

**Burlington Quarry ARA Licence Application by Nelson Aggregate Co.
Public Information Session/Centre
December 10, 2020 – 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Brian Zeman, MHBC Planning, provided a 45-minute presentation on the proposed quarry.

Q&A – LIVE ANSWERED QUESTIONS (57 items)

1. Goulet

Why did Nelson Aggregate submit an “incomplete” application, since they are issuing new studies, report, revisions? If it was complete, that should be the end of Nelson’s application reports, information.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The applications submitted to the Region of Halton, the City of Burlington, and the Niagara Escarpment Commission were deemed complete. It is very typical through a review process that agencies, as they are reviewing the information, will ask for additional information and questions and Nelson is trying to facilitate that by providing additional information in response to the agencies’ questions.

2. Dean & Jan

Nelson has stated that if not granted an expansion license, they will operate for another 50+ years and explore underground mining to extend the life further. (Dean)

If granted a license they state they are prepared to enter into an agreement to complete all quarry operations in 30 years.

Without that agreement in place, what guarantee does the community have that an expansion approval will be the end of aggregate and asphalt production by Nelson on the Burlington Escarpment in 30 years?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Through the question, you did indicate that Nelson, through its application, has committed to the public agencies that it is prepared to enter into that agreement. So, if that is an agreement that the agencies want to enter into Nelson is prepared to do that to provide the community certainty for the closure of the operation. Without the expansion, there is no such agreement and the existing quarry can continue to operate.

3. Dean & Jan

Do you Nelson treat your sewage water before pumping it back out of the quarry? Have you ever removed the settlings/silt on the bottom of your sewage ponds before adding infill, as it seems the ponds have changed in size and shape over the years, if satellite images are to be believed, and will again, if your changed end use is approved?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I am a land use planner. So, I know there is going to be questions that are posed to me they are on a technical nature. I will do my best to answer based on my knowledge of the site. Nelson operates as a current water management system in accordance with Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. There is a requirement for monitoring both quality and quantity of discharged water. As you have noted, there is a continued evolution of where those ponds are throughout the operation. Some of them are for operational purposes and others are for progressive rehabilitation. Any pond fines can be dealt with an operation in two ways. The ponds can be cleaned out and

that material can be used for rehab. Or, alternatively, they can expand pond areas and to provide additional capacity. But, essentially, the water that is pumped off site is top water drawn. So, it is clean water that is not having sedimentation pumped off-site. I think most people of the community are aware that there is a discharge point on the north side of the Colling Road and that is used most often and there is another discharge point on the south on the No. 2 Sideroad, and when you go to see that water, you see it is clean water that is coming out from the active quarry being discharged.

4. Chris Beardall

Over the last few years the tremors from the explosions in the quarry have moved pictures on my walls, which I could also feel in my foundation. This new location is even closer to the Cedar Springs Court/Medad Springs homes. How are the homes here being protected from the quarry explosions? On top of the shaking of the walls/foundation, this area is completely serviced through deep in ground water tables and we live on wells vs city water. How can we be assured these explosions will have no effect on damaging our homes and or the aquifers we rely on?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – As mentioned through my presentation, there are provincial standards that are in place for those very purposes. To give the community some insurance, there has been a blasting impact assessment completed that does say the blasting can be completed in accordance with provincial guidelines. Just because a quarry is moving closer, does not mean vibration levels are going to be increasing. Sometimes as you move closer to a resident, there is a requirement to adjust your blasting patterns to reduce the amount of detonations used. It is just going to be a smaller blast as you get in very close proximity. As part of the Joint Agency Review Team, they are doing an independent technical peer-review of that report and that information will ultimately be available to the public.

5. Dean & Jan

Should groundwater levels drop, affecting area wells, what are you prepared to do to fix these problems? In my case I get my water from a spring or artesian well, what if that dries up?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – As I mentioned in the presentation, there is a well guarantee program. Nelson carefully monitors water levels in the area. There is a program in place that if they do impact anyone's water, they are required to restore that quantity and quality at their cost. Ultimately, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, under the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, that requires that at any rate. So, ultimately, people's wells will be protected as part of the proposed extension and with the existing quarry, there has not been any unresolved issues related to wells and that quarry has been in operation for over 70 years at this location and the quarry extension itself has not proposed to extract deeper.

6. Heather H

The technical report that was mentioned, is that posted where the public can see it and if not, why not?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – All reports are posted. The notice that is went out on the recent application provided where Nelson has posted. They have been posted from the first day they submitted the application back in May, I believe the Region of Halton and I think the City of Burlington also have all the technical reports posted on their website. I am not sure about the NEC and Conservation Halton.

Leah Smith (Conservation Halton) – We are relying on the Region and the City for their website.

John Stuart (Niagara Escarpment Commission) – The NEC website does not have the technical reports uploaded. Similar to Leah Smith, we are relying on the City and Region – on their websites where all the technical documents are contained.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – In response to member's comment, there are three websites with all the information available, and they have been available since the first they the application was submitted.

7. Gord Pinard

Nelson filed their application on May 14th and on October 29th (5-1/2 months later), Nelson initiated the formal ARA commenting period.

Given the estimated 2 year JART technical review timeline, is Nelson trying to limit stakeholder reviews and comments, by fast tracking the commenting period? In the 2004 application stakeholders had 18 months to review the reports before comments were required.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Nelson is not fast tacking the application requirements. The application has been in since May of last year. There is a mandatory two-year time limit on the *Aggregate Resources Act* process. So, that timeline is prescribed by provincial standards. I do not think there is any reason that a public agency review can't take place within a one-year time period to provide feedback and complete that technical review. But, some of the timelines are dependent upon the agencies, but Nelson has been working within the legislated timelines and they do have the option, even under the *Planning Act*, that if decisions are not even made on a *Planning Act* decision within four months, they have the ability to appeal a non-decision.

8. Ale Calle

Nelson reports that a new street sweeper was purchased and operates every two hours to address the mud and dust problems associated with track-out. Given the condition of #2 Sideroad and Guelph Line, it is clear that the track-out mitigation tools implemented are not effective.

What is Nelson going to do to resolve the current situation and how will you address track-out when the number of trucks increase if the application is approved?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The first response is truck traffic will not increase as a result of this application. The quarry, historically, shipped up to 1.5-2 million tonnes per year, and sometimes larger volumes. They do not have a tonnage limit under the existing quarry license. So, there will be less truck traffic with the extension. I do know that Nelson is working with one of the landowners that is located near the entrance/exit regarding dust control and cleaning roads.

