

Mississauga First Nation Community Luncheon  
Hosted by KiiGaDoWaak Nookimisuk (Grandmother's Council)

Giving Voice to the Endangered Turtles

**Attendees:**

- approximately 35 people attended, from Sault Ste. Marie to Sudbury (children to Elders)
- Members of Government: Tony Moor, mayor of Township of the North Shore (Carol Hughes, who attended the first event in Serpent River on Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, sent her regrets that she would be unable to make it as she was attending the funeral of a young person in Wikwemikong)

**Agenda:**

1. MC Jenifer Brousseau (SRFN) – began with song and introduction
2. Opening Prayer – Elder Willie Pine (MFN)
3. Grandmother's Council – Isabelle Meawasige and Marly Day- gave background on the efforts of their organization; why their work in FN communities, and their efforts to protect the turtles, is important
4. Meal (prepared by representatives of MFN Women's Shelter) – songs/drumming during lunch by Jenifer Brousseau (accompanied by April Lilley).
5. Slide Presentation – "Making an Informed Decision: Background and Potential Impacts of Quarry Development on Robinson-Huron Treaty Lands on the North Shore" by Rhonda Kirby (representative of North Shore Environmental Resource Advocates – NSERA).
6. Speakers:
  - Jenifer Brousseau (SRFN and member of 'Turtle Team')
  - Carol Shawan (SRFN and member of 'Turtle Team')
  - Ken Meawasige (SRFN Lands Committee and member of team)
  - Conrad Bobiwash (MFN Lands Committee)
  - April Lilley (member of team, coordinator of Facebook page, 'Turtle Table Talks')
7. Question & Answer: many in the audience asked questions and expressed concerns; suggestions for next steps, etc.
8. Thank you's: Dana Boyer and Beverly Daybutch, and others from MFN who helped with the meal and set-up
9. Closing Song: Tracie Louttit (accompanied by Jenifer Brousseau)

**Update on the Darien Quarry Permit Application:**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry continue to work with Darien Aggregates Inc. and their consultant, Tulloch Engineering, to fulfill the Aggregate Resources of Ontario requirements of a permit application on 'Crown Land' under the Aggregate Resources.

The proponent remains in the **Resolution of Concerns stage of the Category 12 application**. Revised site plans have recently been submitted to the ministry, but have not yet been made available to the public.

Key concerns are the complex water management system that will be required for the lifetime of the quarry (120 years); impacts on wetlands, surrounding waterways, and the Serpent River Watershed; the loss of moose aquatic feeding areas and species at risk, particularly one of the densest documented populations of endangered Blanding's turtles in the province; a rehabilitation plan that has never been attempted on this scale (2 man-made lakes that could take up to 400 years to fill naturally, up to 75 years by pumping from neighbouring water bodies).

It is our understanding that the MNRF also has concerns that need to be addressed. Once the applicant feels that they have addressed all of the ministry's concerns, they will submit a project evaluation under the Class EA that will explain their process.

As part of the Aggregate Application process, Darien Aggregates was expected to consult with local Indigenous communities: Mississauga FN, Serpent River FN and Sagamok Anishnawbek FN, as well as Metis Nation of Ontario. This consultation process is not yet complete.

**Contact Information of Key Speakers:**

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Conrad Bobiwash – I do not have Conrad's contact information, but you can get it from Ken Meawasige

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