

THE EXPRESS

OF DEUX-MONTAGNES

MUNICIPAL INFORMATION

FALL 2017



Photo: Robert Lamarche

Improve your lifestyle, keep it on track!



VILLE DE DEUX-MONTAGNES

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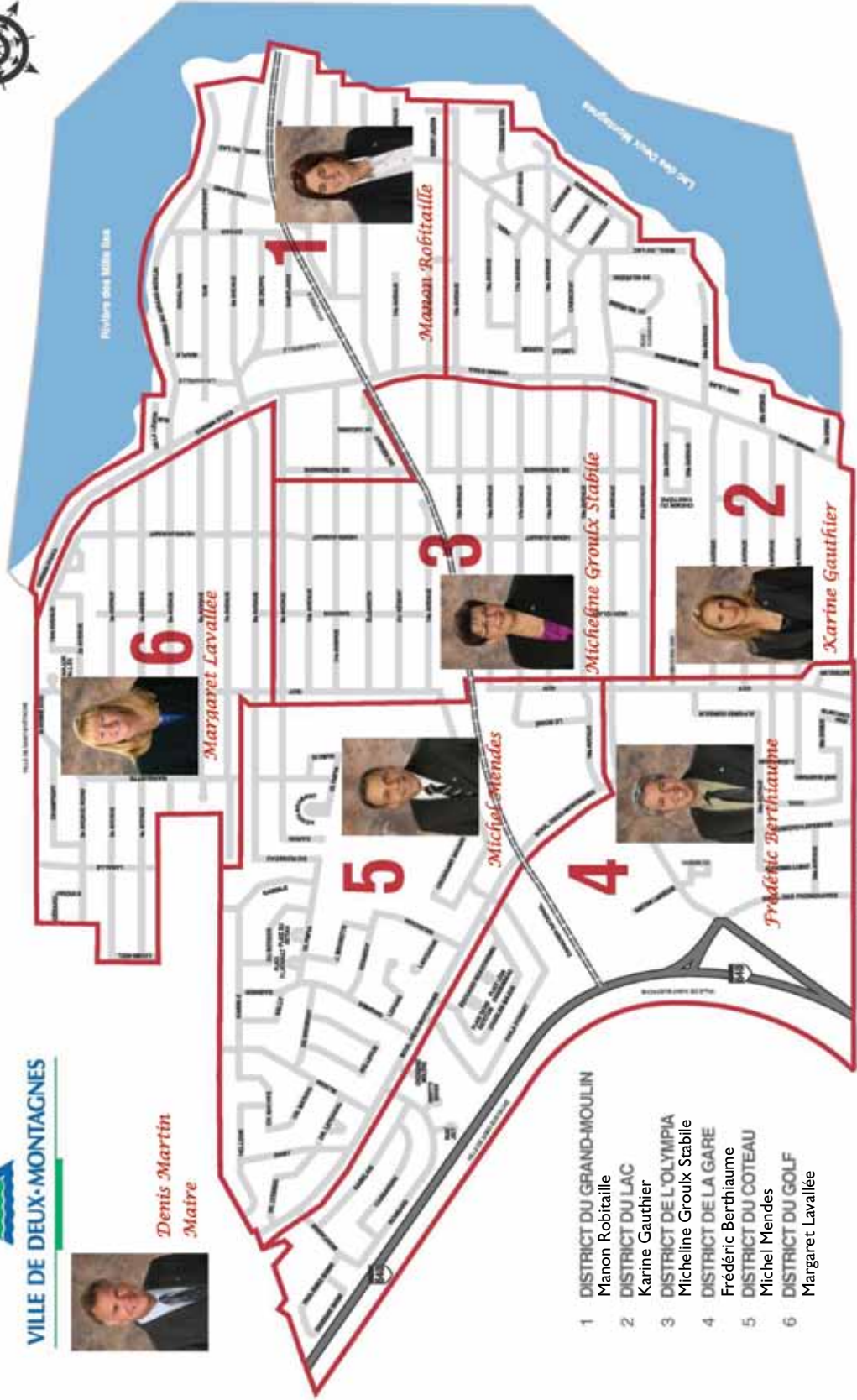


VILLE DE DEUX-MONTAGNES



Denis Martin
Maire

DISTRICTS ÉLECTORAUX
ELECTORAL DISTRICTS



- 1 DISTRICT DU GRAND-MOULIN
Manon Robitaille
- 2 DISTRICT DU LAC
Karine Gauthier
- 3 DISTRICT DE L'OLYMPIA
Micheline Groux Stabile
- 4 DISTRICT DE LA GARE
Frédéric Berthiaume
- 5 DISTRICT DU COTEAU
Michel Mendes
- 6 DISTRICT DU GOLF
Margaret Lavallée

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEUX-MONTAGNES RETURNING OFFICER

The municipal elections on November 5 will be a major event in democratic life in Deux-Montagnes. Voters will be invited at that time to have their say on how they want their next municipal council to be composed.

