

Dear Laura

4 march 2025

This is a letter to you regarding gravel pits in my area of Bears paw on Birma Road in NW Calgary in the MD of Rocky View County

I got your name from our councilor, when we had a meeting with the public on 27 febr connecting us with NRCB. We were advised to respond before march 30.

This letter will be totally different from the correspondence you usually receive. Not many people will go into detail and keep it short. That is part of the problem, you don't get the whole picture then.

! I have to write this by hand, I have no computer and no cell phone, as at my age, the technologie has passed me by

I am making an effort and asked you kindly to please take the time to read this?

I am able enough to write my letter in English, as I am originally from the Netherlands.

Recently I became a proud Canadian Citizen for which I am very grateful. It allows me to express my honest and humble thoughts and feelings what I want to say that I did not could before. I polibely want to mention, that putting in another gravel pit is just not fair as we already have six in our neighborhood.

We were promissed three times by R.V. Council - no more - we live in a very dense area on the edge where they intend to put the Scott pit, just 150 meter away. about.

Laura, my name is Adri Edwards, I am 86 years old and my husband Michael Edwards and I have lived here in this quiet Cul de Sac called Crestview Estates since 1984 on an acreage of 4.27. I am now widowed Unfortunately Michael passed away 21 september 2021 It then was Covid time, but thankfully he never got the disease.

2- Michael was and has been "the man" who spend 30 plus years of his life resisting new gravel pits in our area to be build. He wrote tons of letters to governments, councilors, doctors ministers, envirement, researchers, just because he wanted the Community around us to breathe fresh air and live their lives in an healthy envirement.

The man was smart, had three University degrees.

He has been succesful all those years in keeping the new gravel pits away. The one in 1992 was defeated and again in 2010 The last one in january 2021 was complecated. We never had a chance to defend ourselves, or having our voices heard. We could send in letters, but not a 5 minute personal presentation to MD Council. to oppose, because of Covid.

Then some one suggested, we could be heard by doing videos.

Michael was already to sick to do one I wanted to do it, however I had no idea what to say as it was really Michaels business. But for his sake I had to try

One by one (because of Covid) we could come to someone's garage. I did not know anybody. It took a lot of courage I wrote on a piece of paper what I wanted to say.

I looked strait into the camera, and poured my heart out

It was very emotional. I must have done ok, as later coming home Michael received a lot of complements from residents like:

To Mike

I want to thank you and Adri personally for all you've done and been through in this fight. There were a lot of great video presentations from residents, but Adri's stood out above all the rest. She brought tears to my eyes, thinking of all the two of you have been through Give her an enormous hug for me

Hello Mike, please pass on to Mrs Edwards: Her presentation to RVC was absolutely wonderful. Spoken from the heart and we totally identified with it All the best.

3-

Hi Mike, I hear your wife knocked it out of the park with her video. I can't wait to see it

Mike she did a wonderful job. Colleen and I were very impressed Tell her well done.

So Laura, what I said in my video seem to have touched a lot of people, maybe when you read it, you will find a soft spot in your heart and agree also.

This is what I said

30 January 2021.

Good morning every one
My name is Adri Edwards, I am 82 years old and probably one of the oldest residents in Bears paw.

We have lived in Crest view Estates since 1984.
We are deeply disturbed, angry even that Le High Hanson is trying for a third time to get approval for yet another gravel pit.

This one letterly would come in our backyard.
This goes to far and it is unacceptable.
Are six pits not enough?
This is a residential area. People live here
We are surrounded by many new communities.

Council refused the gravel compagnies twice
They keep on coming back. They are not welcome
They don't seem to understand No means No.
Council knows all about our complaints, as everybody writes the same letters

But I will tell you personally why I am so upset

It is because of all the hard work we have put in our place
Year after year after year.

If you let me explain in simple words what really bothers me, you will understand

Living on an acreage is hard work, but we chose this lifestyle

For 36 years we worked our fingers to the bones

We dragged wheel barrel after wheel barrel up and down the hills with dead branches to make a path through the bush. We seeded the trails and mowed them with our small tractor. To make it look like our own private "little park" Along side we placed benches, lanterns and tubs of flowers, garden ornaments, gnomes and all.

