



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

Phone 905-761-7500  
Fax 905-761-7505  
www.holcim.ca

## **Dufferin Flamboro Quarry Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Meeting Minutes**

---

<b>Date:</b>	Monday September 17, 2012, 7:00 - 9p.m.
<b>Location:</b>	Flamboro Quarry Office – 685 Brock Road
<b>Chair:</b>	Joanne Kearney
<b>Participants:</b>	Dale Arnold, Dufferin Aggregates Martin Bradley, Dufferin Aggregates Alex Caruana, Operations Analyst, Dufferin Aggregates Tim Cruickshanks, Property Owner/Contractor Jessica Davidson, Properties and Approvals Specialist, Holcim Robert Pasuta, Councillor, Ward 14 (Flamborough), City of Hamilton Dave Rodgerson, Neighbour Ron Van Ooteghem, Dufferin Aggregates John Van Wyngaarden, Businessman
<b>Regrets:</b>	
<b>Absent:</b>	Susan Coverdale, Business Development Consultant, City of Hamilton John Elliott, Mineralist Penny Gardiner, Flamborough Chamber of Commerce Terry Noftall, Contractor
<b>Facilitation and minutes:</b>	Joanne Kearney, Smithcom, Facilitator Sandra Mackie, DFA Site Administrator – minutes

### **Action Items from September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012 CAP meeting:**

1. Dave Rodgerson will review the Aggregates 101 presentation and present some possible questions to the committee for the aggregate fact sheet handout.

### **Minutes**

- Minutes were reviewed.
- Minutes were approved by the committee members.



### **Tour of community garden and site lower bench area**

- The meeting began with a tour of the community garden as well as a tour of the sump area in the quarry and the area where the lower bench expansion will take place.
- Ron indicated to the members on the tour of the community garden that he would like to continue to make small improvements to the garden yearly to make it more attractive and useable for the neighbourhood. Robert Pasuta suggested that in the future, the site partner with the Flamborough Horticultural Society, as they may be able to provide assistance and guidance regarding improving the soil, and installing park and picnic benches to make the area more inviting for the neighbourhood. Robert also suggested that the site contact Flamborough Farm Supply regarding adding new soil to the garden to improve the soil quality. Robert will provide contact information to Ron for John Bain at Flamborough Horticultural Society and for Flamborough Farm Supply.
- The tentative date for the neighbourhood food exchange is October 20<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that Dufferin consider asking local businesses to participate or donate.

### **Review of Action Items from June 18th, 2012 meeting**

- Dave Rodgeron told the committee that he has a bit more availability to finish the rough draft of the aggregate FAQ sheet for the next meeting.
- Jessica Davidson mentioned to Dave that she has compiled a sheet based on what she uses for school tours (particularly at the Milton quarry) that Dave could perhaps use as a starting point. Jessica also mentioned to the committee that the FAQ sheet will need to be forwarded to Holcim communications department to be reviewed and approved before it can be used. Jessica will email her sheet to Dave.
- Dave also suggested requesting email addresses from local neighbours as a means of communicating to them about the committee and site activities. He suggested that Dufferin could let the neighbours know that their email addresses would be protected under the privacy act etc. and would be used only as a means to communicate with the site and CAP members. As well, a website could be made available that would provide information like the Aggregates FAQ sheet, videos pertinent to the site, information regarding the Flamboro CAP, site activities etc. This would provide neighbours with a direct method of communicating with the site and CAP members, and would also provide a platform for neighbours to ask questions, address concerns, and possibly communicate with each other regarding the quarry. Dave felt this would be a good avenue of communication not just with the site but also with other neighbours and could be a good way to advertise Open Houses etc.
- Ron thought that this was a good idea and noted that it would all need to be done through the Holcim communications department.



- Dave said that he attended a seminar regarding customer loyalty and brand loyalty and what companies have discovered is that the best way to maintain brand loyalty is to provide a way for people to provide feedback to the company.
- Ron mentioned that Holcim is involved in social media, and noted that at the recent TFC event at Pinehurst Conservation Area, with the Blair and Mill Creek sites, Jessica Davidson was tweeting through the Holcim communications department. Tweeting is a form of social media being used by Holcim, and all tweets are processed through the Holcim communications department before being made public.
- Dave suggested that the committee have someone from the Holcim communications department come to a Flamboro CAP meeting and provide the CAP with more information on Holcim's social media initiatives and how they could be leveraged by the Flamboro CAP. Dave feels that the more people talking about the site is a good thing as it opens up the lines of communications.
- Ron suggested that the Flamboro website could possibly be part of, or accessed through, the current Holcim website.

