

At the request of Sigma Construction Company, two lots close to the quarry are rezoned from “single family two-storey” to “duplexes”. In the company’s opinion, the land is not particularly admirable for the erection of single family homes.

May 31, 1973

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=3KMLAAAIBAJ&sjid=81QDAAAIBAJ&pg=5289%2C797363>

Residents near the Pierrefonds quarry have been complaining about dusty air for some time. However, a recent blast at the quarry that sent rocks flying into nearby parks and back yards has pushed the Green Acres Residents’ Association to contact the Minister of the Environment. Mayor Eddie Lalande states that “something will have to be done”, while Tim Nolan, one of the association’s directors, counters that “something has been going to be done for years”. Pierrefonds Building Inspector Roger Fortin is appalled to see as much gray dust in Green Acres as in Thetford Mines, and recommends hiring a consultant to conduct a three day study of the quarry.

July 5 1973

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=leJPAAAIBAJ&sjid=81QDAAAIBAJ&pg=1284%2C1314313>

Consulting engineer J. D. Lambert tables a report on dust, vibration and flying rocks resulting from the operation of the quarry, following complaints from residents of the Green Acres development adjacent to the quarry. The vibration and flying rocks are blamed on blasting trials conducted in May, and the report concludes that the quarry is operating well within nuisance levels acceptable to the City of Montreal. Mr. Lambert recommends that residents keep a diary of any unusual blasts.

July 12 1973

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=luJPAAAIBAJ&sjid=81QDAAAIBAJ&pg=1138%2C1379793>

The Green Acres Residents’ Association is unhappy with the report produced by engineer J. D. Lambert. Executive Tim Nolan states that while quarry operations are acceptable at the moment, there have been quiet periods followed by problematic periods for the last nine or ten years. He complains that the report offers no guarantees that the situation will not deteriorate again in the future. He doubts that the quarry will close by 1974, as stated during a lawsuit by Meloche Company, since the company subsequently stated they will be moving to wet drilling, requiring an investment in new equipment.

Feb 27 1975

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=8G5PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=ZFEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=685%2C4504350>

A committee headed by Montreal city councilor Fernand Alie recommends that all quarries, including the Pierrefonds quarry, be returned to the municipalities “without damages”, i.e. for the sum of \$1, preferably for development as parks. Pierrefonds mayor Cy McDonald points out that there are two world-famous parks in Vancouver and Victoria that are former quarries and that a former quarry in Laval has been developed into a lake and garden. According to him, “we’ve been moving in that direction ourselves, for years.”

June 26, 1975

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=AW9PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=ZFEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=6994%2C6916257>

Oakwood st. is opened between St-Charles Blvd and the Thorndale Gardens development. Travel on the road is hazardous to anything but a four-wheel-drive jeep.

July 28 1977

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=KqYLAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=5881%2C297200>

The City of Pierrefonds approves a budget to pave Oakwood st., two years after it opened it, with city manager Gerry LePage saying the road “creates more dust than the quarry”.

Oct 6, 1977

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=DJ5PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&dq=melocche%20quarry&pg=4278%2C1474684>

In response to pressure from environmentalist groups, city manager Gerry LePage promises a detailed report on the quarry, to be presented to city council in the following week. Issues include the degree of air pollution, the intensity of the blasting, the possibility of expansion of the quarry and an assessment of the extent of the resources remaining.

Oct 20 1977

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=DZ5PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=6099%2C1744013>

The Committee Against Pollution by the Pierrefonds Quarry (CAPP) holds a public meeting and is incorporated. Chairman Daniel Belanger says the committee’s objectives are to reduce the amount of dust pollution, reduce excessive noise from the machinery and demand maintenance of the fences around the quarry. The committee was formed

following concerns from residents over air pollution and the risk of contracting silicosis. It follows a failed attempt to close the quarry by the Green Acres Residents' Association, which was formed in 1972. They had been told by municipal officials that the quarry would be closed in 1974. However, at the CAPP meeting, mayor Cy McDonald states that operations will continue for another two or three years, until the quarry is depleted. He announces that Pierrefonds has decided that on a long-term basis, the quarry should be filled and turned into a park. Kirkland councilor Jacques Metivier states that an early closing of the quarry is unlikely, since the owners have recently invested \$80,000 in equipment.

Oct 27 1977

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=Dp5PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&dq=meloche%20quarry&pg=2648%2C1870126>

A panoramic view of the quarry, which has been the centre of complaints for years from nearby residents over blasting vibrations and the ensuing dust. The quarry owner has refused to give a date for when the quarry will close.

