

## Meeting Minutes

Event:	Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Paris Pit CAP # 8 Cornerstone Standards Council
Date & Time:	Wednesday, June 26, 2013 7:00 - 9:00 PM
Place:	Paris Golf Country Club, River House
Chair:	Linda Smith, Facilitator
Participants:	Robb Edwards, Neighbour Micheal H Fox, Neighbour Gary Strauss, Neighbour Shirley Simons, Councilor Alex Faux, Neighbour Fred Natolochny, Grand River Conservation Authority Kevin Mitchell, Dufferin Aggregates Richard Erdmann, Dufferin Aggregates
Guests:	Nick Shultz, Cornerstone Standards Council
Minutes:	Courtney Somers, Facilitator
Regrets:	Steve Schmitt, Councillor Elizabeth Norris, Neighbour Michael H Fox, Neighbour Gary Strauss, Neighbour Dale Lukas, Neighbour Cyril Parsons, Neighbour Bill Telfer, Neighbour John McAllister, Neighbour Murray Powell, Councilor Marilyn Sewell, Neighbour Jake Vandenburg, Neighbour Jeff Broomfield, CCOB member and neighbor Ross Moore, Neighbour

### Minutes

Linda Smith brought the meeting to order and introduced Nick Shultz from the Cornerstone Standards Council (CSC) and the rest of the Holcim team.

The CAP reviewed the minutes from April 30, 2013 and approved them.

Kevin Mitchell provided an update on the Dufferin Paris Pit:

- EBR comment period on the Permit To Take Water (PTTW) closed on June 18, 2013

- Ministry of the Environment (MOE) will consider technical comments filed and then decide if:
  - More technical information is required from Dufferin Aggregates to address technical concerns raised during the comment period
  - To issue or deny a PTTW
- Dufferin Aggregates did additional soil sampling to address community concerns. The soil samples tested for herbicides & pesticides in the topsoil as well as in the overburden and the sand and gravel.
  - Nothing was detected in the initial testing but more testing has been done and will be submitted to the MOE.
- Dufferin Aggregates will continue to measure water levels and water quality as per the site plans.

Kevin Mitchell went onto update the CAP on the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) (Industrial Sewage Works) Application:

- Dufferin Aggregates filed the Environmental Compliance Approval (industrial sewage works) application on June 3, 2013
- Kevin Mitchell explained this approval is associated with the PTTW. The PTTW allows the water to be “taken”, in the case of Paris, from the source water pond. The ECA (ISW) allows the same activities as under the PTTW but is more focused on the infrastructure used (pumps, pipes, etc).
- The ECA (ISW) application has not yet been posted on the EBR. A copy of the application will be posted on our Paris Pit website after MOE has posted it on the EBR.

Kevin Mitchell said when the application is posted to the EBR, Dufferin Aggregates will notify the CAP.

Question One: Is this application for the closed loop system?

- Kevin Mitchell responded yes, there is no outflow structure; this is for the closed system.

Question Two: If you get the PTTW approved, will you begin extracting at the pit or wait for the ECA approval?

- Kevin Mitchell explained Dufferin Aggregates still needs to fence the property. No washing of aggregate will occur until the permits are received from MOE (PTTW and ECA)

Question Three: Can you dig now?

- Kevin Mitchell explained that two things need to happen before Dufferin Aggregates can begin extraction:
  - File the Spill Remediation plan with the MNR
  - Complete the road improvement of Watts Pond Road

Question Four: Are you going to fence each phase of extraction or the perimeter of the site?

- Kevin Mitchell responded Dufferin Aggregates will fence the perimeter of the site only

Kevin Mitchell gave an update on the Earth Week Celebration:

- On May 1, 2013 twenty-five grade 4/5 students from Glen Morris Public School participated in the second annual Paris Pit Earth Week event.
- Approx. 200 native trees and shrubs were planted in the Telfer Well Head Protection Area A.
- Dufferin Aggregates has removed the WHPA-A from the area to be extracted and it will be transformed into a natural area

Kevin Mitchell introduced Nick Shultz from the Cornerstone Standards Council (CSC).

Nick Shultz explained that the Cornerstone Standards Council was developed with the help of Holcim Canada and Environmental Defense. Environmental Defense is a large NGO that fights the development of aggregate sites, but has acknowledged that aggregate is needed.

### **Cornerstone Standards Council (CSC)**

Nick Shultz outlined the stakeholders who care about aggregate issues:

- Producers
- Regulators
- Purchasers
- Neighbours
- Environmental Stewards

Nick Shultz mentioned that neighbours and the environmental groups are the most passionate about going against aggregate companies.

Nick Shultz explained that the CSC is working with these groups to get passed the conflict that arises in communities when an aggregate operation is proposed.

Nick Shultz outlined what the Cornerstone Standards Council Certification solution is:

- Develop voluntary certification that helps identify responsible sites and practices, building a company's social license to operate.
- Use marketplace demand to encourage uptake and adherence to certification.

