

Cremona Hotel owner applies to build campground in the village

Land rezoning gets first reading, public hearing set for Oct. 20

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Campers could be able to set up camp right in the village of Cremona in the near future.

The owner of the

Cremona Hotel has submitted an application to the Village of Cremona to purchase a parcel of land located beside the hotel to build a campground.

The parcel of land is

currently zoned as industrial but council passed first reading of a bylaw during the Sept. 15 meeting to rezone the land to public facility and recreation. A public hearing was set for Oct.

20.

The applicant, Gerry Neilon, said there is no set timeline for the project and he is still deciding what services would be available at the campground.

He said the project is in its early stages and there is a lot that would need to be done before the campground is actually built, including environmental studies.

"I think it would benefit the village and I think it would also help out the local business and I am one of the bigger local businesses," said Neilon.

"It may not even be feasible, but there's a chance."

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GERRY NEILON,
applicant/hotel owner

There are currently no campgrounds in the village of Cremona, although there are a few in the surrounding area.

Luana Smith, chief administrative officer for the village, said administration is in support of the application. It would be a privately-owned campground, not municipally-owned.

"I think the aesthetics

of it will be good and it will bring in people and people will stay," said Smith.

"We have very successful events, like our show and shine and Canada Day and then people would stay overnight and hopefully use all our businesses and amenities. For economic development, I think it's excellent."