

March 12, 2018

Honourable Mayor and Council members,

Please accept this written deposition as an expression of my grave concern about a decision you, as members of Council, are to make at this meeting regarding the viability of the proposed gravel pit project.

The motivating reasons prompting my decision to submit a written deposition are personal, proprietary and communal.

My name is Jan Krouzil and I'm a tax paying proprietor of 96 acres of land located at 5817 Concession 4, Lot 8 West, adjacent to the site of the proposed gravel pit.

As a current resident of Beeton, Ont., I acquired the property as 'vacant land' in 2010 with the intent of eventually relocating to Adjala/Tosorontio (A/T), to build a permanent homestead for our two adult sons and myself and to cultivate the land by tree replanting (currently in negotiation with Forests Ontario) and by practising the permaculture approach to sustain the land's ecological system.

So, you may ask what has brought me to address Council and what qualifies me to express my concerns, reservations, and to raise questions.

From a personal perspective, your decision on the current status of the gravel pit project is bound to significantly influence the prospect of my permanent relocation to Adjala/Tosorontio.

Let me add that I find myself in a somewhat compromised situation/position, since the lot 8 west is also zoned as 'extractable aggregate'. However, I have no intention to make any commercial use of it.

From a communal point of view, I thereby seek a firm assurance of Council's commitment to uphold and safeguard the 'best interests' of all A/T residents, especially those potentially affected adversely by the proposed gravel pit project.

With the background in environmental studies, with a Master's degree from York University, specializing in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), I am well acquainted with cost-benefit analysis (CBA) and its limitations regarding the (balanced) net assessment of tangible and intangible values, and with the problematic of calculating their relative weights and ranking.

As a student of public policy and administration, with a PhD degree from the University of Toronto, and as university teacher at York University, I am also familiar with the political and policy aspects of the concept and practice of public-private partnerships of which I take the proposed gravel pit project to be a pertinent example.

I am also cognizant of the nature of possible short-term and long-term impacts on the key stakeholders, that is, on those with proprietary interests (physical, monetary investment), social/communal (lifestyle) concerns, and those seeking to deal with environmental issues.

So, my questions to the members of Council are as follows.

How does Council propose to ensure that the proposed gravel pit project will yield net benefits to the municipality of Adjala-Tosorontio and its residents?

Is there any documented evidence that the anticipated and promised benefits to the municipality along with any proposed remedial measures be legally binding on the gravel pit project's proponent (Nelson Aggregates and Lafarge Co.)?

Have the issue of adequately compensation/damages for those expected to bear the brunt of anticipated adverse effects, and that of mitigating measures been sufficiently addressed by Council and publicly debated? Is there any assurance that those measures will be effectively implemented as proposed? If so, when and how?

Can Council unambiguously and persuasively confirm or refute the claims raised in opposition to the proposed gravel pit project by the No Gravel Pit (NGP) stakeholders in the course of their campaign?

Is the decision by Council about the status of the gravel pit proposal to be made as a matter of pressure from the MNR or OMB, or does it rest entirely on the prerogative of Council's unconditioned choice in the name of 'best interests' of the A/T community?

Does Council envisage any alternative scenarios or contingency plans for the proposed gravel pit land use that its members would be willing and prepared to consider?

Let me make my current position, endorsed by sons Jenő and Milan, clear. Based on information about the status of the gravel pit dispute I am familiar with thus far, I am compelled to side with those whose claims have been submitted in categorical opposition to the project as currently proposed.

Should the circumstances and conditions change, then I would look forward to becoming a permanent resident of Adjala/Tosorontio to enjoy with others the invaluable amenities the municipality has to offer and the ambiance and lifestyle we all presumably seek to

preserve and enhance.

In closing, I want to thank the members of Council for attention to the content of my deposition in your deliberation, should you so choose to consider it.

Sincerely,

Jan Krouzil, PhD