

Dufferin Aggregates 2300 Steeles Ave W, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Concord, ON L4K 5X6 Canada

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# Dufferin Aggregates Milton Quarry Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Meeting Minutes

	Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Milton Quarry
Date & Time:	Wednesday March 6, 2013 7:00- 8:15 PM
Place:	Milton Quarry
Chair:	Courtney Somers, Smithcom Limited
Participants:	
	Walter Heyden, Dufferin Aggregates, Site Manager Milton Quarry
	Letty Stevenson, Dufferin Aggregates
	John Bayliss, Manager, Environmental Approval & Policy
	David Johnston, Niagara Escarpment
	Julia Carslake, Local Neighbour
	Sandy Martin, Milton Chamber of Commerce
	Kay Bottos, Local Neighbour (Guest)
	Marion McMeeken, Local Neighbour (Guest)
	Bob Vansco, Local Neighbour (Guest, husband to Janice Vansco)
	Jan Mowbray, Former Town of Milton Councillor
Minutes:	Courtney Somers, Facilitator
Regrets:	
0	Steve Clairman, Local Neighbour
	Cindy Lunau, Town of Milton Councillor
	Janice Vancso, Local Neighbour
	Maureen Smith, Bruce Trail
	Dave Tyson, Bruce Trail
	Colin Best, Town of Milton Councillor
	Kim Wilson, Local Neighbour (Guest)

## <u>Minutes</u>

Courtney Somers, Facilitator, brought the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda, outlining the meeting will focus on Holcim's Biodiversity Initiatives presented by John Bayliss, Manager, Environmental Approvals & Policy, Holcim (Canada) Inc.

Review and approval of January 29th, 2013 meeting minutes.



## **Review of Action Items**

- Walter and Letty to ask Melissa Kelly to speak at next meeting on CSR
  - Melissa Kelly to present on Holcim's CSR workshop
- Walter to provide Kim Wilson with the contact information for Alina (hydrogeologist in Halton Region)
  - Walter emailed Kim the contact information

#### Holcim Canada's Biodiversity Initiative

John Bayliss, Manager, Environmental Approval & Policy at Holcim Canada, began a presentation on Hoclim's biodiversity initiatives.

John Bayliss explained that Holcim Canada partnered with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and through this global partnership an independent expert panel developed a biodiversity management system (BMS). The main objective of a BMS is to provide the tools to ensure that biodiversity issues are systematically identified and appropriately managed across all stages of the extraction sites.

John Bayliss noted four sensitive operations of Dufferin Aggregates have been identified, which include Acton, Carden, Cayuga and Milton. The operations are deemed sensitive because they are located in sensitive areas (Niagara Escarpment) and/or have sensitive species on site.

Holcim Canada partnered with Bird Studies Canada (headquartered near Lake Erie) and Couchiching Conservancy (land trust organization) to monitor the biodiversity and develop Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) at Holcim Canada's four sensitive sites.

All information from the studies will be reported to the NABCI and Holcim will explore a Tri-National (US, Canada, Mexico) partnership opportunity with NABCI.

John explained that through the BAP, Holcim Canada aims to:

- Build stakeholder relations
- Demonstrate that rehabilitation can achieve positive environmental contributions
- Implement best management rehabilitation practices

Question One: David Johnston asked where the ICUN is headquartered?

• John Bayliss responded the headquarters are located in Switzerland

John explained that in May 2012, Holcim Canada began implementing the biodiversity monitoring program with Bird Studies Canada and Couchiching Conservancy at the four sensitive sites. Bird and amphibian monitoring has been completed at Acton, Cayuga and Milton. John explained that all the species identified are ranked (high significance/risk to low significance/risk) and the operations will work to ensure that that



animal is not affected by operational activities. Holcim Canada plans to continue the monitoring to see how the company can help.

Question Two: Marion McMeeken asked if we are able to get the bird sound recordings?

• John Bayliss answered that he has not heard any of the recordings but that only sections of the recordings are listened to for investigation.

John Bayliss explained that Milton Quarry monitoring was completed in various locations within the rehabilitation area in May, June, September and November. The May monitoring event recorded 97 bird species and a total count of 887.

The monitoring also identified phragmites – an invasive species that grows along roadways and has large root systems, making them hard to control.

Question Three: Julie Carslake asked what are Phragmities?

• John Bayliss explained that they are a tall plant with large seed heads and are generally seen along roadways and in ditches.

