

2015

OSSGA INDUSTRY RECOGNITION  
AND STUDENT DESIGN AWARDS



Taking Stock of Our Industry



# BIODIVERSITY

The Biodiversity Award honours OSSGA members for their contribution to sustaining biodiversity through species protection, habitat improvement and sustainable land use activities. They are also recognized for conserving biodiversity in a way that goes well beyond regulatory standard practices and typical activities undertaken by the industry.

Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, 2011 was central to the development of the award criteria. Each eligible project must demonstrate support for one or more of the following strategic directions: engaging people, reducing threats, enhancing resilience, and improving knowledge.

## St Marys Cement – A Division of Votorantim Cimentos

*Bowmanville Quarry Westside Marsh  
Municipality of Clarington*

St Marys Cement Inc. has maintained an aggregate extraction licence for a 225-hectare quarry site near Bowmanville since 1963. As part of the planned quarry development, a 40.3-hectare wetland was to be removed and the resources beneath it extracted. Although the extraction permit predated almost all current environmental legislation, in 1995 St Marys invited the Waterfront Regeneration Trust to consult with the stakeholders and help develop a new site plan to protect as much of the marsh as possible, and to relocate the creek and marsh in an ecologically responsible manner.

The construction of the creek and marsh reconfigurations began in late 2002. In 2006, monitoring began to investigate trends in the biological and physical productivity of each habitat type that has been constructed, enhanced or



retained. Crews conducted water quality testing and took aerial photos to pinpoint changes in biodiversity, seeking out opportunities to improve shelter, feeding and reproduction. Other initiatives included relocating pest species, building habitat structures, adding special features to enhance resilience, and introducing raptor poles to attract beneficial “tenants.” The site is now home to a large group of osprey that protect the marsh from unwanted birds.

St Marys has dedicated the land to the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority. To this day the company remains strongly committed to preserving the area's unique wetland environment and, through a Community Relations Committee, ensures the ongoing health and wellbeing of the Westside Marsh. It also supports ongoing research and continues to monitor the wetlands and report on findings.

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE JUDGES

The Biodiversity Award review panel included Steve Hounsell, Chair of the Ontario Biodiversity Council, Lynette Mader, Manager of Provincial Operations - Ontario for Ducks Unlimited Canada, and Ronald Reid, Carden Coordinator at the Couchiching Conservancy.

The Industry Awards review panel was comprised of judges invited from outside the industry, including Lynette Mader of Ducks Unlimited Canada, Nic Schulz of the Cornerstone Standards Council, Seana Richardson, MNRF Aggregate Technical Specialist, and Kristy Sutherland, MNRF Aggregate Technical Specialist. They were supported by OSSGA member Kevin Fitzpatrick of WSP Canada Inc. and Danielle Solondz of The Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation (TOARC).

The Student Design Award review panel was comprised of members of OSSGA's Rehabilitation and Species at Risk committees George Antoniuk of the Miller Group, Kevin Fitzpatrick of WSP Canada Inc., and Debra Kakaria, of MHBC Planning.



Supported by



## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

The Community Relations Award recognizes those who have demonstrated leadership in promoting good neighbour relations, community involvement, education, and industry awareness.

### Capital Paving Inc.

*Wellington Pit  
Township of Puslinch*

Wellington Pit's commitment to building community relations begins on its 100-acre site where a dust mitigation policy, noise control measures and safety initiatives keep the company in solid standing with neighbours. Constant communication through Capital Paving's website and social media accounts, as well as comprehensive feedback systems and one-on-one meetings, keep everyone informed. Wellington Pit and its Capital Paving parent company are just as active in the community. In addition to supporting the new Heavy Equipment Operator program with the Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, they recently brought back their Miles for Memories walk/run event, raising \$110,000 for Alzheimer's research to date.



### Dufferin Aggregates – A Division of CRH Canada Group Inc.

*Acton Quarry  
Town of Halton Hills*

Acton Quarry prioritizes community relations both inside its borders and beyond. Back-up beacons, rubber screening and noise barriers keep disturbances at a minimum, while dust mitigation programs, proactive traffic measures and blast monitoring further ensure neighbours are unaffected by operations. Acton Quarry also plays a large role in its community, organizing a tree planting event with Scouts Canada, hosting an Annual Open House, and assisting the Darling Home for Kids with clean up. It regularly sponsors and donates monetary and in-kind donations to organizations and events, and its Community Advisory Panel (CAP) allows the local community to be involved in its operations.

