

THE EXPRESS

OF DEUX-MONTAGNES

MUNICIPAL INFORMATION

■ DECEMBER 2015 TO APRIL 2016



Improve your lifestyle, keep it on track!



VILLE DE DEUX-MONTAGNES

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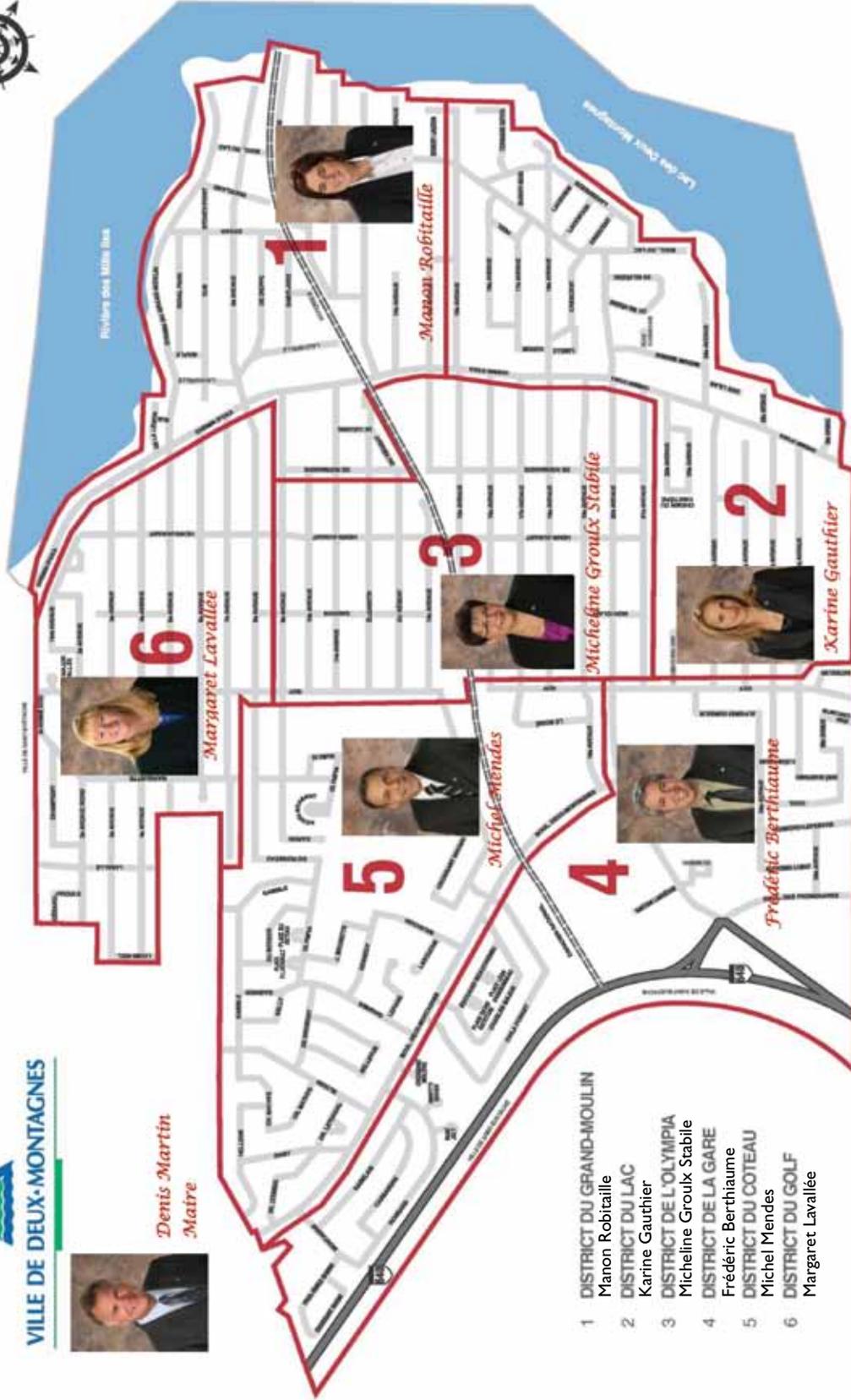


VILLE DE DEUX-MONTAGNES



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 Lavalée



Dear Citizens,

This issue of L'Express shows just how exciting our wonderful municipality is nowadays.

