

THE EXPRESS

OF DEUX-MONTAGNES

FALL / WINTER 2018

MUNICIPAL INFORMATION

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VILLE DE DEUX-MONTAGNES



The stories and features in this latest issue of Express truly highlight our wonderful city in all its vitality.

Among other things, you can have a look at the new urban planning parameters we've developed to move our city forward in the future.

Another piece of news we can all be very proud of is that the City of Deux-Montagnes is now ranked as one of the 100 best cities in Canada to raise a family.

All the varied activities and services you can read about here are a perfect illustration of why Deux-Montagnes enjoys a nationwide reputation.

With best wishes,
Mayor Denis Martin

Economic development

Two new Deux-Montagnes special urban planning programs

This summer, the City of Deux-Montagnes adopted two new special urban planning programs or *plans particuliers d'urbanisme (PPUs)*.

The two PPUs – the *PPU Grand-Moulin* and *PPU de la Gare de Deux-Montagnes* – concern the two Transit Oriented Development (TOD) areas around the city's train stations:

Adoption of the two PPUs was necessary mainly because of the higher residential density – now 60 dwellings per hectare, instead of 40 – approved last spring under the Montreal Metropolitan Community's land use and development plan (PMAD).

Meanwhile, the Deux-Montagnes RCM will soon adopt a new land use planning and development plan of its own. This will require municipalities to continue their efforts to achieve higher residential density within their respective urban areas and more specifically in areas close to structurally important services such as train stations.

The City of Deux-Montagnes has held public consultations and focus groups with residents and local merchants. The city's advisory planning committee (CCU) and municipal

councillors have also taken part in these meetings and discussions.

The city has commissioned two urban planning firms to assist with ideas and input as well.

Following these meetings and public consultations, the City of Deux-Montagnes tabled and adopted two new PPUs. Broadly speaking, these will establish higher-density zones close to the train stations and along some major roadways (including Chemin d'Oka, Boulevard Deux-Montagnes, and Boulevard Promenades).

Various parameters will regulate control over properties around and along these structurally crucial hubs and routes. Developers with proposals for the TOD areas will have a variety of requirements to meet. The City of Deux-Montagnes also intends to improve access to waterfronts and local services.

These urban planning tools will preserve and enhance the distinctive character of Deux-Montagnes while respecting the land use and sustainable development planning principles enacted by the Quebec government, MMC, and RCM.

Deux-Montagnes recognized as one of the best cities in Canada to raise a family



The City of Deux-Montagnes is one of only two cities north of Montreal selected this year for the list of Canada's Best Places for Families published by *MoneySense* magazine.

To qualify for a rating among the Top 100, cities must meet a full range of criteria, including citizen services, wealth and economy, climate, access to healthcare, and public transit, among others.

Deux-Montagnes Mayor Denis Martin is thrilled that our city has made the grade. "This new distinction reflects all the work we've done to make our city and its environment a place that families are more than happy to live in. The parks and green spaces in our city are delightful places, just right for the kinds of activities that go with a healthy



lifestyle. Deux-Montagnes residents also benefit from our many sports facilities – soccer and baseball fields, bowling greens and tennis courts, and the hockey and skating arena, besides the municipal pool and water games. Our municipal library also offers many enriching cultural activities for

everyone."

"This rating goes to confirm that residents here made the right choice," said Mayor Martin, "when they chose Deux-Montagnes as the place where they want to live."

Are you an artist, or involved in the visual arts?
If so, how would you like to
exhibit your work at the library?
For information about the application process,
please contact us at 450-473-2702.

SECOND SOUFFLE **Works by David Simard**



As a young adult, David Simard was a passionate student of art. In his thirties, he immersed himself in fine woodworking. Most recently, photography has become an abiding interest. Art has always been part of his life. The recent death of someone close motivated him create a work of art to honour and remember her by. The result is *Second souffle* (second wind) for himself, for her, and for all the found and recycled objects that would otherwise have gone to a landfill.

On exhibit until January 27, 2019

A birth, a book, a tree, a healthy environment

Are you a parent of a child under one-year-old? When you register with the library, you'll receive a Read to Your Baby kit containing a book, reading suggestions, and other great surprises!



As an extra, you can choose between receiving a sapling tree or having one of your own planted for you in a city park. Or a grant of up to \$100 for the purchase of reusable diapers.

