



The **A**ssembly **O**f **G**entlemen

The subject of the recent election of Donald Trump as the next president of the United States became the basis of discussion and some ridicule in November. Of particular concern to the group were the news stories of 'legions' of U.S. citizens fleeing the country to Canada if Mr. Trump was elected. This was an appealing prospect to the entrepreneurial spirit of the AoG given the proximity of Prince Edward County and South Marysburgh to the States.

"New York State is only about 50 KMs across the lake. We're sure to see a bunch of Americans come across that way instead of driving. We should set up an immigration centre out at Long Point," noted one member, "It may be small but there's a harbour out there."

"This could be a very good thing for PEC," began the member considered not to be the sharpest knife in the drawer. "An influx of Americans settling in the County would increase the tax base that council's always talking about, and they'd have to hook up to the water system if they settle in Picton or Wellington. That'd help too. And those Yanks are pretty good at starting up businesses and creating jobs which we sure need here."

"He's got a point," opined another member, "But it'd better if they were welcomed and stayed in South Marysburgh, maybe open businesses in Milford to make it the commercial hub it used to be. Can you imagine what American ingenuity could do to Hicks' store? Look at what Richard Baker did with The Bay."

At their next meeting, a recently-struck "Welcoming Sub-Committee" reported on some of its initiatives. "We've done up a map that we can put up online to show them how to get here from upstate New York," said the sub-committee's Chair. "We've also got some preliminary signage done for the harbor and County Road 13 leading into town."



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While there was general consensus that these were a good beginning, a more seasoned AoG member weighed in, "If there is any possibility of what one of you referred to as an 'influx', we'd better get working on the PERTS (Prince Edward Rapid Transit System) because County Road 13 toward Long Point is in such really bad shape it sure wouldn't impress newcomers."

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