

DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSERVATION PARK: DE VOLPI-WALKER ECOLOGICAL GIFT

Last year, the Municipality received an 86-hectare ecological gift adjacent to the Tamaracouta Scout Reserve. The land was obtained from the De Volpi and Walker families through the federal ecological gift program. An ecological characterization study was carried out in 2020, prior to the acquisition of the land, to assess its ecological value.



The biologist's report gives the property a high ecological value for several reasons:

- Large lot, with a mosaic of several types of natural environments;
- Head of a watershed of regional interest, upstream from lakes of remarkable quality and condition;
- High floristic diversity;
- Good quality and diversity of wildlife habitats;
- Presence of special-status species and potential habitat for others;
- Little anthropogenic disturbance;
- Connectivity with other natural environments in the vicinity and within the Laurentian ecological corridor.

A conservation strategy was developed in parallel with the study to guide future actions in the land. The proposed development of a conservation park is directly linked to the strategy's enhancement objectives, i.e. ensuring safe access to the site, building trails and creating activities on the site. The project will give citizens access to splendid landscapes and an exceptional nature experience. The first stages of the project began recently with the assessment and characterization of existing trails, applications for financial assistance and the completion of a comprehensive field survey. The timetable will be dictated by the financial aid available. If all goes well, we aim to open the park in 2025. The two applications for financial assistance that will be submitted shortly are for Component 2 of the *Programme d'aide financière aux infrastructures récréatives, sportives et de l'environnement*, which mainly targets the development of outdoor infrastructures, and the Hydro-Québec program for the enhancement of natural which aims to conserve, protect and enhance natural environments of high ecological value.

For more information - contact Gabriel Therrien, Assistant General Manager and Assistant Clerk-Treasurer at 450-438-2958 ext. 2602 or by e-mail at gtherrien@mille-isles.ca.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

October 2023 edition

Hello everyone,

I recently attended the annual convention of the FQM, the Fédération québécoise des Municipalités, an entity that represents and defends the interests of municipalities in Quebec. It acts as the voice of municipalities to the provincial and federal governments. It advocates municipal interests and helps to secure adequate financial support for small municipalities.

The FQM also offers consulting services to member municipalities to help them in a number of areas, including management, planning and municipal governance.



The Municipality of Mille-Isles has availed itself of these services for the engineering of Côte Saint-Joseph, with a view to finding solutions. The FQM organizes training courses and events for elected officials and municipal staff to enhance their skills and knowledge. Mandatory training for newly elected officials are offered by the FQM. The FQM conducts research and analysis on important municipal issues and proposes solutions to these challenges. In short, the FQM's mission is to support and accompany municipalities in their development and operations, while representing their interests to governmental authorities and by promoting cooperation between municipalities.

During my visit to the congress, I was able to take part in 2 workshops where draft resolutions were presented for discussion and amendment before being put to the vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). I took part in the workshop on emergency measures: *providing better support for elected representatives*, and the workshop on grouping and pooling municipal services with the theme: *actions that produce results*. At the end of the congress, there's the AGM, where the resolutions proposed by the RCMs and municipalities are put to the vote for adoption. These resolutions will form the basis of the FQM's work for the current year.

I also attended the meeting between our general management and the management of MAVN, with whom we've been partners for the past year and a half. The mission of MAVN, Mesures Alternatives des Vallées du Nord, is to focus on principles such as: empowering people, fostering communication, supporting people, bringing people together and reassuring them in times of conflict. Several types of conflict can be handled by MAVN: neighbor disputes, where the problem is often a lack of communication or an inability to reach an agreement. Or inability to communicate, MAVN can help; around lakes, conflicts often arise, again, MAVN can intervene. More often than not, people of good faith don't want to go to court, they want to be able to present a problem and solve it between and work it out between themselves, and MAVN can help. All it takes is willingness. MAVN's services are free of charge to our citizens, because we are members. In the first year of service with us, many citizens have taken advantage of the service. To contact MAVN, you can call them at 450-436-6749, or e-mail info@mavn.ca, visit their website at mavn.ca. I also invite citizens who would like more details on the MRC activities to consult the MRC website at argenteuil.qc.ca.

