



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL

Mayor's Message

Heidi Ektvedt | Mayor



IN AND AROUND TOWN

In April, the Town Hall was a new "STOP" on the Bunny Hop as local children went door to door to selected homes, collecting small treats. It was encouraging to have 82 children make a stop at the Town Hall on that very windy day, and even more fun to watch as they took time to play under the large canopy of evergreens while parents paused to chat. Grateful to **Oana Silaghi**, husband **Aksel** & daughters **Gracie** and **Oana** for your successful citizen-driven activity.



You may have noticed the "volunteer" window signs in homes across the Town during the week of April 24-30th. Celebrating "Volunteer Recognition Week", the Town created an awareness campaign for all those who bring their hearts to our community on a regular basis with their time, energy and passion. Special credit to **Philippe St-Aubin**, **Antonella Di Marino** and **Public Works** for showcasing the great hearts of our local volunteers.

Many annual events were on hiatus through Covid and I think citizens will be thrilled to see them return this summer. Council approved funding for "The Antique Car Show", organized by the **Baie-D'Urfé Rescue Squad**, and will soon approve funding for "Concerts in the Park", organized by **Louise Otmar & Keith Fyckes**.

BEYOND BAIE-D'URFÉ

There are a handful of non-profit organizations that serve our citizens and those in the greater West Island community. Our town, alongside neighbouring municipalities, has been supportive in providing regular yearly funding over the

years so they can focus their attention on providing services. As individuals we may not need each and every one, but collectively, we are certainly glad they exist when the need arises. These non-profits include services for youth, family, mental health, seniors and health-related centres. The last 2 years have been particularly challenging for these groups, both in increased demand for services and reduced opportunities for fundraising. I hope Council shares my vision that these services contribute directly to the quality of life of many of our citizens, as well as the importance our support offers through yearly financial contributions.

NEW PROGRAM SUPPORTING SENIORS AUTONOMY

One of the groups we have supported over the years, The Teresa Dellar Palliative Care Centre, has branched out with a new complimentary service to help seniors remain autonomous in their own homes. Launched under its compassionate communities program, "Nav-CARE" is ideal for seniors who are suffering from loneliness or



social isolation, recent loss, mobility, having difficulty identifying and accessing resources and making decisions. Nav-CARE volunteers are fully trained to support seniors and help make connections across various services according to the clients' needs. The Town is working to share more information as well as encourage anyone interested in training to become a "navigator" volunteer within our surrounding community. For more information, email info@Nav-CARE.ca or call **514 431-7944**.



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Council Communiqué

Wanda Lowensteyn | Councillor



May has arrived, and with it comes the birds waking up at the crack of dawn, the trees blossoming, green grass and blooming flowers. As we ride the crest of another wave in the pandemic, we optimistically look forward to a more normal summer this year. Several of our special events are returning after a two-year hiatus, and our



summer recreational clubs are planning for a near-normal season. Bring on the outdoor swimming, tennis, sailing, cycling, kayaking, picnicking, concerts in the park, Baie-D'Urfé Day and all of the other wonderful activities that Baie-D'Urfé has to offer!

JUNIOR COUNCIL

Another activity that has returned after a short break is the Junior Council. While the various Covid-19 restrictions were in place, the Junior Council was meeting virtually. This continued for well over a year before it became too arduous for its young members. With in-person meetings possible again, the Junior Council is up and running, and welcoming new members. Please contact Councillor Lowensteyn for information at: wlowensteyn@baie-durfe.qc.ca.

GARDENING AT BAIE-D'URFÉ

May is the start of the gardening season. Whether it is flower gardens, vegetable gardens, or natural gardens, gardening bring us joy, exercise, beauty and food (for ourselves, bugs and birds). In the last couple of years, we have seen an increasing number of Baie-D'Urfé residents turn to biodiversity in their gardening in order to attract pollinators and

promote healthier soil. The Town also started a "no-mow" garden last summer that will continue to develop this year.



On the topic of healthy gardening practices, please remember that the **use of pesticides is prohibited in Baie-D'Urfé**. You may wish to remind your lawn care contractor as well. For other summer related by-laws (such as using leaf blowers, outdoor fires and no-smoking in parks), visit the Municipal By-Laws page on the Town's website.

