



CANCELLATION OF SUMMER EVENTS

In order to comply with instructions issued by the government of Quebec, please note that all events scheduled to take place before August 31, including Mille-Isles celebration and Environment Day, had to be cancelled. The measures concern both public sporting and cultural activities which result in a gathering.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES MAINTAINED

Despite exceptional measures to limit the spread of the virus, all municipal services are maintained and many employees are teleworking. Given the situation, some delays might take longer and we apologize for any inconvenience this health crisis may cause on the extended processing of requests.

ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES BY EMAIL

To facilitate the procedures with citizens during the period of social distancing, it is now possible to send your permit applications to the inspectors by email. The forms to complete as well as the list of documents to provide are available on the Municipality's website in the Urban planning and Environment section, tab Urbanism and sub-tab Permits and certificates. Payment for permits can be made by credit card over the phone and electronic signatures are temporarily authorized.

NEW AUTOMATED ALERT SERVICE (AAS)

In order to quickly reach the population during emergency situations, the Municipality has equipped itself with an Automated Alert Service (AAS) that instantly sends voice messages by telephone, as well as SMS (text message) and/or emails. An alert is sent to the residents on the list, depending on the sector concerned, or to the entire Municipality if necessary. By being informed, you can take the first and most decisive steps to ensure your own safety, that of your family and the protection of your property. Furthermore, your information will remain confidential and will only be used to communicate with you during an alert.

To register or for any questions regarding our Automated Alert Service (AAS), visit the Municipality of Mille-Isles's website or contact us at 450 438-2958.



NEWSLETTER - PUBLIC INTEREST MESSAGES VIA E-MAIL

Enroll online by clicking on **newsletter** at the top right of the screen: www.mille-isles.ca



FACEBOOK PAGE

Visit, enjoy and share the Facebook page: Municipalité de Mille-Isles.



MAYOR'S ADDRESS

2020 May Edition

Good day everybody,

As you are all aware, the government is beginning the re-opening of our society and economy. This comes because our region, amongst others, has been listening to the health directives and following them. We must continue to be careful during the gradual lifting of restrictions to hold off any second wave.

One very important issue that has emerged from this pandemic is the essential need for all citizens to have access to high speed Internet in each of our homes. The federal and provincial governments keep telling us how essential it is and that budgets are available and have been allocated.

So, where's the problem?

During the Fibre Argenteuil's information session last February, the MRC d'Argenteuil informed citizens of the deadlines it must respect to be eligible for these government grants. The problem is that Bell Canada is excessively slow in issuing permits to use their infrastructures (strands and poles). The internal processes of this company are cumbersome, and the response times are extremely long. Very often, the work required to bring the requested structures up to standard is disproportionate compared to the simple addition of optical fiber. In addition, these upgrades are at the expense of the applicants, which means the MRC d'Argenteuil, and therefore all taxpayers.

During a telephone meeting with the mayors, our federal deputy Mr. Stéphane Lauzon explained that Bell is using stalling tactics with the government, creating unreasonable delays for all the MRC and government authorities, regardless of the fact that in many of the areas that we are deploying our network, Bell had lifted their noses at bringing in optic fiber network for lack of future profitability. This is their prerogative. Our MP explained that the government is trying to work it out with Bell, but the latter is saying that the safety of their employees requires them to analyse every situation to ensure that no one gets hurt. Hard to argue, but they also give themselves a universal waiver which allows them to use any pole as they see fit for their use.

The CRTC seems powerless to force Bell to help the community (us) who supported, subsidized and still subsidizes this network, because it is an essential service. Furthermore, Bell was supposed to maintain it, including the poles, but apparently did not do so. Is it up to all citizens to pay for the reconstruction of the network of this industrial giant, a network that belongs to them?

Political leaders say that high-speed Internet is an essential service and the COVID-19 crisis has brought it to the forefront, while Bell Canada is preventing us from completing the network within easily attainable timeframes, based on the risk to the safety of their employees. Perhaps the federal government should stop the negotiations and consider other solutions for the good of all. For instance, the government could take responsibility for the worker's safety or subsidize their insurance. In this case, Bell or the federal government could grant a universal waiver so that the network can be installed for all citizens in all rural areas as quickly as possible and put an end to this sectoral discrimination.

If nothing is done by the federal government, the residents of Argenteuil, including the citizens of Mille-Isles, will have to wait much longer than necessary. I ask myself the following question: if each Internet user of Mille-Isles sent a request for an intervention to our federal MP, Mr. Stéphane Lauzon, could that get their attention? As a private company, Bell Canada is under no obligation to assist us. However, if the federal government forces them to, they will have no choice.