Finally, please note that you can always send us your questions to the following e-mail address questions@mille-isles.ca. These will be answered in writing, to ensure that we provide the right answers so as not to mislead citizens.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Howard Sauvé, Mayor

THE BRIDGES OF MILLE-ISLES

A bridge is always an eye-catcher. A bridge can also be used to cross a natural obstacle (a river) or an artificial one (a road). It's a man-made construction that makes life easier and enables people to move further afield. In the early days of Mille-Isles settlement, how did they ensure traffic to the land? On May 29, 1844, 42 people signed an agreement on the very spot where they had settled or planned to settle, where no regular road had yet been built. They agreed to maintain the crossings until they were legally erected.



Pont bleu

This information shows how the territory was occupied at the time. The colonizers traced and completed roads along the coast. Along the way, they built wooden bridges, throwing two trees across the river and covering them. However, these were subject to spring flooding and had to be rebuilt several times. From the 1950s onwards, they were all rebuilt, either in concrete or steel. Taking a nature break on the Maxwell Bridge, heritage curious, I stopped. Even though I know the origin of its name and that it has lost its beautiful blue "Maxwell Bridge" sign, I wonder: what is its history? When was it built? Where does this magnificent waterway come from? Do you know the expression "ask and you shall receive"? So, with a smile, I say to the bridge: "Bridge, tell me your story!" That's the start of my search. I went down to observe its structure and found that I had my first piece of information, a small blue poster bearing the number P-00429. Coincidentally, a few days later, MTQ inspectors are under the bridge. They inform me that it was built in 1966, and that since December 2007, bridges in municipalities with populations of 100,000 or less are the responsibility of the Ministère des Transports du Québec. In Mille-Isles, there are four MTQ bridges (Dainava, Maxwell, Strong and Elder) and one private bridge (Bleu). Unfortunately, in the index to the buildings, no document or transaction mentioned the action of donating or selling part of a lot for the history of the bridges. However, here is the information I was able to gather: The Dainava Bridge, number P-00431, is a wooden bridge over a steel girder built in 1956 on Tamaracouta Road West, crossing the outlet of Lake Dainava (from which it takes its name). The name itself derives from Lithuanian hydronyms, names of rivers and lakes, meaning flowing waters. The name was chosen by the future owners at their first meeting on September 16, 1956 in St-Eustache. It was in 1957 that the area was first developed.

The Maxwell, Strong and Elder bridges provide an impressive natural panorama of Bonniebrook Creek, with its large waterfall, cascades and rapids. Bonniebrook Creek flows downstream from the outlet of Fiddler Lake, Hughes Lake, Yvan Lake, Tamaracouta Lake and Dawson Lake, ending its course in the Rivière du Nord. Conditions were optimal for the sawmill built by Seigneur J. L. de Bellefeuille's sawmill, to whom William Stuar offered the privilege of using the water for power development and building a dam to bring water to the mill (the remains of which can still be seen today), just off the Strong Bridge.

THE BRIDGES OF MILLE-ISLES (continued)

The Maxwell Bridge, number P-00249, was built in 1966 on Chemin Tamaracouta. The Strong Bridge, number P-00430, was built in 1958 at the junction of Chemin Mille-Isles and Chemin Cambria. The Elder Bridge, number P-00427, was built in 1986 on Chemin de l'Église, a wooden bridge on steel beams. All these bridges derive their etymology from the names of pioneer families.

Finally, the Blue Bridge is located on Lac Paul and belongs to Premier lac du Nord. As you'd expect, the Blue Bridge, made of wood and steel beams, takes its name from the color (blue lake) chosen at the time of its creation. The bridge was built in 1992 by Marc-André Scraire to replace a crossbeam that ran over metal pipes. The bridge crosses Rivière-à-Gagnon, once named after the family of Thomas Gagnon. Today, it is known as Rivière Bellefeuille, in reference to the Lefebvre de Bellefeuille family. Since 2023, the Blue Bridge has been closed. There is no longer any vehicular traffic on the bridge, and it enjoys a well-deserved retirement within the Lac Paul network of private trails.

Ginette Mayer

ACTIVITIES EVENT & COMMUNITY

October 2023 edition

UPCOMING CONFERENCE (in French)



DÉVELOPPEMENT ORNITHOLOGIQUE ARGENTEUIL

**La baisse des populations d'oiseaux
Comment nourrir les oiseaux dans sa cour**

Thursday, October 26, 2023 - 6:30 p.m.
(Strong Community Hall - Duration 1 h 30)

FREE for D.O.A. (member)

5 \$ for non-members)



Reservation by email to cdion@mille-isles.ca



**Prévenir la fraude,
ça débute avec vous**

offered by la Sûreté du Québec

Conference and pastries available
Strong Community Hall

Friday, November 3 at 10 a.m.

