

## In addition to the GREENBELT scandal, the Ford Government needs to commit to:

- 1) A review of Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) budget;
- 2) Overhaul the regulatory policy as it relates to wildlife rehabbers to make the system more transparent;
- 3) Reign in exorbitant MNRF enforcement expenditures for what amounts to a lose-lose for Ontarians and our wildlife; and
- 4) Reverse the expansion of licenses for penned dog hunting facilities.

### Background on Wildlife Rehabilitators:

The MNRF and the Provincial government don't fund Wildlife Rehabilitators, but they rely on volunteer rehabbers who run their facilities through self-funding and donations from private citizens. **If rehabbers can't trust and partner with their government regulators, Ontarians who are trying to help wildlife will soon have nowhere to turn, and will have to watch helplessly as the animals in need will be left to suffer the painful consequences.**



Help us put an end to

ABUSE OF POWER!

ABUSE OF ANIMALS!

ABUSE OF TAX-PAYERS MONEY!

remind our government that they work for us



On September 26, 2023, over 50 MNRF officials (Enforcement Officers and researchers) swarmed Mally's Third Chance Raccoon Rescue ("Mally's") and seized all 87 raccoons. The facility was authorized to care for up to 150. Mally's was Ontario's largest centre for raccoons, who are traditionally under-served in the rehabilitation community. They took in sick, injured and orphaned raccoons, rehabilitated them and released them back into the wild.

**WE NEED ANSWERS! Who authorized this military-style raid, and how much did it cost?**

**WHETHER YOU LIKE RACCOONS OR NOT, you need to know that this one day (with requested air support, drone operators, a K9 unit, over 50 MNRF officials, over 20 vehicles, a catered staff lunch, and port-a-potties brought in) likely cost more than most drug raids, and provided no real benefit to the public good.** The information seized in the raid could have been obtained in a normal site inspection by the MNRF.

### **IS THAT HOW THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD SPEND TAX PAYERS' MONEY?**

**Mally's was one of only 47 Wildlife Rescue Centres left in Ontario from once over 200; and is not the first center to be subjected to this heavy handed intimidation** (Ottawa Carlton Wildlife, Blue Water, and Open Sky Raptor to name a few).

In mid-January, Mally's received word that the MNRF euthanized the last 41 raccoons on December 15, 2023. This mass euthanasia occurred a mere 11 days after Mally's legal challenge for welfare-check access and third-party medical review was denied by an Ontario Superior Court Judge. The MNRF has since stated that all raccoons were infected with distemper and had to be destroyed; but over 85% of the raccoons were fully vaccinated, while some were on medication, some were being treated for injury, and some were being quarantined and tested for possible diseases, all in separate areas that made cross contamination highly unlikely.

### **Ontario Expands Penned Dog Hunting Facilities**



While Doug Ford is happy to take photo-ops for shutting down puppy mills, his government reversed a 1997 ban on the expansion of penned dog hunting facilities and expanded their licensing. Ontario is the only province where these facilities still exist! In these facilities rabbits, coyotes and foxes are released into fenced areas and hunted mercilessly by trained hunting dogs, while given no fair chance of escape. Those that aren't hunted down and mauled by dogs are re-captured to be hunted again and again until they are caught and killed by domesticated dogs. Dogs who perform well are scored and their owners provided with trophies. **It's akin to illegal dog fighting, but because the animals being victimized are wildlife, Ford and his PC party feel that's okay!**

**LET THEM KNOW THAT IT ISN'T!**