



(l-r) Cayuga Lawyer Victoria Young, Josh Bulk of Rosa Flora, Haldimand and Norfolk Liberal candidate Dr. Eric Hoskins and Liberal Party of Canada Leader Stéphane Dion during a tour of Rosa Flora greenhouses in Dunnville on Saturday, January 19.

Stéphane Dion visits Dunnville Talk quickly turns to Douglas Creek Estates

By Katie Dawson, The Sachem

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In his first visit to Haldimand County, Liberal Party of Canada leader Stéphane Dion made a stop at Rosa Flora greenhouses in Dunnville on January 19 and was met by local media and business owners.

Haldimand Mayor Marie Trainer, Dr. Eric Hoskins, local liberal candidate, Brant MP Lloyd St. Amand and others joined Mr. Dion in a round table discussion after a tour of the facility.

After an announcement last week by Dion concerning pledging a \$1 billion fund to help manufacturers move into green technologies.

Management at Rosa Flora say they are pleased Mr. Dion and his party are supporting the Canadian manufacturing industries' desire to adapt and adopt.

During a scrum with media, Dion was asked why he wasn't visiting Caledonia, since it is the centre of a two year old land dispute.

"I planned to be here (Rosa Flora). It is nice to see a very successful business who exports to the United States. They are struggling because the Canadian Dollar is at par."

St. Amand added that Caledonia is an important issue. "Caledonia is not lost on the Liberal Party. I receive updates from Mayor Trainer and I understand the importance of the issue."

Dr. Hoskins added that the Liberal Critic for Indian Affairs Anita Neville will be in Caledonia in the coming weeks to reinforce the importance of this issue.

Dion says he knows Haldimand County is struggling.

"I am a very available leader," he added when told that Prime Minister Stephen Harper has not yet visited Caledonia, even at the request of Council.

"I want to meet the people as much as possible."

During the round table discussion, there were two main issues that were to be discussed. The first being how Rosa Flora has been impacted by the rapid Canadian dollar strength over the last several years and the second being how Rosa Flora has been affected by the Native Land Claim within Haldimand County.

The conversation quickly turned to Douglas Creek Estates by Mayor Marie Trainer who was very outspoken about how poorly the senior levels of government have handled the situation.

Nancy Walker, owner of The Coach House in Caledonia, was in the round table discussion, and she says it was good to see a leader who was attentive and who listened.

<http://www.sachem.ca/news/article/115087>