9. Laurence Hewick

What will happen with the land when Nelson Quarry is finished with their degradation of the land?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Through my presentation, there are two options here. If there is no extension, the existing quarry will be finished. They are estimating approximately 50 years, and at that time they will let the lake passively fill and then it will remain in private ownership

and they will sell off the other lands that they have acquired for other private interest. If the application is approved, the company has committed to convey 382 hectares of land for use for public asset.

10. Jer

Will Schedule 6 have an impact on this review?

Leah Smith (Conservation Halton) – First, I will give a little bit of a background on what Schedule 6 is for those on the call who have not heard of that. Earlier this week, the Province made changes the *Conservation Authorizes Act* through Bill 229 and Schedule 6. There is a lot of changes that have been made to the *Act*. Conservation Halton is still certainly working through those changes and the impacts on various roles and responsibilities. So, I cannot give a definitive answer to this question, but I do want to address one change that was made through Bill 229 that has gotten a lot of press and that is specifically, that the *Act* has been changed to say that we are a Minister's Zoning Order has been issued the conservation authority must issue a permit for those folks. For this particular application, for the Nelson Quarry, I do not see that having any impact because the *Conservation Authorities Act* already exempted any areas licensed by an *Aggregate Resources Act* application from receiving a conservation authority permit. So, I think that really key change that came out of Bill 229 and Schedule 6 probably will not have any impact here, and as we work through those changes we will be able to answer more questions there.

11. Katy Moore

re traffic & environmental impact.

Are there any projections for the increased volume of tractor trailers needed to service an active quarry? Who would be accountable for conducting an environmental impact study to see what effect this increased volume will cause?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The quick response is there is not an increase proposed. There is a decrease in truck traffic from existing. There was also a traffic impact assessment to ensure that the traffic that has been proposed from the expansion can be safely accommodated within the capacity of these roadways and that answer has confirmed that the existing Guelph Line has the capacity to accommodate the projected trucks from the proposed extension.

12. Mary-Ann Welland

Nelson is doing a random sampling program for imported fill and have identified loads that don't meet the clean fill standard. What percentage of trucks are tested and what do you do with fill that doesn't meet standards?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – That is a question I am unable to answer. That is related to their existing quarry operation. All I do know is that the existing quarry does have permission to import infill for rehabilitation and they do have an approved protocol in place with the Government that they do undertake for testing.

13. Anonymous Attendee

What has changed that this area is no longer being considered as a green protected area? Why is the natural environment in this area no longer a concern to remain protected from others commercial desires?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The perception that this is a green area that is identified for long-term protection is not correct based on the land use policies are in place. This is considered Escarpment Rural. Niagara Escarpment Plan has three tiers of designation: Escarpment Natural Area which is the highest order, Escarpment Protection Area which is the second, and then Escarpment Rural lands. These lands are within the Escarpment Rural lands. They do not form part of the Provincial Natural Heritage System and policies allow for consideration of extraction in this area and likewise the City and Regional planning policies have policies in place to protect the surrounding area for potential future extraction.

14. Lawson Hunter

Is it absolutely necessary to have both north and south parcels of proposed quarry? For example, could Nelson operate without the south area - which seems to be the most invasive to natural heritage and close to endangered species?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The application is proposed to include both the south and west extension. Provincial, Region and City Plans have policies to make available as much aggregates as possible. The operation has been designed to be respectful of the adjacent natural heritage features and protect. The operation has also been phased. So, you do not have concurrent extraction going in multiple areas at certain times. And, from a land use perspective, be honest with you, the after-use rehabilitation plan for the south quarry extension, to me is the most exciting for the community and something that could be realized in 10 years. One of the most needed resources within the GTA are outdoor areas and public parks that provide swimming/water based recreation. The south extension would have the ability to provide for that in a very short-time period for the community. So, I think the south quarry extension is well designed from an environmental perspective. But also as a very unique long-term aspect to it.

15. Bryan Smith

Do Brian Zeman's projections of need in the future, account for the change from travelling to zooming, from face-to-face to internet based work? A number of major companies have identified that their move to work at home is permanent.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The studies completed did not consider Covid, but I can say during COVID, that aggregate demand has not gone down. Infrastructure has been one of the key components of the province and construction in the province leaned up to help sort of maintain the economy during COVID.

16. Walter Galvao

At the last meeting hosted by Nelson Aggregate at the golf course there were many concerns raised and Nelson was quoted that they would get back to the community with their responses to those concerns. What happened since that time because I have not seen anything as of yet?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Kevin Powers who is also a panelist today for public consultation. But, my understanding is they are keeping Question and Answer posted on the Nelson website to provide additional feedback for the questions that are received at these type of question sessions.

17. Anonymous Attendee

Nelson's 500 acre quarry was only supposed to operate for 50 years. Why is it still operating 70 years later, continuing negative impacts to the area?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I am not sure where members of the public are getting that information. But I can say, based on the approval there is no restriction on the amount of the time that they are in the quarry. It is market-driven. And, ultimately, the amount of time that is completed in the operation is the discretion of Nelson.

18. Lawson Hunter

Given that the stone from this site is 'the highest quality' how much of this aggregate is shipped outside of the city, region?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I think my earlier stats would have shown that about 25% will go outside of the Region of Halton and the rest is used within the Region of Halton and City of Burlington. Most of that material being shipped outside of Halton is to the region of Peel and City of Toronto. And both of those areas do not have any licensed quarries for crushed stone within those municipalities. So, they have a need for the resources coming from this site.

19. Goulet

Who else produces "high quality" limestone in Halton?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – There is a couple other operations. Historically, there used to be 5 crushed stone quarries that are the same quality of the resource. Halton Crushed Stone, Milton Limestone were two of those. Those have since been exhausted and closed, so there is three remaining: the Dufferin Milton Quarry, the Dufferin Acton Quarry, and the Nelson Burlington Quarry.

20. Walter Galvao

Brian at the last meeting you stated that has the City of Burlington staff changed aggregate extraction zoning as not being permitted in these new application locations that Nelson Aggregate would not be able to submit an application unless rezoning was approved. Is this correct?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I am not sure the context of the comment because the first relevant issue is there is no zoning in place. This is an area within the Niagara Escarpment. There is a Niagara Escarpment Development permit system. If the comment is related more generally my comment would have been that prior to an *Aggregate Resources Act* licence being able to be issued on the site they have to have approvals from the Niagara Escarpment, the Region, and the City before that licence could be issued. And, ultimately, if there is appeals or outstanding issues, all of these applications would be consolidated together at one hearing, and the tribunal is able to make decision on all applications collectively.

21. Sahar

Are there any plans for access on Cedar Springs Road or will the entrances remain as is on Sideroad 2?