Michael build retaining walls, flower and vegetable beds, picknick tables, benches, balconies and decks

Even a gnome house with shutters and barn doors, so that only our cats could go through and kept the coyotes out.

And that just to make me happy, it would remind me childhood. Before we had lawns, we pulled thousands of thistles, removed all the rocks, then loads of soil in a truck were brought in and finally we could lay our 30 pellets of sods. While we were at it, we put a second septic field in just in case of a future emergency.

Our lawns were nice, healthy and green.

Green drop came every year to control our weeds.

But our toughest job came, when we had to build a split rail fence around the four acres. We found it too expensive to contract it out. So we gave it a try.

After supper every night we put in 3 sections at the time

I was the "grunter" Michael the "pole digger"

Truly a lot of work, but we got it done

And we were proud of it, as we did it ourselves.

Just the two of us — Michael and I —

We drove an hour to a place, where with a special permit we could dig our own trees, ten at a time. We planted and watered till late at night

Today those 230 6 in y one footers are now huge

They make good shelter in winter when "our deer" come through.

5- What does this all have to do with another gravel pit you asked?

Well what I just mentioned.

Was all this work for nothing?

Is it a crime to have your place look nice and cared for?

Does that mean anything at all? Probably not to gravel companies

We don't want another gravel pit anymore

We still would like to have a few more years to enjoy what we worked so hard for and have some peace and quiet.

Have not we suffered enough with all the other pits with their noise, their dust and our sleepless nights?

We can not even open a window on hot summer nights.

Is a gravel company really capable of chasing us out of our homes? And destroying our lives?

This reason is big too

We so enjoy our wildlife. These animals are family to us. We call them our moose

our deer. They graze on our property

They drink out of our rain barrels

We give them names

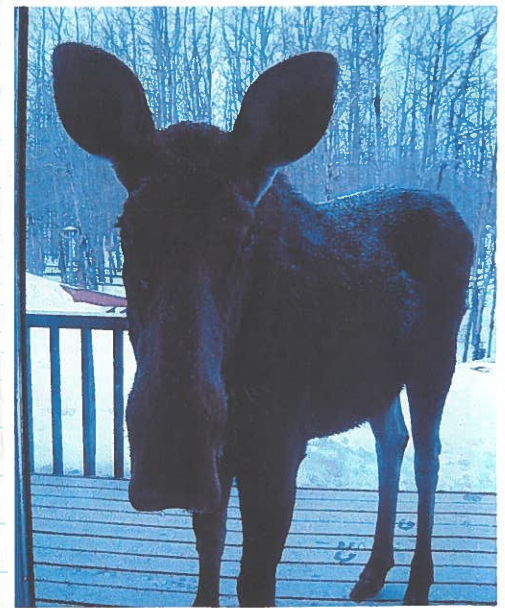
Everybody around here knows "Marvin"

She visited us on a snowy day.

Came right on the deck

Sniffed our window and said hello how goes?

Can you imagine that?



It tells you, these critters are displaced

Where once they roamed, gravel pits have taken their place. Please let them be?

It is unfair to poison them with silica dust, never mind our lungs or our kids.

My argument

Those critters do not move on as Le High Hanson suggested. That is why they land up in our backyard where they feel safe.

We want to keep it that way.

All of us in Bears paw say - Please Council listen to us again?

No more gravel pits - ever

Thank you.

6-

So Laura I hope you chose our side also.

The many reasons for us not wanting any more gravel pits in our area is mostly

We should not have to worry anymore about

Property values going down

Breathing fresh air I personally struggle with asthma

Our wells going dry

Our drinking water contaminated.

Safety on our road

To many trucks, resulting in

Broken windshields.

Some trucks don't even stop at stop signs

- I witnessed myself many times -

- These guys think they are kings of the road.

The dust on windows, patios, cars outside outside furniture and with a window in the house open, I personally have my inhaler ready. at all times

But the worst - noise at night. We can hear Burnco and Star all the time.

All the above has been researched, why does not anyone tell us the truth

Laura, ^{!!!} we did not chose to live next to gravel pits, we were here first. We want an environment with peace and quiet.

