

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

MEETING DATE YYYY/MM/DD <b>2021/10/07</b>	MEETING NAME <b>PGMC</b>
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Attention: Regional Clerk  
Regional Municipality of Peel  
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
Phone: 905-791-7800 ext. 4582  
E-mail: [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)

DATE SUBMITTED YYYY/MM/DD  
**2021/09/17**

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL(S)  
**David Sylvester**

POSITION(S)/TITLE(S)  
**President, Forks of the Credit Preservation Group and Member, West Caledon Communities Aggregate Group**

NAME OF ORGANIZATION(S)

E-MAIL <b>[REDACTED]</b>	TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>[REDACTED]</b>	EXTENSION
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REASON(S) FOR DELEGATION REQUEST (SUBJECT MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED)  
**The West Caledon Communities Aggregate Group is requesting an opportunity to delegate the Region of Peel Council on October 7, 2021. We would like to address various policy concerns related to aggregate operations in the Town of Caledon, Region of Peel. Our delegation will inform Council of resident concerns and interests related to aggregate, currently and for the future. We will also provide input into Official Plan policy changes for regulation of aggregate operations and the impact extraction has on water.**

A formal presentation will accompany my delegation  Yes  No

Presentation format:  PowerPoint File (.ppt)  Adobe File or Equivalent (.pdf)  
 Picture File (.jpg)  Video File (.avi,.mpg)  Other

Additional printed information/materials will be distributed with my delegation :  Yes  No  Attached

**Note:**  
Delegates are requested to provide an electronic copy of all background material / presentations to the Clerk's Division at **least ten (10) business days prior** to the meeting date so that it can be included with the agenda package. **In accordance with Procedure By-law 56-2019, as amended, delegates appearing before Regional Council or Committee are requested to limit their remarks to 5 minutes and 10 minutes respectively (approximately 5/10 slides).**

Delegates should make every effort to ensure their presentation material is prepared in an [accessible format](#).

Once the above information is received in the Clerk's Division, you will be contacted by Legislative Services staff to confirm your placement on the appropriate agenda.

**Notice with Respect to the Collection of Personal Information**  
*(Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)*

Personal information contained on this form is authorized under Section 5.4 of the Region of Peel Procedure By-law 56-2019, as amended, for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before Regional Council or a Committee of Council. The Delegation Request Form will be published in its entirety with the public agenda. The Procedure By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended. Please note that all meetings are open to the public except where permitted to be closed to the public under legislated authority. All Regional Council meetings are audio broadcast via the internet and will be posted and available for viewing subsequent to those meetings. Questions about collection may be directed to the Manager of Legislative Services, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 5th floor, Brampton, ON L6T 4B9, (905) 791-7800 ext. 4462.

Please save the form to your personal device, then complete and submit via email attachment to [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)



# West Caledon Communities Aggregate Group

Region of Peel Official Plan Review 2020-2021

Comments on Aggregate Extraction Policies and Impact on Water

Thursday, October 7, 2021

4.3-2



# Presentation Outline

- Introduction
  - Who we are
  - Why we are here
- 1. Aggregate Operations in Region of Peel
- 2. Ground and Surface Water Resources Protection
- 3. Requests

