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Trail **Entre Deux Eaux** is closed until further notice



Happy Holidays to all!



Brunch with Santa



Good news!

Santa Claus came by Mille-Isles last December 8 and luckily, we were ready to greet him in a very enchanting and magical setting.

More details on page 12

The Brunch with Santa's album of last December 8 is now online at www.mille-isles.ca

PHOTO GALLERY



2012 Tribute evening for volunteers

This last December 6, the 2012 **Tribute evening to volunteers** was held, organized by **Mille-Isles' municipality** in honour of the volunteers and to **underline their importance within the community**. This evening, in a happy-hour format, was held at city hall within a very warm atmosphere. **Details on page 12**

Changes brought to the garbage and recyclables collection schedule

December 24: garbage / December 31: recycling
Details page 2



BIG skating rink OPENING CEREMONY

Saturday, January 19, 2013, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Free-style family skating

Hosting and games will be happening and hot drinks will be served on site. It's a date you don't want to miss!



All the details and skating rink schedule on page 13

L'Autre Versant Trail

New winter trail open to the public on the L'Autre Versant center's property. Trail map available shortly on our website. Opening hours: 7 days on 7 from December 1st, 2012 to March 30, 2013, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Access to the site free of charge.



WORD from the MAYOR

December 2012 Edition

Wishes for the Holiday season

Dear citizens,

You presently have the last edition of **Info Mille-Isles 2012** in your hands, which means that another year is about to end and that we are all looking towards 2013 and the New Year, which is rapidly on its way!

The year that is about to end has brought us many challenges and questioning from one another. Numerous discussions on coming projects made our comments and exchange of opinions among us quite dynamic, which is, in my humble opinion, a source of maturity from our citizens that showed the attachment they have towards our municipality.

Now, we owe it to ourselves to pause, put aside our differences and get ready to celebrate, **according to our tradition, the end-of-year Holidays with our children, parents and friends.** Let's consider this period as an essential one for questioning and resourcing ourselves, and to know what is important to us in this perpetually evolving world.

And to close, allow me, on my behalf as well as on the behalf of all the municipality's councillors and employees, to offer you and yours our most sincere wishes:

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2013

Sincerely,

Yvon Samson
Mayor



Outdoor fires

From November 15 to April 1st, permits for outdoor fires will be available. Contact Alain Charbonneau, Fire Department Director at 450-438-2958, ext. 2603. There is no charge for this type of permit.

You may fill out the available form online at the web address www.mille-isles.ca under the "Services/Public Safety/Permit Request" tab.

Important – Changes brought to the garbage and recyclables collection schedule

For the months of December 2012 and January 2013, please use the collection schedules below. An error slipped into the magnetized 2012 calendar you received at the beginning of the year. Please spread the information amongst your friends and neighbours.



Garbage & Large items



Recycling

December 2012

d/s	l/m	m/t	m/w	j/t	v/f	s/s
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

24 Garbage and 31 recycling

January 2013

d/s	l/m	m/t	m/w	j/t	v/f	s/s
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



The COLUMNS

Only the columns are signed

December 2012 Edition

FIRE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

It's with pride, and for a second consecutive year, that Mille-Isles' firemen collected the foodstuff destined for the region's families that will go and get a Christmas basket this year. We had the chance to be able to rely on people that joined our team and who greatly contributed to this event, producing a solid success. Thanks to all of you for your involvement and to all that gave the donations and foodstuff we collected.

On another subject, the first *Big cleanup weekend* was held last October. The objective of this activity was to allow branch fires supervised by firemen. Analyzing this activity leads us to believe that there's a need for this and we are thinking of setting up other weekends of this kind next year.

Also, within the framework of fire prevention week, Mille-Isles' fire department held a *Fire prevention day* on October 13. Citizens were invited to come to the fire hall to receive advice regarding prevention. We consider this day to have been beneficial for the fire safety cause and was greatly appreciated by those that came by.

And as we are talking about prevention, we are happy to announce that there weren't any fires on the municipality's territory in 2012. We are convinced that our prevention activities helped a lot. On the other hand, we have noticed a rise in road accidents requiring the firemen's intervention. We therefore invite you to be careful on our roads and to remain vigilant when using heat sources in the home.

I wish you some very nice holidays and a happy new year.

Alain Charbonneau, fire department director

Range fires – awareness video is a must!

A very interesting little awareness video regarding fire safety has been put on our website. It gives one good "tips" if a fire were to start on the range and as the Holiday season is upon us, we encourage you to take a few minutes of your time to view it.

You will find it under the "service/public safety/fire safety" tab on our website www.mille-isles.ca.

DANIEL MAURICE'S COLUMN – WORKSHOP

The next workshop on the investments to be done on municipal roads will be held after the Holiday break, on Saturday, January 26, 2013, to complete the planning schedule for the repair project of our road network. We will personally contact in advance each member that usually takes part in workshops, but until then, we invite you to put that day aside right away so you may be with us during this important meeting.

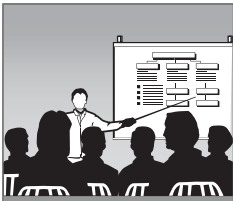
Let's not miss it! In the meantime, enjoy an excellent Holiday and have fun.

Daniel Maurice, councillor responsible for road workshops



Find the **monthly columns**
My HEALTH in MIND
at www.mille-isles.ca under the
"Health and Social Services" tab.





MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

December 2012 Edition

NOTE : The mayor's report on the financial position herewith is **the complete text which was read publicly** at the ordinary session of the council on November 7, 2012.

FISCAL OUTLOOK 2011/2012

Dear fellow-citizens,

Pursuant to the provisions of section 955 of Quebec's Municipal Code:

"At least four weeks before the budget is tabled before the council for adoption, the mayor, at a sitting of the council, shall make a report of the financial position of the municipality. The mayor deals with the latest financial statements, the latest external auditor's report³ and the latest three-year program of capital expenditures, the preliminary information regarding the financial statements for the period preceding² that for which the next budget will be made, the general orientation of the next budget and the next three-year program of capital expenditures³."

