



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL



Mayor's Message

Maria Tutino

For some time now, Council meetings are held in a difficult environment while protesters try to disturb them.

Whether by use of intimidation to the citizens who wish to attend the meetings, by screaming to elected officials who exercise their duty, by using megaphones and sirens to prevent the holding of the meetings, by literally harassing Council members at the door or even inside their vehicles as they approach their car and even going so far as following them with another vehicle on their way home.

This situation is unacceptable in a civilized society like ours and we shall not continue to tolerate this behaviour without publicly denouncing them and taking the necessary measures. You are probably wondering who these protesters are and why they are behaving in such way.

Let me explain the circumstances:

In 1989, the pharmaceutical and scientific company ITR, received the appropriate construction permit to set up base in the Industrial sector, in accordance with the municipal by-laws of the time. It is important to mention that in Canada, regulation governing pharmaceutical research involving animals is a matter of provincial and not municipal jurisdiction.

In 2017, the publication of a video that was taken by an employee led some to believe that the animals were being abused. A group of people then requested the shutdown of the company. ITR has always denied any animal mistreatment as well as the authenticity of the video. To this day, the company holds all proper authorizations from the provincial and federal governments to carry out its activities.

Nevertheless, sensitive to the claims and concern about animal welfare, the Baie-D'Urfé Town Council adopted in September 2017 the **by-law 875-121 amending the Zoning by-law 875** preventing any new pharmaceutical and scientific research company that uses animals to establish itself in Baie-D'Urfé.

Under the law, ITR has acquired rights and can pursue operating lawfully in Baie-d'Urfé as long as it complies with provincial and federal regulations. The Town does not have the power to stop ITR activities. If the protesters wish for changes in the animal research laws, they must address their grievances to the provincial government and stop believing that our Municipal Council has some authority in this matter. **It has none.**

To continue disrupting Council meetings will not allow them to obtain legislative changes from a higher level of government and will not serve their cause. Although the right to protest is a fundamental right that we respect, it should not be exercised in this manner.

Rest assured that Town Council will pursue their meetings every second Tuesday of the month and that all necessary measures will be taken to fulfill this commitment.

EXCITING NEWS ABOUT A REPLACEMENT SOUND BARRIER FROM LAKEVIEW TO GRAY

After going out to tender several times and receiving submissions which were more than double than anticipated, the Town was beginning to be concerned about the feasibility of this project in a foreseeable future.

Over the past couple of years I have approached the *Ministère des Transports* Department to see if any financial aid could be possible for the Town even though we did not meet their current criteria for assistance.

In a letter to the Town in early September, we received the following exciting news:

(Translation of the letter)

"The *Ministère des Transports* recently looked into the eligibility of projects such as Baie-D'Urfé, with the objective of raising the existing sound barrier that currently does not meet the noise protection thresholds set by the Minister's road noise Policy".

As a result of this analysis, the Department ruled that an existing noise screen improvement project aimed at meeting the thresholds of the Road Noise Policy is eligible for a financial contribution from the *Ministère des Transports*, according to the conditions of application of this Policy.

The percentage of funding that the Department could offer, in the case of Baie-D'Urfé, is currently under review".

We expect to hear from the Ministry what the level of financial aid will be allocated, on time for the October Council meeting. We have been told that it is at least 50%.

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Council Communiqué



Heidi Ektvedt

The fall season marks many natural occurrences; elaborate displays of fall foliage, honks of Canada geese taking flight and the beautiful array of fall produce filling stalls at local markets. It also marks a transitional time for several local groups and clubs.

The *Fritz Farm Youth Gardening program* has reaped a healthy harvest as it prepares to wind down the garden beds. The annual dog swim at *BDAC* officially marked the closing of another season and while racquets are hung, membership at the *Tennis Club* noted an increase particularly as a result of its junior enrolment. With brooms and rocks in hand the *BDCC* ramps up for the season ahead.

A very "Happy 60th Anniversary" to our *Yacht Club* who held a small gathering in September to mark this special milestone. For many youth it is home to the *Junior Squadron Sailing School* and it was a busy season with 172 students ranging from 6 years and older enjoying the benefits of living near our shoreline.



Past and Current Commodores: (left to right)
Commodores du passé et actuels : (gauche à droite)
Bill Cloutier (1994, 1995) **Chris Atack** (2018, 2019) **Richard Giasson** (2016, 2017) **Stephen Gruber** (2003, 2004, 2005)
Tony Pattinson (1998) **Don Lewis** (1963, 1964, 1997) **Bernard Lacasse** (2008, 2009, 2014, 2015) **Liz Eaman** (2001) **Les Dickie** (1982, 1983)

With many long standing traditions that continue, the *BDYC* is yet another example of a successful club, run by volunteers, which remains part of the fabric of Baie-D'Urfé.