### Dufferin Aggregates – A Division of CRH Canada Group Inc.

*Milton Quarry  
Town of Milton*

Dufferin Aggregates' Milton Quarry leaves no stone unturned when it comes to neighbourly relations. The company demonstrates stewardship in water usage by working with stakeholders from the provincial government, the Niagara Escarpment Commission, Halton Region, Conservation Halton and the Bruce Trail Conservancy. It holds onsite tours, an annual tree planting program and educational programs with local students. Staff volunteer at events like the Townline Road Clean Up and the Darling Home for Kids Clean Up. The quarry donates materials to local groups and contributes financially to sports teams, and Dufferin Aggregates coordinates the Ready-Mix Drum Sponsorship Program for Halton Healthcare Services, raising nearly \$100,000 each year.





## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### Lafarge Canada Inc. – A Member of LafargeHolcim

*Brechin Quarry  
Township of Ramara*

At Lafarge Canada's Brechin Quarry noise is minimized by berms and trees, as well as rubber chute linings and rubber panels on the main scraping screen. Regular site sweeping and watering, as well as a high-pressure, low-volume dust suppression system at its secondary plant, help control dust. Employee training and traffic enforcement ensure safety, and blast monitoring and constant



communications ensure residents are aware of quarry activities. Offsite, Brechin Quarry sponsors the Orillia Relay for Life, and takes part in the Orillia Santa Claus Parade. Lafarge

has also worked with the Ramara Community Police to introduce its cycling safety campaign. It provided resources to create the Brechin Public School outdoor classroom.



### Lafarge Canada Inc. – A Member of LafargeHolcim

*Hagersville Quarry  
Haldimand County*

Staff at Lafarge Canada's Hagersville Quarry volunteer to assemble beds for the Brantford Homeless Shelter, offer support for a local Christmas free skate event, plant trees with Boy Scouts and sponsor events like Youth Barrel Riding. At the Hagersville Quarry site, noise control, dust mitigation and blast monitoring minimize the impact of the operation on local residents. As well, Lafarge and Hagersville Quarry demonstrate an unwavering commitment to safety, holding safety demonstrations and public awareness campaigns throughout the year. Site safety is prioritized with extensive driver training, regular vehicle maintenance and ample road signage.

### Walker Industries – Walker Aggregates Inc.

*Duntroon Quarry  
Duntroon*

The secret to Duntroon Quarry's community relations' success is its focus on treating neighbours like partners. The quarry's Public Liaison Committee meets at least four times a year, and its Neighbourhood Picnic & Barbecue and Holiday Wine & Cheese Reception keep community members in constant contact. Duntroon Quarry is a regular at local events, sponsors community clubs and sports teams, and donates resources and money to initiatives like the Bruce Trail Club. Onsite, water trucks mitigate dust, retired police officers monitor traffic speeds, and an environmental closure further reduces noise and dust. Quarry staff also maintain a blast monitoring system and publish a *Stone Views* newsletter.



### Walker Industries – Walker Aggregates Inc.

*McGregor Quarry  
Town of Amherstburg*

Being a good neighbour is important for Walker Aggregates' McGregor Quarry. Operational disruptions are kept at a minimum through blast monitoring, complaint and feedback systems, and vegetated berms and screens placed along the quarry's road boundaries. Dust is controlled with consistent watering, processing plant improvements and a dust management plan. Safety measures are also implemented, including visible rules and regulations signs, safety notifications, Walkers' safe



loading program and ongoing staff training. Offsite, Walker invests in its local community. It donates \$5,000 to the Windsor-Essex food bank, sponsors the summer Ribfest, and hosts

a community barbecue. These and other outreach efforts are communicated via the company's *BorderStones* semi-annual newsletter and the Walker Aggregates website.