Question Four: David Johnston asked of the species on the slide (Slide 5), are there any other endangered species on the list?

• John Bayliss explained that the bank swallow, wood thrushes are also endangered species.

John Bayliss explained that the monitoring completed in 2012 identified more than 153 different bird species on Hoclim's sensitive site including 124 at Dufferin Aggregates Milton. John Bayliss explained that monitoring done in 1999 showed that there was only 85-90 different species, indicating there is now greater diversity.

Question Five: David Johnston asked if they found similar species at the three sites.

- John Bayliss explained that the data is currently being compiled and a site to site comparison has not been completed
- John Bayliss outlined that Birds Studies Canada did see some of the same birds in Cayuga.

John Bayliss explained that the Milton Quarry currently has Species at Risk Stewardship Agreement with MNR for the Butternut Tree and the Jefferson Salamander.

John Bayliss outlined Hoclim Canada's CSR Initiatives at the Milton Quarry. He explained that Dufferin Aggregates partners with Scouts Canada to plant trees at the Milton Quarry and also offers tours of the rehabilitation area through open houses.

John Bayliss outlined how Holcim Canada is working with ENGOs and other groups/agencies to develop biodiversity objectives to support the BAPs. Dufferin Aggregates has identified key objectives and areas of discussion so far:



- Rehabilitation and habitat creation
  - Establishing and maintain grassland habitat
  - Build boxes, bird feeders, nesting areas
  - Great vegetation diversity
- Land management
  - Reduce the amount of manicured landscaping within the site
  - o Modify agricultural practices (hay cutting, increased buffers around wetlands)
- Invasive species
  - o Implement controls to prevent the spread of invasive species
  - Research soil management and rehabilitation techniques to reduce the potential for invasive species to become established
- Monitoring
  - Expand the scope of the program to other areas and sites to address data gaps and track progress

John Bayliss explained that Holcim Canada supported a Bank Swallow project led by the MNR to identify the Bank Swallow's habits. The nesting period for the Bank Swallow is April to August and if they are identified at a Dufferin Aggregates site, it cannot be disturbed.

John Bayliss explained the Bank Swallow project is led by the MNR and Environment Canada. John Bayliss outlined that Bank Swallows sometimes nest in active sand faces and in stockpiles within aggregate operations and that Dufferin Aggregates Blair, Mosport and Simcoe were selected for the project and had more than 300 active nests.

Question Six: David Johnston asked how Dufferin Aggregates keeps the stockpiles from being less appealing?

• John Bayliss explained that if a stockpile is left to sit for months and thaw, a vertical face will be created and the MNR has suggested keeping the stock piles slanted so that birds will not nest.

Question Seven: Sandy Martin asked if there were more man-made faces, would they be safe for the Bank Swallows?

• John Bayliss explained that in the case of the Mosport Pit, as part of the research, Dufferin Aggregates created a vertical face within the pit but further from the stockpiles and it drew the bird away from the active piles.

David Johnston explained that he was touring with Conservation Halton and noticed Bank Swallow nests in a rehabilitated portion of a site. He indicated that Dufferin Aggregates could create areas within the sites that could be good nesting spots for the Bank Swallows.

John Bayliss explained that Dufferin Aggregates went to the MNR to see about creating a vertical face but that the MNR was worried that it would be a safety hazard.

John Bayliss explained that it might be possible to create a vertical face that is only a few metres high.



John Bayliss explained that Holcim Canada partnered with Earth Rangers to support a migratory songbird project. The launch of the partnership was held at the Milton Quarry in September 2012 with students from Brookeville Public School.

Earth Rangers, Nature Conservancy Canada (NCC) and Holcim Canada launched the "Bring Back the Wild" program for the Wood Thrush. Holcim Canada has helped the NCC purchase 25 acres of mature deciduous forest in Quebec to protect Wood Thrush and purchase 60 geolocators to be placed on the Wood Thrush to study and track their migration and learn about their breeding and wintering areas.

John Bayliss said that at the end of the school year they will announce the new program.

Question Eight: David Johnston asked where the launch will be?

• Jonh Bayliss said that this time they unsure of the location but that it will be decided closer to the end of the school year.

David Johnston noted that it is good Dufferin Aggregates is working with outside agencies to get the BAPs approved.

John Bayliss explained that it makes sense for Dufferin Aggregates to get their approval on input on the projects.