We understand the need for aggregate however we live in the second biggest country on planet earth the vast majority of which is unoccupied.

The point that we need a "close to market" quarry slap bang in the middle of an affluent residential area is a moot point. The 401 is the busiest road in the world it's not that we are isolated and couldn't get aggregate, I really don't give any credit to this point.

This is purely a money making exercise with zero consideration for the families residing here, making some kind of environmental argument for this is insulting.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The entrance/exit will remain as is. As mentioned earlier, the City has a by-law prohibiting truck traffic on Cedar Springs Road, except for local delivery. So, there will absolutely be no entrance/exit onto Cedar Springs.

22. Laurence Hewick

Where are the alternative sites, in north Halton, for a new quarry?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The Provincial policy is very clear on need that the consideration of other sites and licence of availability of other supply in other areas is not relevant consideration. The most relevant consideration is this area is protected for future aggregate extraction. This area has land use designations that have objective to provide for new or expanded mineral aggregate operations and this site is an appropriate site based on technical studies to consider for an aggregate application.

23. Christopher

What proportion of the aggregate produced by the Nelson Quarry potential expansion will be delivered where needed within 30 kilometres or will the expansion be used in Toronto?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The majority, 75% is used within Halton. Obviously, market area shift every year depending on demand. But some of the materials certainly does go to the Region of Peel and City of Toronto through necessity because neither of those municipalities nor regional municipalities have a source for crushed stone. The aggregate at this quarry is the highest quality aggregate in Ontario. So, it is becoming increasingly important to license new high quality aggregate deposits as we talk about intensification and building up that requires higher quality aggregate.

24. Walter Galvao

Why doesn't Nelson Aggregate finish at their current location before submitting applications for two more sites? If there is a shortage as you keep stating increase the supply to match the demand at the current location; it's been stated that there is another 30-50 years of extracting still remaining.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Because of the expansion, they have made a decision to reduce current extraction levels at the quarry. There is a need for both the company and as a land use planner there is a general need beyond the company's need for additional licensed sources of aggregate and as everyone is aware, the approval process can take some time. Nelson does not want to be in a situation where they shut down a quarry, they lose their employment, and then they are trying to re-open it at a later date. You do have lead time in planning for these type of operations to make sure from a business, you can continue it, and design the operation.

25. Dean & Jan

Following on Chris B, I have lived in the area 32 years, the blast effects can rattle my windows 1.2 km from the current quarry. Are we the neighbours to continue deal with cracked plaster, foundation shifts etc. while Nelson continues to deny the cumulative continuous damages to older homes not built to today's standards and have been bombarded by tremors for 50 years?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Ultimately, Nelson is required to monitor blasts from the extension. Ultimately, if people do have concerns about damages that they perceive happen to their home as a result of the quarry, they can contact the Quarry. If they are not satisfied, they can contact the Ministry representatives also.

26. Dimitrovski

I see there a constant flow of trucks bringing materials into the quarry. I can see many of these trucks look to contain used asphalt. What are you doing with the asphalt? Are you an approved asphalt recycler? My understanding is that asphalt is considered a contaminated material. I hope you are not putting the asphalt or any other contaminated material into our ground water. Are you required by any of the ministries to give water or soil samples?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – A couple of questions there. But first, the existing quarry is approved for aggregate recycling. I think that is an environmentally responsible thing to be recycling concrete and asphalt where available. The Ministry does have prescribed conditions on where asphalt is allowed to be stored to ensure the protection of water resources that are being compiled at the site. And, then the other aspect is that the existing water that is being discharged as well as the monitoring wells around the site have been monitored for water quality.

27. Ron Melia

What proportion of landfill coming in dump trucks is tested? How many trucks get tested? What actions were taken regarding fill that was deemed unacceptable?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – That is an existing quarry question that I do not have full knowledge on.

28. Lawson Hunter

Will these questions be answered and available (with answers) to the public after this session?

Joe Nethery (Halton Region) – Yes, we are producing a question and answer log out of this with the intent of posting it to Halton Region website.

29. Shari

Nelson has stated it will protect the natural environment. How does this apply to the quality and quantity of our well water?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – As stated in the presentation, Nelson guarantees the protection of quality and quantity of water. And, to my knowledge, it is sometimes important to realize that extraction has happened in this area for 70 years to the same depth and existing wells are continuing to function without adverse impacts. So, I am not sure why people think there will be a drastic change with the new extension. There will be no change in operating procedures, not going deeper, and Nelson will continue to have a very extensive monitoring program in place.

30. Anonymous Attendee

Has the City or Nelson considered alternative materials like recycled aggregate or others to create an alternative from the dependency of aggregate? Something that does not keep compromising the exploitation of more green spaces.

I understand that as cities grows, there is a greater demand but there are alternative materials that can be used in order to reduce the need for these natural resources.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – We talked about aggregate recycling already taking place on this site. The other thing is, I have been personally involved, in many studies on behalf of the Province, and there is only a certain component of available material for aggregate recycling but it does not close to meeting the 170 million tonnes that the province needs annually. So, there will always be a need for new resources. And, then furthermore, just for people to understand, not all aggregates are created equally and particularly, when using recycled aggregates, you cannot use straight recycled aggregate to re-produce new concrete or new asphalt. You need original aggregate to be able to put as component to create those structural products. If you are using just straight recycled aggregate, it does not have the same structural component or strength. And it is often just used for backfill around piping locations or other uses. It does not have that same structural integrity as using new aggregate.

31. Dean & Jan

Are the headwaters of the Mt. Nemo plateau not a significant concern to Nelson, your current MITIGATION measures are calling for perpetual mechanical pumping to maintain current tributaries and eco systems.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – It has been an important part of the application. I know we do not get time to go through everything on the application. But, right know the existing quarry does discharge water to the north and to the south. And, some of the area has become reliant upon that, whether it is neighbours ponds or creeks. And, as part of this application, Nelson is actually proposing to revise its existing quarry approvals to maintain that water flow for the long-term for the benefit of the environment. Without the extension, that water that is currently discharged and conveyed to other properties and watercourses will cease if there is no further extraction.

32. Anonymous Attendee

According to the City's claim of a climate emergency, and the plan to be carbon neutral by 2050 does not seem to add up with the continuation of open pit mining for at least 30 years. What are they planning to do to mitigate these emissions and environmental loss in order to meet the goals they had set for themselves?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Maybe a question more appropriate for the City. But just at a high level, if the City of Burlington is trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and they do not have a source of construction aggregate within their community, they are going to be increasing global greenhouse gases because they are going to be needing to import their aggregates and material from outside the city which will result in an increase greenhouse gases globally.

