

walker

PIT & QUARRY ROUNDUP

Fall/Winter 2020

A newsletter for the
neighbours of Walker's
aggregate operations.



▲ Loader operator Laurence Leriger smiles after a record-breaking production day at Spring Creek Quarry this summer.

Taking a Community First Approach

It's been a challenging year. The impact of COVID-19 on individuals, business and communities has been paramount and we have all been working hard to navigate the changing times. In the face of adversity, and with a promise to maintain our company values, Walker has remained committed to doing what is right for the community.

The Walker community encompasses employees, customers, suppliers, government officials, Indigenous groups and neighbours. We believe in treating all people with integrity and respect, and keeping their health and safety a priority.

Health and safety is a pillar of our operations. Throughout the pandemic, we enhanced our safety protocols not only to conform to government regulations on distancing and sanitizing, but to set a new Walker standard.

We strived to create certainty for our employees by developing an employee assistance program for those directly affected by COVID-19. Through this program, 10 employees applied for and received funds to help them during their time away from work. Many others were given flexibility to accommodate for challenges at home and at work.

We pivoted our operations, finding ways to produce high quality aggregates for essential projects and avoiding significant downtime when our customers needed us most. We remained committed to our neighbours and communities with our outreach programs, continuing to offer various monetary donations, product donations, and donations of employee time and equipment.

Recent community outreach included donating aggregate

material for Collingwood Agricultural Society to build a new parking lot at their fairgrounds, and supplying material to Stayner Kinsmen for their community gazebo and parking pad. We also worked with the Bruce Trail Association to move part of their trail onto our rehabilitated quarry land in Duntroon, with this section of the trail now named the Walker Aggregates Side Trail.

North of our Shepherd Pit in Grey-Bruce, an operator volunteered his time in a mini excavator to help the Outdoor Adventure Club make enhancements for a trout habitat on the Upper Sydenham River. Walker donated 88 tonnes of aggregate material to build fencing and a cattle-crossing pathway along the river to protect the riverbanks from degradation resulting from the animals crossing. Niagara also made donations of stone and gravel to enhance the Heritage Trail in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Walker made corporate donations in many of the communities where we operate, including a \$250,000 donation to Ernestine's Women's Shelter in Toronto. Over a 5-year period the donation will be used to help put food on the tables of many women and children who have fled abusive situations, which have been increasingly highlighted by the stress of COVID-19. The company also donated \$1.5 million to Hospice Niagara, part of our commitment to aiding in the development of new centres designed to provide comfort to those in their last days.

At the epicenter of all Walker's divisions and locations is a set of core values that shape the way we do business. We support communities through what we do, how we do it, and by caring about our people, our neighbours and environment. It's our legacy and our future.

Did You Know?

With help from Comsatec and Voltus, Walker follows energy peak patterns on the power grids. When spikes are predicted in high peak usage times, we shut down operations at many of our locations including Walker Brothers Quarry, Vineland Quarry, Severn Quarry, McGregor Quarry and Duntroon Quarry. We do this to preserve energy and take strain off of the grid to avoid potential issues such as blackouts. This helps us lessen our impact on energy consumption when our neighbours need it the most.



▲ The Kincardine shoreline in Grey-Bruce is using our stone to combat erosion.

Where the Stone Goes

This year Walker has been busy producing aggregate for our customers. As many industries slowed down, the essential projects we have always supported kept moving.

