



Essential materials for building a strong Ontario

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 16, 2010

**CITY OF BRAMPTON GARNERS TOP HONOURS FROM
AGGREGATE PRODUCERS**

Local mayor, minister & special guests join stone, sand & gravel association to commemorate reclamation award at special luncheon

Toronto, February 18, 2010 – Brampton City Mayor Susan Fennell, Minister of Natural Resources Linda Jeffrey and other dignitaries will join Ontario aggregate producers in a special luncheon to present the 2010 Bronze Plaque Award — the most prestigious award given by the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA) — to the city of Brampton for its outstanding vision and commitment to rehabilitation at Toronto’s Four Season’s Hotel February 18.

“The City of Brampton will rise to the ranks of exceptional land reclamation for The Brampton Esker Park System — 12 former gravel pits, which, over 40 years, have been transformed into a series of interconnected linear parks stretching over seven kilometres throughout the city,” said OSSGA President Moreen Miller.

The ceremony, which will take place on Day Two of the association’s Annual General Meeting will feature a short video highlighting the history and features of this marvel of state-of-the-art rehabilitation.

Press Release

The Bronze Plaque award has only been awarded to 18 other sites by the OSSGA in the province since its inception in 1975.

The OSSGA ceremony symbolizes the rehabilitation efforts undertaken by the stone, sand and gravel industry to beautify the environment by creating green spaces that benefit communities throughout Ontario.

“Our industry’s commitment to rehabilitation is reflected in the legacies that are all across this province, including parks and conservation areas, fish and wildlife habitats, agricultural lands, golf courses, sports fields, and woodlands that were once extracted sites,” added Miller.

The Bronze Plaque Award Luncheon will be followed by an evening gala cocktail reception with award-winning journalist Wendy Mesley and local MPPs to celebrate the winners of the association’s Industry Advancement Awards.

About the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

OSSGA is a non-profit industry association representing over 250 sand, gravel, and crushed stone producers and suppliers of valuable industry products and services. Collectively, OSSGA members supply the majority of the approximately 172 million tonnes of aggregate consumed annually in the province to build and maintain Ontario’s infrastructure needs. OSSGA works in partnership with government and the public to promote a safe and competitive aggregate industry contributing to the creation of strong communities in the province.

Importance of stone, sand & gravel

Stone, sand and gravel help create the high standard of living we enjoy in Ontario. Our homes, schools, playgrounds, workplaces and communities are built with stone products extracted from pits and quarries.

Importance of industry environmental stewardship

Stone, sand and gravel extraction is a temporary land use. As aggregate is extracted from a pit or quarry, and again upon completion, the site is rehabilitated into other productive land uses. These land uses include recreational parks, conservation and forestry lands with considerable environmental appeal that are distinct assets to the community. The stone, sand and gravel industry has created many valuable spaces where people gather for rest or recreation and to enjoy the outdoors.

Press Release

About the Brampton Esker

During aggregate extraction, the esker — a long, narrow winding ridge of sand and gravel laid down as a stream deposit by glacial waters some 20,000 years ago — underwent a series of dramatic changes that ultimately created the conditions necessary for Brampton to create ecological and physical linkages between public amenities and communities. The land that was essentially borrowed for extractive use and later rehabilitated helped meet public demand for much-needed housing projects, parks and recreation areas in Brampton.

At least 80 million tonnes of high-quality sand and gravel have been extracted from the Brampton Esker area and used in such construction projects as the Gardiner Expressway, Ontario Place, The Queen Elizabeth Way, Pearson International Airport, the Toronto subway system and many other roads, streets and highways in the Greater Toronto Area.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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