

# Dufferin neighbours not happy with quarry truck road

By BRAD RÉAUME  
The Champion

Dufferin Aggregates will build a private road through the Cox Tract Agreement Forest so trucks can haul stone from a new quarry into the main Dufferin one south of the woodlot.

The road will keep gravel trucks off the main streets for the 20 years it will take to mine out the new area. The plan was given final approval Wednesday at Halton regional council.

Through the process several options were aired, including a suggestion by area residents to build the road through the heart of the forest tract farther from their homes. Members of the planning and public works committee rejected the idea and opted to allow the roadway to be

built through an area planted with pine trees. Berms will be built on either side to keep noise to a minimum.

Sarah Lowe, property and resource manager of Dufferin Aggregates, said the company supported the committee's recommendation and a restoration fund, which will be used to rehabilitate the quarry lands when they are mined out.

"We will build the road to minimize environmental impacts," Ms Lowe told the committee, adding the quarry needed the flexibility to operate two 11-hour shifts per day, although she said she expected a single 11-hour shift each day would be the norm.

Marny McLeod, a resident of Town Line, said there is already substantial noise and diesel fumes from the quarry, adding that she expects

more with trucks going through the forest area every 2-3 minutes. She spoke for her neighbours in asking for a route farther away from her home.

"We can't hang laundry out to dry and we won't be able to keep our windows open in the summer," said Ms McLeod. "There are 20 children in our rural cluster. This area is their playground. The 30-metre path through the forest is insignificant compared to the 160 acres the quarry will destroy."

Dufferin has agreed to form a liaison committee to field residents' complaints and has been in contact with Ms McLeod, who questioned why councillors were so intent on protecting the Cox Tract forest when either side of the property will be huge pits.

Ms McLeod also noted, "we have found several Indian artifacts while clearing land." The artifact issue was not raised at the full council meeting.

Ms McLeod pointed to a section of land which will be quarried near where the trucking road will run and said it was likely a glacial sinkhole which may have been used by aboriginals as a watering hole. She said she had only recently been made aware of the potential Indian connection.

Ms Lowe said Dufferin Aggregates had no difficulty with an archaeological assessment of the area being done, and added that people from the Royal Ontario Museum regularly use the quarry to show fossils.

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## Growth deal underway?

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Region to be verified. In addition some of the capacity being reclaimed from specific lands is subject to negotiations with landowners. In at least one case the question is whether capacity was granted to an entire parcel of land or only a section of it.

Mr. Best said he was not sure if landowners in question were even aware of the report and insisted Milton proceed cautiously. The report is slated to come before Halton's planning and public works committee on January 15.

Mr. Krantz said deals to secure interim capacity are possible but must be agreed to by all parties. He said such arrangements would likely mean money changed hands.

Those companies loaning capacity are understandably concerned that they be guaranteed future capacity at a specific time, Mr. Krantz said.

## Scholtens is running

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ally so he can reduce the learning curve necessary to function as an effective MP in Ottawa.

Mr. Scholtens said he believes that leadership requires he be up front about his beliefs and not make promises that will not be fulfilled. Mr. Scholtens has been outspoken and at times controversial regarding lifestyle issues such as regional funding for AIDS awareness and other health related programs, for example giving out condoms.

Mr. Scholtens has been married for 25 years to Betty and they have four adult children. Mr. Scholtens has lived in Halton for more than 30 years. He has built up three successful businesses during his career.

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