Gordon Dickson (City of Burlington) – I do not have anything to add at this point. But, I will just say that those are considerations certainly that we are taking into account when reviewing the application.

33. Anonymous Attendee

How many people have contacted Nelson to report well water issues or well failure in the last 50 years. What have you done to address these issues? What exactly is your 'well monitoring program?'

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I do not have all the details on existing quarry operation. But, I have confirmed through the hydrogeologists and through Nelson, that there are no outstanding issues related to well issues in the community. So, if there ever has been an issue that is raised, it has been resolved.

34. Sahar

Do you think it's fair to call this a rural area in 2020? There is no denying Cedar Springs Road is now a residential area.

Just because something may predate the residential area doesn't mean that an area doesn't go through a change of use/purpose.

Do you find it balanced that all these investigations where all is found to be well and good and Nelson did nothing wrong is established by private companies doing the investigation paid for by the Quarry?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – My quick response is it is a rural area. It is represented as that in the City of Burlington Official Plan as well as the Region of Halton Official Plan. There are some residential uses that do exist in the area. But it is, absolutely, still considered a rural area. The technical reports they have been completed by professional engineers. Their conclusions do not change who they are working for. The Joint Agency Review Team is conducting an independent review of those studies to verify the conclusions.

35. Anonymous Attendee

When you tried to get a new quarry approved on Mt Nemo last time it was the local citizens who found Jefferson Salamanders, and who had the wetlands properly evaluated as Provincially Significant. Citizens did Nelson's work because you and your consultants either missed, or omitted these significant and critical natural features. Is this a question of competence or deviousness? And with this greatly reduced comment period what key information are we missing now? N. Koheil

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – To respond to the question about the competency of Nelson's work, there have been extensive multi-year investigations on all of Nelson's properties. They are conducted by ecologists, they are conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and to date, there has never been a Jefferson Salamander captured on Nelson's lands. The only identification that has happened in the area, to my understanding, there has been some identification of Jefferson Salamander from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in the Mount Nemo and there is also Jefferson Salamanders that were found on two ponds located south of Nelson's lands. Nelson did not have access to the settlement area to test on those properties. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has done extensive testing on Nelson's property and there has never been Jefferson Salamanders found on their property.

36. James Tennant

You stated that over a billion tonnes of aggregate are going to be used by 2041. Given this is finite resource, does this not suggest a fundamental shift in resource use and management is needed with reusable materials at the focus?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I think those are more global questions to the Province than Nelson specifically. I do know the Province has looked at their growth plan requirements. The result is they are trying to intensify uses versus traditional form of development which took up

more land and they have evaluated all the new forms of development that are taking place, the type of infrastructure that is needed to support that.

37. Anonymous Attendee

Does the site have buffers around it between the boundaries and Natural Heritage areas?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – There are variable buffers. But, in general, the buffers that have been established on this site are if it is a woodland area that is a non-plantation it obtains a 30-meter buffer. And that 30 meters is proposed to be planted with additional trees to provide additional forest area. If it is a plantation which on the south site, there is some component where there is less than 15-meter buffer proposed and again that buffer areas are proposed to be planted. In other application recently approved by the Region, they have accepted buffers as small as 10 meters from forest areas. For wetlands, there is a minimum 30 meters from the wetlands, but provincially significant wetlands and any wetlands associated with Jefferson salamander have a much greater buffer than that.

38. Karen Brock

This is interesting, that material from the 2 new quarries will have to be moved by truck to the “processing site”. This will increase traffic massively on roads!! Does Nelson pay to maintain the roads?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – The west extension will be continuous with the operation. So, all trucks will be within the boundary and operating on the quarry floor and transporting material back. So, there will be no added traffic for the west extension on local roads. For the south extension, it has been designed with a straight crossing. So, there will not be any quarry trucks travelling on the public roads, with the exception of the crossing. Nelson, through its application, has 100% committed to be responsible to rebuild that portion of the crossing is and maintain that through the life of the operation at their expense.

39. Anonymous Attendee

This is addressed towards the Halton region. We received a letter from Nelson offering to monitor our well. The community has been told that this would only help Nelson’s application. Is this true and what benefit does it have to my home?

Joe Nethery (Halton Region) – That is fundamentally a difficult one for me to answer. The reality is any individual’s decisions as to what they wish or wish not to do with respect to offers on their property are solely in their hands. Halton Region is not undertaking a well monitoring exercise in the area.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Obviously as Joe Nethery mentioned, it is an individual’s decision whether they decide to or not. By clearly establishing what the baseline conditions at their well, in the event that they ever have an issue then a resident can clearly show Nelson that this is what we had prior to extraction commencing in this area and now it is this That information helps residents demonstrate if there has been an impact to their well as a result. So, I would continue to encourage people to participate in that program, and I believe it is for their personal protection as well as for the quarry company to be aware of what the conditions are. So that when they are monitoring their network they know how that correlates to surrounding wells.

40. Anonymous Attendee

How do you plan to create wetlands?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Wetlands are created in two fashions. The ultimate rehabilitation plan does propose to have lakes and as part of that lake design you create a short line feature where they are shallow water wetland species so you create wetland habitat adjacent to lakes. There is also the ability to grade the land to create landforms similar to wetlands that exist within the area. It is one of the options that is subject to the agencies' considerations that could be added in the Jefferson Salamander area where there could be some minor grading to create additional wetland habitat to provide additional habitat for Jefferson Salamander. So it is easy to create through the implementation of construction and for those who are aware of a recent documentary, Dufferin Aggregates have created wetlands and these wetlands are also now actively being used by confirmed Jefferson Salamanders.

41. Joowon Cho

All residents who live in this area rely on the underground water. We are very concerned about depletion of underground water and polluted drinking water. The water level of our reservoir tank has already been lowered by 5 to 6 inches for 10 years since we moved in this home. How could Nelson explain and protect with this matters?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Again, with a quarry application, the utmost importance is the protection of people's water quality and wells. The Burlington quarry operates below the water and Nelson maintains the quarry in a dry condition to operate. This does result in the quarry being dewatered. So, there is an understanding that groundwater levels in the area will lower. For example, a well of 25 meters of water, and you may lower that by 1 meter, so there is still 24 meters of water available where residential use would actually only need about 5 meters to sustain its ongoing use.

42. Christopher

Has the gravel that the Nelson Quarry is exporting been tested for uranium which then contribute Radon content in homes to which the aggregate is used?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I do not know the technical answer to that.

43. Sahar

I think everyone is getting tired of having this guy pour honey in our ears, we get the gist, blowing up the ground closer to or homes is actually a great move for the environment and we are stupid for buying houses here.

