

## DAY 1 AT THE OMB



# Concerned Residents Coalition

## Working to Protect Your Community and Environment

### Newsletter September 27, 2016

Dear CRC Supporters,

Well, we're launched! CRC filled all the seats and more at the GET Council Chamber this morning - you'll see some photos (with music!) from Harry Wilson on the CRC Facebook Page - Why not join us there regularly to get a feel for the OMB experience!

<https://www.facebook.com/crockwood/?fref=ts> What we learned was the OMB experience has a lot to do with tons of paper and piles of cardboard boxes full of files.

It was great to have a crowd this morning - Thank you! **Please keep coming whenever you can.** Hear both sides for yourselves!

#### What we learned:

1. The **OMB Chair (and adjudicator)** for the Hidden Quarry case is **Steve Stefanko**. He is determined to run a timely, efficient and thorough Hearing.

#### **Steven Stefanko**

Role: Vice-Chair (Full-time)

Location: London

Tenure: April 20th 2005 – January 3rd 2016

Total length of tenure: Just over 10 years

**Background:** Stefanko has a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Western Ontario. He was appointed to the OMB in 2005 and has served as a full-time vice-chair since 2011.

#### **2. General Schedule:**

Sessions will take place from Monday to Thursday every week for the duration. Fridays will always be off. Thanksgiving Monday will be off.

This week, Wednesday and Thursday, the sessions will begin at 9:30 am.

There will be no session on Wednesday, October 5.

#### **3. This week's schedule (as far as we know):**

**Today** - JDCL's Planner, Rob Stovel, provided an overview of the aggregate proposal without delving into details; JDCL Vice-President, Greg Sweetnam, described the nature of aggregate and the aggregate situation in Ontario from the company's point of view.

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**Tomorrow** – CRC lawyer Chris Barnett will cross-examine Greg Sweetnam, as will Halton Region's lawyer. JDCL's hydrogeologist, Stan Denhoed, will present his testimony.

**Thursday** – Stan Denhoed will continue his testimony.

### **Special note:**

It is not possible at this time to adequately summarize all the day's events – but CRC's lawyer, Chris Barnett, raised one important issue in the early afternoon. He had just learned that GET Council had revised their zoning by-law during the summer, an action which had included the repeal of the previous zoning by-law. The JDCL application for re-zoning was made under the earlier by-law. Chris raised the possibility that the OMB would not have the authority to rule on the zoning application because the bylaw under which it was made no longer exists. The OMB Member and lawyers discussed options for dealing with this including presenting all evidence pertaining to the aggregate licence application while deferring testimony specifically related to the zoning bylaw. This creates a serious legal conundrum and a decision will be made tomorrow as to its resolution.

**The media were there today! Here are some links – to give you a taste:**

**CBC KW Radio** this morning, story by Colin Butler: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/hidden-quarry-fight-goes-before-ontario-municipal-board-1.3775929>

The **CBC KW Radio** reporter, **Kate Bueckert**, <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/omb-hidden-quarry-hearing-1.3780967> She interviewed several residents.

**CHCH** has us on tonight's news: not yet on-line.

**570 News in Kitchener, Lindsay Griesebach**, carried the story tonight: <http://www.570news.com/2016/09/27/rockwood-residents-stand-up-against-potential-quarry/>

**CTV KW, Max Wark**, told the story early in the day: <http://guelph.ctvnews.ca/sides-square-off-as-omb-hearing-into-hidden-quarry-begins-near-guelph-1.3091516>

**Guelph Today's Rob O'Flanagan** who has covered CRC for the Guelph Mercury also wrote: <https://www.guelphtoday.com/local-news/hidden-quarry-hearing-begins-424719>

**Cogeco TV's Rory Narine** was out at the end of the day for tonight's news.

**Wellington Advertiser's Jaime Myslik** and the **New Tanner's Vivien Fleischer** were present all day.

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