2011 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Prepared under the responsibility of the external auditor Dominique Toupin, CPA, auditor (CA) for the limited liability partnership (s.e.n.c.r.l.) Amyot Gélinas, the 2011 audited financial statements submitted in April 2012 showed a surplus for the fiscal year of **\$280,674**. The accumulated surplus for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2011 is \$3,600,366. This sum is divided as follows: **\$636,276** for non-allocated operations surplus, **\$281,524** for allocated operations surplus and **\$2,682,566** in net investments in long-term items. Long-term liability on December 31, 2011 for all of Mille-Isles' municipality is \$133,110. The independent auditor's report indicates that the financial statements reflect, in all material respects, a true and fair view of the Mille-Isles municipality's financial position as of December 31, 2011, as well as the operations of their activities, of the variation of net financial assets (of their net debt) and of their cash flow for the fiscal year ending on that date, according to Canadian accounting standards for the public sector.

These notes were added by us and are for the purpose of enhancing comprehension:
¹2011 - audited fiscal year
²2012 - budget in progress
³2013 - next budget

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

Section 11 of the law on elected municipal officials' salaries (L.R.Q., chapter T-11.001) states that the mayor must include the compensation of council members in the report:

FUNCTION	Annual compensation	Annual allowance	Annual total
Mayor	\$15,206.04	\$7,603.08	\$22,809.12
Mayor (MRC)	\$7,964.28	\$524.38	\$8,488.66
Councillor	\$5,069.04	\$2,534.52	\$7,603.56

LIST OF CONTRACTS

Still pursuant to section 955 of Quebec's municipal code, the mayor must submit a list of all contracts greater than \$2,000 agreed upon with the same transactor during the **October 16, 2011 to October 15, 2012** period when the total amount of these contracts is greater than \$25,000. For each contract, this list shows the name of the transactor, the amount of consideration and the object of the contract. This document is available upon request at the municipal office.

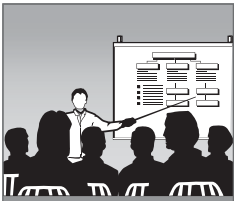
2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

The forecast for the year 2012 tends to show that revenue should be slightly higher than the budgetary forecast. As for expenditures, they should not be greater than the budgetary forecast. We anticipate a slight surplus for the current fiscal year.

A grant from the ministry of Transportation in the amount of \$15,000, on a recommendation from our member of the National Assembly, Mr. Roland Richer, has helped to pay for the improvement work on various roads for an expenditure of nearly \$1,000,000.

Furthermore, it must be noted that for its second year, the assessment roll will not bring on increases to the assessed values. The property value used for taxation in 2013 comes in at **\$262,476,300**, compared to **\$259,542,000** for the year 2012, an increase of **\$2,934,300** mostly due to the assessment of new constructions or renovations.

As of October 15, we note the construction of 6 dwellings (for a total value of **\$1,525,000**), of 4 detached garages (a value of **\$110,000**), of 3 accessory constructions (for a total value of **\$31,000**) and 22 permits for enlargement and renovations on existing buildings, which we expect will bring an increase in value of **\$389,375**. It is important to specify that the declared value of projects usually differs from the value attributed by the appraiser once these are finished.



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

December 2012 Edition

COMMENTS ON THE YEAR 2012

REVIEW OF THE MANDATE'S THREE LAST YEARS

We are proud to mention that we continued with the implementation of our "2011-2015 strategic plan". Major investments were achieved on the road network. Urban planning and the environment remained at the heart of our preoccupations and we have embedded new directions and by-laws to ensure well-structured and sustainable development within our territory. Communication with our citizens has intensified like never before, to inform while giving them the opportunity to express themselves on many subjects concerning them. Also, the economic development of our municipality should convey itself through concrete achievements of private domiciliary and social projects.

At this point, I believe it is important to set up a non-exhaustive list of realisations done over the course of the last three years within the following spheres of activity:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Implementation of our strategic plan (continuity); | 10. Internet; |
| 2. Public works; | 11. Voluntary work; |
| 3. The environment; | 12. Public/fire safety/Surete du Quebec; |
| 4. Urban planning; | 13. Leisure; |
| 5. Economic development; | 14. Health and hygiene; |
| 6. Sustainable development; | 15. Ethics; |
| 7. Communication; | 16. Our big projects; |
| 8. Human resources; | 17. MRC/Mille-Isles relations. |
| 9. Administration; | |

1. Implementation of our strategic plan (2011-2015)

As regards the vision **"To build an exceptional living environment, a collectivity that develops harmoniously within its natural environment and with respect for its distinctive patrimony, so as to inspire a profound sense of belonging within its population"**, we have subscribed to the following values:

- Transparency and integrity;
- Respect for citizens;
- Respect for the environment;
- Enhancement of Mille-Isles' municipality.

The identified issues are as follows:

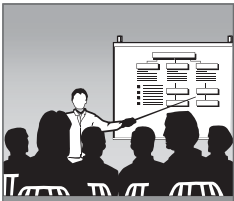
- Environment and sustainable development;
- Finance and infrastructure;
- Community living;
- Positioning of Mille-Isles;
- Public safety.

Since the creation of our strategic plan in 2010, we have been performing acts that are leading us to its realisation; of course, we are running into issues but we are applying the necessary corrective measures. In the coming months, it is my intention to present to the population a report of the plan's progress. Regarding this, information will be sent to you.

2. Public works

The public works service remains a priority for council and tangible acts were performed:

- * Human resources (hiring);
- * Equipment purchases;
- * Inventory of our road network;
- * Road maintenance plan;
- * 2012-2017 road repair plan (investments);
- * Roads workshop involving citizens;
- * Management of beaver dams.



