



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER FROM TOWN HALL



Mayor's Message

In this column, I will deal with the loss of human life that 2020 has brought to the extended Baie-D'Urfé family. While the numbers may not differ from previous years and while all, but 3 of the deaths, are NOT related to the Covid pandemic, I find that I am more aware than ever, of those among us who have passed away, because of it.

Following are the names of those with a connection to our Town, who have passed away in 2020 that I am aware of. Unless otherwise indicated the persons were Baie-D'Urfé residents in 2020.

FEBRUARY

- FOGARTY, Andrew, age 100
- MARSHALL, Bridie, age 92
- GROOME, Lionel, age 95

MARCH

- WANSBROUGH, George Marshall, age 81
- COWAN, Al, age 90
- BROWN, Ronald William, age 95
- CAMPBELL, George, age 95, former Town employee

APRIL

- CORNELL, Alan Sydney, age 90
- ELLIOTT, Sue (born Florence Anne Robinson), age 88

MAY

- EDWARDS, Rhoda, age 98
- ST.AUBIN, Norman, age 99, Yacht Club Honorary member

JUNE

- ROMANDINI, Tony, age 91
- UNSER LEFEBVRE, Denise, age 90
- MORRIS, John Alfred, age 88
- MICHALOVIC, Geneviève (born Sidlovsky), age 89, mother of John, president of the Curling Club
- SHAMA, Arthur, age 95
- BEAUCHAMP, Michel, age 73

JULY

- CHANDLER, Constance "Connie" (Hardy), age 96
- HANNA, Joan, age 106, Town's oldest resident
- BÉLANGER, Georges, age 75, Curling Club member
- BROWN, Sarah Doreen (born Olney), age 80, mother-in-law of John, president of the Curling Club

AUGUST

- BURGESS, Thomas, age 76, father of Danna, executive director of CPE Whiteside Taylor

◆◆◆◆ Maria Tutino

Among the list are three former councillors: **Lionel Groome, Arthur Shama** and **Michel Beauchamp**.

As extracts from their obits show, all three former councillors were "men of the people" – strong volunteers and public-service-oriented councillors. They were very involved residents & councillors, very passionate about their Town, always had their constituents' best interest at heart and all three approached life with a smile and a helping hand. I have been fortunate to interact with Lionel, Art and Michel and my life has been enriched by knowing them in my role as a mayor, fellow resident and former curler.



LIONEL GROOME - served from 1970 through 1982, deceased February 27

"Lionel volunteered extensively, including serving as a town councillor, school board chairman and as Provincial Commissioner of *Scouts Canada*. Lionel and his wife Evelyn built their home in Baie-D'Urfé in 1964 and, while acting as its councillor for parks and recreation, Lionel was proud to have helped secure the *Fritz Farm* and *Allan's Hill* parks for all to enjoy in perpetuity."



ARTHUR SHAMA - served 1977-1982, deceased June 15

"During his career he was fond of saying if you find a job you love you will never work a day in your life. Arthur retired in 1983 and turned his attention to volunteering and public service. He spent many years as a Baie-D'Urfé Town councillor, a Warden for *Saint-George's* Anglican Church, and would help with almost any activity that would be helpful to the Town he called home for 65 years."



MICHEL BEAUCHAMP - served on Council 2013-2019, deceased June 27

"Shortly after his retirement, Mike moved to Baie-D'Urfé, where he was an active member of Municipal Council and of *Volunteer Citizens on Patrol* (VCOP), initiating a tradition of uninterrupted service that persists to this day. As a volunteer at the local library, Mike took great pleasure in swapping news with fellow patrons and reading his way through the mystery section. Quick to embrace *Pickleball* as his new sport of choice, he also instituted *Walks Under the Dome* to encourage active living among fellow seniors".

On behalf of Council, I would like to extend deep and heartfelt sympathy to all of you who have lost a loved one this year. If I have missed the passing of anyone from our extended Baie-D'Urfé family, please let me know and their name will be added in a future column.

"By love, they are remembered and in memory they live".



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Council Communiqué

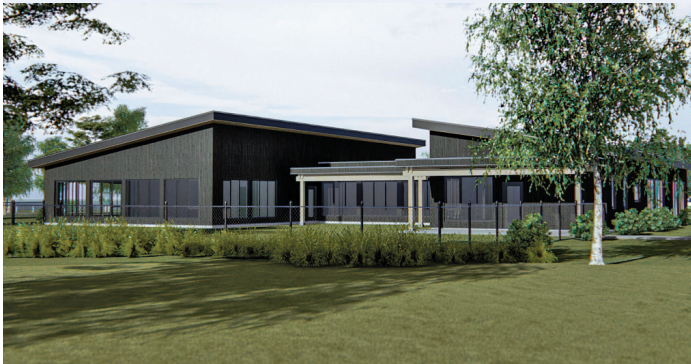
Janet Ryan



PROPOSED NEW DAYCARE

Much has happened on the daycare file over the summer, and I wanted to give you an update on it. A public consultation was held over Zoom on July 16, at which new estimates of the cost were made public. Two possible plans for the location of the building and the layout of the parking lot were also presented. All of the documents presented are available on the Town website.