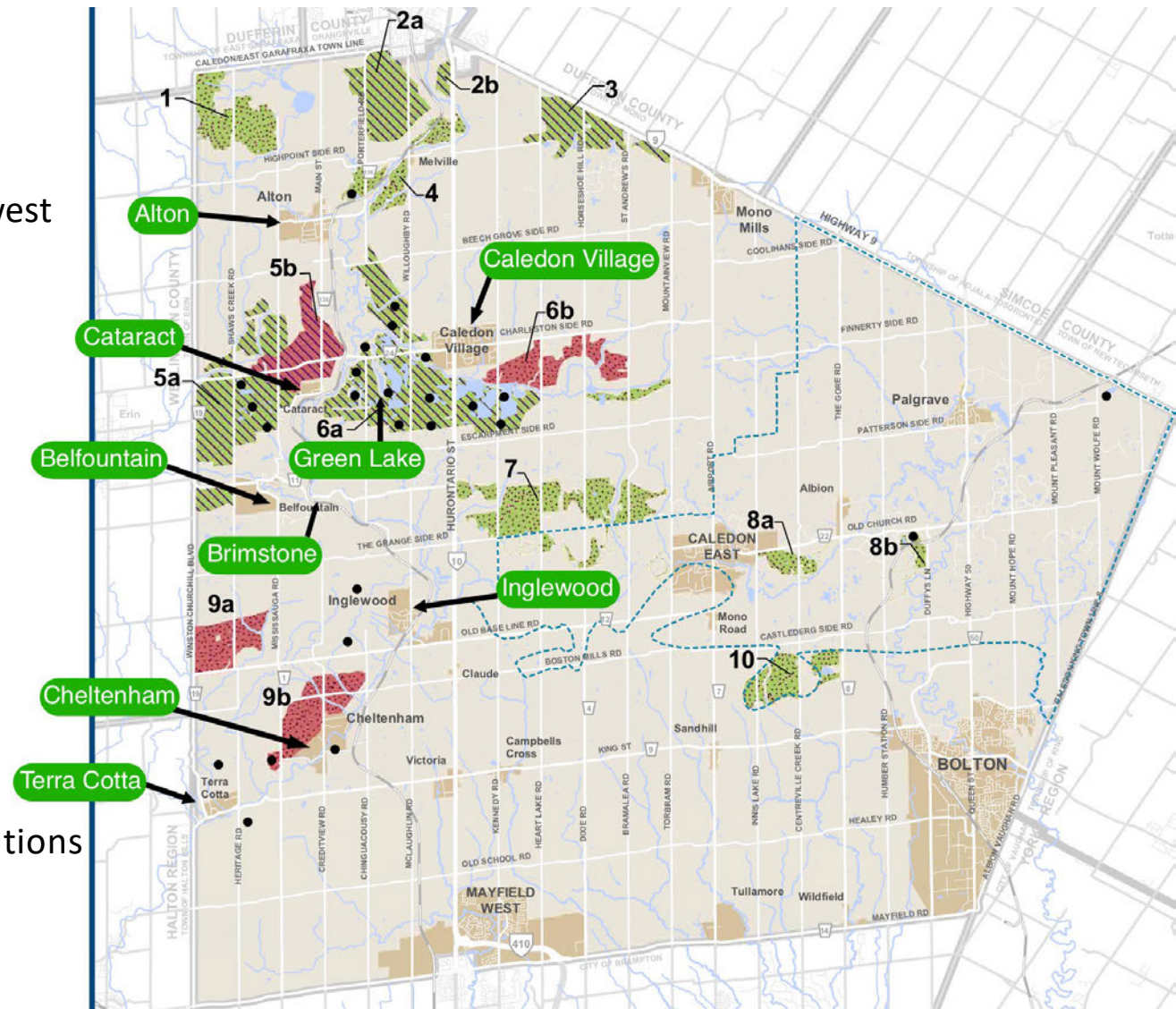


# Who we are

Several thousand residents in Town of Caledon communities west of Highway 10

- Belfountain Community Organization
- Caledon Village Association
- Alton Village Association
- Village of Inglewood Association
- Forks of the Credit/Brimstone Residents Association
- Terra Cotta Traffic Association
- Cheltenham Community Representatives
- Cataract Community Representatives
- Green Lake Property Owners Association
- Forks of the Credit Preservation Group

Our communities are profoundly impacted by aggregate operations in Caledon.



# Why we are here...

- Inform Council about the concerns and interests of the residents of West Caledon related to current and future aggregate operations
- Provide input into Official Plan policies regulating aggregate operations in the Region of Peel and their effect on water.



# Aggregate Operations within the Region of Peel

4.3-6



# How Aggregate is Extracted – Pits vs. Quarries

(as defined under the Aggregate Resources Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. A.8)

**Pit:** land or land under water from which unconsolidated aggregate (such as sand and gravel) is being or has been excavated

