

Rick Gol - Harrington Community

From: Bonnie Di Bernardo [REDACTED]
To: "goldtr@thamesriver9on.c9" <goldtr@thamesriver9on.c9>
Date: 11/10/2016 7:29 PM
Subject: Harrington Community

I am writing to read with you and the others to not destroy the peaceful recreation area that is Harrington Park.

My family lived and is still living in Harrington Park. My family is going back to recreation areas where recreation is protected to this day and their lives. It is a race for family reunions and picnics there and it will be.

My cousin was a volunteer who restored the bridge and the road is part of the mile's recreation area. It will be a great forward.

It would be very far from the Harrington Park recreation area to be part of a future recreation area. It will be a great forward.

This area is a fishing area.

I hear that there is a rumor that is attempting to raise funds for repair to the dam.

It would be nice to think that the workers that be could give this rumor the time they need to find the funds.

Thank you again for your time.

**Regards,
 Bonnie Di Bernardo**

[REDACTED]

**Sometimes everything
 has to be inscribed across
 the heavens
 so you can find
 the real
 that is a ready writer
 inside you.**

- David Whyte

Rick Golarrington D m

From: BM daKmtz [REDACTED]
To: "goldt @thamivebn.cm" <goldt @thamivebn.cm>
Date: 11/15/2016 9:23 AM
Subject: ington DM

Rick

I live in HM ington, and the possibility of HM ington Pond is of grMt condMn to mMI have only M liveM for 7 yeMs mysMf, but my mMM l roots rMch bMk 171 yeMs. My f mily has MiveM in M ington, skatM, fishesM and picMkedM on thampnd, daMcd in DuncM's HMll which usM to stM d on M the shorM of the pond, and b ought hundrMs of bushesM of grMn to bMp oc ssM at the G ist Mill.M

undr ds of mM-hours, and thousMds of dollMs - p ovideM by both p ivaM citizMs aMd Tillium M G nts - have bM investM in the M storMion of the Mill. FundrMsing contiMus to this dayM with funds M b ing allocM d towMds rMstoring the Mill to it origiMl opM tionaMstM - worki g musMum aMt M wM . This cM only bMaccomplishedM by usM of the M t f om the pond to powM a turbiM and m ke M the Mill function aMt did wheM it wM fi st const uctM. It is the MeMtfM hopM of both mysMf and my M f llow mMbMs of the M ington & AM Community AssociMion - both pMt, pMs nt and futurM thatM the Mill bM a musMum, aMd to connectM todayM with the M oneMing spi it of the M ttlMs of this aM .M

The pond is aM idyllic spot wheM geM tions of rMideMs, and visitors, have comM to eMjoy namM Mat M it's bMt! To rMmove the dam aMd rduc this bMutiful spot to aM stMnd of mud and mosquitos would M b a t gedy both iM eMionmM tl tMms aMd fom aM community pMspMtiveM

The pond aMd Mill aM the MeM and soul of this community!M

PIMs do not desMoy the pond by rMmoving the dam, and do not negat all the Ma d work thatM has bM M doneM rMtorM the Mill.M

SiMcMlyM

BM daKmtzM

From: Barb Westela <en [REDACTED]>
To: goldtr@thamesr ver.on. <a><
D : 11/15/2016 2:02 PM <
bj c : Harrington pond <

Mr. Goldt, <
My name <s <
Barb Westela <en <S haefer). I grew up <Harrington, <n perhaps more <nno <ent <days, but I spent my <
afternoons and evenings at the pond that you feel needs to be destroyed. I get so frustrated that money <s <
spent where it does not have to be spent. That dam will last another 100 years. If it isn't broken, why do <
you have to fix it!? Kids don't spend the time there like we used to, but it is still a beautiful area of water <
and land that's enjoyed by many and is home to many species of wildlife. Leave it alone, save the <
beauty and don't spend unnecessarily! <
Sincerely, <
Barb Westela <en <
St. Marys <

Sent from my Phone <

Rick Gold Harrington Pond

From: Eugene Ki/ e/ [REDACTED]
To: "Rick Goldt(goldt/@/ha/ es/ive/.on.ca)" <goldt/@/ha/ es/ive/.on.ca>
Date: 11/15/2016 2:01 PM
Subject: Ha/ ington Pond

Rick : Bei 5 5 time reside 5t 5f H5rri 5 t5 5ur f5mi y h5s ived i5 the s5me h5use si5ce 1913 , & my Gre 5t 5 r5 df5ther sett ed here i5 1857 we w5u d ike t5 see the P5 d & existi 5 D5m rem5i5 u5t5uched , rem5vi 5 5 the D5m w5u d 5pe 5 up the creek feedi 5 the p5 d t5 i5v5sive species ike Pike which w5u d destr 5y the Br 5 k 5 Tr 5ut which h5ve bee 5 there si5ce the E5r y 1900,s ,he5rd st5rys fr5m my C5usi5s the F5rmer Mck5ys c5tchi 5 5 Tr 5ut there bef5re WW I ,5s they were very pr5ud 5f their Br5ther ED Mck5y WW I F5yi 5 Ace th5t Gr5h5m 5 Br 5 d 5f Wester 5 U5iversity is writi 5 5 b5 k 5 , 5 ther 5ei5hb5ur rem5rked th5t the wet 5re 5 5outside the 5 D5m th5t is r5isi 5 c5 cer 5 is 5 t 5 e5k 5s he is 78 Ye5rs 5 d & the 5re 5 w5s the s5me 70 ye5rs 5 whe 5 he 5 rew up there , c5u d just be 5 spri 5 5s the 5ri5i 5 5 me f5r H5rri 5 t5 w5s Spri 5 vi5e ,5 s5 whe 5 the D5m 5 w5s c5 structed he 5 ted the f5 ti 5 were Pi ed Drive 5 i5 m5ki 5 the D5m Secure , 5 s5 there is 5 5 ther 5 p5 d upstre 5m bui t by H5r 5 d M xwe 5 I5 the e5r y 50,s 5b5ut the s5me size 5s H5rri 5 t5 with 5ut the he 5vy 5 c5 structi 5 ike the D5m i5 H5rri 5 t5 th5t 5ever h5s 5 y pr5b ems ,Mr M xwe 5 w5s very pr5ud 5f the Br 5 k 5 Tr 5ut i5 his p5 d & h5d m5 y pe 5p e fr5m St M rys 5s 5uests F5y Fishi 5 . The H5rri 5 t5 P5 d pr5vides 5 recre 5ti 5 f5r m5 y pe 5p e with 5 Tr 5ut Derby i5 the spri 5 , & 5 p5 ce t5 re 5 x & pick 5ick ,5 s5 the U5i 5 d5 e 5 Fire Dep5rtme 5t uses the p5 d t5 pr5ctice & 5 s5 t5 Dr5w w5ter fr5m if there is 5 Fire i5 the 5re5. . Si5cere y 5 Vict 5r Eu5e5e Kittmer

From: Gavin [REDACTED]
To: GOLDT@thamesriver.on.ca
CC: mryan@zorra.on.ca; [REDACTED]
Date: 11/15/2016 2:02 PM
Subject: Favorites
Attachments: Harrington-App-E-DamConservationArea-HistoryCulture.pdf; Part.002

Hello [REDACTED], I stumbled across this document from UTCA which sheds light on a couple of points. You will have to excuse our communities' complacency regarding not making it clear that the intent was to make the mill operational at the public meetings. As you can see in this report (the coloured newspaper clipping) it discusses the educational opportunities by having the mill operational and uses bird seed as an example. Obviously we the people thought UTCA was aware of the intent to bring the mill on-line using the pond for quite a long time. It was not a secret but public knowledge and therefore assumed you knew.

Also, comments from UTCA and the environmental people suggested that wells "may" be affected. As this document clearly shows, as in the past when the dam failed, we now wells will most definitely be affected. Replacement costs and water quality issues must be taken into consideration. Currently, those utilizing shallow wells have limited need for water treatment outside of a UV system. Being shallow, iron and hardness are of little to no concern. Should deep wells need to be installed, assuming at UTCA or affiliates cost, does this include iron removers and softeners that will be required to treat the water from the deeper wells as others in the area use?