Nick Shultz explained other voluntary certifications such as, FSC, Alliance for Water Stewardship and the Sustainable Agriculture Network.

Nick Shultz showed a slide that listed the current issues facing the aggregates industry (Slide 8). Some community concerns include:

- Regulatory license does not address a number of community concerns
- Weak community consultation
- Negative environmental impacts

Some development concerns include:

- No clear path to obtain social license
- Lengthy and expensive licensing process

- Uncertain outcomes

Nick Shultz explained that right now there are laws to be followed with the regulatory agencies but no encouragement to go above and beyond standard requirements. Nick Shultz went onto say some company's may get a regulatory license to operate but many communities do not feel that is good enough and a Social License is needed.

Nick Shultz explained that the CSC brings together all the concerns associated with aggregate operations, including drinking water, traffic, natural heritage, etc., and finds a way to address all issues. Getting certified allows for the community and the operators to see what and how each issue should be dealt with.

The solution that the CSC provides, as Nick Shultz outlined, is that CSC helps aggregate sites earn a high level of social license by:

- Establishing clear and measurable standards for aggregate operators that outline world-class responsible practices
- Providing stakeholders with third-party verification that an operation's practices meet these rigorous standards
- Promoting certified products, and the responsible standards, to major purchasers and stakeholders as the right "lens" to assess social and environmental responsibility

Nick Shultz explained the difference between the CSC Social License and a Regulatory License. The CSC Certification is voluntary, a company must self identify their positive contribution and that they are going above and beyond the regulatory requirements.

The CSC Standards Development Panel (Slide 13) includes an environmental caucus, planning caucus, industry caucus, which includes Holcim Canada, and observers. The CSC also includes a Board of industry and environmental groups (Slide 14).

Nick Shultz explained the Draft Standards:

- Principle 1: Compliance with laws
- Principle 2: Community notification, consultation & participation
- Principle 3: Respect for Aboriginal peoples rights & culture
- Principle 4: Benefits to communities & employees

Still under development:

- Principle 5: Site stewardship and impacts to environment, water and human health
- Principle 6: Resource efficiency
- Principle 7: Traceability

Information on the Standards can be found at [www.cornerstonestandards.ca](http://www.cornerstonestandards.ca)

Nick Shultz provided an overview of the consultation timeline:

- June 2011 – Present: Standards Development Panel discussions to establish world class standards for aggregate extraction
- November 2012: Early preview of first four draft principles released
- In the coming months– 60 day consultation period on all principles

- Posting online
- Media announcement
- Mini town hall meetings
- Online town hall meetings
- Following the 60 day consultation – revisions made based on input received
- Later in the year – 30 day consultation period on revised principles
- Early 2014 – Release certification system to market

### Questions

Question Five: Once there is certification and a company is audited, are they audited again?

- Nick Shultz explained that the company is audited every 5 years. If something is found in the first audit, a smaller time limit before the next audit will be applied.
- A major nonconformance situation will have a shorter amount of time to remedy any audit identified issues, Certification could be revoked if not addressed by the operator.

Question Six: Is every 5 years enough?

- Nick Shultz explained that a shorter time frame would mean that the auditors are on sites all the time.
- Nick Shultz went onto say that there is also a complaint process in place.
- Kevin Mitchell explained that the licence holder is required to complete an audit each year and MNR is also auditing the sites .

Question Seven: Can the community go to the CSC and complain about an operation and the CSC will look into it?

- Nick Shultz explained that community members could come to the CSC directly and see the audits online. Citizens are able to provide information to the CSC and the CSC, with its auditors, will review the complaints and address them at the site level.

Question Eight: How does this apply to an existing pit and what does that look like?

- Nick Shultz explained that proposed and existing sites are able to apply for CSC Certification.
- Kevin Mitchell explained that the Paris Pit is committed to certifying with CSC. Current Dufferin Aggregate sites operating will get done first and then those who are opening in the future.
- Nick Shultz explained that a plan needs to be in place that the community can see and understand, such as spills, fuel storage, water use, etc.

Question Nine: If a company already has CSC Certification, what does the company have to do relinquish the certification?

- Nick Shultz explained that if a company comes forward to the CSC to be certified, they would be doing so until rehabilitation. If they relinquish this, they cannot sell certified aggregate.
- Nick Shultz explained that once a company begins investing in certification, it is more beneficial to keep doing it to maintain a competitive advantage.

Question Ten: Is there a demand for CSC certification?

- Nick Shultz explained that the CSC has been approaching companies and offering it as a competitive advantage.

Question Eleven: Is there a market that is currently accepting only certified product?

- Nick Shultz explained that currently there is no product CSC certified, these are the draft standards

Question Twelve: How does it work with wood products?

- Nick Shultz explained that the CSC is doing more at the buyer level to get the product CSC certified. The goal of this is to have buyers prefer to buy CSC certified product, much like FSC paper products.

