact the decision-makers.



Views of columnists and bylined feature writers as expressed are not necessarily those of DRUTHERS. All source links and references can be found at druthers.ca/articles

Special thanks to all those giving their valuable time to help freely distribute DRUTHERS. Thank you also to all who have generously donated to make this free newspaper a reality.

Although the paper is FREE, it costs us to produce, print and distribute it. If you appreciate our efforts, please help us print more papers next month by making a donation.

Please donate kindly:
druthers.ca/donate

Send an e-transfer to:
admin@druthers.net

Cash, cheques & money orders can be made out to and mailed to:

Shawn Jason Laplante
P.O. Box 40531
Six Points Plaza
Toronto, Ontario
M9B 6K8

Distributed independently & completely free of charge.

August 2026 circulation: 150,000 copies Canada-wide

Original content ©2020-2026 DRUTHERS

Publisher & Editor in Chief: Shawn Jason

Administrator: Christie-Lynn

Editor: Michelle

Layout & Design: Michael Choo-Chong

Extra Special Thanks to: Kristy, Bob, and many more...

Comments & General Inquiries: info@druthers.net

News Tips & Article Submissions: editor@druthers.net

“Please world, be kind to one another. We really are just one big earth family. Thank you. I love you. Keep on passing it on.”

– Shawn Jason

Absurdity Observer

Some of the Most Absurd Happenings in Recent Weeks

- Ontario’s “Elbows Up” campaign has now cost taxpayers \$8 million to store American liquor that the LCBO already paid for, and roughly 3.3% of the stockpile—\$2.6 million worth—has expired or passed its shelf-life date while sitting in warehouses.
- According to 2025 government records obtained by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, Canada Post paid managers and executives \$30.8 million in bonuses for the same year it booked a record \$1.6-billion loss and took a billion-dollar taxpayer loan.
- Canada Post may be surviving on taxpayer life support—but it still has funds to pay for feminizing nose jobs! Under agreements signed June 18, 2026, the plan reimburses 80% of eligible gender-affirming-care expenses, subject to a \$15,000 lifetime limit. While provincial plans generally fund approved genital and chest surgeries, Canada Life—the postal plan’s administrator—lists facial feminization or masculinization surgeries, Adam’s apple reduction, laser hair removal, hair transplants, liposuction, body-contouring procedures, pectoral implants (and more) among treatments covered under their workplace plans.
- Canada now treats affirming an alleged child abuser’s gender identity as more important than accurately recording the suspect’s sex. Statistics Canada just classified the alleged sexual assaults of two young girls—one just four years old—as female crimes, despite the accused, Cédric Grégoire, now known as Emma Grégoire, being a biological male who identifies as a woman. Under Bill C-16 and provincial human-rights codes, Statistics Canada says police must record suspects’ self-identified gender—a practice that has placed crimes committed by biological males in female statistics since 2018.
- A Brazilian couple has been sentenced to 50 days in prison for homeschooling the “wrong” curriculum, with the court citing classical piano as evidence of “intellectual neglect.” Among the court’s concerns were the curriculum’s alleged failure to include gender, sexuality, tolerance and diversity programming, and the daughters’ preference for sacred and classical music over popular genres.
- FDA says don’t worry about all those toxic metals found in tampons. After a 2024 peer-reviewed study found lead, arsenic, cadmium, and other metals in every tampon product it tested, the US Food and Drug Administration has now finished conducting its own investigation, concluding that, although these metals are present, the amount actually released during

use is too low to pose a health risk. Critics question how reassuring those findings really are, since the FDA based its conclusions on laboratory simulations rather than testing metal release in actual menstrual fluid. The agency also relied on toxicological models in the absence of direct human studies measuring

hesitancy” and social-media backlash—not the actual vaccine harm itself. One official reportedly asked why the research was not simply “shut down.”

