



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Niagara Region Urged to Improve its Recycling of Used Concrete and Asphalt

Region Placed 16th out of 20

April 24, 2019 – In an open letter, industry associations are urging the Region of Niagara to take more of a leadership role in encouraging the reuse of concrete and asphalt recovered from construction sites.

In an independent study of the largest municipalities and regions in Ontario last year, Niagara Region was ranked a “Laggard” – placing 16th out of 20 – for its record in supporting aggregate recycling. To view the report, go to www.tarba.org/leaders-and-laggards.

Industry is calling on the Regional Council to adopt a proposed *Municipal Aggregates and Asphalt Recycling Policy* that addresses these issues. Copies of the open letter and the proposed policy follow.

Another survey will be conducted this fall, and it will identify the cities and regions that have made positive gains (or not) since the initial report.

The industry associations supporting this initiative are the Toronto and Area Road Builders Association (TARBA), Heavy Construction Association of Toronto (HCAAT), Greater Toronto Sewer and Watermain Contractors Association (GTSWCA), Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association (OSWCA), and Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO).

To arrange an interview with an industry spokesperson, contact:

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April 17, 2019



Open Letter to Niagara Regional Council:

An independent study of the largest municipalities and regions in Ontario last year found that the Region of Niagara ranked 16th out of 20 for its record in supporting the reuse of aggregate recovered from construction sites.

On a scale of 0 to 100, Niagara Region scored only 32 which placed it firmly in the category of “Laggards”. To view the report, go to www.tarba.org/leaders-and-laggards.

With its low rate of recycling concrete and asphalt, Niagara Region is wasting a valuable resource and forfeiting opportunities to help the environment. We urge Council to improve this performance and make the region a “Leader”.

We attach a proposed *Municipal Aggregates and Asphalt Recycling Policy* that addresses these issues. By adopting and ensuring implementation of such a policy, Council will be taking a major step forward. By reusing more of this material in its roads and other civil infrastructure projects, the region will be helping to lower fuel consumption and greenhouse gases, divert used aggregate from the waste stream, and build more sustainable infrastructure.

We will be commissioning another study later this year. The second annual *Leaders and Laggards* research report will again rank the cities and regions, and will identify those that have made positive gains (or not) in supporting the use of recycled aggregate. It will be released to the public in the fall. It is our hope that Niagara Region shows significant progress.

This initiative is supported by the Toronto and Area Road Builders Association (TARBA), Heavy Construction Association of Toronto (HCAAT), Greater Toronto Sewer and Watermain Contractors Association (GTSWCA), Ontario Sewer and Watermain Construction Association (OSWCA), and Residential and Civil Construction Alliance of Ontario (RCCAO). For further information, or to have one of our representatives speak to Council or a Council committee, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Rob Bradford
Executive Director, Toronto and Area Road Builders Association (TARBA)
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905-466-1944

Municipal Aggregates and Asphalt Recycling Policy

WHEREAS (Name of Municipality) is committed to environmental sustainability and best practices associated with the reuse and recycling of construction materials associated with its civil infrastructure construction and maintenance programs, and;

WHEREAS (Name of Municipality) wishes to be a leader in environmental stewardship with respect to construction and maintenance of its roads and all other civil infrastructure works;

THEREFORE: (Name of Municipality) is hereby committed to the use of recycled construction aggregates and hot mix asphalt to maximum levels consistent with sound engineering and construction standards as determined by the Ontario Provincial Standards and Specifications (OPSS).

AND SPECIFICALLY THAT (Name of Council) hereby directs all departments or divisions responsible for civil infrastructure works to implement policies of specifying and requiring the reuse of recycled concrete and asphalt pavement as construction aggregates and new hot mix asphalt in all of their civil infrastructure construction and maintenance contracts to the greatest possible extent as permitted by OPSS 1010 – Material Specification for Aggregates Base, Subbase, Select Grade and Backfill Material and OPSS 1150 – Material Specification for Hot Mix Asphalt.