



# Lac-Tremblant-Nord

## Mayor's Newsletter: June 2019

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Hello!

After a long winter and a wet beginning to spring, I hope we are heading in to a warmer and drier summer.

The flooding of various communities has dominated recent new cycles, though it would appear we have been somewhat spared in Lac Tremblant Nord. Tranquility suffered some damage to roads, and many of you coming up to the lake have found their docks damaged or even gone completely. However, compared to others, we have been very fortunate.

As you can see from our new newsletter format, we are trying to make the information presentation a little less heavy. No matter my intentions, these newsletters tend to be long and not all subjects of interest to all. We will continue to include photos and would encourage citizens to submit their pictures taken within the municipality. These can be showcased in future newsletters as well as on our website.

**Thank you** to Josée and Stephanie for their help these past few months as we search for a new inspector. They have both been working hard to ensure that permits continue to be issued, citizens continue to receive answers to their questions and the general functioning of the municipality continues. Thank you as well to councillor Louise Royer who committed her time and urbanism knowledge to helping Josée navigate the permitting process.

**Great News!** We have hired an inspector. Stephan Perreault has joined the team as of June 13<sup>th</sup>. Welcome!

Please note that I welcome your contributions, comments, questions or suggestions. You can contact me directly at: [maireesse@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:maireesse@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca), by phone at the municipality or by attending our monthly meetings.

Hope you like the latest edition. I look forward to seeing you throughout the summer.

Kim Meyer

# Mayor's Newsletter: June 2019

## ***ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION***

As the boating season begins, we want to remind everyone of the importance of washing all watercrafts, trailers, and any equipment that touches the water (including canoes, kayaks, paddle boards, fishing equipment, wetsuits, inner tubes, waterski ropes, etc.) Inspect for any loose weeds, or anything that does not belong. I cannot stress the importance of this enough. Many nearby lakes have Eurasian Milfoil and we are at risk for other invasive species as well. Once it is in the lake, there is very little that can be done to eradicate it. It can have many impacts on your quality of life, including your ability to swim, boat and participate in other recreational activities such as fishing. Home values could also be affected. Prevention is the key, so please, talk to your neighbours and friends.

Here is a link to a short (2 min) film on Eurasian Milfoil that gives a brief but poignant overview (French only, and the video is worth watching regardless).  
<https://m.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=BE1fRCpQ4wU#>

I would invite you to visit the following link for more information.  
<https://crelaurentides.org/index.php/documents/eau-lacs>.

If you think you see Eurasian Milfoil, do not approach it, for you risk spreading it. Advise the municipality and we will take the necessary steps to have experts come in to assess and identify the plant. If caught very early, there is more chance of preventing its spread.

Last summer, specialists from CRE Laurentides visited both Lac Tremblant and Lac Bibite and found them to be healthy and free of invasive species. However, 2 trailers were caught by our guardians at PLTN with Eurasian Milfoil (prior to entering the lake).

A few recent municipal initiatives :

- Boat washing for MLTN citizens is free of charge at PLTN. Kayaks, canoes, paddles, boards, equipment, etc. are also washed for free.
- Changes were made this spring to our boat washing bylaw, mostly to emphasize the importance of washing trailers, docks being delivered to the lakes, accessories, etc., as well as increasing fines for those who do not wash their boats.
- Boat washing stickers appear on both the boat and trailers (with a matching number). This will help to ensure that trailers are washed in between each use at each different lake.
- Council met with M. David Graham, our federal elected representative, this spring and he informed us that he has been trying to get various entities together to adequately update flight maps to include information regarding lakes that have and do not have invasive species so as to limit cross-contamination. We will be working with the MRC to try and put pressure on these entities to improve collaborations.
- A meeting was held between MLTN, VMT and PLTN to discuss increasing the percentage of boats launching through the PLTN marina to ensure proper washing and inspection.
- Among other discussions at Comité des Lacs, there has been discussion about sensitizing boat delivery companies, local event planners, increasing signage at high traffic entry points at the south end, etc. Furthermore, there will be increased policing on the lake checking for proof of boat washing this summer.

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## **ORGANIC WASTE AND COMPOSTING**

In order to comply with new province-wide regulations regarding the disposal of organic waste, composting has begun in our municipality as of the week of May 20th. By the year 2020, it will no longer be possible to send organic waste to landfill sites.

Those of you in Tranquility had your counter-top bins delivered to your doors as did those of you on the roads with door-to-door garbage pickup. Lac Bibite and Lac Tremblant citizens can pick up their counter-top bins at PLTN.

