

Monica Hawkins

From: Michelle St-Onge <dragonlair17@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 5, 2022 7:13 PM
To: Pauline Rochefort; Steven Trahan; Erika Loughheed; Terry Kelly; Rick Champagne; Greg Kirton
Cc: Monica Hawkins
Subject: expansion of Lavigne road pit.

Dear members of our elected council...

We live on Lavigne road in East Ferris and are rightly concerned that we were not given any notice of the expansion of the gravel pit to a rock quarry. Also the fact that the company blasted a few weeks ago, which shook all the windows in our home (I thought a house blew up) and no notice of their intent was given to us. Is the company not responsible to alert residents of a pre-arranged blasting? Were they following regulations and proper protocol? Are they not suppose to do so, according to the Ontario Stone, Sand and Gravel Association to a public brochure:

"If a quarry near your home is conducting blasting, there's no need to worry about random blasts taking place in the middle of the night or before you've had your morning coffee. Quarry staff will contact residents within 500 metres of the blast area who have requested advance notice of the blast to ensure their daily lives are not rudely interrupted.

In addition to community warnings, a siren or horn is sounded a few minutes in advance of every blast at the site. The purpose of this siren is to warn employees and workers in the quarry and allow the working area to be cleared. This siren will be audible at some offsite locations and will provide advance notice of an upcoming blast." (5720 Timberlea Blvd., Unit 103 Mississauga, ON L4W 4W2 905.507.0711 www.ossqa.com GravelFacts.ca Essential materials for building a strong Ontario Published February 2018)

So is it because we have not requested advance notice of the blast,(as mentioned in the brochure) the blast of which we were not even aware they had the permission to perform in the first place, that we were not given notice? We did not even hear a siren go off and we live on that road. Again, is the company following proper procedure with regards to blasting?

Apparently some select residences were sent a letter back in April 2022, with the information that the pit wished to expand to an A pit from a B pit, but most of us were not consulted.

We just found out this week because someone voiced his or her concerns on our Lavigne road Facebook page.

I am appalled that we had to find out this way.

What we wish to know, Daniel and I, is why there was no public consultation at municipal level? Is this not a municipal issue? Did we miss a meeting that we should have attended?

Apparently there was something back in May directed to those who received this notice...why were we not all contacted? We certainly would have liked to question what the company's intent was with

regards to an open quarry where there was to be blasting, rock crushing and many many many more heavy trucks running up and down our road.

I believe at the time we bought here, John Houle operated the modest pit which had a limited lifetime. In fact, when we spoke to him back in 2007 he said the pit was near its end. Then Champagne construction took it over and started hauling again.

Now Degagne construction owns the pit and they are planning this expansion. While we would welcome having local sand and gravel it is one thing to take our 20,000 tons of aggregate a year, and quite another to expand that to 450,000 tons a year.... the idea of an open rock crushing quarry is something we all as residents should have a say in, as it directly impacts our road, and our environment.

So our beef is that we were not given proper consultation to be able to address our concerns, to see what the township plans for our road. Will there be upgrades to our road, should this go through to accommodate the hundreds of trucks using our road? Will we as taxpayers foot the bill, or will the Company be responsible? Will there be signage to slow vehicles down to 40km? Our children are now out of school and are constantly using the road to visit their friends. Will there be a set time those trucks can operate down the road? .What if the rock quarry does get approval, will there be set times of operation as well?

Will the blasting affect our wells?

We are asking for a public forum council meeting where residents can voice their concerns and ask questions to the applicant. It is horrible that we felt the need to play scavenger hunt to find out about this issue. It should have been brought personally to **all** residents in their mailboxes about this important issue.

Michelle and Daniel St-Onge
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we also sent a copy of this letter to:

:<pebblebeachaggregate@sympatico.ca>
<ARAapprovals@ontario.ca>