



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

Mayor's Message

Maria Tutino



Dear Residents,

After much reflection, I have decided to resign as Mayor of the Town of Baie-D'Urfé, effective **November 9, 2020**.

I had initially planned to not run for re-election next year. However, Covid-19 requires me to change the timing of my departure.

I have loved being your Mayor during the past 15 years. The needs of my family, since July 2018, have grown substantially and with Covid-19 the demands on my time are even more significant. My family's needs are now such that they require more and more of my attention leaving less time to properly manage and deal with the matters and issues of the Town and of Council.

I have thought long and hard for the past few months as to whether I could continue doing justice to my job as the Mayor of this special Town while devoting the necessary time to my family during a second wave. I have concluded that I cannot do so.

This has been a very difficult decision.

When I was deciding whether to continue as Mayor until the end of the mandate, a very important factor was our Town's very involved citizenry. Our dedicated citizens make it a real pleasure to be the Mayor in this Town. Not many mayors can count on almost every citizen, young or old, being willing to roll up their sleeves and work with the Council to make things happen.

Baie-D'Urfé has a strong and vibrant volunteer community. I became one of those volunteers over thirty years ago when I moved to Baie-D'Urfé and am honoured to now be in the position of leading the efforts for our Town to continue to flourish as the volunteer-driven community that it is.

I have enjoyed being of service to this wonderful Town, now for 20 years... as the citizens' leader of the anti-merger, demerger

and reconstitution movements from 2000 to 2005 and as Mayor for the past 15 years. I am very proud of my record and what we have all accomplished together since 2000 – Volunteers, Residents, Council and Administration.

I am also grateful for the friendships and close relationships that I was able to make, over the four mandates, with the thirty mayors of the other fourteen municipalities that are members of the *Association of Suburban Municipalities*. We all worked well together in attempting to further the common interests of our respective municipalities.

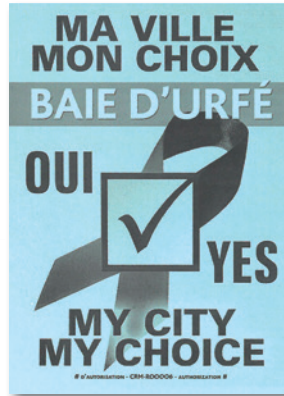
These past twenty years have been among the most rewarding years of my life.

I thank you for the trust and confidence you entrusted in me by awarding me four mandates.

Baie-D'Urfé has been my home since 1989 and I am not leaving this outstanding community. Volunteers make this Town special. Fifteen years ago, before I became Mayor, I was one of the many Town volunteers and you will see me among the volunteers, for many years to come.

As of November 9th, I will continue my volunteerism with the Baie-D'Urfé Community Covid Task Force. We will fight Covid together, side by side, and we will succeed in keeping our community safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve, for your confidence and support over the years and for the memories of our journey together fighting for the Town's existence and reconstituting it to where it is today, a jewel of a place to live. I am humbled to have been your Mayor, proud of our accomplishments over the last twenty years and forever grateful for having had the opportunity to serve the community during this challenging and unprecedented twenty-year period.





MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL



RESIGNATION OF THE MAYOR OF BAIE-D'URFÉ, MARIA TUTINO

Thursday October 22nd, 2020

The Baie-D'Urfé Council and Administration were surprised and dismayed to receive the resignation of long-standing Mayor, Maria Tutino on October 19, 2020. Mayor Tutino's last day will be **November 9, 2020**. Mayor Tutino has made the difficult decision to resign due to family considerations. Ms. Tutino has been Mayor since 2006 where she was an instrumental force in demerging Baie-D'Urfé from Montréal. During her tenure, she has had many accomplishments, of which, only a few of the major ones are cited below:

