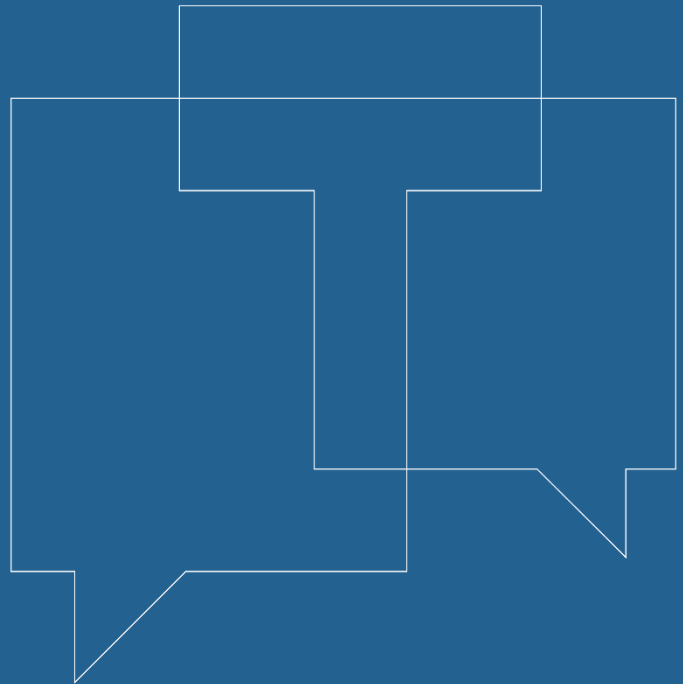


# REPORT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS ON THE POZZOLAN PROJECT

Meetings held on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in Heron Bay

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Prepared for:



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

On September 20, 2024, EcoRock Dalhousie Inc. (“EcoRock”) held two public meetings at the Recreaplex at 122 Inch Arran Road in Dalhousie. The first meeting began at 2 p.m. and the second at 7 p.m.

The goal of the meetings was to share information about EcoRock’s proposed pozzolan extraction project in Dalhousie, and, more importantly, give citizens a chance to express their concerns and ask questions about the project.

In total, more than 400 citizens attended the meetings. Each meeting lasted approximately 3 hours and began with a short presentation of the project, followed by a question-and-answer period. Both the presentations and the question-and-answer periods were conducted in English and in French.

Marie-Hélène Gauthier and Elizabeth Robertson, from Transfer Environment and Society, facilitated the discussions.

EcoRock was represented by:

- Francis Forlini, General Manager of EcoRock
- Réjean Carrier, board member of EcoRock and president of Carboniq Inc.
- Guy Rousseau, president of EcoRock and Cimbec Canada Inc.

Mr. Forlini presented the project, and both he and Mr. Carrier answered participants’ questions.

This report summarizes the key elements of both meetings. It includes an overview of EcoRock’s presentation and a summary of citizen concerns. It also lists the main questions and comments from participants as well as the answers provided by the company. It ends with a review of participant feedback on the meetings, and the next steps in the engagement process.

Please note that this document is not a verbatim transcript. Rather, it aims to accurately capture the key points from the discussions. Its purpose is to reflect the questions, comments, and concerns raised during the meetings. The information has been organized by theme and is summarized for reference. The content of this report should not be considered as direct quotes from EcoRock or the participants in the meeting.



## 2. ECOROCK PRESENTATION

*A copy of the PowerPoint presentation can be found in the appendix of this report.*

### **About the company**

Mr. Forlini began the presentation by explaining how EcoRock came to be. The pozzolan project was started by Cimbec and Carboniq. They then received funding from MR Capital et Investissement Inc., which enabled them to hire Mr. Forlini as General Manager and create EcoRock. The company aims to exceed minimal standards and be a good neighbour.

### **What is pozzolan?**

The rock in the quarry is a natural volcanic rock that becomes pozzolan when finely ground. No chemicals are needed to extract it. Pozzolan has been used for centuries, including by the Romans who used it to build structures that are still standing today.

### **Project status**

Mr. Forlini then gave an update on the project, which is still at the conceptual stage. EcoRock has secured the strategic assets (the quarry, wharf, and railroad) and completed two preliminary studies: drilling to confirm geological reserves, and a survey of the flora, fauna, wetlands, and migratory birds. The survey found no endangered species on the site, which would have halted development.

Currently, the company is conducting soil analyses and a structural evaluation of the railroad and wharf. Next, a bathymetric survey will be done to determine the depth of the water at the wharf, and sediments will be sampled to detect possible contaminants.

### **Next steps**

EcoRock aims to expand the quarry from 11 to 80 hectares and increase production to 3 million tons annually. This requires a feasibility study to look at equipment, operations, and transportation. An environmental impact assessment would follow, examining the impact of the project on the water table and waterways, air quality, flora and fauna. It would also examine impacts related to dust, noise, vibrations, and potential dredging of the harbour.

### **Proposed public engagement process**

The company would like to include the public in the development of the project through a continuous engagement process. They propose creating a steering committee composed of First Nations, neighbours of the project, citizens of Heron Bay, environmental and socio-economic groups, technical experts and EcoRock representatives.

This committee would provide input and feedback on the feasibility study and the environmental impact assessment, represent community interests, facilitate communication, participate in meetings and workshops, and ensure the transparency of the process.



### **Project concept**

The project would have two phases. In the first phase (quarry), the stone would be blasted and crushed and sold as aggregate. In the second phase (mine), some of this aggregate would be finely ground to produce pozzolan.

The project's underlying goal is to reduce the carbon footprint of the cement industry. By replacing one of the components used in the production of cement with pozzolan, greenhouse gas emissions can be significantly lowered.

Dalhousie was chosen because it has a large deposit of pozzolan as well as a quarry, railroad, and port. The company can revitalize these abandoned structures instead of building new ones.

### **Economic benefits**

Jobs would be created in the community both during the construction phase of the project and during its operation. The company estimates there would be a total of 373 new jobs (direct, indirect, and induced) during operation. The municipality, provincial and federal governments would benefit from increased tax revenue.

### **Layout**

Mr. Forlini shared a map of the site so participants could see the footprint of the planned quarry expansion. The map also showed a conservation area that would cover part of the mountain. Mr. Forlini stated that the view from the mountain trail would not change, and that there would be a 200 m buffer of wooded area between the quarry and the school.

Mr. Forlini concluded the presentation by reiterating that the project is at very early stage and the company hopes to involve the public in its development.



### 3. SUMMARY OF CITIZEN CONCERNS

The meetings gathered significant community input and raised numerous concerns about public health, environmental impacts, and economic implications of the proposed pozzolan extraction project.