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

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* Human resources

- Hiring of a regular employee, which brings the number of full-time employees to two;
- Hiring of a supernumerary for the summer season (two part-time employees);
- Training programs for personnel were put forth in 2011 and are ongoing in 2012.

* Equipment purchases

- Acquisition of the following equipment: Ford F-350 truck, emulsion pump, roller compactor, additional safety arrows, rowboat and trailer.

* Repair plan

- Road repair (infrastructure): work in 20112 on Scraire, cote St-Gabriel and Lac Robert; investments estimated at \$701,000. For years 2010 and 2011: Lys Ouest, Tamaracouta, Black, Scraire and Lac-Robert, as well as the path "Entre deux Eaux", for \$361,000;

Total investment of over \$1,000,000

- Maintenance program: general maintenance road work at \$125,000, regravelling of cote Saint-Eustache, de Koninck, Benny and Mille Isles West; \$70,000 previewed for 2012;
- Regravelling for 2011 : \$57,000 for Spinney, Benny and de Koninck roads;
- For 2009/2010: investment for maintenance program: \$150,000;

Total investment: \$400,000

Total estimated investment for the road network for 2009/2012: \$1,400,000

We have set a road repair program that will run from 2012 to 2017 and will represent a total investment of nearly \$3,800,000.

* Inventory and road network's condition

- In 2010, we proceeded with the inventory of our road network. This survey allowed us to note the condition of the road network and also establish the interventions requiring priority;
- We established two approaches with our interventions: **a program for road repairs and a program of road maintenance and prevention;**
- A weekly planning system regarding work to be done, with a follow-up, was put in place;

* Road workshop

In May 2012, we held a workshop with citizens' participation. The objectives of this workshop were:

- Analyse the state of the road network;
- Establish the repairs having priority;
- Establish financing;
- Establish a schedule;
- Make recommendations to council.

Those same citizens will again meet in a workshop on this coming November 10 to give their opinion and suggest solution possibilities to council in regards to setting up the 2013 budget.

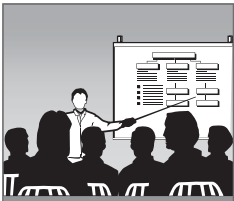
* Management of beaver dams

- Equipment purchase (rowboat/trailer);
- Installation of Morency cubes.

3. The environment

Again, the environment remains one of our priorities. Here are the achievements to date:

- Hiring of an environment supervisor (biologist);
- Putting together a conservation strategy for areas of high ecological value (pilot project);
- Summary characterisation of the municipality's wetlands;
- Program set-up of shoreline characterisation and follow-up;
- Renaturalisation of the pond's banks at Hammond-Rodgers Park;
- Setting up the contest "I win my shoreline strip" to underline the efforts by shoreline residents;
- Setting up a monitoring program for deficient sanitary facilities within the territory;
- Analysis of 200 septic tanks from the remaining 450 out of 1,000 properties that required assessment;
- Set-up of a water-quality analysis station for the Bonniebrook river;



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

December 2012 Edition

- Setting up Mille-Isles' environment day;
- Partnership agreement for accessibility to an intermunicipal ecocentre;
- Achievement of the "Mille-Isles municipality's Environmental Code";
- Registration for the trash reduction week;
- Participation in putting together a regional by-law on waterways management (ECC).

Awareness and education

- Meeting for voluntary conservation awareness;
- Workshop on the environmental code
- Setting up awareness chronicles;
- Analysis program for drinking water quality;
- Awareness to ecological products;
- Composting workshop;

4. Urban planning

Urban planning is the cornerstone for properly managing our territory according to the wants of citizens and council. With the coming into force of the new urban planning by-laws last April, the current year comes as a transition period and brings on its challenges for our unit of urban planning and environment. Many changes were necessary and new rules were put forth. Educating citizens in this regard is an everyday challenge. We are always receptive to comments regarding eventual changes to urban planning by-laws, as they are progressive tools. During this transition period, it is important for us to **accompany citizens with their different projects. We wish to be cooperative, within the boundaries of common sense.** Here are a few achievements:

- Complete revision of the plan and by-laws for urban planning;
- Set-up of new discretionary by-laws (PAIP, CDP, etc.);
- Integrating sustainable construction techniques into new constructions;
- Adoption of a new by-law on the Urban planning advisory committee (UPAC);
- Adoption of a new by-law on minor derogations;
- Adoption of a new by-law on conditional uses;
- Set-up of an assessment mechanism for the telecommunication towers' projects;
- Achievement of a master plan for non-motorised paths;
- Achievement of a complete photogrammetry of the municipality's territory;
- Achievement of a photographic inventory of the municipality's buildings;
- Setting-up a computerised database of the territory's properties;
- Improvement to the tree distribution program for citizens;
- Set-up of a conservation program for built patrimony;
- Set-up of a management program for beaver dams.

5. Economic development

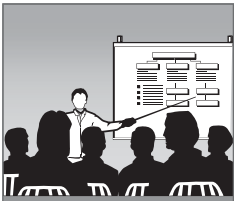
The request for construction permits in the municipality is keeping a good pace. As an example, the number of delivered permits in 2011 was 20 and for the current year, we are heading towards around ten issued permits. I want it to be noted that we had a freeze-out period from January to April, due to the adoption process of the new urban planning by-laws. Our objective for new buildings is 10 dwellings per year and we are convinced that we'll maintain that rhythm for the next five years. We took part in the advertising flyer for the domiciliary development "**It's much greener in our home**" prepared by Argenteuil's CLD.

Three big projects were put forth to the population this year:

- The multifunctional complex;
- City hall with the fire hall;
- The outside skating rink.