For more information, please visit the city website.

More fun times and fresh discoveries for all at our library

Over 450 visitors of all ages took part in activities on the busy 2018 summer schedule at the Deux-Montagnes library. The Club des Aventuriers du livre for readers five to seven years old attracted 158 members, who read 3200 books, a record number. Prizes donated by local businesses and totalling nearly \$1500 were awarded to the club's avid young readers and the activities offered were all very popular. Younger children weren't left out either. Some 50 preschoolers enjoyed playtime and reading experiences on dedicated mornings and in three summer sessions. Colouring and knitting clubs for adults also stirred up plenty of interest, with nearly 50 participants – a great opportunity to relax together and trade techniques and tips. The Tente à lire reading tent visited day camps and city parks as well, reaching over 250 children, who all enjoyed reading by themselves or listening to stories read aloud on bright summer days.

Upcoming activities

Free admission. No registration required.

Circus in the snow



A circus show for the whole family!

A young girl takes her video game-obsessed brother outside to play in the snow. Snowballs, acrobats, jugglers, and more...the poetry of winter.

Saturday, December 8 at 10:30 am

Please register in advance.

Movie nights

Dr. Seuss :
How the Grinch Stole Christmas
(in English)
Friday, December 7 at 7:00 pm

Les mondes de Ralph
(the many worlds of Ralph)
Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 pm

Please register in advance.

**Bring your own comfy quilts
and snacks!**

Information: 470-473-2702

Day camps: a record year!

In summer 2018, over 400 five-to-thirteen-year-olds took part in the City of Deux-Montagnes day camp program. For seven weeks, the kids enjoyed a variety of activities in city parks, and at the municipal pool and water games as well. Outings and activities were organized and were great fun for everyone.

Firefighter visits help prevent accidents



Firefighters from the City of Deux-Montagnes Intermunicipal Fire Department have been working with young Deux-Montagnes residents for over 20 years. They regularly visit day camps, schools, and daycare centres to teach the children and promote fire safety habits for the entire family. The visits are also a chance for the kids to see how firefighters do their job. For more information about effective fire prevention habits,

please contact the Intermunicipal Fire Department at 450-473-2730.

Learn to speak "dog"



Five-to-eight-year-olds old at the Deux-Montagnes day camp were treated to smart advice on how to avoid dog bites, presented by Brigitte Meloche and Patch, her canine assistant. The kids learned to decode the language of dogs...and then put their knowledge to use, with Patch to help them practice.

Summer days at the municipal pool



Over 7000 residents this summer enjoyed cooling off with a free swim in the municipal pool. Swimmers also appreciated the recently updated pool furniture, outdoor shower, and extended opening hours. To close the season in style, open hours at the pool were extended until August 31, 2018.

Croques-livres library boxes in parks will be back again next year

“Take a book. Leave a book.” Croques-livres uses the worldwide “Little Free Library” model to create a book browsing and sharing network for infants and kids up to 12 years old. The outdoor library box initiative lets children and their families take home books free of charge. It’s also a rallying-point for community literacy and sharing the pleasures of reading. During the summer months, Croques-livres boxes are available to all residents at the Louis Warren Park, accessible via Rue Ronsard or Rue Ovila-Forget, and Parc Michel-Mastromattéo on 3e Avenue. Croque-livres will be back again in Deux-Montagnes city parks when the warm weather returns. See you next year.



Croque-Nady
Michel Mastromattéo Park



Croque-Babu,
Louis Warren Park

**Wanted:
volunteers
13 to 17**



If you’re tech- or software-savy with tablets, phones, or computers, how would you like to get involved and help out in your community? The Deux-Montagnes Library is seeking young volunteers for GÉNÉRATIONS@branchées, a service that pairs volunteers like you in hour-long, one-on-one sessions with adults who need help with their computer skills.

July 1st, 2018 : **Canada Day**

Deux-Montagnes residents and their neighbours in nearby municipalities turned out in large numbers on July 1 to celebrate Canada Day 2018, the 151st anniversary of Confederation. The day’s appealing program had something special for participants of all ages. Festivities

featured oodles of family activities, live entertainment, official ceremonies – and of course the eagerly anticipated fireworks presented by the City of Deux-Montagnes. The late-night show featured the group Hi Fins, a tribute band delivering the greatest hits of the 1960s British Invasion.