Some participants noted the project's potential to stimulate the local economy, mentioning that new job opportunities could encourage families to remain in Heron Bay. However, most people who attended the meetings expressed serious concerns and, in some cases, outright opposition to the project.

#### **Project development, timeline, and funding**

Participants sought clarification on various aspects of the project, including why the project was sometimes referred to as a quarry, and sometimes a mine. EcoRock explained that while the project would begin as a quarry, it would evolve into a mine when the rock is processed into pozzolan.

A few people expressed skepticism about the company's asset acquisitions—namely the quarry, railroad, and wharf—during the planning phase, fearing that these moves indicated the project was a "done deal." EcoRock clarified that even though the project was in its early stages, securing these assets was crucial for conducting the feasibility study.

Participants also asked about funding sources. The company said the federal government provided a loan for drilling and the main private investor is MR Capital et Investissements Inc.

#### **Quarry Expansion**

Participants worried about the proposed quarry expansion, from 11 hectares to 80 hectares, and sought reassurance that mining would only occur within the designated area. Concerns were also voiced about potential future encroachment into residential neighbourhoods, particularly in light of a 2022 report suggesting a broader expansion plan. EcoRock reassured participants that no properties around the quarry perimeter would be acquired and that all mining activities would be contained within the outlined area.

#### **Dust, noise, and vibrations**

Health-related concerns dominated the discussions, with residents pointing to the fact that the area has the highest cancer rates in Canada. Many participants spoke of personal experiences with cancer, emphasizing that the area has been heavily impacted by past industrial activities. People were concerned about the health risks posed by dust from the crushing, grinding and transportation of the product. They mentioned the presence of silica in the dust and its potential for increasing lung cancer risks.

Questions about blasting operations surfaced, with residents anxious about vibrations and potential damage to their homes. They asked for assurance that any damage caused would be compensated.



EcoRock assured participants that impacts related to dust, noise and vibrations would be examined during the environmental impact assessment. They explained that measures would be taken to mitigate dust and noise, such as enclosing grinding operations at the wharf and exploring options to crush rock in a pit. However, residents remained skeptical, pointing out that controlling dust would be challenging, especially with the wind.

### **Water and waterways**

Water contamination also emerged as a major concern, both in terms of how water would be managed at the quarry and impacts related to potential dredging of the harbour. People expressed apprehension about the possibility of holding ponds leaking and contaminating wells and waterways. The company reassured participants that there would be no holding or tailing ponds on the site, that only sedimentation basins would be used.

Despite assurances that no chemicals would be used to extract pozzolan, participants pointed out that TNT would be used for blasting, raising concerns about chemical contamination. The company acknowledged this and committed to treating water in sedimentation basins to remove any traces of chemicals from blasting before releasing it back into the environment. Participants requested documentation detailing measures for dealing with potential chemical leaks. The company responded that these issues would be included in the feasibility study and environmental impact assessment.

Concerns were also voiced about the preservation of wetlands and waterways within the project area. The company said they would be discussing compensation measures for the affected wetlands with the province.

Many participants spoke up about the historical contamination in the harbour due to industrial waste and the plans to dredge it to allow for larger ships. The company stated that before conducting any dredging, they would need to submit a plan to authorities detailing how it would be done, including managing sediment in the water and where the extracted sediments would be placed.

Questions about the expected impacts on local fishing, particularly for salmon and lobster, highlighted the potential effects on First Nations communities. Participants emphasized the need for thorough assessments and consultation to understand how the project might impact local fisheries. Overall, residents sought transparency and assurance that their water resources would be safeguarded throughout the project.

### **Flora and fauna**

Concerns about local flora and fauna were also raised, with participants questioning the impact of the project on wildlife and green spaces. EcoRock stated the preliminary surveys conducted by Fundy Engineering in 2022 reported no significant issues. Participants asked if the local Naturalist Club had been contacted during the survey. The company wasn't sure, but said it would be happy to collaborate with the organization on future studies.



Concerns were also raised about the scale of the excavation, with one participant asking if the entire mountain would be dug up. The company responded that the project would stop 650 feet from the mountain trail, aiming to minimize disruption to the surrounding environment.

### **Economic impacts**

Economic implications were another focal point of the discussions. People were interested in hearing about job creation, and asked for details about the number and types of jobs the project was expected to bring to the community. Participants expressed a strong desire to ensure the company hire locally and not bring in workers from outside the area. They also emphasized the need for training programs, since many qualified individuals had already left the region. EcoRock committed to prioritizing hiring locally and to training people if needed.

Housing was a significant concern, particularly regarding potential impacts of the project on property values. Residents living near the quarry expressed anxiety about how the project might affect the value of their homes and said that compensation should be considered if property values decline. There were also questions about the company's approach to housing workers.

Several people were curious about the financial aspects of the project, including projected revenues from pozzolan sales and potential royalties for government entities.

### **Environmental impact assessment process**

Questions were raised about the environmental impact assessment process, particularly regarding its independence and community involvement. EcoRock confirmed that a third-party firm would conduct the assessment but faced questions about community input in the selection process and how the results would be communicated.

Additionally, participants highlighted the importance of assessing public health impacts alongside environmental factors, advocating for a thorough examination of how the project might affect the community's well-being.

### **Communication and community engagement**

People asked for details about the steering committee EcoRock proposes to put in place, particularly in terms of the way committee members would be chosen. EcoRock explained that interested candidates for each category would be asked to decide amongst themselves who would be on the committee. Neither the company nor the town's elected officials would have any say in the matter.

Frustrations over EcoRock's delayed communication with the community were apparent, with many participants feeling left out of the decision-making process. They expressed a strong desire for transparency and suggested that future meetings be held to discuss impact studies and gather community votes on the project. EcoRock committed to maintaining open lines of communication, saying that they aim to be good neighbours throughout the project's development.



## 4. MAIN QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANSWERS

The following is a list of participants' main questions and comments, organized by topic, along with the answers provided by EcoRock.