Feb 7 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=G55PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=1200%2C3528582>

In November 1977, Compagnie Meloche was ordered by the Department of Municipal Affairs to implement technical changes required to control dust and blasting vibrations. However, homeowners adjacent to the site are not entirely satisfied. CAPP tables several grievances shared by homeowners in an effort to pressure city council for further action.

March 9 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=IJ5PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=965%2C4122068>

CAPP goes to a city council meeting to pressure mayor Cy McDonald to take action on complaints about the quarry, especially about the broken fence surrounding it. The mayor accuses residents of breaking the fence to steal stones from the quarry and use them for home repairs. However a CAPP spokesman implies that the fence was opened up by the quarry owner to allow access to trucks. Photographs of orange snow surrounding the quarry are presented as evidence of dust pollution in the area.

April 27 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=Jp5PAAAAIIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIIBAJ&pg=910%2C4986970>

City manager Gerry LePage has not yet tabled his report on the quarry, but promises it will do so on June 1st. CAPP, assisted by councilor George Boutilier, complains to mayor Cy McDonald that their repeated questions have gone unanswered, and at each

city council meeting they are told to come to the next meeting to obtain their answers. Mr. McDonald suggests that CAPP is “misusing democratic rights” by persisting in “being here for the last three or four meetings”. This is met with “a bellow of protest” from CAPP.

May 11 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=KJ5PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIBAJ&pg=930%2C5271669>

The Quebec government has required that municipalities close all open garbage dumps by December 31st. The plan is to replace them by eleven regional landfill pits, in which garbage is to be dumped and layered with packed-down dirt, then eventually covered over with earth and grass and landscaped. The West Island is likely to be assigned to the Vaudreuil-Soulanges pit. However, Roxboro mayor W. G. Boll is of the opinion that the Pierrefonds quarry is also an obvious choice for a landfill, since it would avoid a transportation cost increase of \$3.42 to \$8.29 per ton. In his opinion, “If it’s done properly and in a controlled manner as it’s been done in many other places in the United States and Canada, there should be no objectionable conditions for nearby residents, and later on they’ll land up with a nice park.”

May 18 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=KZ5PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIBAJ&pg=2497%2C5400088>

CAPP distributes pamphlets throughout the quarry neighbourhood, lobbying for a new bylaw governing future use for the quarry, in response to rumors that the Pierrefonds quarry may be turned into a sanitary landfill.

June 1 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=K55PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIBAJ&dq=mel%20oche%20quarry&pg=2417%2C5653022>

CAPP goes to the Quebec National Assembly to lobby for tighter environmental controls on the Pierrefonds Quarry. A provincial anti-pollution legislation is set to be implemented in December. CAPP is building a dossier to counteract the upcoming report of city manager Gerry LePage, rumored to favour turning the quarry into a sanitary landfill.

June 8 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=K55PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIBAJ&dq=meloche%20quarry&pg=865%2C5777377>

Mr. LePage presents his report on the quarry to city council. However, the contents of the report are not made public. The report is rumored to favour transforming the quarry into a sanitary landfill, a decision unpopular with nearby residents. CAPP objects to the report being kept secret, pointing out that the city first promised to make the report public on June 19th, then postponed it to July.

July 6 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=Lp5PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIBAJ&dq=meloche%20quarry&pg=5165%2C6303224>

The report on the quarry is made public. Unsurprisingly, it recommends that the city acquire the quarry and operate it as a sanitary landfill, subsequently replacing it by a green space. Landfill operations would be subcontracted to a private company, which would rent the quarry from the city and collect fees from other municipalities for the garbage disposal. Mayor Cy McDonald promises to hold a public meeting during the first or second week of August. According to city manager Gerry LePage, the alternative would be allowing the quarry owner to mine it to depletion which would take another 8 years. Another alternative, according to him, would be to turn the quarry into a sunken garden, geological park or bicycle path, but this would not be practical or even possible due to the size of the quarry and the associated costs. He extolls the virtues of a sanitary landfill, including the impossibility of a fire. He estimates that the quarry would be filled within seven years.

