

Dear Editor,

RE: FP Letter to the editor/Re: "Close more farms", William Watson,  
Financial Post, 1/17/2008.

William Watson wants to eliminate public funding of Canadian agriculture. However, he works for a subsidized institution as well, McGill University.

He does not talk about the lower environmental standards, toxic materials and exploitative working conditions in the farming communities of the Third and Fourth Worlds.

Does Watson not recognize that the rural towns and villages are the heart and soul of a country?

Has he not heard of the Victory Gardens that had to be reestablished in the United Kingdom and elsewhere during the World Wars. If anything, local food production may be more strategic than guns and bullets.

Watson also refers to the Taliban. What do the Taliban have to do with agriculture? Sure they profit off of the poppy crop but they are in Central Asia not in Canada.

There are other more realistic dangers in this world like cataclysmic climate change, the loss of biodiversity and the threat of nuclear war.

Yours Sincerely,

Avrom Shtern,  
Cote St. Luc, QC