### PROJECT DEVELOPMENT, TIMELINE, AND FUNDING

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
In the project you talk about a quarry and a mine. What's the difference?	The first phase of the project is a quarry. In phase two, when the company starts grinding the rock, it turns into pozzolan. That's when the project becomes a mine, according to provincial regulations.
Is the project still in the planning phase?	Yes. A detailed plan still needs to be made, followed by a feasibility study. After that, an environmental impact assessment will be done. The project will then be evaluated by the province. The province will decide whether the project can move forward.
If you don't yet know whether the project can move forward, why have you bought the quarry, railroad, and wharf? It feels like a done deal.	The assets needed to be acquired before the feasibility study could be conducted. Without the wharf, there is no project.
For once, the opportunity isn't in Mexico or Ontario, it's here. It's normal to have questions because we were taken advantage of for 60 years. But that's not EcoRock's fault. The project will only go ahead if it meets all the environmental requirements. It's important that the product be transformed here. What is the timeline to see that happen?	It's difficult to say what the timeline will be because the permitting process is not within EcoRock's control.  The plan is to sell 1.5 million tons of aggregate to the U.S. and transform the rest (another 1.5 million tons) in Dalhousie.
Have you received any money from the federal and provincial governments?	Yes. The federal government gave EcoRock a loan for the drilling campaign.
Where is the funding for the project coming from? Brazil?	The main investor is MR Capital et Investissements. It's one of six investors. All are Canadian.
Do you have an agreement with the municipality? Because we're in the process of rezoning and the municipality keeps saying it's not about the mine, but it seems to be about the mine.	No. There is no agreement with the municipality. The municipality asked EcoRock to present the project to the mayor and town council, and to the public.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
<p>We're being told we have to do this rezoning quickly. If we decide to take more time, would that affect the project?</p>	<p>No, because the project isn't ready. The feasibility study and the environmental impact assessment still need to be done.</p> <p>At the moment, the quarry is in a residential zone. It's operating under a grandfather clause.</p>

## QUARRY EXPANSION

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
<p>You showed the diagram of the proposed expansion of the quarry which will go from 11 hectares to 80 hectares. Is that the total size?</p>	<p>Yes, that's the total size.</p>
<p>Why were mineral rights purchased all the way up to Renfrew Street?</p>	<p>The mineral rights purchase was part of the project's planning phase. EcoRock will not be mining those areas. The project's footprint is within the yellow line illustrated in the presentation. There will be no extraction beyond that area.</p>
<p>The 2022 report talks about a "Phase 3" that goes southward to Orchard Street, Sunset Drive, and Centennial Heights. It says it might go down to sea level. I don't see that in this plan.</p>	<p>That 2022 report was not written by EcoRock. It was written by the Restigouche Regional Service Commission before the exploratory drilling was even done.</p> <p>The full scope of the project is the one we've presented today. The depth of the quarry might go to sea level, but the perimeter won't go farther than what is outlined in the presentation.</p>
<p>Could you acquire the properties around the perimeter?</p>	<p>There is no plan to acquire them. The whole mine is within the yellow outline on the map. It's the final footprint of the project.</p>
<p>Can you guarantee you won't be drilling in my backyard in 50 years?</p>	<p>Yes. EcoRock can make that guarantee for 100 years.</p>
<p>I've heard that if you have mineral rights on my property, you can mine without my permission. Is that true?</p>	<p>Yes. It's like that everywhere in Canada. That's why the company is committing to extracting rock only from the area shown on the map, and not going any further.</p>



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
I live on Blair Malcolm Road, and samples were taken nearby.	That sampling wasn't done by EcoRock. It's outside the project's perimeter.

## DUST, NOISE, AND VIBRATIONS

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
What about dust and pollution? How much dust will there be and where? Even if you say there will only be limited dust, that stuff can kill us. You're playing with our lives.	Concerns about dust will be addressed in the environmental impact assessment.
How will you ensure safety regarding pollution near residential areas, especially close to schools? You'll be mining approximately three city blocks from the high school and close to a middle school. Are you able to guarantee that there will be no dust going to the schools?	This is a legitimate concern. No guarantees can be made but the issue will be addressed in the environmental impact assessment.
How can you risk exposing the teachers to dust?	The province will look at the results of the environmental impact assessment. If the project is deemed unacceptable, it won't be authorized.
What minerals are in the samples? Are they safe? Is there arsenic? Gold? Mercury?	An analysis has been done, and no hazardous contaminants were found. The results of the analysis can be shared on the project website. You will see the list of elements they found.
Do you know if there is radon in the rock?	It is not known yet, but this will be examined in the environmental impact assessment.
Who did the mineral analysis?	Most of the analysis was done by a lab in Thetford Mines, Quebec, which is part of a network of college labs. It's a semi-public network.
How will materials be transported from the quarry to the port? Will it involve heavy trucking in the community?	Three options are being considered at the moment: rail, conveyor, or truck. Each of these options will be examined in the feasibility study.
What will be done to mitigate the noise and dust from the crushing and grinding?	Grinding of the rock will be done in an enclosed building at the wharf. Storage will also be enclosed.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
	Crushing will be done at the quarry but the way it will be done is still being explored. One option is to do the crushing in a hole in the ground to contain the noise and dust.
Will noise and dust from the quarry impact the community?	Noise and dust impacts will be assessed in the feasibility study and the environmental impact study, with mitigation measures proposed afterward.
Open pit mining is among the most dangerous for health and environment. Pozzolan is particularly toxic because it's dust and can float on the wind. Other pozzolan mines are in isolated areas because of the health risks. You've said you will exceed norms, but how will you do that? What is your overall approach to suggest you can do this in a small town like ours?	It is so early in the process that no impact studies have been done yet. But an environmental impact assessment will be conducted, which will look at all the impacts, including health impacts. The assessment will be seen by the steering committee and then presented to the public. There are large cities near pozzolan mines. In fact, the word "pozzolan" comes from the name of a city in Italy.
Will you be bringing the product down to the wharf and grinding it there? Sound travels over water, and dust will travel to Quebec as well.	If the rock were ground in the quarry and transported to the wharf, it would create too much dust. At the wharf, it can be ground in a closed environment which will contain the dust. The feasibility study will look at the issue of noise, then the environmental impact study will look at mitigation measures and find solutions.
Once you open the doors, you won't be able to control the dust, the wind will blow it away.	There are ways to do it, because it's being done elsewhere. In Belgium, for example (see photo in presentation). The dust is the product EcoRock plans to sell (the pozzolan). The company will therefore do everything it can to contain it.
What is the silica content of the pozzolan?	52% of the pozzolan is silica.
Silica is toxic. The North Shore of New Brunswick has the highest cancer rate in Canada. We don't want more cancer. Health is more important than jobs.	Crystalline silica is toxic.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Is the silica that will be in the dust crystalline?	That will need to be checked.
If I wanted to work at a mine like this, would I be protected from this dust if I worked in production?	In the permitting, there's a whole section for health and safety and there are strict rules in place to protect workers.
What will the quarry operating hours be, especially for blasting?	The operating and blasting hours are still to be determined, but community concerns, like sleep disruption, will definitely be considered.
How many blasts will be done every day? Every week?	Details of the blasting (frequency, strength, and mitigation measures) have not yet been determined.
What will your protocol be if you damage our houses from the vibrations from blasting?	Houses will be inspected and if blasting causes damage, the company will compensate homeowners.
When a truck passes, dishes rattle in the cupboards so you can imagine what blasting will do.	How the blasting will be done will be studied in the environmental impact assessment.
Have you heard of the Miguasha Museum [ <i>Musée d'histoire naturelle du parc national de Miguasha</i> ]? There's a regulation that there can be no activities that fracture the rock within 26 km of the museum. The quarry is within that limit.	The company is not aware of that regulation, but if that's the case, it will come up in the environmental impact assessment and they will look into it.
Will the conveyor transporting the rock to the wharf be open or closed to control dust?	The method of transport (conveyor, train, trucks) has not been determined yet, but the chosen solution will need to minimize impacts like noise and dust.
How loud will the grinder be? How often and for how long will it run? All day? Will I hear it from my house?	That's a good question. The feasibility study will say what equipment needs to be used, and the steering committee will be involved in this. Nothing will happen until the steering committee approves the equipment and the noise level in the area.