If we could move on to questions I think everyone would be happier.

There has been a lake promised for years instead we have a massive hole in the ground half of the residents here probably won't be alive by the time this becomes a lake.

No one here is going to lie down and let this happen, there is far too much resistance it's just another long drawn out dance that none of us wanted to be invited to.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I continue to not understand the community's comments that they have been promised that these lands will be turned into a lake and a community asset for them. There are no agreements that require that. That is not the company's intention if they do not peruse the additional expansion. It will remain as private lands and private ownership. So, I am not sure where the community's comments are coming from that they have been promised this would be a lake and a community asset for them.

44. Anonymous Attendee

How/when will the new forest area and new wetland habitat be implemented? What regulations will they follow? Newly planted woods/wetlands will have significantly lower biodiversity than the current areas. How is Nelson going to make up for this loss?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – As I mentioned, the proposal is to remove approximately 1 ha of woodland that is accompanied into two woodlands. But, the application does involve the planting of 33 ha of additional trees and the planting details are included on the *Aggregate Resources Act* site plan. This includes species composition, diversity, timing when these plantings are to occur. The plantings will become legislated requirements under the *Aggregate Resource Act* site plans if they are approved. And I suspect also by a development permit condition from the Niagara Escarpment Commission in the event that this application is approved.

45. Axel Panknin

Over all, another huge scar on the Escarpment. Is this what we want to leave our grandchildren as our legacy? I never really thought about this before this year however, I had to explain to my grandkids why Nelson wanted to literally blow up trees and fields. This is all very professional and very slick and politically correct presentation. Would you be willing to explain to my grandchildren and thousands of other children why you are so greedy as to blow up “our” resource?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I think grandkids will be delighted with the community asset that could be developed here and I would encourage that people that are skeptical of the rehabilitation to take Nelson’s offer for a tour. Nelson has done some incredible rehabilitation at the existing quarry. I know COVID has changed things a little bit, but Nelson has always made the quarry available to the community to show them the rehabilitation efforts. It is an interim land use and I know we are talking 70-100 years as interim but for the long-term this has an opportunity to be a significant public asset well also making available the needed resource for the community.

46. S Harmer

According to your reports, between the existing and proposed quarries Nelson is wanting to pump millions of water off the plateau daily. Do you think that a private entity using upwards of 50% of the available water on Mount Nemo is greedy?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I am not sure the numbers quoted are correct, however there is a very distinct difference with quarries they handle water they do not consume water. Water that is coming into the quarry is being returned back to the watershed into the area and there is very little water that is actually consumed through the process or operation or through the washing of the product. Most of the water is just handled and returned back to the environment.

47. Anonymous Attendee

Has the golf course been purchased outright or is it only if the quarry application is approved that it will be executed? At the last meeting it was stated that there was a condition in the agreement upon approval only therefore the only real lands owned by Nelson Aggregate at this time is across the existing location. Let’s be transparent about this.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – There is an agreement for purchase or sell that would be finalized upon approval.

48. Ron Melia

Currently our homes experience tremors from the blasting that takes place. Your new site is significantly closer for those on Cedar Springs Court which suggests it will be more intrusive. What have you planned to minimize this from occurring as you move closer to residential homes?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – Every blast needs to be individually designed to ensure that as it gets closer to residents. There may be requirements to reduce the size of the blast, the drilling patterns, the amount of detonation. All requirements are to ensure that the vibration level at the residences are within provincial standards.

49. Brett Rogers

Are there any examples in Canada or beyond, of a mining company extracting aggregate without doing the open mining technique?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I know Ontario well and I can say there are not underground mines for aggregates. There are underground mines for minerals, but not for aggregate.

50. Sandy Moore

I understand that Guelph Line is considered a 'primary road', however, in the village of Lowville, it is definitely not suited for heavy truck traffic and certainly not for the obvious increase.

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – They looked at Guelph Line entirely, but most of the truck travel from this operation does go south on No. 2 Sideroad towards the City of Burlington and towards Highway 407 and the QEW.

51. Dean & Jan

Where can we get the updated technical reviews to respond to the updated reports?

Jim Faught (Facilitator, LURA Consulting) and Michelle Dagnino (Co-facilitator, LURA Consulting) – They are on the website.

52. Carolyn

Is there another site you could consider other than the Burlington site?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – There are other sites that are available for aggregate extraction, but this is Nelson's application for an expansion to their quarry in Burlington. And, without this expansion, Burlington will not have its own source of construction aggregate. In the Official Plans, the site is a protected area for aggregate extraction and provincial policy does not require to go look into other areas and transfer this operation to another municipality.

53. Anonymous Attendee

If the application is approved, how soon will the golf course close? Will you consider having it managed by the current owners or alternative until the land is required?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I do not know the exact arrangement of when the golf course will be closed. But I do know that approximately, if the extension was approved today, Nelson would be 10 years in the south extension and in about sort of year 11, there will in the golf course lands. But I do not know what the interim arrangement will be if it is approved and whether the golf course will continue during that interim period.

54. Anonymous Attendee

How will the proposed project affect rock climbing access at and Mount Nemo?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I do not see any correlation there. But, I would say through the proposed Park there will be a great increase and opportunity for those types of uses in the future.

55. Mike M

What contaminants are measured in the water that is being discharged? Are the results available to the public and if so where can they be seen? Would Nelson allow access to the ponds to take water samples for quality testing?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – I do not know the specific of all the parameters that are tested in accordance with the Ministry of Environment approvals. I do not know if that information is publicly available or just reported. But I can assure the members of the community because there can be a misconception. The impact of mineral aggregates on water resources are much different than mining. For aggregate extraction, there are absolutely no chemicals other than for blasting. There are no chemicals that are used for extracting or processing aggregate.

56. Anonymous Attendee

Is the Nelson Quarry owned by Lafarge or affiliated with Lafarge in any way?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – It is a partnership and there is another company involved also.

57. Terri Colagiovanni

You've stated if well water is affected, Nelson will remedy the issues at their expense. Will Nelson be paying for all the structural/cosmetic issues that have already occurred, and will continue to occur, as a result of the blasting?

Brian Zeman (MHBC) – These are site-specific considerations. And, if there was an issue, Nelson could meet with that land owner investigate the concerns. I can personally say that I live in Barrie and I have cracks in my foundation and cracks in my house are just due to normal construction.

Q&A – UNANSWERED QUESTIONS (65 items)

Nelson Aggregate Co.'s project team offered to answer remaining questions following the session. Below are those questions to which Nelson has provided replies.

1. Bryan Smith

This slide on need is interesting as it is contrary to parts of the Provincial Policy Statement.