Reservation by email to cdion@mille-isles.ca

AN ORGANIZATION THAT'S HERE FOR YOU

Café Partage

The advantages of group purchasing, quality items at lower cost & delivered to your municipality

Café Partage's low-cost, mobile grocery store is a great alternative to food shopping. It allows users to do their grocery shopping at lower cost on a regular basis. This service is available to everyone and offers substantial savings. The organization offers a variety of everyday foods and products. What's more, with a view to Café Partage also offers a variety of affordable, comforting ready-to-eat meals. As well as economical groceries and home-cooked meals, three sizes of fruits and vegetables baskets are also available for \$16 (small), \$20 (medium) or \$24 (large). Lists of products and prepared meals offered can be consulted mille-isles.ca/en/leisure-and-community-life/community-organizations, under the heading Café partage. To take advantage of this service, simply contact Claudine Caron at 450 562-0987 or by e-mail at ccaron.cafepartage@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES, EVENT & COMMUNITY

October 2023 edition

HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

OCTOBER 28

3 p.m. **GLUE MAKING DECORATION**
(Parent - child)

For reservation contact Renée Lagacé 438
932-5183 or renee.lagace@gmail.com

5 p.m. **FILM PROJECTION LE MANOIR HANTÉ** (in French)
& **FREE PIZZA**

7 p.m. **GUEST SPEAKER - SCARY STORY** (in French) 10 years +
(outdoors, weather permitting)

The Strong Community Hall will be Specially
decorated for the event
SUGAR SURPRISES

DRESS FOR THE OCCASION



MILLE-ISLES WALKING GROUP

Every Wednesday morning, the Mille-Isles walking group gets together for the hike. No matter what your age, this activity is accessible to all, FREE of charge, and bring multiple benefits to your body. What's more, sociable dogs on leashes are welcome on certain hikes.

Anyone interested should contact Ginette Mayer by phone or text at

514 971-7496



Facebook page:

Groupe de marche Mille-Isles

Eco-educational workshop

ELDERBERRY SYRUP



NOVEMBER 17TH 9:30 A.M. TO 11 A.M.

Strong community hall

RESERVE YOUR SPOT WITH RENÉE LAGACÉ
438-932-5183 OR RENEELAGACE@GMAIL.COM

COOKING WORKSHOP

PARENT AND CHILD

Cooking with leftovers!

NOVEMBER 24TH 5:30 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT WITH RENÉE LAGACÉ
438-932-5183 OR RENEELAGACE@GMAIL.COM



FRIENDLY MONDAY GROUP

In a convivial atmosphere, the group shares their know-how and their art of living, over a cup of tea and a snack, while strengthening a bond camaraderie.

Monday afternoon meetings are held at Strong Community Hall, 1262 chemin de Mille-Isles, starting at 1:00 pm.



Come to the next meeting or contact Joan Hudson at 450 432-7572 for more details.

ACTIVITIES, EVENT & COMMUNITY

October 2023 edition

FIREFIGHTERS' FOOD DRIVE AND SANTA CLAUS PARADE

This year's Firefighter's food drive will take place on Sunday, December 3, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. Teams of volunteers will be collecting non-perishable food and cash donations at various locations:

- ✓ Santa Claus parade;
- ✓ Directly to the fire station;
- ✓ At three different intersections:
 - o At the intersection of Côte Saint-Gabriel & Tamaracouta road from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm;
 - o At the intersection of Black road & Mille-Isles road 9:00 am to 3:30 pm;
 - o At the intersection of Scraire road & Hector road 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.



Through a home collection service offered to citizens with special circumstances (reduced mobility or no means of transport). Please call 450 565-7537

BRING YOUR NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS TO THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE NOW

CHRISTMAS BASKET

Every year, Christmas Baskets help many families by providing them with a large box containing non-perishable food, hygiene products and more. If you would like to take advantage of this service, please call 450 438-2958 ext. 2610 to make an appointment before November 17, 2023. Proof of residence, proof of income and payment of \$5 will be required upon registration.

Christmas baskets will be delivered on Monday, December 18, 2023, between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm.



