

Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)

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Ministère des Affaires civiques et du Multiculturalisme (MCM)

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Nov 10, 2023

Rhiannon Fisher (P468)
Golder Associates Ltd.
100 - 6925 Century Mississauga ON L5N7K2

RE: Review and Entry into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports: Archaeological Assessment Report Entitled, "Stage 1 and 2 Archaeological Assessment Aberfoyle South Pit Expansion (CBM Lake Pit), 6947 Concession Road 2, Puslinch, Part of Lots 18, 19, 20, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Puslinch, County of Wellington, Ontario", Dated Aug 28, 2023, Filed with MCM Toronto Office on Sep 11, 2023, MCM Project Information Form Number P468-0054-2020, P468-0087-2022, MCM File Number 0011000

Dear Ms. Fisher:

This office has reviewed the above-mentioned report, which has been submitted to this ministry as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18.¹ This review has been carried out in order to determine whether the licensed professional consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their licence, that the licensee assessed the property and documented archaeological resources using a process that accords with the 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* set by the ministry, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations are consistent with the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.

The report documents the assessment of the study area as depicted in Supplementary Documentation B-1 of the above titled report and recommends the following:

Location 1 is considered to exhibit cultural heritage value or interest related to the Indigenous use of the area during an as yet undated time period; Location 1 has been registered with the MCM under Borden (AiHb-374). The AiHb-374 site is recommended for long term protection and avoidance under Stage 3 PIF P468-0087-2022 using the following measures:

- The protected area of the site is to be shown on the ARA site plan accompanying the license application. The protected site area corresponds to Figure B-2 of the supplemental documentation.
- A condition is placed on the ARA licence stating: the AiHb-374 site is present as shown on the ARA site plan; that no extraction, alterations or soil disturbance may be carried out within the limits of the protected area of the AiHb-374 site; that post and wire fencing will be erected along the limits of the AiHb-374 site under the direction of the licensed consultant archaeologist; and, that if the AiHb-374 site is still present when the ARA license is surrendered that a restrictive covenant will be placed on title to continue the

protection of the archaeological site.

•A letter is provided by the ARA licensee stating that they are aware of the presence of the archaeological site within the limits of the ARA licence and that they are aware of the restrictions on alteration of an archaeological site of further cultural heritage value or interest as per the condition on their ARA licence and as per Section 48 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Location 3 yielded a combination of historical Euro-Canadian and pre-contact Indigenous artifacts. The precontact Indigenous artifacts do not meet the criteria of cultural heritage value or interest: only nine artifacts were recovered. Location 3 is considered to exhibit cultural heritage value or interest related to the mid-19th century historical Euro-Canadian use of the property. As such, Stage 3 site-specific assessment is recommended for historic Euro-Canadian component of Location 3. Location 3 has been registered with the MCM under Borden (AiHb-375).

•As only a representative sample of the historical Euro-Canadian artifacts were recovered during Stage 2 assessment an additional CSP will be completed as part of the Stage 3 assessment (MCM 2011, Section 3.2.1).

•As a large, plough-disturbed, historical Euro-Canadian site the Stage 3 excavation should be completed as follows (MCM 2011, Table 3.1, Standards 5-7):

•Place multiple grids of various sizing over areas of artifact concentration and excavate one-metre square test units across those grids at five metre intervals.

•Place and excavate additional test units, amounting to 20% of the initial grid unit total between the areas of concentration to document areas of lower concentration.

•Place and excavate further additional test units, amounting to 10% of the initial grid unit total on the periphery of the surface scatter to determine the site extent and sample the site periphery.

•Stage 3 assessment of Location 3 should include the hand-excavation of one-metre square test units by stratigraphic level. All Stage 3 test units should be excavated to subsoil at which time the subsoil should be assessed for signs of cultural features. Should signs of cultural features be identified the cleaned subsoil will be drawn, photographed and covered with geo-textile fabric before being backfilled to protect the features. Should subsoil not reveal any signs of cultural interest, excavation will resume and continue into the first five centimetres of subsoil. All soils excavated from the test units will be screened through hardware cloth with an aperture no larger than 6 mm, to facilitate the recovery of any artifacts that may be present.

•All recovered artifacts should be bagged in the field according to their context and be subject to laboratory analysis. A Stage 3 archaeological assessment report should include all details related to the field work and laboratory analysis.

Location 5 yielded a combination of historical Euro-Canadian and pre-contact Indigenous artifacts. The precontact Indigenous artifacts do not meet the criteria of cultural heritage value or interest as only one artifact was recovered. Location 5 is considered to exhibit cultural heritage value or interest related to the mid-19th century historical Euro-Canadian use of the property. Stage 3 site-specific assessment is recommended for Location 5. Location 5 has been registered with the MCM under Borden (AiHb-376).

•As only a representative sample of the historical Euro-Canadian artifacts were recovered during Stage 2 assessment an additional CSP will be completed as part of the Stage 3 assessment (MCM 2011, Section 3.2.1). As a large, plough-disturbed, historical Euro-Canadian site the Stage 3 excavation should be completed as follows (MCM 2011, Table 3.1, Standards 5-7):

•Place multiple grids of various sizing over areas of artifact concentration and excavate one-metre square

test units across those grids at five metre intervals.

- Place and excavate additional test units, amounting to 20% of the initial grid unit total between the areas of concentration to document areas of lower concentration.

- Place and excavate further additional test units, amounting to 10% of the initial grid unit total on the periphery of the surface scatter to determine the site extent and sample the site periphery.

- Stage 3 assessment of Location 5 should include the hand-excavation of one-metre square test units by stratigraphic level. All Stage 3 test units should be excavated to subsoil at which time the subsoil should be assessed for signs of cultural features. Should signs of cultural features be identified the cleaned subsoil will be drawn, photographed and covered with geo-textile fabric before being backfilled to protect the features. Should subsoil not reveal any signs of cultural interest, excavation will resume and continue into the first five centimetres of subsoil. All soils excavated from the test units will be screened through hardware cloth with an aperture no larger than 6 mm, to facilitate the recovery of any artifacts that may be present.

- All recovered artifacts should be bagged in the field according to their context and be subject to laboratory analysis. A Stage 3 archaeological assessment report should include all details related to the field work and laboratory analysis.

Locations 2, 4, and 6 are small pre-contact Indigenous sites that do not meet the MCM criteria for requiring Stage 3 archaeological assessment. Based on the Stage 2 results, Locations 2, 4, and 6 are considered to be sufficiently documented and no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

Findspots 1 through 19 are solitary findspots or locations with five or less artifacts that do not meet the MCM criteria for requiring Stage 3 archaeological assessment, and, as such, are considered to be sufficiently documented and no further archaeological assessment is recommended.

Based on the information contained in the report, the ministry is satisfied that the fieldwork and reporting for the archaeological assessment are consistent with the ministry's 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* and the terms and conditions for archaeological licences. This report has been entered into the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports. Please note that the ministry makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness, accuracy or quality of reports in the register.

Should you require any further information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Melissa Wallace
Archaeology Review Officer

cc. Archaeology Licensing Officer
Stephen May, CBM Aggregates Inc.
TBD TBD, MNRF

¹ *In no way will the ministry be liable for any harm, damages, costs, expenses, losses, claims or actions that may result: (a) if the Report(s) or its recommendations are discovered to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent; or (b) from the issuance of this letter. Further measures may need to be taken in the event that additional artifacts or archaeological sites are identified or the Report(s) is otherwise found to be inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or fraudulent.*