## Walker Industries – Walker Aggregates Inc.

*Severn Pines Quarry  
Township of Severn*

Walker Aggregates' community commitment is alive and well at Severn Pines Quarry. Year-round open houses, barbecues, and Public Liaison Committee meetings keep the quarry in touch with neighbours. Staff are familiar faces in the Orillia/Stayner and Creemore Santa Claus Parades, and they help keep their community clean through garbage pick-ups and the local "adopt-a-road" program. Onsite, an upgraded water truck controls dust, while newly installed covers at the primary screens lower both noise and dust. A comprehensive blast monitoring system is in place and a retired police officer is employed to monitor the speed and noise of truck traffic. These initiatives are communicated at quarry events and through a *Stepping Stones* newsletter.

## Walker Industries – Walker Aggregates Inc.

*Vineland Quarries & Crushed Stone  
Town of Lincoln*

Walker Aggregates' Vineland Quarries & Crushed Stone recently went above and beyond its regular noise and dust mitigation practices by building an enclosure over its Megadome and installing misting fans and a Monsoon Air Mister to control dust. Vineland Quarries also invested in extra tarps for its stockpiles and a weather station to monitor wind speed and direction in order to notify staff of changes that could affect dust distribution. Employee and visitor safety is prioritized with extensive signage and safety awareness initiatives. Vineland Quarries' affinity for forging neighbour relations is evident in its many community outreach efforts. These include the company's annual Earth Day Cleanup and its participation in the local Habitat for Humanity build.



## Walker Industries – Walker Aggregates Inc.

*Walker Brothers Quarries  
Town of Stamford (Niagara Falls)*

Walker Brothers Quarries enjoys a sterling reputation within its community thanks to an ongoing focus on site improvements, operational excellence and community outreach. The site ensures its operations have little impact on those around them by controlling dust and noise with berms, water trucks and conveyer hoods. Additionally, it promotes site safety with rigorous traffic enforcement and signage. On the community front, the quarry hosts holiday parties, donates stone for local projects, works with students to raise industry awareness, and recently took part in Niagara's first-ever Habitat for Humanity build. Updates on activities are conveyed through Walker Industries' *Walkways* newsletter and its website.



## Waterford Sand & Gravel Ltd.

*Vinemount Quarry  
Stoney Creek*

Waterford Sand & Gravel makes neighbour relations a priority. Ongoing repairs to major roads have optimized site safety, while noise mitigation efforts minimize disturbances. The quarry's continuous watering and sweeping program helps lower dust emissions, and neighbours are kept abreast on operations and plans with site tours, flyers and events. Vinemount Quarry recently donated material to the Hamilton Conservation Authority for local trail improvements, and paired with the Hamilton Naturalists Club to donate \$20,000 in services and materials for the newly opened Vinemount Meadows Sanctuary. The 16-hectare area north of the quarry is now home to a large number of unique bird species.





# PROGRESSIVE REHABILITATION

The Progressive Rehabilitation Award recognizes ongoing efforts of individual operators in progressively rehabilitating their sites in accordance with their site plans.

## CBM Aggregates – A Division of Votorantim Cimentos

*McGuffin Pit  
Municipality of Thames Centre*

CBM Aggregates' McGuffin Pit progressive rehabilitation project was established to create quality agricultural land following mining activities. The work, which took place from 2012 to 2015, required substantial contouring. In 2012 and 2013, overburden from local subdivision developments built on former agricultural lands was transported to the site, while overburden from onsite berms was used to create side slopes. Altogether 20,000 cubic metres of topsoil was applied at a depth of 30 centimetres. After the final contouring work in October 2014, a grass/legume mixture was seeded at 100 kg/ha to provide a cover crop. This was followed by further seeding of chickpeas in May 2015 to prepare the site for the first marketable crop of winter wheat that fall. Production at the site is expected to exceed initial expectations thanks to a higher-quality topsoil applied to a greater depth than originally planned.



## CBM Aggregates – A Division of Votorantim Cimentos

*Sunderland Pit Area 6  
Township of Brock*

CBM Aggregates' Sunderland Pit rehabilitation project took place over the site's Area 6 and covered 3.1 hectares of the pit's extractable area – 256 hectares in total. The work took place from May to October 2014 following the completion of extraction operations in October the previous year. During this time, 8,000 cubic metres of overburden was taken from an onsite stockpile to form a rough side slope with a 3:1 ratio, then 30 to 35 centimetres of topsoil was spread on the slope and pit floor. Finally, a seed mix of rye, buckwheat, alfalfa, crown vetch, clover and fescue was applied at a rate of 125 kg/ha. The equipment used for the progressive rehabilitation included Volvo 235 rock trucks, an 850C John Deere excavator, a CAT D6 dozer for earthmoving provided by contractor Earthworks, and CBM's ATV with seed spreader.