That is why people live here and enjoy country living especially when they have young kids

After the 3d refusal in January 2021, more people came to live here. They were confident, build more houses and start working hard like Michael and I did as they were assured no more pits

27 febr 2025 What a shock to find out this surprise for another plan, this time by NRBC?

We have no words, not only are we disappointed and then some, some of us are broken. Who is playing with us?

7- Gravel companies say they are good neighbors
I personally have witnessed, it is not always true. For example
For tax purposes, the gravel people rent out the property
meadows around our Cul de Sac to a farmer who let his cows
graze there. We love the sound of cows - no problem -

But are they provided with enough water? The cows broke
through our fence in the back of our property on one hot
summer day looking for water. They landed in our pond
which was dry. Poor things were thirsty. They howled and
howled. I have pictures where three cows were on our
front lawn pooping all over the place

And to make matters worse, my neighbor on the end of our
Cul de Sac came home from vacation, he noticed a bad smell
around his house. He discovered a dead cow in the mud as
his pond also was dry. Did anybody ever checked on these
cows? All was hush hush after! My point Laura, if the gravel
people don't look after the animals, could they not at least
inform the farmer. One just gets the feeling - oh it's only a cow.

What then, do they think of us people?
Not good neighbors I say. - not much -

So Laura you have noticed I still am a feisty 86 year old lady
I hope I got my feelings across to you. I just had to write all this.
From what we understand, the MD of Rocky View has
handed "this problem" over to the Province - NRBC -

Do we start from scratch?

I don't know Laura how much you really know about this
gravel situation, but my letter to you should give you plenty
of information and a good idea why all of us in
Bears paw are so tired of fighting for 30 years.

I ask you, before you people at the Board make a decision
to remember, the MD decided after hearing and seeing all of
residents videos - to scrap the whole thing -
To many people live here. We still are all opposed.

This letter was long Laura, but so were 30 years

Thanks for your patience and reading this.

My very best to you and good luck.



Adri Edwards.

NO! NO! NO!



Help us be heard! Gravel Extraction is DANGEROUS. Especially in our back yard!! Lehigh Hanson has previously applied for the same rezoning, once in 1994 and in 2010. Both times, the community unanimously said NO.

They are back, for a third time.

Bearspaw is a community filled with all types of residents: Our love of nature unites us. Fresh air, walking, bike riding, horseback riding, swimming, skating, pond hockey, cross country skiing. We love our wildlife! This is why we choose to live here.

YES, we know gravel is a resource. BUT there are many more opportunities for Lehigh Hanson

Your voice counts. There will be a virtual public hearing on February 2, 2021. Because we can not appear at this public meeting we encourage visual and audio submission. These need to be submitted by February 1 noon. Our only way of being 'seen and heard'

The Public Hearing protocols can be found at the following RVC website:
<https://www.rockyview.ca/presenting-to-council#audio-video>

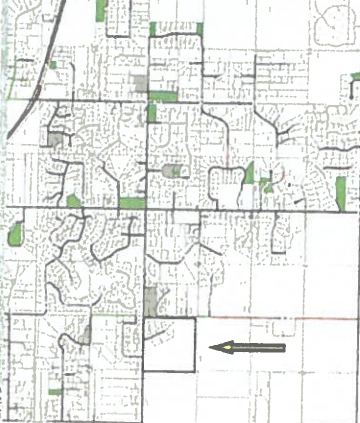


Written submissions from community members need to be received in advance by Jan 27 at 4:30 pm. Content received after this date will not be considered.

Please voice your opposition by sending a email to: legislativeservices@rockyview.ca with the subject line **BYLAW C-8082-2020** and include your name and address.

Please take the time to voice your opposition to the Lehigh Hanson Gravel Pit to the Rocky View County council.

*Application number: PL20200093



We would like to recognize the pioneers of the gravel resistance movement: Mike and Adri Edwards have spent decades of hard work advocating to protect our community are genuinely appreciated. Mike and Adri's voices have been an asset to our community as we find ourselves advocating to council for a third time on this issue.