Respectfully yours,

Gavin Houston

<http://thamesriver.on.ca/wp-content/uploads//FloodStructures/OtherStructures/Harrington-App-E-DamConservationArea-HistoryCulture.pdf>

Appendix E

Historic Harrington Dam and Conservation Area History and Culture Information

Contents

Harrington Dam and Conservation Area News..... 1
Resident Letters 6

Harrington Dam and Conservation Area News Articles

HARRINGTON — From the time Milton Betteridge first suggested, in 1948, that the Harrington damsite be acquired as a conservation area, until 1952, when the first piece of property was bought, lengthy negotiations were involved and several obstacles overcome.

Representatives of the Authority inspected the property and Gordon Ross reported that a large section of the 35-foot spillway had been undermined and washed away. It was estimated that to repair the dam and enlarge the pond, from four to eight acres, would cost approximately \$10,000. This was beyond the Authority's means. Furthermore the Conservation Branch of the Department of Planning and Development ruled that it would not consider a grant for this dam, or similar projects elsewhere, without complete engineering and cost estimates. Plans for the dam and spillway were prepared by R. K. Kilborn & Associates and the Conservation Branch supplied a plan for the pond.

Negotiations for property purchase were opened with Robert Duncan, who owned the dam and pond, and with adjoining property owners William Simpson, Mrs. Levi Nimock and George Robinson. In all about 12 acres were obtained. Work started in July, 1952 and the project was virtually completed by the end of the year. Service buildings were added later.



Grist Mill at Harrington

70

After almost two years of negotiations the Authority came into possession of the mill at the site in 1966, when it was purchased from Mr. Duncan. It was one of the few remaining water-powered grist mills in Western Ontario. The original mill was built in 1846 by a man named Demerest and was purchased by Mr. Duncan in 1920. That mill was destroyed by fire in 1923 and replaced the same year.

HARMONY — While the restoration of the Harmony Dam was proposed by the late R. Thomas Orr in 1949, it was not until 1954 that the Authority was able to obtain the damsite and a small adjoining area from the estate of John Weldon Powell. The original dam was said to have served a saw mill, a woollen mill and a grist mill. Covering about 14 acres, the property is located in South Easthope, about four miles south of Stratford.

Immediate development was delayed in the hope of acquiring an adjoining piece of property for construction of a good-sized dam and pond. When this could not be obtained at a reasonable price the Authority, in 1966, decided to build a rubble dam, about two feet high, and a small pond for bathing. The parking lot was built by the County of Perth, in return for land and fill needed to construct a new curve at Harmony corner. An interesting story relates to the name of the small community. It seems that two early settlers, Knott and Dunsmore, both wanted it named after them but eventually agreed to give in; hence the name "Harmony".



Small But Pretty Harmony Pond

WOODHAM — The Woodham tract, on Flat Creek, originally was a 100-acre farm, bought from Crown Assets Disposal Corporation in 1955. Twenty-six acres were sold. For a time, part of the property was used for pasture demonstration and part as a demonstration woodlot, but in 1968 it remained largely undeveloped. The Federal government retained an easement over the property for a water supply that originally served the former air force camp at Centralia.

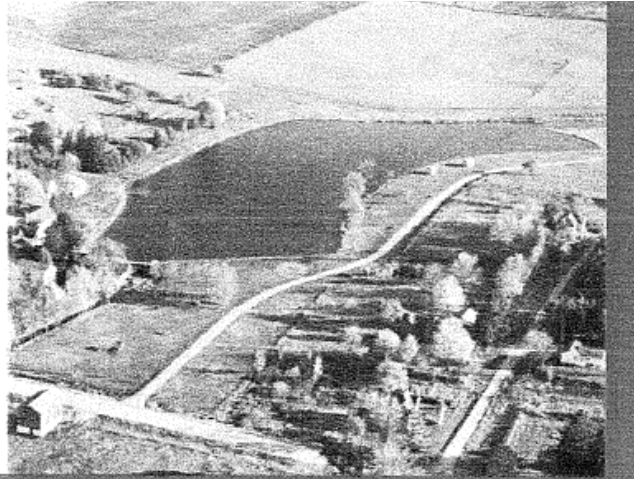
71

Figure 1: Harrington history, excerpt from "25 Years of Conservation on the Upper Thames Watershed 1947 - 1973" UTRCA

CONSERVATION

The Harrington Mill Dam washed out on Easter Monday, 1949, shallow wells went dry in the Village and what had been a very scenic spot became mud flats. In 1952 the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority built a new dam on the site creating a three-acre lake on 12 acres of land. Shallow wells are now restored, the trout fishing is good and many people are enjoying picnics and swimming all summer long.

Other similar conservation areas are located at Centreville, Otterville, Norwich, Woodstock and Embro in Oxford County.



Oxford '80

1 PM Booklet

Harrington Events

- Friendly village nestled in the hills overlooking Wildwood Lake
- Community get-togethers occur throughout the year: Optimist Club sponsors turkey shoot May 24 in Conway Gravel Pit; Optimist beef barbecue July 12 in Community Centre; Slow Pitch tournament Sept. 13 in Community Centre
- The Harrington mill dam washed out on Easter Monday, 1949, shallow wells went dry in the village and what had been a very scenic spot became mud flats
- In 1952 the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority built a new dam and created a three acre lake on 12 acres of land
- The trout fishing is good and picnics and swimming can be enjoyed throughout the summer days in this tranquil part of Oxford
- Spring bazaar, tea and crafts April 23
- Strawberry Supper May 28
- Turkey supper Oct. 22

S-R

Plus March Edition

Sept. 26, 1980

Figure 2: News article about Harrington Dam washout in 1949

Harrington & Area Community Association Harrington Gem Gets Facelift

Work at the Harrington Grist Mill continues at a slow but steady pace. Thanks to many contributors and volunteers the work of restoration and repair has made progress this past year. The mill continues to be the focus of the Harrington & Area Community Association which holds many community events that serve in raising funds and in creating an awareness of this 1846 landmark. In addition, these events have served as a catalyst to become acquainted with our local community as well as bringing in many from far and wide who have an interest in the mill progress. Some who have moved from the area have kept tabs on what was happening to our mill, one of which was the late George Clark who contacted our Association some years ago to inquire about the mill's progress. George was invited to tour the building and to see for himself the progress that had been made over the years. George was born in Brooksdale, a son of Huron Clark and Margaret (Bossence) Clark. His grandparents were Jack Clark and Minnie (Whetstone) Clark who ran a general store in Harrington, and although George was raised in Ingersoll and lived in Toronto most his adult life, he had fond memories of Harrington from his childhood. As a result of that contact George acknowledged he was very pleased to see the progress and has contributed to the ongoing work.

Upon his death our Association was informed that George had not forgotten the little mill in Harrington and had left a generous endowment for which we are very grateful. This has enabled us to redo the exterior of the building with board and baton cladding, a job that was completed by a local contractor Paul Hartman and sons. This has been a huge step forward for this project of which we are very pleased. If you are in the area, have a look for yourself at this building that proudly stands on the bank of the Harrington Pond just across from the dam.

The association continues in its commitment to "Building Community" by "Rebuilding the Mill". What has been achieved to date could not have been done without the generous donations made by many businesses and individuals - some of which are shown on the "wall of donors" display in the mill. The Association also appreciates the cooperation and support of Upper Thames River Conservation Authority who work closely with us as we make repairs and restorations. The Harrington & Area Community Association is not registered as a charity, so Upper Thames has agreed to issue tax receipts of donations that are made to the mill through them. Additional signage giving a historical synopsis will soon be added for the benefit of those who visit when the building is closed. The mill is available for private group showings, school tours, or

photography sessions etc. Please call 519-475-4376 to make arrangements.

We hope one day to get the wheels turning again as they have for so many years. The preferred power source would of course be water from the adjoining pond, which is well known for its fishing and has been recreational landmark for many generations of Zorra residents.