Before



After





## CBM Aggregates – A Division of Votorantim Cimentos

*Tikal Pit*

*Township of Puslinch*

This progressive rehabilitation project returned 27.98 hectares of CBM Aggregate's Tikal Pit to a natural state after extraction operations were completed in 2012. It entailed the removal of perimeter berms, as well as shoreline contouring around the onsite pond and application of 20 to 30 centimetres of stony topsoil and 40 centimetres of overburden. This was followed by seeding with a winter wheat mixture alongside various native forbs and grasses, including little bluestem, Indian grass, big bluestem, New England aster, heath aster, wild bergamot, black-eyed susan and evening primrose. An overseeding with a grass mixture occurred in spring 2015 to enhance grass coverage. Extra stumps, trees and oversized boulders from the original property were used to define the pond edge, while CBM partnered with the Grand River Conservation Authority to plant more than 12,000 trees.



### Judges' Choice Award



## CBM Aggregates – A Division of Votorantim Cimentos

*Whitehouse Pit*

*Township of Brighton*

The Whitehouse Pit's central floor was targeted for this 2015 progressive rehabilitation project. The goal was to naturalize the depleted central portion of the pit so it could live on as open space. The work took place across 3.1 hectares of the pit's 24.6 hectares of extractable area, between August 2014 and September 2015. A total of 4,000 cubic metres of overburden was moved from a nearby berm and spread over the pit floor. Once the overburden was in place, the last topsoil berm was moved and spread at a thickness of 30 centimetres. CBM crews used an ATV with spreader to seed the area with a rye and clover mix at 125 kg/ha. Other machinery used on the project included CBM's 980G CAT Loader and a 690 John Deere Excavator and 450 John Deere Dozer, supplied by Indewey Excavating.

## CBM Aggregates – A Division of Votorantim Cimentos

*Widdicks Pit*

*Township of Brighton*

Naturalization and reforestation were the end goals for Widdicks Pit's southeast slope and floor progressive rehabilitation. Work took place over 1.8 hectares of the site, which altogether totals 8.93 hectares, with 5.50 hectares of extractable area. Work began in August 2014 with the movement of 6,000 cubic metres of overburden to the site with CBM's CAT 980 loader. The overburden was placed and graded to a 3:1 slope by Indewey Excavating's John Deere dozer. Indewey also supplied an excavator to bail topsoil from nearby storage berms and deliver it to the top of the slope, where a dozer spread it to a thickness of 30 centimetres. In the fall of 2014 CBM used its ATV with a spreader to seed the area with a rye and clover mix at 125kg/ha. The following spring, employees returned to plant 2,500 trees throughout the area. This included a mix of red oak, sugar maple, white pine and white spruce.





## PROGRESSIVE REHABILITATION

### Lafarge Canada Inc. – A Member of LafargeHolcim

*Goodwood Pit  
Township of Uxbridge*

In the summer of 2015, crews at Lafarge Canada's Goodwood Pit continued their long-term progressive rehabilitation, moving closer to restoring the 109-hectare site for agricultural use and creating a lake. They were successful in rehabilitating 4.5 hectares of land using 80,000 cubic metres of material sourced from stripping operations. This included onsite topsoil, which was applied to the rehabilitated area at a thickness of 15 centimetres. Contractors were brought on board to complete sloping and apply a MOT Seed Mix Standard of Road Seed Mix Type C at a rate of 125 kg/ha. The mix contained buckwheat, alfalfa, crown vetch, white clover, perennial rye and tall fescue.



### Lafarge Canada Inc. – A Member of LafargeHolcim

*Lawford Pit  
Town of Caledon*

The overall goal of Lafarge Canada's Lawford Pit rehabilitation is to return 86.7 hectares of the pit area back to agricultural land while promoting the expansion of the Core Greenland forest and the Credit River. In April 2015 it took another step towards that goal by rehabilitating 1.42 hectares of land across two areas. Work began with the redistribution of overburden material to slope the exhausted faces at a 3:1 ratio, and then 20 centimetres of topsoil was applied. A red top Kentucky bluegrass Mix was then distributed, containing creeping red fescue, perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass and white clover for the purpose of protecting the area from erosion and preparing for re-vegetation. In total, more than 15,768 cubic metres of material was moved for the project using two 25-tonne articulated trucks, an excavator and a dozer.

