



# MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

## Mayor's Message

Heidi Ektvedt



This is my last *Mayor's message* in this mandate. There will be an election for Mayor and Council on **November 7<sup>th</sup>**, so there will be no

further Mayor's message until after the election.

The Town is always looking for ways to reduce municipal spending on its projects and it was announced that we have been preselected for a minimum of 60% financial assistance by the Québec government for our town hall project at our regular public meeting in August. Considered a priority by the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing, with this pre-approval our Director General continues to work on building the file as per the requirements of this financial program. There are many moving parts and in tandem, the Town continues to advance with the geotechnical studies and engineering & architectural plans for the long overdue restoration and renovation of our town hall.

Our historical building holds a special place in the hearts and homes of many residents, past and present. Warm thanks to resident **Linda Tait** for another surprise that found its way to the Mayor's office. A beautiful black and white photo of the town hall by Ralph Emery, given to Linda's 92-year-old mother many years ago, has found its new home and will be much enjoyed and well taken care of.

There is very welcome news for families raising young children in our community. The Town has granted CPE Whiteside Taylor additional space to expand by **15 spaces** in its current location. While serving our community well, the current setup does not accommodate the demand for infants under the age of 18 months and the Town has repeatedly heard from families that this is an important issue. This age category was a driving factor in the agreement and I am confident that this shift will make life even better for families and their work-life balance.

There are several steps to this project that will be handled directly by the preschool, given the government requirements, to ensure that all regulations are met. The planning and renovation process will take place throughout this year.

The existing Whiteside Taylor Preschool Cooperative, founded in the Town in 1969, will be relocating to its own renovated space in the east wing



of the Red Barn. This move is effective for the fall 2021 season. The agreement was adopted by a majority of council at a special council meeting held August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Catering to 2-5-year olds in a parent-participation setting, the Cooperative is a non-profit organization offering an alternative model in early childhood education.

In order to evaluate the feasibility of these two projects, the Town has worked on issues including a review of its building usage rates over the last 9 months, and has found solutions and compromises in accommodating various groups with minimal modifications. This Red Barn space is not something new to children and some long-time residents may even recall when there was a preschool located in the Red Barn.



Building a town that is good for children and families is good for everyone. I am proud that our little town had the foresight, back in 1969, to be a leader in early childhood education and that we will continue to offer our youngest citizens environments in which to connect, grow and develop within our community.



### DEMOLITIONS AND NEW HOUSES

#### The present situation

When a demolition permit request is made, the Urban Planning Department puts an extensive file together and verifies that the plans meet all the requirements of the Zoning by-law before sending the file on to the Demolition Committee. The committee then reviews all of the information and visits the site, before a date is set for a public hearing.

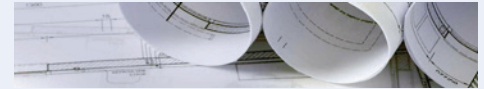
The Town's Demolition by-law lists the factors which the committee must take into account in making its decisions. One factor is "the intended use of the vacated land". While the committee can ensure that the intended new construction meets all the requirements of the Zoning by-law, there is clear legal jurisprudence to the effect that the committee cannot impose any conditions on the new build beyond these requirements.

Another factor is "the condition of the immovable that is the subject of the application". The committee bases its opinion of the condition of the house on the inspection report provided by the owner. Interpreting these reports can be somewhat subjective, which is why the committee has been divided in several recent decisions. A recent amendment to the Demolition by-law will allow the committee to request an independent inspection report in future cases, if the committee feels that this is necessary.

A further factor is "the deterioration of the architectural appearance or aesthetic character of the neighbourhood or of the quality of life in the neighbourhood". **Note that it is the effect of the existing house on the character of the neighbourhood that must be considered, not the effect of the new house. In other words, it is not the role of the Demolition Committee to judge the "fit" of the new house into its surroundings.**

This last is the role of the Town Planning Advisory Committee, but only for houses in zones covered by the SPAIP by-law.

Thus the Demolition Committee can rule only on the advisability of a demolition, and not on the planned new house. The condition of the existing house is the primary consideration for the committee.



#### The future

There has been a lot of concern among citizens about the number of demolitions, the new houses that have been built, and the resulting change in the Town's landscape. In fact, concerns about demolitions and new houses were among the top issues identified by citizens during our recent strategic planning exercise. The demolition of smaller houses and their replacement by much larger houses, frequently carried out by developers, is a trend that has been going on for many years, but has certainly accelerated in recent times.

