



JANUARY 23, 2015

NEWS RELEASE

JOINT MUNICIPAL PEER REVIEW
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Public information meeting to update community on Walker landfill proposal, Beachville air quality study

NEWS

Oxford County's Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee (JMCC) is hosting a public information meeting on February 11 to update the community and answer questions on two key issues in Oxford County: the status of Walker Environmental Group's Southwestern Landfill Proposal and the Beachville Area Air Quality Work Plan. All members of the public are invited to attend.

WHEN: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Colombo Club
RR 1, 434719 West Hill Line, Beachville

WHO: **Peter Pickfield**, Garrod Pickfield LLP, legal counsel to the JMCC on the Walker Southwestern Landfill Proposal
Dr. Douglas Neal, Acting Medical Officer of Health, Oxford County
Peter Heywood, Manager, Health Protection, Oxford County Public Health, lead on the Beachville Area Air Quality Work Plan

The public meeting follows a similar presentation made to newly elected councils of Oxford's eight area municipalities. A copy of that presentation [was released](#) on December 3, 2014, after councillors expressed an interest in sharing the information with the community. The proposal for a public meeting was also raised at that time.

For more information on the JMCC and the County's response to Walker's landfill proposal, visit www.oxfordreviewteam.ca. For more information on the Beachville area air quality work plan, visit [Speak Up, Oxford!](#)

QUOTES

"With a decision by the provincial government still pending on the Walker landfill proposal's Terms of Reference, we know there are questions and concerns in the community. This public information meeting is a chance for people to hear updates directly from the experts and to ask questions first hand. We encourage all residents to take advantage of this opportunity to become further informed on these issues and to hear how Oxford's municipalities are working together to address them."

- Margaret Lupton, Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee Chair / Mayor of Zorra Township

BACKGROUND

Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee

The Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee is made up of the heads of Council and CAOs from [Zorra Township](#), the [Town of Ingersoll](#), [Township of South-West Oxford](#) and the [County of Oxford](#), the municipalities most directly affected by the proposal to build a large-scale landfill in Zorra Township. The group's main purpose is to oversee a peer review of the information and research presented by the Southwestern Landfill proposal.

The Peer Review team is currently made up of some 20 experts covering 15 discipline areas that will be considered in the landfill proposal's Environmental Assessment, including air, noise, hydrogeology, land use, legal, traffic, agriculture, groundwater, social impact and other issues that have the potential to affect quality of life for residents and the area's ecosystem.

For more information about the Joint Municipal Coordinating Committee and updates on the peer review process, visit www.oxfordreviewteam.ca.

Beachville Area Air Quality Work Plan

County Council approved the Beachville area air quality work plan in June 2014. The study is a response to community concerns about air quality due to existing aggregate operations in the area.

The work plan investigation is being led by [Oxford County Public Health](#) in partnership with [Public Health Ontario](#) and the [University of Guelph](#), in consultation with the [Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change](#). The project will review evidence concerning the potential human health impacts of nearby community exposure to particulate matter generated by aggregate operations. For more information, visit [Speak Up, Oxford!](#)

MEDIA CONTACT

Tommasina Conte | Strategic Communication & Engagement Manager | County of Oxford
519-539-9800, ext. 3503 | 1-800-755-0394 | tconte@oxfordcounty.ca