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Foundation wall construction of new waste water treatment plant

Port Granby Project waste water treatment plant under construction

Construction of a waste water treatment plant at the site of the Port Granby Project Long-Term Waste Management Facility (LTWMF) is underway. The plant will use advanced technology to treat the waste water.

Construction of the new plant, by Maple Reinders Engineering Construction Ltd. of Mississauga, started in February. The new plant will treat ground and surface water during placement of historic low-level radioactive waste in the new engineered aboveground mound facility, as well as contaminated water – leachate – from within the mound once it is closed. Groundwater and surface water will also be pumped to the new plant from the existing Port Granby Waste Management Facility during waste excavation at that site. Interception, collection and treatment of contaminated groundwater at the existing site will continue for many years after the project is complete.

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Coming soon...

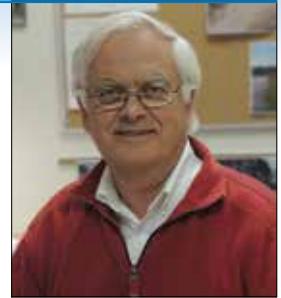
Residents within a 10 km radius of the Port Granby Project area will soon receive a Public Attitude Survey about the project.

*Please participate.
All responses remain anonymous.*

Message from the Port Granby Project Director

It's a pleasure to provide you with this spring edition of the *Port Granby Project News*.

Those of you who live in the Port Granby area have seen, firsthand, the project's progress. Roadway upgrades, essential to the development of the clean construction material haul route to the site of the long-term waste management facility, have been substantially completed. Construction is underway on the new waste water treatment plant that will contribute to the protection of the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem by using advanced technology to treat the water discharged to Lake Ontario.



The newly formed Citizen Liaison Group, along with regular meetings of the Port Granby Discussion Group, provide important opportunities for the exchange of information and discussion of issues and concerns between the project and the community.

All of these activities – as well as others featured in this newsletter – share a common focus: they permit us to advance this important project for the cleanup and long-term safe management of the historic low-level radioactive waste in Southeast Clarington while fulfilling our commitments to safety, protection of the environment and minimizing project effects on community life.

We take very seriously our responsibility to keep you informed and to respond to your concerns. We welcome your input and truly appreciate your continuing interest in the project. Enjoy the newsletter!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "David Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Smith
Port Granby Project Director

Discussion Group meetings encourage dialogue

For the past eight years, the Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) Management Office has provided the community with a forum through the Port Granby Discussion Group to review project plans and activities, voice concerns and offer suggestions to project staff.

Four discussion group meetings have been held since the start of the construction phase in January 2012. Residents, members of the South East Clarington Ratepayers Association

(SECRA) and the Municipality of Clarington have offered input that has helped the PHAI Management Office advance key documents such as the Complaints Resolution Process and Mitigation Toolbox to address project effects such as traffic and noise.

“With facility construction underway, the meetings offer a valuable opportunity to work through day-to-day project issues,” says Port Granby Project Director, Dave Smith.

Project forms new Citizen Liaison Group

The Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) Management Office has named its new Citizen Liaison Group (CLG) for the Port Granby Project. The group met for an inaugural meeting on March 21.

The volunteer members represent a wide range of perspectives, sectors and community interests including health, education, conservation, the environment, agriculture and industry. Members will offer input to the project management team, develop a technical understanding of the project and help strengthen awareness of the project in the broader community.

Led by an independent facilitator, the group will meet four times a year, including a public roundtable in December. Subjects of discussion will include construction progress, regulatory matters such as occupational health and safety, environmental monitoring and protection, radiation protection, overall project safety and activities that may affect the social and economic life of the community.



Port Granby CLG members: (l-r) Blair Smyth, Maria Kordas-Fraser, Marc Landry, Suzanne Land and Garry Whorpole.

Through the CLG, the PHAI Management Office is fulfilling an important commitment to create opportunities for meaningful public involvement by recognizing that members of the community have a role to play in seeing the cleanup carried out safely, efficiently and with efforts made to minimize community disruption.

Meet the CLG

Maria Kordas-Fraser – South East Clarington Ratepayers Association representative

- Former teacher, college professor, school librarian
- Long-time Port Granby resident

Garry Whorpole – Citizen at large

- Farmer, retired General Motors engineering group manager
- Newtonville area resident

Marc Landry – Durham Nuclear Health Committee representative

- Manager of Quality Control at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- Courtice resident

Suzanne Land – Citizen at large

- Finance generalist for the Student Association of Durham College and University of Ontario Institute of Technology

- Member – Samuel Wilmot Nature Area Management Advisory Committee
- Bowmanville resident

Blair Smyth – Citizen at large

- Member – Clarington Pioneer Cemetery Board; Jerusalem #31 Masonic Lodge and Oshawa Shrine Club
- Retired correctional officer
- Bowmanville resident

Complaints Resolution Process

The Port Hope Area Initiative Complaints Resolution Process (CRP) is in place to resolve complaints arising from the Port Hope and Port Granby projects. The process is an Environmental Assessment commitment and is designed to address complaints about tangible problems caused directly by project activities.

Focusing on prevention

PHAI staff place a strong emphasis on preventing formal complaints by resolving most issues before they escalate. Prevention includes:

- Preventing problems from occurring by anticipating potential issues and building in mitigation measures;
- Preventing complaints by responding quickly to concerns.