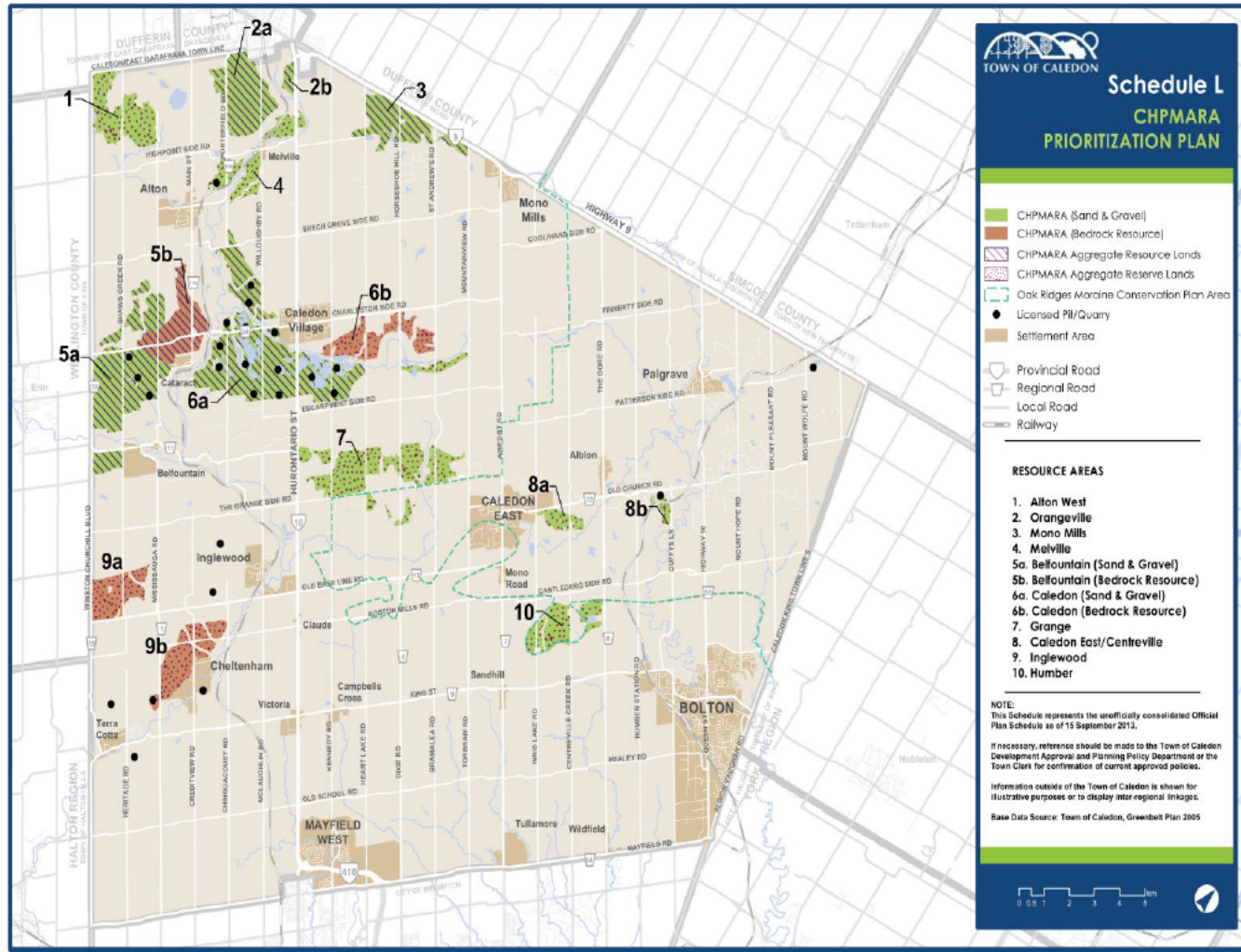
**Quarry:** land or land under water from which consolidated aggregate (solid material such as granite, marble, limestone, etc.) is being or has been excavated; this usually involves blasting.

- When excavation extends below the water table, constant pumping of vast volumes of water (dewatering) is required to maintain a dry quarry floor for continued excavation.
- Both pits and quarries are open pit strip mines, both of which have negative environmental, social, and economic impacts





# Aggregate Extraction in Caledon



- Current Caledon land area licenced for strip mining: **4 209 acres**
- Current Caledon land area identified having aggregate potential: **15 219 acres**
- Caledon constitutes 55% of the total land area of the Region of Peel





# The Big Hole – Looking West from Kennedy Rd.



All natural ground and surface water flows destroyed

All agricultural capability destroyed

All natural heritage destroyed

All aquifer protection destroyed

All cultural heritage destroyed

All indigenous records destroyed

All landscape viewsheds destroyed

All future land use potential destroyed

PERMANENTLY

**This is the aggregate industry's landscape vision  
for Caledon**



# More strip mines are coming, and there is no limit

There is no limit to the total land area that can be mined or quarried in Town of Caledon. No time limit for rehabilitation results in one massive open unusable land area with massive cumulative effects

- Lafarge Limebeer Pit next to Green Lake
- Blueland Farms west of Heartlake Road.
- Votorantim Cimentos / CBM Quarry - both sides of Highway 24, west of the Credit River.
- Current strip mine complex is 7.25 kilometers long. The Lafarge and **Votorantim Cimentos blasting quarry will make the "hole" about 2 kilometres longer!**
- Blasting will be required to make the "hole" upwards of 100 feet deep in the same bedrock that protects an aquifer running from Orangeville to Inglewood.
- The Region of Peel has no experience with below water table blasting quarries.



# Ground and Surface Water Resources Protection

4.3-11



West Caledon Communities Aggregate Group – Presentation to  
Region of Peel

# Why is better protection needed?

- Critical Science Incomplete—Needed for Source Water Protection and Better Planning Processes
- Accountabilities for Water Protection overlapping and unclear
- Science based planning policies are required to inform and manage development decisions of all types-aggregate, urban, tourism etc.,. in the Town, Region and Province.
- Pits and Quarries can enhance the vulnerability of an aquifer (*Approved Source Protection Plan: CTC Source Protection Region, effective Dec 31, 2015*)