July 11, 2018 :
**Montreal Canadiens Alumni
on tour**

The 4 Chevaliers competed in a friendly softball game against the Deux-Montagnes Softball Team on Wednesday, July 11 at Central Park. Proceeds from the game – approximately \$7000 – will help fund the Deux-Montagnes softball club's 50th anniversary celebrations

July 15, 2018 :
Course de la famille run



On Sunday, July 15, the fourth annual Course de la famille was held. Over 500 runners took part in the 10-, 5-, and 1-kilometre courses. To help our youngest residents get involved in physical activities, the City of Deux-Montagnes organized a free race for toddlers. Inflatable games, free admission at the municipal pool, healthy snacks, and information booths awaited the competitors at the finish line. Don't forget to make a date for this terrific event next year.



July 14 and July 15, 2018 :
Deux-Montagnes festival



To carry on our tradition of community activities better than ever, the City of Deux-Montagnes presented our 4th annual Deux-Montagnes en fête festival. Once again, the event was a huge popular success.



Numerous free activities and shows were presented over the weekend, including street entertainers, a mini-farm, pony rides, inflatable games, an electric car exhibit and road trials, and much more.



The Raffy Group and singer-songwriter Sally Folk delivered amazing performances – a wonderful show to close Saturday's festivities.

La Cité des Arts



For a sixth consecutive year, the Cité des Arts exhibition was held beneath a large marquee provided by the City of Deux-Montagnes

The “city of the arts” is a major source of artistic and cultural inspiration and a meeting place for sophisticated art lovers and beginners alike – a stimulating experience for all comers, whatever their interests and tastes.

Outstanding artists and artisans, representing various aspects of the fine arts and advanced crafts, were on hand to educate the general public. Various styles of painting, photography, and crafts inspired the admiration of one and all.

Bringing the arts to life in Deux-Montagnes through this symposium, bringing communities together by welcoming artists from all disciplines and walks of life, is a challenge mounted and impressively met every year by the Deux-Montagnes Cultural Association.

August 10, 11 and 12, 2018 : Rocky Holt Softball Tournament

The Rocky Holt Softball Tournament, an annual event organized by City Councillor Margaret Lavallée (Golf District), celebrated its 28th anniversary this year. With a record number of teams entered, all tournament proceeds, nearly \$10,000, were donated to the SERCAN Foundation.

July 23, 2018 :

Safe cycling!



For the past 15 years, the Deux-Montagnes police have given workshops for young audiences at our region’s day camps to make them aware of safe cycling and the need to obey the Highway Safety Code. This year, once again, Officer Christopher Harding held a series of workshops as part of the Géni-Vélo program developed by the Quebec Automobile Insurance Corporation (SAAQ). Over 900 young cyclists have benefited from his advice about Highway Safety Code rules when you’re on your bike, why safety helmets matter, and proper ways to behave when cycling, particularly around strangers in parks.

In a special draw, three young participants won new bicycles and helmets generously donated by the Deux-Montagnes Regional Police Department, the City of Deux-Montagnes, and the Lions Club.

Congratulations to Rosalie Paquette, Jacob Chevarie Thibault, and Frederick Johnson.

August 19, 2018 :

Intercultural picnic



In a festive and inclusive atmosphere, the intercultural picnic was held at Parc Olympia on August 19. Organized by Diversité Culturelle à Deux-Montagnes, an organization dedicated to promoting cultural diversity, the event invited participants to discover the many cultures that make life in the City of Deux-Montagnes so special.

August 31 to
September 3, 2018:
**Shamrocks
Soccer
Tournament**



The 49th annual Deux-Montagnes Shamrocks Soccer Tournament – the oldest in the province – was held from August 31 to September 3. Over 100 teams from across Quebec and Ontario were on hand to compete.

The Shamrocks organizers would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers and teams who helped to make the tournament such a terrific success.

The City of Deux-Montagnes would especially like to congratulate the Senior AAA team on their outstanding success as winners of the 2018 Quebec Cup.

