

MILTON QUARRY EAST EXTENSION

**Public Consultation Strategy
December 2021**



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1.0 Dufferin's Approach

Engaging with local stakeholders is a critical component of our efforts to contribute to improving the quality of life in the communities around our operations - to learn from their experiences, as well as share our own; to consider stakeholders' input as part of our decision-making processes; and to keep local stakeholders involved in planning and managing our efforts.

Each community that we are a part of has its own unique needs and concerns, which is why Dufferin operates local Community Advisory Panels (CAPs) (or Citizens' and Liaison Committees) at its various locations throughout Ontario, including the Milton Quarry. The CAPs consists of local residents elected officials, agency staff and other local stakeholders. Meetings are held regularly throughout the year, and provide a forum to engage in meaningful discussion, collaboration and information sharing.

1.1 Existing Milton Quarry Public Engagement

Dufferin Aggregates, a division of CRH Canada Group Inc. (Dufferin), operates the Milton Quarry. The Milton Quarry began operations in 1962 and was expanded in 2007. The overall operation consists of 552.3 ha with an approved extraction area of 452.1 ha.

Dufferin has a strong legacy at the Milton Quarry with public engagement, partnerships with public authorities, including, but not limited to, the following:

1.1.1 Community Advisory Panel

The Dufferin Aggregates Milton Quarry Community Advisory Panel (CAP) was launched in April of 2009 with a mission to provide, encourage and facilitate two-way communication between local residents, regional stakeholders, and Dufferin Aggregates related to the operation of the Milton Quarry. The CAP endeavours to educate stakeholder groups and the community about the importance of aggregate in our industry, and to establish and improve relationships with neighbours and community organizations.

Members of the Milton CAP live, operate a business, or are otherwise connected to the Milton area, and attend quarterly meetings where they act as a conduit for information and feedback on behalf of the community, and relay information provided from the public or other interested parties back to the group.

1.1.2 Public Partnerships

Dufferin has entered into numerous public partnerships at the Milton Quarry to ensure that this Quarry represents a future legacy for the community. These partnerships include:

- Conservation Halton: Dufferin has already entered into agreements with Conservation Halton to transfer 386 ha of natural and rehabilitated land to public

ownership to assist the Conservation Authority in managing water resources and create one of the largest contiguous environmental/recreational areas in public ownership within the Greater Toronto Area.

- The Bruce Trail Association: Dufferin has worked with the Bruce Trail to provide trail access through the Dufferin properties, both for the main Bruce Trail and side trails.
- Scouts Canada: Dufferin continues work with Scouts Canada on yearly tree planting initiatives to enhance rehabilitation efforts at the Milton Quarry. Dufferin has worked with Scouts Canada since 1990.

1.1.3 First Nations Groups

Dufferin meets frequently with First Nations Groups to share information about their operations and to engage with First Nations Groups on approvals.

1.1.4 Blast Notification Program

Dufferin implements a Blast Notification Program for any of its neighbours that wish to be notified in advance of a blast.

1.1.5 Open Houses and Quarry Tours

Dufferin has hosted various open houses at the Milton Quarry to provide an opportunity for their neighbours to tour the operation and learn more about the ongoing rehabilitation efforts. In addition, Dufferin hosts numerous school tours and other educational activities.

1.1.6 Annual Water Monitoring Meeting

Dufferin participates in ongoing review of the water mitigation and monitoring reports with agency representatives, including the Town of Milton, the Town of Halton Hills, Halton Region, the Niagara Escarpment Commission, the Ministry of Environment Conservation Parks and the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry.

1.1.7 Neighbourhood Well Monitoring

Dufferin is engaged in regular and ongoing contact with neighbours in their residential well monitoring program implemented through GHD. This engagement also provides opportunity for neighbours to raise comments and/or concerns with respect to the operation that can be directed to appropriate Dufferin representatives.

1.1.8 Open Door Policy

Dufferin has an open and transparent relationship with its neighbours and promotes an open door policy, which encourages residents to contact them directly if they ever have a concern with any aspect of the operations, including truck traffic.

2.0 MQEE Public Engagement

The purpose of this document is to outline the opportunities that will be provided for public engagement and consultation through the proposed Milton Quarry East Extension (“MQEE”) approvals process.