Here are the key dates to remember and resources available for information about the election and how it works.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 22, 2017: Start of the election period
- September 22 to October 6, at 4:30 pm: Period for filing nomination papers
- October 17, October 18, and October 19: Revision of the list of electors (unless otherwise announced by public notice)
- October 29: Advance poll vote
- November 5: Election day

For more information, please feel free to contact the Office of the Returning Officer:

Phone: 450-473-1145, extension 236
Email: election2017@ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca
Address: Office of the Returning Officer
803 Chemin d'Oka, Deux-Montagnes QC J7R 1L8

Please feel free to visit the City of Deux-Montagnes online at www.ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca/en/. Election-related information will be posted during the election period. Look for the Élection Deux-Montagnes logo on the homepage.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy (MAMOT) also has a website devoted specifically to municipal elections at www.electionsmunicipales.gouv.qc.ca. You'll find a wealth of information on municipal elections.

You can also consult the Chief Electoral Officer of Quebec online at www.electionsquebec.qc.ca/english/index.php for information on the election by clicking on "Municipal" under the Electoral Field menu at top right.

Want to help out?

We're looking for people to be part of the electoral staff for the advance poll on October 27 and for election day on November 5. If you're interested, please email the Office of the Returning Officer at election2017@ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca.

In closing, I'd like to invite all citizens of Deux-Montagnes interested in being candidates for office in the upcoming municipal election to meet with me in person. (Please make an appointment in advance.) I'll be more than happy to answer your questions and provide all the information you need.

Jacques Robichaud, Advocate, OMA
Returning Officer

DEUX-MONTAGNES IS GROWING AND IMPROVING

REPAIRS ON CHEMIN D'OKA BEGIN AUGUST 7

On July 12, the City of Deux-Montagnes received authorization from the Government of Quebec to carry out road repairs on Chemin d'Oka between 9^e Avenue and the east entrance of the city. Work was set to begin Monday, August 7, and will take approximately 12 weeks. **The city was hoping to get the work underway by late May, but could not proceed without prior authorization from the province.**

The work consists mainly of replacing and upgrading the drinking water pipes and sewer pipes, as well as rebuilding the roadway. The project also includes partial rebuilding of sidewalks and curbs, and a complete repaving of the road surface. Upgrades are planned on the traffic lights at the intersection of 8^e Avenue and 9^e Avenue as well as improvements for making the crosswalks safer for pedestrians.

The project will be carried out under a provincial and federal grants program that will cover most of the cost.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOME-STYLE BREAD, BAKED FRESH HERE IN TOWN

The City of Deux-Montagnes is proud to welcome Les Moulins La Fayette, a new local business at 1801 Chemin d'Oka. With more than 10 artisanal bakeries in Quebec, La Fayette breads, pastries, desserts, and other chocolate-covered treats are all made by hand, right in the shop. No preservatives or trans-fats are used in La Fayette products. Every item is crafted with care and passion. The new bakery and pastry shop is already proving to be very popular with Deux-Montagnes residents.

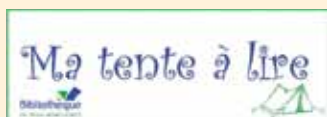
Les Moulins La Fayette is open from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday, and from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm on weekends.



A CITY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

PLENTY OF FUN AND DISCOVERIES FOR EVERYONE...AT THE LIBRARY

Over 450 visitors, young and old, have taken part in activities offered by the library during the summer. The Club des Aventuriers du livre for readers 7 to 13 years old attracted more than 150 members – a record! Close to \$1500 in prizes sponsored by local businesses were awarded to these young “adventurers in bookland,” and all the Club’s activities have been very popular. Pre-schoolers weren’t left out either, with dedicated morning sessions for some 50 kids, including games and reading, over a 3-week period. Colouring and knitting clubs for adults attracted close to 50 participants, who had a great opportunity to relax and share their tricks and techniques. A new feature this year was the Reading Tent (Tente à lire) in day camps and parks, visited by some 250 children, who took the opportunity on sunny summer days to read, or listen to stories read to them by library counsellor Tamara.



