

MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 26, 2016

Township's Updated Statement Regarding Burl's Creek Ontario Municipal Board Appeal

Oro-Medonte, ON – Today, at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) Hearing for Case No. PL151011, legal counsel for the Township of Oro-Medonte presented its updated position related to the Burl's Creek Temporary Use By-law (TUB) application.

Previously, the Township's position was that it was premature to render a decision, or provide a recommendation with respect to the TUB application as technical studies were outstanding that were required to establish the application's consistency and/or conformity with Provincial, County, and Municipal policies. The Township retained consultants to peer review reports to resolve outstanding matters, including studies related to agriculture, archaeology, and noise. All outstanding matters have now been resolved. It's the Township's position that it can now support the TUB application and Township Council directed legal counsel to proceed accordingly.

With respect to the noise matter, the noise study and related Township peer review pertains to the camping and parking lands only which are the subject of the TUB application. It does not relate to noise associated with the Special Events Permit process on the 92 acres of zoned lands.

Regarding archaeology, a Stage 2 Archaeological Study was submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) to review. On October 21, 2016, the Township received a letter from the MTCS confirming the report has been accepted. The Stage 2 report confirmed that no archaeological resources were documented within the TUB lands, and that no further assessment of the TUB lands is warranted.

Further, relating to agriculture, the Agricultural Impact Assessment and an Adaptive Management Plan were peer reviewed by the Township's agrologist consultant. Based on the peer review and implementation of the Adaptive Management Plan, the Township is satisfied that ongoing agriculture use can continue on the property in an appropriate manner.

As this is a legal proceeding, Township staff and legal counsel are dedicated to the OMB proceedings and will not be available for media interviews for the remainder of this week. As such, a media conference for media representatives will be held immediately following today's OMB adjournment at the Township Administration Centre. As the OMB hearing is facilitated by the Board Chair, an exact time cannot be provided. More information about the OMB and the appeal process is available at elto.gov.on.ca/omb/.

Oro-Medonte is a diverse and beautiful community with a central location in Ontario. A community of 20,078 full-time residents, Oro-Medonte covers a land area of 61,000 hectares, stretching from the northern border of Barrie and Lake Simcoe to the southern fringes of Orillia and north to Tay and Severn Townships. For more information, please visit our website at www.oro-medonte.ca.

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