

Meeting Minutes

Event:	Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Paris Pit CAP # 1
Date & Time:	Tuesday, April 24, 2012 7:00- 9:00 PM
Place:	Paris Golf Course, Riverhouse, 150 Paris Links Road, Paris ON
Chair:	Linda Smith, Facilitator
Participants:	Alex Faux, Neighbour Bill Telfer, Neighbour Ross Moore, Neighbour John McAllistar, Neighbour Marilyn Sewell, Neighbour Michael H Fox, Neighbour Robb Edwards, Neighbour Cyril Parsons, Neighbour Dale Lukas, Neighbour Gary Strauss, Neighbour Fred Natolochny, Grand River Conservation Authority Murray Powell, Ward 3 Councilor, County of Brant Steve Schmitt, Ward 1 Councilor, County of Brant Jake Vanderburg, Neighbour Elizabeth Norris, Neighbour Sean Routledge, Dufferin Aggregates, Site Manager Rafael Chocomeli, Dufferin Aggregates Susan Melchin, Dufferin Aggregates Andrea Bourrie, Holcim Canada
Guests:	Michael-Allan Marion, Brantford Expositor reporter
Minutes:	Courtney Somers, Facilitator
Regrets:	Shirley Simons, Ward 2 Councilor, County of Brant

Minutes

Part One: Introductions

Introductions done by Sean Routledge, Paris Pit Site Manager

CAP members introduce themselves and explain their interest in joining the Paris Pit CAP:

- Councillor Steve Schmitt is concerned about the environment.
- Jake Vanderburg is concerned about the environmental impact. As a gravel pit worker for many years, he understands the impact sourcing this material can have.

- Michael Fox is concerned about the residents living on Watts Pond Road.
- Robert Edwards is interested in learning about Dufferin's agenda and what Dufferin will do for the community now and into the future.
- Dale Lukas is concerned about the water quality for the community and the extra truck traffic on Paris roads.
- Elizabeth Norris is concerned about the effect on the roads in Paris and how that will affect tax payers.
- Ross Moore is interested in learning about the traffic flow of trucks and is concerned about his children's welfare.
- Cyril Parsons is concerned about the Paris water quality and the environment.
- Bill Telfer and his family name have been present in the immediate area for many years. He is interested in finding out how Dufferin Aggregates is going to affect the community.
- Gary Strauss wants to gather general information about the new Paris Pit.
- John McAllister is interested in observing the CAP meeting and learning more about the new Paris Pit.
- Fred Natolochny was asked to attend the meeting as a representative from the Grand River Conservation Authority. He is interested in gathering information about the pit and will contribute to discussion where necessary.
- Councillor Murray Powell is concerned about the well-head protection areas and the affect increased road usage by trucks will have on tax payers.
- Marilyn Sewell is concerned about the predicted increase in traffic.
- Alex Faux is concerned about the environment, effect on water quality in the community, and effect on property values due to the new Pit.
- Michael-Allan Marion, reporter from the Brantford Expositor. He did not participate in the meeting but sat in as an observer. Michael-Allan introduced himself to CAP members.

Linda Smith, facilitator, walked members through the meeting agenda.

Part Two: Holcim Canada Overview

Andrea Bourrie thanked members for coming and discussed Dufferin's commitment to the community and operating the Paris Pit at today's current standards.

- Question 1: Does Dufferin have to re-certify any new standards because the license was granted years ago?
 - Andrea Bourrie answered: Yes. New standards are often put in place. The government usually goes through a consultation process to obtain input on new standards and then advises of when the new rules will take effect. Companies are then required to comply with the new standards and regulations. An example is the Endangered Species Act.

Andrea Bourrie continued the presentation and explained some of the different conditions the Paris Pit operations plan must adhere to under the current standards:

- Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for air and noise emissions
- Permit to Take Water (PTTW)
- Endangered Species Act
- General Ecology
- Transportation

The following questions were asked during this section of the presentation:

- Question 2: What benchmarks do you use to measure and how do you certify?
 - Andrea Bourrie answered: External benchmarks exist around biodiversity and environment. Holcim Limited has internal benchmarks as well. We would like the opportunity to provide detailed information on benchmarking at a future meeting. Our cement plant is ISO certified and our pits and quarries ISO compliant. Dufferin is working to become certified under the new program by SERA (Socially and Environmentally Responsible Aggregates).
- Question 3: Will you be providing us with dates of when you will be submitting for these different permits?
 - Andrea Bourrie answered: Yes, we will notify you and give you all the information available as we want your input on this process.