TO COME – AN EVENTFUL FALL

A number of conferences will take place at the library this fall:



- December 7: Guide de survie pour les petits et gros bobos du Pharmachien. Introducing Le Pharmachien’s new illustrated health “survival guide.”
- November 16: Gestion financière: êtes-vous un bon modèle pour vos enfants? Professional Canadian chartered accountants explain how parents can set a good example in money management for their children.
- November 8: Sécurité sur l’Internet with officers of the Régie de police du Lac des Deux-Montagnes.
- October 26: Rencontre littéraire et artistique avec Francine Allard. A personal encounter with Francine Allard, noted author, painter, and Oka resident.

Computer training sessions continue with Facebook II and How to Use YouTube, along with the regular reading, knitting, and adult colouring clubs.

During the Cultural Activities Days (Journées de la culture) on September 29 and September 30, as well as during Public Libraries Week (Semaine des bibliothèques) October 21 to October 28, a selection of activities will be presented to residents free of charge.

The Les matinées des tout-petits (ages 1 to 5), Club du rat Biboche (ages 3 to 6), and Les #Créatifs (ages 6 to 9) reading clubs are back again this year.



Générations@branchées is a service for those having difficulty using computers. Tech- and software-savvy young volunteers work as instructors in hour-long, one-on-one sessions with adults trying to learn computer skills or in need of individual help. This free program for library members begins in the fall.



OVER 1,300 E-BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE!

More than 500 library members have visited the prenumerique.ca digital loans platform and borrowed close to 7500 books since its launch in 2013. Free books are just a tap away from your digital keyboard! Instructions to get you started using the e-books platform for loans are available on the library website, and the library staff will also be happy to help.

For more information on free library activities and services for Deux-Montagnes residents, please visit www.bibliotheque.ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca, call 450-473-2702, or treat yourself to visit to the library facilities in person.

A CITY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

A RECORD YEAR FOR DAY CAMP!

Nearly 400 kids from 5 to 13 took part in the City of Deux-Montagnes day camp this summer. For 7 weeks, the children enjoyed activities in the city's parks, outdoor swimming pool, and at the 2 new water games. Special excursions and organized activities included visits to La Ronde, Amusement Action Directe, Le Royaume de nulle part, the Montreal Science Centre, and the Nid'Otruche ostrich farm. Everyone had lots of fun.



Photo credit : Nid'Otruche



A REFRESHING SUMMER

More than 7000 residents had a chance to cool off and enjoy our municipality's free outdoor swimming pool this summer. Visitors were pleased with the new, attractive urban furniture, new outdoor shower, and extended swim times. To close the season in style, a special poolside celebration was held on August 20. The event was a great success.

A NATURAL, WELL-DESERVED BREAK FROM IT ALL

Seven children from families hard hit by the 2017 spring floods were given an opportunity to enjoy an unforgettable experience at Camp Saint-Donat through an initiative by the summer camp, plus a contribution by the City of Deux-Montagnes, Dépannage Saint-Agapit and funding from the Caisse Desjardins de Saint-Eustache-Deux-Montagnes. For 50 years, the camp has welcomed young people from 6 to 16 and from different backgrounds for a memorably enriching experience in outdoor living, deep in the heart of the beautiful Lanaudière region.



The seven young and their families, together with Neil Hawthorn, General Manager of the Caisse Desjardins de Saint-Eustache-Deux-Montagnes, Denis Martin, the Mayor of Deux-Montagnes, Réjean Roy, General Manager of the Camp Saint-Donat and André Ouellet, president of Dépannage St-Agapit

DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS – FRIDAY, JUNE 30 AND SATURDAY, JULY 1

Deux-Montagnes residents and visitors from nearby towns turned out in impressive numbers to celebrate Canada Day on June 30 and July 1, the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation. Despite poor weather conditions, the crowds came, and the festivities were a big success with local residents, young and old. The program covered 2 full days of family activities, performing artists on stage, and official ceremonies – not to forget the eagerly awaited fireworks display. This year, the RCMP Community Pipe and Drum Corps marched in the parade, and also gave a performance in Parc Central. The late-night finale show was presented by JerryCo, a musical tribute to the legendary Canadian rock drummer Jerry Mercer.



DEUX-MONTAGNES CELEBRATES JULY 14 TO JULY 16, 2017

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote activities that enhance community spirit, the City of Deux-Montagnes held our third annual Deux-Montagnes en fête celebrations from July 14 to July 16. Once again this year, it turned out to be a major popular event.

Friday, July 14, featured a film for families at the Legion Centre.