After a few years of relatively slow real estate development, construction has resumed at a lively pace in Deux-Montagnes. Besides breathing new life into our beautiful city, these new buildings and renovations help deliver significantly more tax revenues – a benefit for all residents.

You can read all about how the City of Deux-Montagnes continues to improve or renew its infrastructure in this newsletter. We're also maintaining our strict management of city finances, but not at the expense of infrastructure.

Community and cultural activities for Deux-Montagnes families, as you'll see, are as varied and attractive as ever. And there's plenty here to read about special events in recent months, as well as activities coming up this summer.

I would also like to sincerely thank the volunteers and organizations involved in coordinating activities that have been appreciated by all. The City supports their efforts in many different ways, including financial aid. On February 3, I might add, we allocated over \$44,000 to 63 organizations and agencies.

We can all be proud to live in Deux-Montagnes – truly a great place to call home.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Denis Martin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Denis Martin

Mayor

DEUX-MONTAGNES IS GROWING AND IMPROVING

BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE

The City of Deux-Montagnes is getting ready to carry out the following works in the months ahead:

- March to June 2016 Automation and installation of telemetry in various pumping stations
- May 2016 Repairs to side walls on chemin d'Oka near the CN overpass
- June to August 2016 Conversion of street lighting to LED
- July, August 2016 Finalization of the Oka–Mont Saint-Hilaire walking and cycling trail between Roger-Lemoine Woods and Central Park
- July or August 2016 (Subsidies pending) Restoration of water mains on Régent Street, Guy Street, 8th Avenue, 14th Avenue, and 15th Avenue
Resurfacing of asphalt on 20th Avenue between Chemin d'Oka and Boulevard Deux-Montagnes



Please bear in mind that this schedule depends on many factors which may lead to earlier or later dates for certain projects.

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PARK CHALETS

Olympia Park: Repairs to floors and toilet facilities, as well as repainting, were done last fall.

Central Park: Work on expansion of the building began in April. These renovations will include new facilities for use by the Shamrock Soccer Association and other organizations, as well as for other municipal activities.

Photo: Olympia Park Chalet



Photo: Central Park Chalet



LIBRARY

Replacement of flooring in the library, and freshly painted walls.



Photo: works ongoing

LEGION HALL

Flooring has been replaced in the Game's room and the Commemorative Lounge.

A MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ON THE MANOIR GRAND-MOULIN SITE

The City of Deux-Montagnes once owned two residences for senior citizens. They were operated municipally by the Corporation du Manoir Grand Moulin. Managing these buildings (known as Phase 1 and Phase 2) proved a financial black hole for the City— with annual losses of over \$300,000 and accumulated losses of nearly \$4 million over the past 10 years.

In 2013, the municipal administration conducted a detailed analysis of the corporation's activities. This exercise resulted in certain important findings. First, there was no way to make the operations profitable. Second, operation of seniors' residences was not part of the mission and services normally assumed by a city. Third, the Phase 1 building, dating from 1970, did not meet current safety standards, especially regarding sprinkler systems and fire doors.

In the long term, the City of Deux-Montagnes could not afford to maintain the financial burden the two residences imposed on our 17,000 citizens.

The City issued a public call to sell the buildings, provided that interested developers agreed to build a new retirement residence. The call for tenders took place in the fall of 2014.

Only Réseau Sélection Développement Inc. responded. This group wish to build a large residence of about 250 units for retirees on the site of the Manoir Grande-Moulin Phase 1 building and the former bowling green. The Phase 2 residence will continue to operate.