I know that for those who live on boat access properties, composting may not be an easy option. Some of you already compost fruits and vegetables on your property and you may decide to continue doing so.

One of the benefits of this new form of composting is that many more items can be composted instead of being sent to the garbage dumps, including: food residue (cooked, raw, rotten), eggs shells, meat, fish, bones, dairy, leaves, soiled paper and cardboard food packaging, etc., due to the high heat used in the composting facilities. It is important to note:

- 1) As compost decomposes, it produces methane gas, contributing to greenhouse gases. When sent to our composting center, not only does the methane remain contained, but it is able sold (bringing down the composting costs).
- 2) In reducing our garbage, we can reduce the frequency of garbage collection, thereby offsetting the costs and impact of compost collecting.
- 3) It may not be easy to bring the compost across the lake as **you are not allowed to use plastic bags, even the biodegradable ones** (for now). However, there are paper bags that can be purchased for your counter-top composter, allowing an easier transportation of compost to main bins. We have some available at the municipality for those who are interested. There is also a very easy way to make paper liner for your composter from newspaper, please see this link for details : <https://youtu.be/A7tG0TqPMK8>
- 4) People have expressed concerns regarding bears and other animals. We expressly ordered the compost bins that lock to reduce the likelihood of them opening if knocked over. We also spoke to other municipalities, more remote than ours, who have not found there to be an increase in animal presence or mess.
- 5) Those who have composting already will notice that at times, in the winter, composting can get stuck and not dumped when the trucks come by, leading to an accumulation. One way around this is to line the composter with paper and or regular composter cleaning.
- 6) We also encourage those who would like to consider using the green cone (<http://www.compostec.ca/the-green-cone.html>) to contact the municipality first. Our inspector will verify the possible locations on your property as the proximity to waterways as well as the amount of sun are important factors to consider. We have a few citizens successfully using these for organics already and have a few available at the office.



This is a trial period. We will evaluate the effectiveness of this project this year and re-evaluate if necessary. If you have comments, please feel free to contact the municipality, by email, with the email subject: COMPOST, so we can assess how our citizens feel about this initiative.

More information about this program can be found here: [www.traindeviedurable.com](http://www.traindeviedurable.com)



# Lac-Tremblant-Nord

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### **SUMMER STUDENT**

We would like to welcome our new summer student, Nicolas Therrien who has already started with us and is here until the end of August. He will be working in various areas of the municipality, with Josée and Stephanie in the office, with the inspector out visiting citizens, visiting the trails, providing information, etc.



*Hello everyone !*

*My name is Nicolas Therrien, I am 28 years old and I will be working for the municipality of Lac-Tremblant Nord this*

*summer. I have a Bachelor's degree in political science from the Université de Montréal and I am in the process of finishing my second Bachelor's degree in political communication at the same University.*

*I am a great lover of nature and I am involved in several organizations that are struggling to protect the environment, including the environmental protection Association of Lac Travers, where I live, in St. Adolphe-d'Howard.*

*I feel privileged to be able to get involved in a municipality that prioritizes the protection of its natural environment.*

*I am very proud to work for your municipality and for the wonderful team that is in place. I look forward to sharing my passion for the environment with you and having the pleasure of meeting you this summer.*

### **Office opening hours**

Please note that the offices are open Wednesday to Friday from 9-5 p.m., Saturdays during council from 9-noon and by appointment on other Saturdays.

### **PROJECTS**

#### *TECQ funding*

We are still waiting for confirmation of TECQ funding and associated restrictions. As soon as they are announced, hopefully in June, we will present various projects for approval and then inform our citizens.

A few ideas of what could be included are :

- Paving of municipally-owned roads
- Water reservoirs for fire protection
- Completion of Lac Bibite marina works (dock upgrades, improvements to parking, cameras, etc.)

#### *Park Funding*

When properties are subdivided, a % of the value must be given to the municipality in land or in money, which is what has contributed to our park fund. These funds could be used for :

- Continued improvements to John's Way and access at lac Gervais in Tranquillité
- Defibrillators in Tranquillité, Lac Bibite (existing at PLTN).
- Improvements to the boat wash facility (including back up pressure washer)
- Various trail improvements.

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## Upcoming dates:

*Annual Regatta & BBQ*

### *Council meetings*

- Saturday, July 13th at 11 a.m.
- Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m..

- Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 11 a.m.

