

# WHAT CAN YOU DO? WRITE YOUR LETTERS AND EMAILS!

**read and learn** about the proposal, and the wider impact of aggregate extraction in Ontario, see the [Resources](#) section of the website for links to Reform Gravel Mining Coalition, Gravel Watch and details about the proposal and studies for Highland Line Pit

## PROPOSED BARBERS LAKE/HIGHLAND LINE PIT - LETTERS OF CONCERN

Letters are **crucial** in conveying our concerns regarding the pit that has been proposed by Cavanagh Construction on 125 acres of land adjacent to Barbers Lake on the Highland Line. This pit is proposed to operate 24 hours a day, be licensed for 1 million tonnes per year and extract material 10 metres and more below the ground water table.

### How can you help?

#### Step 1: WRITE A LETTER OF CONCERN (and encourage others to do so as well!)

Include in your letter:

- Your full name and mailing address.
- That you are writing regarding *Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited – Proposed Highland Line Pit*
- If you have property within Lanark Highlands, your property location by Lot and Concession as well as any pertinent descriptors relative to the proposed pit or haul route. Otherwise, provide your connection to the area or topic of concern.
- Concisely and politely state the reasons for your concerns.
- Request to be kept informed and ask for confirmation of receipt of your letter.

#### Step 2: SEND YOUR LETTER TO:

1. **Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited** - Phil White: [PWhite@thomascavanagh.ca](mailto:PWhite@thomascavanagh.ca) and be sure to CC: **The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry**: [ARAapprovals@ontario.ca](mailto:ARAapprovals@ontario.ca)

*Note: This is for the comment period for the Licence Application and letters must be received by **June 5<sup>th</sup>**, 2023. The applicant is required to address all concerns and respond to each letter they receive. Upon receipt of a reply, you must respond within 20 days if you are not satisfied, or your concern is deemed to be withdrawn.*

2. **Township of Lanark Highlands**

Clerk, Amanda Noël: [LHclerk@lanarkhighlands.ca](mailto:LHclerk@lanarkhighlands.ca)  
Planner, Forbes Symon: [forbess@jp2g.com](mailto:forbess@jp2g.com)

*Note: This is for the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law amendments requested by Cavanagh. These letters can still be sent in as long as the March 14 public meeting is suspended.*

3. **Lanark County**

Clerk, Jasmin Ralph: [info@lanarkcounty.ca](mailto:info@lanarkcounty.ca)

*Note: This is for the Lanark County Sustainable Communities Official Plan amendments requested by Cavanagh.*

4. *Optional:* You may wish to CC your letter to specific Lanark Highlands council members.

Reeve: <b>Peter McLaren</b>	<a href="mailto:p.mclarenfarms@sympatico.ca">p.mclarenfarms@sympatico.ca</a>
Deputy Reeve: <b>Bill King</b>	<a href="mailto:billkingsagebrush@yahoo.ca">billkingsagebrush@yahoo.ca</a>
Ward 1: <b>Ron Closs</b>	<a href="mailto:ron.closs@sympatico.ca">ron.closs@sympatico.ca</a>
Ward 2: <b>Steve Roberts</b>	<a href="mailto:stevtawn@storm.ca">stevtawn@storm.ca</a>
Ward 3: <b>Allison Vereyken</b>	<a href="mailto:vereykenward3@outlook.com">vereykenward3@outlook.com</a>
Ward 4: <b>Marina Summers</b>	<a href="mailto:msummers4council@gmail.com">msummers4council@gmail.com</a>
Ward 5: <b>Jeannie Kelso</b>	<a href="mailto:jeannie.kelso@bell.net">jeannie.kelso@bell.net</a>

*Alternatively, letters can be mailed to the following locations:*

**Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited:** Attn: Phil White, 9094 Cavanagh Rd, Ashton, ON K0A 1B0

**Integrated Aggregate Operations Section, Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry:** 300 Water Street, Peterborough ON K9J 3C7

**Township of Lanark Highlands:** 75 George Street, Lanark, ON K0G 1K0

**Lanark County:** 99 Christie Lake Road, Perth, ON K7H 3C6

**Step 3: USE THE PROVISIONS OF ONTARIO'S ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS TO MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT!!!**

In addition to your **ESSENTIAL** letters to Cavanagh and the ARA, you may provide your comments additionally online to the Environmental Registry of Ontario.

What is the ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) and Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights?  
<https://ero.ontario.ca/page/whats-registry>

How can I comment on the Cavanagh Proposal through the ERO consultation process, from April 12-June 12?

[Thomas Cavanagh Construction Limited - Issuance of a licence to remove over 20,000 tonnes of aggregate annually from a pit or a quarry | Environmental Registry of Ontario](#)

**Please email any questions to our Citizens group, Friends of Lanark Highlands:**

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**friendsoflanarkhighlands@gmail.com**  
<https://friendsoflanarkhighlands.org>

# ABOUT THE PIT....

The Cavanagh Proposal to open a new pit on the Highland Line, adjacent to Barbers Lake includes:

- a **24/7** Class A pit operation, with excavation below the water table
- ONLY a **30 metres** setback from the sensitive wetland shores of Barbers Lake
- crushing, washing, and screening plants; recycling of imported construction waste
- licence to remove up to **1,000,000 (ONE MILLION)** tonnes of aggregate annually
- up to **1000** gravel trucks coming and going daily on the Highland Line, and on the haul route east through Lanark Village, and south to Perth
- technical reports that leave many unanswered questions about: traffic and roads; acoustics; the dark night sky; the impact on springs, aquifers, and wells; the impact on wetlands; loss of habitat and threat to species at risk; pre-contact archaeology; air quality; human health; property values; resource allocation; potential release of on-site uranium; climate change

# AT WHAT COST?

- removal and export of the entire hill forming the western shore of Barbers Lake
- potential destruction of important pre-contact artifacts
- addition of up to 1000 trucks/day on a road rated for a maximum 499 vehicles/day
- loss of wildlife habitat in the vicinity of Barbers Lake and Long Sault Creek
- impact on property values and quality of life for waterfront and haul route communities
- damage to existing and future eco-tourism
- harm to water bodies through warmed water, potential contamination and silt
- threat to residents' water supply, air quality, peace and well-being
- potential future demands, including a water taking licence, or permission to dewater

# PEOPLE WILL SAY...

2) Aggregate is necessary for the growth and development of roads, housing and business!

That is true, **BUT**

Ontario has **13 TIMES** more aggregate than currently needed in **already licensed** pits

3) It's revenue for the Township!

That is true, **BUT**

Lanark Highlands Township gets only **13 cents** per tonne of aggregate taken away from the Township forever - in this pit the maximum payout possible would be \$130,000 per year, but likely much less - and MUCH MUCH less than the costs of road upgrades, loss of nature-based business and tourism, and the diminished value of properties throughout the area.