

Council didn't back community

Your Dec. 12 publication had the headline 'Town backs Olympia's plan for Melville pit.'

The 'pit,' not the citizens' interest. Disappointing. So it is time to stand up and state our opinions loud and clear.

Our mayor and councillors had an opportunity to stand up and say 'No' to gravel, and 'Yes' to our neighbours living in Melville.

I have lived in Caledon for 30 years and I have come to know and love the rolling hills, forests and creeks and meadows, and the people inhabiting it. As an architect and planner, I created beautiful and useful structures, not only in Caledon, but the U.S.A., England and Pakistan. I love it here, as all of us do.

Caledon is unique on the global scale - Green, beautiful and mostly unspoiled by human activity. Melville is a lovely community on the Credit River in the Greenbelt. Caledon council, our elected representatives, backed a plan to spoil it.

If the pit goes ahead, Melville is in danger of losing its pristine, beautiful surroundings. To what? A huge gravel pit.

We in Caledon want to preserve the living earth in its glory, and need to side with our Melville neighbours to keep our water pure and clean. The Melville community needs to be protected from noise, dust, truck traffic, etc. Stripping off the living crust of earth to get to the gravel benefits only a few. Certainly not the citizens of Caledon, especially those of us who live in Melville.

The Orangeville community will also be impacted by noise, traffic, dust and water loss.

Council decided to give a huge gravel pit the green light. The Melville community's preference for clean air, clean and adequate water and their enjoyment of the wonders of Caledon was ignored.

Caledon needs to support our fellow citizens. It's time to remind our elected representatives that they speak for us. We don't want more gravel pits adjacent to vibrant communities. Our involvement may just preserve our health, the beauty of our landscape and Caledon will truly be the greenest town.

Our descendants will thank us, and so will our political representatives when they do what is right for us.

Don't accept bureaucratic babble to excuse their action by claiming impotence. Direct them to decide on healthy environment and not to discriminate against community interests by blaming policies that are wrong.

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