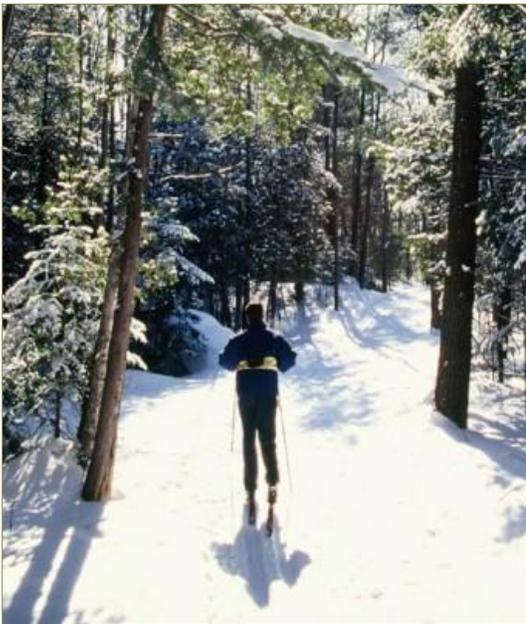


Bulletin #22 Winter 2015

A well engineered end game ... Cataract Hills Conservation Area

Credit Valley Conservation hopes to develop 153 acres that it acquired in September 2013 from the Aecon Group. It's asked for amendments to the Niagara Escarpment Plan that would allow the property to eventually be developed as the Cataract Hills Conservation Area.



CVC has requested that the designation 'Mineral Resources Extraction' be removed from part of the property that falls within the NEP and that the part of the land which is currently outside the NEP be brought within the plan.

Aecon, although no longer the owner of this property, continues to hold the Pinchin Pit aggregate licence and is required to rehabilitate the land to a standard demanded by MNR before the licence can be surrendered.

It's unclear whether the CVC amendments and the surrender of the licence will coincide. Rehabilitation is ongoing. [\[Link here to read about grassland rehabilitation\]](#)

Aecon continues to own 14 acres of the original Pinchin Pit property adjacent to Mississauga Road and operates in Caledon as Lafarge's partner on Lafarge pits between Hwy 10 and Forks of the Credit Provincial Park.

Background

Armbro Materials and Construction was the original licensee for the Pinchin Pit in September 2000. Extraction was limited to a maximum of 4,000,000 metric tonnes and the term of the licence to 15 years. A time limited licence is a rare occurrence in Caledon where most licences run indefinitely and can be activated and reactivated when conditions are favourable for the licensee.

A further proviso required a transfer of the property to the Crown for the nominal \$1 when the licensee stopped mining. MNR has had severe cutbacks in the past few years and could not take on the responsibility of managing the property. CVC stepped up to the plate.

Foodbelt Expansion in the Greenbelt and a Ban on Aggregate Expansion in the Escarpment

The 2015 Greenbelt Review has brought together a consortium of advocates who want a sizable increase to the Greenbelt and the farmland within it. 70 municipal leaders are leading the lobby for a 1,000,000 acre expansion and the creation of a 'foodbelt'. This has led to a stalemate with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture as Greenbelt regulations may not meet the needs of a diverse farming community with diverse goals. Farming in a newly extended Greenbelt may not be right for all farmers and may unduly interfere with their practices and rights of disposition.

Last summer the Niagara Escarpment Commission held an important vote that seems to have been largely ignored by media. As part of its 2015 NEP Review the Commission voted [to ban further aggregate development from Escarpment designated lands](#). This request to the Province will be a

remarkable test of the Commission's ability to protect our Escarpment lands. In 2013 NEC was unable to protect the Collingwood area from the Walker Quarry even when it publically supported the activist groups who were fighting Walker's intrusive aggregate operation at the Joint Board Hearing of the OMB and the Environmental Review Tribunal and subsequently at the Judicial Review. This NEP amendment ups the ante.

Ecojustice joins the struggle to protect Ontario's Endangered Species

A new amendment, 176/13, to the Endangered Species Act has allowed major industries such as forestry, hydro power, housing and various forms of infrastructure development, oil and gas pipelines, aggregate mining and wind power to opt out of the very provisions for which the ESA was put into law in the first place "to protect species that are at risk and their habitats, and to promote the recovery of species at risk".

Laying Siege to the Last Line of Defence a 2013 report from Ontario's Environmental Commissioner reviewed the implications of 176/13 for threatened species and described how MNR has been shut out of the permit process that previously had been a requirement for industrial operations.

[On January 13 Ecojustice lawyers, on behalf of two environmental organizations, took the Ontario government to court](#) for a regulation that they believe disables the Endangered Species Act. The ESA was hailed as an exceptional piece of legislation when it first became law. Now we will see whether it has teeth.

Caledon's newest pit - the Limebeer proposal

Re: [EBR Registry Number 012-3079](#) - Public Consultation for Limebeer closed on January 12th. The licence is a Class A below water, for a maximum of 1,000,000 metric tonnes of aggregate per year. [The proposed site covers 99 acres alongside Green Lake.](#)

Melville Pit - CAMP OMB Hearing Dates

Please Note: February 20th - cut off for witness list

Prehearing date - the second one - March 6th, 10am, Caledon Town Hall, Caledon East

Hearing to begin July 6th at the Caledon Town Hall

Hearings will be held at Caledon Town Hall Council Chambers

6311 Old Church Rd, Caledon ON, L7C 1J6

FUNDRAISER: Family Fun Skate Event at TEEN RANCH on Sunday, February 15, 1- 2pm

info@stopthemelvillepit.com

For more than 4 years REDC volunteers have delivered this Bulletin by hand to a number of subscribers and supporters who offered a home address only. Gradually most registered with an email address. This is the last Bulletin that will be dropped off. Please update us with your current email and continue to receive your REDC Bulletin and eblasts. Our mailing list is never shared as the message at the bottom of each Bulletin attests.

To contribute financially, as a volunteer, or by donating services.

Contact REDC at info@peopleforcaledon.com

Please address cheques to REDC Inc.

Mail to REDC Inc. Att: Treasurer, 17895 Heart Lake Road, Caledon ON L7K2A3

Please be assured your e-mail or postal information will not be shared and will be used solely to update you on REDC activities. Thank you for your support of our common interest in our natural heritage and opposition to the McCormick Pit. If you wish to have your name removed from the update list please send your request to info@peopleforcaledon.com