

# Council gives quarry plan support in principle

By Suzanne Mason  
Special to The Standard  
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

A proposal to rehabilitate the Queenston Quarry and build a resort with a golf course, winery and other recreational activities has received "support in principle" for the Niagara-on-the-Lake town councilors.

Frank Racioppo, president of the Queenston Quarry Reclamation Company, and two residents whose properties tie back onto the 248-acre quarry urged the town to lend their support to the proposal before it goes to a hearing by the Niagara Escarpment Commission later this month.

At a planning advisory committee Monday, Racioppo said the NEC would only be dealing with the resort component of the project, as the other uses are permitted on the land. He said his company has been working on plans for the site located on the north side of Townline road and Highway 405 for two years.

Racioppo said he has held an open house and met with the 12 residents who live by the quarry in Bevan Heights and has "not received one objection. They are tired of the industrial activity and look forward to its future rehabilitative uses."

Peter Bissonnette, who has lived in Bevan Heights for more than 25 years, said the proposed development would not detract from the value of his home or his use of the land.

"This would be a real amenity to the Bevan Heights community and to Niagara-on-the-Lake as a whole," he said.

A 40-year neighbourhood resident, John Codrington, said, "It's the best thing we could do to this property." He added that a three-storey resort "is not particularly visible to the surrounding properties and fits in well with the environment."