REGULATORY REFORM

As you are already aware, our urban planning by-laws are slated to be reformed. The process of over-hauling our by-laws started in March with the hiring of Agence de planification urbaine et régionale (APUR) inc. This will be a lengthy process beginning with a thorough review of the by-laws. Council, Administration and professional services will be working together to prepare documentation for public consultation. We will keep you posted as progress is made and we come closer to the consultation period.

In conjunction with the by-law reform, Council is also starting work this month on the action planning stage of the Strategic Vision. Your input for developing the Strategic Vision has provided a solid frame work, but there is now much involved in putting the Vision into action. We look forward to sharing the various steps with you as they are realized.



INFRASTRUCTURES AND FACILITIES

The Town's stormwater drainage system is made up of an array of components, including grassed ditches, drainage trenches, swales, culverts, pipes and outfalls. These infrastructures and facilities, installed on the Town's right-of-way, are connected by catchment structures such as man-holes, sumps and catch basins.

The Town recommends the development of grassed ditches on its territory since they ensure the retention and infiltration of surface water, thus limiting the volume of water flowing into discharge points such as Lake Saint-Louis or the Anse-à-l'Orme stream.



RAINWATER RETENTION

Climate change is leading to increased precipitation, which is overloading our drainage system in some areas.

It is important to note that the stormwater drainage system is essential in order to collect water

from the sump pumps normally installed in a home and also the discharges from the increasing number of tertiary septic systems in our Town. Grassed ditches therefore play an important role in the retention of rainwater.



IMPROVEMENT OF OUR STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEM

We have noted that in some areas of the Town, ditches have been filled in and channelized locally in front of one or more consecutive lots. With regard to this, we would like to remind you that **this practice is prohibited by the Town.**

Please note that for all reconstruction or rehabilitation projects of drainage and road infrastructures carried out by the Town, we will advocate the implementation of grassed ditches and culverts at driveways in the Town's right-of-way as the main stormwater catchment system. **This means that we may, in some cases, have to dismantle non-compliant facilities that have been installed over time.**

We must do what is necessary to improve our storm drainage system for present and future generations.



ANNUAL COLLECTION at PUBLIC WORKS building

May 14, 2022 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Take profit of an exceptional event to drop off at Public Works building (300, Surrey Street):

- » All your **Household Hazardous Waste**
- » Any **Electronics Waste**
- » All **CDs, DVDs, cassettes** and **hard disks** (confidential service by *Shred-it*)
- » All your **confidential paper documents** will be shredded onsite, under your eyes, by *Shred-it*

For any questions, please contact Public Works at **514 457-2877**.

Thanks to our partner EPRA-Québec, we are able to valorize Electronic Waste.



ICI ON VERDIT PROGRAM

It's good news, a new agreement for the next four years has been signed with GRAME!

All businesses in the Industrial Park could benefit from several grants to green their environment.

For more information, contact the GRAME by email at arbre@grame.org.

For all participants in GRAME's *ICI on verdict* program, please note that the Town of Baie-D'Urfé prioritizes biodiversity and strongly recommends the planting of trees with a minimum trunk diameter (DBH) of 30 mm.

Minimum height of 1m for conifers.



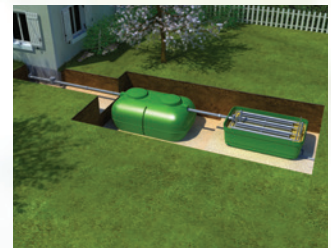
GRAME

SEPTIC TANK

Get ready for septic tank pumping season, which begins May 15, 2022.

Citizens to be served this year will be contacted, by mail, at least 2 weeks before the operation to empty the tank. Please check your correspondence regularly. Some tertiary treatment systems require a special intervention before emptying, in this case, please contact Public Works to advise.

You can check if you are on the emptying list for this year by calling the City's Public Works Department at **514 457-2877**.



VICTORIA DAY



Town Hall and the Public Works building will be **CLOSED** on **Monday, May 23 2022**.

REMINDER - TAXES INSTALMENT

Please note that the deadline for the **2nd municipal tax instalment** is **May 24, 2022**.