Andrea Bourrie then provided an overview of Holcim Canada. She outlined that the company, and its division, Dufferin Aggregates, will work to balance the community, economic and environmental impact of the operation in Paris. She noted Dufferin Aggregates is committed to partnerships and various collaboration opportunities with the Paris community. Andrea noted that Dufferin is a respected and valued neighbour and business partner in communities across the province.

Part Three: About the CAP

Linda Smith outlined what a Community Advisory Panel (CAP) is, provided a high level summary of CAP, the role of the facilitator and highlighted meeting protocols, including the opportunity to host 'Open Forums' at designated CAP meetings to hear from the public. During the overview on the CAP, the following questions were asked:

- Question 4: How soon will we receive the materials?
 - Andrea Bourrie: All meeting materials will be sent out by next week (presentation will be posted, too large to email) and we will also provide instructions on how to navigate the website.
- Question 5: Will a contact list of the CAP be available to members?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes, but we must be mindful of privacy. Members can please let us know who does or does not want to share their contact information.

Part Four: About the Paris Pit

Sean Routledge, Paris Pit Site Manager explained the different aggregates Holcim extracts to produce quality products for clients.

Sean also outlined the different phases of extraction at the pit, explaining Dufferin will be in Paris for over 30 years. Sean outlined the timelines for extraction and rehabilitation. During the explanation of phases, the following questions were asked:

- Question 6: I am concerned about the water; will the digging affect the water table?
 - Andrea Bourrie: We will only go below the water table in order to get to the product in the areas it exists below the water table, as permitted by our license. This area is the last phase to be extracted and is clearly noted on the site plan. The only other digging below the water table relates to the creation of the pond needed to allow the washing of the gravel. This is subject to approval under the PTTW process. The extraction below the water table will only happen if we can be sure there will not be an impact to the community water supply/quality.

- Question 7: What happens if the digging affects our water source?
 - Andrea Bourrie: We are very mindful of this and we have effective monitoring systems in place to ensure that we do not impact the water table. Happy to provide detailed information on this at a later meeting dedicated to water discussion.

- Question 8: How were the areas of extraction below the water table determined?
 - Sean Routledge: The areas were determined for extraction because that is where the aggregate is located.

- Question 9: Were the below water extractions considered at the time of licensing in 1974?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes, they are allowed under the license. The site plan tells us “where” we are approved the take material and the order the extraction will happen. “How” we will go about the extraction comes in the additional permits like the PTTW. If needed, we will modify our plan to best fit the balanced needs of the community/municipality, environment and our business.

- Question 10: When digging on the North side of Watts Pond Road, will the processing plant stay in place on the south side?
 - Sean Routledge: Yes the plant location is fixed. We are looking into a conveyor system to transport the material to the plant, which will minimize noise and also be more environmentally friendly.
 - Andrea Bourrie: We will address any issues the community deems a problem. The site is approved to truck the material from the north side of the road to the south side of the road. We are looking at ways to not use haul trucks, a conveyor site is a technical option. We are working through the technical process to ensure that this is the best choice for this site. We will continue to go through process with the permits to ensure that the proper monitoring is in place

Sean Routledge continued the presentation; highlighting water monitoring in the area and pointed out Dufferin's monitoring wells on the site map. The following questions were asked about water quality, extraction and expansion:

- Question 11: Who is monitoring these wells?
 - Andrea Bourrie: They are Dufferin wells. We know there are also many other wells in the area. The water is very highly monitored in this area because of the concern from the County. All information is shared with the County and is publically available.
 - Sean Routledge: We also monitor the quality of the water, which will also help to ensure that the extraction has no impact on the water.

- Question 12: Will the digging have any effect on Gilbert Creek?
 - Sean Routledge: We don't believe so. We toured the area with the County and do not believe we will have any impact.
 - Andrea Bourrie: We also monitor water in the creek with data provided in annual reports (Correction – we have started to monitor the surface water in the existing onsite ponds and are not currently monitoring Gilbert Creek)
 - Note: Elizabeth Norris understood the answer to be "I don't know"

- Question 13: When you start digging down, will you leave any screening when you get into the bedrock?