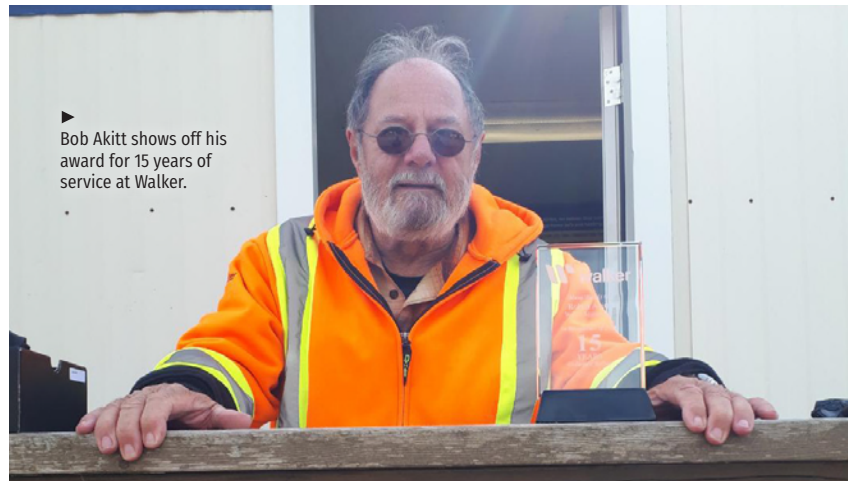
The Ministry of Transportation continued its expansion of the Queen Elizabeth Way in Fort Erie with another 170,000 tonnes of stone from Walker's Niagara sites. Upon completion in 2021, 400,000 tonnes of our materials will have been used. Walker Construction (Norjohn) is also the paving contractor on the project. Another aggregate and paving project is shared at Sherkston Shores Resort & Campground where an expansion is taking place. With stone from Ridgemount Quarry, and paving by Walker Construction, the resort will be ready for the 2021 season.

The 2021 Canada Summer Games have been delayed until 2022, but work is still full steam ahead at the Summer Games Complex near Brock University in Thorold. Stone from Spring Creek Quarry and other Niagara sites is being used to build the complex, track, parking lot and site servicing works.

In Essex, our quarries are supplying fines and stone for an artificial turf area at the University of Windsor, as well as providing a safe disposal site for stone removed during construction. Just up the river, beautiful Peche Island has been supplied with much needed armour stone and oversized rock as part of a plan to protect the shoreline from erosion and to preserve the local landmark's beautiful trails, wildlife and fish habitat.

Shoreline protection projects are also a major focus in Grey-Bruce. The Kincardine shoreline and Point Clark lighthouse have received rip rap and gabion stone to help combat erosion and protect the surrounding areas.

In Simcoe, Severn Quarry has supplied 30,000 tonnes of crushed stone, with an additional 40,000 yet to be supplied to build the new Cookstown Travel Centre along the busy Highway 400 stretch between Vaughan and Barrie. Limestone from Duntroon Quarry is being used in Wasaga Beach for road and sewer line reconstruction as part of key infrastructure upgrades to Veteran's Way.

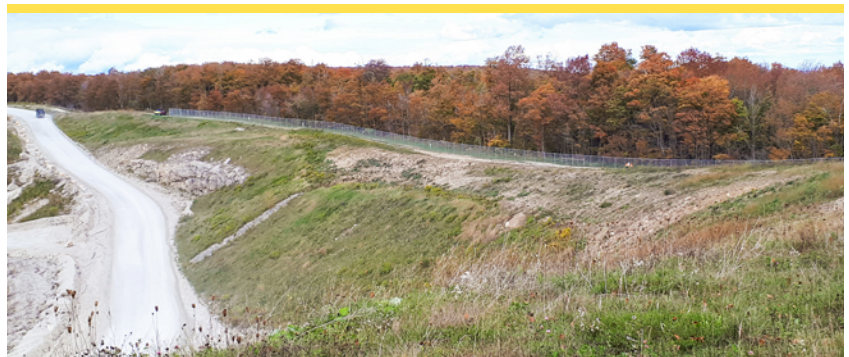


▶ Bob Akitt shows off his award for 15 years of service at Walker.

Simcoe Bids Farewell to a Valuable Team Member

While a new loader is put to work at Orillia Pits 5 and 7, and a new generator is fired up for powering the wash plant at Edgar pit, our employees bid farewell to Bob Akitt, a.k.a. Uncle Bob.

After 15 years with Walker, Bob retired at the end of October 2020. Bob will be greatly missed as he has been an integral part of the operations team at Edgar Pit. His work ethic and dedication has set a gold standard as an exceptional member of the team. Walker wishes Bob a long, happy and healthy retirement!