Response – The Provincial Policy Statement is to be read in its entirety and all applicable polices apply.

2. Karen Brock

I would like to know how aggregate “close to market” can trump food “close to market” Food security has become a serious concern for the GTA, especially when COVID revealed the flaws. Halton Region or City of Burlington should insist on maintaining agricultural use.

Response – Provincial, Regional and Local planning policies permit aggregate extraction on agricultural lands.

3. Judith Murray

COMMENT: It is clearly time to envisage a new way of thinking about how we as a society value the natural world we occupy. This is the Niagara Escarpment, a UNESCO World Biosphere jewel. Nelson Aggregate needs to cease and desist. Stop quarry expansion. Your quarries are not welcome. Too much dust. Too many CO2 emissions from trucks and equipment. Too much danger and damage to our local species, humans and forests. Quarries scar the land, endangering Carolinian forest, and numerous bird, mammal, amphibian, reptile, fish, and insects. Times have changed... we are in a climate change crisis. Your digs and quarries endanger the living quality of all who live here. Our land is a treasure for present and future generations. NELSON CANNOT REPLACE ANCIENT WOODLANDS, NOT POSSIBLE. Why do we need to replace what already exists? Your thinking is out of synch with our current times.

Response – The Niagara Escarpments Plan was recently updated in 2017 and confirms that aggregate extraction is an appropriate and permitted use within the Niagara Escarpment.

4. Sean

How will this affect access to Mount Nemo at Halton Conservation Area?

Response – There will be no impact to accessing the Mount Nemo Conservation Area.

5. Anonymous Attendee

What will the aggregate be used for and how do the pros of an expansion outweigh the cons?

Response – Aggregate will be used for public and private construction and infrastructure projects. The requirement to determine whether the quarry should be approved is determined based on its conformity with Provincial, Regional and Local polices.

6. Sahar

Does the City find it a bit of a paradox how I can't put an addition on my tiny house to accommodate my family without jumping through all sorts of hoops because NEC is

concerned for the environment but this awful company can destroy hectares of land right in the middle of our homes? Why are they even being humoured?

Response – The Niagara Escarpments Plan was recently updated in 2017 and confirms that aggregate extraction is an appropriate and permitted use within the Niagara Escarpment.

7. Karen Brock

I understand that aggregate companies are obliged to return this land for public use. It sounds as if Nelson thinks this is a favour to the community?

Response – Aggregate companies are not obligated to return their land for public use.

8. Terri Colagiovanni

How do the proposed future parks, lakes and beaches benefit any of the current property owners who will likely not own their current properties in 50+ years?

Response – The conveyance of land will occur in phases and the first phase will occur at time of approval to provide immediate benefit to the community.

9. Goulet

If true on completeness, why are Nelson reports "preliminary?"

Response – The Adaptive Management Plan was submitted as preliminary to allow for on-going discussion with the agencies regarding the proposed approach to protect and monitor natural heritage and water resources.

10. Wendy Diaz

You don't have to have Nelson monitor your well you can hire a consultant with a simple water tape to take water level measurements.

Response – A landowner can hire a consultant to conduct the baseline residential well survey.

11. Joowon Cho

I'm Jeff Yoon. Mt Nemo charges admin fee in order to maintain the good nature environment. But in front of Mt Nemo why Nelson operates huge open mine and expand more? Isn't it odd and ridiculous?

Response – The Mount Nemo Conservation Area includes a former quarry area and it is common within rural areas that aggregate operations are located in close proximity to conservation areas.

12. Wendy Diaz

Specifically how is Nelson required to reinstate your water quality and quantity if they cause interference by their removal of the aquifer? I believe it involves setting up a cistern if deepening into the shaley Reynales Formation is not an option.

Yes, there has been water well problems on No. 2 Sideroad

Response – There are several ways to reinstate water quality and quantity which could include deepening a well, widening a well, twinning a well, relocating the well etc. Nelson is not aware of any outstanding well problems on No. 2 Sideroad.

13. Goulet

Nelson is importing as much fill and recycled material, asphalt and concrete, versus aggregate shipping.

Response – Comment noted.

14. Anonymous Attendee

What are the economical advantages and disadvantages to the expansion and how will the expansion affect the local economy regarding, money in, money out, and job loss/gain?

Response – An economic report was submitted with the application and it is available for public review. This report examines issues related to the local economy.

15. Dean & Jan

The additional areas are not yet licenced yet Nelson has always stated they are.

Response – Nelson has not advised the community that the expansion lands are already licensed.

16. Mary-Ann Welland

Lafarge/Nelson has bought property for this wanted expansion so what's to stop them from buying more and more properties in the future to decimate more of the escarpment?

Response – As part of the application, Nelson has committed to close the operation and convey the lands to public ownership.

17. Lenka Holubec

To clarify, Schedule 6 of Bill 229, does not apply here because it came to power now but the planning for this project took place under the previous rules?

Response – Comment noted.

18. Anonymous Attendee

You continue to mention that the proposed rehabilitation plans will make up for any loss or degradation of the environment; however, the quarry would degrade the area for 50 years before this rehab occurs. How is Nelson going to make up for this loss in biodiversity and ecosystem services DURING those 50 years?

Response – The off-site ecological enhancements and progressive rehabilitation will not be delayed for 50 years. Rehabilitation at the existing quarry is on-going.

19. Sue

95% of the quarry traffic now is incoming fill. Less than 5% is taking aggregate out. If the application is approved how can you say the truck traffic will be less, with an additional (up to) 2 million tonnes per year that will be added to this current truck traffic, It seems to me if the application is approved the traffic would be significantly increased?! Like almost doubled.

Response – These numbers are not accurate and the application will result in a decrease in truck traffic from historic levels. Please see traffic report for further explanation.

20. Peter & Gillian Adams

If Nelson has no restriction on its timeline of operations such as the perceived 50 year limit then why should anyone believe that Nelson will return the lands in the timelines proposed in the current application?

Response – Nelson is prepared to enter into legal agreements to guarantee the timelines proposed.

21. Anonymous Attendee

Does anyone else lobby to “protect” areas for aggregate licensing other than crushed stone aggregate interests?

Response – The Regional and City Official Plan protect this area for aggregate extraction.

22. Lenka Holubec

It seems that we have a lot of unnecessary - decorative use of stone that is precious part of environment. If we do not regulate use the impacts will accelerate.

Response – Comment noted.

23. Peter & Gillian Adams

The suggestion that Nelson need to expand now in order to plan and not to increase production seems counterintuitive when the proposal suggests that you will continue extracting on the current site plus the south quarry. Surely this indicates increased production is planned and therefore more trucks will be needed?