COMPLEXE POUR RETRAITÉS à Deux-Montagnes



This investment, worth \$56 million and possibly more, is certainly the largest ever in Deux-Montagnes. Besides generating substantial tax revenues here, the project will create some 120 jobs during the 18-month construction period. Once built, the residence will employ about 50 staff (permanent and part-time). The building will also fill a crucial need for living space for those who want to remain in the area when they retire.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

NEIGHBOURS DAY

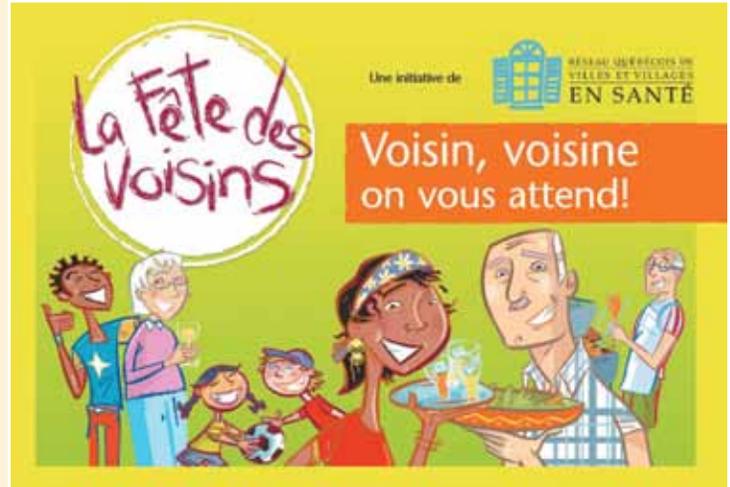
Our 2nd annual festival:

June 11, 2016
in parks
around the city

Neighbours Day (La Fête des voisins) is a terrific chance for Deux-Montagnes residents to get up close and personal— a chance for folks here to make new friends, connect with old acquaintances, and build stronger neighbourhood ties and community spirit.

Watch for a personal invitation from your local councillor, including information about the place and time of the Neighbours Day celebration in your district.

Refreshments will be served, compliments of the City of Deux-Montagnes.



CANADA DAY

Residents of Deux-Montagnes and neighbouring municipalities are invited to celebrate Canada Day on July 1st in Central Park.

The 2016 Canada Day event will be the 45th annual celebration held in Deux-Montagnes.

The celebration starts with the traditional parade at 11:45 am on Chemin d'Oka and continues with festivities at around 1:00 pm in Central Park on 13th Avenue.



A CITY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

DEUX-MONTAGNES FESTIVAL JULY 15TH TO 17TH, 2016

The 2nd annual family festival (Deux-Montagnes en fête).

This festival is for everyone to come and get to know Deux-Montagnes, its stores and attractions, and all the special things you can see and do along Chemin d'Oka.

The weekend's program features a Movie in the Park, booths where you can interact with local businesses and organizations, a car show, street performers, shows by local performers, and a Saturday night show with King Melrose and the artists of La Voix 2015...ending on Sunday with the Deux-Montagnes Family Race.



DETAIL PROGRAM

In case of rain, check the city of Deux-Montagnes website or the electronic board.

FRIDAY, JULY 15TH, 2016 (Free activity)

- Movie in the Park (evening) (École des Mésanges, on 14th avenue)

SATURDAY, JULY 16TH, 2016 FROM 2:00 TO 10:30 PM (Free activities)

École des Mésanges, at the corner of chemin d'Oka and 14th avenue (Stage 2)

- 2:00 to 7:30 **Car show**, street performers with your **favorite super heroes, mini-farm, inflatables** games and local businesses and organizations
- 2:00 Forains Abyssaux circus
- 2:30 Irish dance
- 3:00 Local performers
- 3:30 Kalimba group (show for young audience)
- 5:00 Show by teachers of the Music School École Liliane
- 6:00 Excel Gym
- 7:15 Main stage: (École des Mésanges school grounds)
Presenting Dominique Dagenais, Céleste Lévis & David Fleury, artists of La Voix 2015



- 9:00 pm Main stage: Featured show of the evening, with King Melrose and his band



SUNDAY, JULY 17TH, 2016 (Registration through our website)

- Family Race

The final official program will appear on the City of Deux-Montagnes website at www.ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca.

DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

ON OCTOBER 31ST, 2015, Municipal Council members opened the doors of City Hall to celebrate Halloween.

We'll be back to celebrate again in fall 2016.



ON DECEMBER 6TH, Municipal Council members attended the 46th annual Santa Claus Parade. City Hall was open for the occasion, with hot chocolate and coffee for all.



