# walker

## PIT & QUARRY ROUNDUP

Spring/Summer 2022

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



#### Being Mindful of our Neighbours

Walker has been operating aggregate sites for over 130 years. With many years of experience across Ontario, we are proud of the relationships built within the communities in which we operate.

There has and always will be a focus on minimizing our impact on the surrounding environment and our neighbours. Minimizing our impact means going above and beyond to ensure our sites operate efficiently while managing how we conduct our business to be the best neighbour we can be.

This mindset guides us to look at each aspect of our business, find innovative ways to conduct our operations and find best practices.

Operating an aggregate site involves shipping the materials via truck. There are many ways we mitigate the concerns with truck traffic both on-site and surrounding roads. We manage the vehicles coming in and out of our sites by implementing speed limits, using signage to control flow, and directing traffic to the approved haul routes – all enforced by our security team. Walker also employs the use of water trucks on site roads to help minimize dust travelling outside the operation.

Another approach we take to minimize our impact on surrounding areas is to enable technology and tools that

measure our activity at our sites. Vibration and noise detection systems allow each blast to be monitored and ensures we keep within the guidelines prescribed by the provincial limits not to affect sensitive receptors surrounding the site.

Overhead view of the Vineland Ouarry operations in Niagara.

To keep Walker sites discrete and quiet we repurpose removed soil and overburden to create berms surrounding our sites. These berms are planted with vegetation and effectively dampen noise generated from the site.

These best practices are all just day-to-day measures. However, we understand it is also about the future, so we prioritize rehabilitation at all of our locations. We do this progressively as we operate, so while work can continue in one area of the site, we can be rehabilitating another. Some of our rehabilitated sites are now used in communities as nature areas, hiking trails, fish habitats and even a vineyard.

At Walker, we take pride in our work, but more importantly, we take pride in the relationships and contributions we make in several communities across Ontario.

If you would like to learn about all the steps Walker takes to be a good neighbour, check out the video on our website: www.walkeraggregates.com/our-commitment.

## **Community Events**

As restrictions began to ease, Walker is doing its best to bring back neighbourhood BBQs and events while ensuring the safety of our guests and employees. We will continue to monitor current events and will make final decisions on summer events in the coming months. We look forward to seeing everyone again in person.

### **NOW HIRING**

Skilled Trades Operators Supervisors Mechanics Labourers Drivers

Apply Online at walkeraggregates.com/careers

## Where the Stone Goes

Throughout the year, Walker provides aggregates to its valued customers, helping support its community.

In **Simcoe**, Walker is servicing a significant residential development in Wasaga Beach called Sunnidale Trails by RedBerry Homes. Walker provided aggregates from the Duntroon Quarry. Additionally, Walker provided the project with sand from Walker's Anten Mills Pit. The product was used for sewers, water mains, and roadways.

In **Essex**, Walker is providing various types of stone for the Essex Town Centre subdivision, which is slated to add 567 residential units consisting of single-family homes, semi-detached, and townhomes to the area. The stone will be used for groundwork and roadways.

Niagara's locations are busy with many projects, including providing aggregates and recycled product for a new sub-division in Grimsby called Branthaven Terrace. Stone from Niagara also continues to support the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) in building Ontario's first diverging diamond interchange, located at the QEW and Glendale Ave. Additionally, Walker is providing material for a 160-bed Long Term Care Home and Seniors Wellness Centre in Fort Erie.

Operations In **Grey Bruce**, have provided Hemstock's Mill a Slinger Truck to assist in creating new spawning habitats for the Upper Sydenham River fish habitat project.



## **Shifting Gears in Simcoe**

Simcoe announces many organizational changes, beginning with the retirement of Severn Quarry Superintendent Roger McGillvray. Roger has dedicated 46 years to his career with Walker, starting in the late 70's with Duntroon Quarry. We wish Roger a long and happy retirement.

Ryan Dallman has been promoted to Superintendent of Severn Quarry. With over 14 years working with Walker, and many years of industry experience, we are confident Ryan will excel in his new role.

Chris McKnight has accepted the role of Production Supervisor for Edgar Pit in the Simcoe Sand & Gravel Operations, and Ryan Dosch has been promoted to Operations Manager for the Simcoe region.

Severn gets a brand new 70-tonne Komatsu Rock Truck that will transport material from the rock face to the processing plant. In addition, a new solar-powered speed sign has been installed off highway 11 to slow down truck traffic on Nichols Line heading to the Quarry.

Edgar Pit is being outfitted with a new wash plant. This significant investment will improve production efficiencies and help meet production demands. The new plant will size and wash materials. The sand washed from the stone will then be processed to create a clean product for concrete and precast applications. It is expected that the new plant will increase fuel efficiencies by approximately 25%, thus making fewer emissions.



▲ Chris McKnight, Production Supervisor, poses on site at Edgar Pit.



