

# SCHEDULE A – COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

## BACKGROUND

Working with a community prior to the filing of an application is unheard of in Ontario. During the undertaking of the pre-application studies, and throughout the application process through the Aggregate Resources Act (ARA), Strada and NDACT are committed to work together in accordance with the following principles:

- **Openness** – Both organizations are committed to being open with one another about their processes and procedures, where it does not involve business-sensitive or competitive information.
- **Transparency** – Both organizations are committed to making information available to the public at the earliest point possible and on an ongoing basis through regular information-sharing channels.
- **Science-based decision-making** – Both organizations are committed to using peer-reviewed data as the basis for decision-making on this application

Based on the above principles, any written communication with the community must be clear and concise. Strada and NDACT agree that certain communications processes and protocols shall be required to properly engage with the community. This document describes those processes and protocols which include:

- Communicating the Success of this Agreement
- Publishing the Pre-Application Studies
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Q&A
- Communicating the Pre-Application Studies Conclusions
- Communications Post Licensing

## COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOLS

### Signing the Agreement

The signing of the Agreement could well start the launch of an industry wide change to the approach of the aggregate licensing process currently bound by a costly (for both sides), lengthy, bureaucratic process today. It is important that the communication of the signing of this Agreement is clearly understood by all parties – particularly the community it was created for.

### The Communication Process

1. Both parties shall pass a resolution to sign the Agreement, sending a copy of that resolution to the other party.
2. Both parties shall sign the Agreement.
3. In a joint press release, the parties shall communicate the success of the signing and what it means going forward to the community.
4. The Agreement and Schedules shall be posted on both party's web sites.

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5. The parties shall host a Townhall facilitated by NDACT to provide the community with an opportunity for Q&A

### **Posting the Pre-Application Studies**

As they become available, Strada shall post their pre-application studies on the Strada website making them available to the public. Each revised version of a study shall be noted as such making the public aware that it is the latest version.

### **3rd Party Question and Answer Process**

The community shall have questions about the application and the pre-application studies as they are being developed. In order to manage the communication flow and maintain transparency in this phase of the project the following Communication Processes are being proposed:

#### **Main Communication Process**

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Party delivers the Question to Strada CL via Email, phone message/call.
2. Strada forwards NDACT the question. NDACT logs the question: date, type of question, content.
3. Strada CL develops the response to question with the Strada team.
4. Strada CL delivers the response to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party, copying NDACT on the response.
5. NDACT Logs the answer to the question and posts the Q&A on NDACT Web site.

#### **Alternate Communication Process**

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Party delivers the Question to NDACT via Email, phone message/call.
2. NDACT Logs the question: date, type of question, content.
3. NDACT Community Liaison (NDACT CL) forwards the Question to the Strada Community Liaison (Strada CL) via email.
4. Strada CL develops the response to question with the Strada team.
5. Strada CL delivers the response to NDACT.
6. NDACT delivers the response to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party.
7. NDACT Logs the answer to the question and posts the Q&A on NDACT Web site.

### **Communicating the Pre-Application Conclusions**

When the studies have been peer reviewed, one of two things shall happen, either the studies shall prove the science is viable for Strada to proceed to file the application, or the studies shall indicate significant adverse environmental effects that cannot be mitigated resulting in Strada not proceeding with the filing of the application.

### **The Scientific Findings are Not Amenable to Proceeding**

1. The CTC shall write a report summarizing the findings of both Strada's and the CTC's studies and conclude that the CTC agrees the application is not viable and should not be filed.
2. NDACT and Strada sign-off on the CTC's report.

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3. NDACT and Strada shall write a joint press release summarizing the journey, the findings and that the application shall not be filed. Both parties shall deliver the release to their social media outlets
4. STRADA shall pass a resolution to not engage further in the Strada below the water table Application, sending a copy of the resolution to the NDACT CL.

### **The Scientific Findings are Amenable to Proceeding**

1. The CTC shall write a report summarizing all the findings and conclude that the CTC agrees the application is viable and can be filed.
2. NDACT and Strada sign-off on the CTC's report.
3. NDACT and Strada will write a joint press release summarizing the journey, the findings and that the application shall be filed. This shall also include a reminder of the community benefits agreed to as part of the Agreement: that being the Community Recreation Fund and the Water and Natural Features Protocol. Both parties shall deliver the release to their social media outlets
4. NDACT shall pass a resolution to not engage further in the Strada below the water table Application, sending a copy of the resolution to the Strada Community Liaison.

### **Communications Post Application Approval**

Should the studies prove the science is viable for Strada to proceed to file the application, as part of the larger agreement, NDACT has agreed to not object to the application filing. Should Strada then gain their license for the below the water table quarry, two key protocols shall be activated:

- Community Recreation Fund Protocol (Schedule B)
- Wells and Natural Features Protocol (Schedule C)

Both protocols have specific communications processes included in their documentation that should be referred to for more information.

### **Other Communications Processes**


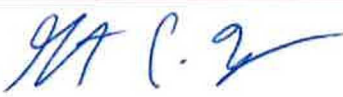
From time to time, other Community communications will be required that have yet to be considered. At that time, Strada and NDACT shall meet to formalize and then execute on a communication strategy for the item under consideration.

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## SIGNOFF PAGE

The Parties agree to the terms and conditions described in this Schedule which is part of the larger Strada/NDACT Community Engagement Agreement between the Parties.

Signed on this 08 day of August, 2022.

	NDACT	STRADA AGGREGATES INC.
<b>REPRESENTATIVE NAME &amp; TITLE</b>	Karren Wallace, Chair	Grant Horan, Controller Executive Officer
<b>Signature</b>		

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## DEFINITIONS

**ARA:** Aggregate Resources Act

**CL:** Community Liaison (NDACT or Strada)

**CTC:** Community Peer Reviewer

**MNRFF:** Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

**MOECC:** Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

## REFERENCES

*Working with our Neighbours, Avenues Magazine, Fall 2021*

<https://www.mediaedgemagazines.com/the-ontario-stone-sand-gravel-association-ossqa/os212/>

*Aggregate Resources of Ontario: Technical Reports and Information Standards*

<https://files.ontario.ca/mnrf-aggregate-resources-of-ontario-technical-reports-and-informationstandards-2020-en-2021-03-18.pdf>