### Lafarge Canada Inc. – A Member of LafargeHolcim

*West Paris Pit  
Township of Paris*

Five hectares of Lafarge Canada's West Paris Pit was the target area for this progressive rehabilitation project conducted from August 2014 to July 2015. Approximately 20,000 cubic metres of material was moved, including topsoil applied at a 25-centimetre depth. A MTO Modified Lawn Mixture was later seeded to reduce gullying and erosion. It contained creeping red fescue, perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass and white clover. The project used a D8 bulldozer, three haul trucks and an excavator. It was part of an overall progressive rehabilitation plan that will see 72.91 hectares of the pit made fit for short-term agricultural use, and, in the longer term, open and green areas for residential and recreational use.







### Lafarge Canada Inc. – A Member of LafargeHolcim

*Woods Pit*

*Municipality of Thames Centre*

Lafarge Canada's Wood Pit earned its first OSSGA Award for rehabilitating 7.5 hectares of the pit's 34.46 hectares of extractable area. This parcel of land was chosen after an extensive evaluation showed that other areas of the pit were of poor quality and not worth disturbing. The project included sloping the pit face at a 3:1 ratio, adding 50 centimetres of subsoil and 20 centimetres of topsoil. A seed mix of creeping red fescue, perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass and white clover was then applied with a Brillion seeder at a rate of 155 kg/ha. In total, 10,000 cubic metres of material was relocated to attend to the slope and floor cover using a D6 dozer, excavator and rock trucks. The rehabilitated area was returned to agricultural use in keeping with the project's objectives.

### Walker Industries – Walker Aggregates Inc.

*Anten Mills Pit*

*Township of Springwater*

The goal of this 2015 initiative was to rehabilitate 2.3 hectares of Walker Aggregates' Anten Mills Pit while protecting the endangered Eastern Whip-poor-will bird on the site. The work, conducted in June 2015, began with the transportation of sub-material to the top of the boundary and the formation of a 3:1 slope. Topsoil was spread over an 8-to-13-centimetre cover to support seeding, which consisted of a mix of big bluestem, Canada wild rye, switch grass, little bluestem, Indian grass, timothy and annual rye grass. In the final stage, vegetation was removed from the original onsite area and moved to the newly designated area. This included natural grasses, ferns and stumps. The rehabilitation was completed in keeping with the aim to protect the Eastern Whip-poor-will. Walker Aggregates will continue its ongoing rehabilitation efforts on the northwest side of the Anten Mills Pit in the spring.



### Waterford Sand & Gravel Ltd.

*Vinemount Quarry*

*Stoney Creek*

Vinemount Quarry's latest progressive rehabilitation effort saw crews restore three hectares of its 20.25-hectare extractable area for use as green space. The job required the transportation of approximately 150,000 cubic metres of overburden and topsoil to the site, with topsoil spread to thickness of 10 centimetres. Sidewalls were sloped to a 3:1 ratio. An MTO Roadside seeding mix was applied consisting of creeping red fescue, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass and white clover. The ongoing rehabilitation includes the planting of pine and spruce trees along the berms between the quarry and neighbouring properties, as well as the planting of a wide variety of plants and shrubs.





# PROPERTY ENHANCEMENT

The Property Enhancement Award recognizes operational best practices in a site's entrance, approach and perimeter screening, office and scale house areas, employee areas, plant appearance, environmental controls, truck and mobile equipment, and communicative signage. Sites that initially meet the minimum requirements in each of the aforementioned sections are awarded a plaque. Site operators are then provided with an opportunity to win a "gold" bar for each section by meeting the comprehensive list of criteria for each. There are a total of seven "gold" bars that can be achieved.