- Completed rebuilding of the Town after the demerger including establishment of new volunteering organizations such as the *Rescue Squad*, *Citizens on Patrol (vCOPS)*, *Coast Guard Auxiliary*, to name a few of many others.
- Baie-D'Urfé has had the lowest tax and mill rates on the island of Montréal over many years;
- The Town has consistently had a surplus, an enviable position for any municipality;
- Led Baie-D'Urfé to be one of the top performers with regards to the environment on the island of Montréal (development of a tree program, recycling, composting and organic waste programs, percentage of canopy etc);
- Ensured that Baie-D'Urfé's needs were heard at the Agglomeration table including changing policies such as the water meter installation program which resulted in savings of over \$800,000;.
- Instituted many programs in Baie-D'Urfé including the Junior Council and *Lunch & Learn* Programs;
- Represented Baie-D'Urfé on many Committees and Commissions over the years at various levels of government;

- And most recently, led the COVID-19 task force, which took a great deal of time and energy and included the many initiatives for seniors and citizens during the pandemic for Baie-D'Urfé citizens. Some initiatives were the first to be implemented on the island of Montreal.

"Mayor Tutino is a dedicated Mayor who spent tireless hours serving the citizens of Baie-D'Urfé over the last 15 years," commented Councillor Kevin Doherty, Pro-Mayor for Baie-D'Urfé. "She made sure that Baie-D'Urfé had a strong voice around the Agglomeration table, led the Town with fiscal prudence and had made a significant contribution to make Baie-D'Urfé the community it is today." Councillor Doherty concluded, "On behalf of Council and the Administration, we sincerely thank Mayor Tutino for her commitment and dedication over the years and we wish her all the best in the future."

The *Act respecting Elections and Referendums in Municipalities* states that a by-election is not required when a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor 12 months or less before the day fixed for the next general election and the council has not ordered a by-election to fill it. Within 30 days after notice of the vacancy, the new Mayor shall be elected amongst the Councillors in accordance to section 336 of the aforementioned Act. In the case at hand, the Town Council has decided not to trigger a by-election.

Council is in the process of determining the best working format moving forward to ensure continuity for residents & staff alike and expects to be in a position to share this plan within the next few weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillors Andrea Gilpin, Heidi Ektvedt, Janet Ryan, Kevin M. Doherty, Lynda Phelps and Wanda Lowensteyn



BAIE-D'URFÉ TOWN HALL : INTIMATELY LINKED TO THE TOWNS HISTORY AND ITS FUTURE

What we know today as Town Hall originally dates back to a modest family farmhouse, built in 1875 in second empire style architecture.

In 1909, this original farmhouse was purchased by **James Morgan** (founder of today's Hudson Bay stores) and he officially donated it in 1912 for the purpose of altering into a town hall.

Renowned architect and town councillor **Edward Maxwell** donated his time to give it public character by adding a quite different style of Palladian architecture to the entrance, adorned with decorative elements and adding a large covered porch for citizens to enjoy the surroundings. Renovations were completed in 1914 for a cost of \$4 950. While I could not locate census for these exact years, I was curious to know how many residents there were and found that in 1931 the Town recorded **719 residents**.

In the 1960's & 70's Baie-D'Urfé developed with many homes built and approximately 3549 residents as of 1961. While small interior modifications have been done over time, only once was there an addition when in the 1970's, a modest 1 level annex was added to the rear of the building.

While undoubtedly charming and picturesque; working standards and building codes have long evolved, the grand room entrance which was long used for town meetings outgrew its purpose and remains largely unused and it is time to bring Town Hall into the 21st century while retaining its historic beginnings. This project includes making the space universal; so it can be accessed to the greatest extent by all people, regardless of their age, size, ability or disability.

Initial plans of 2013 were no longer feasible with changing environmental constraints regarding flood zones and revised mandates were given to the architectural firm **Affleck de la Riva**.