- All ~130 million mobile lines in Mexico must now be associated with Mexico’s new biometric national ID system, “CURP Biométrica,” which includes facial images, fingerprints and iris scans. Suspensions for phone lines not registered with their CURP ID begin August 15th.
- Canada lost a record 120,000+ people to emigration last year—the largest outflow in Canadian history and nearly double the number from a decade ago. And the country isn’t just losing residents; it’s losing some of its highest-bracket taxpayers too. A Bank of Canada staff paper estimates that at least 40% of Canadians whose earning ability would place them in the top 1% now live outside the country.
- The Fraser Institute estimates that the average Canadian family’s tax burden consumes 42.3% of its income.
- Ottawa paid federal executives \$146.3 million in bonuses and performance pay last year—an average of \$18,316 among recipients, or 10.7% of their salaries. An astonishing 98.1% of eligible executives qualified. The Treasury Board defended the payouts as fair and proportionate while the cabinet told Canadians “these are tough times.”
- Canada recorded more deaths than births in the first quarter of 2026—only the fifth such quarter in the country’s recorded history, all occurring since 2022. Just a decade earlier, births exceeded deaths by more than 22,000 during the same three-month period.
- A Bloomberg analysis has found that wholesale power prices at grid points near major AI data-center clusters rose by as much as 267% over five years.
- Britain now has a bold new way to make its internet laws global: fine an American website and enlist American authorities to collect. The UK’s communications regulator, Ofcom, hit US-based 4chan with a £520,000 penalty for refusing British-mandated age checks, and for refusing to make content-risk assessments and changes to its terms of service, then said recovering the unpaid debt may involve local law enforcement and courts where the company has assets—in this case, America. 4chan, which has no staff, servers, or assets in Britain, replied with an AI-generated giant hamster.
- Police counted “church hugs” through binoculars. During the lockdowns, Santa Clara County reportedly geofenced a church, spied on worshippers and had officials use binoculars to count hugs—to help build a case to justify imposing more than \$4 million in fines on its pastor. Nothing says “public health” like government hug surveillance.



long-term vaginal absorption of these metals. It also didn’t disclose the six brands it tested and deemed “safe.”

- An Iranian observational study found that two rare, ultrasound-detected congenital anomalies occurred more frequently among pregnancies exposed to adjuvant-based COVID-19 vaccination in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. The congenital abnormalities, atrioventricular septal defects and cleft palate, occurred in 8 of the 262 vaccinated first-trimester pregnancies, compared to none of the 303 unvaccinated first-trimester pregnancies.
- According to the US’s Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program (CICP) data, more than 14,000 COVID-vaccine-related claims have been filed, yet only 62 have resulted in compensation as of July 1, 2026. 5,736 claims were denied for missing the 1-year deadline (often due to diagnosis delays or missing health records), 1,736 were denied for failing to meet established criteria, and 6,562 claims are still pending.
- Newly released emails show that in April 2021, senior National Institutes of Health (NIH) officials worried that vaccine injuries may cause “hesitancy” and discussed burying the research. Emails released after ICAN sued the NIH under freedom-of-information laws show senior NIH officials discussing neurological problems reported after COVID-19 vaccination—but their stated concern was that publishing the research might fuel “vaccine



DONATE

HELP US PRINT
EVEN MORE DRUTHERS
next month!

Your support helps us reach more readers, spark conversations, and make an impact that matters.



DONATE TODAY! →



VOLUNTEER

HELP GIVE OUT DRUTHERS
IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY!

Be the reason Druthers reaches more neighbours.

It only takes a little time to make a **big difference.**



GET INVOLVED! →



SUBSCRIBE

GET DRUTHERS DELIVERED
TO YOUR MAILBOX
each month!

✓ NEWS THAT CHALLENGES.

✓ IDEAS THAT INSPIRE.

✓ DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR DOOR.



SUBSCRIBE TODAY! →



GET STARTED **NOW** AT

DRUTHERS.CA

NOTE: Please do not distribute Druthers by putting them in the boxes of other newspapers. Thank you.