



## Seeking federal participation

by Geri Kamenz, President Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Now that the McGuinty Government is working with agriculture to develop a Risk Management Program to provide some protection from wildly fluctuating commodity prices, it's time for the federal government to step up to the plate.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Minister Strahl recently undercut one of his arguments to avoid such participation – it's too costly. With his recent announcement denying enrolment in the Canadian Farm Families Options Program to new entrants, Minister Strahl freed up about 240 million dollars that could be put toward regional flexible programming such as the Risk Management Program in Ontario.

Minister Strahl's changes to the Options program eligibility for year two did major damage to the financial planning of hundreds of Ontario farmers. The Ontario Federation

of Agriculture found little to praise when the Options program was first introduced almost a year ago, but certainly did not advocate he change horses in mid stream.

OFA did contact Minister Strahl's office urging that unsubscribed funds from the 550-million dollar program be redirected to other priorities in agriculture. Last October we asked the minister to make the money available to fund provincial companion programming.

It was never suggested that changes be made to the Options program that would make funding unavailable to farmers who hadn't participated in the inaugural year. OFA's letter to the minister stated: "The expectation in the farm community was that the 2006 eligibility criteria would allow for new applications."

Recently, word came from Minister Strahl's office that only farmers who had received money

from the program in 2006 would be eligible in 2007. He's claiming to have listened to farmers and their organizations in reaching the decision to cancel the program for 2007. That just isn't the case, Minister.

But now that the decision to cancel the Options program for 2007 has been announced by Minister Strahl, we urge him to take the 240 million dollars that won't be needed for the program and invest it in risk management programming.

Farmers and their organizations have developed a RMP model unique to Ontario that believe would work for the industry. Now the province has announced its desire to negotiate the terms of a three-year pilot program that would make Risk Management Program funding available, beginning with the 2007 crop.

We were pleased to hear OMAFRA Minister Dombrowsky announce those plans in conjunction

with providing 55 million dollars aimed at helping with rising production costs. That money will form the province's share of money announced in the federal budget to help farmers deal with rising production costs.

While this financial support is valuable to the farmers of Ontario, an adequately funded Risk Management Program is

essential to ensure future stability for the industry. Without such stability, farm businesses cannot plan for the future.

Agriculture is a multi-billion dollar industry in Ontario, and just like other similar-sized industries, professional financial planning is critical. This is where well-funded Risk Management Programming would play a role in a suc-

cessful future for Canadian agriculture.

Now that we have the Ontario government engaged in planning the necessary Risk Management Program for Ontario farmers, we call on the federal government to commit to providing the money needed to ensure long-term success for the industry.

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## LAVIN AUCTIONS INC.

Wednesday, June 27th at 5:30 p.m. at 13400 Desro Dr., Tecumseh. Repossessed auto repair shop equipment from the former Mister Transmission in Windsor and Joe's Service in LaSalle - all consigned is restaurant equip. **Garage Equip.:** Transmission jacks, 2 alignment machines - Sun and Snap-on (one is missing ramps), drill press, parts washers, 20 ton press, floor jacks and stands, Snap-on refrigerant recovery and recycling machine, Snap-on wheel balancer, radiator flush machine, battery chargers, torch set, engine hoist, seal installation kit and parts, shop tables plus various other related items. **Restaurant Equip.:** 20 qt. mixer, 2 dr. S/S cooler (small), chicken broaster, warmer, Bunn coffee maker, also 40 ft. sea container with side door (Town of Tecumseh), 7000 lb. rotary hoist. **Terms:** Cash or Interac. 10% buyer premium. For further info call **RICHARD LAVIN AUCTIONS INC. 519-735-3070 TECUMSEH**

## Auction Sale

Saturday, June 23 at 10 a.m.

Contents of St. Joachim and Stoney Point Roman Catholic Churches. 7025 Tecumseh Rd., Stoney Point Church. Take 401 to Comber exit heading north into Stoney Point.