Question Thirteen: If Brant County decided to only use CSC certified product, would the CCOB be more satisfied?

- Nick Shultz responded we would hope they would see the benefit in the certification.
- Nick Shultz gave an example of the Concerned Citizens of Caledon; they were not against the pit, but against how the site was being developed. If it is done a respectable way, it is easier to accept.

Question Fourteen: Is there a cost associated with being certified?

- Kevin Mitchell explained that there is a significant cost to get certified. Cost includes audits, spills plan/kit, hosting CAP meetings, etc., everything that goes along with getting and maintaining a social license and going above and beyond regulatory requirements.
- Richard Erdmann explained that the CSC Certification enhances the operations and creates long-term sustainability and piece of mind for communities.

Shirley Simons explained that if the County of Brant had these standards, it would be easier to make decisions on allowing aggregate operations in the area and only using the highest-level product.

Alex Faux expressed that this process sets new standard for the aggregate industry.

Nick Shultz explained that the CSC helps screen out the bad companies and showcase the good companies, making an effort to achieve a Social License.

Kevin Mitchell explained that the environmental caucus of the CSC is well known and supports these kinds of activities. Nick Shultz added that these groups hold a lot of weight in the environmental field and want to be absolutely sure that the CSC Standards are perfect before going to the public.

Question Fifteen: Have you had much discussion with Six Nations?

- Nick Shultz explained that Six Nations has helped develop the environmental aspects of the standards and provided guidance on engaging with aboriginal communities.

Question Sixteen: Will you market the CSC to communities and industry members?

- Nick Shultz responded yes, we would talk to the communities and environmental groups to try to get them to put their influence behind the standards.
- Nick Shultz went onto explain that the CSC has been talking with the top aggregate municipalities to get them to put pressure on the aggregate companies.

Question Seventeen: Is there any thoughts of getting the trucking companies on board?

- Nick Shultz explained that the CSC mandate is the entire chain of aggregate, including trucks but much more work is to be completed.

Question Eighteen: Dufferin Aggregates already have standards for the trucks, correct?

- Kevin Mitchell explained that yes, there a lot of standards. Such as, no idling outside the gates.
- Kevin Mitchell went onto say that in the event there is a complaint regarding a trucker, the complaint is dealt with by Dufferin Aggregates. Discipline can include issuing memos about the rules to truck operators or suspensions for a time period or indefinitely from all Dufferin Aggregate sites.

Richard Erdmann explained that for example in Milton, the trucks are not allowed on Dublin Line, the street that leads into the quarry.

Kevin Mitchell explained that Dufferin Aggregates does not get many complaints about trucks because they have worked with trucking companies, municipalities and police services to address any issues.

Richard Erdmann provided another example of the Acton Quarry, where Dufferin Aggregates created a waiting area for the trucks so that they are off the road and it is safe for other commuters.

Question Nineteen: Has there been anything done with the surveying of the wells?

- Kevin Mitchell explained that Dufferin Aggregates will reach out to residents about looking at their wells after there has been a decision on the PTTW. Residences that participate in the survey will have their well examined by a licensed well contractor and water quality samples will be obtained.

Question Twenty: What do you look for?

- Kevin Mitchell explained that a contractor would look at the water level, depth of the well, the set up in the home, take water samples and provide well records. The point of the survey is to have a record of the well prior to Dufferin Aggregate operating so that if any changes happen, Dufferin Aggregates is able to address the issues with more detail.

Question Twenty-One: Well surveying is to the owner's advantage, correct?

- Kevin Mitchell responded yes, Dufferin Aggregates has found in the past that neighbour wells at some locations have had ecoli problems that the landowner was not aware of. Kevin Mitchell went onto explain that ecoli problems are not related to pit operations.



Shirley Simons said that she had someone from the CCOB contact her about silica.

- Kevin Mitchell explained that silica is based on the geology of the aggregate. The sand and gravel in Paris has almost zero silica. Silica is predominantly found in the Canadian Shield.
- Richard Erdmann said that Dufferin Aggregates could get some data together on the mineralogy of the area and provide the information to Shirley and the CAP.

Question Twenty- Two: Do you have to update any hydro?

- Kevin Mitchell responded yes, in the short term the aggregate processing plant would be operated using generators. In the long term, it would be Dufferin Aggregates intention to go to line power when production at the site increases.

### Next Steps

Kevin Mitchell provided the next steps for Dufferin and upcoming CAP meeting:

- PTTW – MOE will make decision over the next several months
- ECA (isw) - MOE will post on EBR and Dufferin Aggregates will inform the CAP
- Ecology – field work continues
- Amphibian & fish monitoring complete
- Breeding birds, vegetation, animals ongoing
  - Sound devices have been installed on site
- Bird Studies Canada monitoring device was on site for +30 days

Next CAP meeting: **Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>**

Topic: Update on ecology, update on operations, rail bed update

Linda Smith adjourned the meeting for the summer.