Here are the contact details of Mr. Stéphane Lauzon, Deputy of Argenteuil: 505 Bethany avenue, suite 204, Lachute, Quebec, J8H 4A6 | Email: Stephane.Lauzon@parl.gc.ca | Telephone: 450 562-0737 | Fax: 450 562-2527.

Thank you for being respectful when forwarding your request to our Member of Parliament for the following immediate intervention:

1. That the federal government issue a decree obliging Bell Canada to cooperate effectively with the authorities that are mandated to make high-speed Internet accessible to all the citizens of our MRC;
2. That the government force Bell to issue a waiver to the MRC so that our installers with specific insurance can do their job today.

Thank you and take care of yourself. It's going to be fine.

Howard Sauvé
Mayor





HERITAGE

2020 May Edition

THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE FROM YESTERDAY TO TODAY

Among the elements that represent the rural landscape of Mille-Isles are its imposing wooden barns with their gabled roofs. These traditional structures built lengthwise, which some are raised on a stone foundation, bear witness to a very interesting experience. Around 1830, with the arrival of the first families of Irish origin, lands were offered to them, many of which turned out to be steep and rocky. These newcomers built their homes as well as magnificent wooden barns to accommodate horses, cows and farmyard animals. As the French Canadian term says, "faire terre neuve", they had to cut down and burn trees and plough the land for crops and livestock. In 1867, on the territory of Mille-Isles, there were 213 plots of land. However, this did not mean that there were the same number of farmers, since some families owned more than one plot of land and many plots were vacant, waiting for new families.



Today, although several lands have spontaneously renaturalized, we still find some of these buildings, including about ten on Tamaracouta Road, not to mention the ones on Black Road, Hammond Road and Mille-Isles Road. In short, these founders left us a beautiful heritage, and today, some of them are of interest and constitute an exceptional landscape.

Thank you to the current owners who preserve the last and precious agricultural memories, because they are the beauty of the landscape and the pride of Mille-Isles citizens.

Ginette Mayer



Facebook page:
Patrimoine bâti Mille-Isles

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Are you interested in heritage and want to get involved as a volunteer in your Municipality?

The newly formed Local Heritage Council is looking for members interested in the history of Mille-Isles. For more information, contact Andrée-Ann LaRocque by email at alarocque@mille-isles.ca.



PUBLIC WORKS

SPRING CLEANING OF ROADS

Currently, a subcontracting company is carrying out road cleaning operations on the territory of the Municipality of Mille-Isles. These operations require about two weeks of work and will allow for the recovery of some of the stone and sand spread during the winter. In order to ensure the smooth progress of work, we ask that you do not park on the streets in order to achieve optimal cleaning.

BACKFILL SOIL

Backfill, consisting of a mixture of soil and rock, can be distributed free of charge to citizens of Mille-Isles upon request. A ten-wheel truck will make the complimentary delivery to your property. Interested persons must complete a request for a backfill/excavation certificate of authorization, available on the Municipality's website in the Urban planning and Environment section, tab Urbanism, sub-tab Permits and certificates. For more information, we invite you to contact David Roy at droy@mille-isles.ca or at 450 438-2958, ext. 2607.





TEMPORARY CAR SHELTER

Hurry up and remove your temporary car shelter. The deadline was May 1st for dismantling them (canvas and structure).

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

A tab named " COVID-19 " is available on the Municipality's website in the Recreation and Community section. You will find municipal and government press releases as well as a wealth of information related to the current situation. We would like to inform you that the website will be refreshed in the near future. Our interest is to make it easier for you to find the information you are looking for.

In addition, as soon as the situation allows it, a Road Works Info section will be added. On this page, you will find information on the main construction sites in progress on the territory, including the nature of the work, alternative routes and the planned schedule. If you do not have Internet access, you can contact us by phone at 450 438-2958 and we will be pleased to answer your questions.

PROHIBITION TO MAKE OPEN FIRES

To support the SOPFEU continuity plan, the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) decided on April 23 to prohibit open fires in order to preserve the operational capacity of the Société de protection des forêts contre le feu (SOPFEU) and the various municipal fire departments during the pandemic. We ask you to respect this ban.

For more information, we invite you to visit the SOPFEU website.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The Municipality of Mille-Isles has made friendly calls to residents 70 years old and over to ensure that they are aware of the resources available to meet their needs.

These services and resources have been added to the home page of the Municipality's website. We invite you to consult them as some are available to all residents of Mille-Isles.

If you do not have Internet access, we will inform you by telephone by contacting 450 438-2958.

