

## Fighting Dirty!

**Garbage is pretty dirty!** The people fighting a dump expansion near **Napanee** found this out quickly. Some parts of an old dump were already leaking. Not only did they see what they thought were dirty tactics by the dump company, they knew that the dump would pollute their drinking water.

The Ministry of the Environment admits that pollution continues to this day to spread in the ground water. Poh-Gek Forkert, a toxicologist, suspects that recent rains might have increased discharges of contaminated groundwater and potentially spreading contamination, including to surface water.

### How did Napanee win its fight to prevent expansion of their dump?

- They made sure that everyone was aware. For almost a decade, drivers heading west on Highway 401 near Napanee would have spotted a yellow school bus conspicuously parked in a field. On its rear was a large white board with a classic red Stop sign and ... **“Protect our Water and Farmlands”**.
- They worked with **Rick Lindgren**, “a skilled environmental lawyer” with the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA) and “a strategic plan of action”.
- They raised money for experts because **“the provincial government had neither the staff nor the will to battle industry”**.

### What can you do now?

- **Get or make an anti-dump sign and display it prominently.** OPAL’s signs will appear at Ingersoll’s and Woodstock’s Farmers’ Markets weekly.
- **Support Ingersoll’s plan** to engage even more than the current 79 communities all over Ontario who back our “NO” to the dump.
- **Donate to OPAL’s expert scientists fund** in person at the markets or by cheque to “OPAL” and mailed to S. Fleming, OPAL Secretary, 205 George Street, Ingersoll, ON N5C 1Z5

**Together we will win! Walker’s draft documents are expected soon. We will refute them with the help of our experts.**



### How can I get a copy of “Fighting Dirty”?

This book on how a community beat a dump company is available on loan through the Ingersoll Library, and for \$30 at OPAL Alliance tables at farmers’ markets.

### Who is Rick Lindgren?

The Canadian Environmental Law Association’s brilliant Rick Lindgren is joined by Theresa McClenaghan, its executive director, in **helping to protect Oxford County from 17.4 million tonnes of garbage** pushed on us by Walker. When the people of Napanee prevented a dump expansion, Lindgren said **“It should give other communities fighting landfill expansions hope and confidence as they move forward with their battles”**. With McClenaghan, Lindgren gives us hope, and expert legal advice.

### Who is Wilf Ruland?

**On retainer to OPAL, Wilf Ruland is a highly regarded water scientist with credentials in Ontario and Germany. He lives near Oxford.** According to “Fighting Dirty”, Ruland, who had studied landfills and their impacts for 15 years, said he had been present at landfills when minor excavations were taking place and the odours were awful and unbearable. When Walker dumps contaminated dirt on top of the garbage and spreads it, we can reasonably expect this to stir up dust, air-borne plastics and odours even if its goal is to hold down flying trash. OPAL is currently amassing funds to pay for Wilf Ruland to analyse Walker’s claim, to do the science that proves them false. **Generous public donations will make this possible.**



### Kids are our future! What future are we building for them?

Even these young children know that a mega dump is no place to live, grow and play near. Join them in sending Walker and the Ministry of the Environment a strong message – Our communities are NOT willing hosts!

**Send your emails and letters to Minister Rod Phillips – [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca) or talk to him toll-free at 1-800-464-4923!**

**OPAL is a volunteer organization that represents you! Oxford People Against the Landfill are numerous, determined and strong, because you are! For more information, visit [www.demandtheright.ca](http://www.demandtheright.ca) and [www.opalalliance.ca](http://www.opalalliance.ca)**

**The dump is not a done deal! Follow us on Facebook!**