

Why do we need Aggregate?

Because without it, everything stops. Aggregate is stone, sand and gravel. It's in the buildings where we live and work, the roads and sidewalks we drive and walk on. It's used in water purification, and in the manufacturing of everything

from paper and paint to chewing gum and household cleaners. Demand for high-quality aggregate is growing, and new sources will be needed. It is critical we all **understand that everything starts with what's in the ground.**

Economic Need

- By 2041, there will be 18.2 million people in Ontario. To support this growth, **we will need 3.84 billion tonnes of aggregate** to build the roads, schools, hospitals, homes and other infrastructure that we all use.
- The industry is essential to the \$38-billion construction industry - supporting **357,000 jobs in Ontario.**
- The production of aggregates directly **employs 7,600 Ontarians, often in communities like yours.**

Managing a Scarce Resource

- Just like gold, sand and gravel are scarce resources that can only be found where nature put them.
- Not all aggregate is the same quality or type.
- Using inferior quality sand and gravel means that **instead of a bridge lasting 100 years, it may need to be rebuilt in 30.**
- The availability of high-quality close-to-market aggregate is being depleted at a rate of 3:1.
- The new Growth Plan, as written, could **sterilize** a whole application **because of one butternut tree.**
- **The unintended consequences of recent policies will be HUGE.**

Protecting the Environment

- The heavily regulated aggregate industry in Ontario is **safe, clean and environmentally responsible.**
- Water used in the processing of aggregate is recycled in a closed loop with only 2 to 8% being consumed in operations.
- Aggregate extraction is a largely mechanical process. No chemicals are used in the processing of aggregate.
- If every truck carrying aggregate had to drive an extra 75 km to and from its job site, more than **1,000,000 tonnes of extra GHG emissions** would be generated annually OR the equivalent of emissions from 225,000 cars per year. Not to mention the extra trucks that would be required or the increased cost of hauling.
- Mitigating climate change requires close-to-market aggregate.

Rehabilitation

- In 2016, more than **1030 hectares** of licensed aggregate lands were **rehabilitated.**
- A recent study showed that more than **293 hectares of aquatic habitat**, equal to 1,849 hockey rinks, have been created from aggregate sites, preserving **biodiversity in communities like yours.**
- Rehabilitated sites also create farmland and recreational facilities across Ontario.

For more information contact:

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