The Public Engagement and Consultation Strategy for the proposed MQEE is centred around the following objectives:

- Ensure an open and transparent process
- Ensure information is readily available to the surrounding community
- Consult broadly with neighbours, government, stakeholder and First Nation groups
- Address questions and concerns with fact-based information
- Take into consideration public comment on the proposed MQEE

The Proposed MQEE is subject to applications under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, and the *Planning Act*. Each of the required applications is subject to prescribed public consultation processes under the above noted legislation which will guide some components of the Public Engagement and Consultation Strategy for the proposed MQEE.

Overall, various platforms are proposed to be utilized through the application processes to reach different stakeholders and groups. Through this engagement, information will be provided regarding the proposed MQEE, and opportunities will be provided for input and dialogue around the project.

2.1 Stakeholders & Groups

Overall, the Public Engagement and Consultation Strategy is intended to reach and solicit feedback from the following stakeholders and groups:

- Community Advisory Panel
- Neighbours
- First Nation & Indigenous Communities
- Town of Halton Hills
- Town of Milton
- Conservation Halton
- Region of Halton
- Niagara Escarpment Commission
- Ministry of Environment Conservation Parks
- Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
- Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

2.2 Platforms to be Utilized

As noted, various platforms are proposed to be utilized to inform and gather input from stakeholders and groups with respect to the proposed MQEE. The proposed use of a range of media and methods through the application processes will contribute towards ensuring a broader audience is engaged and informed on the proposed MQEE.

Overall, the platforms proposed to be utilized include, but are not limited to:

- Traditional media (i.e. Newspaper)
- Social media
- Websites
- In-person/virtual meetings
- Town hall meetings
- On-site signage
- Presentations
- Delegations
- Correspondence through direct mail/email
- Environmental Registry of Ontario

Additionally, it is important to note that the ability to host in-person engagement sessions will be largely dependent on the circumstances around COVID-19 and Provincial guidelines in place at any given time. It is anticipated that a mixture of in-person and virtual opportunities will be utilized should the circumstances allow.

2.3 Aggregate Resources Act Application

The proposed MQEE will require a licence under the *Aggregate Resources Act*. As part of this process, the following will be required:

- Notification sign posted on site identifying where the application is on file and details of the public information session.
- Newspaper notice notifying the public of the application, how to provide comments and details of the public information session.
- Environmental Registry of Ontario notice.
- Written notice to landowners within 120 metres of the site notifying them of the application, how to provide comments and details of the public information session Public Information Session.
- In August 2020, the Province issued a program bulletin regarding public consultation under the *Aggregate Resources Act*, if restrictions on public gatherings continue to apply, Dufferin will commit to host a virtual meeting for all interested parties to attend.

In addition, consultation is required with any affected First Nation and Indigenous communities. The application will also be circulated to provincial and local agencies for review and comment.

2.4 Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment & Development Permit

Under the *Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act*, a Niagara Escarpment Plan Amendment (NEPA) and Development Permit will be required. As part of these applications, the following will be required:

- Notification sign posted on sign advising of the applications.
- Newspaper notice notifying the public of the proposed NEPA, where a copy of the application may be viewed, and how comments may be provided.
- Notice of application to landowners within 120 metres of site advising of the applications and where comments may be directed.
- Environmental Registry of Ontario notice.
- The NEC has the option to host a public meeting prior to making a determination on the application.
- The NEC hosts a Public Interest Advisory Committee Meeting.
- NEC Commission Meeting (open to public) to make determination on applications.
- Notice of Decision issued to landowners within 120 metres of site, as well as those who requested a copy of the Notice of Decision.

In addition, the applications are circulated to the applicable provincial and local agencies for review and comment.

2.5 Planning Act Applications

A Region of Halton Official Plan Amendment and Town of Halton Hills Official Plan Amendment will be required under the *Planning Act*. As part of the prescribed process under the *Planning Act*, the following will be required for each of the Official Plan Amendment applications:

- Pre-consultation Meeting.
- Notification Sign posted on site.
- Notice to landowners within 120 metres of the site.
- Statutory Public Meeting – The Region and Town may host a combined meeting, or alternatively host separate meetings.
- Committee/Council Meetings (open to public) to make determination on the applications.
- Notice of Decision issued to landowners within 120 metres of site, as well as those who requested a copy of the Notice of Decision.

3.0 Conclusion

Engaging with local stakeholders is a critical component of our efforts to contribute to improving the quality of life in the communities around our operations - to learn from their experiences, as well as share our own; to consider stakeholders' input as part of our decision-making processes; and to keep local stakeholders involved in planning and managing our efforts.

As part of the MQEE application, Dufferin will continue its existing public engagement for the existing Quarry and as noted above, there will be numerous opportunities for public engagement on the proposed extension application.