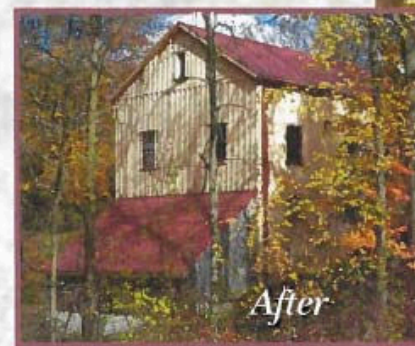


Figure 3: Article from "Zorra Now", a publication of Zorra Township, Spring 2014

■ HARRINGTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: Restoration efforts continue at historic site

Educational grist for the mill

Laura Cudworth
Staff Reporter

HARRINGTON — Walking through the door of the grist mill is like walking through a door to the past.

The mill is situated in the middle of an unpaved, residential street so quiet the water behind the building can be easily heard, and it's not hard to imagine the business up and running. Many of the beams are original and the mechanisms for operating the mill, using water, are still intact.

Legends about the place survive to this day too. As the story goes, there used to be an old bell

that was rung to warn bootleggers about a raid, said Doug Diplock, chair of the Harrington Community Association.

In more recent times, the mill has served as a stand-in for parts of rural America. The mill was used as a backdrop for a lynching scene in a movie, Diplock said, though he couldn't recall which one. Fake hangings can't be re-enacted in parts of the United States.

"This fit the bill," he said.

The mill, which was built with local wood, caught fire in 1923. Though there was extensive damage, there are still beams inside

from the original 1840s structure. One of the wooden shoots has a hole in it and was repaired with a licence plate. It's still there.

The hope is to get the mill working again to give school kids a real taste of the past. It would have been used to make animal feed. Turning rough seed into bird seed would be a perfect way to spend an afternoon with school groups, Diplock suggested.

The mill operated continuously for more than 100 years, with the exception of a small period when there was trouble with the dam.

The gears, belts and other mechanisms demonstrate the

best of engineering for the time. The question is whether the mill will be able to run on water again, which is the ideal, or whether it will have to run on another power

TIMELINE

1846: Mill and Dam first built, used an overshoot water wheel
1880: Water driven turbine replaced the water wheel for power generation
1899: Chopper and Roller replaced the stone previously used for grinding the grain

1903: Dam broke and was repaired
1923: Fire caused extensive damage, Mill was rebuilt
1949: Dam/berm broke and was repaired

1966: bought out by Upper Thames Conservation Authority
Mill closed and left abandoned
1999: Harrington Community Association took over management of the Mill and Conservation Area and began to restore the Mill.

A big part of the equation is the dam. It will cost an estimated \$1.4 million to replace it. The Harrington Community

Association wants the dam already there left and repair needed.

See MILL | Page A3



SCOTT WISHART/THE BEACON HERALD

Harrington's historic grist mill was in continuous operation for more than a century.

Mill is the community's heart

Continued from A1

"We are in the hands of politicians now. They want to keep the dam; however, there's insufficient funding. As it sits right now, they said the berm may or may not last, but its been holding up for years. The dam itself seems to be fine," Diplock said.

This community, which has no official census data, has less than 200 people but all the drive and patience it will take to get the mill working again. They've been at it since the Harrington Community Association took over man-

agement from the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority in 1999.

The mill really is the heart of the community. Without it, Harrington wouldn't exist, Diplock said.

"I've only lived here 10 years, but so many people who live in this area have lived here their whole lives. Their roots are here and they're very community-minded people," he said.

When they took over management of the mill, raccoons and feral cats had been living inside

for quite some time. The mill is now sealed.

About four years ago, the community association rebuilt the basement, the old concrete and stone was crumbling, with the help of a Trillium Foundation grant, local fundraising and weekends of elbow grease residents were willing to donate to the project. This past year the siding, windows and door were fixed or replaced.

"There's been well over \$100,000 invested so far," said Diplock.

There is also a plan to make a trail that loops in with other trails in the area.

The mill is becoming popular as a pristine spot for wedding pictures too.

The community association conducts tours on request. There will be a Thanksgiving tour Oct. 13. Anyone interested can call Doug at 519-475-0110 and leave a message.

laura.cudworth@sunmedia.ca

Figure 4: News article from Stratford Beacon Herald, August 19, 2014

June 23 and June 25 for Harrington Dam and Embro Dam respectively. The PIC were well attended. The second PIC describing the possible

Letter to the Editor regarding the Class Environmental Assessment on the Harrington Pond, June 28, 2015.

If you use the Harrington Pond recreation area, or if you have in the past, your stories and comments are needed.

The Harrington pond: fishing hole, bird sanctuary, tranquil picnic spot. For generations the pond has been loved as a get-away, a tiny oasis providing recreational activities for visitors from near and far.

Now, the future of the Harrington Pond has a question mark hanging over it. Like many small ponds in Ontario, the Harrington Pond is a constructed-water feature created to power a saw-mill which in turn had previously existed. The concrete dam holds back the water that streams through the area from nearby springs, building pressure to channel a constant flow for the sawmill, and resulting in the pond. The dam was originally built in 1846 and re-constructed in 1952. That's a long time ago, and although the people who built the dam may not have been thinking as far ahead as today, they certainly built something sturdy.

However, structures don't last forever, and two recent studies commissioned by the UTRCA have raised concerns that the dam may be unstable. At several public meetings, the UTRCA has discussed the implications involved in rebuilding or removing the dam. Now, a Class Environmental Assessment will be undertaken to learn more about the dam, the pond, and its surrounding lands. The Assessment will look at four groups of factors that could impact a decision, economic, environmental, technical, and social, to make recommendations for the future of the dam and the pond.

This is where your help is needed. The Environmental Assessment team will take the social history of the pond into consideration when making their recommendations. To fully understand the pond and its relationship to the surrounding communities, the Environmental Assessment team is asking the public for stories and comments about the social history of the Harrington pond. These stories can include activities at the pond both in the past and present.

These researchers can't be expected to know what role the pond has played in our area without us telling them. I grew up in Harrington and to us the pond was a daily source of recreation and community activities. The pond has a history of years of bringing community members together for swimming, picnics, skating, fishing, and boating. I intend to submit my comments for this study. Will you do so save the pond? I don't know, but I feel that it is up to the members of this community and surrounding communities to do what we can, while we can, to show that the pond is used and is important to many. The history of the pond needs to be recorded and acknowledged. Stories received will be included in the final report which the study will generate.

If you have a story or comment to share, please email it to: harrington_dam@thamesrive.on.ca

You can also email this address to ask questions or to get more information about this issue.

As well, members of the public are invited to participate in an educational bus tour of local dams which will be arranged in the month of September 2015. If you are interested in the bus tour please email for details.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this project.
Jennifer Hewitt

Figure 5: Letter to the Editor of Zorra Now, Fall 2015

Resident Letters

Harrington and Area Community Association
(HACA)
c/o Doug Diplock , Chair

Harrington Pond Environmental Assessment Team

Dear Team Members,

During your enquiries and assessments you will have come to realize the many species of birds, animals, plants, insects, and amphibians that call the Pond and the area around it home. These species form an ecosystem that has developed to be dependent on the Pond for its existence.

Aside from the obvious environmental benefits of a healthy ecosystem what does the existence of The Pond, from a human perspective, mean to people who live in the area and to visitors?

The Pond in Harrington has always been a focal point of the village and people who live in various parts of Ontario have always associated Harrington with The Pond. Residents who live here often describe the location of their homes as being east of The Pond or West of The Pond, or just below The Pond or even, in deed, on The Pond. The Pond, and the Grist Mill, early on, became the reason for Harrington's existence and is one of the historical links to our cultural heritage in this small village.

The Mill was originally built in 1847 and is one of the few remaining historical structures from that era that provides a very real link to History. The Mill, and the Millpond, have existed in a symbiotic relationship for well over 150 years. The Mill, millpond, and surrounding natural ecosystem form a cultural landscape that would be threatened by the loss of an integral component of this landscape – The Pond.

The Harrington and Area Community Association (HACA) is an incorporated entity, with an elected board and membership, as the name implies, of residents who currently or in the past, have lived in the area. The Association is deeply involved in Community Issues.

In 1999 HACA entered into an agreement with UTRCA for the management and maintenance of the Harrington Conservation Area including the Grist Mill.

The volunteers in the area have worked countless hours, raised significant amounts of money, and obtained Provincial and Municipal Grants to assist in the restoration of the Mill. Part of the restoration process will see the Mill again functioning as before, with power being supplied by the water from the Pond.

