

SEASON'S GREETINGS

DECEMBER 2015



THE YEAR END MESSAGE FROM DON...

Another year has flown by. I have been very pleased with the work of MC² during what has, in many ways, been a challenging time. We have faced two major threats to our community and have done good work on both fronts.

The first accomplishment has been the excellent work of our Environment Committee, which held two successful public sessions this year on the various threats to our beautiful community and its residents. We have reported regularly on this work, and it is our plan to continue the effort to inform the public.

The second major effort has been trying to stop the proposal to dump large amounts of fill on a farm in Mono. Fill dumping is a rapidly evolving threat to all rural communities near to Toronto. MC² joined the Town of Mono and Mono resident Elaine Kehoe as parties in a hearing aimed at deciding whether this proposal should go ahead. The hearing took place during the week of November 23-27. As we reported to our members at the time, the case against this dump site

was very well made by the Town and by Elaine Kehoe; and we now await the decision.

In addition to these efforts, we continue to focus on a variety of issues with our Councils. We will make a stronger attempt to publicize the road noise issue and will provide our Councils with recommendations to attack this problem. And of course, new issues will invariably emerge ...

We have continued to strengthen our organization. We, thankfully, have a strong active Board. Our website has improved significantly. Our finances are in good shape. All of that, as well as the work on the major issues, has depended on a strong team of volunteers.

Priorities for next year include continuing to watch the fill dumping file. This issue won't go away. We will work with our strong partner organizations, CORE, NDACT, CSBPB, and Protect Mono as they lead the charge against the ever-present problem of the almost

unlimited and uncontrolled expansion of aggregate mining, citizen safety, and protection of land and water resources, and other challenges in Dufferin County. We take strength from not working alone, and we are looking at ways to better coordinate the work of all these groups.

We are currently working to set other priorities for the next couple of years. We are requesting all our members to provide us with their list of the issues they feel we should be addressing. Contact us at info@monomulumur.com

While we face many challenges in our community, it is clear to all our members that this is a place well worth fighting to protect. And while we tend to focus on the challenges, there is a strong range of positives to be thankful for. If there weren't, we wouldn't all continue to live here. While we will keep on with our work and report on the potential negatives, we will continue, in our communication and agenda, to attempt to balance the negatives with the positives.

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For the past several years, one of the strong positives I think about is the group of committed and engaged citizens who make up MC². Whether you are actively engaged with our committees or Board, or are supporting our work by renewing your membership every year, by attending our meetings, or in whatever way reflects your involvement, your engagement has allowed this positive active organization to thrive. As long as

that support, in its many forms, continues, MC² will play a strong role.

So, thank you to all our members. Best wishes for the holiday season. Let's hope that 2016 is a more tranquil year for Mono and Mulmur, and Dufferin County. But it probably won't be and together with all of you, we will continue our work.

Don MacFarlane

It's been a year of great change in our world, our country and right here in our own backyards. MC² has grown and changed, too, along with the rest. We've welcomed more than 20 new households to our membership while having to say good-bye to some long-time supporters for a variety of reasons. New members have brought a new energy to MC² and we look forward to a positive future and what we, as an organization, can bring to it.

In the immortal words of John Wayne:

"Tomorrow is the most important thing in life.
Comes into us at midnight very clean.
It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself into our hands.
It hopes we learned something from yesterday."

The Duke had something there!

We wish you all a very joyful, peaceful and safe Christmas and holiday season.
All the very best in 2016 from our homes to all of yours ...

Arnold, Bob, Cathy, David, Don, Ed, Elaine, Ernie, Frances, Lewis and Rita

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

THESE HOLIDAY GREETINGS WERE PUBLISHED BY
THE MONO MULMUR CITIZENS' COALITION

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