

# Fresh air mathematically possible

SMART guys at Mac use idle time to calculate fuel wasted at stoplights

BY ERIC MCGUINNESS

SMART guys at McMaster are out to show their math skills can help protect the environment.

By crunching the numbers, the Student Math Action Research Team, sponsored by the Ontario Public Interest Research Group at McMaster, can calculate the amount of fuel wasted by every idling car in every Canadian city every second.

They can also tell you how much money that wastes and how much climate-warming carbon dioxide is produced.

By using their SMART Factor ratings, cities can determine the harmful climate-change effect of installing one traffic-slowing red light or the benefit of adding one traffic-easing turn lane.

SMART spokesman Bob Hicks, an OPIRG McMaster board member, said: "What we've accomplished is to use mathematics to make arguments for the environment. We've come up with a formula to help 4,500 communities across Canada calculate the greenhouse gas they would produce if they do one thing like

Repairs required by Ontario's Drive Clean program from 1999-2003 reduced emissions of carbon dioxide by an average of 20,000 tonnes per year at a cost of more than \$687 million. The same saving could have been achieved by reducing idling time by nine seconds a day.

z One litre of fuel burned produced 2.4 kilograms of carbon dioxide, a climate-warming greenhouse gas. Every 417 litres produces one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Ontario's 2003 SMART Factor was 2,256. That means every second less of idling per day would save 2,256 tonnes of greenhouse gas production and 940,762 litres of fuel worth \$846,000 at 90 cents a litre.

change the timing of a traffic light. They can easily calculate what those little measures would do to save fuel, save the value of the fuel and reduce generation of greenhouse gases."

The team relied on 1998 data from Natural Resources Canada's Office of Energy Efficiency, to match auto registrations with engine fuel efficiency, then generat-

## SMART facts

■ Cutting idling by one minute a day in Ontario would save 56 million litres of fuel worth close to \$51 million and trim greenhouse gases by 135,000 tonnes.

■ Five minutes less idling a day across Canada would cut greenhouse gas production by 1.8 million tonnes and save 762 million litres of fuel worth more than \$655 million.

■ Ten minutes of idling burns at least a fifth of a litre in a fuel-efficient car — double that for an eight-cylinder engine.

■ Canada's SMART Factor is 6,091 or 6,091 tonnes of carbon dioxide per second of idling. The U.S. factor is 88,000 tonnes. The global factor is 225,663 tonnes.

SOURCE: NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA AND SMART (OPIRG) MCMMASTER

ed city-by-city statistics. Calgary ranks an unenviable No. 1 with 187 savable tonnes of greenhouse gas per second of idling. Mississauga is third at 117 tonnes. Hamilton is No. 10 with 66 tonnes per second.

SMART says it will release details for 2003 as soon as the NRC updates its online carbon dioxide calculator. In the meantime, it

says Calgary will still be on top, followed by Montreal and Edmonton. Municipal amalgamations will drop Hamilton to No. 11.

There are five team members, including Tony Zhang, 18, a first-year health sciences student.

He joined because: "I'm good at math and care about the environment. I have a passion and interest and want to do what I can. Before, I thought math was boring. But here we can apply it to real life and the environment, to raising awareness of the environment."

Besides its use by governments, Hicks hopes math teachers will use it to inspire students. He also wants automakers to add fuel-saving features, such as adaptive cruise control, and phase out eight-cylinder engines.

"The report does come down pretty hard on the auto industry, and I feel it's appropriate to do so. I look forward to their response."

The report is available at [www.opirg.org/mcmaster](http://www.opirg.org/mcmaster). For further information, e-mail [smartgroup@cogeco.ca](mailto:smartgroup@cogeco.ca).

[emcginness@thespec.com](mailto:emcginness@thespec.com)  
905-526-4650

# Carlisle quarry fight could last five years

BY DANIEL NOLAN

FLAMBOROUGH ♦ It could take five years to wind through the process of deciding whether a huge limestone quarry should open north of Carlisle, but proponent David Lowndes and a community group fighting him say they're in it to the end.

Steven Rowe, an aggregate planning adviser working for the City of Hamilton, told a public meeting last night on the proposed Mountsberg quarry that there's an "80 to 90 per cent chance" the process could last five years.