The estimated costs of the project have increased dramatically since it was first presented publicly a year ago. Efforts are now being made by the administration to determine whether it is possible to reduce the costs to remain within the original budget, or close to it.



Also, part of the original reason for choosing the site at *Fritz Park* was the expectation that the existing parking lot at *Whiteside Taylor* would be sufficient for both the new and existing buildings. This no longer appears to be the case, and the current plan calls for the parking lot to be extended eastward into the *Fritz* area.

Because of the increasing costs and the concerns over the parking lot, Council is now reassessing the whole project. At the August Council meeting, three of the Council members who had supported the project acknowledged that, although they still feel that the daycare would be an asset to the Town, they can not support the current plan.

My personal position on this project has not changed. In addition to the concerns mentioned above, I also feel that the need for an additional 80 daycare spaces has not been adequately proven. The Covid pandemic, and the resulting financial stresses and uncertainties for the Town, is a further complicating factor.

Some work will have to be done on the existing *Whiteside Taylor* parking lot, whether or not the daycare is built. Drainage in the area is poor, and part of the solution involves running a new pipe under the parking lot. The parking lot is also in need of repaving.

LEAF BLOWERS

Council has been considering an amendment to the *Nuisance by-law* with the objective of banning the use of leaf blowers over the summer months. This arose as a result of a number of complaints from citizens during the spring clean-up period, early in the Covid lockdown. The complaints received were concerned with the noise made by leaf blowers as well as the emissions of fine particles. A notice of motion was given at the July Council meeting, and Council requested input from citizens on it.

Since then, we have received feedback from several citizens. I would like to thank you for your comments and questions, which have been helpful to Council in our further discussion.

At this time, Council is not going to proceed with the proposed amendment to the *Nuisance by-law*. **We have come to the conclusion that the amendment as proposed is not the best way to deal with this issue. The reasons for this include:**

Leaf blowers are extensively used to clear leaves in the spring and fall periods, mostly by contractors using multiple leaf blowers at a time. In the summer months, they tend to be used by both contractors and citizens for a multitude of other purposes, but not for long periods at a time, and usually not more than one on any one property. So banning them in the summer is not necessarily the most effective way to reduce their overall use. We recognize also that a ban would cause inconvenience to many of our citizens, especially the less young.



We are proceeding with an overhaul of all of our planning by laws, as has been mentioned in past Council meetings. As part of this overhaul, we intend to require landscaping contractors who want to work in the Town to obtain permits. This process will ensure that the contractors are familiar with the by-laws that affect the work they do, and we hope that this will reduce the number of by-law infractions.

At a broader level, we recognize that leaf blowers are not the only type of yard maintenance equipment to produce noise and dust, and are perhaps not the worst offenders. We plan to take a wider look at noise issues, including noise from lawnmowers, weed-whackers, etc, and to propose further changes to the by-law in due course.



APPROPRIATE CARE FOR YOUR SEPTIC TANK

A **septic tank** is a wastewater treatment system. More specifically, a septic tank is a component of a septic system that normally includes a tank, pipes and a septic field.

In Baie-D'Urfé most residences have septic tanks. It is very important to remember that the *Quebec Environment Quality Act* requires that your septic tank be emptied at least **once every two years**. For example, if you emptied your septic tank in September 2018, you would be due for a cleaning in September 2020.

It is the residents' responsibility to provide the Town with supporting proof of cleaning of their septic tank every two years. **This also applies to any citizen who does not wish to receive the subsidy.**

The Town reimburses the cost of cleaning of the septic tank up to a certain amount every two years and the property record is kept updated.

We wish to advise you that **Sanivac** has been contractually mandated by the Town to clean



and/or empty the septic tanks on our territory. This decision has come into effect **August 12**. Citizens wishing to carry out this work with another supplier will not be subsidized and the work will be done at their own expense.

In the event that the emptying costs exceed the allocated amount, the owner will have to assume the difference. Also if the owner wishes to clean the system more than once every two years, they can do so at their own expense.

By providing your septic tank with the proper care, you can save yourself unnecessary costs, protect the health of your loved ones and the environment.