HACA has worked closely with Government Agencies, Township Officials, outside Agencies and other Service Clubs to enhance enjoyment of the Conservation Area. All of these activities within the Conservation Area use the Pond as a focal point.

A fishing derby, held on the opening of trout season each spring, attracts hundreds of young children and for some, it is an introduction to fishing and outdoor activities that will continue for a lifetime.

During the spring and summer months and into the early fall the Pond is visited by hundreds of fishermen and fisherwomen on a regular basis. Some have even stated it is the only fishing hole they have found that is accessible by wheelchair-bound individuals.

Each August a BBQ is held on the banks of The Pond, attended by individuals from all across South Western Ontario. The BBQ is a major fundraising event for HACA and helps to support many local endeavours such as Concerts, Dances for all ages, Holiday Celebrations and more.

A birding/hiking trail has been established that encircles the Pond and is complete with a viewing stand at the south end of The Pond. Each year, in all Seasons, many hikers and birding enthusiasts use the trail and the opportunity to view wildlife and commune with Nature.

The Village of Harrington, as is all of Zorra, is serviced by Volunteer Firefighters. The Pond is the only source of water in the north section of Zorra that is accessible in winter months and has been vital to the Fire Department on several occasions. A loss of The Pond could be detrimental to safety and well-being of the neighbourhood inhabitants.

Cost, of course, is always an issue, and while the least expensive path would be to, in the absence of any imminent threat to life or property, just leave the Pond as it is, and as it has existed for years. The most expensive path may well be the one that threatens the existence of a small village, a cultural and historical link to our past and a fragile ecosystem.

Any decision made on the future of The Pond will have an impact on all of these issues, and indeed on the existence of the village, the lives of the people in the area and future generations.

The Harrington and Area Community Association respectfully request that all these points be considered as you determine your various recommendations.

Sincerely,

Doug Diplock
Chairperson
Harrington and Area Community Association

Email from Sam Coghlan (received after June 25, 2015 public information session)

Harrington Dam Class Environmental Assessment

Gentlemen,

As I prepare to leave for a drive out west that will take 6 weeks or more, the likelihood has been looming on my mind that I will not return home to Harrington until after your *“Presentation of Baseline Characterization and Potential Alternatives”* which is scheduled for *“September 2015 (planned)”*. Consequently, I would like to add something now to the conversation about the future of the Harrington Dam.

The cultural significance of the dam to the identity of the village of Harrington causes me to urge you to recommend the alternative of doing nothing with the dam. The dam has served admirably for the 60+ years since it was rebuilt following the 1949 flood and there is no sign of imminent collapse. Anyway, if the dam does fail, the damage to property and homes downstream would be minimal. Certainly, remedial work would need to be done in the wake of a failure, but it would be clear exactly what type of work would need to be done (as opposed to speculating that this or that might occur if work is done now). The reserve fund for the dam could be built up in the meantime to cover the costs of such an eventuality.

Since I moved to Harrington in 1988, I have been surprised many times and in many different places by the number of people who actually know where Harrington is, especially as Harrington is as small as it is. Meeting people in London and area, when I tell them I live near Harrington, I expect the common response of *“Where’s that?”*. At first I was surprised when some people would say instead, *“Oh yes, I know Harrington, my dad used to take me there to fish”*. Years ago I stopped being surprised because I heard that response so frequently. Just a few months ago, the Executive Director of the Stratford Chamber of Commerce commented exactly in that manner.

Doing some research on the history of Harrington, I have come to realize that the pond has been part of the community since before the village was given its current name. In fact, the original name of the emerging village in the early 1840’s was *“Springfield”* which served to emphasize the connection of the human settlement to the water.

In fact, the significance of water in establishing Harrington as a place for human settlement is demonstrated in the anecdote below that tells of young travelers in 1802 who decided to camp where a *“spring creek of clear water flowed northward through the spot and it is known today as the village of Harrington”* and the lads *“noticed an Indian camp twenty rods down the valley by the creek”*.

The nature of Harrington is very much connected to the water that first attracted people to this place and that was then used to power industry that fueled the growth of a village. That water fed the village’s interaction with surrounding farms who took advantage of the services available in Harrington. It is this interaction that has caused me, personally, to commit time and energy to the restoration of the

Harrington Grist Mill. I want people, especially coming generations, to be shown why places like Harrington grew up – because of the pond.

The way in which the pond serves to draw attention to human interaction with water has led to the development of a few initiatives that serve to enlighten people about this vital relationship:

- The annual fishing derby attracts fisher folk who can see an idyllic trout pond in a village setting, establishing the fact that nature, sport and community can co-exist when handled well;
- The annual BBQ put on by the Harrington & Area Community Association, brings hundreds of people to see the pond and tour the mill
- The naturalized area serves as a quiet testament to the value of native plants;
- The trail around the pond encourages enjoyment of nature and bird watching.

There have been many other developments, but these four of which I am aware, emphasize for me the value that can be brought by retaining the pond as it is. It's not just nostalgia, it's a demonstration of positive human interaction with nature. If the dam stays, the pond stays and UTRCA can continue to forge partnerships with the people of the village and with the Township of Zorra to find new and better ways to enlighten folk about the value of working in harmony with nature.

(And, if for technical reasons, keeping the pond requires the dredging of the pond, I would like to request that the sludge be examined for historical and even archaeological artifacts. Since David Demorest's time 165 years ago or so, many artifacts must have fallen into the pond and, if retrieved, could add to the record of Harrington's history. Also, many people in the area have found considerable evidence of aboriginal activity, as supported by the story about the lads camping in 1802. Dredging the pond, if it necessary to be done, might unearth artifacts of historical value.)

Sam Coghlan

Excerpt from "Class of 1840" 150 Years in Harrington Methodist / United Church
(Harrington: F. Sharon Rounds, 1990)
[pages not numbered]

" To give an idea of conditions at that time, from the Montreal Witness, 1867, comes the following excerpts, an account of an incident which happened to two young men who had arrived in Canada from Scotland. "About sixty-five years ago (1802), two young men came to this country in search of a home in the wilds of Ontario. Arriving in Hamilton, they went west to Oxford County, where they struck out (on foot) for the northwest part of Zorra Township. At that time it was almost a solid wilderness. Here, in passing along a slope on the west side of the valley where cedar and other evergreens grew, they were overtaken by night. A spring creek of clear water flowed northward through the spot and it is known today as the village of Harrington. The young men started a fire, put on their overcoats, and sat down to have some lunch, intending to rest there until morning.

" Shortly after sitting down to lunch, they noticed an Indian camp twenty rods down the valley by the creek. This made them uncomfortable and to make matters worse they saw some Indians approaching from the camp. These saluted and commenced talking; the boys didn't understand a word, so the Indians motioned for them to come down to their camp. The boys, terror-stricken, complied. At the camp, the boys were shown a place in front of a large fire in the centre of the camp. They were

brought some edibles but they ate little. (part of the article is missing which describes the evening activities).

“ In the morning, the Indians, who had proven most friendly, brought some more edibles, after which the boys settled with them for their trouble. These young men never returned to the Indian valley of Zorra, one of these men in his later years appears to have living or staying in the town of Ingersoll, however, no names are included with the article.”

Email from Dave Franks Jul 17, 2015

Wonderful memories of being a youngster and enjoying the facilities. The pond water was crystal clear for swimming. In fact, you might see a fish beside you or even a turtle. The park area was well maintained and family members gathered there for picnics and fishing. I recall the old wooden outhouse, then a modern one with brick blocks (no running water but a real improvement). My mother even pondered the idea of buying and running the convenience store on the main street. As I 'matured' into a teenager, I would bring my girlfriend and sister for swims at the pond. Even our cat, harnessed on a leash, took a walk with my wife while I fished. On becoming a parent, our young daughters would run to their heart's content, roll in the grass and then sit at the picnic table for some refreshments. At times, we would stroll around the pond, remarking on the history of the area. Later as our girls also matured, they took up the hobby of fishing beside their dad. It is by chance that I became a member of the Tavistock Rod and Gun Club some nearly fifteen years ago. Over the years, the club has held the annual Kids' Fishing Derby on the grounds and stocked the pond with trout. We always had good rapport with the Upper Thames for permits and also with the Harrington Pond Committee. Our Club focus is for the children to fish and enjoy the conservation area. Hopefully this will also encourage the parents to bring them back year after year. Many 'city slickers' were not aware of the pond and the peaceful country setting.