#### Update on CSR Workshop – Sustainable Development Materiality Review

Melissa Kelly, Corporate Social Responsibility Specialist from Holcim Canada explained her role at Holcim Canada and outlined "Together For Communities" – a large employee volunteer program at Holcim Canada. Melissa Kelly explained that all the events in Milton were executed very well and that it was great to see employees out in the community. She outlined that Holcim Canada achieved over 4000 employee volunteer hours across the entire company.

Melissa Kelly explained the SD Materiality Review, a workshop held at all Holcim operations around the world that provides a process for identifying key issues within the organization. The process:

- · Identifies the issues the Company has to address across its operations
- Represents what Holcim's view is on the issue compared to an external stakeholder view.

Melissa Kelly explained the September 2012 Matrix (slide 2):

- Red important issues
- Yellow less important
- Green doing well and continuing to monitor

Melissa Kelly explained that the results in Milton showed 16 different areas of focus. Using the Milton CAP member comments, Melissa was able to compile the feedback and compare it to other CAP's.



Melissa Kelly outlined the Top 5 Issue Areas in Aggregates:

- Resource Management
  - Long-term outlook on finite resources
  - Environment and the community
  - Water, waste management and transport
    - Neighbour interaction
    - Environmental impact
- Economic Impact
  - Community benefit (economic, social)
  - o Trust
- Sustainable Construction
  - o Leadership in waste reduction and environmental footprint
  - Sharing best practices in the industry and beyond
  - o Product develop in local communities and businesses
  - Long-term outlook on prosperity, global standards

Melissa outlined the Top 5 Cement Issue Areas:

- Atmospheric emissions
  - Environmental impact
  - CO2
  - Water, waste management and transport
    - Resource conservation (specifically water)
- Legal Compliance
  - Environment and regulations
- Energy

•

• Environmental conservation

Melissa Kelly explained that Holcim Canada has a CSR committee, which also identified 5 Issue Areas:

- CSR Engagement
  - o Building relationships of trust importance for Holcim Canada and stakeholders
  - Social license to operate community, neighbours, officials
  - Going beyond legal compliance
- CO2
  - High visibility
  - Atmospheric Emissions
    - Potential impact is critical consideration
- OH&S Safety
  - o Safety first and "Zero Harm"
  - Public perception of safety record
- Water, waste management and transport
  - o Potential impact if sign cant importance of working proactively

Melissa Kelly provided a summary of the workshops and identified the main areas of focus:

- Water, waste management, transport
- Atmospheric emissions
- CO2



Melissa Kelly outlined the next steps of the Workshop:

- Presentation to Executive Committee (HCA)
- Submission to Holcim Ltd.

Melissa Kelly suggested having some of these topics become apart of CAP meetings moving forward.

Question Nine: Marion McMeeken asked if noise disturbance was identified as a topic of issue

• Melissa answered that the aggregate noise level has come up in the aggregates section but that it was not identified as a main issue topic

CAP members expressed that they would be interested in having future CAP meeting focus on some of the topics Melissa outlined, including:

- Eco products
- Health & Safety
- Atmospheric Emissions/CO2
- Water, waste management and transport

## **Operation Update**

Walter Heyden outlined that the site is going into operation and that they have started crushing. Shipping operating hours are now 5:30a.m. to 3 pm. however this will change when the load restrictions come off the roads in mid-April.

Question Ten: Kay Bottos asked if the blasts are at any time of day

• Walter Heyden answered no; blasting will continue to be at 1p.m. and 4p.m.

Question Eleven: Kay Bottos asked what time Acton has blasting

• Walter Heyden answered that he is unsure but will check with the operation

Question Twelve: Julia Carslake asked about going to the cement plant in May

- Walter Heyden said that they will likely try to go for a 2 hour tour at the Mississauga plant on May 1, but that the date still needs to be confirmed
- Walter Heyden explained that if they are unable to go to the cement plant, another site will be chosen for a tour.

Question Thirteen: David Johnston asked if the presentations (SD Materiality Review and Biodiversity) are available?

• Melissa Kelly explained that all presentations and minutes are available on the Holcim website

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

- Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> Tree Planting
- Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> CAP meeting Mississauga Cement Tour (to be confirmed)
- Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> Milton Quarry Open House



### Action Items:

- Walter Heyden to look into the blasting time(s) at the Acton Quarry
- Letty Stevenson to confirm May 1<sup>st</sup> Mississauga Cement Tour

Adjourn