Don't hesitate to register, and note that this process is confidential.

REGISTRATION FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT DISTRIBUTION - CHRISTMAS PARADE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3



Watch your mailbox! The registration form for Mille-Isles childrens will be mail to you shortly.

You can also register by November 17 via this QR code



NEWSLETTER - PUBLIC INTEREST MESSAGES VIA E-MAIL

Enroll online by clicking on **Newsletter** at the top right of the screen

www.mille-isles.ca

RESIDUAL MATERIALS

Residual materials collection services consolidation study

Last August, the Council of Mayors of the MRC d'Argenteuil awarded a mandate to STRATZER to evaluate the governance model for residual materials management in the region. This study will result in the identification of scenarios for the consolidation of waste collection, recycling and composting and provide a benefit-cost analysis for each scenario.

The provincial regulation on the modernization of selective collection strongly encourages the recycling collection. This new obligation is an opportunity to reopen the discussion on the governance of all residual materials on Argenteuil territory.

The modernization of Quebec's deposit-refund and selective collection systems is a major undertaking launched by the Quebec government, which aims to ensure the efficient management of all containers, packaging and printed matter marketed, sold or otherwise distributed in Quebec. Visit the Ministère de l'Environnement website for more information on this major initiative.



TREE FELLING

Before cutting down a tree, you must obtain certificate of authorization (available on our website under (environment/permits and certificates). This application is free of charge! For further information, please contact Isabelle Bouchard by e-mail ibouchard@mille-isles.ca or by telephone 450 438-2958, ext. 2613



MUNICIPAL TAXES

The Municipality of Mille-Isles wishes to remind its citizens that the due date for the sixth instalment of municipal taxes is Friday, December 1. You can pay your account using one of the following payment methods:

- By telephone or electronic banking services;
- By post-dated cheque sent by mail;
- By phone with a credit card;
- In person at the municipal office.

If you have any questions about your summary please contact Chrystine Slight by e-mail at cslight@mille-isles.ca or by telephone 450 438-2958, poste 2600.

JOB OFFER

The Municipality of Mille-Isles is looking for two or three dynamic, responsible people to fill part-time seasonal position (subject to candidate availability).

To consult the job offer, visit the municipality's web site

All interested parties must send their curriculum vitae to Gabriel Therrien by November 27, 2023 by e-mail to gtherrien@mille-isles.ca

PUBLIC WORKS

October 2023 edition

LOCAL ROAD NETWORK

To help improve our local road network, two projects have recently been submitted to the Programme d'aide à la voirie locale (2021-2025) of the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable. This program was set up to help municipalities improve their municipal road infrastructure. If we obtain the desired contributions, we will be able to carry out the complete reconstruction of Hammond road (2024), Riddell road, montée de l'Église (2025) and côte St-Joseph (2026). It's also worth pointing out that, in order to ensure that our repairs last over time, we have obtained the expertise of engineers required for certain recurring problems.

SUMMER JOB

The Municipality would like to thank Malik Perreault, who joined the Public Works team during the summer season. We hope it was an enriching experience that will help you develop your professional potential! We wish you continued success!



WINTER CARPORT

A maximum of two winter carports is permitted from **October 1 to May 1** of the following year.

Please note that a minimum distance of two metres must be maintained between the shelter and any lot line. The structure must not be located in the road right-of-way, but must be erected on a parking space. In addition, it must be made of an industrially-manufactured tubular metal frame and covered with no more than two non-rigid materials. No permit is required for installation.

No permit is required for installation.

DOG TAG



You've just moved to Mille-Isles. Have you considered getting a dog tag? It's compulsory throughout Mille-Isles.

To learn more about the municipal by-law or to fill out the form, please visit the municipal website or contact Chrystine Slight by e-mail at cslight@mille-isles.ca or by telephone at 450 438-2958, ext. 2600.

The medal is free of charge.

2023 CALENDAR OF ORDINARY MEETING CONSEIL

- November, 1
 - December, 6
- All signed minutes are posted on the municipality's website at www.mille-isles.ca**

ECOCENTER - LES BONS VOISINS

Opening hours from October 9, 2023
(Thanksgiving)

Saturday and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

Address: 40, chemin Sideline, Gore (Québec), J0V1K0
Telephone: 450 562-2025

PUBLIC WORKS
(After-hours emergency number)
1 855 960-0699



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