Over 100 oak pews all different lengths, large oak wardrobe, oak desk with oak top drawers and doors, (very unusual), large quantity of stacking chairs, tables, oak bevelled glass doors, and French doors, bevel glass windows, light fixtures, chandeliers, all oak trim and panels, fans, candlestick holders, benches, wooden chairs, dishes, kneeling benches, double pedestal desk, Kenmore refrigerator, plywood, much much more too numerous to mention. This is only a partial listing.

Not responsible for accidents day of sale  
**Terms** cash or cheque with proper I.D.  
Murray Knapp, Auctioneer, 519-687-3424

## HISTORIC VICTORIAN HOME AND CONTENTS

# AUCTION SALE

Saturday, June 30th at 10:00 A.M.

On Site at: 325 Wellington Street West, Chatham

From the 401: Take Bloomfield Road north to Richmond Street and turn right. Travel to Lacroix St. and turn left 2 blocks to Wellington. Turn right and go 2 blocks to auction.

To be sold at 12:00 Noon: Majestic Victorian Brick Home, Originally Built by Attorney Mathew Wilson of Chatham

This home is an absolute gem with stunning architecture and turret, boasting 6000 square feet and 3 full floors with original slate roof. There is also a 4 tandem detached garage (lot size is 52'x208') sold subject to owner's approval. **Terms** 10% down day of sale, balance due in 30 days. **Furniture:** circa 1880 oval walnut split pedestal dining room table with 4 leaves and 6 carved chairs, Victorian cameo back settee, massive sideboard, pair of Victorian carved walnut armchairs, early oak coffer chest with rat tail hinges, Early Victorian Japanned sideboard, Victorian parlour table, walnut tea cart, Mason & Reisch upright piano, Queen size 4 poster bed, fainting couch, several sofa sets.

**Art and miscellaneous:** quantity of art including early oil on canvas signed A. Saladint subject, many other old framed prints, pictures and oils, Columbia Graphanola, glassware, china, silver, costume jewellery, and much more.

For viewing home, please call auctioneer at 1-877-811-5297.



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## Jack Morris Auctions Inc. Auction Reminder Saturday, June 23 at 10:30 a.m.

Selling motorcycles, scooters, service books, good selection of shop tools, rototiller, car and truck at 2113 Division Road, Kingsville, across from Jack Miner School.

**Terms** cash or personalized cheque day of sale  
**Proprietor:** Ken Connick Estate  
For info call 519-733-2556

**Auctioneer:** Jack Morris, 519-687-2530 or 1-800-462-3561

Details and photos at [www.jackmorrisauctions.com](http://www.jackmorrisauctions.com)

## LAVIN AUCTIONS INC.

Sunday, June 24th at 10:30 a.m. Preview 9:30 a.m. at 3860 Manchester St. in Windsor (N. of Tec. Rd. off Felix).

Living Estate Sale for James Stevenson to include vehicles, furnishings, garden and lawn equipment, boats-motors, collectables, antiques. **Glassware:** Collector plates, Bavaria, picture/bowl sets, cranberry etc. Approx. 200 pcs. dogs, cats, roosters, horses etc. collection, numerous curio cabinets (some antique), fern stands, marble top table, Victorian sofa and 2 chairs plus other Victorian pcs., needlepoint picture, settee and chairs, Grandmother clock, mantle clock, spoon sets, wooden baby cradles, pewter collection, trunks, wood rocker, phone table, old boat in display case and boat pictures, quilt rack, misc. silver pcs., doll collection - Laurel and Hardy, composite plus others, misc. brass items etc., **Modern** maple B.R. sets, lamps, mirrors, area rugs, McClary S/S oven, pictures, wrought iron patio set, cement fountain, etc. Two boat motors - Johnston 3 h.p. and 5 1/2 h.p., rubber raft, sm. sail boat, trailer, air comps., 12 h.p. riding lawnmower (approx. 1 yr. old), push mowers, 4 h.p. vac-shredder, 3 Toro snow blowers - one is 8 h.p., spreaders, water pump, ladders, shelving, misc. power and hand tools, box lots, etc. **Cars:** '99 Chrysler Concord and '77 Lincoln Continental, both low mileage. **Car Hoist:** 6000 lb. 4 post electric (new condition). **Terms:** Cash or Interac.

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