## Supporting Community Care in Niagara

The Aggregates and Construction team in Niagara team banded together to collect food donations for December and were able to successfully overfill the barrel provided! The items were donated to Community Care Niagara for the holiday season.



## Windsor-Essex Operations Kickoff & New QA Manager

In Windsor-Essex, the Amherstburg quarry, which had been closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, is planning to restart its operations this season.

Additionally Essex welcomes a new Quality Control & Assurance Manager, Jennifer Cosby. Jennifer has been an employee with Walker for the past 6 years as a member of the QA/QC team in Niagara. In her new role, Jennifer will now oversee both Niagara and Essex regions.



## **Community Event Cancellations**

Out of respect for the well-being of our employees and community, all winter neighbourhood events will be cancelled until further notice. We wish our neighbours safe and healthy holidays.

## Grey Bruce Rehabilitation and Renovations Underway

In Grey Bruce, Walker will be rehabilitating the former Keppel Quarry (located on the east side of the Sutherland Quarry site) to create a lake in 2023. Preparations for rehabilitation are currently underway.

Also in Grey Bruce, the Ready Mix Concrete location is gearing up for a renovation and a new plant.

Sarah Nicoll-Lawler has been promoted to Quality Control & Assurance Manager for Simcoe & Grey-Bruce. Counties. Sarah has been a valuable member of our aggregate team in Simcoe for over 14 years working in our quality control labs.

## **Upper's Application Update**

The Application for the proposed Upper's Lane Quarry in Niagara Falls has been submitted and deemed complete by the City of Niagara Falls, the Niagara Region and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

The next step in the license application process involves reviews from the Joint Agency Review Team (JART), peer reviews, and Provincial Agency reviews. This process is expected to extend throughout the spring and summer of 2022. For up-to-date information, visit: www.uppersquarry.ca.

Aerial view of the proposed Upper's



#### **CONTACT NIAGARA**

Walker Brothers Quarry & Asphalt | Niagara Falls, ON Moe Collee | Quarry Superintendent

**└** 905-658-8304 **⋈** mcollee@walkerind.com

**Ridgemount Quarry |** *Stevensville, ON*Pat Raso | Shop Foreman

▶ 289-213-2897

▶ praso@walkerind.com

#### **CONTACT SIMCOE**

#### **CONTACT GREY-BRUCE**

**Head Office |** *Kemble, ON* **€** 519-376-5698

Alvanley Ready Mix Concrete | Allenford, ON Elmer Caceres Chicas | Quarries Manager - Grey-Bruce 519-379-8345 

caceres@walkerind.com

#### **CONTACT ESSEX**

Amherstburg Quarry | Amherstburg, ON
McGregor Quarry | Amherstburg, ON
Bob Haroutunian | Operations Manager

519-736-2136 

bharoutunian@walkerind.com

#### **SALES ENQUIRIES**

Shea Gordon | Sales Manager Niagara Region / West GTA

◆ 905-680-3796 

sogordon@walkerind.com

Dave Fleming | Sales Manager Simcoe / Grey-Bruce / GTA
705-441-3364 dfleming@walkerind.com



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## **Retirement and Congratulations**

The New Year comes with some changes to Walker's Aggregates and Construction leadership. In the second quarter of 2022, Ken Lucyshyn, Walker's Executive Vice President, Aggregates & Construction Division, will be signing off and entering retirement. Ken has provided an exhaustive wealth of experience with more than 25 years at Walker. It is an understatement to say that Ken will be missed.

Thank you for your personal commitment to Walker, its employees, neighbours and communities.





Furthermore, we would like to share our congratulations to Ryan Wall, Walker's new Executive Vice President, Aggregates & Construction Division. Ryan joined Walker in 2008 as a General Manager with more than a decade of experience in the industry and has created significant value to the business. Ryan's most recent appointment as Vice President, Aggregates & Construction had him overseeing operations in Simcoe, Grey-Bruce, Essex, and Niagara.

Ryan will continue to provide superior leadership and operational direction to the site superintendents, supervisors and employees as Executive Vice President.

## **Recognition in the Industry**

At Walker, we are proud of our operations and commitment to the community. Walker received a number of awards from the OSSGA (Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association) for 2021 in recognition of this commitment.

#### The Community Relations award:

- ·Duntroon Quarry
- ·McGregor Quarry
- ·Ridgemount Quarries
- ·Severn Quarry
- ·Vineland Quarries & Crushed Stone
- ·Walker Brothers Quarries.

#### The Progressive Rehabilitation Award:

·Ridgemount Quarries

#### **The Property Enhancement Award:**

·Sutherland Quarry

In addition to the list of OSSGA recognition awards, Ryan Wall, Vice President of Aggregates and Construction, was also recently appointed Chairperson (President) of the OSSGA for 2022.



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