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questions crime rates,

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hat the Tories want to is on prisons as the continues to go down kwell Day thinks we rting enough crime. nes up with a plan to reported, likely imagi- ls, the Prime Minister ng-form census which tely tell us what is ac- ing in Canada.

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Toronto

is good for buyers

s for homes vanish in latest 3), Peter Gorrie, Opinion

ty government is robs- ns of potential energy iling to make good on o implement home en- g — energy audits of re for sale.

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d, Peterborough

t less than a 'pauper's'

poor is putting us in the , undertakers say, Aug. 5

ntly negotiated for my aid funeral arrange- I find my own arrange- cost half of what a true meral" will cost. I won- government will offer me o allow me to bring my l up to the standards set er's funeral?" ith, Oakville

The inequity keeps growing.
Profitable corporations are still



The peaceful grounds of the former Huronia Regional Centre in Orillia belie what some residents say went on within its walls.

Words create foundation for bias

Re Former residents of mental asylum seek justice, Carol Goar, Opinion, Aug. 4

No words can right the wrongs the Huronia Regional Centre did to its residents.

The government must take responsibility and address the injustice of segregation and abuse that occurred at Huronia Regional Centre. But let's not overlook that words are a part of what's wrong. Words that equate intellectual ability with value like "retarded" and "gifted" create the foundation for the kind of discrimination and abuse that happened at Huronia and continues to happen today.

Susie Henderson, Toronto

Gun registry a waste of money

While I don't necessarily agree with the way the Conservative government is spending our tax dollars, I have to side with the government when they qualify the gun registry as useless.

The gun registry was nothing more than a knee-jerk reaction. Not only does it fail to provide any meaningful service to Canadians, it takes precious resources away from social work programs that could have a positive impact on the lives of Canadians.

We do not need a census to know that helping a vulnerable teenager to stay away from drugs and gangs will do more toward reducing criminality in our cities than printing a bucketful of registration certificates.

Michel Trahan, Verdun, Quebec

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sonal interest they have in the subject

matter. We reserve the right to edit

letters, which run 50-150 words.

John Cartwright, President, Toronto & York Region Labour Council

Buffer needed around facilities

The Town of Oakville, with the support of concerned citizens from across the province, has been trying for two years to get the Ontario government to require buffer zones for natural gas-burning power plants. Yet, the Ontario government, which has wind turbine buffer zone legislation, but, incredibly, no natural gas plant buffer zone legislation, stubbornly refuses to listen to reason, and is insisting on trying to shoehorn Canada's largest gas-fired 975 MW plant into a 13-acre site mere metres from homes, schools, and workplaces. They say nothing ever goes wrong, so, trust us, it will be safe.

Michael Farrell, Oakville

Give funeral directors a break

Re Buying the poor is putting us in the poorhouse, undertakers say, Aug. 5

This article is not about burying mom, dad or our pets in the backyard. Its research failed to show the basic funeral contract includes both "the basics" required by the health department, as well as the options associated with death.

Directors follow the rules to adhere to the health code, as well as offer a service to remember the deceased. We need to stop assuming all funeral directors are bad. I work with funeral directors and they are not bad people. I'd like to see if these armchair critics would like to lift bodies, prepare them, move buckets of flowers day after day, listen to families and decide if your death, like our lives, costs money.

If anyone is to be chastised it is once again the City of Toronto. It claims to be fair and equitable with its city partners, as long as it can undercut the "real costs" for the services that others, including funeral homes, provide the city.

Louise Mahood, Mississauga

Rich can afford to give

Re What to do with a huge fortune? Give it away, Aug. 5

Forty billionaires pledging to give away half their wealth is an example of how the more people have, the more they tend to be charitable.

The average income person also gives away, but we would give more if we kept the fruits of our labour, instead of being taxed to death by incompetent, wasteful bureaucrats.

The more we get taxed the fewer choices we have, including which charities or organizations to donate our hard-earned money to.

Vedran Saciragic, Toronto