

DCE Buffer Zone

Resident of Caledonia

May 14, 2007

From the Ontario Government Caledonia pages this is their definition of the buffer zone on DCE.

<http://www.aboriginalaffairs.osaa.gov.on.ca/english/caledonia/faq.htm#buffer>

“What is the buffer zone (also called the "no go zone") and where is it?

On September 25th, the Ontario government, after negotiations and consensus with the Haudenosaunee/Six Nations, announced that an agreement had been reached on the creation of a 100-foot (30.48 metres) buffer zone on the north end of the Douglas Creek Estates lands in Caledonia.

The buffer zone extends approximately 100 feet (30.48 metres) south from the north property line, stretching from the north west side (adjacent to the railway tracks) to the north east side of the property (adjacent to Argyle Street). There are certain exceptions (see below).

The buffer zone is intended to facilitate a better sense of privacy and security for both the people living in close proximity to the Douglas Creek Estates lands and the Haudenosaunee/Six Nations.”

In actual fact the “buffer zone” does not exist for DCE Occupiers and their supporters. The DCE Occupiers and their supporters are able to violate it freely with impunity as the OPP will do nothing to them if they violate the “buffer zone”.

In actual fact if any residents of Caledonia or their supporters violate the “buffer zone” they will be charged.

There have been several incidents over the past few months where DCE Occupiers have been on the barricades at Thistlemoor and Braemar and in two cases actually confronted OPP officers in their cars. Not one of these DCE Occupiers was charged.

I had a conversation with Mayor Trainer and OPP Inspector McLean on Tuesday April 16, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. during which we discussed the 100' buffer zone.

- Inspector McLean told me that his officers patrolled a 12' strip next to the houses on Thistlemoor and had full view of the rest of the 100' zone. Inspector McLean commented that the OPP do not actually patrol the full 100' zone.
- We discussed two recent incidents where natives entered the Thistlemoor Braemar residential areas and confronted OPP Cruisers with one case involving weapons. He commented that the OPP determines what is best for the safety of those involved in every policing situation which often results in arrests at a later time.

- I asked Inspector McLean whether the OPP would arrest a native if they broke into one of the houses bordering DCE. He told me that the OPP would arrest anyone that breaks into a house. He indicated to me that if the person escaped to DCE the OPP would not enter DCE to chase them.

I left meeting with a lot of doubt about any arrests involving DCE Occupiers.

Either the Ontario Government is misleading the public when it uses the words “*to facilitate a better sense of privacy and security for both the people living in close proximity to the Douglas Creek Estates*” or the OPP administration is enforcing two sets of laws as relates to DCE. They enforce the law as it applies to residents but ignore the law as it applies to DCE Occupiers. Either way residents of Thistlemoor and Braemar have had enough of the lies and inaction.

Mr. McGuinty and Commissioner Fantino are both derelict in performing their duties related to Caledonia and DCE. Since DCE is the property of the Province of Ontario it is their responsibility to control those that are guests on their property. Should anyone be injured or killed as result of Provincial negligence with regard to this property I would expect that Mr. McGuinty and Commissioner Fantino be held personally responsible.

The Province and their police force need to stop lying about the 100’ buffer zone and deal with the intimidation tactics of the DCE Occupiers before someone gets hurt.