

UPDATE: ALNWICK/HALDIMAND TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS CONCERNED ABOUT DUMPING OF CONTAMINATED MATERIALS

ALNWICK/HALDIMAND PROPOSED BY-LAW

There is public concern regarding the dumping of materials being brought into municipalities from outside the region. Contaminated materials in imported fill threatens our Township's ground water and poses a risk to resident's drinking water. Residents from Alnwick/Haldimand, Brighton and Cramahe Twps. have raised concerns to their local Councils.

The late Councillor Raymond Benns was well aware of neighbouring Townships, including Clarington, that have experienced costly illegal dumping incidents and they have passed By-Laws restricting fill from being imported. The Municipal Act supports Municipalities to pass By-Laws to protect the economic, social and environmental well-being of the Municipality.

Councillor Mike Filip pointed out that Municipalities and Provincial governments do not have the resources to monitor and test all fill and rely on private companies to test materials. Provincial Ministries only become involved after a problem has arisen. The Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks recommended that the Township pass a By-Law prohibiting the importation of fill.

Alnwick/Haldimand residents have investigated neighbouring Township By-Laws and produced a comprehensive Fill By-Law. At the April 25th 2019 Alnwick/Haldimand Planning Meeting, the Fill By-Law was presented to Council.

- The Proposed Fill By-Law does not restrict or discourage any present or future Gravel Extraction business.
- The Proposed Fill By-Law will give the Township the authority to determine the type and source of fill being imported and prevent the illegal dumping of contaminated materials *anywhere* within the Township.
- The Proposed Fill By-Law would compliment and strengthen the current Site Alteration By-Law - not replace it.

Mike Filip also noted that it is the duty of the Township to protect the environment and its residents. The Township needs to look after our own backyard and this By-Law will give us the authority to prevent dumping of materials we don't want in our Township. He noted "I would rather have a by-law in place that says "We have certain restrictions about dumping in our Township, and they are these". It will prevent unconscionable others from bringing stuff into our Township whether it is today, tomorrow or in the future. The Proposed By-Law is a pro-active step the Township can take concerning this serious issue, not just for Provincially licenced gravel pits at but properties throughout the township

After a lengthy discussion the Council agreed to seek a Legal review of the Proposed By-Law. The Proposed Fill By-Law is on the next Planning Meeting Agenda and Council will vote on May 30, 2019. There is great concern that the new Municipal Planner and the Templeman Legal Advisers have not been adequately informed about the details of this issue.

The following CBC News article from August 13, 2018 exposes the lucrative business of illegal dumping and validates citizens' concerns. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/gta-soil-illegal-dumping-black-market-1.4781717>

Please take the time to read more about this Proposed Fill By-law at:

<https://www.cramahecommunityassociation.ca> Select Alnwick/Haldimand and then select Gravel Pit

E-mail Councillors to show your support for the Council to adopt the Proposed Fill By-Law which will control the dumping of unwanted fill **everywhere** in our Township. Please Contact:

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