## Lafarge Canada Inc.

*Guelph Pit & Quarry, Guelph*

One Gold Bar:

Communicative Signage



## Lafarge Canada Inc.

*Point Anne Quarry, Belleville*

Two Gold Bars:

Office & Scalehouse;  
Entrance, Approach &  
Perimeter Screening

## Miller Paving Limited

*Carden Quarry, Brechin*

Plaque and three Gold Bars:

Office & Scalehouse; Entrance,  
Approach & Perimeter  
Screening; Communicative  
Signage

## Nelson Aggregate Co.

*Lincoln Quarry, Beamsville*

Four Gold Bars: Employee  
Areas; Trucks & Mobile  
Equipment; Plant Appearance;  
Environmental Controls

## Nelson Aggregate Co.

*Oneida Quarry, Haldimand County*

Plaque and One Gold Bar:  
Office & Scalehouse

## Waynco Ltd.

*Waynco Pit, Cambridge*

Two Gold Bars:

Environmental Controls;  
Trucks & Mobile Equipment



Nelson Aggregate's  
Lincoln Quarry



Generous funding for the competition was provided by The Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation



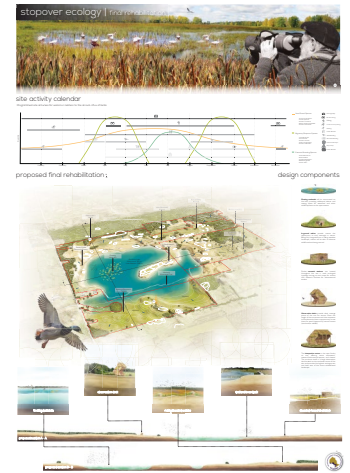
The Student Design Competition recognizes the most innovative designs for the ecological revitalization of a former pit or quarry. This year, students were challenged to create site plans for Vicdom Sand & Gravel (Ontario) Limited's Brock Road Pit, located in the Township of Uxbridge in the Region of Durham.

## 1st Place (\$3,000) – Stopover Ecology

*Jaclyn Ryback, Karen Lui - University of Toronto*

This 1st place submission sees the Brock Road Pit repurposed as a wildlife refuge and stopover site for migratory birds. The plan was inspired by the Nature Conservancy's Great Lakes Migratory Bird Stopover Study, which identified the location as one of a select few migratory resting places for waterfowl north of the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The proposal outlines the loss of bird and wildlife habitats within the Uxbridge region and the GTA, pointing to the need for more stopover sites to support birds along their journey.

Stopover Ecology calls for turning the land into a "dynamic ecosystem" through regrading and re-vegetation, and the gradual integration of vegetated building typologies. It suggests a number of onsite features to attract human visitors to the site and strengthen their connection to the natural world. These include the installation of an interpretive centre, in-ground cabins, floating wetlands, an observation deck, and multiple research stations, all connected via nature trails and a wetland boardwalk. To further encourage human interaction, the site would provide activities such as bird banding, bird counting, hiking, cross-country skiing, hiking and tours.



## 2nd Place (\$2,000) – Uxbridge Equestrian Village

*Aisling Laverty, Ryan Chin - Fanshawe College*

This student submission outlines the development of a feature-rich equestrian community in the "heart of Ontario's horse country." The Uxbridge Equestrian Village would cater to horses and their owners, as well as animal and outdoor enthusiasts. It would incorporate a range of valuable resources, such as an Animal Hospital and Research Centre, stabling for 600 horses, 48 camper spots, oversized indoor and outdoor riding rings, a horse pasture and a network of horse-friendly trail systems.

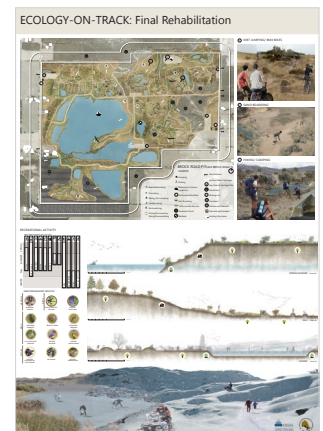
The plan proposes a multi-stage development, beginning with an Animal Hospital run in collaboration with the Durham College's Veterinary Assistant Program. Phase Two would see the construction of the site's show facilities, including a starting area with stalls and wash racks, five competition rings, general and show parking, and a vendor area with additional parking. The final phase calls for residential development and the construction of a pavilion viewing area overlooking the competition ring. Various coniferous and deciduous trees would be planted onsite, and a mulched trail system and horse pasture would also be created.