Aug 10 1978

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=Mp5PAAAAIBAJ&sjid=bIEDAAAAIBAJ&pg=887%2C6784540>

A public meeting on the LePage report has yet to be held. Mayor Cy McDonald states that it will not occur until the Ministry of Environment studies a hydrological report commissioned by Meloche Company. He assures CAPP that the city has not applied to the provincial government for a sanitary landfill permit, while CAPP questions why Mr. Lepage had gone to the Ministry of Environment in Quebec City accompanied by Mr. Meloche.

1979 in review

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=WgVZAAAAIBAJ&sjid=ZIEDAAAAIBAJ&pg=3879%2C342114>

In April, Kirkland moves to transform the Pointe-Claire quarry into a sanitary landfill. In May, the Kirkland landfill is approved by voters and Pierrefonds gives up on its own plans for a landfill in the Pierrefonds quarry. CAPP asks the public for suggestions on a future use of the quarry. In June, Meloche Company says quarry operations will

continue indefinitely. In September, after several incidents involving flying rock, CAPP complains to city hall, claiming that the quarry is endangering the lives of residents.

May 22 1980

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=bQVZAAAIBAJ&sjid=ZIEDAAAIBAJ&pg=831%2C2679669>

The quarry continues to be a point of contention with residents of the Green Acres neighbourhood, in particular with regards to the fence being in disrepair, allowing local children to enter the quarry. In a letter to residents, mayor Cy McDonald states that “the affairs of Pierrefonds are being conducted in an efficient but also in a human way and our city is a pretty good place to live.”

Aug 7 1980

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=dQVZAAAIBAJ&sjid=ZIEDAAAIBAJ&pg=5668%2C3810533>

The cost of garbage collection is set to increase by 30 cents per household per year, following tighter environmental controls on the Miron Quarry in Ville St. Michel, where Pierrefonds is still dumping its garbage. Pierrefonds had hoped to reduced its garbage disposal costs by turning the Pierrefonds quarry into a sanitary landfill, but Kirkland opened a landfill first on the site of the quarry east of St-Charles and south of the Trans Canada Highway. Over the following years, Kirkland will experience many odour-related issues with its quarry, which will eventually be converted into a golf driving range.

April 7 1986

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=8lgiAAAIBAJ&sjid=Q6gFAAAAIBAJ&pg=1085%2C3407629>

Experts say island suburbs are moving toward a garbage disposal crisis, and one of the cheapest solutions is creating new garbage dumps in Pierrefonds and Anjou. Pierrefonds mayor Cy McDonald says that provincial environmental regulations won't allow a dump at the Pierrefonds quarry because there are homes too close to the site. Montreal had purchased the quarry in 1984.

July 10 2000

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/residents-worry-smelly-quarry-is-dangerous-1.249875>

Residents worry smelly quarry is dangerous

July 29, 2000

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/residents-win-access-to-smelly-landfill-1.241736>

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/work-halted-on-smelly-quarry-1.244832>

A judge grants residents access to the Pierrefonds quarry to inspect the source of the smell, and also grants an injunction preventing dumping at the quarry for several days. The residents plan on suing the site operators for damages. According to LEEP president Marc Michaud, residents didn't need to go to court to solve the problem. They should have just come to his office.

December 28 2004

<http://mailman.mcmaster.ca/mailman/private/cdn-nucl-l/0412/msg00106.html>

http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/arr_pier_fr/media/documents/Avis_28_de_c_2004_en.pdf

A small fire at the Pierrefonds quarry that had been contained regained some strength. It was the third fire in a week. The site has been operating since 1999. The fire is producing thick smoke, which can be smelled for miles. According to reports from the department of public health, the particles floating in the air are non-toxic. LEEP president Marc Michot says he believes the fire started when workers used waste material from a demolished roof to build a road for the heavy equipment used to bury the refuse. A fire had taken place in the same area back in 2000 and the odors coming from the residual water that had accumulated during the operations had caused quite a disturbance for local citizens. Since then, pumping systems have been installed by the quarry owners to avoid the accumulation of residual water.

February 23, 2005

http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/arr_pier_fr/media/documents/Mise_au_point_fev_2005_en.pdf

An official update on the fire of December 2004 is issued by the city of Pierrefonds. The fire has been put out but firefighters still check the site on a daily basis. The quarry operators are ordered to pump water out of the quarry at an accelerated pace, and to treat the pumped water with peroxide to avoid H₂S odours. The landfill is to be leveled and covered with earth. This will release odours in the short term but avoid odours in the future. The borough states "We understand that the patience of some residents has reached its limit, however rest assured that everything possible is being done so that the situation is resolved before the spring."