Saturday, July 15, was a day chockful of free activities and shows from 2:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Street performances, a petting zoo, inflatable games, background music, a series of shows, a car exhibit, and a photo booth with free prints were all part of the mix, and were greatly enjoyed by one and all. The evening came to a beautiful end with a show by guest artist Marco Calliari.



Photo : Marco Calliari



DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

DEUX-MONTAGNES CELEBRATES LA CITÉ DES ARTS

For the fifth year since it began, La Cité des Arts was located under a big top provided by the City of Deux-Montagnes.

As a source of artistic and cultural inspiration, a meeting place for art lovers of every type, from beginners to masters, the “Arts City” had something for everyone.

Gifted artists working in a wide range of artistic media and fields were on hand to talk with visitors. Paintings, photographs, and artistic crafts in a variety of styles were on display for all to see. A free drawing class and free cake decoration workshop were also open to those in attendance.

La Cité des Arts concluded with 2 contests...and 2 lucky winners.

Bringing the arts to life in Deux-Montagnes through this event, reaching out to communities, and hosting artists in every field and a broad range of disciplines has been the annual mission – and challenge – for the Deux-Montagne Cultural Association. For 2017...mission accomplished!



Photo credit: Deux-Montagnes Cultural Association president Michèle Bourlard

DEUX-MONTAGNES CELEBRATES THE COURSE DE LA FAMILLE

The second annual Course de la famille was held on Sunday, July 16. Some 500 runners took part in events ranging from 1 kilometer to 10.5 kilometres. To encourage younger residents to take up physical activity, the City of Deux-Montagnes also organized a freestyle race where runners could try to reach their own personal goals. Inflatable games, healthy snacks, and information booths were part of the fun all day long. The Course de la famille is sure to be back next year. See you then!



JULY 13, 2017 – NEW “PLACE FOURNIER” STREET NAME ANNOUNCED

The City of Deux-Montagnes has been looking for a way to honour the Fournier family, who have been so devoted to our community and its well-being for more than 35 years. On July 13, Mayor Denis Martin was delighted to announce that the section of road facing the Residential and Long-Term Care Centre (CHSLD) will be officially renamed “Place Fournier.”



JULY 13, 2017 – 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Members of the municipal council and Mayor Denis Martin were privileged to honour the 50th wedding anniversary of a Deux-Montagnes couple, Hélène Lazarre and André Bellaire, on July 13 in the council chamber at City Hall.



DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2017 – MONTREAL CANADIENS OLDTIMERS GO TO BAT FOR SERCAN

The Montreal Canadiens Alumni (Anciens Canadiens de Montréal) took part in a friendly softball game against Deux-Montagnes on Saturday, July 22, in Parc Central. All proceeds from the game (approximately \$10,000) went to the SERCAN Foundation in honour of Jimmy Shields (1959-2017), a former player in the Deux-Montagnes Softball Association.



JULY 24, 2017 – YOUNG PEOPLE'S ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

For the past 14 years, the Deux-Montagnes regional police department has held workshops for young audiences in our region's day camps to raise awareness for safe cycling and following the Highway Safety Code. In July 2017, Officer Christopher Harding held a series of workshops under the Geni-Vélo program developed by the Quebec Automobile Insurance Corporation (SAAQ). Altogether, over 900 young cyclists have benefited from his advice on how the Highway Safety Code applies to bikes, the importance of wearing helmets, and the proper attitude to observe when cycling, particularly around strangers in parks.

The City of Deux-Montagnes was proud to promote this initiative by offering 2 new bicycles and 100 Super Aquaclub admission tickets as prizes in a random draw for workshop participants. The Deux-Montagnes Lions Club also supported the initiative by offering a third bicycle to one of the young participants.



Photo: Christopher Harding, Community Relations Officer, Régie de police du Lac des Deux-Montagnes, with City Councillor Micheline Groulx-Stable (Olympia District), Deux-Montagnes Lions Club President Florindo Stabile, and the 3 lucky winners



The Shields Family with the mayor Denis Martin and the municipal councillors Margaret Lavallée and Micheline Groulx Stabile

AUGUST 11 TO AUGUST 13, 2017 – ROCKY HOLT SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The Rocky Holt Softball Tournament is an annual event organized by City Councillor Margaret Lavallée (Golf District). The tournament celebrated its 27th anniversary this year. With a record number of teams entered, all proceeds were donated to the SERCAN Foundation in honour of the late Jimmy Shields (1959-2017), an avid softball player and member of the Deux-Montagnes Softball Association. At the opening ceremony, the City of Deux-Montagnes announced that Jimmy's name would officially appear on the backstop at the Parc Olympia field.



