



*serving agriculture
since 1954*

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The CFFO and Public Demonstrations

Guelph, February 2005. The CFFO has a long history of working cooperatively --- rather than in an adversarial fashion --- with municipal, provincial and federal governments. This stems from a biblical principle that states citizens need to be in proper submission to governing authorities.

In this regard, the CFFO's Provincial Council adopted the following two resolutions in 1978:

THAT the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, when it has identified an issue of public justice that requires a change in some public policy, will draw the matter to public attention via letter writing, brief presentation, news releases, and

THAT if the above does not influence society to make a change, then the CFFO, where opportunity exists, will apply to the appropriate regulatory body, to officers of our governments, or to the courts of law for a ruling on the justness of the issue of public justice in question.

The CFFO has largely used that approach ever since. And it has relied upon the power of a good idea delivered at the right time. We still believe that a commitment to long-term thinking delivers a power of influence that will last much longer than the latest tractor demonstration.

That being said, participation in public demonstrations has taken place among CFFO members in the past and will continue in the future. But we do our best to ensure that non-violent means are used and that the public is neither endangered or inconvenienced. It remains one of our least-preferred methods of drawing the public's attention to farm issues. In the final analysis, the CFFO believes that the power of clear thinking, mutual respect and dialogue go further with governments than public demonstrations

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