

12411 - 85 Street N.W.



What is Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource (STAR)?

Calgary’s most experienced gravel operators are developing the Stoney Trail Aggregate Resource (STAR). The BLV Group, a joint venture of Burnco Rock Products Ltd, Lafarge Canada Inc. and Volker Stevin Contracting Ltd., was awarded the contract by Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation in 2005. STAR is a provincially owned resource which supplies public works and this key project was 5 years in the making before the contract was actually awarded.

- The STAR pit is the sixth gravel extraction operation in the general Spy Hill area.
- The mining operation will be carried out on a rotating basis, with site reclamation and restoration taking place as each block is mined out.
- The site was named for the upcoming Stoney Trail ring road which is anticipated to use a significant amount of gravel from this site and then serve as the primary road network to distribute the gravel to other parts of the city in the future.

Who is the BLV Group?

- Burnco Rock Products Ltd is a Calgary-based family company with more than 90 years of experience operating sand and gravel pits and manufacturing asphalt, ready-mixed concrete and precast concrete products in Calgary and across the province.
- Lafarge Canada Inc. is a part of Lafarge North America, the continent’s largest diversified construction materials company and a member of the international Lafarge Group which operates in 75 nations. Lafarge has a 90 year history in Calgary operating under such names as Galleli Brothers, Conmac and Conferage.
- Volker Stevin Contracting Ltd., of the world-wide Volker Wessels Companies, is a utilities construction and construction-materials company active in road and utility projects and producing gravel and asphalt in the Calgary area.

- The combined experience of the members of the BLV Group ensures that the highest level of expertise will be applied to meet the high environmental and community standards expected by the province, the city, the MD of Rockyview, neighbouring residents and other businesses and institutions in the area.

The One Billion Tonne Solution

- In the next 50 years, Calgary will need at least 700 million tonnes and perhaps as much as one billion tonnes of gravel. Approximately one quarter of the gravel demand for the entire city and its metropolitan region in the surrounding towns, counties and municipal districts would come from the six Spy Hill area gravel operations and 10-15% could be supplied from the STAR pit.

2006 Public Open House

- The 1st annual Stoney Trail public open house has been delayed until next spring. We had planned on having the open house on September 16 but had to cancel due to the poor weather conditions. This came as a disappointment to many but no one could have predicted this bad spell of weather after the wonderful summer that we had. Hopefully, we will see you all next year when we try again to have the STAR open house.

Site Development Status

- Much has been done since last year on the site's overall landscaping. In October of 2005, rough grading of a 2.4 km landscaped berm took place around the STAR perimeter. The landscaped berm would become the project's landmark and a symbol of the BLV Group's and the province's commitment to manage and minimize the impacts of this operation on its neighbours. The berm is now open to recreational users for walking, bird watching and similar passive leisure activities.
- The berm is just one measure to alleviate the concerns of the community. Noise and air monitoring are also in place at STAR. This new system allows The BLV Group to establish background conditions and monitor sounds and air quality from our operations. It was established as a way to ensure that the joint venture members could track their operations resulting in less community impacts.



Fast Facts

-Calgary requires 10 million tonnes of gravel for different construction projects each year and 60% of this gravel comes from the northwest area.

-Calgary is unique in that aggregate deposits are located closer to where they are needed than other cities. This reduces the haul cost, the number of trucks on the road and emissions, which reduces green house gases.

-Gravel plays a key role in helping to build the infrastructure that we use and count on every day. Some examples:

- The foundation and basement floor of your home
- The roads, pathways, driveways, and sidewalks you drive, bike and walk on
- The school your kids attend, the office you work in, the stores you shop in
- The pipelines that carry drinking water, and sewers that carry waste away
- The airport that you use to travel on vacation or business

We would like to hear from you!

- Please contact us with any questions or comments on our operations or the gravel industry in general.
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