

March 01, 2011

BY FAX & EMAIL

Canadian Civil Liberties Association
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mail@ccla.org

Dear CCLA:

Beginning in early 2007 I contacted your office on a number of occasions seeking your assistance with the civil rights abuses in Caledonia associated with racial policing practices of the OPP, but you were, unfortunately, unable to assist us at that time.

As you undoubtedly know, award-winning author Christie Blatchford's 2010 book, *Helpless: Caledonia's Nightmare of Fear and Anarchy, And How The Law Failed All of Us*, has completely vindicated allegations that the Ontario Provincial Police were following orders not to enforce the rule of law in Caledonia and were, indeed, conducting policing by race to the utter detriment of non-native citizens with no lawful authority.

You may not be aware, however, that a significant amount of the evidence and background for the book was provided by us, and that Mr. McHale and his wife received an acknowledgement in the book for their assistance to the author.

Blatchford's February 28, 2011 article in *Globe*, '*For sheer abuse of state power nothing touches Caledonia*,' opens with some frank criticism of the CCLA's deafening silence on Caledonia's police abuses:

How fitting that the report of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association on the policing of the G20 should be released on the fifth anniversary of the native occupation in Caledonia, Ont.

The same organization now screaming for a full-scale public inquiry into alleged abuses – particularly, the troubling breach-of-the-peace arrest authority used over that June weekend – was and continues to be absolutely silent about similar and worse abuses that occurred in the small town just south of Hamilton, just a few clicks from the Six Nations reserve.

We have worked alone, on a full time volunteer basis, with no financial or public support from NGOs for nearly 5 years – exposing and opposing the terrible race-based policing that caused so much misery in Caledonia, and we would be grateful for your interest now that you have additional resources available of the type you were able to mobilize for the G20, a very worthwhile endeavour indeed.

Last week, the International Free Press Society and the Free Thinking Film Society announced they are co-sponsoring an Ottawa presentation at the Library & National

Archives for us entitled, *Caledonia: No More Nightmares*. The final segment of our presentation will be the public release of our legislative recommendations for what we call ‘*The Caledonia Act*.’ We have already supplied these to two political parties at their invitation, and would be pleased to discuss any ideas and assistance you might have with respect to improving and implementing them.

Would the CCLA be ready to take a meeting with us in the near future to discuss the best way to ensure that the egregious civil rights abuses in Caledonia cannot be repeated?

Thank you for your consideration.

You can read our ‘Caledonia CVs’ here:

Mark Vandermaas:

<http://caledoniavictimsproject.wordpress.com/about-3/resume-mark-vandermaas-2/>

Gary McHale:

<http://garymchale2010.wordpress.com/about/pictures-of-leadership/>

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Vandermaas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Vandermaas
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