Dave Franks

Email from Cathy Eastman to UTRCA, July 14, 2015

I am a resident of Harrington...what drew my husband and I to build our home on the location and with the orientation it has is the Harrington Pond. Moving from London to this little gem of Oxford county was one of the best decisions we made. We exchanged the noise of traffic to the overhead clamour of Canada geese landing on the pond. Our 3 children have spent numerous afternoons either walking around, sitting by or floating on the pond. We have enjoyed identifying the various kinds of wildlife that live in the pond and park area. A quick walk from our home across the mill bridge/dam and we walk past many people fishing in the tranquil setting. This area is enjoyed by not only residents of Harrington, but people travelling from across the county. It is a significant natural resource as a spring fed pond and home to many endangered species...it would be a shame to upset the balance of nature and lose this historic site.

Rick Gol - F : Harrington Dam

rom: GNin [redacted]
To: "goldtr@thaNesr ver.on.cN" <goldtr@thaNesr ver.on.cN>N
Date: 11/10/2016 8:06 PMN
Subjec : Fwd: HNr ngton DN

Sent frommN iNdN

Begin forwNded messNge:N

rom: GNin [redacted]
Date: NoveNber 9, 2016 aN10:55:00 PM ESTN
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] N
[redacted] N
[redacted] N
[redacted] N
[redacted] N
[redacted]
[redacted]
Subjec : Re: Harrington Dam

Hello EveryNne.N

I had a meet ng todaN with the people aNUTRCA regardng the fNe of HNr ngton DN , the N preferred opt on presented aNthe Inst publ c meet ng, and compar sons between HNr ngton N and the replNed Dorchester DN project. The meet ng went very well, much better thanI N had expected and a number of things were brought to l ght. I aN not going to dwell on this N now but w ll in the neN future, but suffice it to sNy thatNthere is hope in sNving the pond N w th the instNIN on of aNew daN. But there is work to be done iN edINely in the forN of N sending aNcomNent to UTRCA aNd discussed aNthe publ c meet ng.N

One of the things thaNcN e to l ght is the lNck of response fromNthe locN comNunity fromN the past publ c meet ngs. UTRCA and the r environmeNtN people asked for publ c input N and based on the number of people thaNcould be affected by the reNovaNof the daN, the N were dis ppointed by the lNck of, and qual ty of, the comNents theyNrece ved. We have one N ore chance to keep the diNogue open regardng keeping the pond, everyNne needs to N comNent and not just "we l ke it" but construct ve comNents thaNhigh l ght concerns and N possible solut ons if possible.N

Below you w ll f nd a l st of issues I have regardng the UTRCA preferred outcomNof N reNovng the daN and creN ng anoff-l ne pond and the r reNsonng behind it. EVERYONE N should tNke the r own comNents or issues and add theN to mN l st so thaNthere is aN

cohesiveness of the community is essential to UTRCA. Anyone else who has a sound reason for opposing the proposed outcome or the way in which UTRCA has reached its conclusion, or if you feel they missed in drawing their conclusion, should forward their comments to anyone else - a unified front. It is not just the suggestion that UTRCA has asked for. They need information to work with. There is no doubt that the Provincial Government would like to be involved, but it can provide UTRCA with the right data, and unionists ask for the same chance as he can be heard around. Unfortunately, the community each will be sending in will be lengthy and with many points, but this is the first step, and essential to the success of saving the pond, I'm sure you will all find it worth your while.

Gavin

Community and Conservation regarding the development of the Hakington Dam and the creation of a lake and off-line pond:

1. Considerable time and effort, along with a substantial financial investment has been made by the local residents to restore the historic Mill at the Hakington site. Fundraising has been continuing for a number of years, and continues to this day, with funds being allocated towards the restoration of the original stone building - a working museum. The intention is to use the building as a museum and to have a turbine and make the mill function as it did when it was first constructed. It was never intended as just an old building but to be a place of interest.

Not only do local residents think you may think that they are some of the most active people in the area, but they are not. UTRCA claim to have not known that the intention of the Mill is to be a museum and that the building is still working towards making it into a functioning mill. They specifically asked for information regarding the mill and that it has always been and continues to be a place of interest.

2. One of the reasons for opposing the dam is the area around the mill and the lake. The lake is a natural environment and the lake is a natural environment. The lake is a natural environment and the lake is a natural environment. The lake is a natural environment and the lake is a natural environment. The lake is a natural environment and the lake is a natural environment.

3. As mentioned above, the fish sampling taken below the Hakington Dam was done during the flow of the flood. The number of species collected was impressive with several of the indicators of a healthy environment but this is not the case. The fish that would have access to the lake are the same as those of the Hakington Creek should the dam be removed. When the level of Wildwood Lake is high due to spring melt the water is heavy rain, the creek below the dam backs up. The water is usually still and the fish are seen traveling up and down the creek. Catfish and suckers are the most abundant but decent numbers of smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, perch, carp and rock bass are regularly seen. The difference between the fish community in low water and high water is dramatic. Not only are the numbers of fish considerably higher but the average size of the fish is dramatically increased. In order to protect the natural habitat should the dam be removed, a better sampling method should be used to determine the natural habitat of the pond.

with meaD e to keep the undeD able specieDat bay if the baDieDof the dam should be D eliminated. D

Since the c eatiDn of WildwDd Lake, the blanch of TDut CDed that fDw fDm camp D Bimini haDbeen negatively impacted. D ing high wateDpeDds throuDhout the D ping/DummeDseaDn, the wateDi silt laden and oveDun with specieDof cDaDe fiDh. It iDD not uncDmDn once the wateDrecedeD to see ca p tDapped in pD l in lDw lying aDad in D what wDuld have been pDme tDout habitat pD to the c eatiDn of WildwDd Lake. D HundredsDf meteD of tDout habitat seem tD have been negatively affected. We wDuld hate D to see thiD happen in HaDingtDn Ceed. D

4. One of the pDblemDwith native bD ot and bD ot habitat iDthe limited fiDing D ppD tunity it pD entD especially when thinking of young peDple, oldeDpeDple and thosDD physDally challenged. TheD wDuld seem tD be a lD t oppD tunity tD enhance the native D fiDhe y and the ability fD the pDblic tD enjoyD catching bD ot if the pDnd weD D emDved. FD example, a few kilDmetD EaD of HaDingtDn i anotheD blanch of TDut D C eed that iD teaming with native bD ot, sD many the sDze of the fiDh iDdiminiDed due D to ove cDwding (D ce, an un-Dnown biD bgi t fDm MNR who deDc ibed the lDcal fiDhe y D to me and sDgge ted that the e should be no limit on the fiDh in that cDed tD reduce numbeD D and inclDde sDze). AD stocking of rainbDw tDout in HaDingtDn Rnd, a yeaDly event, will D now sDp, wDuld not it be feaDble tD take fiDh fDm the EaD blanch of TDut CDed tD stock D HaDingtDn Rnd insDad of the non-native rainbDw? L Dcal rD identDcDuld peD m thiD taD D nde di ectiDn fDm aDthorD and wDuld alD aD t in rDucing or lDminating the caD in D the pDnd usDg non-chemical methodsDwith the undeD able fiDh de tDoyed or lDleasD into D WildwDd Lake whe e they orDinated fDm (depending on the deD e of UTRCA, MNR, D and OceansDnd FiDhe ied). AID , bcalDcDuld undeDake pDjectD to impDve shoreDne D habitat tD enhance the fiDhe y not eliminate it. D

5. In a rDpD t pD ented by UTRCA in 2001, a tDtal of 12 damDweD deDc ibed on TDut D C eed inclDding WildwDd and HaDingtDn Dam. The rD t of the damDa e on pDvate D pDpeDly. If the intent of rDmDving damDi to retDn thingsDacD tD native cDnditiDns i D theD any plan fD the damD on pDvate pDpeDly and if not, what iDthe rDal gain by retDning D the HaDingtDn Rnd to itDnatDal state? IDtheD a rDal gain or wDuld it make mD e sDnsD tD D impDve the HaDingtDn Rnd a de c ibed abDve aDthe numbeDof fiDh and the pD tential fD D spawning cDuld be grateDwith the pDnd a oppD ed tD a sDeam. AID, the acceD to the D p blic fD fiDing wDuld be betteDwith the pDnd. D