### **Update on SERA**

- Alex Caruana, Operations Analyst, Dufferin Aggregates, provided the committee with a brief update about Socially and Environmentally Responsible Aggregates (SERA).
- Alex told the committee that the merger of SERA with the Aggregate Forum of Ontario has been completed and that the next time he provides an update for the committee, the program will not be called SERA as the group is in the process of creating a merged name.
- SERA is based on seven principles. Work on over fifty percent of these principles is complete.
- Alex noted that the first four principles of SERA will be up for consultation with the public shortly. They are:
  - 1. Compliance with laws
  - 2. Community consultation and involvement
  - 3. Respect for First Nations rights and culture
  - 4. Benefits to local communities and workers
- These principles will be available for review on the merged website (name TBA). Feedback from the public will come back to the Standards Development Panel for review, to ensure that all feedback has been considered and incorporated where applicable. When the balance of the principles is completed, a similar outreach to the public will be made.
- The next step will be to field test the principles. SERA will look at various auditing firms and choose a lead auditor from these. They will go to the volunteer aggregate sites to determine the feasibility of the standards and any changes required to streamline the process
- Two volunteer sites are already in place. SERA will select the other two sites from the volunteers from the merged group. SERA would like to select one from a different geography or in a different life cycle than the ones that are currently in place to get a cross section of what the auditors will be faced with.



- Dave Rodgeron asked Alex if SERA is being implemented in Quebec. Alex replied that SERA was started in Ontario but an outreach to Quebec and Western Canada as well as other sectors of the industry (e.g. cement) has been suggested.
- Alex mentioned that four positions on the development panel have yet to be filled as a result of the amalgamation. Two additional industry and environmental positions need to be filled. Both the industry and environmental members have a caucus that is unlimited allowing many members within each group to provide input, but the panel will continue to consist of fourteen members in an effort to reach a consensus on items without clogging up the system.
- Alex noted that the Aggregate Forum (AFO) agreed to work with the existing SERA principles as part of the amalgamation and SERA gave up board seats to allow for AFO members; there was fair compromise.
- Robert mentioned that a representative from the Aggregate Forum was asked to come and speak to the City of Hamilton Council but was unable to arrange a time. Robert wanted to know if someone from the amalgamated group could come and speak to Hamilton City Council and staff, present information about the amalgamated group and answer questions etc. Alex told Robert that he will initiate the point of contact to see that this happens.
- Robert asked if St. Mary's (CBM) were involved with the panel. Alex said that they are not involved to date but would be eligible to join the caucus for the remaining principles if they were interested.

### **Neighbourhood Wells Project Update**

- Jessica Davidson provided an update on the Neighbourhood Wells Project associated with preparation for the mining of the lower bench.
- Jessica explained that the project was near completion. They are tying up some loose ends; completing landscaping, finishing a small addition they provided for one home to allow them the space to hold the updated water system, and completing the system for one other house.
- Jessica said that the response so far has been very positive. She and Ron still have a few homes to visit as they like to wait a couple of weeks after the completion of the install before they visit to confirm with the homeowners that all is well with the systems. As Jessica will be on maternity leave shortly, Kevin Mitchell will finish the remaining visits with Ron.
- Altogether, Dufferin has replaced or improved twenty two water systems. Nineteen of these were well replacements.
- Once Dufferin receives confirmation from all of the neighbours involved in the project that their water systems are fine, Dufferin will notify them that they are conducting pumping tests and moving to the lower bench.
- For some of the neighbours who did not have their systems replaced or improved, data loggers have been installed to monitor their systems. If the data loggers indicate that a replacement system is required, Dufferin will offer them a holding tank or a new system retroactively.
- John asked what the average size of a holding tank and cistern were. Jessica said that a holding tank is generally 150 gallons and the cistern that Dufferin installed is 5000 gallons.
- John mentioned that he has a neighbour whose well has gone dry, and he told his neighbour that he would talk to Jessica at the meeting to see if the neighbour qualifies for assistance under the



Flamboro Wells Project. Jessica told John that properties within approximately 800 metres of the site were considered in the area of influence and were included in the project, and that this property is out of the area of influence, however, Dufferin will provide John with Ontario Water Well's information to pass on to the neighbour so that they may investigate a solution for their lack of water.

- John mentioned that his neighbour's well has never been fast recovering. Jessica said that it is likely that the dry weather of this past summer has contributed to John's neighbour running out of water.
- Most of the wells that were replaced were drilled to about 200 ft. John asked if Dufferin could potentially run out these new systems. Jessica said that Conestoga-Rovers predicted the appropriate level of the aquifer and approximately where the wells should be drilled in order to allow sufficient water supply. As long as Dufferin keeps their elevation at a higher level than the wells the new installations are expected to have sufficient water to meet the needs of these neighbours.
- John asked if there was sulphur at 200 ft. Jessica said yes, there is and that was why Dufferin had provided complete treatment systems to deal with this which included a sulphur filter.
- Ron said that they want to ensure that the neighbours have a good steady supply of water. The project has allowed Dufferin to be proactive and the input received by Ron, Jessica and the vendors involved has been positive. Jessica noted that this has been a learning experience for Dufferin; it is one thing to see the project on paper but another to get it done i.e. coordinating vendors, going into homes and working around neighbours schedules and preferences, etc. Ron said that Dufferin is pleased with results and felt that replacing or repairing existing systems was more sustainable than simply installing cisterns.