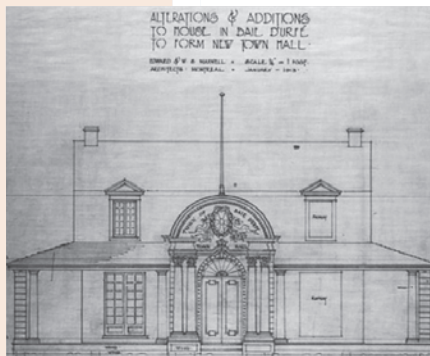
Citizens were to be consulted this past March on revised plans, however that changed as news of covid flooded our lives. With hopes to hold a virtual meeting, plans were released on the town website yet as news continued to develop through the world regarding the pandemic, it was agreed that it would not be right to try to consult citizens as they had other real preoccupations.

During this short timeframe, correspondence was received, indicating concern from citizens about those plans and with this information, council has been in the process of making revisions to find a solution that we hope residents will find acceptable. As I write this article, the architects are still working on interior plans based on a smaller expansion, so we have yet to know whether some services may need to move to another building.

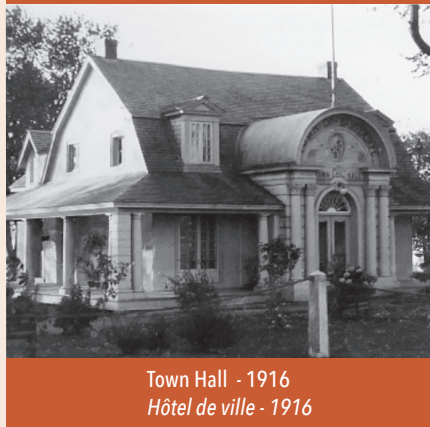
Design is very subjective, and I wonder about the times of Edward Maxwell and how acceptance was gained to add such a different style of architecture to an existing farmhouse building. The farmhouse was not demolished, nor did it remain as it was originally but rather evolved into what we see today. Ultimately, my perspectives on this project is that I see a need, I believe in respecting history & that this building should be preserved and that the expansion should be reflective of the needs of modern day life. As a councilor, it is my role to help in a process that will be brought forward to citizens and

I look forward to listening to feedback from residents during this future consultation.

Whether one is accepting of a traditional look that mimics the farmhouse origins or a style that blends yet still reflects a modern sensibility, will be seen. My hope is that residents will come to understand that behind the exterior facade the purpose is to improve functionality, safety and accessibility to Town Hall so it continues to be welcoming over the next 100 years!



Architectural drawing by Edward Maxwell - 1913
Dessin architectural par Edward Maxwell - 1913



Town Hall - 1916
Hôtel de ville - 1916



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

What's New!

Coordination : Valérie Fortin | Director of Communications



PREVENTING WATER INFILTRATIONS

BE PROACTIVE and ensure that your **sump pump** works properly before winter arrival. Other risk factors may contribute to water infiltrations in your basement such as soil conditions, the slope of your lot, lack of proper gutters or foundation cracks. Better be prepared to limit any damages and costs!



JUNIOR COUNCIL MEETING

Hear ye, hear ye!



Last 2020 Junior Council Meeting by **ZOOM**
Tuesday, November 17 From 7 pm to 8:30 pm



Are you between the ages of 10 and 18 and interested in contributing to Baie-D'Urfé's youth activities and projects?

If so, come join the Junior Council! We are **virtually meeting via zoom once per month**.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER



UPDATES OF BAIE-D'URFÉ

You wish to subscribe? Nothing is easier!
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- Go to the English homepage footer of our website and click on **Updates from Baie-D'Urfé** or subscribe via the Communications section of **Our Departments** tab.
- Complete the fields and click on the **Subscribe** button. You will immediately receive an email asking you to confirm your registration.



LAST **Bulky Items** and **Branch** PICK-UPS

Monday, November 9

- ▶ Please note that electronic wastes can be dropped off at all time at the Public Works building during business hours.

As for the branch collection, it will resume in the spring.

Water Meter Cards - **REMINDER**

The deadline for completing and returning Water meter cards is **November 2nd**. You can also complete the online form on the Town website.

Please contact Town Hall at **514 457-5206** or **5324** should you have any questions.

