



By Cory Soal
R.H.A.D.

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Town had no oversight over possibly contaminated street sweepings dumped in Acton

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In the meantime, the MOECC has ordered Mississauga hire a forensic auditor to track down other possibly contaminated sites that were poorly identified in the city's records. Two such instances were identified in Acton, with one site simply being referred to as Acton Farm.

Testing at sites in Cayuga and Selkirk, Ont., which also received large quantities of the fill in question, revealed test samples with lead, arsenic at levels which could present an unacceptable risk to human health due to direct contact exposure.

The Selkirk tests also revealed elevated levels of antimony in one sample.

According to Chris Mills, Halton Hills Commissioner of Planning and Infrastructure, the town was not made aware of the investigation earlier because the street sweepings were considered waste as opposed to fill, and therefore fell under the jurisdiction of the

MOECC, local conservation authorities and the Halton Region Health.

The municipality did not issue any site alteration permits for any of the properties in question and at least four of the properties have some land that is subject to the authority of the Grand River Conservation Authority, Credit Valley Conservation or Niagara Escarpment Commission, said Mills in the release.

Five of the Acton sites were identified with addresses in the ministry report and order including: 13005 Townline Rd., 11175 Hwy. 7, corner of Hwy. 25 and 25 Side Rd., 12525 Nassagawaya-Esquesing Townline, 9163 Wellington County Rd.

Halton Hills is now monitoring the situation and it was revealed at the April 10 meeting of council the MOECC has asked the town to monitor wells in the already identified areas.

To date, those test results have come up clean.

At the request of the MOECC, (Halton Hills staff) have undertaken some well monitoring in the affected areas. Our information from regional health is that all of the monitoring results have been within acceptable limits, Mills told council.

We did request specifically to MOECC staff that Halton Hills has an interest in this matter and did request that we are kept abreast of any future information or orders that may come out related to this matter, he added.

Halton Hills staff will be publicly posting and sharing further information surrounding the investigation and ministry order as it becomes available.

Residents with questions or concerns about any possible contamination are being urged to contact the MOECC at (905) 319-8292. For health-related questions, contact Halton Region Health Department at (905) 825-6000 or toll-free at 1-866-442-5866.



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