During the information meeting last August 25, we presented citizens with the socio-economic issues relating to the projects and the importance of achieving them. Within this information meeting, we clearly explained the required investments and the fallout on your tax bill, which is at a more than acceptable level for the next five years. Furthermore, we revealed the first outlines while explaining all of the ramifications. As mentioned, citizens will receive during the week of November 5 a FAQ (questions and answers) information booklet on these projects. Also, on the coming November 13, 14 and 15, between 7 and 9:30 p.m., council is inviting you to come to city hall to discuss these projects anew. On **Saturday, November 17, starting from 9 a.m., citizens are invited to an information meeting where speakers from the following organisations will be present: Réseau BIBLIO and "Villes et villages en santé" (Healthy cities and villages).**

And last, the new skating rink will be up and running this winter. This project represents a total investment of \$280,000, of which the net cost for citizens represents about 20 % of the estimated disbursement, thus \$55,000.



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

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6. Sustainable development

Following reflection by council, it was decided to integrate **sustainable development** into our strategic plan. Taking into consideration that the environment remains a major issue for us, this sustainable development plan will help us develop our territory while respecting the environment and ensuring viability for generations to come. To do so, we retained the services of *The Natural Step* organisation which specialises in sustainable development. Under their supervision, training on sustainable development was offered to elected officials and to municipal administrators, a survey was done within the population during environment day and a public meeting was held in June to set up, with the citizens, the coming priorities. Following this, a citizens committee on sustainable development should be set up next December to start off work in the beginning of 2013.

7. Communication

Communicating with citizens is another one of our priorities. The improvement of Info-Mille-Isles, our principal communication tool, is exceptional. Our special reports informing our citizens on different activities are greatly appreciated. The public monthly meetings with question and answer periods are well accepted by all as well as the elected officials' availability before and after council meetings.

The newly established "Mayor's Tuesdays" are a big hit. Citizens have an opportunity to exchange views with elected officials present in an informal way, regarding the municipality's administration or any other subject of importance. Transparency is a must and dialogue is frank and open. We remind you that at any moment, the elected officials are available to meet with citizens. All that need be done is communicate with them by telephone, e-mail or in person.

Our internet site has improved over the months. Updating is continuous and efforts are being done to **simplify navigation**. Our website's objectives are to **inform our citizens and be a means of interactive communication**.

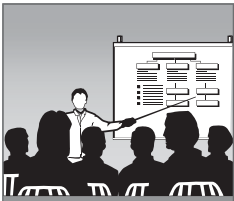
Last June, there was a meeting on sustainable development. Last August, council unveiled its two major projects: the multifunctional complex and city hall with the fire hall. An information summary on the subjects of the August meeting were expedited by mail to all taxpayers, one week before the event, giving all the necessary time to well understand the issues and prepare questions for that meeting.

8. Human resources

- A new administrative structure which ensures: Flexibility, productivity and efficiency;
- Creation of an assistant general director and head of communications position;
- Hiring of an environment supervisor and leisure supervisor;
- Setting up task descriptions for each employee;
- Assessment system for each position and employee;
- Set-up of a wage policy;
- Set-up of a wage structure;
- Pay equity;
- Adoption of a new "employees' manual" previewed for December;
- Adoption of an ethics code for the elected officials and the employees;
- Setting up meetings with employees and management;
- Continual training for administrative employees.

9. Administration

- Introduction of a paperless council;
- Addition of software for processing archives;
- Addition of purchase-managing modules to the accounting software;
- Processing archives for destruction;
- Adoption of new practices for citizen services;
- Implementation of new software to manage communication, memos, etc.
- Implementation of a new IP phone system reducing costs related to telephone communication;
- Creation of committees: public works, fire, safety, special projects;
- Establishment of a projects' schedule;
- New website for call for tenders.



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

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10. Internet

Internet remains an absolute priority for council. In this regard, I am a member for the internet committee for Argenteuil.

Review:

- In November 2011, information session from Bell regarding the construction of a communication tower serving Mille-Isles. Positive approach from citizens.
- In March/April, 2012, construction of the cellular tower.
- May/June: breaking-in period.
- July/August: availability of internet service over about 90 % of the territory.
- September/October: the municipality negotiates with Bell to obtain an information meeting with citizens on internet and cellular service within our municipality, on the available packages, etc. We are waiting for an answer in November.
- Videotron has already deployed its service in Lake Paul, Lake Massie and part of chemin Mille-Isles.
- Videotron proposition for Lake Robert.
- Explornet offers satellite internet for areas not accessible by microwave tower.
- The territory of Argenteuil's MRC has been retained for a pilot project for fiber optic internet, with loan investments of \$6.2 million. The call for tenders will be held beginning 2013 and we will then be able to see how deployment over Argenteuil MRC's territory will be done. This is part of the provincial government's global investment of \$900 million from now till 2020.

11. Voluntary work

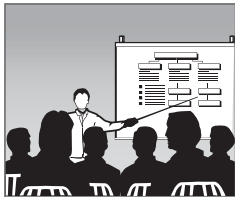
Again, voluntary work remains essential at all levels, whether it be for leisure organisation, belonging to different committees or simply participating in a given event in our municipality. In light of this, I wish to sincerely thank all citizens that invested of themselves during the current year and let them know that it is greatly appreciated. Again this year, council will mark its gratitude towards these volunteers during a special evening which will be held next December. Details will soon be available.

During the coming months, we would like to integrate more citizens into our decisional process. Concretely, we want "the citizen" at the centre of our decisions. To do this, we need citizens who want to invest themselves and take part in different committees that we will be setting up in the coming months. We sincerely believe in our citizens' participation. We set up the "Community Relations Committee" with the aim of channelling our efforts for recruiting volunteers. Councillors Megelas and Durocher will be happy to inform you about all the possibilities regarding this.

