

Jingle Bell• Jingle Bell• Jingle Bell• Rock (Fort)

## ROCKFORT QUARRY NEWS: FALL '06

**The good news: The James Dick Company** has owned Rockfort Farm for 10 years now and they have yet to 'put a spade in the ground'. Yahoo!

**The Bad news:** The battle continues for another 2 years.

At the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) pre-hearing in Oct/06 we were informed of a detailed timetable put together by the Town of Caledon, The James Dick Company (JDCL) The Region of Peel and Credit Valley Conservation (CVC). This timetable includes key milestones for the next 2 years in preparation for the final OMB HEARING. This hearing, for which we have all been waiting, is slated for **SEPT 29/08**.

**What will be happening during the next 2 years?** There will be more consultant reports, more field work, more public meetings, pre hearings etc. etc... The next 2 years will be extremely important! The Coalition needs every ounce of support that all of you can muster. We will be asking for your physical presence at meetings, your monetary contributions via garage sales, golf tournaments and capital campaigns and your voices and letters when election time rolls around. Should you and your neighbours not be there for us, then the likely consequences of an open pit mine--pumping millions of litres of our water /per day, forcing 100 trucks /hr down our roads, spewing forth noise and dust -- will increase immensely.

As you know the **Town of Caledon, The Region of Peel and CVC have worked diligently over the past 2 years** to monitor and appraise the work plan and field studies that the Dick Co has been doing to comply with Caledon's OPA 161. The Coalition has in turn encouraged local landowners to allow access to their land for scientific data collection. The more complete the results, the better the study is for the community. We also want to know if there have been any problems or lack of field notes delivered. Feel free to call us at 905-838-4333.

I would like once again to thank those diehard supporters who meet every Sunday (at Eddie Longs 9:30am); to the more than 100 Garage sale volunteers who have faithfully flogged and sorted treasures for 9 years; to the golf committee who has put together 7 terrific tournaments, and to the fabulous Fundraising Committee for all that they do. These are the troopers who work on your behalf.

**We will need your continued support, as this application remains a serious threat to our water, our environment and our countryside. We look forward to seeing you during the next two years. Stay tuned!**

Penny Richardson,  
President, Coalition of Concerned Citizens

## ROCKFORT QUARRY TIMETABLE....AT A GLANCE

For those of you who are new to the neighbourhood, here is a QUICK AND VERY SIMPLIFIED history of the Rockfort application:

### Background:

#### 1996

- James Dick purchases Rockfort Farm at Winston Churchill and Olde Baseline.
- Town of Caledon begins Community Resource Study (CCRS).

#### 1997

- James Dick informs community that he intends to mine dolostone at the site.
- Coalition is formed because of the potential for environmental degradation in the area.
- OMB hearing re: Peel Region's Official Plan and mineral aggregates. CCC participates.

#### 1998

- James Dick Construction Ltd (JDCL) submits application for dolostone quarry.
- OMB directs Town of Caledon to continue CCRS study until completed.
- CCC works with the community and all levels of Government, raising awareness.

#### 1999-2001

- <sup>a</sup> Extensive Peer Reviews are undertaken on the application submitted for Rockfort.
- CCRS continues; JDCL determines not to go to the OMB until the CCRS is done.

#### 2002-2003

- Completed CCRS creates a management plan for aggregate extraction in Caledon's OPA 161, which is appealed to the OMB.
- Oak Ridges Moraine Plan stalls process until new rules are decided.
- Coalition participates in settlement talks of OPA 161 to encourage good planning.
- OPA 161 on aggregate issues is settled and approved by OMB.

#### Fall 2003

- The OMB finds that the applicant must have its case heard under the new tougher rules (OPA 161) as opposed to being grandfathered under the old rules. **This was a precedent setting decision and a very important win for the Town and the Coalition.**
- JDCL must comply with OPA 161 and complete broader environmental studies with regard to water, wetlands, wildlife, etc.

#### 2004

- Greenbelt Plan freezes zoning changes in Caledon for one year.
- JDCL begins property assessments for the broader environmental study.
- Next pre-hearing scheduled for Dec/04 for timeline update. This was deferred to 2005.

#### 2005

- Greenbelt legislation passes. New Provincial Policy passes.
- June OMB pre-hearing delayed because JDCL's work is not yet complete. Draft Report submitted by JDCL.
- Fall 2005, Town of Caledon, Credit Valley Conservation and Coalition find major deficiencies and lack of data from the work done so far by JDCL.

#### 2006

- JDCL agrees to do more outstanding work especially **on water**.
- Timetable presented to OMB for estimated completion of work and peer reviews.
- **Final Hearing slated to start SEPT 29<sup>th</sup> 2008**



### THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ROCKFORT QUARRY

The Coalition is concerned that James Dick's proposed Plan will have a highly negative impact on water and the environment in the area. Consider the possible impact of the following:

- **The addition of over 100,000 loaded gravel trucks per year to Caledon's roads**
- **Pumping over 24 million litres of water a day**
- **Blasting that could contaminate water quality**
- **Destruction of sensitive wetland areas of the Niagara Escarpment**
- **Damage to renowned Fish habitats of the Credit River watershed**
- **Threats to our water table levels for present and future generations**

Our OMB hearing for the proposed Rockfort Quarry is still in the preliminary stages. Our goal is to ensure that our water, environment and community are protected from the threats of unsound development.

*Please consider a donation to the Coalition in your year-end tax planning. Thank you.*

Great Big Garage Sale, A Great Big Success...

We smashed all our previous records this year, with the greatest sales; largest attendance; most helpful volunteers and a huge amount of previously loved STUFF donated. Congratulations and a sincere THANK YOU to all of you for your support –and especially to Willa Gauthier and Someday Farm for their generosity. We are already receiving interested calls from folks who may be moving this coming Spring and want to donate. Mark your calendars for next year's event and don't miss:

***The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Giant Garage Sale on APRIL 28<sup>th</sup> 2007. More information will be in our Spring newsletter***

**Got some time to volunteer for a great community cause? Call us at 905-838-4333.**

#### **GOLF TOURNAMENT, SEPT 2006**

The 2006 Coalition Golf Tournament was once again blessed with good weather, good companionship, and outstanding golf. Our winning team of David Peterson, Greg Aziz, John Humphrys, and John Roy was a remarkable 16 under par. On the 16<sup>th</sup> hole, Danny Sullivan scored a hole in one. How brilliant is that!

Congratulations on another outstanding event, which raised significant funds for the fight against the quarry. Thanks to the Golf and Fundraising committees, our sponsors and donors and the Aziz family for hosting the dinner—catered by Gourmandissimo. Without all your efforts this event could not have been the terrific success it was. Thank you.

**GOLF 2007** is gearing up for another strong event. We look forward to seeing you there on **September 7th 2007**. Until then, “Keep your head down” and your balls in play.

Wishing you all the best of the Holiday Season...

The Coalition.