## WATER AND WATERWAYS

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
What will happen if there are issues with waterlines and wells?	This will be addressed in the feasibility study and the impact assessment.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
<p>If you end up contaminating someone's well, what are you going to do about it? A well in Point La Nim that was compromised during the drilling in 2022, and the story was covered up.</p>	<p>The drilling that was done in 2022 was to remove core samples. It's impossible to contaminate a well with that kind of drilling.</p> <p>The family met with a member of the EcoRock team several times to discuss the problems with their well. An investigation showed that the problems with the well predated the drilling. There were discussions about bringing water in for that house or buying the property.</p>
<p>What will be done about water management for the quarry?</p>	<p>The water will need to be tested before it's put back in the environment.</p>
<p>Will the depth of the pit and its impact on the water table be studied?</p>	<p>Yes. Testing will be done to find out if there are impacts.</p>
<p>What about holding ponds? They leak and pollute the water.</p>	<p>There will be no holding ponds or tailing ponds on the project. Tailing ponds are found in real mines where material is processed to remove the ore.</p> <p>In this project, there will only be sedimentation basins: when water is pumped out of the bottom of the pit, the sediments need to be removed before the water is released back into the environment. But no chemicals are used to extract the pozzolan.</p>
<p>You say no chemicals will be used but you will be using TNT (which contains chemicals) for blasting.</p>	<p>That's true. Though no chemicals are required to extract the pozzolan, the water in the sedimentation basins will need to be treated to remove traces of chemicals from blasting before it is returned to the environment.</p>
<p>I want documents that say what you will do if chemicals leak into the environment.</p>	<p>Documents will come with the feasibility study and the environmental impact assessment. The results will go to the steering committee, so the process is transparent.</p>
<p>What will happen to the wetlands and waterways in the expansion area of the quarry?</p>	<p>There are four hectares of wetlands in the project zone. The entire area on the south side will be dedicated to conservation. This is the purple area on the map. The company will speak to the Ministry of Environment</p>



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
	about compensating for the affected wetlands.
The years of industrial waste have left contaminants in the harbour. And yet you're planning to dredge the harbour to allow more ships to come in.	If the harbour is dredged, there are plans to control the sediment in the water, but the details of this will be established in the studies.
Are you aware of the 2016 Environment Canada study that showed the sediment in the Baie-des-Chaleurs has high levels of mercury? You can't disturb the sediments.	EcoRock has not seen that report, but will read it. The company is also in conversation with Listuguj and Uppi'ganjig officials who have informed them of high levels of arsenic in lobsters. The company is looking to work with GINU, an aquatic research organization.
If you have to dredge the harbour, what will you do with the contaminated sediments you remove?	If dredging is necessary, a plan will need to be submitted to Fisheries and Oceans Canada and New Brunswick's Ministry of Environment. The plan will describe how the sediments will be tested for contaminants, how the dredging will be carried out, and what will be done with sediments that are removed.
What are the expected impacts on the bay, particularly, the salmon and lobster fishing? This will have a big impact on the Frist Nations that fish there.	The impact on fishing will be an important consideration. It will be assessed, and the First Nations will be consulted.

## FLORA AND FAUNA

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
What studies have been done regarding wildlife and environmental impacts?	In 2022, Fundy Engineering conducted preliminary surveys on the wildlife, birds, and flora of the quarry and found no significant issues. The results will be shared on the project website.
When you did the preliminary survey of wildlife and birds, you didn't contact the Restigouche Naturalist Club. The estuary is an important birding area, recognized for its migratory birds in particular. We could talk.	Yes. It would be a pleasure to collaborate with you.
How will you compensate for green space and flora that you will displace?	The company knows that four hectares of wetlands will be affected and will talk to the



	Ministry of the Environment of New Brunswick about compensating.
Will you be digging up the whole mountain?	No. The project will stop 650 feet from the trail.

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
How many jobs will be created and what types of jobs?	<p>Approximately 373 direct, indirect, and induced jobs are expected to be created during the operations phase.</p> <p>Direct jobs are people who work for the company. Indirect jobs are jobs created with suppliers. Induced jobs are when the economy grows and you need more teachers, more shopkeepers, etc.</p> <p>168 of the jobs will be direct jobs. They will include positions such as heavy machinery operators, mechanics, millwrights, stevedores, office staff, maintenance staff, and more.</p>
Will jobs go to people in the region, or will you fly workers in from outside the area?	EcoRock will prioritize hiring locally. The goal is to stimulate the local economy.
What will the average salary be?	The data presented today is based on economic modelling. This model suggests an average salary of \$38/hour.
Is there a training plan for jobs that will be created? Many of the people qualified to do those jobs have left.	The company can provide training for people if they need it. EcoRock has been contacted by a community college that wants to offer programs to train people for the jobs that are needed.
How will the project affect housing in the region?	A study will be done to assess the impact of the project on property values if the project goes ahead.
We should be compensated if our property values go down.	If the results of the study show that the impact is too important and compensation amounts would be unreasonable, that would be a showstopper in terms of the project.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
We've heard that you have approached the owner of an apartment building to see if you could house people there, even though there are already people living in the building.	EcoRock was approached by someone who had an apartment to rent. But this apartment was vacant.
What is the projected revenue from selling pozzolan?	The current market price is between \$60 and \$80 per ton, depending on the quality of the pozzolan which is still being evaluated. The aggregate sells for around \$75/ton. Expect to sell 1.5 million tons of aggregate per year.
If the project is a mine and not a quarry, will our municipal, provincial, and federal governments receive royalties from its operation?	There are no regulations in New Brunswick that regulate that, but it's important to EcoRock to give back to the community. The company is in discussions with the municipality of Heron Bay about potential royalties.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Will there be an independent environmental impact assessment?	EcoRock will hire a firm to conduct the environmental impact assessment. The assessment will be examined by the province. If the province looks at the assessment and says the project can't be done, no permits will be issued.
Who will conduct the environmental assessment, you or a third party?	A third-party firm will be selected, but EcoRock has not yet awarded the contract.
Who will pay for it?	EcoRock will pay for the environmental impact assessment.
Will the community be involved in choosing the firm for the environmental impact study?	It hasn't been decided yet, but community involvement in the selection process is possible.
How much will the environmental assessment cost?	The cost will depend on the project's size.
Will the environmental impact assessment be evaluated by the provincial or federal government?	<i>No response noted.</i>