12. Fire/Public safety

Safety remains an important priority for us and here are the achievements:

- Contract renewal with our fire chief;
- Hiring of part-time firemen;
- Adoption of a human resources policy for the fire department;
- Acquisition of a tank truck;
- Acquisition of a thermal imaging camera;
- Acquisition of individual face masks for all firemen;
- Repair of a fire truck (old tank truck);
- Set-up of a rain water catchment reservoir;
- Adoption of a new by-law on open-air fires, which enabled us to considerably reduce calls for forest and bush fires;
- Development of an emergency preparedness plan which will be adopted in December 2012;
- Implementation of a program of preventive inspection visits;
- Implementation of an automatic mutual assistance protocol with Gore and Wentworth municipalities;
- Fire protection week: Citizens' information day;
- Adoption of a intermunicipal agreement relating to inquiries of fire scenes;
- Analysis of fire protection for Mille-Isles' EAST sector with recommendations forthcoming beginning 2013;
- Establishment of a rapid-access program to properties;
- Firemen's food drive;
- Big cleanup weekend.



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

December 2012 Edition

13. Leisure

Your council is convinced that public leisure must be put at the heart of issues and strategies to ensure our municipality's development. Studies have shown that the majority of rural municipalities that have stood out have done so by mobilising their community, often with recreational, sporting, cultural and social projects and we have moved down that avenue.

Here are a few achievements:

- Hiring of a part-time leisure supervisor;
- Councillor responsible for leisure;
- Creation of "Value your Health" committee;
- Organised events: sugar shack, Saint-Patrick's day, country evening, Viactive, Mille-Isles celebration, Halloween, tribute evening to volunteers and Santa Claus' breakfast, which will be held at the beginning of December.

14. Health and hygiene

We keep on offering and improving our hygiene and health services and here are a few achievements:

- Intermunicipal agreement for managing a common ecocentre which will start in the spring of 2013;
- Studies and actions taken for respecting standards regarding septic facilities;
- Analysis program for drinking water quality for citizens.

15. Ethics and behaviour

The political world is actually going through difficult times regarding elected officials' ethics. It must be noted that it is certain elected officials of larger cities that are being tarnished by different scandals! One should not maintain that there's generalised corruption. These "doubtful" practices are not spread to all the political class. As regards the management of our municipality, I want to reassure you that **transparency is a must at all times, since we arrived in November 2009, and it will remain so; this is part and parcel of our values.** Regarding this, in the winter of 2012, all your elected officials declared, under oath, that they would exercise their function with respect for the Code of ethics and professional conduct and they have committed in managing the municipality in a responsible manner while respecting the rules they imposed upon themselves, under penalty of sanctions. On the same note, from here till December 2012, all our employees will have to sign a Code of ethics and professional conduct so we may ensure good municipal management and responsible conduct.

16. Our big projects

I cannot keep quiet about the three big projects that we have worked on since two years.

- **New skating rink;**
- **Multifunctional centre;**
- **City hall with fire hall.**

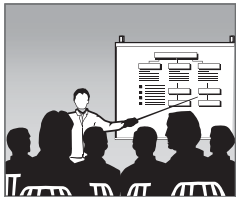
One of the great responsibilities of your council towards its citizens is to ensure having a vision for the future all the while satisfying the basic needs of its residents. It's been two years that we have been working on unifying projects and we are at the point of achieving them.

The first tangible step: the "skating rink" which will be up and running for the 2012/2013 winter. A well thought-out decision from your council that will enable our citizens to benefit from this new quality facility. As such, this skating rink has an interesting versatility; for the summer season, we will be able to use it as a tennis court, a basketball court and for foot hockey. Nice versatility.

The multifunctional centre has become a necessity for our collectivity. A meeting place for everyone: youth as well as parents and seniors, which enable us to better know ourselves collectively and create multiple projects and activities for one another.

To finish, the new city hall with fire hall project is being suggested and justified to ensure maximisation of services being offered to the population, to adapt to requirements being imposed on us and to settle once and for all the hygiene and safety problems of our current city hall, fire hall and municipal garage.

Again, these projects required much reflection on the part of your council: social and financial implication remain the basic elements and it was shown during the last August 25 meeting that it was possible to achieve these ambitious projects for the collectivity.



MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE 2012 FINANCIAL POSITION

December 2012 Edition

17. Relations between Argenteuil's MRC and Mille-Isles

Our municipality has never played as big a role as we are now doing and this enables us to guide the decision making which will influence the immediate and future management of our municipality.

- Member of the table of mayors;
- Member of the internet committee (regional);
- Member of the public safety committee;
- Member of the finance committee (MRC);
- Member of the mass and paratransit committee;
- Member of the Local development centre (CLD);
- Member of the CLD investment committee;
- Member of the Rural pact committee (regional and municipal investment);
- Member of the MRC's strategic committee

In closing, you are in a position to note that we have accomplished a lot since starting our mandate. Certain accomplishments are less visible for citizens and others are more tangible; but the fact remains that we have put forth a vision that encompasses all the different components to well manage our municipality while ensuring a promising future for all.

THE 2013 BUDGET'S GENERAL TRENDS

We will maintain putting into practice the third year of our strategic plan, which spreads from 2011 to 2015. Adjustments will be brought to reflect today's reality while ensuring the integration of our "sustainable development" approach.

Our priorities will be:

- Repair of the road network.
- Preventive maintenance of the road network.
- High-speed internet.
- Favouring anew domiciliary development while controlling it, and revitalising the "village hamlet's" development.
- Put the citizens at the centre of our decisions by giving them the opportunity to actively take part in different committees.
- Improve our "customer service" approach by a sampling survey with our service users.
- Keep up our necessary undertakings to achieve a centre for seniors.

IN CONCLUSION

We will keep up our work to position Mille-Isles as a municipality with an environmental mission and renown across Quebec while taking tangible steps towards this.

We have suggested three big projects for the years ahead:

- **The multifunctional complex**
- **The new city hall with fire hall**
- **The new skating rink (ongoing)**

The multifunctional complex

We wish to have a place suitable for all types of meetings and which the citizens will be proud of.