Response – There will not be an increase in production.

24. Buddy Ledger

Why was I not notified about this meeting? I live directly across the street and had to hear from my neighbor that this was happening now.

Response (Halton Staff) – Halton Region advertised the meeting through a digital Metroland advertisement from December 7, 2020 to December 10, 2020 and digital media advertising including Halton Region’s social media feeds and website. The City of Burlington also advertised the meeting on their website.

25. Wendy Diaz

Brian what is the basis of your statement that there has been no water well problems on No. 2 Sideroad? My parents experienced no water in their well at 2102 No. 2 Sideroad.

Response – The statement was that there are no unresolved water well issues on No. 2 Sideroad.

26. Anonymous Attendee

How similar to the “highest quality” is the next level of aggregate in our area?

Response – All of the quarries within the Region of Halton contain the same high quality Amabel resource.

27. Matt Welland

If the southern interest is approved, due to the constant truck traffic going across the road, should No. 2 Sideroad between Cedar Springs Rd. and Guelph Line be closed for the projected ten years for safety reasons? And is No. 1 Sideroad ready to take the extra traffic?

Response – Closing No. 2 Sideroad is not required based on existing and future traffic levels. See traffic report.

28. Terri Colagiovanni

How does Nelson intend to compensate current property owners of any decrease in property values due to the expansion of the quarry?

Response – Nelson does not plan to compensate property owners in the area. The quarry has been an on-going use since 1950 and the Mount Nemo area continues to be protected for future aggregate extraction.

29. Sean Blake

An argument can be made that we have every right to be NIMBY, having hosted Nelson Aggregate in our community for 70 years, with significant disturbance to the natural environment and our quality of life. Besides being able to purchase local gravel, what benefits, if any, has Nelson ever provided to the community or for the environment thus far? Why would we think that Nelson would suddenly start now?

Response – As part of their operations, Nelson works with stakeholders and government agencies to implement numerous initiatives within the communities they operate. Examples include:

- Environmental initiatives including: recycling of asphalt or concrete; a species at risk project to promote habitat for threatened Eastern Rattlesnake in Oneida; donated 23 ha of land adjacent to the Grand River to the Conservation Authority; prairie grassland restoration at its Cambridge pit; and pollinator studies in rehabilitated areas of its Cambridge and Burlington sites;
- Sponsored and donated to many local community construction projects and events by supplying its products or resources;
- Provided access to 1.5 km of its lands adjacent to Colling Road for the Bruce Trail; and
- Hosted open houses and regular school tours at their aggregate operations;

30. Johanne Cannon

Would Halton Region consider establishing its own well monitoring program, in order to offer local residents an alternative to Nelson's well monitoring program?

Response (Halton Region) – Halton Region does not have a comprehensive well monitoring program. Well water quality testing is undertaken by Public Health Ontario, and Halton Region facilitates residents sending samples submitted by residents for testing. There is an [online request form to obtain sample bottles](#), or you can pick up and drop off bottles and samples at the Halton Regional Centre at 1151 Bronte Road (Conservation Halton's office typically takes samples, but their offices are closed due to COVID-19).

To keep your drinking water safe, homeowners should:

- Test their well water frequently by submitting a water sample and submission form to a local water depot
- Regularly inspect and maintain wells

More on well water protection [can be found on the Region's website](#).

Halton Region, in its Official Plan, require proponents of new or expanded mineral aggregate operations to carry out comprehensive studies and undertake recommended mitigation, remedial measures, and on-going monitoring of their operations in accordance with Provincial and Regional requirements. The protection of surface and ground water from adverse impacts of extraction is a priority intent (quoting Section 110(3) of the Halton Region Official Plan).

31. Ron Melia

Why is there no one present from Nelson this evening to answer questions relative to its present operation (testing of fill) as it is relative to their future operation in the expansion?

Response – The purpose of the public meeting was to present and answered questions related to the proposed expansion.

32. Lenka Holubec

Creating of wetlands may sound simple but it is not especially if the originally wetland was PSW and rich ecosystem. It takes a very long time to create wetland and success is never guaranteed.

Response – Creating wetland is not difficult and wetland characteristics can be established within a year.

33. Mike M

My grandkids won't be able to enjoy this theoretical park, so why would we believe that the next expansion would also not be approved? You stated that the surrounding area was also designated for potential extraction? Why would this stop?

Response – As part of the application, Nelson has said they would enter into legal agreements to finish this operation and convey the land to public ownership. The area is designated and protected for aggregate extraction and other aggregate producers may assemble other lands and pursue an application as contemplated by the Official Plan.

34. Lorretta

Why should we trust anything a self-serving mining company has to say with regard to the well-being of local inhabitants?

Response – Comment noted.

35. Anonymous Attendee

Have you ever heard of fly rock? How can you guarantee a boulder won't come crashing through the roof of my house or land in my yard when my children are playing?

Response – Yes. Each blast is specifically designed taking into account proximity of surrounding land uses.

36. Anonymous Attendee

You missed important Wendy Diaz question at 7:06.

Response – Comment noted.

37. Chris Beardall

Is there a process where Nelson will standby and guarantee all of Brian's claims of what Nelson will do and when in all circumstances discussed? Does Nelson stand by legally behind all of Brian's statements?

Response – Nelson's requirements are outlined in the Aggregate Resource Act Site Plans and will become a legal responsibility for Nelson to implement. The promise to conclude operations and convey the lands to public ownership, Nelson has agreed to enter into a legal agreement with the agencies to guarantee this. Other aspects discussed are already legal requirements under other pieces of legislation such as the Ontario Water Resources Act, Environmental Protection Act, etc.

38. Anonymous Attendee

WE WANT A SECOND Q&A SESSION

Response – Nelson Aggregate Co. is available at any time to discuss the application with community members.

39. Stewart

Is Nelson Aggregate funding www.parks4burlington.com and/or mtnemoquarrypark.com and an advertising campaign with assets appearing on social media promoting this proposed park, which they are holding over the community's head as seeming reciprocity (or bribery) for approving this proposed expansion?

Response – Nelson is funding the Mount Nemo Quarry website. The other website is being funded and run by local volunteers.

40. Anonymous Attendee

What is the other company involved? Lafarge is much larger than Nelson, what is the nature of the partnership?

Response – Nelson is a partnership between Lafarge and Steed and Evans.

41. Anonymous Attendee

I am very disheartened when my question was skipped regarding removal of houses for the protection of wildlife. It seems that specific questions are being asked and the entire community is not being represented. Some of us understand the need for aggregate to continue to live on this earth.

Response – Comment noted.