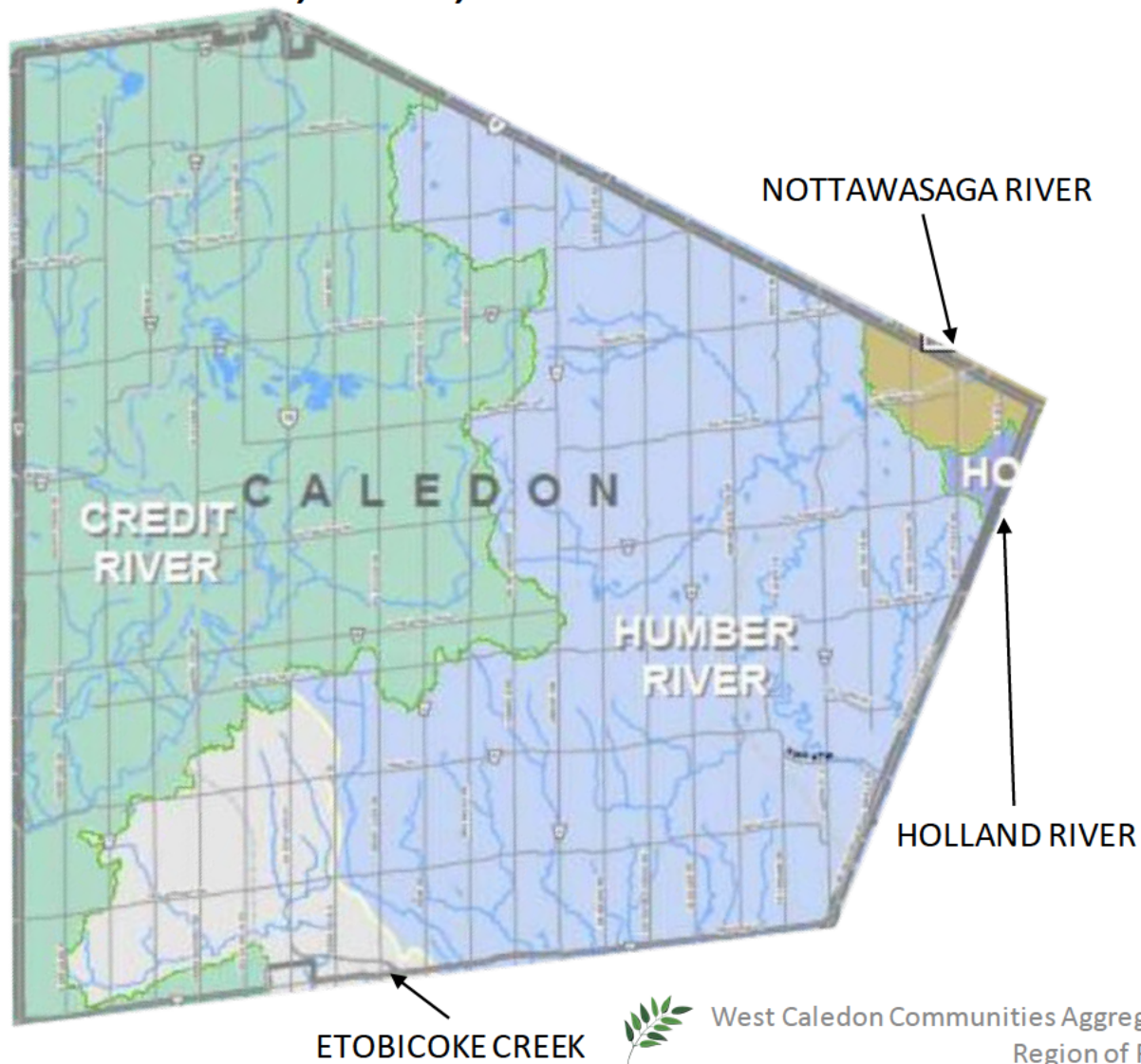
# Failure = Massive Costs for Region of Peel

- Region of Peel is responsible for rectifying problems with ground and surface water, such as adverse impacts on multiple residential water wells in west Caledon.
- Water cannot be pumped up from Lake Ontario to this area of Caledon because of The Growth Plan Policies.
- In such a scenario, there would be a massive capital outlay for piping replacement water from municipal wells to homes in affected areas of west Caledon.