September 22, 2018 :
**Freedom of the City
for Navy League Cadet Corps 107
of Deux-Montagnes**



A Freedom of the City ceremony has been held by the City of Deux-Montagnes for Navy League Cadet Corps 107 of Deux-Montagnes. The squadron paraded on Chemin d’Oka with drums beating, banners flying, and marching in step. At the event, Lieutenant André Provençal, Sub-Lieutenant Jules

Gamache, administrative officers Lili Giroux and Josée Sullivan, and all members of Navy League Cadet Corps 107 of Deux-Montagnes signed the official visitors’ book and received a city flag presented by the mayor and city councillors.



September 28 - 30, 2018 :
Cultural Activities Days



More than 60 residents took part in the three days of free activities open to all on September 28, September 29, and September 30. The *Journées de culture* are held annually to promote greater access to the arts and culture in Deux-Montagnes. The program included movie screenings for families, a word wall (*murale de mots*), animal-word designs (*animots*), and much more.

October 20, 2018 :
La Grande marche Pierre Lavoie

The City of Deux-Montagnes was up and running with an initiative shared by over 75 cities in Quebec in the Grande marche Pierre Lavoie walk for health on October 20 and October 21. This joint initiative of Quebec family physicians and the province's municipalities offers a sports activity to local residents. To help promote ways to enjoy an active lifestyle, some 350 participants showed up in Parc Central for a 5-kilometre walk through the City of Deux-Montagnes. See you again next year.

November 25, 2018 :
**Dépannage Saint-Agapit
food drive**

The annual *Guignolée de dépannage Saint-Agapit* food drive took place on November 25 in the basement of Holy Family Church.

Last year, through the efforts of many generous donors, Dépannage Saint-Agapit delivered some 200 Christmas baskets and 400 food vouchers.

November 11, 2018 :
**At the Canadian Legion:
Lest we forget**



In an official ceremony on Remembrance Day, November 11, members of the Deux-Montagnes city council commemorated the commitment and dedication of war veterans and their families. Numerous poppy wreaths were laid at the cenotaph outside Branch 185 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Deux-Montagnes, in memory of the 1.5 million members of Canada's armed forces who fought to defend democracy.



All roads lead to... Deux-Montagnes! Stay on top of the latest news from the City of Deux-Montagnes

- Website: www.deux-montagnes.qc.ca
- Newsletter: www.deux-montagnes.qc.ca/infolettre/
- Subscribe to the tab A.M.S. Automated message system on our website: <https://secure.somum.com/PortailDeuxMontagnes/secure/login.aspx?ReturRetu=/PortailDeuxMontagnes/default.aspx>
- Facebook: Ville de Deux-Montagnes
- Electronic bulletin boards: Chemin d'Oka and 20th Avenue, annonce reserved exclusively to the accredited associations. The request must be sent to this email address: communications@ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca
- To contact the City Deux-Montagnes:
 - By telephone: 450-473-2796
 - By email: www.ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca/commentaires-et-requetes/



New! Carte loisirs recreation ID card for Deux-Montagnes residents

Don't forget to get your free *Carte loisirs* ID card from the city recreation department. All you need is valid proof of residence.

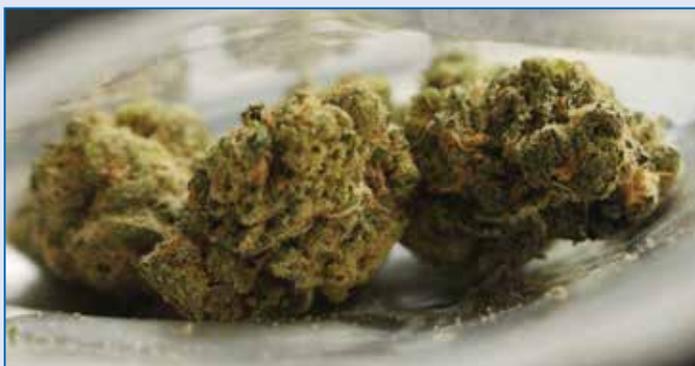
This card will be required when registering for city-sponsored activities after December 11. Your card also gives you access to the municipal swimming pool and activities in the Olympia Arena, including public skating and recreational hockey periods.

Information: *Service des Loisirs* (recreation department)
450-473-4700

Regulation of cannabis consumption

On October 17, 2018, the federal Cannabis Act became law by Royal Assent. It is now legal for any adult Canadian citizen (of an age to be determined by each province) to buy, possess, or consume cannabis.