Has the company filed for an environmental impact study with the province?	No, because the project needs to be defined, and the studies need to be done first. But EcoRock is in communication with the province about this.
When you are taking samples for environmental impact studies, are you going to have someone there to see where samples are from?	If someone wants to be present to see where samples are taken, they can be there.
When will the environmental impact assessment be received?	EcoRock hopes to have the initial report by March of next year. <i>*Correction added after the meeting: This timeline will be adjusted.</i>
Don't you think the most important study that needs to be done is a study on the health of the population, to see how the project will impact the health of the community?	Population health will be considered in the impact study because it's a requirement.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Why did you not speak to the citizens of Heron Bay sooner? Everything was done in secret.	Drilling work was conducted in 2022 to confirm the reserve. Then EcoRock negotiated with the Port and CN to secure the assets (wharf and railroad). Once that was done, an investor was brought on board to move forward with the project. Between the fall of 2022 and June 2024, no progress was made on the project because the company was negotiating with the Port and CN. Without those assets there would be no project, so they needed to be secured before the company could speak to the public.
Why not talk to the population during negotiations with the Port?	EcoRock didn't want to negotiate in public. However, the company regrets not informing the public sooner.
I suggest that before the project goes ahead, we have another meeting to see impact study and vote on whether the project should go forward. The decision should be ours.	<i>No response noted.</i>



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Will there be public meetings regarding the environmental impact study?	Yes, there will be public meetings to discuss the results of the environmental impact study.
Who will choose the steering committee members?	Community members who are interested in being on the steering committee will be invited to come forward, and a meeting will be held where candidates from each category will decide amongst themselves who the members will be.
There is a lot of frustration with the mayor and town council because it's hard to get answers. Will the mayor or council have a say in who is on the steering committee?	No.
The slide about the steering committee said the committee would include neighbours of the project. Does that include people from the Gaspé Peninsula?	Yes. An information meeting like this one will also be held in Carleton-sur-Mer in October.
How can you expect us to support the project if we don't know the details?	That's why a steering committee will be put in place, so the public can be informed and influence the development of the project. Nothing will be hidden from the public at any stage of the project.
This is a city that has suffered because of past industries. When the pulp and paper mill closed, it caused a lot of mental and physical stress. I'm torn because I see kids who want to have work here, but I'm concerned about pollution. People are very frustrated around here. People need to be informed way more than usual because of our past experiences.	EcoRock understands the industrial past of Dalhousie. That's why the company wants to do things differently. They want to be good neighbours and inform everyone every step of the way.
What percentage of the population needs to oppose the project for it to be stopped?	Social acceptability is key. If the community doesn't support the project, permits won't be granted. Also, if the feasibility analysis and environmental impact assessment show that the cost of mitigating impacts will be enormous, the project won't go forward.
Where can we find the results of your preliminary studies?	They will be published on the project website.

## OTHER QUESTIONS



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS
The rock you've brought is black, but the ground pozzolan in the jar is beige. Why does it change colour? Do you add anything to it?	Nothing was added to it, it happens naturally. The colour doesn't change, it just looks lighter when you grind it.
How many pozzolan mines of similar size do you know of?	There are no pozzolan mines on the East Coast of North America. There is one in British Columbia and a few in the western United States.
Where will the pozzolan be sold?	The aggregate (stone) will be sold on the American market, but the pozzolan will be marketed to Canadian cement factories.
How will you address community frustrations regarding past industrial impacts?	The project aims to be transparent and address concerns actively.
You shouldn't be doing the project here, you should be doing it in Campbellton or Bathurst.	Dalhousie is unique because it has the pozzolan deposit, but also the port, the railway, and the quarry.
Is this your first project?	EcoRock was created for this project.
There are links between the cement factory in Port-Daniel (Ciment McInnis) and your company. Ciment McInnis has not respected environmental regulations, why should we trust that you will?	<p>Guy Rousseau was one of the project initiators behind Ciment McInnis and Francis Forlini worked for the company.</p> <p>It's important to EcoRock to be a good neighbour. In 2024, it's not possible to operate without social license. Permits won't be granted.</p>
I'm interested in this project because people are leaving town because there aren't any jobs. Grandparents can't see their grandchildren because their children have moved away. People are concerned about the environment, but there are regulations in place to protect us. It's not like in the days of the pulp and paper mill.	<i>No response noted.</i>
Is this project really about lowering CO2 levels? Is it really about the environment?	Climate change is the largest single challenge for the population for the next two generations.
How much CO2 emissions will be avoided by using low-carbon cement?	Cement makes up 8% of global emissions. By replacing 20% of the cement with pozzolan, emissions could be reduced by 0.8 tons of CO2 for each concrete mix.

## 5. FEEDBACK ON THE MEETING



Participants were invited to fill out a feedback survey after the meeting, where they were asked the following questions:

1. On a scale of 1 to 5 (where 1 is the lowest score and 5 is the highest), how would you rate the performance of the meeting facilitators?
2. Also on a scale of 1 to 5, do you feel like you were able to freely express any potential questions or concerns regarding the Pozzolan Project?
3. Again on a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the clarity of the answers provided by EcoRock Dalhousie to your questions or concerns regarding the Pozzolan Project?

Nineteen people responded to the survey. Most respondents were satisfied with the way the meetings were facilitated and felt they were able to clearly express their questions or concerns. However, slightly less than half of respondents were satisfied with the clarity of the answers they received.

Here are the detailed results:

#### **Performance of facilitators**

15 of the 19 respondents were satisfied with the way the meeting was facilitated, providing a rating of 4 or 5 out of 5.

4 respondents gave the lowest rating, with one person suggesting there should have been a French meeting and an English meeting instead of two bilingual meetings.