Photo: Paul Goyetche



Photo: Paul Goyetche



ON DECEMBER 12TH, for the 18th consecutive year, the Firefighters of the Deux-Montagnes/Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-lac Intermunicipal Fire Service held their annual roadblock appeal. Thanks to the generosity of local residents, \$13,400 was raised! The Knights of Columbus of Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac and the Dépannage St-Agapit de Deux-Montagnes food bank each received \$6,700, making it possible for both groups to extend help to numerous families in need.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Mayor Denis Martin joined by municipal councillors Micheline Groulx Stabile and Michel Mendes to help put together Christmas baskets in a drive organized by the Holy Family Parish.

DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

LION'S CLUB CARNIVAL

The annual Lions Carnival – always eagerly awaited – took place on January 30th. This traditional winter event had lots of exciting activities for the whole family to enjoy. Many thanks to the Lions Club volunteers whose outstanding generosity made this year's event possible once again.



THE 2ND ANNUAL DEUX-MONTAGNES WINTER CLASSIC was held on January 24th. This event is made possible by the international education program at Polyvalente Deux-Montagnes and the AHMLD organization, allowing several Midget BB, CC and B hockey teams from the cities of Deux-Montagnes, Saint-Eustache, Boisbriand, and Mascouche to face off in a friendly tournament play. On hand for this year's event: Mayor Denis Martin, with councillors Margaret Lavallée and Micheline Groulx Stabile.

THIS YEAR'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT ALLOCATIONS

The accredited community organizations were announced on February 3rd, 2016, in the Antoinette-Savoie Room of the municipal library. The announcement was made by members of the City Council, together with staff of the Leisure and Community Services department. Nearly \$44,000 was awarded to some 63 organizations.



DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

ON FEBRUARY 25TH, the Police Department officially launched the hockey team known as “Les forces.” It’s a community activities project unlike any other in Canada, and was back again for a second year in partnership with the Goals and Dreams program of the NHL Players Association. The program gives 24 young people (7 to 11 years old) from our community a chance to play – kids who otherwise wouldn’t have had an opportunity to live out their dreams. The police were pleased to announce a donation of complete hockey equipment and outfits worth \$26,000. Mayor Denis Martin likewise announced a donation of free ice time at the Olympia arena for this community program.



Photo: Régie de police du lac des Deux-Montagnes



Photo: Déus Jutras, together with members of his family

A NEWS CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON MARCH 23RD at City Hall in recognition of the Relay for Life. On this occasion, Mayor Denis Martin was delighted to express his support, as honorary chair of this year’s relay. The mayor and councillors have formed a team of walkers for this great cause, which takes place on June 3 at LTM School.

AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 10TH, members of the City Council honoured the 50th anniversary of the Constantin Services company.



AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 7TH, 2016, members of the City Council honoured the 65th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Tremblay.

DEUX-MONTAGNES IN ACTION

ON APRIL 7TH, members of our City Council honoured the performance of 6 young Ringuette players who were crowned provincial champions and who represented Quebec at the Canadian championships held in Prince Edward Island.



THE CITY WAS PLEASED to play a part contributing to the April 16th hockey tournament at the Olympic Arena. A fundraiser to benefit the Crestview School for autistic children.



ON APRIL 16TH, La Polyvalente de Deux-Montagnes held its second annual 8-hour relay benefit for the school's foundation (Fondation de la PDM). Mayor Denis Martin, together with his City Council colleagues Micheline Groulx Stabile and Michel Mendes, were on hand to encourage the organizers of this event.



YOUNG PEOPLE'S ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN (JULY 2016)

For a 13th consecutive year, the Lac des Deux-Montagnes Police Force is organizing a "Bicycle Safety" project to raise awareness among young people attending day camps in various municipalities where they serve. The program explains the laws and associated regulations.

The City of Deux-Montagnes is proud to encourage this initiative by offering a new bicycle as a prize to one of the participants, based on a random draw.



Photo: Régie de police du lac des Deux-Montagnes

Christopher Harding, social and community affairs officer and media relations spokesperson for the Lac des Deux-Montagnes Police force, joined by Councillor Micheline Groulx-Stabile.