July 28 2005

<http://montrealracing.com/forums/showthread.php?240207-Pierrefond-Quarry-quot-THE-SMELL-quot-We-need-your-help>

I live close to the pierrefonds quarry and if anyone else lives close by you would know what I'm talking about.. "the smell". We are trying to get a large group together to put an end to this and we need help. At the above link find the latest developments

May 21 2006

http://pierrefondsstinks.blogspot.ca/2006_05_01_archive.html

Pierrefonds stinks: Here we are once again, a rainy day in Pierrefonds, and guess what... It stinks. I called the phone number for the Pierrefonds-Roxboro borough to complain. I was told that I would have to call back on Tuesday since they're only at a call center for emergencies. I guess they do not want to log the complaint calls regarding the smell. An emergency call center will definitely not do that.

August 14, 2008

<http://www.canada.com/montrealgazette/news/westisland/story.html?id=ecc3e78a-dfed-47e2-8c2e-03491715b80e>

A \$7.5M state-of-the-art recycling facility is to be opened on the site of the Pierrefonds quarry, to be fully operational by 2009. This will bring the percentage of recycled incoming materials from 15% to 50-60%. With regards to odour issues, Pierrefonds mayor Monique Worth states that "we had a couple of complaints in March and the matter was quickly taken care of." LEEP has permission to operate the quarry until 2022.

2009 – The Suburban

<http://www.thesuburbannews.ca/content/en/7651>

Pierrefonds begins Phase two at quarry

Work to be completed by mid February - By Kevin Woodhouse

For Pierrefonds residents living adjacent to the quarry, the odour emitted has been a longtime problem. Residents used to have to live with the smell but thanks to an initiative by the borough of Pierrefonds as well as the Committee for the improvement and restoration of the Pierrefonds quarry site chaired by councillor Bert Ward who lives in the area, those days will soon be a thing of the past.

August 26, 2010

<http://www2.canada.com/montrealgazette/news/westisland/story.html?id=cd9cb47f-87cf-4b20-99d5-c949dcdd1d7d>

The Pierrefonds quarry has been relatively odourless for the past two years, until last spring when the smell returned. A quarry spokesperson states that the recycling plant will be expanded to recycle 90% of the materials coming into the landfill.

Jan 20 2011

<http://westislandgazette.com/news/from-the-gazette/story/2011/01/20/landfill-odours-being-eliminated-in-pierrefonds/>

Odours from dump to be reduced again

Aug 2 2011

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udceCA5Do6M>

Pierrefonds Quarry - LandFill Odor Youtube

Nov 7 2011

<http://montreal.ctvnews.ca/foul-smell-from-an-old-quarry-upsets-pierrefonds-residents-1.722282>

ctvmontreal.ca

Published Monday, November 7, 2011 12:49PM EST

MONTREAL - A foul smell that kept many Pierrefonds residents indoors five years ago has returned, along with some new concerns.

The smell stems from an old quarry where construction materials were being dumped.

Grant Drisdelle and his wife Mary Sauro say they are fed up after regularly being forced to close the windows during the summer months to avoid the smell.

Photos



The smell coming from an old Pierrefonds quarry has upset some nearby residents. (CTV Montreal)

"It's really really bad," said Sauro. "It makes you feel like you want to gag."

A landfill in the quarry near their home contains layers of construction debris that began rotting after two separate fires.

Now whenever it's damp the decomposing gyprock emits hydrogen sulfide - a smelly gas that wafts right into their neighbourhood.

"I don't know if I would have bought the house had I known there was a quarry here," Drisdelle said.

Drisdelle and his neighbours took on the quarry, and got a promise from the then-owners to install gas wells. That helped for a while.

But this summer the foul smells returned, along with new concerns about toxicity. Two years ago Drisdelle suffered a stroke. With limited mobility he's even more - a prisoner of his home.

"The last thing I need is to be shut up in my home with the lack of clean-air," Drisdelle said.

The landfill's new owner, Ben Gendron, says the hydrogen sulfide is barely traceable and far from dangerous.

As for the smell, on the day CTV Montreal visited, no foul odours were detected.

But the ownership admitted the stench did return this spring when they were recalibrating their gas collection system.

A recycling plant that's scheduled to open on the site in the spring of 2012 will cut down on material going into the landfill, officials say. Will it ever be smell-free completely?

Pierrefonds-Roxboro borough mayor Monique Worth said yes.

"It could take a few months but it will be," she said.