

# Local farmers say they feel demonstration successful

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was the repeated message of all the speakers.

"Canadian farmers are having the life kicked out of them with cheap imported foods," said Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) Vice-President Geri Kamenz.

"Canadian farmers are the most productive, most innovative, most technologically advanced and environmentally friendly, yet they get no help from their own government to survive in the industry. We're losing farmers every day — simply because they can't survive. Many here today won't make it through this year if they don't get help. Rural communities across the country are crumbling — we have no help."

Following the demonstration, Campbellville farmer Peter Lambrick said he was pleased with the outcome.

"The solidarity here today is most encouraging," said Lambrick.

"Seeing this response across the country — and they all are sending out the same message — that's something we've not seen before. Having a government put in place by a lot of rural candidates, I think the message has certainly gotten across today."

Lambrick said the Quebec farmers' solidarity was "most impressive" and certainly significant in stressing the Canadian farmers' demands.

"They (Quebec farmers) did it with their usual flair," said Lambrick, "which actually puts on one hell of a show. Those people know how to demonstrate, and it's great for the rest of us to see them march in and throw their support behind us."

Lambrick said it was symbolic to say the least — politicians

can't ignore a group that big.

"I think the day was very successful," added Allison.

"In a very short time frame, almost 10,000 farmers from across Canada came to Ottawa and put forth a message to politicians — they are going to have to look at change, no doubt about it. They can't ignore it."

Following the demonstration, Lambrick met briefly with Halton MP Garth Turner to get his view of the demonstration, as well as any indications for the future.

"Garth gave me the sense that the prime minister has got the message, but may need time to do other things before things can be put into place for us," said Lambrick.

"It's still early days for the Conservatives, and they need to put things in order first."

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For more information, call (905) 854-0234, or visit [www.conservationhalton.on.ca](http://www.conservationhalton.on.ca).

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