

# Dufferin Aggregates Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting Minutes (For Review)

## **Meeting Date, Time & Location**

Tuesday, June 7, 2011, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Acton Quarry office, 12791 Churchill Road, Acton

#### **Participants**

Name	Organization
Norm Elliott	Local Neighbour
Geoff Knuff	Local Neighbour
Ron Heller	Acton East Housing Corp
Paul Vanhanen	Bruce Trail Conservancy
Rob McDougall	Dufferin Aggregates
Enzo Bertucci	Dufferin Aggregates

#### **Regrets**

- Monica Gunn, Vision Advisory Committee (VAC)
- John McNabb, Local Neighbour
- Shawn Steepe, Local Neighbour
- Andrea Bourrie, Holcim (Canada) Inc.

## **CLC Facilitation and Support**

- John McHugh
- Tom Sargent

## **Minutes**

- Members reviewed and approved the February 22, 2011 CLC minutes
- Members reviewed and approved the April 13, 2011 CLC minutes
- Enzo Bertucci gave CLC members a recap of the Acton Quarry tour on April 13 and showed pictures
  of the tour
- Enzo provided CLC members with an operational update of the Acton quarry



- Sales of quarry materials are increasing as weather begins to dry out Hydro One tower project is a large local user
- The Acton Quarry is proud to announce that it has recently completed five years with no lost time incidents
- On Friday June 3, 2011, Dufferin Aggregates completed its annual water meeting with the various agencies including MOE, MNR, Credit Valley Conservation, Conservation Halton, Niagara Escarpment Commission, Town of Halton Hills, Region of Halton and one neighbour. There were no issues to report.
- Site is in full production and water levels are very high in the quarry due to greater than normal precipitation this past spring.
- Enzo gave CLC members a presentation on Socially and Environmentally Responsible Aggregates (SERA)
- What is the current state of the Aggregate Industry?
  - The aggregate industry has seen a number of decisions against the approval of quarry and pit applications in the last 24 months.
  - For years the licensing of aggregate operations in Ontario has faced issues that can contribute to a regulatory process that is lengthy, expensive and highly contentious.
- What is SERA?
  - SERA is a groundbreaking, new not-for-profit entity that aims to reduce potential conflict by developing a world-class certification system that recognizes responsibly sourced aggregates.
  - The Standards provide a new path forward, satisfying demand for responsibly sourced building materials by certifying aggregate sites that:
    - Provide a reliable long-term supply of responsibly sourced aggregate materials;
    - Protect the landscape's most ecologically and hydrologically important natural areas:
    - Meaningfully engage local communities and First Nations groups before extraction begins and throughout the lifecycle of operations;
    - Define time limits for extraction and require site-specific phasing plans that incorporate communities' interests; and
    - Offer aggregate purchasers the ability to leverage their purchasing power and request responsibly sourced aggregate materials.
- Who is responsible for the development of these standards?
  - The Draft SERA Standards are the result of a collaborative effort between Holcim (Canada) Inc., and Environmental Defence, a non-governmental organization (NGO) with a long history of leadership on environmental issues, often involving the aggregate industry.
  - The document is the beginning of a process to establish a voluntary, independently audited, certification system.
  - It is intended that from June 2011 to June 2013 the Draft Standards and their implementation will be reviewed and revised by a broader group of stakeholders.



- It is believed that this approach will better resolve current conflicts, and chart a sustainable and responsible course for aggregate extraction and consumption in Ontario.
- SERA certification is obtained based on fulfilling the Core Requirements that support the seven SERA Principles
  - Principle #1: Compliance with laws
  - Principle #2: Community consultation and involvement
  - Principle #3: Respect for First Nations rights and culture
  - Principle #4: Benefits to local communities and workers
  - Principle #5: Environmental and water impacts and site stewardship
  - Principle #6: Resource efficiency
  - Principle #7: Traceability
- The Aggregate Industry observed the success of similar certifications adopted by both the lumber and fisheries industries
  - SERA certification builds upon a growing movement to use resource management standards such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), RainForest Alliance and Marine Stewardship Council (MSC).
  - These successful models strengthened the social license of companies in these industries to operate within their sector, reducing conflicts in working environments that were historically contentious and volatile.
  - SERA certification is intended to be similarly transformative for the aggregate industry.
- SERA certification offers new aggregate sites the ability to recognize socially and environmentally responsible aggregate practices through their full life cycle.
  - SERA helps to resolve current issues by:
    - Creating market-based incentives for resource efficiency;
    - Offering purchasers the option of responsibly sourced and traceable construction materials;
    - Protecting the most important ecological and hydrological areas;
    - Establishing fixed-term licenses and phase-out plans;
    - Demanding world-class industry operational practices;
    - Providing net-gain replacement of ecological and hydrological spaces; and
    - Improving community engagement through the establishment Public Advisory Committees
- The Regulatory Approval Process required by Aggregate Operations will remain as the same, because:
  - SERA certification does not replace or prejudge the outcomes of the government's regulatory planning and permitting process (including but not limited to Aggregate Resources Act and Planning Act) but is a complementary process that certifies sites that recognize the social and environmental expectations of the local community.
  - The certification program is 100 per cent voluntary and available to any Aggregate
     Operator who chooses to participate.



- Paul Vanhanen provided an update on Bruce Trail's new parking lot. Bruce Trail received an entry permit from the Town, as well as a site modification in order to make the parking lot.
- Members voted to adjourn the meeting

## **Next Meeting:**

The next CLC meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2011, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Acton Quarry office

The next Acton Quarry Open House will be held on Saturday, September 10 from 8:30 a.m. until noon