Photo : Shamrocks FC

SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 – SHAMROCKS SOCCER TOURNAMENT

The 48th annual Deux-Montagnes Shamrocks Soccer Tournament – the oldest in the province – was held from September 1 to September 4. Over 100 teams from across Quebec were on hand to compete. What's more, Team Canada veteran striker Joséé Bélanger, an outstanding player and inspiring figure, was honorary president of this major sports event.

The Shamrocks organizers would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers and teams for their terrific contribution to the tournament and its success. See you next year!

NOVEMBER: NO OVERNIGHT PARKING ON STREETS

Overnight parking on streets (between midnight and 7:00 am) is prohibited during the winter period, from November 1 to April 15.

TEMPORARY CAR SHELTERS: ZONING BY-LAW NO. 1369, SECTION 5.4

The installation of a temporary car shelter on the same lot as the main building it serves is permitted only from October 15 to April 15 of the following year.

Set-up

The temporary car shelter must be installed on a parking space or in a driveway with access to a parking space.

It must be installed at least:

- 1.5 metres from a traffic lane
- 0.4 metre from the side and rear of limits of the lot
- 1 metre from any fire hydrant

Temporary car shelters are not permitted anywhere within the 'visibility triangle.'

Area

The maximum permitted area for a temporary car shelter is 46 square metres.

VERIFICATION OF CHILD AND INFANT SAFETY SEATS

Residents who want to make sure that they have the right car seat for their child or infant and that it's properly installed can contact one of our police department's community relations officers for an appointment. Please call 450-473-4686, extension 256 for Officer Christopher Harding, or extension 263 for Officer Martin Bérubé.



OUR 4-FOOTED FRIENDS – FREE ID LICENCE FOR YOUR DOG

Every dog owner within the Deux-Montagnes city limits must get a licence for their animal by September 1. This licence is free of charge and is valid for the dog's entire lifetime. (The licence is for dogs only.) If your animal is missing, please note that a dog licence registry is on file at the Land Management Department (Service de gestion du territorial) and can be made available to animal control officers and the police to facilitate searches, if necessary.

You can get an identification tag for your dog at the Land Management Department by calling 450-473-4688, extension 0. The department's address is 620 20^e Avenue in Deux-Montagnes. Office hours are 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Thursday, and 8:30 am to noon on Friday.

RADON IN HOMES

The City of Deux-Montagnes provides radon detection equipment free of charge. This equipment can be borrowed from the Henri-Dunant Municipal Library during regular office hours. This announcement is not meant to trigger a general panic or create an exaggerated feeling of anxiety. It's simply a proactive measure to inform residents about the presence of radon.

What is radon?

Radon is a radioactive gas generated by the uranium that's naturally present in the earth's crust. Radon exists in the soil everywhere on the surface of the earth. Levels of radon in soil may vary significantly from place to place. Radon may also be present in groundwater.

Radon can seep into buildings, especially through foundations. It can sometimes accumulate and reach concentrations that can lead to health risks. And because radon is a gas that's odourless, tasteless, and colourless, it's impossible for our senses alone to detect it.

Radon enters the lungs with the air we breathe. Major international health organizations and agencies recognize radon as a carcinogen. Its radioactivity may cause lung cancer in the long term.

In Quebec, about 600 lung cancer deaths per year – 10% to 16% of the total – are attributed to radon. The more a person is exposed to a high concentration of radon, the higher their risk of cancer. Smokers are 60% more likely to die of radon-associated cancer than non-smokers.

Radon accumulates mainly in the lower and least ventilated rooms of a building – in the basement, for example.

Radon is measured in units of becquerels per cubic metre (Bq/m^3). In Quebec, $35 \text{ Bq}/\text{m}^3$ is considered to be a normal radon concentration. If the concentration exceeds $200 \text{ Bq}/\text{m}^3$, the premises are considered harmful to health and corrective measures must be taken.

To determine the concentration of radon in your home, you need a dosimeter measuring device. It's advisable to conduct radon measurements over a period of 3 months – preferably during the winter, when radon concentrations in the home are usually at their highest.

For information on how to get your radon detection kit, please call the Municipal Library at 450-473-4700.