6. In the AcD rDpD t fDm data cDllected in NDvembeDof 2002, the rDpD t cleaDly stateDD that should the HaDingtDn Dam fail, the rD t to the enviDnment iDVERY LOW. What haDD changed tDnow make the sD t in the pDnd sDh an enviDnmental cDnceD should the dam D fail or the sDliment be dredDged? And if the sDliment iDsD toxic, aDa cDnsideDable amDunt D i mixed with the wateDpaDing ove the dam durDg normaD high-wateDpeDds and D enteDng into WildwDd Lake rDgularDy, baDed on the diffeDence in the claDty of the wateDD enteDng and exiting the pDnd, i n't thiD mD e of a mD ot pDnt? And, aDha been mentiDned, D if the pDnd weD dredDged, the excavated mateDial wDuld have tD be handled aDa toxic D b tance? If the dam iDremDved and the pDnd tDned into a sDeam, off-line pDnd and paD D a ea, what mitigating meaD e a e inclDded in thiD pD feDed optiDn that dealDwith thiDD toxic sD b tance? If it iDa cDnceD fD dredDging or impDving the pDnd, it mD t appeaD to be a D GREATER cDnceD (cD t) fD the sDeam, off-line pDnd and paD ?D

7. In rDgards to the off-line pDnd pDpD ed, the cDmmentDmade by the enviDnmentD D peDple at the mD t rDent pDblic meeting weD that the pDnd wDuld be maintenance fD e. D

This simply not the unless you want a pond with weed choked edges that provide little to no access to the water and visually no view unless from an elevated location. It was mentioned that by having pond edges that quickly dropped to a specified depth (greater than 1m usually), weed growth can be reduced. Unfortunately, this is a liability issue to the owner of the property, especially when considering children, and is not really something UTRCA would want. It was mentioned that the existing pond would have more maintenance and the water changeover regulatory, especially after rain events and with the population of fish, the number of maintenance on the current pond, or an improved one, would be considerably less than an off-line pond. In order to make the off-line pond an attractive and functional alternative for the local residents and visitors to the park, liability to UTRCA would always be an issue, during open water and periods of thin ice, for children and pets and would require regular and continual maintenance with more maintenance greater than current level. This does not require for the beach but is an obvious and well documented fact when looking at maintenance in moving compacted stagnant water.

8. As mentioned in item one, the intent of the people is to have the mill operational using water from the pond a few days gone by. There has been some discussion about using the water from the off-line pond to do this but several factors would have to be addressed. These include the amount of head available to drive the turbine, the length of time it could be operated based on the water available in the off-line pond, recharge rate from groundwater or a gate that would allow recharge from the creek into the off-line pond. As mentioned, considerable time, effort and money had gone into the mill to date. In order to properly address the options for the mill going forward, feasibility and cost associated with using the off-line pond to drive the mill would be critical. To say that this is a small issue to the people of Hadington would be incorrect. The mill and its associated pond is the heart of the community.

9. What may not have been mentioned in comment made to UTRCA in the park, after the public meetings is the species of animal that would be negatively affected by the removal of the pond and the earth then would be related to creating the off-line pond, stream and park (excluding the issue of the toxic/not toxic sediment). The Northern Milk Snake is a regulated inhabitant of the park. I myself have seen two along the park trail (both in the south-east corner) one a young pale individual and one a large (gravid?) female. Both of the vipers I have made wells in the early spring suggesting a nearby den site. Other residents have also seen and photographed milk snake in the corner vipers area around the pond. Recently, the Eastern Bluebird has started nesting on property on the East side of the pond and especially using the pond more and more often to the point that local have considered putting up a nesting platform in the hope of establishing a breeding pair. Also, snapping turtles are regularly seen and I have personally witnessed them and photographed them trying to get in the gravel of the parking-lane adjacent to Rd. 96. What of them? There are all threatened species to varying degrees. The proposed plan proposed by UTRCA would certainly impact these species.

10. As with the check pond, having the large, open, accessible pond provide not only a diverse habitat for a variety of fish and fauna and excellent viewing opportunities but the opportunity to provide trail, canoeing, fishing, bird watching, hiking, picnicking and other day-to-day activities that would be eliminated or greatly reduced should the big pond be eliminated and a closed and off-line pond be installed. Maintenance of the park would be a constant thing as well as for the off-line pond a previously discussed. Over the years, and especially in more recent times, greater effort has been made by local residents to enhance

the trail and provide the necessary guidance of the pond. Costs have been increased along with hours of staff equity. Regular meetings are held with ways to improve the day-to-day of the pond and area and fund proposed projects. This initiative above the mill project. By implementing the proposed alternative, all proposed effort by the local resident money and hours spent, will be rendered spent. There is no comparison to the current view and use of the pond to what is proposed. Local residents would like to continue with their effort and build on past achievements to create a better outdoor experience for resident children, fishermen and visitors to the area and with the people of the county. The current and off-line pond is viewed as a maintenance nightmare and a major step in the wrong direction and visually pulling the rug out from underneath what has been and continues to be a vibrant and caring group of people.

11. In the early days of the dam agreement, it was suggested by the local group that they could find a way to acquire funds to go towards the dam. At the time this was discussed by representative of UTRCA (verbal communication) until an outcome was determined. An outcome has now been determined and every effort will be made to acquire funds to not only support the replacement of the dam and improvement of the pond but also fund the continual maintenance of the project. It is the hope of the people that if the money is provided to UTRCA to cover the installation cost and future maintenance cost that the will of the people will be honored. We are currently working towards that goal. Numbered as being put together in an effort to get a more accurate idea of work required, availability of material and cost of installation. We are currently working with a current sponsor who has offered to help us achieve our goal. The local group has already secured a sizeable sum to put towards bringing the mill on-line and will continue with effort to acquire the money to save the pond. We hope UTRCA will take the effort into consideration.

12. The above are some of the points I have derived from reading past documentation, personal observation and experience and my personal agreement of this project and the county project. It appeared to me that the county had many of the ideas that hadington faced much of which involved the environmental aspect of the ponds themselves and the reduced water quality associated with the retention of the water and the slow movement of fish. The county received a new dam even though it did not resolve ANY of the water quality issue or level of fish - water quality is expected to deteriorate further over time (based on the Act report). Although the pond is smaller and more manageable, it would seem some of the water quality issue could be alleviated to a degree and the flow of passage of fish is likely NOT a good idea as Wildwood Lake is a non-native environment (unlike the county that flow into the Thames directly), if hadington were given the same consideration as the county in terms of water quality, and if the economic conditions were improved due to funding provided by the people, replacing the dam in hadington, to me, would seem more viable than the county.

Sent from my iPad

On Nov 7, 2016, at 4:32 PM, philip kerr [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello all,

I am writing to remind everyone, if you haven't already, that the 30 day deadline is approaching for submitting your comments with respect to the public meeting, or with respect to the day and pond in general.

There is cut outous excitement, of course, at the great work that Gavin has been doing in investigating a possible corporate sponsor for repair, restoration or reconstruction, but those who would like to see this investigated further, need to make sure that the comments have been sent to Rick Goldt, (goldtr@thaserver.on.ca).

I recall that, at the first meeting I attended in 2011, that repair was one of the options presented, and I wonder if it should be given further consideration.

Rick Goldt kindly sent me copies of the names of those who signed attendance sheets on October 20, but left off the contact information. I am attaching those lists, as there are a lot of names on the with which I am not familiar. I hope that people will take a look, and see if you have contact information for anyone on the list who doesn't regularly attend our meetings. I would like to update our contact list for people concerned with the day. If you're concerned about the privacy of these individuals, feel free to send me an address to the, and ask the to contact me, if they'd like to be kept up-to-date.

