

For Immediate Release

Tickets on sale now for Logan Staats and Trevor Alguire Concert Fundraiser in Ottawa – Joining Forces to Stop Ford’s Kemptville Prison

Kemptville, ON – September 6, 2023: Opponents of the Ford government’s controversial plan to build a prison in Kemptville outside Ottawa are holding a benefit concert headlined by Mohawk singer-songwriter Logan Staats. The fundraiser, presented by the Coalition Against the Proposed Prison (CAPP), takes place on Friday, November 3, 2023, at the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre (CDCC) in downtown Ottawa. All proceeds will go to support the legal challenge waged by local residents against the Ford government’s plan to build the 235-bed prison on farmland in Kemptville, which is located on unceded and unsurrendered Algonquin Anishinaabe Territory. **Tickets go on sale starting today at noprison.eventbrite.com.**

Taking place in CDCC’s historic and beautiful Sanctuary, audience members are in for a rare musical concert experience with an intimate performance by **Logan Staats** (<https://www.loganstaats.ca/>), the multi-award-winning Mohawk singer-songwriter and Indigenous rights advocate you’ll recognize as a past winner of CTV’s *The Launch*. Armed with his guitar and harmonica, Staats’ haunting voice is sure to inspire. Says Staats: *“We don’t need another prison on stolen Indigenous land. We need land back. That’s why I’m joining forces with CAPP to stop Ford’s Kemptville prison”*.

Trevor Alguire (<https://trevoralguire.com/>), a local favourite, reminds us with his special blend of country-rock why quality of life in rural Ontario is worth fighting for. *“Small town and rural Ontario need to be respected and our voices need to be heard”*, states Alguire. *“I was shocked to hear that the Ford government didn’t consult with the residents of Kemptville before deciding to build a prison in their town. Paving over farmland to build that prison is simply irresponsible when our province is losing more than 300 acres of farmland a day. I’m joining forces with CAPP to stop Ford’s Kemptville prison”*.

The audience will be in good hands with host **Adrian Harewood**. Bringing together entertainment and social issues comes naturally to this award-winning former CBC Ottawa news anchor and Carleton University School of Journalism and Communication professor. He notes: *“As a journalist, I’ve covered the most pressing issues facing our communities. Today, many are concerned about the future use of agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands. We all want to make communities safer for everyone. I’m honoured to be hosting the Joining Forces concert that brings all these issues into focus”*.

CAPP invites everyone to join forces with them for an evening of music and fellowship to STOP FORD’S KEMPTVILLE PRISON, save farmland, and build communities, not cages.

- CAPP’s Concert Fundraiser takes place on Friday, Nov. 03, 2023.
- Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert starts at 7:30 p.m.
- The concert entrance for the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre is located at 290 Lisgar Street, Ottawa, ON.
- Cash bar, along with artist and campaign merchandise, available.
- **Buy tickets at noprison.eventbrite.com**

#SaveDontPaveFarmland
#StopFordsKemptvillePrison
#BuildCommunitiesNotCages
#onpoli

ABOUT THE LEGAL CHALLENGE:

Seeking a Prohibition Order that will stop the construction of the proposed prison, Kemptville residents Victor Lachance and Kirk Albert started their David vs. Goliath-style legal action against the Ford government on August 15, 2022. The Notice of Application for a Judicial Review that they filed argues that the Ford government violated their own planning rules by ramming the Kemptville prison project through without consultation with the community or municipal council.

A key supporter and player in pushing Ford's Kemptville prison plan through was area MPP and former Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark, who has since been forced to resign for his violations of the *Members' Integrity Act* in relation to a similar process of removal of Greenbelt lands for development.

Find out more about CAPP's fight to stop Ford's Kemptville prison at <https://www.coalitionagainstoproposedprison.ca/>.

CAPP acknowledges the support of the Criminalization and Punishment Education Project. Updated information about partners and supporters to follow.

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