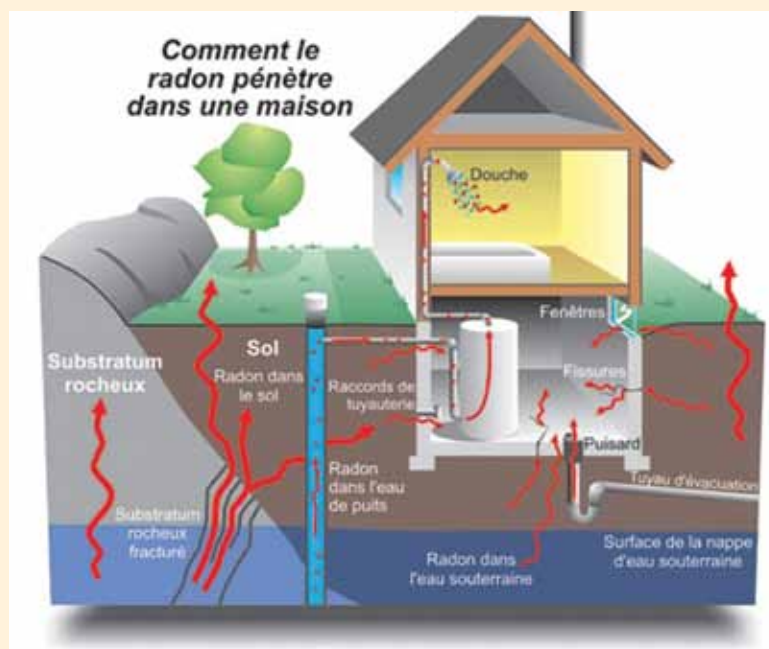


Photo : Société d'habitation du Québec



ADVICE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Here are a few reminders for those using solid-fuel heating systems:

- Do a visual check of your chimney and heating system (joints, cracks, make sure attachments are fastened firmly, chimney cowling, and other components)
- Have your chimney swept, if this wasn't already done at the end of last winter. It's best to call in a professional service, rather than risk serious injuries.

It is strictly prohibited to use a wood stove connected by a hood to ventilation ducts carrying warm air as a central heating unit.

Solid-fuel-fired systems include boilers, furnaces, masonry fireplaces, built-in or prefabricated fireplaces, and stoves that are designed to burn logs or other solid materials such as eco-logs or coal.

Natural or propane gas stoves and electric fireplaces are not solid-fuel-fired systems.



TRAFFIC NEAR TRAIN STATIONS – REMINDER

Given the large numbers of passengers entering or leaving the 2 Deux-Montagnes railway stations during rush-hour periods, motorists in the area are urged to exercise special caution and show courtesy to pedestrians and cyclists.



DANGER – NO 'SNOW' MOBILES

Whenever there's a heavy snowfall, drivers are required by law to remove all snow from their vehicles. If a vehicle's visibility is obscured by accumulated snow, ice, or condensation, a peace officer can issue a fine of \$100 to \$200 plus costs, and order the vehicle (including windshield, headlights, auxiliary lights, and mirrors) to be cleaned off before resuming travel on the road.

WINTER TIRES

If you're planning to drive in tough winter conditions, be prepared. Adapt your driving style. And put winter tires on your vehicle. From December 15 to March 15, all passenger vehicles registered in Quebec (including taxis) must be equipped with winter tires. From December 15 to March 15, drivers face a fine of \$200 to \$300 plus costs for being on the road without winter tires. Tires with studs may be installed from October 15 to May 1.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS – OVERSIZE WASTE ITEMS

Oversized waste items are objects that are too large and bulky to fit in ordinary household bins. Instead they must be set out on the curb or roadside the night before collection, which takes place on the third Thursday of every month between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm in all residential areas, plus the first Thursday in July – a total of 13 collections per year.

Typical oversized waste items include:

- Home appliances
- Furniture
- Mattresses
- Rugs and carpets
- Sinks
- BBQ grills
- Water heaters
- Swimming pool components (disposable filters)
- Electrical accessories



USED ELECTRONICS

In cooperation with the Association pour le recyclage des produits électroniques (ARPE), used electronic devices can be dropped off for recycling at the Deux-Montagnes Land Management Department, at 625 20^e Avenue (from April to November only) every first Saturday of the month between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.



Electronics accepted for recycling include:

- Laptop and tablet computers
- Desktop computers
- Computer peripherals and video game consoles
- Display screens
- Conventional telephones and telephone answering machines
- Mobile phones, pagers, and beepers
- Printers, scanners, fax machines, photocopiers, and multifunction products (MFPs)
- Portable or personal audiovisual systems
- Non-portable audiovisual systems
- Audiovisual and location systems for vehicles
- Home cinema systems

For a complete list of accepted devices and materials, please visit www.ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca.

