



OPPI Round-Table Discussions Summary

**AGGREGATES AND AGRICULTURE:
UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACTS OF
AGGREGATE PRODUCTION ON AGRICULTURE
AND IDENTIFYING MITIGATING STRATEGIES**

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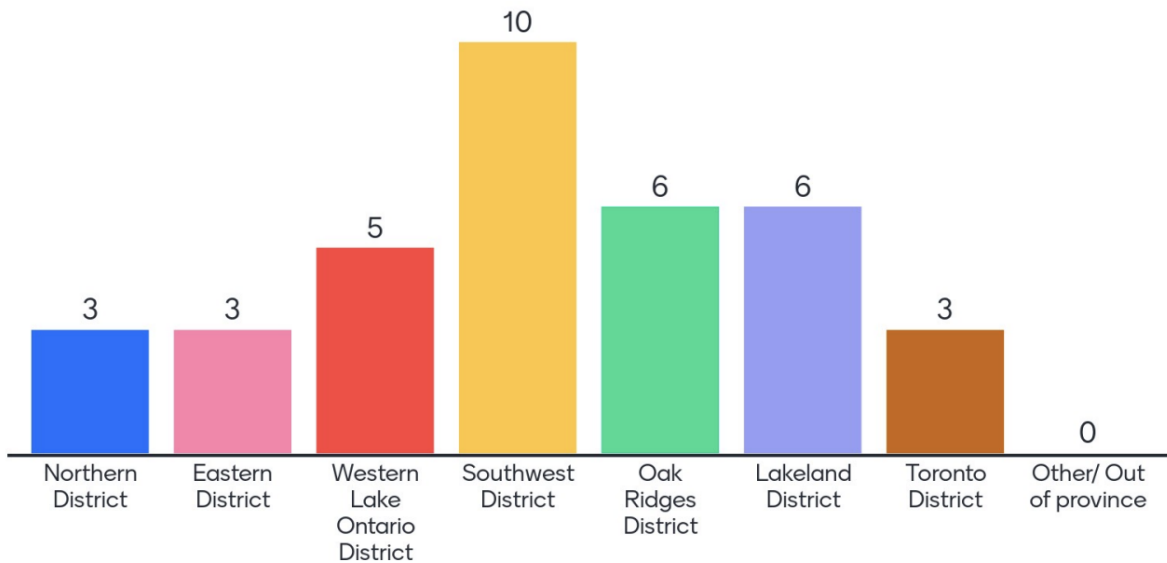
Tier I Project UofG 2017-2934

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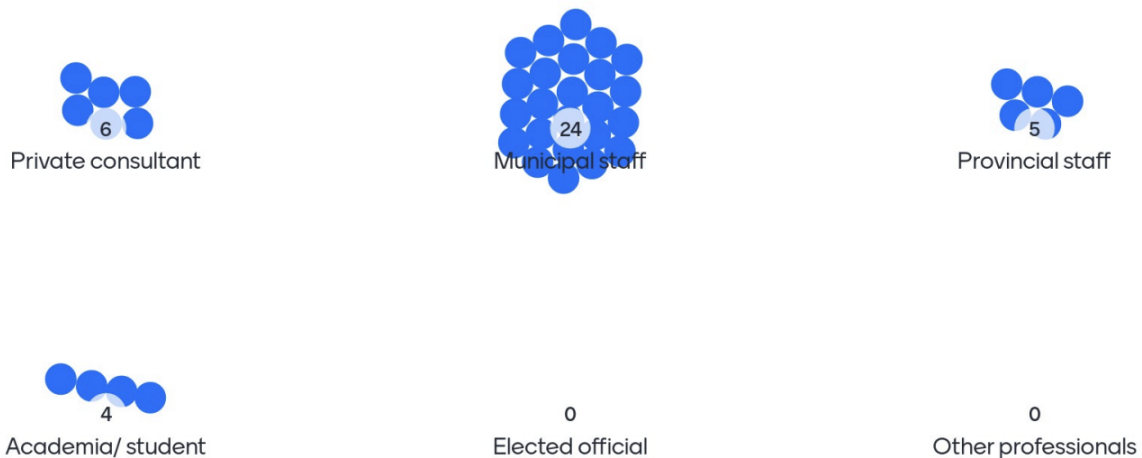
Introduction

On October 7, 2021 our research team facilitated a round-table discussion at the 2021 OPPI Conference. The discussion was titled “Planning for Aggregate Extraction - Integrating Municipal, Agricultural and Aggregate” and had 62 participants. As part of the discussion respondents we asked a series of questions, below is a summary.