TRAFFIC AROUND TRAIN STATIONS

Given the heavy pedestrian traffic around our two train stations, motorists are urged to be twice as careful and vigilant, and show courtesy to pedestrians during rush hour periods.



TRAFFIC AROUND SCHOOLS

Classes are almost over for the summer, and the City of Deux-Montagnes would like to remind everyone that it's still as important as ever to respect speed limits, traffic lights, mandatory Stop signs and crossing guard signals. Avoid any acts or practices that could endanger the safety of school children or crossing guards.



DID YOU KNOW...?

When a crossing guard raises their Stop sign, any driver who ignores the sign and goes through the school crossing commits the same offense as someone who violates any mandatory Stop sign, and is liable to be charged and docked demerit points on their driving record.

OUTDOOR FIRES

Equipment permitted: Prefabricated, fixed outdoor fireplaces with a spark guard, sturdy hood, and chimney, are permitted in all back yard areas, at least 5 metres from the side and rear property lines, and 5 metres from any building. They must comply with current regulatory standards. Portable fireplaces must be installed on a non-combustible surface, and their height may not exceed 2 metres. The fireplace must be set in such a way that escaping heat poses no threat to trees or shrubs.

Furthermore, it is the user's responsibility to avoid any possible threat to neighbours. Only the following fuels are authorized for use in an outdoor fireplace: firewood, kindling and branches. Construction materials are strictly prohibited.

A REMINDER TO CITIZENS



• PLEASE BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR THE SAM AUTOMATED MESSAGING SYSTEM (SAM).

This service allows residents to receive public safety advisories by phone. To register, please follow the steps shown on the City website.

• CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

It is important to remember that a permit is required for many kinds of renovation work. These permits may be obtained from the City Planning Department. Please bear in mind that failure to obtain a required permit is punishable by a fine. The minimum amount of the fine for a first infraction is two hundred dollars (\$200).

• A FEW REMINDERS FOR SUMMER:

Lawn watering times, May 1st to September 30th

- Automatic and mechanical systems: Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm (maximum 60 minutes)
- Manual watering: Any time, up to a maximum 60 minutes per day
- For any watering on a new lawn, a permit from the Urban Planning Department is required. Please call 450-473-4833.
- **Tree pruning: A permit is required for pruning and cutting trees. The practice of topping (pollarding) is prohibited.** To obtain a permit for felling or pruning, you must apply to the Urban Planning Department. Please call 450-473-4833.
- **Green waste collection:** Every second Monday from May 2nd through October 3rd, between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm.
- **Branch removal:** Please contact the Public Works Department at 450-473-4688.
- **Hazardous household waste:** 1st Saturday of the month from April to November, between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm.

• NEW REGULATION TO COMBAT EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB)

The City of Deux-Montagnes has adopted Regulation #1550 to combat the spread of EAB.

This regulation can be read online at [Règlement numéro 1550 dispositions spécifiques concernant la lutte à la propagation de l'agrile du frêne](#)

NEW ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR 2016-2018 (INFORMATION)

• WHAT IS AN ASSESSMENT ROLL?

A property assessment roll is a summary of the inventory of immovable property located within the territory of a municipality, and valued on the same basis on the same date. As stipulated in the Act Respecting Municipal Taxation (Chapter F-2.1), this roll applies for three municipal fiscal years. The three-year assessment roll indicates the value of each property on the basis of its real value and of property market conditions on a specific date. This is a basic element for determining municipal taxation.

• HOW IS THE PROPERTY ASSESSMENT ROLL PREPARED?

Like many other municipalities, the City of Deux-Montagnes issues a call for tenders to obtain the services of an outside firm of professional appraisers. As required by law, these assessors must be members of the Ordre des évaluateurs agréés du Québec. According to their code of ethics, they must act with complete impartiality. The firm that has obtained the commission is the Société d'analyse immobilière D.M. Inc. of St-Eustache.

• DOES THE CITY COUNCIL MAKE RULINGS ON PROPERTY VALUES?

No. The City Council may not intervene in the creation of an assessment roll. An independent firm prepares the roll. The Council may rule only on the rate of taxation. For 2016, there has been an average tax increase of 1.2% based on the value of an average house, which corresponds to the rate of inflation. As this rate applies to assessed values in the new roll for 2016-2018, roughly 50% of Deux-Montagnes residences will see their tax bills increase by less than 1.2%, and 50% will see a rate higher than 1.2%, depending directly on variances in the value of their respective properties.