#### **Ability to express questions or concerns**

13 of the 19 respondents felt they were able to freely express their questions or concerns about the project, providing a rating of 4 or 5 out of 5.

2 people answered with a rating of 3, indicating they felt they were somewhat able to freely express their questions or concerns.

Only one person indicated dissatisfaction, with a rating of one. Two respondents did not answer this question.

#### **Clarity of answers provided**

8 of the 19 respondents gave a rating of 4 or 5 out of 5 regarding the clarity of the answers provided by EcoRock.

2 people answered with a rating of 3, indicating they were somewhat satisfied with the clarity of the answers.

4 people answered with a rating of 1 or 2, indicating dissatisfaction. One of these respondents added that for a project this size, there should have been more answers to the questions.

5 respondents did not answer the question.



## 6. NEXT STEPS

As a result of the meetings, EcoRock has committed to completing the following action items:

ACTION ITEMS
<p>The company has created a <a href="#">“Reports and Studies”</a> page on the project website and will post:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Results from the analysis of core samples that show the composition of the pozzolan</li><li>• Results from the preliminary surveys conducted by Fundy Engineering on the flora, fauna, wetlands, and migratory birds</li></ul>
<p>The company will find out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Whether the silica in the pozzolan will be in crystalline form</li><li>• Whether there’s a regulation saying no blasting can be done within 26 km of the parc national de Miguasha</li></ul>
<p>The company will also read the 2016 Environment Canada study that found the sediment in the Baie-des-Chaleurs contains high levels of mercury.</p>
<p>The company will hold an additional information session across the bay in Carlton-sur-Mer.</p>
<p>The company will put out a call for candidates for the steering committee and keep citizens informed of the project’s development.</p>

EcoRock also made the following commitments during the meetings:

ECOROCK COMMITMENTS
<p>The project will exceed minimal environmental norms.</p>
<p>The company will conduct a feasibility study and an environmental impact assessment.</p>



The company will not conduct any mining outside the perimeter of the projected quarry shown on the map in the presentation.
No chemicals will be used to extract the pozzolan.
Community concerns (like sleep disruption) will be considered when determining when blasting will take place at the quarry.
If blasting causes damage to homes, the company will compensate homeowners.
The solution chosen to transport product from the quarry to the wharf will minimize impacts like noise and dust.
The rock will be ground in an enclosed building at the wharf. Pozzolan storage will also be enclosed.
The steering committee will approve the choice of equipment and the noise level in the area.
EcoRock will prioritize hiring locally and can provide training if it's needed.
A study will be done to assess the impact of the project on property values if the project goes ahead.
<p>The company will make sure the environmental impact assessment examines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacts of noise and dust, particularly the effect of pozzolan dust on health</li> <li>• Whether dust will go into the schools</li> <li>• Whether there is radon in the rock</li> <li>• How blasting will be done at the quarry</li> <li>• Impacts on waterlines and wells</li> <li>• Depth of the pit and it's impact on the water table</li> <li>• Impacts related to the dredging of the harbour</li> <li>• Impacts of the project on fishing, particularly for First Nations communities</li> </ul>
The steering committee members will be appointed through a process of self-designation. Neither the municipal government nor EcoRock will choose the members.



Gaspé residents will be represented on the committee.

There will be public meetings to discuss the results of the environmental impact study.

Nothing will be hidden from the public at any stage of the process.



## APPENDIX – POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

*Though the content of this presentation is the same as that presented during the public meetings, certain images have been substituted due to copyright issues.*



# Bienvenue

Pour réduire l'empreinte  
carbone du ciment

# Welcome

To reduce the carbon  
footprint of cement



## A propos

### QUI SOMMES-NOUS?

- Les promoteurs initiaux sont Cimbec Canada inc. et Carboniq inc.
- Une injection de fonds par MR Capital et Investissement inc. a mené à la création de la nouvelle société EcoRock Dalhousie inc.
- Francis Forlini a été embauché à titre de directeur général de l'entreprise

## About us

### WHO WE ARE

- The initial promoters are Cimbec Canada inc. and Carboniq inc.
- Funds injected by MR Capital et Investissement inc. created the new company EcoRock Dalhousie inc.
- Francis Forlini was hired as General Manager of the company

Nous désirons faire un projet qui sera meilleur que les normes minimales et ainsi devenir un bon voisin

We want to do a Project that will exceed the minimal norms and become a good neighbor



# La pouzzolane, c'est quoi?

## DE LA ROCHE BROYÉE

La géologie de la carrière fait en sorte que la roche volcanique se qualifie comme pouzzolane naturelle une fois broyée finement

- ✓ **Aucun produit chimique ne serait employé pour extraire la pouzzolane**
- ✓ **Il y aurait du dynamitage, du concassage et du broyage**



# What is pozzolan?

## GROUND ROCK

The quarry's geology is such that the volcanic rock qualifies as natural pozzolan once finely ground

- ✓ **No chemical would be needed to extract the pozzolan**
- ✓ **There would be blasting, crushing and grinding**



## USED FOR CENTURIES

The Romans used a mixture of lime and pozzolan to build monuments, bridges, aqueducts and other structures that are still standing today

## LA POZZOLANE, C'EST NOUVEAU?

## Is Pozzolan new?

### UTILISÉE DEPUIS DES SIÈCLES

Les Romains ont utilisé un mélange de chaux et de pouzzolane pour ériger des monuments, des ponts, des aqueducs et autres structures qui tiennent toujours debout



## Le projet aujourd'hui

### STATUT

#### Les actifs stratégiques sont sécurisés

- La carrière
- Le quai ouest
- Le chemin de fer

#### Études réalisées

- Campagne de forage a confirmé la réserve géologique (2022)
- Étude préliminaire sur la faune, la flore, les milieux humides et les oiseaux migratoires (2022)

#### Ce qui est en cours

- ✓ Analyse des sols des actifs (contaminants et concentration)
- ✓ Évaluation structurale des actifs
- ✓ Relevé bathymétrique au quai ouest et chenal d'accès (profondeur)
- ✓ Échantillonnage des sédiments au quai ouest (contaminants et concentration)

## The Project today

### STATUS

#### The strategic assets are secured

- The quarry
- The west wharf
- The railroad

#### Completed studies

- Drilling campaign has confirmed the geological reserves
- Preliminary survey of fauna, flora, wetlands and migratory birds (2022)

#### What is ongoing

- ✓ Soil analysis of the assets (contaminants and concentration)
- ✓ Structural evaluation of the assets
- ✓ Bathymetric survey at the west wharf and access chanel(draft)
- ✓ Sampling of sediments at the west wharf (contaminants and concentration)