Handling Complaints

The CRP consists of a two-tier process that permits straightforward complaints (Tier 1) to be handled quickly while giving more time and consideration to complex complaints (Tier 2).

PHAI complaints resolution staff meets with the complainant to better understand the problem. While this can often lead to a quick resolution, some complaints will require further investigation. This could involve reviewing monitoring data or consulting technical experts. If necessary, an independent mediator may be brought in to help facilitate a resolution.

How to use the CRP

Notify the PHAI Management Office about a complaint as soon as possible. You may file a complaint in person, by phone, email or using the on-line form available on the PHAI website, www.phai.ca, under the tab “Handling

Complaints.” More information about the CRP, including the complete CRP document and a fact sheet, are posted on the website. The form and document are also available in print format at the Project Information Exchange at 115 Toronto Road in Port Hope.



Toolbox will be used to reduce “nuisance” effects

The Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) Management Office is developing a Mitigation Toolbox to reduce effects such as dust, noise and traffic from the construction activities of the Port Granby Project.

The toolbox takes a step-by-step approach to determine when mitigation is necessary by fairly and logically evaluating effects and identifying measures to reduce them. The PHAI is required, under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*, to assess and mitigate adverse effects, as necessary, resulting from project activities.

Drawing on the experience of mitigation measures used in construction projects across North America, the toolbox emphasizes reducing impacts at their source as the most effective strategy. This might involve use of additional dust suppressants, speed limit enforcement, improved material handling methods or noise reduction measures.

The toolbox has been reviewed by the Municipality of Clarington, its Peer Review Team and members of the South East Clarington Ratepayers Association.

Transportation route and municipal road paving complete

Finishing touches are being made this spring on roadway improvements along the transportation route for trucks carrying clean construction materials – such as clay, sand and gravel – to the site of the new Port Granby Project Long-Term Waste Management Facility.

The reconstruction of Elliott Road and resurfacing of a section of Newtonville Road and Concession Road 1 were completed in December. The clean construction material transportation route was approved as part of the Environmental Assessment for the Port Granby Project to minimize project effects on the community. Use of this route avoids disruption to Lakeshore Road, an important recreational route through the hamlet. The resurfacing will



Upgraded Elliott Road

support the additional truck traffic.

This primary transportation route will be used to transport clean construction materials only. It extends from Highway 401, south along Newtonville Road, east along Concession Road 1 and south on Elliott Road. An internal, dedicated haul route, passing under Lakeshore Road, will be built between the existing and new waste management sites for trucks transporting the historic low-level radioactive waste. Waste trucks will not travel on public roadways.

Doing business with the Government of Canada

Eight “Doing Business with the Government of Canada” seminars have been held through Public Works and Government Services Canada to help local businesses learn how to access federal contracting opportunities – not only with the Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) but across Canada.

Co-hosted by the PHAI Management Office and the Clarington Board of Trade and Office of Economic Development, the seminars – held in Newcastle and Bowmanville – have attracted

about 200 area business people. Participants learn how to access federal government contracts through the Government Electronic Tendering Service, which will move to www.buyandsell.gc.ca/tenders June 1, 2013.

“The seminars have been an effective way to engage local businesses in the PHAI and promote the skills and talents of small and medium-sized businesses,” says Bonnie Wrightman, Clarington Economic Development Coordinator.

Waste water treatment plant

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The new waste water treatment plant must be operational before excavation of the historic low-level radioactive waste and its placement in the aboveground mound can begin, anticipated in 2015. Earlier testing has shown that the advanced treatment technology will ensure the quality of water being discharged into Lake Ontario meets or exceeds stringent Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission requirements. Several months of testing and commissioning

will follow construction of the new plant, which is expected to be fully operational by Summer 2014.

The new waste water treatment plant will replace the existing treatment plant located at the current Port Granby Waste Management Facility on the shoreline of Lake Ontario. The new LTWMF will be situated on the east side of Elliott Road, south of the railway lines, 700 metres away from the Lake Ontario shoreline.

Get to know our staff

Kevin McDonald

Kevin joined the Port Hope Area Initiative (PHAI) Management Office a year ago as Section Head, Complaints Resolution. Responsible for managing the PHAI Complaints Resolution Process, his focus is on solving problems through dialogue and preventing complaints.

Kevin is a certified mediator who, for the last eight years, provided internal conflict management with the Department of National Defence across Ontario. Prior to that, he served as a Canadian Forces air navigator.

"I'm thrilled to be part of the PHAI. The professionalism and camaraderie of this team is amazing."

Kevin and his family currently live in Brighton.



Philippa McPhee

Philippa recently joined the Port Granby Project team as an Interface Specialist. She works with staff within the PHAI Management Office as well as with external government and private sector representatives on technical aspects of the project.

Philippa has worked as an environmental consultant with both industry and government and in the steel manufacturing sector as a health, safety and environmental specialist.

"Working on the Port Granby Project provides me with a unique opportunity to align my professional knowledge and experience, my connection to the environment and my personal life... it has all come together." Philippa and her family live in the Port Granby community.



Project Information Exchange & Property Value Protection Program

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