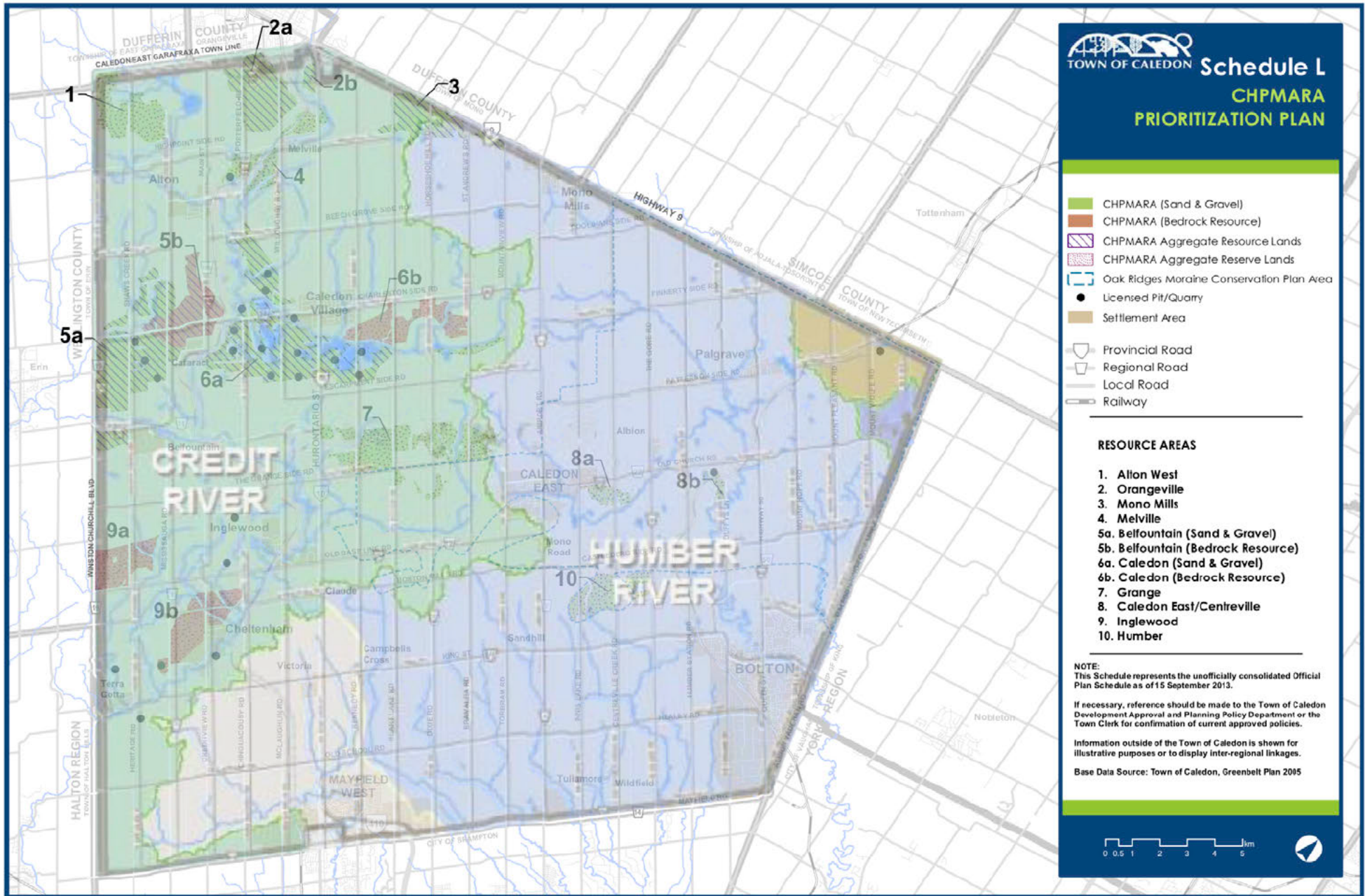


# The Upper Credit River Watershed's Water Resources Are Important to Caledon, Peel, and Ontario



- A watershed is an area of land where both the surface water and groundwater of that area drain into a common outlet.
- There are 5 major watersheds in Caledon: Credit River, Humber River, Etobicoke Creek, Nottawasaga River, and the Holland River.
- The CVC, TRCA, and NVCA have jurisdiction over these watersheds.