## Prochaines étapes

### POUR UNE PRODUCTION DE 3M DE TONNE MAX SELON MARCHÉ

- La carrière passerait d'une superficie opérée de 11 à 80 hectares (tout en gardant la zone de conservation)
- La navigation augmenterait

## Next Steps

### FOR A 3M TON PRODUCTION MAX ACCORDING TO MARKET

- The operated quarry area would go from 11 to 80 hectares (while maintaining the conservation area)
- Maritime traffic would increase

#### ÉTUDE DE FAISABILITÉ

- Dimensionnement des équipements
- Positionnement des équipements
- Plan d'exploitation de la carrière
- Mode de transport des produits au port

#### ÉTUDE D'IMPACTS

- Sur l'eau (nappe phréatique et voies navigables)
- Sur la faune et la flore
- Sur le paysage
- Sur l'air
- Du bruit
- De la poussière
- Des vibrations
- Des sédiments (si dragage)

#### FEASIBILITY STUDY

- Size of equipment
- Equipment positioning
- Operating plan
- How products will be transported to the port

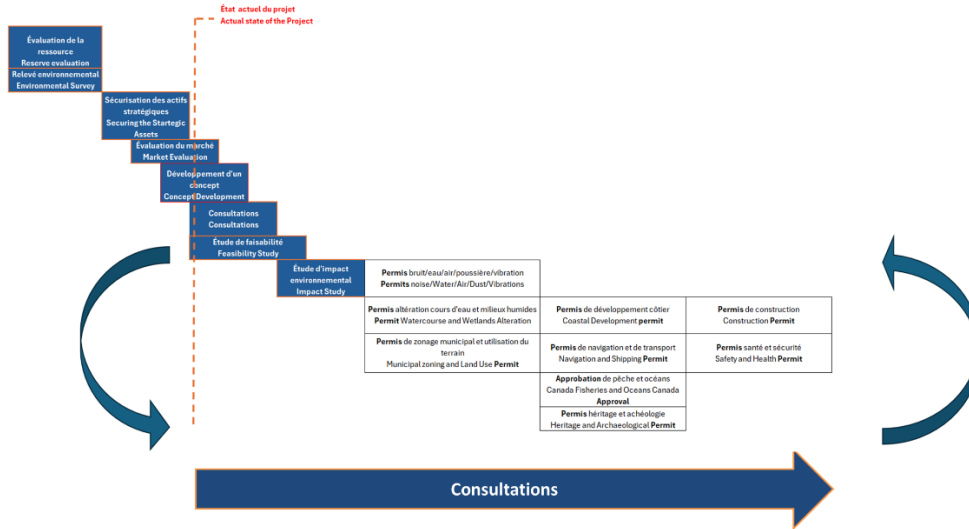
#### IMPACT STUDY

- On the water (water table and waterways)
- On flora and fauna
- On landscape
- Of noise
- Of vibrations
- Of air
- Of dust
- Of sediments (if dredging)



## Étapes de développement du projet

## Stages of Project Development



## Démarche de consultation publique proposée

### Inclure la population dans le développement du projet

1. Contribuer activement à l'étude de faisabilité et l'évaluation environnementale du projet
2. Déterminer sous quelles conditions le projet pourrait se développer

## Proposed Public Engagement Process

### Include the population in the development of the project

1. Actively contribute to the feasibility study and environmental assessment of the project
2. Determine the conditions under which the project could move forward



## Démarche de consultation publique proposée

### Créer un comité de pilotage

Le comité serait constitué de :

- Premières Nations
- Riverains
- Citoyen.es du secteur de Baie des Hérons
- Groupes environnementaux et socio-économiques
- Experts techniques
- Représentants d'EcoRock

## Proposed Public Engagement Process

### Create a steering committee

The committee would be composed of:

- First Nations
- Neighbours of the project
- Citizens from the Heron Bay area
- Environmental and socio-economic groups
- Technical experts
- EcoRock representatives

## Démarche de consultation publique proposée

### Rôle du comité de pilotage

- Contribuer aux études et fournir de la rétroaction
- Représenter les intérêts de la communauté
- Faciliter la communication
- Participer aux rencontres et ateliers
- Assurer la transparence du processus

Tandis que des ateliers et rencontres publiques offriront des occasions à la population de participer, le comité participera à des discussions plus approfondies et à des séances de travail pour aborder les questions complexes et formuler des recommandations détaillées.

## Proposed Public Engagement Process

### Role of the steering committee

- Provide input and feedback on the studies
- Represent community interests
- Facilitate communication
- Participate in meetings and workshops
- Ensure the transparency of the process

While public workshops and meetings will provide broader engagement opportunities, the committee will engage in more in-depth discussions and work sessions to tackle complex issues and provide detailed recommendations.



## Le projet CONCEPTUELLEMENT

### ■ PHASE I

La production d'agrégats (roche) pour l'exportation

- Dynamitage
- Concassage
- Tamisage

### ■ PHASE II

La mouture d'agrégats pour en faire de la pouzzolane

- Broyeur

### ■ PHASE I ET II

Expédition des produits par bateau, rail et/ou camion

- Système de chargement au quai

## The Project CONCEPTUALLY

### ■ PHASE I

Production of aggregates (stone) for export

- Blasting
- Crushing
- Screening

### ■ PHASE II

Grinding of aggregates to produce pozzolan

- Grinding mill

### ■ PHASE I AND II

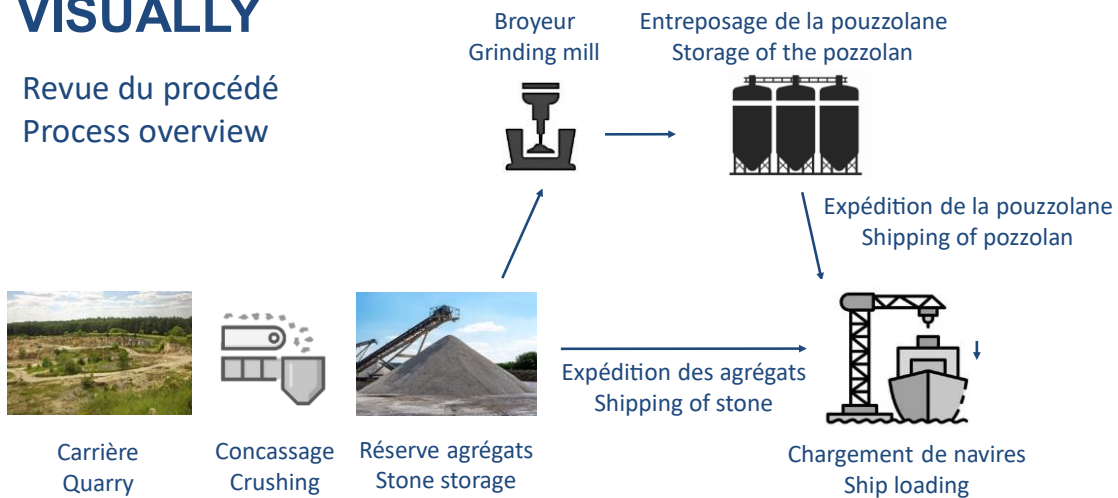
Shipping products by vessel, rail and/or truck