It is clear that the time has come to make changes to our by-laws in order to give us more control over demolitions and new houses. There are different approaches that can be taken to achieve this. It is important that all changes made are carefully thought through, and that we end up with a set of rules that will help to preserve the charm and beauty of Baie-D'Urfé, and protect the Town from the forces that threaten the nature of our community

While this project has been delayed repeatedly over the last couple of years, and the pace of progress is frustratingly slow, the administration hopes to be able to award a contract in September for the complete overhaul of our urban planning by-laws. This work will be carried out by a consultant specializing in municipal by-laws, working closely with the administration and the next Council.

I have been working towards this kind of by-law change for a long time. As far back as 2008, Council came close to implementing new rules that would have restricted the maximum footprint and floor area for larger lots. Due to resistance from a vocal minority of citizens, the changes did not go through at that time, but I believe that such changes would now be accepted, or indeed welcomed, by the majority of our citizens.



## PROGRAMME DE DON D'ARBRES

## TREE DONATION PROGRAM

Dans un souci de conservation et de protection de nos espaces verts à la suite, principalement, du dépérissement de nos frênes, la ville de Baie-D'Urfé organisera une distribution automnale de **250 arbres** aux résidents de la municipalité.

Cette édition se voit légèrement différente des précédentes puisque la distribution des arbres se fera par l'entremise d'un système de tirage. Ce changement s'effectue dans le but d'offrir une chance équitable et impartiale pour tous les citoyens à la suite de vos recommandations.

- 🍃 Cette fois-ci, **UN SEUL (1) arbre** pourra être remis par adresse de résidence. S.V.P., veuillez mentionner votre ordre de préférence pour votre sélection d'arbres dans votre commande si vous désirez émettre des choix secondaires.
- 🍃 Votre commande d'arbres devra ainsi être effectuée entre le 1 septembre et 30 septembre 2021 inclusivement auprès d'Antony Gosselin, Technicien en environnement – Espaces verts et Environnement, préférablement par courriel à [agosselin@baie-durfe.qc.ca](mailto:agosselin@baie-durfe.qc.ca) ou encore par téléphone au **514-457-5339**. Un courriel de réception de votre commande vous sera envoyé.
- 🍃 Suite au tirage, seulement les résidents ayant obtenus un arbre seront contactés et ce avant le 15 octobre. Veuillez noter que ce programme est très convoité par les résidents et que vous participez généralement en très grand nombre.

Également, les arbres distribués doivent impérativement être plantés **sur votre propriété** à la ville de Baie-D'Urfé.

In an effort to conserve and protect our green spaces, mainly due to the decline of our ash trees caused by the emerald ash borer, the Town of Baie-D'Urfé will be distributing **250 trees** to residents of the municipality this fall.

This edition is slightly different from the previous ones since the distribution of the trees will be done through a draw system. This change is being made in order to offer a fair and impartial chance to all citizens following your recommendations. Here are the steps to follow:

- 🍃 This time, **ONLY ONE (1) tree** may be submitted per home address. Please mention your order of preference for your tree selection in your order if you wish to make secondary choices.
- 🍃 Your tree order must be placed between September 1 and September 30, 2021, inclusively with Antony Gosselin, Environmental Technician - Green Spaces and Environment, preferably by email at [agosselin@baie-durfe.qc.ca](mailto:agosselin@baie-durfe.qc.ca) or by phone at **514-457-5339**. An email confirming receipt of your order will be sent to you.
- 🍃 Following the draw, only residents who have obtained a tree will be contacted, and this before October 15th. Please note that this program is very popular with residents and that you usually participate in large numbers.

We remind you that the tree that will be distributed to you must be planted **on your property** located in the town of Baie-D'Urfé.



### ATTENTION

Suite aux restrictions sanitaires en lien avec la COVID-19, il ne sera pas possible de venir choisir ou voir votre arbre. Les arbres seront livrés à votre domicile entre le **18 et le 22 octobre 2021**. Veuillez noter qu'il ne sera en aucun cas possible de changer l'arbre gagné ou reçu. Merci de votre collaboration.

Due to the sanitary measures related to COVID-19, it will not be possible to come and choose or see your tree. The trees will be delivered to your home between **October 18 and 22, 2021**. Please note that it will not be possible to change the tree received. Thank you for your cooperation. votre collaboration.



