



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
**Tony Van Bynen**

July 12, 2011

Dear Resident(s),

On behalf of Town of Newmarket Council, we would like to provide you with another update on the status of the Risk Assessment being conducted on the woodlot and trail areas in the vicinity of Bathurst Street and Mulock Drive. The last update letter we sent you was in January and is available online at [www.newmarket.ca](http://www.newmarket.ca) for your information and background.

As you may recall, soil testing in December 2008 revealed the presence of arsenic in some areas adjacent to the Summerhill Woods residential development in the Bathurst Street and Mulock Drive area. **Soil tests confirmed that all topsoil in the residential areas met the appropriate Ministry of the Environment (MOE) standards and that no further work was necessary in any of the subdivisions.**

Some elevated levels of arsenic and lead were detected in the woodlot and trail areas adjacent to the Summerhill Woods residential development due to pesticide use when the lands were used as orchards. The Town enlisted a team of independent environmental specialists to conduct environmental studies and a Risk Assessment. **The Town was advised that the presence of elevated levels of arsenic in some areas of the woodlot and trail pose no immediate health or safety risk to residents.** The Risk Assessment was conducted by Intrinsik, a company specializing in toxicology and risk assessments.

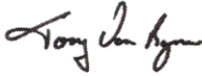
As we mentioned in January's letter, a draft Risk Assessment, conducted in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) regulations, was submitted to the MOE and copied to York Region's Medical Officer of Health in April 2010. Based on the MOE's comments, a revised Risk Assessment was submitted with the Ministry in October 2010. **The preliminary results of the Risk Assessment indicated minimal impact on the woodlot. Supplementary comments were received earlier this year and revisions were provided to the Ministry last month. We are currently awaiting response from the MOE and will update you with any further pertinent information.**

If you have any questions, please call the Town of Newmarket at 905-895-5193. For more information on the MOE process and standards, please visit [www.ene.gov.on.ca](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca). For background and previous correspondence on the matter, please visit the Town of Newmarket's website at [www.newmarket.ca](http://www.newmarket.ca) and search keyword *Summerhill*. We have also provided the updated *Chronology of Work Conducted to Date* for your reference.

*Please turn over ⇒*

The Town of Newmarket Council and Staff are committed to taking every precaution to ensure that we have a safe and healthy community. We appreciate your continued patience during this process.

Sincerely,



Tony Van Bynen  
Mayor



John Taylor  
Regional Councillor



Maddie Di Muccio  
Ward 6 Councillor

### **Chronology of Work Conducted to Date**

- January 2009 – Public Meeting outlines the Risk Assessment process with an estimated timeline 12 to 18 months
- February through April 2009 – Preparation of the Pre-Submission Form and site characterization support documents
- April 20, 2009 – Submission of the Pre-Submission Form to the Ministry of the Environment copying York Region Community and Health Services
- May 19, 2009 – Comments regarding the Pre-Submission Form received from York Region Community and Health Services
- June 1, 2009 – Ministry of the Environment response to Pre-Submission Form received
- July 15, 2009 – Recommendations made for additional site characterization studies to address Ministry of the Environment and York Region Community and Health Services comments
- August 2009 – Bioaccessibility study started
- September and October 2009 – Site characterization and Bioaccessibility field programs completed.
- November 2009 to March 2010 – completion of the Draft Risk Assessment document including addressing regulatory changes issued in December 2009
- April 9, 2010 – submission of the Draft Risk Assessment to the Ministry of Environment and York Region Community and Health Services
- In August 2010, the Ministry provided notice to the Risk Assessment consultants that additional information was required
- A revised Risk Assessment was filed with the Ministry in October 2010 by Intrinsik
- Supplementary comments were received earlier this year from the MOE
- Revisions were provided to the MOE in May 2011.

### **The time line for the next steps is estimated as follows:**

- July 2011, currently awaiting response from the MOE
- Further updates will be provided as the Risk Assessment process proceeds.