

RE-Application for Road Allowance & Gravel Pit Expansion on the Oak Ridges Moraine in Northumberland Hills

January 6, 2020 Update: What's going on at the gravel pit at 10118 Oak Ridges Drive?

The pit is located on the North side of Cty. Rd. 9, West of Lilac Valley Rd and East of North Bethesda Rd.



The owners of the Pit and adjacent property operate hydrovac **industrial waste processing, treatment and disposal** companies located in Vaughan. Early in 2018 neighbours reported to the MNR & F and MOE & CC that imported materials were being dumped in the Pit. The MNR & F issued a stop-dumping order stating that there is sufficient material in the pit for rehabilitation. **Lack of funding has reduced monitoring and Ministries rely on public reporting. Residents voiced their concerns to the Council of Alnwick/Haldimand Township. Trusting that this does not occur again is a concern.**

With full knowledge of the Pit owner's intentions and in spite of objections and concerns of residents, on July 27, 2018, Alnwick/Haldimand Council in a Closed Session held agreement negotiations to initiate the process to authorize the sale of this road allowance. **Their application was denied on Sept. 27, 2018 when Council voted against the sale and closure.**

At the November 28, 2019 Planning Meeting, Weston Consulting, the representatives of the Gravel Pit owners re-submitted their report and request to take over the unopened road allowance between their properties to facilitate the expansion of the gravel pit. The Agenda includes the Planner's report that states and confirms this and that the agreement price is \$60,000 plus all legal, surveying and related expenses and costs.

The Pit and the outlined expansion are located on the Oak Ridges Moraine. The Pit property is located in the watershed flowing into Rice Lake. The report shows this area with only patches of primary sand and gravel resources. The proposed expansion area shows no aggregate. MNR & F and the owner admit the pit was at the end of its viability. The Pit expansion area is currently being used for agriculture and borders an Area of Natural & Scientific Interest. The Gravel Pit already poses adverse affects to the quality and quantity of water resources. Expansion of the Pit will destroy filtration, alter drainage, cause erosion, destroy farmland, remove wildlife habitat and increase the risk of adverse affects to adjacent and downstream properties. Council originally voted no because the risks were too great.

Concerned residents have respectfully and repeatedly requested Council to act and amend the current By-laws to protect all the lands of Alnwick/Haldimand Twp. from the importation of Fill. The Council of Alnwick/Haldimand Township proactively, on October 24, 2019, approved a "Guideline for the Importation of Fill" to be used in conjunction with the Current Fill By-law. **However, the Township does not have the ability to regulate or monitor these activities.**

The Sale of the Road Allowance for the purpose of facilitating the expansion of the Gravel Pit is of deep concern not only to the neighbours with wells close to the Pit operation, but also to anyone living in the Rice Lake watershed.

For more information go to www.facebook.com/CramaheCommunityAssociation/
<https://www.abc-activism.ca/alnwick-haldimand/gravel-pit>

Any Person wishing to comment on the proposed closing or sale is requested to submit comments in writing prior to 4:30 p.m. on January 15, 2020 to the Planning Office, 10836 County Road 2, PO Box 70, Grafton, Ont. K0K 2G0 or by email to jcurrent@ahtwp.ca
The said By-Law will come before Council for its consideration at the Municipal Planning Meeting scheduled at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday January 23, 2020