

Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the Peel District School Board need to develop part of the Britannia Farm?

When the Farm was granted to the Board by King William IV in 1833, it was originally farmed to generate revenue to financially support the Board's educational system. At the time, agriculture was the best revenue-generating land use, however this has changed today. For this reason, the Board is open to contemplating a range of land uses agreeable to the Board and City that generate revenue in keeping with the original grant from the Crown.

Is the Peel District School Board allowed to develop part of the Farm?

On Sept. 17, 2009, the Board received a provincial Order-in-Council permitting "the sale, lease or other disposition" of the 32-acre development parcel.

Is it the Peel District School Board's intention to generate profit with respect to the development parcel, or will the parcel only support the Britannia Farm?

One of the goals of the Master Plan Refresh is to generate sufficient revenue from the development parcel to fund student-focused instructional programming proposed on the Farm and the Board's other two field centres. You can learn more about these field centres by visiting:

<http://www.peelschools.org/schools/fieldcentres>

Why was the southeast corner of the Britannia Farm chosen as the development parcel? Why not develop closer to the Central Board Office?

The southeast corner is the most suitable location for development because it is the least environmentally sensitive land on the Farm and the most marketable part for alternative land use. The parcel is transit-supportive being situated along the future Hurontario LRT corridor, adjacent to the future Bristol LRT stop. As stated above, the proposed 32-acre development parcel has been approved by the Province for disposition and development.

How did the Board decide 32-acres is required for the development parcel?

In 2009, the Board entered into an agreement with a major developer, Osmington Inc., for the long term lease and development of a portion of the Farm

lands for office / commercial uses. 32 acres were required to establish a viable development project including an on-site storm water management pond.

What happened to the Osmington Inc. development proposal?

On April 29th, 2011, Osmington Inc. issued a Notice of Termination of the Agreement to Lease. Osmington Inc. did not provide the Board with a reason for their withdrawal.

What type of programming is being proposed for the Farm?

It is the Board's intention to maintain the majority of the property in its natural state. The Master Plan Refresh process will determine appropriate locations for indoor/outdoor experiential learning for students of the Peel District School Board. This may include: trail systems, an outdoor classroom, student field centre, washrooms, and/or picnic shelters among other uses.

Why is the City of Mississauga involved in the Master Plan Refresh when it's the Board's property?

On April 13th, 2016, the Board entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Mississauga to establish terms and conditions for their partnership. The Board is seeking the City's experience and assistance to refresh the Britannia Farm Master Plan, and the City is seeking appropriate public access to the Farm.

Will the Farm be accessible to the public?

The Britannia Farm is owned by the Peel District School Board. Therefore, programming on the site will focus on Peel Board instructional program curriculum. However, appropriate public access to the Farm is currently being reviewed through the Master Plan Refresh process and other partnerships may be proposed that could be beneficial to other users.

What is the timeline for the Master Plan Refresh?

The Master Plan will be completed by December 2016, and is scheduled for review at a Regular Board Meeting on December 12th, 2016. If approved by the Board, Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments would be required prior to commencing any construction on the site.