## Sélection dons d'arbres | AUTOMNE 2021 FALL | Tree Selection

**Pin blanc | White Pine**  
*Pinus strobus*



H : 20m | L : 7m



**Micocoulier occidental  
Common Hackberry**  
*Celtis occidentalis*



H : 8m | L : 7m



**Noyer cendré | Butternut**  
*Juglans cinerea*



H : 18m | L : 12m



**Amélanchier du Canada  
High Serviceberry**  
*Amelanchier canadensis*



H : 8m | L : 4m



**Pin rouge | Red Pine**  
*Pinus resinosa*



H : 24m | L : 12m



**Chêne bicoloré | Swamp White Oak**



H : 16m | L : 18m



**Viorne lentago | Nannyberry Viburnum**  
*Viburnum lentago*



H : 6m | L : 3m



**Charme de Caroline  
American Hornbeam**  
*Carpinus caroliniana*



H : 8m | L : 7m



**Catalpa de l'Ouest | Northern Catalpa**  
*Catalpa speciosa*



H : 15m | L : 10m



**Arbre aux quarante écus  
Maidenhair Tree**  
*Ginkgo biloba*



H : 20m | L : 8m





# MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

## What's New!



### How do you feel about road safety in our town?

Discussing this issue is the main mission of the Town of Baie-D'Urfé's Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Committee, which is made up of three residents, two councillors, the Director of Public Works and a traffic officer from the SPVM. Although not widely known, this committee serves the citizens and deals with complaints and concerns related to road safety.



Over the past year, the committee has dealt with several complaints. Thanks to the use of radar speed guns, we can now base our decisions on real data and put aside our personal perceptions. Some changes to signage have been made

in the past year and several sites are still under review. Expect changes in the coming months to protect the children who enjoy the town's parks!

I encourage citizens who are concerned about traffic or road safety to send us their concerns via the committee. Social media can be a powerful way to express your concerns, but an email to the committee members is much more likely to get results quickly. You can find us on the town's website. We are here to listen to the citizens and try to make our city even safer for all of its residents.

**Isabelle Lemay**, member of Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Committee

## HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

The next collection is **Saturday, September 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 a.m.** at the Public Works building.

## BRANCHES COLLECTION

The spring branch pick-up has resumed service since **August 16** for the fall period **until November 8**. Branches should be placed by the roadside the night before pick-up day or the day of the collection **before 7 a.m.**



Daphné Arias & special collaborations



## 2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS BAIE-D'URFÉ

On November 7, 2021, Baie-D'Urfé electors will be able to exercise their right to vote. You must be 18 years of age or older on Election Day and meet the following conditions on September 1, 2021:

- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Be domiciled in Baie-D'Urfé and have lived in Québec for at least 6 months;
- Not be under curatorship;
- Not be found guilty of an offence constituting a corrupt electoral practice;
- Be registered on the list of electors.

You must also identify yourself by presenting one of the 5 following documents: your health insurance card, your driver's licence, your Canadian passport, your certificate of Indian status or your Canadian Armed Forces identity card.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- **Saturday, October 30, 2021:** Advance polling
- **Sunday, October 31, 2021:** Advance polling
- **Sunday, November 7, 2021:** Election Day

**CANDIDATES:** The nomination period begins on September 17, 2021, and ends on October 1, 2021, until 4:30 p.m.

**ELECTION OFFICERS:** There are several positions to be filled. Students and retirees are welcome!

### NEW - VOTE BY MAIL



The application must be made no later than October 27, 2021.

- » **Electors 70 years of age or older on election day:** Upon request to the Returning Officer, individuals in this category may vote by mail. Please note that a photocopy of one of the 5 identification documents above OR a document showing your date of birth and signature (SMC-86-VA) must be provided by the voter himself/herself.
- » **Electors domiciled in a residential centre or a private seniors' residence listed in the register established under the Act respecting health services and social services:** Upon request to the Returning Officer, individuals in this category may vote by mail. Please note that a photocopy of one of the 5 identification documents above must be provided by the voter himself/herself.

For more information, please visit our website under the "Municipal Elections 2021" section, send an email to [election@baie-durfe.qc.ca](mailto:election@baie-durfe.qc.ca) or contact the Returning Officer at **514-457-7023**.