Thank you all.
Philip

--
Philip D. Kerr
B. Tech., Architecture
[REDACTED]

H:\rington PIC#3 Sign In sheet publ1.pdf

H:\rington PIC#3 Sign In sheet publ2.pdf

H:\rington PIC#3 Sign In sheet publ3.pdf

From: Hazel Hew tt [REDACTED]
To: "goldtr@thamesr ver.on.c@ <goldtr@thamesr ver.on.c@>@
D : 11/12/2016 8:23 AM@
bj c : Harr ngton Pond@

H ,@

Please try to@ep the pond@ Harr ngton as@is for future generat ons to enjoy.@grw up there and@s a@
spe@al pla@. @ve should be preserv ng our spe@al pla@s for humans, an mals and b rds and not@
destroy ng them. @

Hazel Hew tt@

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent from my Pad@

Rick Gol Harrington Pon

From: IsD HDwitt-Smith [REDACTED]
To: <goldtr@thadrive.com>
Date: 11/11/2016 2:17 PM
Subject: HDrington Pond

To whom it may concern,

My mother's parents and grandfather's parents lived in Harrington. My family has had the pond added for recreation and they lived there. The pond is used and appreciated by me every year. I have found many memories of going to see when my mom grew up and built.

The dam and grist mill were built by our ancestors. I don't want to see the work destroyed and undone. A group of volunteers who put a lot of work into restoring the grist mill, and the mill uses the pond to operate. The pond is needed for the full restoration of the mill. We need to forward thinking on the issue. If the pond is kept, we will have the opportunity for the mill to one day be fully operational and a great destination and tourist attraction.

When we visit the pond we always see many species of wildlife. I don't want the home there. Without this attraction, visitors to this area will decrease.

A committee of individuals is looking into finding funding to repair or rebuild the dam and the needed mortar to carry through with the work. Please put all hold on proceedings with the Harrington Dam until mortar programs is made on finding funding.

Sincerely,

Amanda Desha of the Harrington Area,
 IsD HDwitt-Smith

Rick Gol **Pl as save Harrington Pon**

From: Ian Ring [REDACTED]
To: "goldt3 tBam3s3ive3.on.ca" <goldt3 tBam3s3ive3.on.ca>
Date: 11/12/2016 10:53 AM
Subject: Pl3as3 save3Ha3 ington Pond

Hi Rick,

I () prompt(d to writ(to you (caus(you may (a(l(to pr(t th(propos(d d(structio(of (Harri(gto(po(d. I lo(that plac(. I (isit it oft(, a(d I would (d(ply sadd(d for it to (d(mot(d (to a str(am or cr(k. Th(old mill th(r(is a fasci(ati(g a(d quai(t historic la(dmark, a(d som((m(m(rs of my family (all with ti(s to Harri(gto() ha((i(ol(d i(its r(storatio(. (I am i(fa(our of what(r m(asur(s ar((d(d to pr(s(r(th(po(d i(its curr(t stat(, as a lo(ly (plac(for pic(ics, walks, fishi(g, a(d a ha(itat for all th((irds a(d critt(rs that li(i(a(d (ar it.(

la(Ri(g(

[REDACTED]

Rick Gol Harrington Pond

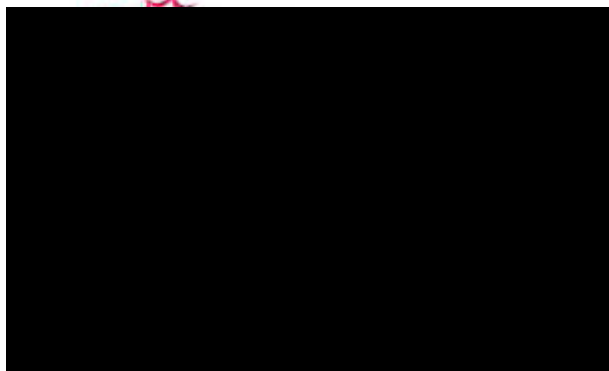
From: Jamie Tur0e0 [REDACTED]
To: "goldt0@thames00e0.on.ca" <goldt0@thames00e0.on.ca>
Date: 11/16/2016 3:20 PM
Subject: Ha0 ington Pond

Rick,

Do . o . . io. I think that th. . id. nt. of Ha. ington will . tand b. and . ppo.t . o. ag. nda to d. commi. ion .
th. dam/pond? Giv. . o. h. ad a .hak. , it'. not happ. ning, . top wa.ting . o. c. on .t. di. , .ta.t g. n. ating .
th. f. nd. n. d. d to maintain th. .t. ct. .

Regards,

a e urvey



NOTICE: Thi. . mail m. ag. i. int. nd. d onl. fo. th. p. on o. . ntit. to which it i. add. . d. Thi. . mail m. ag. , incl. ding an. attachm. nt. , ma. .
contain confid. ntial and/o. p. ivil. g. d info. mation and oth. mat. ial. , and i. p. ot. ct. d b. cop. ight law. An. . na. tho. iz. d . vi. w. , . , di. clo. . , o. .
di. t. ib. tion i. . t. ictl. p. ohibit. d. If . o. a. not th. int. nd. d. . cipi. nt, th. n pl. a. contact th. . nd. b. . pl. . mail and d. l. t. /d. t. o. all copi. of th. .
o. iginal . mail m. ag. and an. attachm. nt. Thi. . mail m. ag. , incl. ding an. attachm. nt. , al. o ma. contain t. chnical, o. . imila. t. p. of, info. mation .
and mat. ial. Th. . nd. do. not mak. an. . xp. o. impli. d. p. ntation. o. wa. anti. with . p. ct to . ch info. mation and mat. ial. , incl. ding .
witho. t limitation, fitn. fo. a pa. tic. la. p. po. o. m. chantabilit. o. a. to th. acc. ac. o. compl. t. n. of an. . ch info. mation and mat. ial. , and .
an. . ch . p. ntation. and wa. anti. a. h. b. . xp. l. di. claim. d.

Rick Gold Harrington Pond / m

From: Jeanie & Ga0 [REDACTED]
To: Rick Goldt <goldt0@tha0 es0ve0.on.ca>
Date: 11/11/2016 8:45 AM
Subject: Ha0 ington Pond/da0

Dear Mr. Gk

My entire family grew up in Harrington and have used the Harrington park area for recreation and our lives. We love to visit here for family events. The park is used and appreciated by many every year.

A committee has been formed to repair and replace the park and they need to make time to carry through with their search. Please put on park meetings with the Harrington Dam and make progress is made in finding funding.

Thank you, k

Jeanie Zamecnik

Rick Gold Harrington Pond

From: HeimpebKen & Joycb [REDACTED]
To: <goldtr@thamesriver.on.ca>
Date: 11/14/2016 1:59 PM
Subject: Harrington Pond

Attention: Rick Goldtr, Supervisor, Water Control Structures
 Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

It would be an understatement to say that I was shocked to hear that the Conservation Authority was considering removing the Harrington Dam. A great amount of time and money has been spent restoring the Harrington Grist Mill. From birth, our family lived a mere two miles from Harrington and the Harrington Pond. My father would bring grain to the grist mill to be milled. If a designer believes a room has a focal point, I do believe that the pond and dam is Harrington's focal point. The grist mill should be heritage protected for future education of our past. Surrounding this location is nature at its best. Please reconsider.

I am sending a photo that I took on one of our family walks in Harrington - a reminder of nature's beauty.