### Open Forum

- Ron asked Robert if he had received any comments from the Hamilton Police Department. Robert said that he'd only had one complaint from a Brock Road resident wanting the road fixed. There has been a bit of work done to improve the road and this has helped.
- Robert asked if the CAP meetings are open to the media. Joanne said that the group can make that decision to invite local media to CAP meetings in observer capacity, not as an active participant. Other DFA CAPs have decided to invite media to observe during certain topic discussions.
- Jessica mentioned that once again it may be beneficial to have someone from the Holcim corporate communications department come to the next meeting and provide information on social media.
- Dave suggested that using the media to provide information to neighbours etc. after the fact (i.e. Open Houses, Tree Plantings) may be useful.
- John mentioned that he noticed water in the quarry. He said that it has been a very dry summer and that many local farmers are struggling to find enough water. John wanted to know if Dufferin would be able to open up the water in the quarry to neighbouring farmers for their use. Jessica said that our permit dictates exactly what water quantity we can pump, and specifically what uses that water is for, and it is not in our current permit to allow neighbours to extract water from the



quarry. We are allowed to provide water to emergency situations, such as if the fire department needed to use the water, but allowing neighbours to extract water for their own uses is not considered an emergency. Also, the quarry discharge off Fourth Concession replenishes surface water features, and our discharge location and characteristics are regulated by our Industrial Sewage Works Approval from the Ministry of Environment (MOE); therefore we would not be permitted to allow neighbours to utilize our discharge water. The MOE would need to be contacted, and Dufferin would require an assessment of the environmental impact along with a significant amendment to our permits.

- Robert wanted to know if there is a habitat for birds or a bird program at the site. Ron and Jessica told him that Holcim Ltd has partnered with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to address biodiversity on a global scale within our organization. A primary focus of the biodiversity strategy for Holcim Canada (and Dufferin Aggregates) is on birds, because they are valuable indicators of biodiversity and a high variety of species are found on our sites. There was not a program at Flamboro this year, because the focus is on our highly sensitive sites: Milton, Acton, Cayuga and Carden. Dufferin has partnered with Bird Studies Canada (BSC) to assess what species of birds are feeding, breeding, or using the site as stopover habitat. BSC will then provide input to Dufferin on how we can maximize our site biodiversity both during the lifespan of the quarry and in our rehabilitation activities. This will result in the creation of Biodiversity Action Plans for the four sensitive sites. Although Flamboro wasn't included this year, less sensitive sites will be a focus in future years and will receive various levels of biodiversity input depending on the environs and habitat we have to work with. Dufferin is also working with biologists from Environment Canada and Ministry of Natural Resources on a bank swallow study at several of our sand and gravel pits. Bank Swallows are in rapid decline. They nest in steep, fine grained material – so the nature of our operations tends to create perfect habitat for them. The goal of the study is to develop best practices that will allow the sites to create suitable habitat for the birds in inactive areas while also detract them away from the active areas of the site. Holcim is working with a variety of ENGOs and conservation authorities to develop improvements to the way in which we manage and monitor our site biodiversity.
- Dave wanted to know what the hallmarks were that caused the Flamboro quarry to be excluded. Jessica noted that the site sensitivities were ranked based on a framework criteria developed by IUCN as part of the global strategy. All countries are using this framework to rank site sensitivities in order to ensure our biodiversity strategy takes a streamlined, scientific approach across the globe. The sites ranked with the highest sensitivity are those that have presence of a species at risk (or its habitat), or are located on a landscape recognized for its high biodiversity value (such as the Niagara Escarpment, or Carden Plain).
- Jessica suggested that John Bayliss, who is leading the biodiversity strategy for Holcim Canada, be asked to attend a future meeting to discuss the biodiversity initiatives underway and explain the criteria that was used to rank site sensitivities as well as potentially discuss some of the results for 2012.
- Alex mentioned to the committee that there is an article in the magazine "World Cement" about the Flamboro Quarry and its use of a specific belt scraper on the plant for dust mitigation.
- The meeting ended at 8:30pm.



### **Next Meeting**

- The next meeting will be held on Monday December 3rd, 2012 at 6:15 p.m. in the boardroom at the Dufferin Aggregates Flamboro Quarry. The meeting will begin with the holiday dinner.
- Andreea Bejgu from Dufferin Aggregates Communications department will provide the committee with information regarding social media and Holcim, and will answer committee questions.
- Dave Rodgerson will present the committee with a rough draft of the aggregate fact sheet based on his review of the Aggregates 101 presentation and information provided to him by Jessica Davidson.
- Kevin Mitchell from the Holcim Planning and Regulatory Affairs Department will be attending to provide the committee with the final update of the Neighbourhood Wells Project as it pertains to the site moving down to the lower bench.
- Alex Caruana, Operations Analyst, Dufferin Aggregates, will provide the committee with an update on the progress of SERA.