

Denise Holmes

From: Larry Taman [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 12:00 PM
To: Darren White; James McLean; Ruth Plowright; Bill Neilson; Ralph Moore
Cc: Denise Holmes; Denise Ralph; Jim Funston; Bette Ross; Rae Smith; Sherri Webster; Roberta Taman
Subject: Letter to Council/NDACT Status Report/February 20

Dear Mayor White,

I am writing with friends and neighbours who have signed this letter, below, with their email addresses cc'd above.

A few days ago we learned about NDACT's upcoming report from the Township Council agenda page.

We wish to go on record, as follows:

- NDACT does not represent us. Neither do we accept that it represents the community.
- NDACT had neither a legal right nor the requisite community support to agree even conditionally to the building of a blast quarry in Melancthon.
- As citizens, we are of course legally represented by the Township Council and not by NDACT. We ask that the Township take every possible action within its authority, including making every possible amendment to the township's Official Plan, policies and by-laws, to stop the development of blast quarries.
- We are asking you as our representatives to conduct a robust community consultation on aggregate policy as soon as you possibly can. We believe that this will lead to a flood of objections to this blast quarry application and the others that will certainly follow.
- NDACT bases its own role on its [Community Engagement Agreement](#) with Strada. Strada has already proven that it is an unreliable partner. At the time of its current license approval, it gave assurances that it was not planning a blast quarry. Now, here we are, a few short years later, with that promise brushed aside. **Please ask NDACT** what remedy they or the Township or ratepayers will have if Strada next fails to fulfill its obligations under the Strada/NDACT Community Engagement Agreement.
- The Strada/NDACT Community Engagement Agreement requires for independent "Community Peer Reviewers" and provides that "If the Studies or peer reviews conclude that the Proposed Quarry would cause unreasonable adverse environmental effects, *Strada will not proceed with a formal application*". Strada has now proceeded with its formal application.
- This can only mean that either (i) NDACT has concluded that the Proposed Quarry would not cause unreasonable adverse environmental effects or (ii) that NDACT has not so concluded and Strada is already in violation of the Strada/NDACT

agreement by filing this formal application. **Please ask NDACT** which it is and what they will do now.

- Any blast quarry brings serious risks to a neighbouring community. The Strada blast quarry is also unnecessary and therefore doubly intolerable. If approved by the Province, it will turn our beautiful rural township into a toxic mining site. None of us knows one single person who wants a blast quarry in Melancthon.
- Everyone knows that a blast quarry will damage every element of a healthy life. It will degrade the natural environment, damage our air and water, bring noise, fly-rock and dust from explosions and tens of thousands of new heavy truck journeys every year.
- This blast quarry will harm health in Melancthon for years to come. The quarry and the harm it will cause will outlive just about everyone at this Council meeting.

Council faces decisions that will live for generations. We understand the limits of Council's authority. But Council does have the legal and political authority to oppose this unnecessary blast quarry. We think that the right thing is that the entire community, led by you as our legally elected representatives, should take every possible measure to ensure the rejection of the Strada application.

Mayor White, thank you and Deputy Mayor James Maclean and Councillors for your attention.

Yours truly,

Larry Taman
Denis Ralph
Jim Funston
Sherri Webster
Rae Smith
Roberta Taman
Bette Ross

Larry Taman

Canada mobile/WhatsApp/Signal: 