The new city hall with fire hall

For correcting a situation that has been lasting for many years regarding space, safety and hygiene. Governmental requirements have increased and we must abide by them.

The skating rink

The first important achievement for "our citizens" and specifically for our children. Don't forget that "children are the village's responsibility" and in this fashion, we are delivering a first tangible step.

All these projects were detailed during the public meeting held last August 25, giving you the opportunity to express yourselves and to ask questions. Transparency was a must. As well, we clearly showed the financial impact on your tax bill which will be negligible and which will respect your payment capacity.

In closing, I would like to thank all the councillors for their efforts and contribution, the municipal employees for their dedication in supporting us with our different projects and all the citizens that gave their precious time by taking part in different committees or activities. Many thanks!

To our citizens that wish to continue building a Mille-Isles where you have chosen to live well, I thank you for your understanding and your tolerance, even when times were difficult.

Going into politics these days brings forth a lot of risks but on the other hand, when we act the proper way with people by clearly explaining the projects and issues, and that's what we're trying to do, we gain their trust and that is my greatest wish.

Sincerely,

Yvon Samson, Mayor

November 7, 2012



THE STATEMENTS

December 2012 Edition

2012 TRIBUTE EVENING FOR VOLUNTEERS

This last December 6, the 2012 Tribute evening to volunteers was held, organized by Mille-Isles' municipality in honour of the volunteers and to underline their importance within the community. This evening, in a happy-hour format, was held at city hall within a very warm atmosphere.

A gift basket, an honorary certificate as well as a trophy graciously offered by the Caisse Desjardins of Argenteuil were handed over to Mister Gilles Rochon for his involvement with the citizens of Lake Paul. With the help of his spouse, he took upon himself to structure the lake's fishing committee and also frequently involved himself when there were parties at the lake.

Mister Rochon's name was drawn from five other volunteers named by the different committees and associations, who are:

- Mr. Maxime Dumont, Lake David Association
- Mr. Evert Geerligs, Lake Dainava Association Enr.
- Mr. Charles Lapointe, Urban Planning Advisory Committee
- Mrs. Anna Horvath, Leisure committee
- Mrs. Manon Laroche, Spinney Recreation Association Inc.rs



Mr. Clavet, Mr. Rochon, Mrs Charest et Mr. Samson

Thanks to all, dear volunteers! With your noble and generous involvement, you greatly contribute to the community's well-being.

This evening was made possible thanks to the Caisse Desjardins of Argenteuil's financial contribution and we want to note the presence of the executive director, Mr. Sylvain Clavet, as well as that of Mrs. Caroline Simard, director of communication and member relations.

BRUNCH WITH SANTA

Good news! Santa Claus came by Mille-Isles last December 8 and luckily, we were ready to greet him in a very enchanting and magical setting.

During this event, 41 children had the chance to have breakfast and to have their picture taken with him. Of course, Santa had brought his bag filled with gifts and as all the children present had been nice this year, they all got a wonderful gift from Santa himself! As the snow was equally up to the task, it added the final touch to this nice Christmas celebration.

Happy Holidays to all! Ho oh Ho!!!



The Brunch with Santa's album of last December 8 is now online at www.mille-isles.ca



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS

December 2012 Edition

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

VIACTIVE WILL CONTINUE IN 2013 – FREE ACTIVITY

Following on the heels of its success in 2012, the Viactive activity will keep right on going in 2013!!!!

If you wish to exercise and are over 50 years old, come to the free sessions of the Viactive course on Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the community hall of the Mille-Isles municipality's city hall. Sessions are presented by dynamic persons, with very lively music!

What is Viactive? It's a **set of simple exercises**, without danger for the joints and favouring blood circulation, coordination, muscular strength, balance and flexibility!

Bring your friends with you!

Every Friday from 1 to 2 p.m. starting January 11, 2013
At the community hall in city hall



For more information, contact:

Louise Leblanc at lleblanc@mille-isles.ca or at 450 438-2958 ext. 2627

Nathalie Bouchard at nbouchard@mille-isles.ca or at 450 438-2958 ext. 2608

FREE-STYLE FAMILY SKATING AND BIG SKATING RINK OPENING CEREMONY

The "Free-style family skating" activity will be held Saturday, January 19, 2013, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the new skating rink located in Hammond-Rodgers Park. It will be the ideal moment to move ahead with the big opening ceremony and enjoy a memorable day between family and friends..



Hosting and games will be happening and hot drinks will be served on site.
It's a date you don't want to miss!



SKATING RINK SCHEDULE						
	SCHOOL PERIODS		SCHOOL BREAK AND HOLIDAY SEASON			
Time slot	5 to 7 p.m.	7 to 9 p.m.	12 to 3 p.m.	3 to 5 p.m.	5 to 7 p.m.	7 to 9 p.m.
Monday	CLOSED		Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey
Tuesday	CLOSED		Hockey	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating
Wednesday	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey
Thursday	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating
Friday	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey

School break and Holiday season:

- From Saturday, December 22, 2012 to Sunday, January 6, 2013
- From Saturday, March 2 to Sunday, March 10
- December 24 and 31, it is open until 5 p.m.
- December 25 and January 1st, close.

No hockey in the afternoon of the Big opening ceremony of the skating rink on January 19, 2013.



ANYTIME FROM JANUARY 7 TO MARCH 31, 2013				
Time slot	12 to 3 p.m.	3 to 5 p.m.	5 to 7 p.m.	7 to 9 p.m.
Saturday	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey
Sunday	Hockey	Free skating	Hockey	Free skating



Subject to close without notice, opening hours available if a supervisor of the skating rink is available..



THE CAPSULES

December 2012 Edition

ENVIRONMENTAL CAPSULE

ECO TIPS – A SMALL IMPORTANT ACTION...