- Loading system at the wharf



## VISUELLEMENT VISUALLY

Revue du procédé  
Process overview



## Pourquoi le projet?

RÉDUIRE L'EMPRUNTE CARBONE

### Environnement Environment

- Utiliser la pouzzolane pour remplacer une partie du ciment
- Use pozzolan to replace part of the cement

L'industrie du ciment représente près de 8% de la production des gaz à effet de serre de la planète

The cement industry represents around 8% of the production of greenhouse gases worldwide

### Des bétons bas carbone Low carbon concrete

- Selon les applications, l'on pourrait remplacer jusqu'à 70% du ciment dans un mélange de béton
- Depending on the application, we could replace up to 70% of the cement in a concrete mix

En moyenne, chaque tonne de ciment produite dégage 0.8t de CO2

On average, every ton of cement produced emits 0.8tonne of CO2

### Agrégats de qualité Quality aggregates

- La pierre est de très bonne qualité pour la production de béton et asphalte
- The stone is high quality for concrete and asphalt production

La demande est forte pour ce type de pierre sur la côte est des États - Unis

Demand is high for this type of stone on the East coast of the United States

## Pourquoi Dalhousie?

PROXIMITÉ DE LA RESSOURCE ET DES ACTIFS

### Historique History

- Le dépôt de cendres du volcan Sugarloaf est à Dalhousie
- The ash deposit from the Sugarloaf volcano is in Dalhousie

Il y a eu consolidation des cendres pendant plus de 400 millions d'années

Consolidation of the ash took place over 400 million years

### Friche industrielle Brown Field

- La carrière, le Port et le chemin de fer sont existants
- The quarry, the port and the railroad are already present

Il s'agirait ici de revitaliser des infrastructures existantes désuètes et/ou abandonnées

The plan would be to revitalize the present infrastructures that are obsolete and/or abandoned

### Coûts Costs

- La proximité de la carrière, du Port et de la voie ferrée est un atout
- Proximity of the quarry to the port and railroad is an asset

Il est très rare de trouver des structures existantes à ce point complémentaires

It is rare to find existing infrastructures that are as complementary

## Why the Project?

REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT

## Why Dalhousie?

PROXIMITY OF THE RESOURCE AND THE ASSETS



## IMPACTS ÉCONOMIQUES

### Construction

- 5M d'heures travaillées
- 161M\$ en salaires
- 20M\$ en taxes fédérales et provinciales

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS

### Construction

- 5M Work Hours
- 161M\$ in salaries
- 20M\$ in Federal and Provincial taxes

Ces données sont pour la construction du projet complet  
This is for the entire project construction

## IMPACTS ÉCONOMIQUES

### Opérations

#### Emplois/Jobs

<input type="checkbox"/> Directs/Direct	168
<input type="checkbox"/> Indirects/Indirect	55
<input type="checkbox"/> Induis/Induced	150
<input type="checkbox"/> Emplois totaux/Total Jobs	373

#### Revenus personnel/Personnal Income

<input type="checkbox"/> Directs/Direct	13M\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Indirects/Indirect	4M\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Induis/Induced	11M\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Revenus totaux/Total Income	28M\$

Services commerciaux/ Business Services 22M\$

Achats local/Local Purchases 4M\$

Taxes féd et prov/Fed and Prov Taxes 4M\$

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS

### Operations

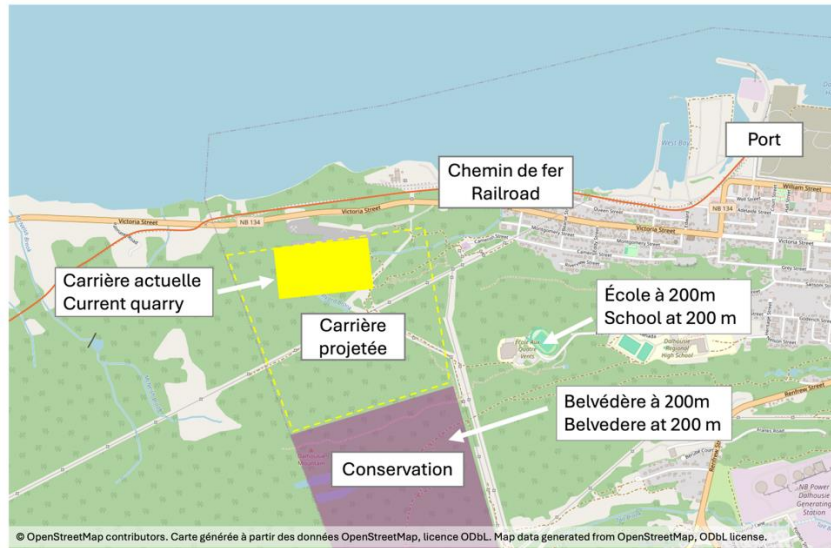
La Municipalité de Baie des Hérons bénéficiera de retombées fiscales

The Heron Bay Municipality will profit from tax benefits



## LE PLAN DU SITE

## PROJECT LAYOUT



VUES DU BELVÉDÈRE À PARTIR DU SENTIER PEDESTRE

### VUE VERS LE SUD (DIRECTION CHARLO)

- Cette section serait la zone identifiée conservation

### SOUTHWARD VIEW (TOWARDS CHARLO)

- This section would be identified as Conservation

### VUE VERS LE NORD (DIRECTION CARRIÈRE)

- Il y aurait 200m (650 pieds) de boisé avant d'atteindre la carrière

### NORTHWARD VIEW (TOWARDS THE QUARRY)

- There would be 200m (650 feet) of wooded area before reaching the quarry



VIEWS FROM THE BELVEDERE ON THE TRAIL



## Conclusion

Nous nous engageons à consulter la population pour définir sous quelles conditions le projet pourrait se réaliser

## Conclusion

We commit to consult the population to define under which conditions the Project could be realized

**Merci**  
**Thank you**

[dalhousesiepozzolan.com](http://dalhousesiepozzolan.com)

