

North Dufferin Agricultural and Community Taskforce NDACT NEWSLETTER

Melancthon Council July 22, 2010 @ 6:00 p.m. Click for Agenda: <u>http://melancthontownshi</u> <u>p.ca/council.html10</u>

Special Official Plan meeting, July 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. to review mapping

HOLLAND MARSH FARMERS NEED YOUR HELP: please sign their petition to stop the Province from passing a Ministers Zoning Order to permit a peaker plant on agricultural land:

http://secure.gpo.ca/civicrm/pr ofile/create?gid=3&reset=1

NDACT COMMITTEE Chair: Dale Rutledge VChair: Norman Wolfson

Members:

Dave Vanderzaag Rick Wallace Ralph Armstrong Rob Green Jim Black Carl Cosack Nanci Malek John Herndon John Lever

Sec/Treas: Diane Cowen Webmaster: David Pease

Contact: info@ndact.com

Website: www.ndact.com

HELP US PROTECT YOUR WATER JULY CALL TO ACTION

SPECIALITY CROP DESIGNATION FOR MELANCTHON'S OFFICIAL PLAN

The Township of Melancthon is currently undergoing their five year review of the Official Plan. NDACT has made a series of delegations to Council, setting out why the Honeywood silt loam designations, unique to this area, should be moved into a speciality soil designation in the Official Plan. We need your help to show Council that the public wants this in OUR Official Plan.

Please cut and past the following and then forward to <u>dholmes@melancthontownship.ca</u>

MAYOR AND COUNCIL -for the next meeting of Melancthon Council:

We concerned citizens are requesting that Council include a Specialty Crop Designation in the Melancthon Township Official Plan. The Ontario Federation of Agriculture has also requested that the area containing Honeywood Loam Soils be classified under the Specialty Crop Designation.

"...this area is afforded the highest priority to protect these lands for ongoing horticultural crop production. The Provincial Policy Statement defines a Specialty Crop Area as an area; designated using evaluation procedures established by the province, as amended from time to time, where specialty crops such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil lands are predominantly grown, usually resulting from: a) soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both; and/or b) a combination of farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops, and of capital investment in related facilities and services to produce, store, or process specialty crops. The Honeywood soils certainly qualify and should be designated as such." OFA

Signed,

Please send an email to <u>dholmes@melancthontownship.ca</u> or letter to Mayor and Council, R.R.#6, Shelburne, ON L0N 1S9 immediately. There is a time issue involved and we need you to show the Council the importance of this designation prior to the Official Plan being completed. Thank you NDACT

Melancthon Municipal Election Update

Municipal elections in 444 municipalities in Ontario take place on October 25, 2010

To date the following candidates have declared in Melancthon:

Hannon, Wayne-Councillor Hill, Bill-Mayor Malloy, Bart-Councillor White, Darren-Deputy Mayor

NOTE: Township of Melancthon is using a vote by mail system this year. Watch for your enumeration in the mail. For updates: http://melancthontownship.ca/elections.htm

For information on your candidate responsibilities, please check out Municipal Affairs and Housing Election Guide:

http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=7269

TREE CUTTING UPDATE

The County of Dufferin is still soliciting public comments on the revised tree cutting bylaw. Forward them ASAP to: phillock@dufferincounty.on.ca

HIGHLAND COMPANIES "OPEN" HOUSE

The Highland Companies held an invitation only "neighbour" information session about water, on Monday June 28, Tuesday June 29 and Wednesday June 30.

People were invited NOT from any legislated planning circulation list.

These meetings were NOT the legislated public meetings Highland Companies must hold after they file for an Official Plan Amendment and Zoning Bylaw Amendment.

Any neighbour who did not meet Highlands criteria and was no on the list who showed up wanting information was turned away.

2ND ANNUAL NDACT GOLF TOURNAMENT UPDATE

While the weather was positively steamy, the turnout was excellent.

More than 70 golfers participated

More than 50 joined for dinner

More than 100 items were donated for the silent auction

The hole in one prize, a New Holland 115 Rustler Tractor, donated by

MARKDALE FORD

was not won-maybe next year

And more than \$20,000.00 was raised!!

If you couldn't make it to the fundraiser and would still like to donate, please forward your donation to :

NDACT

Box 15, Honeywood Ontario, L0N 1H0

If you haven't filled out your membership yet, please click here: http://ndact.com/NDACT/MEMBERSHIP%20FOR M.pdf

RAIL LINE UPDATE

A public meeting is to be scheduled in the near future. Please watch <u>www.ndact.com</u> for the meeting date.

The Province wants *your* input on the Provincial Policy statement. **Comments due by August 31, 2010**

http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page724 3.aspx