



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Online panel to discuss saving the Kemptville College Farmlands from prison development, and alternative approaches to community safety and economic developments**

**Kemptville, ON – December 7, 2020:** The Coalition Against the Proposed Prison (CAPP) is pleased to invite the public, media organizations, and political leaders to its upcoming public information and discussion forum. CAPP is a group of residents opposed to the planned construction of the Eastern Ontario Correctional Complex in Kemptville, Ontario. The event, to be held via Zoom, will take place from 7:00pm to 9:00p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2020.

On August 27, 2020, without any consultation with the Municipality of North Grenville and its residents, the Government of Ontario announced plans to build a 235-bed correctional facility on approximately 180 acres of farmland that was previously part of The Kemptville Agricultural College. “It is an important piece of the agricultural and farming heritage of the area”, noted CAPP spokesperson, Colleen Lynas.

Participants to the event will hear from experts in the field of incarceration, prison reform and construction, and alternatives to confinement, as well as from an Indigenous political leader. “The recent public engagement session hosted by the Ministry of the Solicitor General provided one view of the issue. We think it is important for people to hear from other voices on this matter”, stated Victor Lachance, a CAPP member who will be moderating the event. Participants will also learn about innovative ideas for preserving the targeted farmland. “Our goal is to emphasize a positive vision for the future of Kemptville and North Grenville”, added Lachance.

A robust question and answer period will be a part of the evening. For more information, visit [www.coalitionagainstoproposedprison.ca](http://www.coalitionagainstoproposedprison.ca). To register for the event, please email CAPP at [coalitionagainstoproposedprison@gmail.com](mailto:coalitionagainstoproposedprison@gmail.com)

Event speakers include:

- Aaron Doyle, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Carleton University;
- Bryonie Baxter, former Executive Director, Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa, local resident;
- Kim Beaudin, Vice-Chief of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples;
- Paul Cormier, Chairman, RANA Developments Inc., member Board of Directors, Agritech Alliance Canada, local businessperson;
- Kirk Albert, Jail Opposition Group, local resident;
- Marie-Thérèse Voutsinos M.Sc. Agr., local resident; and
- Justin Piché, Associate Professor, Department of Criminology, University of Ottawa.

**For more information or to arrange media interviews contact:**

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Coalition Against the Proposed Prison

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