

# Balaclava School Council



*Working Together*  
*School - Parents - Community*

Mr. Richard Olsen  
President  
St. Mary's CBM  
55 Industrial Street  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4G 3W9

January 19, 2007

Dear Mr. Olsen:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Balaclava school community to ask for your company's cooperation with respect to heavy vehicle traffic accessing your property on the 11<sup>th</sup> Concession East and/or at Milborough Line. We are asking that St. Mary's CBM – and through it, any contracted haulers arriving and departing from your property - act as “good neighbours” and make “best efforts” to avoid deliveries during the school bus haul route times at the beginning and end of the day. The roads here, as currently constructed, were not designed for and are not approved for large volumes of aggregate hauling vehicles. They are narrow, with limited to no shoulders, and have frequent change of grade. At this time, the zoning for the site does not permit activities other than the rural, residential, agriculture and conservation management uses. While we have significant concerns with the proposed development, we understand that you have to undertake field and study work to support your application. We hope that all activities, including periodic heavy vehicle traffic whether delivering aggregate, machinery or other requirements, will respect the current zoning and the other approved uses in the area.

You may be aware specifically of truck activity at the site of St. Mary's CBM proposed quarry around and during the week of November 20, 2006. We understand that St. Mary's CBM had earlier provided an alert to the City of Hamilton regarding gravel loads for its driveway(s) and that this alert was posted for the community on the StopTheQuarry.ca website. You may also be aware of contact made with the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton police during the days that hauling was occurring. Certainly, parents along the school bus routes in the area – at Balaclava and Our Lady of Mount Carmel - communicated via phone

and e-mail regarding concerns about hauler times, frequencies and speeds during that week. Concerns related to the safety conflict between school buses and the volume of aggregate trucks on narrow roads with no shoulders; the frequency and speed of the aggregate trucks sharing roads with buses that were stopping and starting often to allow students to board or disembark; the frequency and speed of aggregate trucks for children who might have to travel at the side of the road – with no sidewalk or shoulder - before accessing a home driveway and the reported incidents of at least a few students jumping into and walking into the ditches along the 11<sup>th</sup> Concession East to feel safer; some incidents where the stop sign at 11<sup>th</sup> Concession East and Centre Road was not respected. Parent concerns were formally discussed at the School Council meeting of December 5, 2006 and Council agreed to place its concerns and ask in writing to you.

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and other area boards have provided school bus route information to the City of Hamilton as part of the review of the application for the proposed development. Further, we are advised by our principal that St. Mary's CBM could contact Attridge Transportation in order to obtain and better understand specific bus routes and scheduled stop times. This might facilitate "best efforts" at a "good neighbour" transportation policy for periods of heavy vehicle traffic during the application review process. Communications to internal and contracted haulers about your expectations on accessing the local roads may also be beneficial and there are likely many other tools and procedures that a company such as yours may deploy.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. We look forward to hearing from you about how your organization may be able to accommodate the safety concerns of our parents and students.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Gourlay  
Co-Secretary, Balaclava School Council  
Resident, 11<sup>th</sup> Concession East

Cc: John Moroz, St. Mary's CBM  
Leah Connor, President, Balaclava Home & School  
Jan Whitelaw, Co-chair Balaclava School Council  
Janet Cameron, Co-chair Balaclava School Council  
Kathy Costur, Co-secretary Balaclava School Council  
Val Stephens-Brockbank, Principal, Balaclava School  
John Laverty, Superintendent, HWDSB  
Louise Tobin, Chair, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School Council