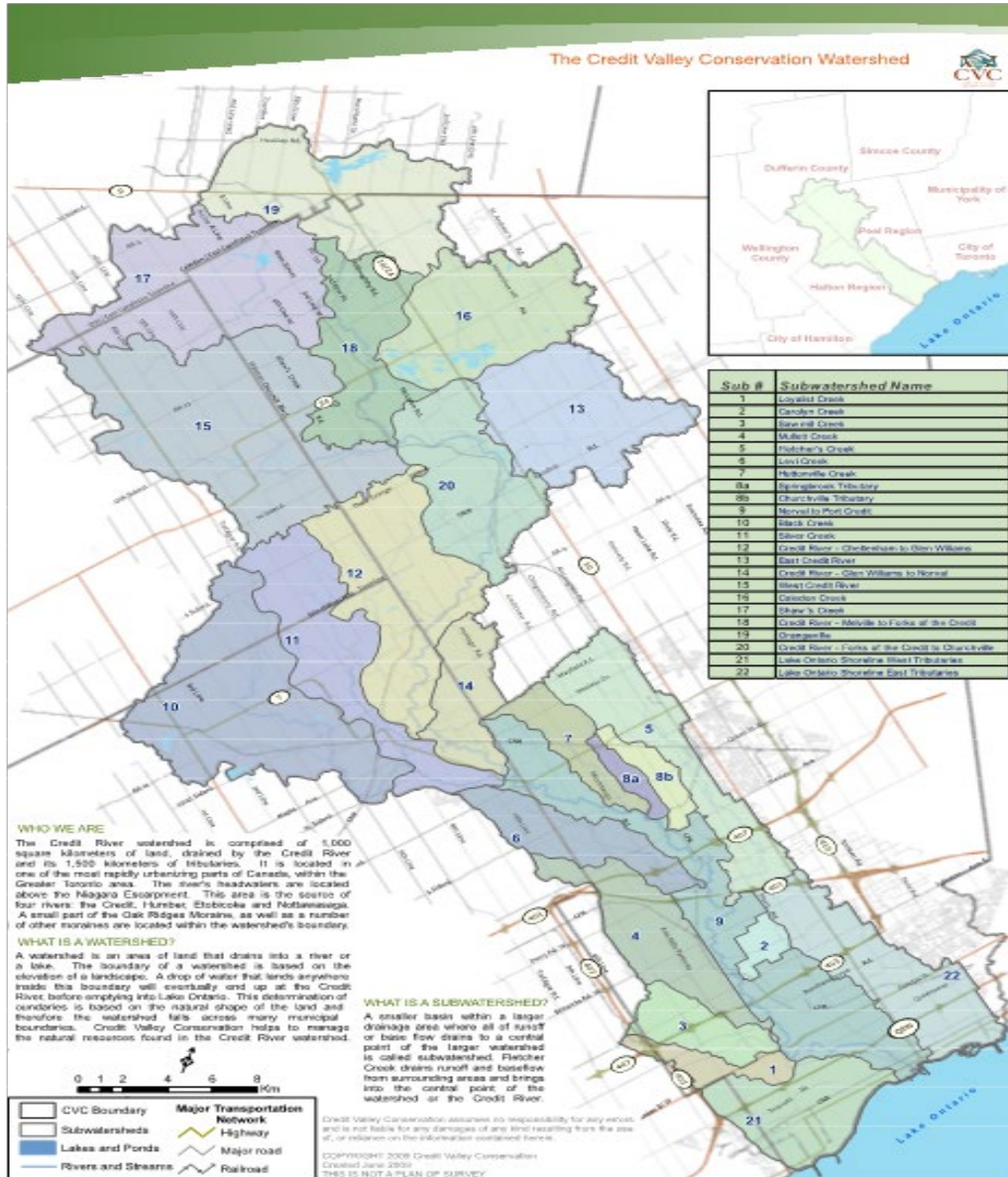
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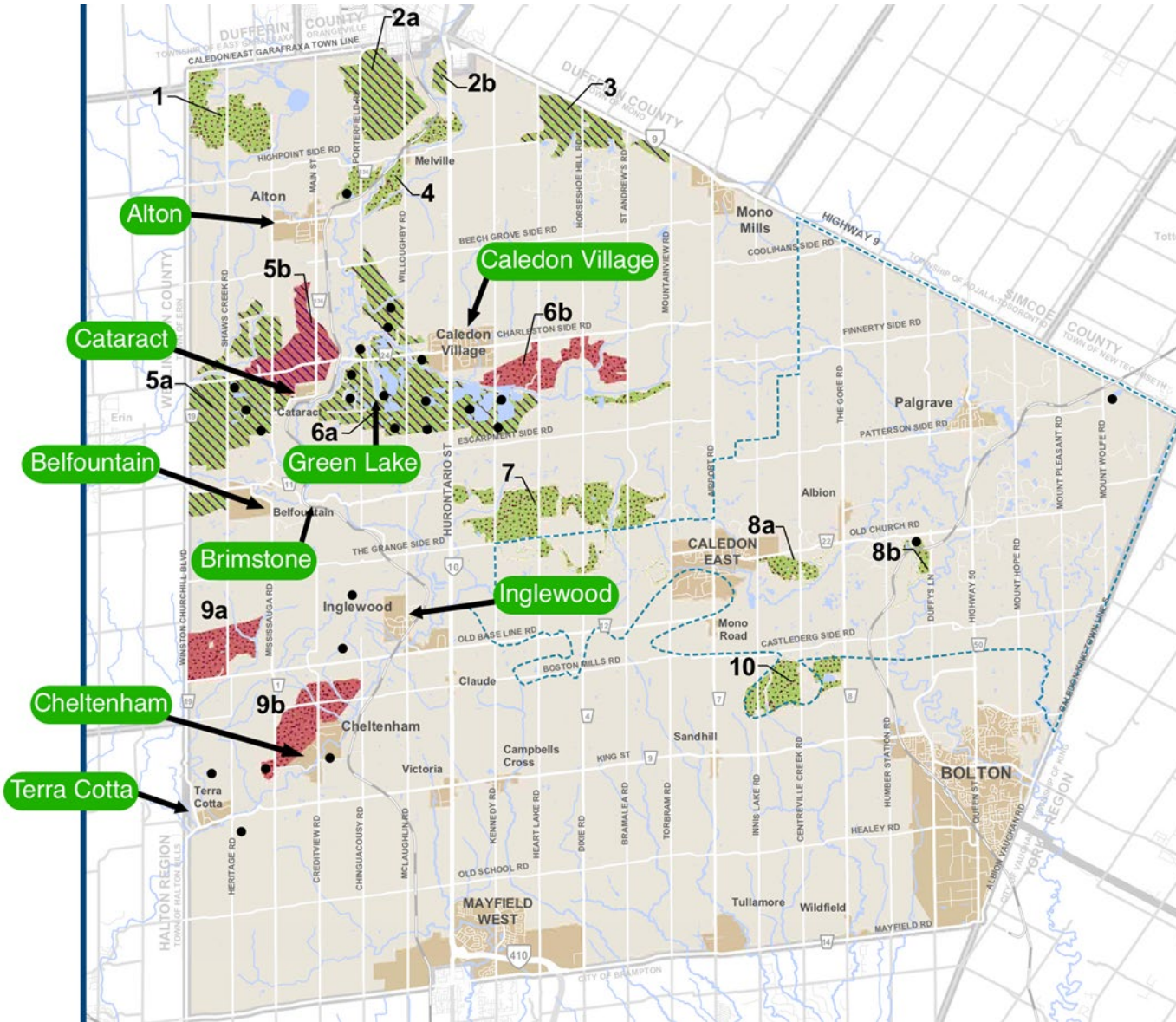
# Upper Credit River Watershed