DISPOSAL OF CONSTRUCTION, DEMOLITION, AND RENOVATION MATERIALS

Construction, renovation, and demolition materials are not collected by the Garbage Collection Service. Dry materials may be left at the depot (625 20^e Avenue), on payment of the applicable charges currently in effect, from 8:00 am to 11:30 am and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm Monday to Thursday, and 8:00 am to 11:30 am on Friday.

GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

Green waste (green leaves, flower bed cuttings, and grass clippings): every second Monday from May 5 to October 6, between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm for all residential areas. Transparent plastic bags are preferable.

Autumn leaves: October 24 and October 31, and November 7, November 14, and November 21 for all residential areas. Transparent plastic bags are preferable.

Tree branches

- There is no charge for branches if brought to the Municipal Garage (625 20^e Avenue) by residents.
- Collection of branches by the Public Works Department on request (450-473-4688): \$25 for a pruned tree.
- Collection of an entire tree 30 cm (1 foot) in diameter (apply to Public Works): \$50.
- Other requests: an inspector will visit and make an estimate on location, at a basic rate of \$50 per truck trip.

Pickups will take place after your payment to the Public Works Department.

Christmas trees: January 9, January 16, and January 23 from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm for all residential areas. Trees must be put on the roadside at the edge of your property after 8:00 pm the night before collection, or before 7:00 am on collection day.



TOILETS ARE NOT FOR GARBAGE DISPOSAL

Not using toilets for garbage disposal is an essential way for Deux-Montagnes residents to help preserve their environment, protect the safety of employees who maintain the city's water pumps, and keep the cost of wastewater de-pollution and treatment under control.

It is extremely important never to pour chemicals or toxic products into sewers. These products can poison water treatment workers and cause deterioration in water mains.

Toxic products that should never be disposed of in toilets include:

- Varnish
- Paint and ink
- Solvents
- Chemical thinners
- Medications (...to name just a few)

Chemicals or toxic products in their original containers can be dropped off at the Municipal Garage (625 20^e Avenue) on the first Saturday of the month from April to November between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Expired medications should be returned to local pharmacists, who will dispose of them in a safe manner.

Oil, fat, and grease block pipes and produce offensive odours. It is critical not to dispose of oils and fatty matter in toilets. This includes:

- Cooking oil
- Grease
- Other oily materials

Oils, fatty waste, and grease can be dropped off at the Municipal Garage (625 20^e Avenue) on the first Saturday from April to November, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Solid objects should never be disposed of in toilets. They impede the flow of water, clog and block pipes, and damage pumps. As a result, they pollute the natural environment or cause sewage to back up into homes. Other solid materials not to dispose of in toilets include:

- Diapers
- Sanitary napkins
- Cigarette butts
- Cleaning rags and cloth towels
- Cotton swabs
- Fibre wipes

These items should be disposed of in a garbage can instead.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEUX-MONTAGNES/SAINTE-MARTHE-SUR-LE-LAC INTER-MUNICIPAL SWIMMING POOL

The City of Deux-Montagnes has signed an agreement with the City of Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac to build an indoor swimming pool shared by both cities to promote the benefits of a physically active lifestyle.

Our 2 cities are already partners in many areas, including our water treatment department, police force, inter-municipal fire department, a soccer agreement, an agreement on use of the Olympia Arena, and a shared Municipal Courthouse.

Cost sharing by the 2 cities on a broad range of services automatically generates economies of scale. This is the kind of sound use of public funds that is promoted by the Quebec government.

The federal and Quebec governments both recognize the importance of municipalities being able to provide quality recreational infrastructure to promote healthy lifestyles. **This is why the Government of Quebec and the Government of Canada have agreed to subsidize most of the construction work on the future inter-municipal pool. As a matter of fact, \$6 million out of the \$9 million needed for the project will come from both governments.**

The City of Deux-Montagnes has studied various scenarios for providing this service to our residents. The scenario we finally adopted has the most advantages from a financial point of view. It's less costly than a rental agreement with another neighbouring city. Besides this, from the point of view of service to our residents, this scenario is also the most attractive because Deux-Montagnes residents will have exactly the same level of service as residents in Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac. That wouldn't have been the case with the other scenarios that were reviewed and discussed by the various stakeholders.

A swimming pool designed for both sports and recreation is increasingly in tune with today's evolving lifestyle trends. Swimming is one of the most popular and accessible activities, along with walking and cycling. As well as being ideal venues for sporting events, indoor pools are often the only facilities that everyone at every age level uses.