## 3rd Place (\$1,500) – Ecology On Track

*Anna Rosen, Hanna Chung - University of Toronto*

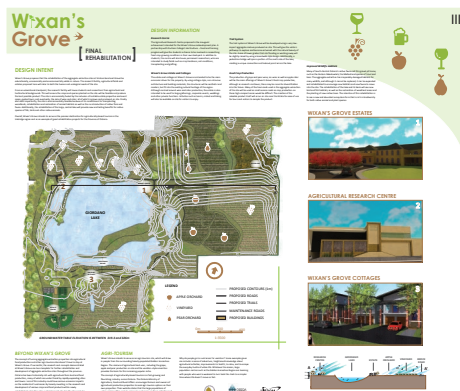
Driven by a desire to develop cost-effective and sustainable ecology that promotes social interaction, this student proposal suggests transforming the pit into a motocross track. It reasons that a new motocross park would provide riders with an alternative to the ecologically fragile forests and trails they currently ride on. A regulated off-road park would also generate revenue both for the Town of Uxbridge and Vicdom Sand & Gravel.

The track would be built primarily with onsite materials shaped into moguls, slopes and jumps for racing. This would create new opportunities for seed capture as well as water collection and channeling. It would promote vegetative growth and the creation of an eco-system to attract wildlife. Once operations on the pit wind down, the motocross track could be relocated to areas surrounding the gravel pits, keeping riders on regulated roads. The project would also clear the way for a host of additional seasonal leisure activities on the site, such as camping, cycling, sandboarding, bird watching, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, skating, fishing and swimming.





## STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION



### Honourable Mention (\$750) – Wixan's Grove

Andrew Sabourin, Mohammad Sefian, Wyatt Rotteau - Fanshawe College

The intent of this submission is to transform the site into “a premier destination for agriculturally-based tourism” within the Uxbridge region. The site would house a blend of vacation-style amenities and agricultural land uses, appealing to the growing number of urban explorers seeking a break from big-city living.

Highlights would include the Wixan's Grove Estate and Cottages, which could be rented for individual visitors, group events or corporate functions, and an Agricultural Research Centre, which would be run in partnership with Durham College's Horticulture - Food and Farming program. There would also be an Activity Centre, a vineyard, a wide variety of food crops and improved wildlife habitats.

### Honourable Mention (\$750) – Maggiore Lake Vineyards

Adam Bedard, Davis Horrocks, Kyle David - Fanshawe College

Piggybacking on the growth of Ontario's wine industry, this submission sees the creation of a multi-faceted vineyard and open-space venue delivering diverse services. Maggiore Lake Vineyards would provide residents of nearby towns and cities with a break from urban chaos, while also generating revenue for Vicdom Sand & Gravel during and following extraction activities. For visitors there would be different wines and refreshments on offer, as well as outdoor activities and lakeside entertainment.

The long-term plan envisions ecological and agricultural development on the site spanning many years, with a lakeside amphitheatre and other outdoor installations rounding out the vision.



### Honourable Mention (\$750) – Poplar Village

Daniel Murphy, Matthew McHenry, Stephanie Chalmers - Fanshawe College

This student proposal envisions a rehabilitated green space with a low-impact Poplar Village at its core. Designed with a focus on wildlife preservation, ecological enhancement and environmental awareness, Poplar Village would offer city dwellers an escape where they can shop, eat and be entertained while reconnecting with nature and the Durham Regional Forest. In addition to villas and hotel spaces to rent, there will be entertainment venues, restaurants, event spaces, nightlife attractions and unique retail experiences. Visitors can get close to the great outdoors and experience outdoor activities like hiking, cross-country skiing and cycling. The Vicdom Office and Maintenance Facilities would be converted into an Education & Research Centre.

### Honourable Mention (\$750) – Ichthyo Rehabilitation

Jasper Flores, Nathanael Wilner - University of Toronto

Replacing the pit's aggregate extraction activities with ecological extraction is the goal of this submission. Ichthyo Rehab would transform the site and its natural resources into a rich source of native fish and plant stocks vital to the Duffins Creek Watershed.

There would be riparian and aquatic habitats, wetlands, a visitor centre and water transfer facility, a visitor dock, trails, and ample forest, swales and green spaces. The plan calls for augmenting the onsite lake in order to create zones with different water depths suitable for hosting diverse species of plants and fish. Ichthyo Rehab aims to nurture the full potential of this strategically situated pocket of land.