At the provincial level, the Quebec government has passed the Cannabis Regulation Act (*Loi encadrant le cannabis*), which sets out legal measures that will support the achievement of public health and safety objectives. In Quebec, the legal age to buy, possess, or consume cannabis



is 18. At the municipal level, the City of Deux-Montagnes has adopted By-Law number 1628, which reads as follows:

BY-LAW NUMBER 1628

Regulations Prohibiting the Use of Cannabis and Other Substances illicit in public places.

Article 1

It is forbidden to consume, in any way, cannabis or all other illicit drugs in all the public places of the municipality.

Article 2

Every person who contravenes this by-law is guilty of an offence and is liable, for a first offence, to a fine of not less than \$200 and not more than \$1,000. In case of repetition, a minimum fine of \$400 and a maximum of \$2,000.

Article 3

This Regulation comes into force on October 17, 2018.



Advice from the Fire Department

Fire hydrant inspections

To ensure the safety of Deux-Montagnes residents in case of fire, a mandatory inspection of the city's 432 fire hydrants is carried out every year. This involves systematically inspecting the hydrants for watertightness and efficient performance, evaluating the capacity of the hydrant network as a whole, and identifying sectors where leaks could occur.

During these inspections, you'll notice a few temporary inconveniences such as a drop in water pressure or a reddish tinge in tap water. However, these don't pose any



danger to health. All you need to do is run the tap water until its appearance returns to normal.

Holiday decorations... It's the season to be careful



Careless habits during the holiday season can seriously increase the risk of fire. To protect your family and home, a few simple precautions are all it takes.

Lights on Christmas trees and decorations. Use only lights and extension cords approved by a recognized organization (CSA, ULC or UL), and always turn off Christmas lights before going to bed or leaving your home.

Never leave candles burning on or near any material that could catch fire. Make sure to use sturdy candlesticks that will not tip over easily, and fit the candles securely into their sockets.

Clean chimneys prevent carbon monoxide buildup

Before the heating season begins, make sure to have your chimney swept. If a fireplace is your main source of heat, you'll need to schedule more than one visit by a chimney sweep during the season. Also, do not burn any materials except solid fuel.

Please note that the fire department does not engage anyone as an official sweep to clean problem chimneys in their territory. It's the homeowner's responsibility to engage a qualified company.

A complete cleaning service by a qualified chimney sweep should include the chimney flue, the connected stove or furnace (if wood heating is being used), and the base of the chimney. It's easy to find a company that specializes in chimney sweeping if you search online, or visit the website of Quebec's heating

professionals, the Association des professionnels du chauffage. We would also like to remind you that if you have a fireplace burning wood, pellets, or gas, or if a garage is attached to your residence, you must install a carbon monoxide detector alarm.

Want to feel safer? Prepare an emergency escape plan

The provincial Ministry of Public Security provides various tools and scenarios to help you prepare and practice an emergency escape plan for your home.

For more information, visit <https://www.securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca/en/fire-safety/education-material/adults.html#c86405>.



Police Department

Traffic near train stations – REMINDER

Because of the large numbers of passengers entering or leaving the two Deux-Montagnes train stations during rush-hour periods, motorists in the area are urged to exercise special caution and show courtesy to pedestrians and cyclists.



Safe driving – there's more to the speed limit than just a number

The Régie de police du Lac des Deux-Montagnes and its officers watch out on a massive scale when it comes to the safety of our children on city roads. Police officers patrol school zones all year long, and go out of their way, in the back-to-school period, to make sure drivers are aware of the need for extra safety precautions around young school children, older students, and school staff as well.

Parents are also strongly encouraged to talk with their children frequently about accident prevention, remind them about the most important safety rules for pedestrians: cross the street only at intersections, always watch the crossing guards and obey their signals, and look both ways to make sure the road is clear before they cross the street...at all times!

If you're driving, here are some important rules to remember and follow...and avoid serious penalties:

- Respect the 30 km/hour speed limit near schools and in school zones.
- Obey signals from school crossing guards at all times.
- Stop your vehicle completely behind or in front of any school bus when its red lights are flashing.
- Respect school bus lane regulations during the period indicated.

By driving responsibly and following our safety rules with care, you can help prevent life-shattering tragedies on our roads. Always drive slowly in residential areas and school zones...where our children live and play all year long.