The following *subwatersheds* are included in the Upper Credit River Watersheds:

- West Credit – #15
- Caledon Creek – #16
- Shaws Creek – #17
- Credit River (Melville to Forks of the Credit) – #18
- Orangeville – #19



# UCRW Baseflow Contributions to the Credit River



- The CVC’s 2017 Implementation Plan for Shaws Creek Sub-watershed noted that “rich groundwater recharge in Shaws Creek subwatershed produces an average of about 550 litres per second of average baseflows to Shaws Creek and ultimately to the Credit River. Shaws Creek is a critical source of baseflow at Cataract, and 12% of the baseflow at Norval
- Groundwater aquifers are the primary source for private and municipal water supplies not serviced by the Lake Ontario based system. The Region of Peel provides potable water through a well-based system that draws water from 14 municipal wells







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Sub-Watersheds #18 and # 16 host the largest concentration of large aggregate pits shown in the Big Hole photo.

4.3-18





# Provincial Permits to Take Water Process

- Provincial Permit to Take Water process is broken. Aggregate operators in Upper Credit represent the largest category of PTTWs taking 20% of the water.
- The permit focuses on 50K litres or greater. Volumes are estimated by the taker and the taker self-monitors and reports.
- Agencies like CVC are part of the process. The water taking permit recommendation in Subwatershed 17 Implementation Report by CVC suggests there is a problem here.



# Examples of Increasing Development Pressures— Aggregate, Urban Growth and Tourism

## Subwatersheds #18-Melville to Forks of the Credit & #16—Caledon Creek

- Pinnacle Heights Golf and Country Club-Melville proposed 27-hole golf course, 28 guest houses, driving range, full service club house and banquet hall (2014 Town of Caledon Tourism Strategy) approved
- Osprey Valley Golf Course—already has water taking permit for existing golf courses. Proposed resort Conference centre, golf course facility and related amenities, 300 guest room lodge. Communal septic system. Under the TCA banner plans are in play to host thousands of visitors at special events at the Course.
- Lafarge Limebeer Pit next to Green Lake
- Proposed Blueland Farms west of Highway 10
- **Proposed Votorantim Cimentos /CBM Quarry over 800 acres both sides of Highway 24 west of the Credit River.**
- Combined, the new proposals will extend the length of Caledon’s existing “hole” by about 2 kilometres.
- Ongoing leakage from the closed landfill site south of Highway 24.

## Orangeville Subwatershed # 19:

- Expansion of the Orangeville Sewage Treatment Plant expansion from 13 million litres (ml) to 17ml. Island Lake will be at/near “flushing” capacity. Population currently 27,000 to 35,000 with plant expansion. Two branches of the Credit – Big influence on water quality in Subwatershed #19 and #17 – Shaws Creek come together in Alton Grange property south and west of the village.
- Growth in neighbouring municipalities e.g. Mono to west and east of Orangeville e.g. water taking for Adamo Winery and north of Caledon-Orangeville Townline (rural estate developments near Caledon Lake).



# Additional examples of future development

## Shaws Creek Subwatershed #17

- New Olympia Aggregate Pit plus “storage” south of Orangeville bypass east of Porterfield Rd (previously Highway 136).
- Year round use of Hill Academy – septic
- Millcroft Expansion — expanded septic bed
- Alton Mill—hosting weddings (holding tank next to Creek)
- Alton Subdivision (Thomas Farm) approximately 100 homes on septic
- Pending—Robb property and Pinnacle Estates
- Commercial development potential—see Alton Village Plan—both sides of Queen St and Main St. South

## West Credit Subwatershed #15

- Proposed Erin Sewage Treatment Plant
- Aggregate applications???