## **PERMITS**

Although seen by some as arduous, it is important to respect the municipal permit process. Permits are directly linked to our bylaws, which have been put in place by your elected representatives to protect the natural environment and the unique history/culture in our municipality. Respect for bylaws and permits also encourage compliance by others.

Please note that in order to **cut down a tree, renovate or replace your dock, renovate, demolish or build a house, work on the shoreline, etc., a permit is required.** The forms can be found on the website (<https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/en/bylaws-and-permit-demands/>) and can be brought in to the municipality from Wednesday to Friday and some Saturdays.

Please note that work in the shoreline is only permitted in certain situations and clear cutting is not permitted unless necessary for approved building purposes.

Infractions may be given if permits are not requested or bylaws not respected.

Of note, for a **tree-cutting permit**, the process is very simple: download the form from the website, complete, email it back with photos to Josée, then simply await permit by email or pick up at MLTN. And it's free!

## **SHORELINE PROTECTION**

Water health is directly impacted by the quality of our shoreline. Provincially regulated, work in the shoreline is generally not permitted and if necessary (in the case of building), regulated by bylaws and requires a permit. For example, it is not permitted to cut your grass within 15 meters from the high water line.

With your tax bill, you received a detailed pamphlet regarding shoreline protection and revegetalization. Here is a site you can visit for more information  
<https://crelaurentides.org/index.php/documents/english>

If you have any questions or would like a visit to discuss your shoreline health, please contact the municipal inspector.

# Mayor's Newsletter: June 2019

## ***DON'T FEED THE DEER***

For years, the VMT has led a campaign against the feeding of deer. The following are a list of some of the reasons why:

1. Deer cause road accidents. The fact that they move around the territory in search of feeders can considerably increase the number of road accidents.
2. Artificial feeding can cause several deer health problems such as diarrhea and inflammation of the digestive system and gums. In addition, the animal becomes more likely to transport ticks close to humans and transmit them to other deer through physical contact. Contaminated objects, such as feeders where deer feed, can also promote disease transmission.
3. Deer can carry Lyme disease and the closer they come to humans, the greater the risk of transmission of the disease.
4. Depending on the season, the deer adapts to a particular diet. Feeding them certain foods at certain times of the year can lead to illness and death.
5. They may eat your shrubs and plants, or those of your neighbors.
6. Regular feeding encourages them to leave their natural habitat to get food on your property.

For more details, please visit : (<http://www.villedemont-tremblant.qc.ca/en/citizens/animals/deer-of-virginia>)

In the fall of 2018 the VMT passed a bylaw to this effect, making it illegal to feed the deer.

We have been asked by some to do the same. As we work towards a bylaw, we would like to remind our citizens of the dangers of feeding deer. Remember that while you may consider this as a kindness to them, you may actually be doing them harm.

## ***BAIE DES OURSES***

As some of you may have heard, the large lot at the north of the lake, that for many years has been vacant and owned by the bank, has been purchased by 11 people. Initially subdivided for 22 lots with a road, this property is now subdivided in to 11 waterfront building lots, a road, and a large lot north and north east of the properties. Part of this new large lot was previously zoned as conservation land. As the rules for subdivision dictate, a % of the value of the subdivided lots must be given to the municipality in money or in land. In an attempt to protect the environment as well as the natural beauty of the north end, your council negotiated receiving the land indicated in the picture below (above



and to the right of the lakefront lots) and then zoned such land, in its entirety, as conservation. This land includes the trail going up to Mont Gorille, as well as the land going down towards the Cachée river (not seen in the picture).





# Lac-Tremblant-Nord

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### **WATER LEVELS**

As we are all aware, the water levels of Lac Tremblant have been increasing over the years. Climate change and the new dam put in by VMT, are likely the major contributors. Many of you have written to me regarding this issue that I also discussed in my March message.

LTN recently paid for an analysis of water levels over the past 10 years and though the data is not exact (due to varying methods of measurement), the trend shows an increase in the water levels overall. With this information, I met with the VMT and we agreed to *identify a level that is acceptable to all and a safe way to achieve it*. In order to do this, the VMT has hired a firm to evaluate the environmental impacts of the change in water level, as well as what adjustments could be made to the existing dam to achieve this. These steps are necessary prior to any dam adjustment as it requires the approval of the Minister of Environment, among others. There is precedent regarding the adjustment of water levels in neighboring lakes and I sense an openness from the VMT to move forward in this. I hope to have good news soon.