Did you know that...

The simple purchase of 4 rolls of recycled toilet paper by all Canadian homes saves 72,900 trees, avoids burying the equivalent of 334 full garbage trucks, eliminates 58,295 kg of pollution and saves the required water for 854 families of four persons during one whole year. Recycled paper towels and table napkins increase this impact.

The purchase of one pack of 30 green garbage bags made of recycled resin or corn by all Canadian homes saves the required oil for heating 1,550 houses during 1 year (37,500 barrels of oil).

The choice of products we use has a real cumulative effect. If each American home replaced a bottle (835 ml) of oil-based liquid cleaner for dishes with its vegetable-based equivalent, there would be a savings of 82,000 barrels of oil. Enough for a car to run over 143,276,000 km, or 72,000 cars over 20,000 km. Multiplying such actions can really change the world.

Think about it, because it makes one think!



Source: *Zéro toxique, pourquoi et comment se protéger*, Marc Geet Ethier, Edition Trécarré
(Zero Toxic, why and how to protect oneself)

"I WIN MY SHORELINE STRIP" CONTEST

To reward shoreline owners contributing to our lakes' health, the municipality this year set up the *I win my shoreline strip* 2012 contest. For the registration to be valid, the shoreline strip had to have been improved upon since 2011 or already be compliant with regulations in force. The winner was drawn randomly during the November 7, 2012 public meeting amongst registered and eligible citizens.

Congratulations to the Winner Judy Hopkins Devey.

Her shoreline strip will be managed so it can finally efficiently play its filtration, stabilization and retention roles and fulfil its habitat function. The proposed management will have a value of \$ 3,500. On the day the work will be done, you will have the opportunity to look into it on site. More information will follow soon.



FOLLOW-UP ON THE STATE OF SHORELINE STRIPS!

This year, more than 250 shoreline strips were visited and a net improvement since 2011 was noted; less than 10 % of shorelines are still considered in bad shape. However, many shoreline strips remain at risk and there still is work and effort that must be invested to improve water quality in 2013. We mustn't forget that shoreliners aren't the only ones responsible for our lakes' water quality; each drop counts in a catchment area.

http://www.crelaurentides.org/bleu/memoire_et_publication/capsules/pdf/09-bassin-ang.pdf

Working Committees

- Position available on the Leisure Committee
- Position available on the Civil Security Committee
- Position available on the Urban Planning Advisory Committee
- Position available on the new Community Relations Committee

To send in your application, you can fill out the available form online and at the municipal office.



THE CAPSULES

December 2012 Edition

ENVIRONMENTAL CAPSULE

OUR FRIENDS, THE BEAVERS: WHO ARE THEY, EXACTLY?

The Canadian beaver can live up till 12 years in his natural environment and sets up colonies of 2 to 12 individuals. The beaver starts building a dam as soon as he's met these winning conditions:

- Stable water level, but not stagnant;
- Area with a slight slope;
- The presence of quaking aspens, birches, willows, mountain ashes, cherry trees or maples.

The dam offers him protection against his predators and enables him to enlarge his territory. By maintaining the water level in the pond to at least one metre, he can move under the ice during winter. After building the dam, he builds a hut, a food reserve and a network of paths and lairs.

The beaver's dam creates and/or improves habitat for many species. It helps stabilize soil and the hydric environment and it temporarily retains sediments upstream from the dam.

The dismantling or rupture of the dam puts back into circulation items that may alter water quality downstream, and therefore accelerate the eutrophication of the body of water. A dam's collapse can also cause damage to infrastructures and threaten the safety of people and goods.

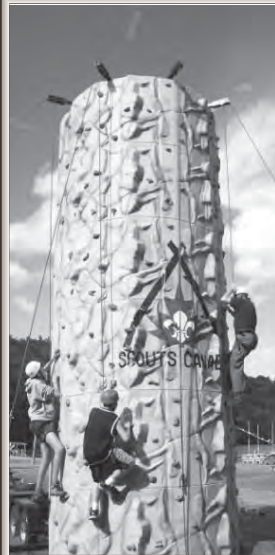
Beavers moving to another site is not always the solution because the area remains suitable and favourable for welcoming other families. They may rebuild a dam in less than 24 hours. Dismantling and trapping are only recommended if the dam threatens the safety of people and goods.



Source: "À la découverte du castor pour une meilleure cohabitation!" (Discovering the beaver for better cohabitation!)
Produced by: Abrinord, Agir pour la Diable, Cobali, Rouge Petite Nation Saumon.

Beaver Dams

We are setting up a directory of beaver dams located on the municipality's territory. We ask that you communicate with urban planning service if you know about the location of beaver dams.



NEW YEAR'S AND MARCH BREAK CAMPS TAMARACOUTA SCOUT RESERVE

Once again in 2013, we will be hosting New Year's and March Break Camps to coincide with the school holidays. The **New Year's camp** will take place from **December 31, 2012 to January 4, 2013** and the **March Break camp** from **March 4 to 8, 2013**.

These camps are open to all youth aged 8 to 13 years old and we offer a fully animated program consisting of crafts, games, survival, and a lot of outdoor winter fun. **Make sure your kids know they can invite no scouting friends.** You don't have to be a "scout" to go to Tamaracouta Scout Camp. For more information, don't hesitate to contact us at 1.866.438.4096 or directly by e-mail at reservations@tamaracouta.com.

We hope to see you again this year!!!!

An invitation from Tamaracouta Scout Camp.

You may obtain the registration form at www.mille-isles.ca as well as further information on the activities being offered during the camps.

Registrations with Tamaracouta Scout Camp only. (TEXT PROVIDED BY TAMARACOUTA SCOUT CAMP)



0 tobacco CAPSULE



Nearly one out of ten Quebec children are regularly exposed to second-hand smoke *A simple gesture can protect them and prevent them from experiencing serious health problems*

Because their parents smoke or allow others to smoke in the house or car, over 89,000 Quebec children (nearly one out of ten) are still regularly exposed to second-hand smoke.