42. Sandy Moore

Regarding your reply about the majority of traffic heading south to the 407 vs 401 and the adverse traffic impact on the village of Lowville, why is not the majority of truck traffic using the 401 vs 407 or is?

Response – The majority of truck traffic leaving the quarry heads south on Guelph Line to serve its customers. The area around Highway 401 is already served by the Dufferin Milton Quarry.

43. Mike M

You didn't ask the second part of my question. Will access be granted for taking water samples?

Response – Prior to granting such a request, additional clarification is needed.

44. Ken & Sue Richards

Brian, how did you calculate the requirements for drawdown of a residential well? I take exception to your comments regarding 4-5 meters of a well draw down being adequate for a residential home. There is no way to predict this unless one knows the recovery rate of a well. For instance, we had to drill a second well on our property at #2 and Cedar Springs Road a few years ago - same depth as the original which was 22 years old. The original well produced only 4 gallons per minute, whereas the second well produces in excess of 25 gallons per minute at a drawdown of less than 3 meters.

Response – The requirement for a well to have 5 m of available drawdown is based on information from the hydrogeologist taking into account the rock formation and recovery rate. The same principle was accepted by the Ministry of the Environment for a nearby quarry.

45. Lorretta

I live in Lowville and a local builder knocked on my door to ask about monitoring our well to ameliorate the local outcry over the proposed development - he suggested that our well would be an ideal well to monitor over the years. He took samples and we never heard from them again - they were an employer of the developer. Why would we include ourselves in your well water monitoring programme?

Response – In this situation, Nelson will provide a copy of the baseline survey to residential owners.

46. Cally

Regardless of what all the "professional" studies show, shouldn't the voice and wants of the people living in this area and the city of Burlington count as priority? Or does the need for profit outweigh the wellbeing of the people?

Response – Decisions on land development are based on approved Provincial, Regional and Local policies.

47. Goulet

Why didn't Nelson management at least greet people? Why do they hide behind consultants?

Response – Nelson has been available to meet people at the quarry and has an open door policy to the community. The purpose of the public meeting was for Nelson to present the proposed application and Nelson felt that Mr. Zeman was in the best position to provide an overview of the entire application.

48. Ron Glenn

Brian Zeman

You stated that Peel does not have any quarries. Is this correct? What about James Dick quarry on Highway 10?

Response – The Region of Peel does not have any quarries. The James Dick operation on Highway 10 is a sand and gravel pit.

49. Rory Nisan

Please keep presentations to a minimum to save time for questions

Response – Comment noted.

50. Moe Hanley

DEJA VU.

Response – Comment noted.

51. Moe Hanley

Why are we going through this exercise once again??? Is it not clear that the people of Burlington and the relevant regulating agencies do not want this expansion on Mount Nemo? And for good reason. Look at a satellite photo of the existing quarry. Does anyone really believe that this massive hole in the escarpment is not impacting our local environment? Do we really want to make a bigger hole? Have we not done enough damage? Is there really not another viable alternative? Why does Lafarge not accept the will of the people and instead direct their substantial resources to find a better way.

Response – The Region of Halton and City of Burlington Official Plans protect Mount Nemo for potential future extraction.

52. Anonymous Attendee

Yes - we were aware of the quarry (as I'm sure many of our neighbours were) when we moved here 20 years ago knowing it had a limited life span. We engaged in a legal battle lasting over 12 years, to which we won. Now we are going through the exact same process again.

Response – Comment noted.

53. Jef Fisher

How can Nelson say they are protecting the natural environment when it's actively blowing it up?

Response – The requirement for a quarry is to minimize impacts (e.g. not no impact) and Nelson has designed its applications to meet and exceed policies protecting the natural environment.

54. Rory Nisan

Moderator, please move to the questions. It has been 25 minutes.

Response – Prior to the Region setting up the meeting, the Region and the moderator were advised that Nelson Aggregate Co. would require 1 hour to present the details of the application to the community.

55. Peter Cookson CAN

It's a huge stretch to think that people who purchased property in the area were aware that the existing quarry would at some time be expanded. In fact, when we purchased our property we were told that the quarry would be closed in the near future and the quarry would be turned into a municipal amenity. How were we to find out when we purchased our property that Nelson was planning to expand the quarry?

Response – Please confirm who advised you of such. There are no existing requirements for the quarry to close within a certain timeline or be conveyed to public ownership. The planning documents that are applicable to this area identify that Mount Nemo is protected for potential future extraction.

56. Cheryl Soderlund

My husband Gord Ofield and myself, Cheryl Soderlund are definitely not in favour of expand quarry operations on Escarpment lands. Please preserve and conserve.

Response – Comment noted.

57. Karen Brock

Minimizing tree and habitat loss and minimizing the impact on natural heritage ecosystems seems very insincere and frankly, not accurate.

Response – This statement is accurate. Nelson has made significant efforts to design the application to minimize tree and habitat loss and impacts to the natural heritage ecosystem.

58. Sean P Davoren

All of this information that Brian is sharing (and in fact the presentation may be identical) has already been shared with over 200 local residents on Feb 18th 2020. Why are we being forced to endure this once again? It is like he is trying to use up time so we have less time for Q&A. Painful. NOTHING NEW.

Response – Nelson was asked to provide a similar presentation by the Region of Halton and some of the residents attending may not have been in attendance at the February 18th meeting.

59. Anonymous Attendee

I certainly hope all these questions will be displayed, recorded and answered. This public meeting is held to hear and address public comment at the last meeting it was cut short and the excuse was that the golf course needed to lock-up.

Joe Nethery (Halton Region) – Yes, we are producing a question and answer log out of this with the intent of posting it to Halton Region website.

60. Anonymous Attendee

For those who live in a close radius and are rejecting the proposed expansion, could you please consider selling your house and/or property back to the government to preserve and conserve the wildlife?

Response – Comment noted.

61. Sahar

Does anyone know if Erin Brockovich is still taking on cases?

Response – Comment noted.

62. Anonymous Attendee

I am hearing a lot of "pay to slay" reasoning here.

Response – Comment noted.

63. Dean & Jan

The Kelso quarry was deeded to conservation Halton in 2006 ... it currently is still a hole in the ground unable to support a viable ecosystem and still has danger signs and fences denying entry for rec. uses so endues at Nelson 100 years?

Response – The Kelso Quarry has received numerous awards. Any concerns regarding the Kelso Quarry should be directed to Conservation Halton.

64. Anonymous Attendee

This is a public question and answer session. I don't see either of these happening.

Response – The second half of the evening provided an opportunity for public question and answer.

65. Joowon Cho

Questioner you is Joanne and Jeff Yoon. Sorry I didn't know how to show the name.

Response – Comment noted.