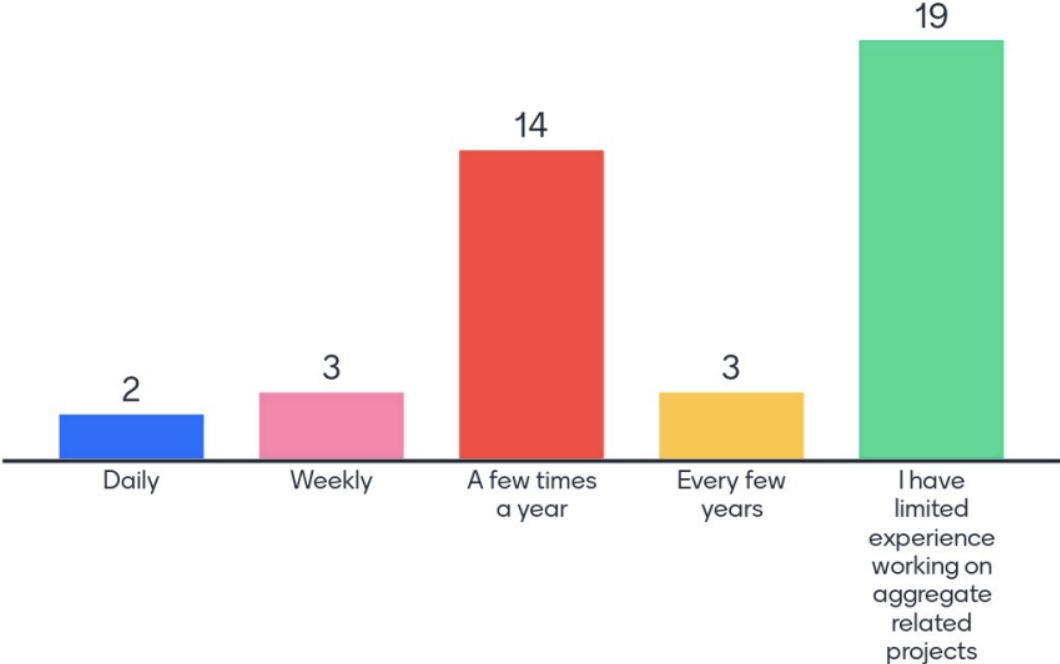
Question 1: What OPPI district are you part of?



Question 2: Who are you?



Question 3: How often do you work on aggregate related projects?



Question 4: What are the potential issues with aggregate operations in close proximity to agriculture?

- Noise (x6)
- Perceived vs. Real Conflicts
- Dust (x7)
- Traffic (x6)
- Road sharing (both ways)
- Concerns re conflict between trucks and large farm equipment- are roads wide enough
- Incompatible vehicles sharing road
- Pedestrian safety
- The different perceptions within a community between local operators and multinational operators
- Water quality (x2)
- Water quality and quantity issues
- Groundwater testing and some concerns from neighbours about the validity if the operator conducts the testing.
- Impact on livestock
- Aggregate as an interim land use
- Setbacks
- Maximum disturbed area
- Understanding cumulative impacts
- Non-Ag use in Ag area
- That it is the local residents rather than the agricultural producers who are more inclined to have issues
- Would like clarification on the JART and how it differs from standard development review processes
- Working in a municipality not designated under the Act
- Pits and quarries being developed on Crown Land within the municipality
- Loss of trees
- Land Value
- Lack of public knowledge re: operational restrictions on aggregate
- Technical Expertise often not available to monitor the rehabilitation
- Transparency
- Transparency appearances when the aggregate proponent funds studies

Question 5: What best practices (planning and operational) can contribute to good outcomes when working on aggregate projects in agricultural communities?

- Maximum disturbed area
- Education
- Good neighbour policy
- Community advisory panel of local stakeholders
- Community/neighbourhood consultation
- Early public engagement
- Good neighbours - offering tours
- Pit owners being proactive in helping neighbours understand their activities. Transparency at community meetings, open houses, tours, etc.
- Haul route upgrades
- Using site plan approvals as a tool
- We didn't make it to this, but it seems like promoting an understanding of the operational requirements/restrictions on aggregate might help the community understand what's permitted.
- Transparency
- Lack of technical expertise to monitor rehabilitation
- Municipalities foster communication between farmers and aggregate producers
- Some universities have rehab expertise