

# People, politicians take aim at Carp Road landfill company

## Can we trust you? residents, politicians want to know

BY DANNA ZABROVSKY, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JUNE 9, 2010

Trust was a major issue at a meeting to discuss the West Carleton Environmental Centre on Tuesday night in Stittsville.

Area residents wanted to know whether they could trust Waste Management, the company that plans to expand the Carp Road landfill, or "Mount Garbola," as one Stittsville resident referred to it.

Waste Management plans to close the current landfill and build a new centre, complete with a 6.5-million cubic metre landfill that would take 400,000 tonnes of garbage each year for 10 years. A recycling and composting facility would also be built.

Norm Sterling, MPP for Carleton-Mississippi Mills, criticized the company's application for a certificate of approval to have waste brought in from places other than Ottawa and Eastern Ontario.

"You are misleading the people," he said.

Stittsville resident Madeleine LaPointe-Millar, who has lived in the area for 25 years, said she believes noxious fumes from the landfill make her family sick.

"When the wind comes in that direction, it means we will be sick that day," she said.

Remi Godin, the company's gas operations manager for Eastern Ontario, said the new landfill would have a gas collection system that would collect gases as they are generated.

Bruce Sheaves bought his home near the landfill in December 2004, under the impression the landfill would eventually be shut down.

"Two years after I moved in, they applied for an expansion," he said.

He is concerned about the provincial government's regulation of the landfill.

"It's Toronto. What do they know of Carp?" he said.

Sheaves added this was the first time he had heard the project referred to as an "expansion" of the Carp landfill. He takes this to mean the company has not gone to great lengths to find and approve another site to store the region's waste.

"They have not looked elsewhere. ... They're not even considering another land site."

Company representatives said they are doing their best to address the concerns of people living near the landfill.

Don Wright, who leads the project on the new facility, tried to assure residents that the company would take responsibility for any sickness, damage to the environment and odours that result from the landfill

"I personally categorically assure you that we will," he told the gathering that numbered about 115 residents.

Ross Wallace, landfill site manager, said Waste Management is considering the community's needs by offering funding to create recreational space. They are better prepared to deal with residual waste disposal and diversion of waste than when they proposed an expanded landfill in 2007.

Stittsville Councillor Shad Qadri said Waste Management should focus on what the community wants.

"We don't want the expansion of the landfill, unless you're doing something else on that site."

He added that the proposed recycling facility is a key part of the Waste Management proposal.

"We want that started today. Start with that first, then talk about the landfill."

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