

For Immediate Release

November 3rd Joining Forces to Stop Ford's Kemptville Prison Concert Fundraiser in Ottawa to be Headlined by Search the Landfills Advocate and Mohawk Singer-Songwriter Logan Staats

Kemptville, ON – October 11, 2023: Opponents of the Ford government's controversial plan to build a prison in Kemptville outside Ottawa are holding a benefit concert on Friday, November 3. Presented by the Coalition Against the Proposed Prison (CAPP), the concert will be a fundraiser 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 prime farmland in Kemptville, which will expand the number of prison cells on unceded and unsurrendered Algonquin Anishinaabe Territory. **Tickets are available at noprison.eventbrite.com for \$50 + fees for regular admission and \$25 all-inclusive for students, low-income and unwaged persons. Special rates are also available for large groups.**

The event, which is taking place in CDCC's historic and beautiful Sanctuary, is being headlined by Mohawk Warrior, Activist, Community Leader, and singer-songwriter **Logan Staats** (<https://www.loganstaats.ca/>), who was recently on the frontlines with other Indigenous justice activists on Treaty 5 Territory demanding that colonial authorities search for and return the remains of Morgan Harris and Mercedes Myran who were murdered and believed to be buried at the Brady Landfill outside Winnipeg. Staats is a multi-award-winning performer and past winner of CTV's *The Launch*. He explains why he's headlining the concert: *"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"*. Whether demanding an end to violence against Indigenous women and girls or an end to the colonial violence that is Indigenous mass incarceration, CAPP stands in solidarity with Indigenous peoples like Logan Staats who are demanding action, answers and justice.

Trevor Alguire (<https://trevoralguire.com/>), a local favourite, whose special blend of country-rock reminds us why quality of life in rural Ontario is worth fighting for. He states: *"Small town and rural Ontario need to be respected and our voices need to be heard. 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"*. He adds: *"Paving over farmland and destroying farm buildings to build that prison is simply irresponsible at a time 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 the award-winning, former CBC Ottawa news anchor and professor at Carleton University's School of Journalism and Communication. 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 pm and the concert starts at 7:30 pm.
- The concert entrance for the Carleton Dominion-Chalmers Centre is 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 its 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.coalitionagainstproposedprison.ca/>.

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

FOR INTERVIEWS WITH THE MUSICIANS AND CAPP MEMBERS

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