REMINDER : SEPTEMBER 6

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

DUE TO COVID-19 PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATIONS CAREFULLY:

Due to the current situation, no services will be available other than the Hazardous Waste Collection at the Public Works building. Specific measures related to COVID-19 must be observed:

- ▶ Citizens will need to remove themselves their containers from the car and place them on a table provided for this purpose;
- ▶ Respect the 2 meter social distancing and wait for a manager to check all containers to ensure they meet the accepted household products list;
- ▶ Citizens will have to take back their cardboard boxes or personal bags.

PRESCRIPTIONS (DRUGS), SYRINGES, FIREWORKS ETC., WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

For any questions, please contact the Environment Department: **514 457-7604**





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Speed-reduction awareness campaign

Valérie Fortin



HEY! IN BAIE-D'URFÉ, WE SLOW DOWN!

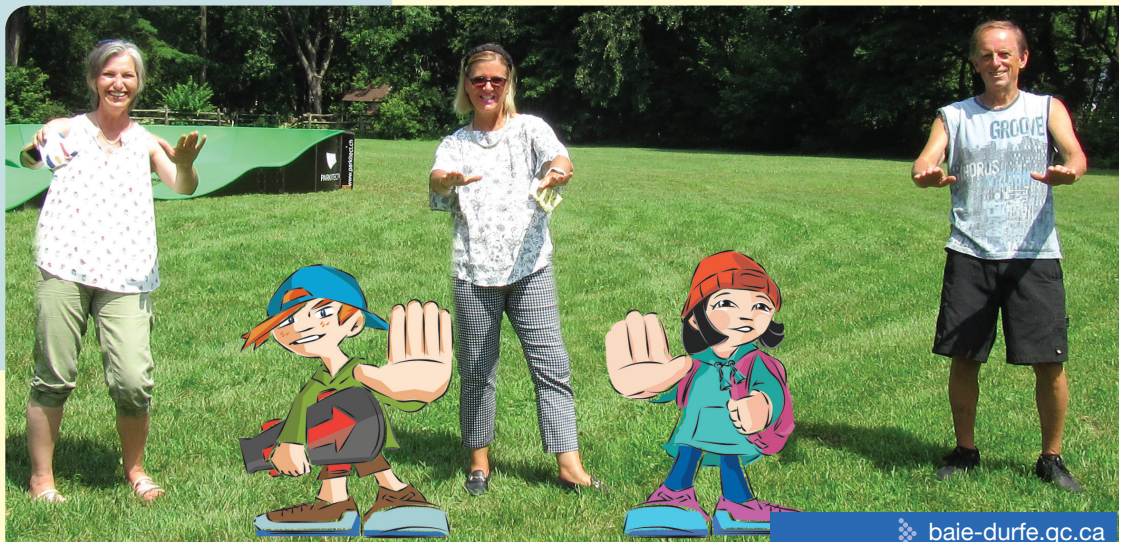
This slogan set the tone of a new speeding awareness campaign on the Baie-D'Urfé territory that marked the start of school in the fall of 2020. With my copywriter, **Olivier Humber**, a Baie-D'Urfé citizen himself and partner of this campaign, we have chosen to position our youths as our main ambassadors. They are between 6 and 11 years old, they represent our target group and they have a say in motorists who use the streets of our town, sometimes exceeding the speed limit.



It is interesting to note that many of our kids in town walk or even use their bike to school. As most of our streets are without sidewalks, it seemed important to me to raise a flag and let drivers who do not respect the 40 or 30 km/hr speed limit, to slow down in residential streets, near playgrounds and schools. Needless to say that our institutions in town are primary schools and preschools; traffic on *Lakeshore Rd.* has also increased over the years since our main buildings, library and *Whiteside Taylor* are frequently used.

Our bilingual campaign "*Hé, Ralenti!*" "*Hey Slow Down!*" is visible on town territory with signs installed in strategic locations or intersections, displaying two mascots – a little boy and a little girl wonderfully illustrated by **Stephan Ballard**.

In addition to these signs, a short video in both languages produced by video producer **Mark Smith** will be shared on schools' social media and through our Town website.



I also wish to thank our Baie-D'Urfé youths who kindly accepted to participate in this video: **Corey Lister**, spokesperson, **Julius Winkler**, **Gabriela Funnekotter**, **Edelweiss Aebi**, **Jivan Bhattacharyya** and **Gabriella Chenier**.

Thanks to Councillor **Heidi Ektvedt** for believing in my project, for her collaboration in recruiting these children and for reaching out to schools to promote this campaign. Thanks to vCOPs **Gillian Bennett**, **Lisa Mortimer**, **Stephen Gruber** for handing out my "rewarding certificates" to drivers on back-to-school days.



I wish all children and teachers an excellent and challenging school year with the adjustments it will require. I hope our efforts will bear fruit and that our youths can always feel safe in the streets of our wonderful town.