Sean Routledge: We will stop extraction a meter before the water table and do not expect to hit bedrock anywhere on the site. We stop at this level to maintain the 1m above the water table as part of the Aggregate Resources Act.

- Question 14: Does the Ministry come into investigate what you're doing?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes. They come on a regular basis and we must submit a Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) annually and they conduct an audit to ensure that those assessments are correct. Inspectors will also come into the area if concerns are raised about the site, Diane Schwier from MNR District office is the inspector for this area.

- Question 15: Will an Asphalt/Concrete plant be in the pit?
 - Andrea Bourrie: No, materials taken from this pit will be used to supply the concrete/asphalt plants. There are currently no licenses for asphalt/concrete plants at the site. If Dufferin wanted to put such a plant on this site a full transparent application would need to be submitted.

- Question 16: When you decide to expand, do you have to get a new license?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes. It would be a new license application.

Sean continued the discussion by highlighting the proposal to move the entrance and noted that the County has been engaged. Questions followed:

- Question 17: Why are you moving the road?
 - Sean Routledge: So that we are not passing as many neighbors.
 - Andrea Bourrie: We have tried to ensure that if we move the entrance we will reduce the impact on the citizens in the area. We are submitting the applications to make the formal change. It is a major amendment process, so it is taking some time. We will let you know the details of the when they become available.
- Question 18: What makes it 'major', could they turn you down?
 - Andrea Bourrie: They could. We don't expect that to happen because the proposed change is not materially different to the aggregate operation
- Question 19: Isn't the new location affecting a house?
 - Andrea Bourrie: It's about the number of trucks that will be passing by the houses. We are trying to minimize it.
- Question 20: Will you build berms? Will berms be made around Watts Pond Road?
 - Sean Routledge: Yes.
- Question 21: Was there ever an option to move the entrance elsewhere? The new location will help move the traffic down Watts Pond Road but what about to Paris Plains Road.
 - Andrea Bourrie: No other concerns have been brought up on Watts Pond Road, but if the concerns are brought up, we will address those issues as part of the process. Concerns were brought up and the company will investigate the feasibility of moving the entrance to Paris Plains Road

In summary, Sean emphasizes that Dufferin will be operating the site based on today's standards. Dufferin is committed to ensuring that the community's voice is being heard. Sean was asked to return to the previous slide on the haul route. The following questions were discussed:

- Question 22: What does the haul route show?
 - Andrea Bourrie: This map shows the County approved haul route where the trucks will drive and their route to get them to the highway system. We will not be going downtown Paris and will not be passing the school nearby (Silver St.) as has been rumored.
- Question 23: How will you ensure that the trucks will stay on this route?
 - Andrea Bourrie: We do what we can to ensure that all policies are met in the area. All truckers must adhere to the trucker policy. Our own enforcement will be set up. If we catch trucks that are not following the approved haul road, they will be suspended from our site and all Dufferin facilities. We will also work with bylaw enforcement and police in Paris to make sure the approved haul routes are used.

- Question 24: Did you say you are using Keg Lane?
 - Andrea Bourrie: The trucks will be going west on Keg Lane this is what the County has approved. (Truck route is west on Watts Pond Road, south on Ayr Road, west on Keg Lane, south on Brant Oxford Road / Puttawn Road, east on County Road 2, south on Rest Acres Road). We will not be going near the school. The community has been under the impression that we would be coming near the school, this is not the case, and there is a truck restriction already in place. We will be on the other side of Ayr Road, going West.

- Question 25: So trucks will be coming down Pinehurst?
 - Sean Routledge: Yes, from Kitchener/Waterloo.
 - Andrea Bourrie: In the half load time in the Spring the trucks will take the approved half load route which is Pinehurst. This is what the County has approved.

- Question 26: Isn't Silver Street the last approved street they have to turn down before downtown Paris, what is to stop the trucks from taking that route?
 - Councillor Steve Schmitt: Truckers would only do that once. Truckers do not want to go down that road.
 - Andrea Bourrie: The trucks will have trouble going down that street and understand that they have to operate their trucks in a certain way. We will work with the County on signage to educate the community and the haulers. The haulers understand our community policies, and they usually adhere by that. We have some great examples of this enforcement. It is not perfect, but we work diligently to ensure it goes well.