2020 MUNICIPAL TAXES

First payment: May 15 **Second payment:** June 19

Third payment: September 18

Note that you must prioritize electronic, telephone and postal payments. For more information, we invite you to contact Chrystine Slight at cslight@mille-isles.ca or at 450 438-2958, ext. 2600.



PATROUILLE CANINE A. ROY
1 800 950-4280
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SOS PUBLIC WORKS
1 855 960-0699



MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear citizens of Mille-Isles,

In order to keep you informed of the various major roadworks, the Municipality of Mille-Isles presents its first Roadworks newsletter.

Throughout 2020, newsletters will provide information on the progress of projects and possible traffic detours concerning the rehabilitation works of main road infrastructure carried out on the territory. I have asked our municipal team to keep you regularly informed on the evolution of these works via our website and Facebook page.

Also, I am pleased to announce two pieces of excellent news:

1. We have received an important grant from the provincial government that will cover 75 % of the costs necessary to rehabilitate Tamaracouta Road, between Hammond and Mille-Isles Roads. We are planning to begin the work throughout May and expect to complete the project by November of this year.
2. As soon as the freeze period officially ends, the ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) will carry out major repair and paving work on Mille-Isles Road, between our Town Hall and Cambria Road. Please note that this road is under the MTQ's jurisdiction.

I also know that in the short term, you will most likely suffer some inconveniences related to this work. Detours, dust, noise from heavy equipment and trucks and bumpy road will be the main inconveniences. Unfortunately, it is a necessary step, but one that will bring much needed satisfaction in the fall. This work, which requires a significant investment, is financed 75 % by the provincial grant and 25 % by a loan bylaw that will be repaid from taxation revenues over a 20-year period. The advantage of a borrowing bylaw is that it spreads the burden of expenses over several years, thus allowing us to achieve greater intergenerational equity. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who helped move this project forward, particularly my predecessor Mr. Michel Boyer, Mrs. Agnès Grondin, our member of the National Assembly for Argenteuil, the MRC d'Argenteuil's team and Mr. François Bonnardel, the minister of Transport du Québec, who freed up the necessary funds. For those who still doubt it, 90 % of this grant has already been given to the Municipality and soon you will be able to see the changes and results of this project.

Thank you.

Howard Sauvé
Mayor



ROADWORKS INFO

2020 May Edition

TAMARACOUTA AND MILLE-ISLES ROADS

Upon completion of the major roadwork, Tamaracouta Road will maintain approximately the same width, i.e. 6.2 meters and 0.9 meters for each shoulder. However, trees were cut down in several places to allow for proper ditching. Since the road's right-of-way is so narrow, the Municipality has acquired two strips of land of 4 meters wide, belonging to Mr. Mario Durocher and Scouts Canada, which will make it possible to achieve the ditching needed. We thank them for their collaboration in the realization of this project.

The section of Tamaracouta Road that will benefit from the work is between Mille-Isles Road and Hammond Road. It represents approximately 8.25 kilometers:

- 3.5 kilometers will be rebuilt in several sections;
 - 1.75 kilometers of asphalt will be preserved and repairs to cracks and ditches will be made where required;
 - 3 kilometers will be repaired depending on the requirements (stone and stump removal, culvert replacement, etc.).
- Ditching will be done and new pavement will be put down on this entire length.

List of major works planned in Mille-Isles for 2020

Project	Detail	Timeline
Tamaracouta Road (between Mille-Isles and Hammond Roads)	Pruning: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ For the ditches;✓ In some places requiring the road to be moved a few feet.	April and May
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Excavation of ditches and culverts;✓ One shovel road repair northwest of Black;✓ Site preparation for soil storage.	May and June
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Increased presence of equipment simultaneously;✓ Crushing of asphalt;✓ Repair of the road foundations over 3.5 kilometers.	July, August and September
	The road will be temporarily closed in sections.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Complete the excavation;✓ Spread of the last layer of gravel before asphalt;✓ Paving the road.	September and October
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Final gravel on shoulders and driveways;✓ Installation of guardrails;✓ Lineage of the road.	November
Mille-Isles Road (mainly between Black and Cambria Roads)	Work under the MTQ's jurisdiction: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Removal of asphalt and rocks;✓ Paving. <p>Occasional road closure, check road sign.</p>	May and June (completion around mid-July)

Residents living on these roads will still be able to access their property, except in special cases such as changing a culvert giving access to a property. If applicable, we will contact you in due course to arrange remedial solutions. To reach the Director of Public Works Department, Yves Latour, please call 450 438-2958 ext. 2612.