A town reflects a living, breathing and ever changing environment and I am thrilled to see a new initiative with recently installed "Little Free Libraries".

Our library reached to long time resident and volunteer, **Robin Stuart**, who put his exceptional wood working skills to work. Like many, Robin is lucky to have two generations living within our town. His 14 year old granddaughter, **Indra Molins**, worked alongside with her inspiration and remarkable painting talents. Our "Little RED BARN" at *Picardy Park* pays tribute to the hub of community spirit while "BUSY BEES" at *John Weir Park* brings a gentle reminder as to the importance of our environment.



The library is still in the process of deciding whether they will be stored away over the winter months.

The "Back to School" routine has settled for many families & children in our neighbourhood schools and navigating the roads is not always an easy feat. Listening to concerns to slow down vehicle speed, signs were installed in several parts of town as a pilot project. On my councilor Facebook page it was by far the most commented and shared post, indicating to me the positive support of residents.

It saddened me to the core when I learned that these signs were extensively and deliberately vandalized to a point that they had to be removed within a few shorts weeks. While it remains unclear as to the person(s) who is/are responsible, we will move forward in good spirit for the safety of all residents and relook at measures.

"Just because you find one bad apple doesn't mean you should give up on the whole tree."
– Author Unknown

We will continue to focus on "the tree" and while I take time to appreciate this season, I wish you a wonderful autumn with all its beauty.

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PLANTING PROGRAM BY **GRAME**

The Town of Baie-D'Urfé, in partnership with the **GRAME** (*Applied Research Group in Macroecology*), invites you to participate in the "**ICI, on verdict!**" program, a campaign to increase the tree canopy cover in the West Island's institutional, commercial, and industrial sectors. By participating, you can benefit from multiple grants as well as significantly reduced prices for a turn-key tree planting project designed by GRAME's team of landscape and arborist professionals, who will customize the project to meet your needs.

This program can also be part of your replanting plan for felled trees, which includes ash trees.

Since its inception, the campaign "**ICI, on verdict!**" has allowed more than **220 trees** to be planted as part of greening activities in the Baie-D'Urfé Industrial Park. Planting trees allow participating companies to reduce their operational costs of heating, air conditioning, noise, strong winds and the risk of flooding through better water absorption.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

You only need to contact the **GRAME** and schedule for a first visit at your office. You will discuss your needs and they will make suggestions. **GRAME** will send you a proposed plan including a recommended selection of tree species adapted to your site's specific conditions. Once a final plan and tree selection are settled, you will sign a letter of commitment and set a date for the planting. Simple as that! This process will only take a few weeks and **your project may be completed by fall 2019.**

INFORMATION:

grame.org/icionverdit.html or by email at arbre@grame.org

Irina Sambueva,
Supervisor – Green Spaces & Environment
514 457-7604





MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

What's New!

Coordination : Valérie Fortin | Director of Communications



Thanksgiving DAY

Please note that the Town Hall and the Public Works will be closed on **Monday, October 14.**



› **Branch and Bulky items collections** will be postponed EXCEPTIONALLY on **Tuesday, October 15**, together with the Recycling and Organic pick-ups.



SECURITY RULES DURING HALLOWEEN

- Wear clothing with **reflective bands** to be clearly visible;
- Carry a **flashlight** to see better and never go out alone;
- Agree with parents on the **route** and **time of your return**;
- Go door-to-door in a **group, or accompanied by an adult** and **wait outside** the houses;
- Walk only **one side of the street at a time** to avoid crossing unnecessarily;
- Cross streets at **intersections** and **respect** road signs;
- **REFUSE** to approach a vehicle without the permission or the presence of a parent;
- **CHECK** with your parents all of your candies to make sure they can be eaten safely.



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!

AUTUMN LEAVES COLLECTION

Be aware that plastic bags, even compostable or biodegradable are prohibited.

During **Organic waste pick-up**, make sure you put all green residues and dead leaves inside your brown bin or any paper bag or cardboard box to be sure they will be picked-up!

WANT TO DO MORE?

Choose **LEAF MULCHING** for dead leaves. Your lawn will benefit fully from this practice.

A simple and effective way to return the organic matter to the ground and fully nourish your grass!



Water Meter Cards

Please note that the deadline for completing and returning your water meter card is **November 1st 2019**. However if you haven't received your card or should you have any questions, please call **514 457-5206**.