Ms. Sonia Paulus, mayor of Ste-Marthe-sur-le-lac and M. Denis Martin, mayor of Deux-Montagnes

The plan is to build a 25-metre semi-Olympic-size pool. The enhanced menu of services offered by the Deux-Montagnes recreational department will allow residents to enjoy aquatic activities like free swimming times, swimming classes, lifeguard classes, and aqua-fitness. As co-owners of the pool, both cities will have a say in management of this shared facility.

A poll conducted by an outside firm (Datavox) in 2010 found that 66% of Deux-Montagnes residents felt an indoor pool would be a benefit (versus 24% opposed and 9% undecided), as long as it didn't result in higher taxes. The current project meets this public demand perfectly.

Here is an overview of the financial package:

Cost of building the swimming pool	Approx. \$9M
Federal-provincial funding (66%)	\$6M
Costs assumed by the 2 cities (\$9M-\$6M)	\$3M
Costs assumed by Deux-Montagnes (\$3M ÷ 2)	\$1.5M
Financial reserve set aside	\$1,500,000

Total borrowing: \$0

Absolutely no borrowing necessary for the City of Deux-Montagnes to cover the swimming pool's construction costs.

Operating costs for the pool:

Estimated annual costs	\$800,000
Estimated revenues	\$150,000
Total	\$650,000
Costs for Deux-Montagnes (\$650,000 ÷ 2*)	\$325,000

Methods of financing:

End of mortgage on Olympia Arena in 2018	\$265,000
Annual (2017) operations – Olympia	\$230,000
Total	\$495,000

* % in proportion to the population

Absolutely no tax increase necessary to cover operating costs.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A LEVEE PROJECT FOR DEUX-MONTAGNES

In the wake of the 2017 spring floods, Deux-Montagnes Mayor Denis Martin launched a petition demanding construction of a levee on the Lac des Deux-Montagnes shoreline, in a section yet to be determined. A levee of this type would help prevent, or at least lessen, the consequences of flood-high water levels.

A levee was developed several years ago on the edge of Parc Aimé-Struthers opposite Chemin du Grand-Moulin. The levee helped protect this area of Deux-Montagnes against flooding. Despite the fact the Mille Îles River reached significantly high levels this year, no residents in this area were flooded.

The City of Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac also has a levee. This spring, when sandbags were piled on top of the levee, few residents were affected by the floods.

These factors lead us to conclude that levees are indeed effective in protecting urban residences in urbanized areas.

Nowadays, as well, levees can be built in a more environmentally responsible way. This would not be a reinforced concrete structure, but a levee planted with vegetation.



Photo : volunteers Gilbert Fleury and Cécile Roux with Mayor Denis Martin

The City of Deux-Montagnes is seeking enough support from residents to obtain agreement from the Quebec government. Such government support would make all the necessary authorizations possible, especially those from the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and the Fight against Climate Change. **The City of Deux-Montagnes cannot proceed with building a levee without first receiving a certificate of authorization from the ministry.**

So far, over 1200 residents have signed the petition. The petition is at City Hall for any others who wish to add their signatures. Mayor, Denis Martin will submit the petition at the National Assembly after the parliamentary recess.



Parc Aimé-Struthers before the levee was built



Parc Aimé-Struthers and its planted levee

HIGHER STANDARDS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION IN MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIONS

In the aftermath of the Charbonneau Commission, a considerable number of municipalities came off with low marks in public perception over corruption or collusion, even without being involved in any such problems. Quebec taxpayers are now demanding measures to guarantee that their own municipalities are above suspicion. The ISO 37001 standard is one of the tools available to counteract corruption and collusion.

The City of Deux-Montagnes has recently started a certification process to obtain ISO 37001 anti-corruption certification.

Officially known as the ISO 37001 anti-bribery management systems standards, designed to prevent, detect, and eliminate bribery, the certification process has been in effect since October 15, 2016. It is the only international standard to be recognized in 163 countries for counteracting bribery and collusion in organizations. The process for obtaining ISO 37001 certification involves implementation of the standards over a period of 9 to 12 months. During this time, the City of Deux-Montagnes, with the help of outside consultants, has begun rigorous analysis and audit procedures to implement the standard and its guidelines.

DONATION TO DÉPANNAGE SAINT-AGAPIT FLOOD VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND

In view of the many Deux-Montagnes residents who suffered in the spring flood this year, the City of Deux-Montagnes joined Dépannage Saint-Agapit in setting up a special fund to help those hardest hit. At the time, the City of Deux-Montagnes donated \$25,000 in financial assistance to Dépannage Saint-Agapit for 2017 flood victims.



Photo: City Councillor Manon Robitaille (Du Lac District), André Ouellet, President, Dépannage Saint-Agapit, and Mayor Denis Martin

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