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"What's in it for Acton"?

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Halton Hills - Acton: Concerned community members were brought together to voice their opposition and concerns over another proposed expansion of the Dufferin Aggregates quarry operation located just south of Acton, on Fourth Line. "What's in it for Acton", asked a concerned community member who attended last night's public meeting that was held at the Acton Arena, to which the crowd broke out in rising applause.

For years the community of Halton Hills has been plagued with noise pollution and traffic problems - directly and indirectly associated with the quarry's operation. Traffic congestion is our largest growing concern that's constantly challenging commuters, too often resulting in fatalities when impatient and/or inexperienced drivers are left to contend with the crawl of the slower moving loaded dump trucks traveling on our decrepid roads and poorly underdeveloped infrastructure. Just as dangerous are the trucks speeding to cram-in as many loads as they can in their day, often seen traveling down roads where they're not suppose to be and at speeds they're not suppose to be traveling.

For those who are left wondering what the Halton Regional Police are doing to address our concerns, we learned at the meeting that perhaps they're too busy, apparently adding to the community's noise pollution while shooting and training at the quarry - to deal with the unlawful problems indirectly associated with the operation of the quarry. For those who think their elected representatives are looking out for their best interest -- should think again, none were present at the public meeting. Our police department isn't the only group accepting handouts and/or extraordinary privileges from the quarry, many of our longtime local politicians such as the Mayor, over the course of their political careers -- have accepted political contributions from the aggregate, putting them in what many perceive to be; at conflict with our community's best interest.

Perhaps our politicians haven't yet realised what our realtors, developers and property owners have, that excessive truck traffic negatively affects our community's net worth and property values. No one willingly or knowingly wants to move to a community plagued with convoys of heavily burdened, slow moving trucks that clog our main thoroughfares during rush hours. One of the community members attending the public meeting stated that he's had to change the windshield on his wife's car twice and his once in the last 6 years, a result of them both commuting to-and-from work down Trafalgar Rd, where dump trucks continuously drop gravel onto the roads.

Will the quarry's expansion go through? Likely so, considering there was no provincial elected representative present to witness, firsthand, his community's opposition to the application.