That didn't seem to deter Lowndes or members of FORCE (Friends of Rural Communities and the Environment), or Councillor Margaret McCarthy, who told the meeting her council colleagues have not "blinked" on opposing the proposed Milborough Line and 11th Concession project.

"It's a frustrating process, but it's a process we have to play," McCarthy told more than 400 packed into the gymnasium of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School.

"There are many areas where aggregate can be found and should be developed, but this isn't one of them."

FORCE chair Graham Flint, who received a standing ovation when he spoke, warned the fight is "going to be a long haul."

Lowndes, president of Lowndes Holding Corp., said before the city-hosted meeting that opposition to his project doesn't faze him.

"We're committed to a fair process and we're going to go completely through the process," he said.

Lowndes is proposing to remove 60 million tons of limestone from 68 hectares on a 154-hectare site on the border of Flamborough and Milton. The quarry, which Lowndes said would employ 110 people and generate \$11 million in economic activity — including \$215,000 in taxes to the city — could last 60 years.

FORCE is opposed to the project because of fears it will take water from local wells, harm roads and the rural lifestyle with 1,000 daily truck trips and destroy provincially significant wetlands.

Bob Long, an environmental engineer working for Lowndes, dismissed fears the quarry will hurt the water supply.

"If the quarry was going to dry up all the wells in the area and destroy the Carlisle water system, we would go home tonight," Long said before the meeting.

A city-hired consultant reported last month that the quarry would affect the underground sources of the Carlisle municipal wells. But Long said the quarry plans a recirculation system that will return to the ground 90 per cent of water pumped out of the quarry.

It is proposed that gravel trucks will use Milborough Line, Campbellville Road, Twiss Road and Reid Side Road to get to Highway 401. They will not go through Carlisle, Long said.

[dnolan@thespec.com](mailto:dnolan@thespec.com)  
905-526-3351



# OUR BIGGEST SALE

## OF THE SEASON

Ends Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

# 33% off

## Women's & men's regular-priced fashions

INCLUDING SELECTED DESIGNER BRANDS...

**FOR WOMEN:**

liz claborne

**LAUREN**  
RALPH LAUREN

**TOMMY HILFIGER**

**FOR MEN:**

**TOMMY HILFIGER**

EXPRESSION™

claborne

**and more...**

Excludes West End/Hudson Room & Bleu Bar/Boutique Bleu Jean.

40% off

**Family spring outerwear**



UP TO 40% off

**Men's dress shirts, ties & casual pants**



1 DAY ONLY!

**Sat., April 8<sup>th</sup>**

May not be combined with any other offer.

70% off

- VIA RAIL Winstrom luggage Reg. \$50-\$150. Sale \$14.99-\$44.99
- SKYWAY Freeport 2 luggage Reg. \$60-\$200. Sale \$18-\$60

UP TO 55% off

**Boxed bras & briefs by WONDERBRA and WARNER'S**

33% off

- Women's sleepwear, robes, fashion bras, panties, daywear and shapewear. Excludes Lauren and Nautica.
- ALFRED SUNG sterling silver jewellery
- SWISS MILITARY watches
- BC Jade jewellery
- 10 Kt. & 14 Kt. Everyday Bay Value gold necklaces, bracelets & earrings
- D'ORLAN & LENI fashion jewellery
- HAGERTY jewellery cleaner

55% off

- T-FAL Encore frypan Reg. \$59.99. Sale \$26.99
- T-FAL Privilege frypan Reg. \$89.99. Sale \$40.49

40% off

7-pce. jaquard comforter sets by ROYAL SOVEREIGN



45% off

WAMSUTTA bath coordinates

save an extra 50%

Clearance-priced:

- Women's, men's & kids' fashions and denim including designer brands
- Women's intimates, sleepwear & accessories
- Footwear, jewellery and watches

Off our last ticketed prices.

STYLE OUTLET

Locations in Cambridge, Kingston, Rexdale, Brampton, Scarborough and Stoney Creek

save an extra 50%

Women's, men's and kids' clearance-priced apparel

Off our last ticketed prices.