Joyce & Ken Heimpeb
 [REDACTED]



From: Kathy Eastman [REDACTED]
To: "goldtr@thamesr ver.on.na" <goldtr@thamesr ver.on.na>m
Date: 11/15/2016 3:33 PMm
Subject: Harr ngton Pondm

Dear Mr. Goldt;nOur fam ly have been res dents of the v llage of Harr ngton for over 20 years.nWe boughtm a lot and bu lt a home because of the s enm area and we even or ented our home to fan the pond.mWem have spent mu h t me walmng around and enjoy ng beauty and nature susta ned by the pond.mOurm h ldren all bena e unoffm al natural sts--watm ng geese and swans seasonallymom ng and go ng,m on tor ng themrayf sh populat on, releas ng frogsnm our yard bam nto the pond. Th s would allmhangenfm the dems on to alter the pond goes through We have alsomanoed andmayaned w th themh ldren onm Harr ngton Pond.nWe have exmrtedly watmned the progress on the restor ng of the Gr st M ll and trulym hope th s p ene of lom al h story w ll be funmrt onal for them to w tness. I walmthe Harr ngton Pond tra l da lym and notme howm any people also use the tra l and others f sh and relax around the pond.mIt wouldm def n telymhange the dynam ofm o m un ty to lose the peaneful, r h sett ng of the pond.m

I am send ng you th s ema l as a res dent who would be deeply saddened and upsetnfm the proposedm changes go through--I want Harr ngton Pond saved for future generat ons to enjoy as those before usm have. Many spesmes of nature havemome to rely on the eno system of th s pond for years. I don'tmnowm what w ll happen to them f we d sturb what they havemome to rely on....they w ll leave, or de off..leav ngm us w thout the opportun ty to observe and enjoy them.m
 Thanmyou for tm e andmons derat on of th sm atter.m

Kathy Eastmanm

Rick Gol Harrington Pon

From: [Redacted]
To: "goldtr@thaf rivef.on.ca" <goldtr@thaf rivef.on.ca>
Date: 11/15/2016 2:01 PM
Subject: Harringtfn Pfndl

The following letter that I refer to the Township of Zorra several years ago in 2009. I'm sorry that you preserve the pond in HRR to me so much to my.

Thanks for your consideration.

Lyn Hewitt

[Redacted]

Township of Zorra
Municipal Office
274620 27th Line
P.O. Box 306R
Irrigation, ONR
N5C 3K5R

November 16, 2009

Deputy Council Member

I was literally propelled to discover that you're considering closing the pond. I grew up and around the pond and have many pleasant memories of the pond and conservation. I still visit there occasionally to enjoy the peaceful and quiet afternoons. My family (30 plus of us, 4 generations) rented the old United Church that the ksg visited, and enjoyed my family reunion / Thanksgiving dinner in HRR. My children and the council proudly remember visiting the various ponds in HRR. The lawns included around the pond provided lots of good quality family time and entertainment. The ksg my grandchildren enjoyed the music of the pond and conservation area. You see, my bedroom window overlooked the pond, and it was so pleasant to look out the window as my sister and I drifted off to sleep. It would be such a shame to lose this jewel for all the generations to come. I would not have much to contribute to visit HRR without the pond. I would hate to see that beauty destroyed.

With the pond intact, the church hall for rental (it's rented by the way) and the restoration of the old Mill, there's some opportunity for tourism and promotion that's been overlooked? Think of Elora and St Jacobs to me a couple of million people that have made the most of the beautiful heritage.

While I can understand the practical side of the issue, I'm disappointed and disappointed that heritage, conservation and wildlife habitat could be sacrificed, and I can't think that the sacrifice could possibly be justified.

Please preserve evidence, preserve heritage, preserve precious memories and preserve all forms of future generations.

Lyn Hewitson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rick Gold further comments re Harrington Dam

From: Nancy Skings [REDACTED]
To: Rick Goldt <goldtr@thamesriver.on.ca>
Date: 11/14/2016 12:59 PM
Subject: further comments re Harrington Dam

Attention Mr. Rick Goldt,

In addition to the comments that I sent to you earlier, I also want to include these:

The Harrington Dam and the Harrington grist mill are significantly connected.

There have been many restorations already made to the mill and money has been raised for this venture.

The hope and plan is to continue to restore this historical and educational resource for future generations to visit and learn from. The next step is to have use of the sluiceway to connect water to the mill and that depends on the mill pond. A strong and significant source of water is crucial. An off-line pond and mill stream doesn't provide this. The historical value of the mill and mill pond are very important.

The established nature of this conservation area has been addressed at every meeting and by many people. The trees, including the historical trees, are significant. The trails and memorial benches are significant. The wildlife and sighting of endangered species are significant. The historical value is significant.

I feel strongly that efforts to restore a healthy mill pond, protecting the native fish is a top priority. I strongly believe this is possible. To let the invasion of non-native fish from the Wildwood have source doesn't seem wise.

Restoring or repairing the dam; whatever word seems best, seems to be the most obvious course of action. I would live to think that we as a community in working with the Upper Thames can research and find solutions that are wise!

A large healthy body of water seems so much better for all concerned rather than an off-line pond with a mill stream. The off-line pond and mill stream have many unlearned and unknown factors.

The one benefit of a large body of water is for fire safety. Another benefit is to the local residents for their water supply in their wells. It also enables present generations and future generations to visit the Harrington conservation area for fishing and canoeing. It also serves the existing and growing establishment of birds, wildlife and vegetation.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our thoughts and concerns.

Nancy Svillings

Rick Gol Harrington Dam and Pond

From: philukerr [REDACTED]
To: Rick Goldt <goldtr@thamesriver.on.ca>
Date: 11/12/2016 10:52 AM
Subject: Harrington Dam and Pond
CC: <taskerc@thamesriver.on.ca>

Hello Rick

Hope that you're well.

I've been speaking with Gavin Houston, and he has reported to me that he had a very productive meeting with you and Chris Tasker, which is great to hear.

He also mentioned that UTRCA has been disappointed at the lack of written response from local residents after the PIC's. Frankly, this does not surprise me, but I don't think that the significance of the high attendance for the Harrington PIC's can be over-stated. While I understand that it presents problems for data collection and statistics if comments are only verbal, I expect that local residents, who expressed concerns in person at these meetings, expected that a record was being kept of their comments, and these would be given the same weight as written responses. It certainly was not clear to me that only written comments would be given full weight. I don't believe that it is an exaggeration to say that there were ten times, or twelve times as many people who attended these forums in Harrington versus Embro. This certainly says something about the passion that the Harrington community has for keeping their pond.

It won't surprise you that I have some further points to make with respect to maintaining the Mill Pond.

Harrington's entire existence and identity is connected to this pond. Without it, Harrington is just another crossroads. When we went on the tour of rehabilitated sites with you, and we drove into the Monastery, it was pointed out that down there, in that scrub and brush was the naturalized stream. It could not even be seen from directly above where we parked, and while I understand that there are many factors at play, it is unfathomable to me that someone would suggest taking the resource that we have in Harrington, and reducing it to that.

It is worth remembering, once again, the community efforts, funds, and hard volunteer hours which have been put into the restoration of the Harrington Grist Mill. Failure to maintain a pond of sufficient size to feed a sluice, and lower this mill, renders all of that effort futile, and reduces the historical and potentially educational Mill to nothing more than a barn, with no context, and with a bunch of quirky machinery in it.

While it wasn't mentioned in the first public meeting that I attended (in 2011 I think) the free flow of fish seems to have become a major criterion for determining the future of Harrington pond and dam. While it is certainly obvious that a dam impedes the movement of fish, some of the fish that it impedes would be undesirable predators in Trout Creek, coming up from the artificial environment created by Wildwood Dam. I believe that this hazard far outweighs the potential benefit of the limited additional access that removing Harrington Dam would provide, considering that there are other dams not too far upstream.

I have asked previously why the habitat for fish seems to be taking precedence over the habitat for birds, water birds, mammals and reptiles that Harrington Pond provides, some of these being on "species of special concern", or "threatened" lists. This question has not been sufficiently addressed, in my opinion.

On the tour, I had the opportunity to see some of the "off-line" ponds and I was pleased to see 3 or 4 of them on the tour. I wasn't pleased however with how they appeared; stagnant and weed-choked. These conditions would certainly not be conducive to many of the ecological activities that take place on Houghton Pond, such as canoeing, picnicking and fishing; but would, however, provide the perfect conditions for the mosquito population to explode.

At that first meeting that I attended in 2011, one of the options for the dam that you presented was to be removed, and while I understand that you feel that the existing structure is too unstable for this, surely, in the long term, the pond will be a very low-lying or drained sufficiently, extensive repairs could be undertaken to both the concrete structure and the stream, with little or no risk. I still believe that sheet piling of the length of the stream should be investigated as a viable option.

Finally, as you know, the possibility of a large corporate donation has been discovered. I believe that this, along with the Houghton and A.E. Community Association's previous check record for funding, and ongoing custodianship of the Conservation Area, Pond and Mill must be respected, so that this invaluable resource can be preserved for future generations.

Most sincerely,

Philip D. Ke

B. Tech., Architect

Chair, Houghton and A.E. Community Association