It has been proven: children living in an environment where people smoke have a greater risk of suffering from certain health problems and are more likely to get asthma or other chronic respiratory diseases and ear infections. As babies, they even run a greater risk of falling victim to sudden infant death syndrome.

Smoke-Free Family is an annual campaign promoting the awareness of the dangers of second-hand smoke to the health of children. The campaign invites parents and future parents to take concrete action for the health of their children by making their home and their car smoke-free. Also, with its signature, "For the health of children, thank you for smoking outside", it reminds people that the most effective strategy to protect children is to go outside to smoke.

FOR THE HEALTH
OF CHILDREN,
THANK YOU FOR
SMOKING OUTSIDE.



The smokefreefamily.ca website offers information and tips to eliminate second-hand smoke from homes and cars. Moreover, it gives the opportunity to take a quiz and run the chance to win one of 4 gift baskets containing products for the family and the house, valued at \$100 each, provided by McNeil Consumer Healthcare.

Did you know that...

- The exposure to second-hand smoke represents a risk to the health of all children, regardless of their age?
- Second-hand smoke contains 7,300 chemical substances, of which at least 60 can cause cancer, namely ammonia, arsenic, formaldehyde, tar, nicotine and turpentine?
- Smoking under the kitchen hood does not eliminate the harmful effects of second-hand smoke in the house? No ventilation system is powerful enough to eliminate the toxic substances of second-hand smoke.
- Smoking in an enclosed space, such as in a closed room or a car, greatly increases the concentration of the toxic products?

An initiative of ACTI-MENU

smokefreefamily.ca



Société
canadienne
du cancer

Canadian
Cancer
Society





0.5.30 Program Healthy Lifestyle Habits



December 2012 Edition

5/30 CAPSULE

WHAT IS THE HEALTH CHALLENGE?

The *Health Challenge* is a fun way to take concrete steps toward improving your lifestyle so that you feel good about your body and your mind!

On your own, with your family, or as a team, taking up the Health Challenge means setting the following goals for 6 weeks:



5 Goal

Eat at least 5 servings of fruit and vegetables a day
«**Eat better**»



30 Goal

Do at least 30 minutes of physical activity a day
«**Get more active**»



Wellness Goal

Get into yoga or assign priority to priorities
«**Take care of yourself**»

A winning program all year round

The Health Challenge provides a wealth of tips and tools to help you stay on track, even after April 11.

- Prizes to be won (total value of close to \$20,000)
- Free support: the Health Challenge Passport available exclusively at IGA, our new website, motivational emails, the free TELUS 30mobile app, our Facebook page, and so much more!
- Taking it one step further: get information on healthy eating, active living, wellness, weight management, and disease prevention.

A popular health movement

With more than 700,000 participants since 2005, close to 200 municipalities, and hundreds of workplaces encouraging people to take part every year, the Health Challenge is the annual, one-of-a-kind movement for good health in Quebec!

For more information, visit the website: <http://www.healthchallenge.ca/en/health-challenge/what-health-challenge> (Source)

FADOQ "THE 50+ WINTER GAMES" – REGISTRATION FEES (TEXT PROVIDED BY THE "FADOQ")


February 1st through 10th 2013, in the hart or the Laurentian

A winter recreational festival for the 50 years old or better!

Come participate in recreational and sporting activities during the 5th edition of this festival, unique in the province, and play with your friends in a variety of winter sports in the magnificent decor of Mont-Tremblant and Rivière-Rouge.


To register as a participant or a volunteer: 1-877-429-5858, extension 450.
More details on the Web: www.50pluswintergames.org





CONSEIL QUÉBÉCOIS
SUR LE TABAC ET LA SANTÉ

Québec Tobacco-Free Week
January 20 to 26, 2013



Québec



BOOK OF MILLE-ISLER'S RECIPES

We create a **recipe book** on the municipality's Website which include Mille-Isles' best recipes.

Please send your recipe with your name to: caubertin@mille-isles.ca or at the following address: Mille-Isles Municipality, 1262 chemin de Mille-Isles, Mille-Isles, Quebec J0R 1A0



INFORMATIONS

EMERGENCY: 911

The Municipal Council



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Daniel Maurice, Seat # 2
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Noreen Howden, Seat # 6
Leisure & Volunteering, community
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Yvon Samson, Mayor
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- Governmental Affairs
- Inter-Municipal Relations
- Communications and marketing
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INFO MILLE-ISLES' ENGLISH VERSION

In this edition, the articles were translated using the services of the company **HawkEye Service Club** (Services Oeil de faucon in French). If you are unsatisfied with the translation, do not hesitate in letting us know. We will indicate that a specific text was not translated using the services of **HawkEye Service Club** and that it was provided as is in the event, for example, that a text is translated by a group or association wishing to publish an article in Info Mille-Isles.



2013 schedule for council's regular meetings

- January 9, 2013
- March 6, 2013
- May 1, 2013
- July 3, 2013
- September 4, 2013
- November 13, 2013
- February 6, 2013
- April 3, 2013
- June 5, 2013
- August 7, 2013
- October 2, 2013
- December 4, 2013

Town Hall

Monday to Thursday • From 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On the following holidays, municipal services aren't available:

- New Year's Day
- January 2
- Easter Friday
- Easter Monday
- Victoria Day
- Quebec Day
- Canada Day (Monday)
- Labour Day
- Thanksgiving
- December 24
- Christmas
- December 26
- December 31st

**The office will be closed
from December 22, 2012 to
January 6, 2013 inclusive.**

Would you like to be **on a mailing list for messages of public interest** issued by the municipality of Mille-Isles? Easy... just click on the **Mailing List Registration** link on our website, and when a message of public interest becomes available it will be our pleasure to forward it to you.