Rehabilitated Area of Duntroon Quarry Joins the Bruce Trail

An important part of operating a quarry is what will become of the land once it has been mined of its aggregate resource. While extraction will be ongoing for years to come in Duntroon, a section of the quarry has been rehabilitated for community use.

This year, Walker worked with the Bruce Trail Conservancy to re-route a section of the Bruce Trail through our rehabilitated land. The final rehabilitation plan will leave the rest of the land as lake and conservation area. The new section of trail however, renamed the Walker Aggregates Side Trail, is now ready to be hiked and enjoyed by neighbours and visitors.

Community Event Cancellations

Out of respect for the continued social distancing guidelines, winter neighbourhood events hosted by the following sites are cancelled until further notice in order to keep our communities safe: **Vineland Quarry, Walker Brothers Quarry, Duntroon Quarry, Severn Quarry**



McGregor Completes Portable Processing Plant

A new portable processing plant is now fully operational at McGregor Quarry in Essex. Unlike a fixed plant, a portable plant moves around within the quarry to remain close to the extraction area. This new addition will help to reduce the crushing hours required to produce stone to meet customer demands.

Equipment Upgrades at Vineland & Severn set to Increase Efficiency

Vineland Quarry moves to decrease its fuel consumption by adding a new face loader to its fleet. The new CAT 988K XE improves efficiency by consuming roughly half the litres per day as the quarry's previous loader.

Severn Quarry replaced a small loader with a new Komatsu shipping loader with a larger bucket capacity that requires making less trips to move stone. The site has also installed new LED lighting to reduce energy consumption on-site. In addition, Severn has increased traffic control efforts to continue to keep neighbours safe as trucks enter and exit the quarry.



▲ New Komatsu shipping loader at Severn can handle a larger workload than its predecessor.



Vineland's new CAT 988K XE will help decrease fuel consumption. ▼



Taking Extra Measures for Dust Control in Niagara

Traditionally, our water trucks wet the roads within the quarry to mitigate dust. Now, with plating and added insurance on the water truck at Walker Brothers Quarry, the vehicle can travel outside the property onto city streets to combat dust carried out by haul trucks.

Ridgemount is also employing the use of a newly fabricated water truck (*pictured here*) to help control dust on quarry roadways. Plans to fit the truck with plates and insurance required for city road use are underway.



New Signage Coming Soon to Grey-Bruce Sites

The new Walker branding rollout continues at the pits and quarries in Grey-Bruce. Plans for new signs at entrances, scale houses and at the main office in Kemble are underway and expected to be completed by the end of the year.

As part of the new branding, Keppel Quarry will be renamed Sutherland Quarry in recognition of the company Harold Sutherland built and the strong family history that will remain part of the local community.

HAVE A QUARRY QUESTION?

We want to hear from you!

Educating our communities and keeping our neighbours in the loop matters to us. Send your question to askaggregates@walkerind.com.

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Building a sustainable
future, **together.**

Employee Spotlight

Name Mike Gauthier

Works at Severn Quarry

Hometown Trout Creek

Family life Married with one daughter

Years at Walker 2 years

What's his job? Driller/Blaster

Why Walker? The previous company I worked for supplied explosives to Severn Quarry. I became familiar with Walker staff over the course of two years and saw that it was a good company to work for, so I made the switch.

In his spare time I enjoy camping with my family, hunting and playing hockey.

Favourite thing about his

community I currently live at Lake Dalrymple which is a small community where neighbours treat each other like an extended family. Everyone is willing to help each other out whenever needed. It has a great sense of community.



▲ Mike and his 13-month-old daughter Ella.



Striking Balance - Now Streaming!

Last winter we featured a sneak peek of Ken Lucyshyn, Executive Vice President of Aggregates & Construction being interviewed for the TV series Striking Balance. The episode focuses on challenges and reasons behind aggregate extraction on the Niagara Escarpment and features Walker's Edgerock Vineyard as an innovative rehabilitation of quarried lands.

The episode aired live on television during the TVO 50th anniversary telethon and can be viewed on TVO's YouTube channel www.youtube.com/tvo.

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