Winter's on the way – drive safely, and be prepared

When winter weather arrives, drivers must adapt to the extreme conditions that naturally occur in the season. Here are a few important reminders about preventive measures and winter rules prescribed by law.

Put winter tires on your vehicle

All passenger vehicles registered in Quebec (including taxis) must be equipped with winter tires from December 15 to March 15. Drivers who ignore the law may face a fine of \$200 to \$300 plus costs.

Please note: Starting in 2019, winter tires must be installed on or before December 1. Winter tires must remain in use until March 15, as before.

Adapt your driving style to winter conditions

By law, drivers must slow down when visibility is reduced by darkness, fog, or precipitation (rain or snow), or when the road surface is slippery or

not completely clear. Drivers who fail to adapt their driving style to weather and road conditions may face a fine of \$60 plus costs and risk losing two points on their driving record.

Keep your vehicle in good condition

Before taking a vehicle out on the road, drivers are responsible for making sure that the windshield wipers and the heating and defrost system are working properly. It's also important to check the level of washer fluid and top it up, if necessary. A tune-up on your vehicle at the beginning of the season is recommended.

Remove all snow before driving

Quebec roads are no place for "igloos on wheels" anywhere, any time. Drivers are strictly required to remove all accumulated snow and ice from their vehicles before going on the road, and to make sure that the windshield and all other windows are free of ice and condensation. Drivers who ignore the law may be fined \$100 to \$200 plus costs, and the offending vehicle must be cleaned off thoroughly before resuming travel.

Your Régie de police is committed to ensuring that you'll always reach your destination safely whenever you travel.

In Deux-Montagnes being eco-responsible is part of the good life

The City of Deux-Montagnes continues to move ahead with solutions for sustainable, ecologically responsible development that allow residents to enjoy being close to busy urban centres and the quiet of residential suburbs. From buying electric cars to our new home organic waste collection plan, as well as greening and reforestation of high-traffic areas, the city is committed to urban development that complements the natural attractions of Deux-Montagnes.

Coming soon – organic waste collection

In Canada, 40% of all food produced is wasted, representing losses estimated at \$27 billion every year. Under the *Plan métropolitain de gestion des matières résiduelles* (PMGMR) 2015-2020, the Montreal metropolitan area waste management plan, the City of Deux-Montagnes must recycle 60% of all organic materials that can be recovered and put to reasonable use. **Collection of**

organic materials will begin in April 2019.

Electric vehicles to better serve Deux-Montagnes residents

The City of Deux-Montagnes has acquired two electric vehicles for use in home inspections by the fire department and the planning department – plus a new electric Zamboni for the arena. All three vehicles are 100% electric. These purchases are proof positive that when it comes to a vision of sustainable, eco-responsible development, the City of Deux-Montagnes means business.

To reduce CO2 emissions from conventional motor vehicles, the city's Quality of Life By-Law 1392, prohibits idling the engine of any stationary vehicle for more than three minutes. All drivers should bear this regulation in mind.

Environmental measures

An urban heat island is an area where temperatures are higher than in the surrounding city areas or outside region. In some cases, the difference in temperature can be as high as 12° C. This issue is a matter of concern for the City of Deux-Montagnes, since it may have negative impacts, particularly on public health. As a measure to counter the potentially harmful effects of urban heat islands, the city is carrying out a number of targeted landscaping and greening projects. Some 50 mature trees have already been planted within the municipality, and another 150 or more will be added over the next three years. Streets and boulevards with heavy traffic will be enhanced with raised beds of plants and greenery.

A green parking lot open to the public has been built on 8e Avenue, near the Grand-Moulin train station.

The banks of Rivière-des-Mille-Îles and Lac des Deux-Montagnes are regularly maintained to keep the environment refreshed and vary the ambiance and aesthetics of the city.



As part of the activities on Horticulture Day, the city's annual greening initiative, held this year on May 26, floral annuals, perennials, and young tree saplings were distributed to residents free of charge.

For the past 31 years, Deux-Montagnes has encouraged residential greening initiatives through the annual *Fleurir Deux-Montagnes* competition, which rewards the most beautiful home landscaping designs.