# How are we doing?

- The first CVC Report Card was issued in 2013 and included information on watershed stressors, surface water quality, forest conditions and groundwater quality. Population growth and climate change were noted as two key stressors. Surface water quality, graded on phosphorous, E.coli bacteria and Benthic macroinvertebrates, indicated that “in the rural Upper and Middle Watersheds, surface water grades varied between B and C suggesting good to fair water quality.
- Almost a third of the subwatersheds received a D or F (poor to very poor), all of which are tributaries of the Credit River in urbanized areas in the Lower Watershed.
- The CVC’s 2018 Report Card noted that three wells in the upper Credit showed increased chloride due to road salting and surface water quality ranged from B to F, with water quality in urban streams being worse than in rural areas.



# No Accountable Authority

- Town of Caledon has been one of Ontario's top ten aggregate-producing municipalities for over 50 years. Aggregate operations have irreversibly impacted groundwater and surface water flows, destroyed the lands agricultural potential as well as natural heritage and cultural resources.
- Town of Caledon, Region of Peel, CVC or provincial government has not undertaken a comprehensive cumulative impact studies on the water resources created by the extensive aggregate operations within West Caledon.





# Accountabilities are Unclear

- CVC 3 phase sub-watershed planning process over last two decades is incomplete for the Upper Credit.
- Relationship to Source Water Protection planning is unclear
- Source Water Protection plumes for municipal wells not considered when accommodating development.
- Science-based protections are required.
- There are areas outside of the well head protection areas without accountability for water under the Clean Water Act.



# November 2018 Region of Peel Discussion Paper conclusion:

“The Regional Official Plan’s existing policies do not conform to the policies of the Clean Water Act and applicable Source Protection Plans. The mechanisms used to develop drinking water protection policies have evolved over the years since the introduction of groundwater protection policies in the Regional Official Plan and more recent policy for source water protection on the Moraine. The official plan will need to be updated to reflect the new policy requirements of the source water protection plans approved under the Clean Water Act.”

“Combined with feedback received through public consultation, this report will form the basis for developing policy recommendations as a next step in the regional official plan amendment process. Following Regional Council directions, staff will prepare and circulate a draft amendment for review and comment. The final result will be updated water resources policies.”

[Peel Region.ca Planning Official Plan Water Resources Discussion 2018](#)



Gaps In Water Protection	Status
Comprehensive hydrology study of aquifers recommended	Unknown
Cumulative Impact Assessment on Water Resources from Aggregate Operations in Caledon never done.	Unknown
Hydrogeologic modelling for Shaws Creek shows the impact of Caledon’s aggregate operations increased the inter-basin transfer of groundwater from the Grand River watershed and reduced groundwater flows to the main Credit River.	Unknown
CVC Recommended Study of Impact of Other Water Takings, both existing and proposed	Unknown
Manage and protect endangered species identified in completed watershed planning research e.g. 16, 18 and 17	No Evident Plans
Watershed Planning Sub-watershed 15 and others	Incomplete
Watershed Planning Sub-watersheds 16 & 18	Out of Date
Accountabilities split among multiple jurisdictions re: stormwater management and impact on surface water. Example: Incomplete Town of Caledon Drainage Plan for Village of Alton.	No Clarity
Climate change impacts	No evident in planning done to date.
Rehabilitation of existing “lunar” aggregate operation landscape to mitigate and sustain groundwater and surface water quality.	No Progress



# Requests



# Better Aggregate Policies In Other Jurisdictions?

We have reviewed aggregate policies from other regional governments including Waterloo, Halton and Durham Region.

Interestingly, Waterloo and Peel Region share many common features, particularly landforms and water resources. Waterloo Region has crafted a number of innovative land use policies that minimize the social and environmental impacts of aggregate operations. Protection of their water resources is a clear priority. From their official plan:

[https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/resources/Regional-Official-Plan/12 - Chapter 9 Consolidated ROP 2015-access.pdf](https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/resources/Regional-Official-Plan/12_-_Chapter_9_Consolidated_ROP_2015-access.pdf),

We suggest the following policies from the Region of Waterloo's Official Plan would be very beneficial if incorporated into our plan here in Peel Region:

- Policies 9.C.1 through 9.C.5
- Policy 9.C.9
- Policy 9.C.13
- Policy 9.D.1
- Policy 9.D.2



# Requested Changes:

- ❖ Moratorium on new aggregate applications/licenses until a **Cumulative Impact Assessment** of existing and proposed aggregate operations in the Town of Caledon is completed.
- ❖ For new aggregate applications, **clarify and strengthen OP policies for the protection of water quality and quantity, the natural environment**
- ❖ Draft **effective Region of Peel policies** for addressing the negative environmental, social, and economic impacts of aggregate operations in Caledon
- ❖ **Quarry dewatering impacts must be fully addressed** by Peel OP policies to ensure no adverse impacts.
- ❖ Develop effective Peel OP **policies to manage blasting quarries.**
- ❖ Respect and enhance the **community participation in new strip mine application processes, site plan amendments, and monitoring of all ARA licenses**
- ❖ Stricter governance/reporting/enforcement, Licenses/inspections and Environmental monitoring



# Why?

The residents of Peel Region have the right to live in a safe, healthy environment