- Question 27: Have you done anything to get the speed reduced in that area?
 - Councillor Murray Powell: We could move it down but it would have to be presented in front of council.
 - Andrea Bourrie: If that is the wish of the community, you will have us beside you, we can work with you to have the speed reduced. We do have mobile speed signs in the area and we ensure that speeding enforcement happens. We use these at other sites.

- Question 28: What is the status of the green line on the map? Will this make the road better? How does Watts Pond Road factor in?
 - Sean Routledge: This is the approved road for trucks to get to the bypass (when there is no half load restriction). If the County wants to change that, we will abide by their approved route.
 - Andrea Bourrie: Watts Pond Road is not driven on during half load in spring, roughly two months out of the year. The road information has been shared with the County and we will update you on the findings of the discussions.

- Question 29: The license says you must have paved roads within the site, correct?
 - Sean Routledge: Yes, there will be limited dust and debris because our roads to the stockpiles will be paved.

- Question 30: What about the Bank Swallows when they come into nest?
 - Andrea: We are aware, and we are working with Natural Resources and Bird Studies Canada to ensure that they are unaffected.

Linda Smith brings the presentation to a close and recaps the objective of the CAP meeting.

Part Five: Next Steps/Future Meeting Topics

Next Meeting

- Tuesday May 8th at the Paris Fair Grounds
- Tuesday June 19th at the Paris Golf Course Riverhouse

Terms of Reference

- Provide any suggested changes/comment to Courtney (courtney.somers@smithcom.ca)

Topics for upcoming meetings

- Water
 - Source water protection
 - Going below water table
 - Fred Natolchny will be present
- Traffic issues
- Review Site Plans
- Effect on wildlife/environment
 - Ensure protection, work with the authority, stewardship opportunities
- Communications plan to reach the community, outside of the CAP members
Rehabilitation

Continued Discussion:

- Can we have the site plans made available?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes, absolutely. We can get reduced size copies and can have a couple full size available at future meetings.
- Can we get a timeline?
 - Andrea Bourrie: We can include that in the site plan piece and combine all issues at that time.
- Areas of extraction, can that be made available? Truck route, etc.?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes. You will get the presentation; it will be posted on the web site. The presentation is too large to email.
- Who decides the order of phases?
 - Andrea Bourrie: The Ministry of Natural Resources. We must extract in accordance with our phases, if we don't, we can be charged.

- The number one issue that jumped out was the '1974', Andrea has explained the new regulations quite well, what really would alleviate this issue is if one of these Ministers said that they have reopened the file (1974) and we are completely satisfied with what has been done since then. That would take that whole issue right off the table and the community might feel a lot better.
- Why don't you open the license and have it evaluated by today's standards?
 - Andrea Bourrie: We are aware of the communities concerns. We are committed to working through issues that the community brings to our attention. The focus needs to remain on "how" we operate this site to today's standards.
- There is a lot of money piled up in this, obviously...
 - Andrea Bourrie: There is another aspect to this. Aggregates are a provincially recognized resource. Aggregate is important to the economy and the quality of life of communities. This market area has an increased demand for this product.
 - We need to recognize this and that the ministry has recognized this. The regulations are in place and we will address the concerns of the community.
- Are their efforts put into recycling? Using concrete from other sites?
 - Andrea Bourrie: Yes, we do recycle. We can have an entire presentation on that. The biggest challenge with recycling is that the specifications are dated in most regions but we are open to working with people to change these policies. We have to meet the technical specifications for building roads, bridges, building and the specs don't currently allow for a lot of recycled material; the reality is that virgin material is required to meet concrete/asphalt specifications. We need to work with groups who dictate this specification.
- How can we as CAP members communicate this all back to the community? How can we get this information to the community?
 - Andrea Bourrie: This is definitely something we would like to do and welcome your input on how you would like this engagement process to happen.
- An Open Forum may be an opportunity for Dufferin to discuss what you are doing.
 - Andrea Bourrie: We welcome you all to tour the sites and take the opportunity to see what we have done as a company to prove ourselves in the communities. Sean would be happy to tour you all at the Blair or Millcreek site, which aren't too far away.
- Some Ad-Hoc groups have been created, what is your interaction with these groups?
 - Andrea Bourrie: We are aware of the Concerns Citizens of Brant County, but have not had any formal meetings with them. We would like to reach out to that group to have discussion and two-way dialogue, but have not yet been invited. If the CAP could help, that would be great. We want to be proactive in dealing with community concerns.

Closing comments from Andrea

Paris Pit



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Adjournment