Winter desiccation

Winter desiccation injury can occur when a tree is exposed to high winds, or direct sunlight dries out parts of the plant that are not covered by snow – especially if there has been little or no snowfall and a resulting lack of insulating winter cover by the time severe cold weather sets in. Desiccation damage is recognizable by the presence of yellowed or reddish foliage and a loss of needles in the spring. Usually, this does not cause the complete death of the tree, unless the roots are injured as well. To prevent this condition:

1. Water evergreens in the fall to increase their supply of deep moisture.
2. Apply adequate fertilizer to maintain trees and shrubs in good health.
3. Avoid pruning conifers late in the fall (September is the right time).
4. Install protective winter covers to cut the wind.



Volunteers for home water meters

As part of the province's drinking water conservation strategy (*Stratégie québécoise d'économie d'eau potable*), the City of Deux-Montagnes must install 60 water meters in local homes to get samples for a survey of

residential drinking water consumption. This requirement by the provincial government is intended to determine how much drinking water, on average, a City of Deux-Montagnes resident uses at home, in order to verify the

amount of water consumed annually.

The City of Deux-Montagnes is now seeking volunteers to have meters installed on their water main entry pipe. During this voluntary exercise, the water meters will be supplied and paid for by the city, including installation by a licensed plumber.

The City of Deux-Montagnes will then have the water meters read once a year, and the readings will be entered on an official record of water consumption in residential areas.

The City of Deux-Montagnes would like to assure residents that this exercise is for statistical purposes only and will have no impact on the tax accounts of those who voluntarily contribute to the sampling process.

To register as one of our official volunteers for home water meter installation, please contact the department of public works at 450-473-4688.



Lac des Deux-Montagnes – update on shoreline dike construction

Representatives of the City of Deux-Montagnes continue to advance the initiatives underway for construction of a dike along the shores of Lac des Deux-Montagnes. Axio Environnement is working on the final plans and specifications, as well as on various studies of wildlife, plant life, hydraulic, and geotechnical conditions on the projected dike path.

A public information session was held on October 4 for shoreline residents impacted by the Lac des Deux-Montagnes dike project.

City council members, municipal employees, and representatives of a private engineering firm presented the main features of the project and answered questions.

The major step remaining is the certificate of authorization from the Quebec Ministry of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change. This authorization is essential before construction work can begin.

REM project construction delays a source of concern to Deux-Montagnes mayor and councillors

Details on construction of the REM electric rapid transit network have begun to be released in recent weeks.

The City of Deux-Montagnes administration is certainly pleased to see that the project, with all its important structural potential, is finally getting off the ground. This matters all the more as the existing train has experienced significant disruptions in recent years and is constantly overcrowded in rush-hour periods. However, it was disappointing to learn that there would be a much longer period of service interruptions than suggested at last year's REM public information meetings.

Start-up for the vast project, which is being financed by CDPO Infra, is in the hands of the NouvLR consortium, which will be in charge of the ongoing construction. The EXO and ARTM organizations are responsible for developing transportation alternatives for the thousands of passengers on the Deux-Montagnes railway line, who will find their travel arrangements much more complicated than usual.

Mayor Denis Martin has reminded the project's managers that the Deux-Montagnes train is the busiest commuter line on the entire network and in the Greater Montreal area.

What makes travel especially complicated is that passengers who board the train at the Deux-Montagnes and Grand-Moulin stations do not have the advantage of Metro stations nearby to make up for interrupted train service, as they would in Montreal

or Laval, and it seems they are not even being offered any viable alternatives. Which is why Mayor Martin has asked to meet with all local stakeholders to discuss the problems on this critical priority issue for so many of our residents.

In various meetings and telephone calls with the project managers, Mayor Martin has conveyed the concerns of residents who use the trains. The mayor and his team have presented possible remedial solutions that might accommodate users of the Deux-Montagnes train. Senior management for the construction project appeared to be quite open to the city's ideas at these meetings, and to the concerns raised by the mayor.

Although the REM project is not under municipal jurisdiction, the mayor has stressed the need for REM and EXO officials to find solutions that will minimize service interruption times. EXO and ARTM must also provide viable alternatives during this long, wide-ranging construction period.

"It's certain that REM will eventually become the most efficient form of public transit in Quebec, but this is no reason to neglect users while it's being built," Mayor Martin said.

The City of Deux-Montagnes promises to keep up its pressure on REM management and keep residents up to date, via its website, on all information the city receives on the REM construction project.

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