Time to choose

Choose one of 4 personalized Beauty Kits

Receive a free skincare kit with the purchase of 2 CLARINS products (one must be skincare)

One per customer, while quantities last. Offer ends Wed., April 12th.



LAST 3 DAYS!

5x

Hbc Rewards points

When you spend \$499\* or more on your Hbc credit card on ALL Furniture, Appliances, Mattresses & Electronics.

Gold card = 125 x dollar amount x 5. Blue card = 75 x dollar amount x 5. \*Before taxes. Hbc Rewards points exclude Special Orders if not paid in full. Not applicable on deposits. May not be combined with any other Hbc Rewards offer.



Selection will vary by store. Savings are off our regular prices, unless otherwise specified. Everyday Bay Value, just-reduced, Power Buys, Manager's Specials, licensed departments, Salvetti, Vera Wang, Hbc Foundation charity merchandise, Home Studio, Liz Claiborne Home, Mantles home fashions and GlucksteinHome are excluded. Excludes all official Canadian Olympic merchandise. When you see "POWER BUY" or "MANAGER'S SPECIAL" you will know we have found an exceptional deal to pass on to you. We may tell you the COMPARABLE VALUE on the price ticket and/or a sign, so you will see the price another retailer in Canada charges or would likely charge for the same or a comparable value item. Quantities of our Power Buys and Manager's Specials and items located in any "Style Outlet" in-store departments are limited and may vary from store to store — no rainchecks or substitutions. When we say "PRICE CUT," we mean the existing everyday price is being lowered temporarily. See in-store for details.

The Bay Eastgate, Full time Cosmetic position available, now accepting resumes. 905-573-1400  
The Bay Eastgate Girl Time Gala for Mom, Saturday, April 29th, in support of Look Good Feel Better. Call 905-573-1400

# Native standoff is a provincial matter: Ottawa

BY CARMELA FRAGOMENI

The federal government says the five-week native occupation of a Caledonia construction site is a provincial matter.

Deirdre McCracken, a spokesperson for Minister of Indian Affairs Jim Prentice, said yesterday the blockade "has nothing to do with the federal government."

"This isn't a lands-claim matter. The actual root of the problem is not a land claim. For the time being, it's a protest."

Dozens of natives, with backing from the Six Nations traditional chiefs and clan mothers, but not their elected band council, took over the new subdivision site on Feb. 28. A Superior Court judge in Cayuga ordered the protesters off after the developer won an injunction, but the Ontario Provincial Police have yet to evict them.

McCracken said the issue is now a police matter and police fall under provincial jurisdiction.

Haldimand Mayor Marie Trainer disagreed. She travels to Ottawa this afternoon to meet Prentice and Diane Finley, Haldimand-Norfolk MP and Minister of Human Resources and Social Development. "Everything to do with natives has to do with the federal government. The natives don't want to leave until they are assured something will happen with their land claim," said Trainer. She wants to hear "from minister Prentice's own lips" what he has to say about it before commenting further.

Prentice and Finley were unavailable to speak to The Spectator.

Trainer plans to tell Prentice just how dire the situation has become in Caledonia and request financial assistance for residents affected by the occupation — from construction workers to those who bought houses now inaccessible to them. About 500 Caledonia residents staged a rally on Wednesday, demanding authorities end the occupation.

Jamie Jamieson, speaking for the native protesters, said she was not surprised by Ottawa's response. "It seems like they're apprehensive of taking responsibility for what's happening here. We deal on anation-to-nation basis. Part of the issue here is constitutional jurisdiction, which the OPP doesn't have."

McCracken said the federal government is talking with the Six Nations band council about two land claim issues and is awaiting a fact-finding report to see how it can help with the standoff which is "really under the jurisdiction of the province."

The elected council is opposed to the protest, but has included the land at issue, known as the Plank Road Tract, as one of 29 land claims registered with Ottawa. The two current claims it is trying to settle do not include Plank Road.

Hamilton Mountain MPP Marie Bountrogianni, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, said earlier this week Premier Dalton McGuinty remains committed to furthering co-operation with Ontario's First Nations, but will not get involved in the standoff. She's declined comment yesterday.

[cfragomeni@thespec.com](mailto:cfragomeni@thespec.com)  
905-526-3392