



Supporting an exit strategy

by Ron Bonnett, President Ontario Federation of Agriculture

For decades, governments in Canada have harvested billions of dollars in taxes from the sale of tobacco products. Now, in keeping with global health trends, and being a signatory to the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, our governments have taken measures to eliminate tobacco con-

sumption.

Either through poor planning or oversight, a very important element of our tobacco industry has been virtually forgotten through this process. The growers, over the years, have invested millions of dollars in land, equipment, quota and facilities to be able to produce the product governments enjoy taxing so much.

Now that the decision has been made by governments to spend heavily on advertising to convince consumers to stop smoking, the industry is rapidly dwindling to nothing. Growers have no market for their product, no market for their equipment, no market for the quota they bought in good faith, and almost no market for the

land they have maintained to grow the tobacco plants.

At its monthly board meeting, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's directors approved a resolution submitted by the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board. The resolution seeks financial support from government for producers being forced to exit the industry.

The government decision to eliminate the tobacco industry in Canada, without providing compensation to producers, has forced a number of tobacco producers into bankruptcy, and as that has been happening, communities in tobacco production areas have seen their economies decimated.

The resolution asks for the co-operation of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and its provincial counterparts to urge the federal and provincial

governments to immediately implement the recommendations made in the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board Exit Strategy.

The primary objective of the recommendations is to assist producers get out of tobacco production without losing everything, and to minimize economic hardship for communities where tobacco has been grown.

OFA is pleased to provide its support for tobacco growers on this issue because our governments have been willing to accept tax revenue from tobacco sales – a clear indication to society that tobacco is a legal product.

Now that human health concerns have gained precedence over tax revenues, we believe the governments that collected all that money from tobacco sales must start making

payments to tobacco growers who were the source of so much revenue over the years. These people have a right to expect support from a society that has made a major shift in its priorities.

The tobacco producers have taken an admirable position in not wanting to move into producing commodities that would displace production of other farmers.

Our governments have recognized many of these points, and have taken initial steps to help today's tobacco farmers exit the industry gracefully. To be effective, the exit strategy actions have to be accelerated to provide meaningful support to tobacco growers and the communities where they live.

New fire station for Cottam

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Kingsville Deputy Mayor Katherine said she is a neighbour once-removed from the new station, with her house separated only by a baseball diamond.

"As a member of council, I am very proud of our Kingsville firefighter service," Gunning said. "Now we can service our residents particularly in the north end of Kingsville."

Congratulations were also brought forward by Nellie Green from the Office of the Fire Marshall of Ontario and Essex County Fire Co-ordinator Dave Fields.

4-H News

Santa's Crafters

Our third meeting was Oct. 12. At the meeting we decorated some wreaths made out of grapevine. We glued pieces onto the wreaths such as a drum, a bow or a snowman. We chose to decorate a wreath, a fence or a swag with a whole lot of decorations. Tori brought some Girl Guide cookies, as well as homemade cookies.

At our meeting Oct. 17 we made wreaths out of pine cones and decorated little wooden wreaths with ribbon and very small decorations. There was a prize for the person who made the most decorations – Tori Rocheleau (with help). She made 12 decorations. Second was Amber with nine decorations. At the end of the meeting, we celebrated our leader Mary's birthday with some cake and a song. – by Tori Rocheleau

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Jack Morris Auctions Inc.
Property Auction Sale
Attractive small home that needs some inside work
Sunday, November 12 at 2:00 p.m.
Selling for the estate of Jerry Neels, this five room 1 1/2 storey house located at 96 St. Paul St., Essex. From Main St. take Brien St. south to St. Paul (beside Anglican Church).
House has natural gas furnace, air conditioning, good roof, bathroom, one downstairs bedroom, could be two bedrooms upstairs, two rooms down w/hardwood floors. Outside measurement approx. 32'x23 1/2'.
Property has extensive gardens in both front and back yards w/small swimming pool, fenced back yard and picket fence in front.
This home does not require a lot of work inside, but does need some finishing.
Terms: 10% down day of sale, balance on or before December 15, 2006.
To view property call Auctioneer: Jack Morris, 519-687-2530 or 1-800-462-3561.
Photos at www.jackmorrisauctions.com

Jack Morris Auctions Inc.
Auction Reminder
Saturday, October 28 at 10:30 a.m.
1094 Con. 7, Lakeshore, south from Co. Rd. 42 at Patillo Rd., furniture, glass, china, few tools, etc., 48.9 acre farm selling at 1:30 p.m. Details and terms at www.jackmorrisauctions.com
Auctioneer: Jack Morris, 519-687-2530

ESTATE AUCTION
A PUBLIC AUCTION FOR THE PARTIAL ESTATE OF GERALD AND ANGELA MARONTATE (Colchester) AND OTHERS WILL BE HELD AT 357 QUEEN ST. (Walker Rd.), HARROW, ON
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th AT 9:30 A.M.
ANT. & COLL: Krug dining set, dresser w/mirror and 3/4 bed, child's, Jenny Lind and 3 other beds, tainting couch, secretary & spanner desks, commode chair, fern table, Victorian & needlepoint chairs, rockers, washstand, 2 deco kit. cabs, 4 trucks, machinist, chest, 1/2 moon table, doll furniture, Charlie McCarthy doll, Mickey Mouse record player, doctor's ultraviolet kit, table & floor lamps, 5 pc. pitcher & bowl set, depression & pressed glass, drape oil lamp, 1870's transferware vase, Czech spatter glass, mini Coalport teapot, hozelton & Inuit sculptures, pictures, salts, cups & saucers, much collectible glass & china, costume jewelry, silver cutlery, 1910 - '30s quilts, linens, fur coats & much more. **MODERN ETC:** 30" gas & elect. stoves, fridges, gas dryer, lg. chest freezer, micro, teak dining table & chairs, maple desk, mah. 8'x3 1/2' dining table, divan & chair, cribbage/coffee table, lg. wall mirror, colour TVs, 4 bar stools, sm. wicker table, treadmill, hi chair, new Li'l Tykes swing, sm. kit. appliances, pots, pans, glassware, dishes, flatware etc., queen comforters, humidifier, porta-potti, Halloween & Xmas decs., 24" wood door, 10" band saw, prof. sandblasters, air tools, welding helmet, car ramps, ice auger & spud, HD jack stands, tow bar, 5 gal. boat tank, timing lite, coveralls, motorized bike, truck running boards, 12.5 hp Toro lawn tractor w/mulching deck & much much more. **PREVIEW:** Fri. 5-7 p.m. or Sat. 8:30 a.m.
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More details in upcoming papers or with photos at www.jackmorrisauctions.com
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Saturday at 10:00 a.m.
October 28, 2006
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Hoffy & Sons Construction
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(off Huron Church Road)
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