Agence métropolitaine de transport
www.amt.qc.ca



DEUX-MONTAGNES THINKS GREEN

HORTICULTURAL DAY

All residents are invited to

HORTICULTURAL DAY 2016
SATURDAY, MAY 28th
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

LOCATION:
Municipal Garage, 625 20th Avenue



You can find lots of advice on plants and gardening, including important topics like the emerald ash borer problem, wasps, lawn care, Japanese beetles, and much more...all on the City website under the tab "Publications/Conseils verts." If you can't find the information you're looking for, or if there's something else you'd like to know, you can email your questions to: conseilsverts@ville.deux-montagnes.qc.ca

Over 3,500 flats of annual flowers and 1,500 sets of perennials will be available for distribution.

All members of City Council will join City horticulturalists to welcome you on site and hand out perennials, annuals, and young saplings free of charge, plus helpful horticultural information (proof of residence required).

"DEUX-MONTAGNES FLOWERING" CONTEST

The purpose of this contest is to reward the efforts of all resident who care about making their city a more beautiful place to live in. **Which means all properties in the City are automatically entered in the contest. All you have to do to participate is beautify the side of your street side property.**

Each property will be judged on the basis of its district and category (residential, commercial, or institutional) during July and August. The criteria are: general appearance, lawn or soil covering, integration of infrastructure, perennials and/or annuals, and general landscaping (overall visual effect).

Winners will be contacted at the end of August for the awards ceremony, which takes place in September.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

For the 2016 Deux-Montagnes Flowering Contest, the City Beautification Committee is looking for volunteers with a passion for plants and the environment. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 450-473-4688, extension 31.



HIGHLIGHTS

MAYOR ADDRESSES THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On February 11th, the Deux-Montagnes RCM Chamber of Commerce invited Mayor Denis Martin to deliver an address the business people in the region. The theme of this speech was “A breeze of optimism is blowing in Deux-Montagnes.”



COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS WITH WHITE COLLAR WORKERS AND SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

A collective agreement was signed with City white collar workers on March 3rd, 2016 and will be in force until December 31st, 2018. The City is grateful to both parties for their sustained efforts to reach this agreement.



(Left to right: Benoit Ferland, General Manager, Mayor Denis Martin, Maryse Lahaie, Vice-President, SCFP Local 1620, Christopher Brown, Secretary-Archivist, SCFP Local 1620, and Francis Gervais, Union Representative, SCFP)



MAYOR MARTIN RE-ELECTED TO UMQ

On February 11th, 2016, at the end of a nomination process for members of the board of the Union of Quebec Municipalities, Mayor Denis Martin was re-elected to the UMQ board as representative of the Laurentian regional caucus for a term of office lasting from 2016 to 2018.



COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT WITH FIREFIGHTERS

A principle agreement for renewal of the collective agreement with the Deux-Montagnes Local of the Firefighters' Union was signed in April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

MAYOR MARTIN IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT:

LIBRARY USE IS ON THE RISE

In response to requests by many residents, the City has extended Municipal Library hours.

This enhanced service was supported persuasively by the fact that use of the library in 2015 increased by 8% for a total of 44,249 visits!

It is refreshing to see that Deux-Montagnes residents continue to visit our library in large numbers. Whether to study, cultivate their interests, educate themselves, or simply enjoy books, our residents can count on their municipal library.



Photo prise lors du conte de Noël



NEW LANDSCAPING AT ARMITAGE PARK

Work will begin very shortly on Armitage Park, located in front of the Filtration Plant at the corner of Chemin d'Oka and 26th Avenue.

The new landscaping will include:

- A bowling green
- A community garden
- Addition of an outdoor shelter
- Flower beds and picnic tables



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CITY HALL OF DEUX-MONTAGNES
803, chemin d'Oka, Deux-Montagnes (Québec) J7R 1L8
PHONE : 450 473-2796
WWW.VILLE.DEUX-MONTAGNES.QC.CA

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