

Council briefs Town monitoring proposed quarry

The Town is monitoring a proposed quarry application that may have an effect on the Town of Halton Hills.

The proposed Rockfort Quarry, a 220-acre quarry in Caledon, owned by James Dick Construction Ltd., is located north of Halton Hills, on Olde Baseline Rd., and east of Winston Churchill Blvd. The company plans to quarry below the water table.

The Town has registered as a participant in a four-month long Ontario Municipal Board hearing scheduled to begin next May.

The key issues for Halton Hills are the possible environmental effects—a required Comprehensive Broad Scale Environmental Study encompasses the northeast parts of the town including Terra Cotta—and transportation, such as haul routes. The current haul route does not enter Halton Hills, but Town staff will continue to monitor this in case of any future changes.

Halton Hills's 51 bridges and 45 culverts will be inspected by a specially-hired engineer firm, Totten Sims Hubicki Associates for \$41,475.

The Town had to increase its budget by another \$8,500 to hire the firm.

The inspections, done every second year, are required by provincial legislation.

A more detailed inspection by another firm, Trow Associates, will outline repair requirements on the Fifth and Sixth Lines bridges, south of Steeles Ave. This will cost about \$20,000, and will be paid from a development charges reserve.

The chair of the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, Steven W. Mahoney, urged the Town of Halton Hills council at a recent meeting to sign a Safety Charter promising to teach and practise safe and healthy working situations.

Mahoney told councillors about 350 people die each year in Ontario due to workplace issues.

Mayor Rick Bonnette and Mahoney each formally signed the Community Workplace Health and Safety Charter at the council meeting.

Councillor Jane Fogal requested staff also prepare a report on what the Town of Halton does to ensure safe working practices.

Heritage Halton Hills gave the go-ahead to a property owner of a designated home—Moorecroft—in Acton to replace its existing sloped slate roof with a modern synthetic slate one. Storm windows will be placed on the outside of the home to preserve and protect the stained glass windows from the elements.

Moorecroft, also known as Beatty House, is designated as a historical home. The residence at 98 Church St. in Acton was built in 1897 in Queen Anne style. It is also associated as the home of the longtime *Acton Free Press* editor, H.P. Moore, and a Beardmore tannery manager.

—Compiled by Cynthia Gamble, staff writer

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