### **LOGGING**

We have received the unfortunate news that a portion of LTN territory that is on crown land (south-west of Lac Bibite) has been identified as a possible logging site. Many representations are being made by various municipalities regarding the impacts of logging (environmental concerns, wear and tear on roads, etc). The MRC has been active in the dossier and has even been working in collaboration with the logging industry to incite the MTQ (among other ministries) to provide adequate compensation to municipalities, as well as respect the environmental regulations when creating new roads. The proposed site for LTN would not likely use LTN roads to bring the wood out, but we do however environmental concerns. Your councillors, Louise Royer and Charles DeBroin, have been attending meetings and public consultations to represent our municipality's concerns. We will provide more information as we have it.

### **INTERNET**

Bell should start installing fibre optics implantation in June on Chemin Thomas Robert and other connecting roads. The map is available upon request from the municipality.

The MRC evaluated the current fibre optics situation in all of the MRC and are in the exploratory planning stages to improve this coverage. Essentially, fibre optics can go anywhere where there are existing electrical poles. Note that Tranquillité is a part of this plan.

Information regarding various internet providers available in the November newsletter on the LTN website.

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## ***POLICE IN LAC-TREMBLANT-NORD***

Lake security is an important issue. Many have reported trespassing, vandalism, noise nuisance, boating too close to shorelines, etc. The police service is there to provide services to our citizens. They can go out on the lake at any time of the day or night.

Of note, the police received only one complaint from Lac Tremblant in 2018 and very few in past years.

A reminder that in order for the police to prioritize visits to our lake, they need to be aware of the issues we have, as well as when they are occurring (i.e. weekend days). Last summer, the police were on Lac Tremblant 24 times over the season.

Here's some recommendations we received from M. Jean Desjardins (Police Chief):

**911** is for emergencies, such as an accident, criminal act, danger on public road (including lake); fire, gas smell, severe health concerns, or persons in distress.

**819-425-2723** is the police station number. It gets you to the same place as 911, but it allows the dispatch to prioritize 911 emergency calls. Therefore, this is the number you should call for the following issues:

- Nuisance violations including noise (from boats, parties, etc.).
- Trespassing issues (with visual trace of trespassing). If you feel in danger due to someone on your property call 911.
- Speeding on the lake (police can apply the federal speed laws due to the buoys in place)
- Boat-washing violations (fines as per LTN bylaws).

**819-425-8614 ext. 4040** is a number where you can leave a message confidentially. It is important to specify that you are calling from Lac-Tremblant-Nord. This number can be used to report environment and nautical conduct code violations. It is important to give as much detail as possible regarding the colour of the boat, the registration if possible, the location where it happened, the time of day and the date.

### **Examples :**

- Dangerous boating practices.
- Waterskiing or wakeboarding less than 60 metres from the shorelines.

Whatever method you use, please report violations, illegal acts and dangerous behaviour. In order to show a need for increased police presence at key moments, the police need to identify when and where the problems are.



# Mayor's Newsletter: June 2019

## ***FIRE SAFETY***

A few points of information:

- There are firefighters on site at the Caserne 2 (on du Village) 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, as of April 1st. This will decrease response times.
- There is a fire boat on the lake as of last fall. It is already in the water and will remain there for the season.
- The Fire Department will be trained as of September to provide first responder services.



A reminder that it is still required to have a **burn permit** for an open fire (small campfires are exempt), see bylaw <https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/REV1R%C3%A8glement-FEUX-EN-PLEIN-AIR-2019-01.pdf>

The burn permit can be obtained by completing a form at the police department in the spring, valid for the whole season. Once completed, every time you want to have a fire, you simply need to call and inform the police to this effect, thereby ensuring you don't do so on a day where burning is not permitted with SOPFEU.

## ***EMERGENCY MEASURES***

The provincial government requires that all municipalities have an Emergency Measures Plan by October 2019. LTN applied for and received a grant from the government of approximately 14,000\$ to proceed with this, and by working with VMT and Brebeuf, we were able to obtain an additional 6,000\$. Essentially, apart from the Emergency Measures Plan, included in the grant is money towards a population alert program, as well as, to fulfill our requirements, we need to have a properly adapted Emergency Measures room, which we will be sharing with VMT and Brebeuf.

## ***PUBLIC TRANSIT - VMT***

Some of you may have seen the news regarding the VMT announcing free public transit to all, as of June 21st. There are many benefits to this, mainly: environmental and social. Of note, public transit is an agglomeration competence, which means our taxes contribute to it. I have been assured by the VMT that this should not have an impact on our taxes as a majority of public transit is paid by commercial taxes. I will keep a close eye on this in the upcoming months. In the meantime, enjoy the public transit where you can.