



# Lac Tremblant Nord

## Word from your mayor: Summer 2020

***For you this summer:***

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**Permits**

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Hello to all,

This newsletter comes a little later than those sent in previous years because, like many of you, my life has been greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, mainly due to my role as a social worker in Quebec's healthcare system.

Despite the pandemic, I hope everyone is in good health after the difficult months we have just gone through. Although the fight against COVID-19 has not yet been won yet, most of the travel restrictions between the different regions of Quebec have been lifted, allowing many of you to come to Lac-Tremblant-Nord. Unfortunately, those in the United States have not been able to come to our municipality yet, but I hope you will be able to do so during the upcoming summer season.

Due to COVID-19, in order to protect the health of our employees, please note that our staff is not always present on fixed days, as we try to reduce office gatherings as much as possible. For those of you who wish to meet Marie-Lise or Josée, you can do so but **by appointment only**. We ask you to please give priority to appointments by phone or email.

However, although the municipal office is not officially open, our new inspector Marie-Lise Langevin and Josée have often been present in the office in recent weeks.

Given our small workspace and the fact that we share a bathroom with the company next to our municipal office, we are taking the necessary measures to ensure the health of our staff during this pandemic.

### ***Council meetings***

At this time, our Council meetings are continuing via Webex, but we are currently evaluating the possibility of holding Council meetings in person in the near future and we will notify you when this occurs in due time.

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## ***Regatta***

Unfortunately, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel the annual regatta this year due to the public health guidelines in place when we needed to start planning for the event. Despite the lifting of certain public health restrictions, we have decided to maintain this decision to avoid any risk for the health of our citizens.

## ***Administrative staff***

On a more positive note, our administrative team is now complete and well in place, having recently welcomed Marie-Lise Langevin as our new municipal inspector. She has a great deal of experience as an inspector and has a notable expertise in the environment and in septic systems, among others. Her energy, enthusiasm and dynamism are a wonderful addition to our municipality. Welcome Marie-Lise!

In addition, we are very pleased to have been able to keep with us, throughout the year and this summer, our student from last year, Nicolas Therrien, particularly due to the temporary absence of an inspector. This extension is possible due in part to the federal government's summer student program. He has worked, and continues to do so, on various projects, including bylaw changes, various administrative tasks, multiple aspects of our communications and various environmental projects. Thank you, Nicolas, for your indispensable help and support.

In closing, your Council and I would like to wish you a great summer. Enjoy the beauty that our municipality has to offer and take care.

*Kimberly Meyer, Mayor*

## **BYLAWS**

Over the past three years, we have worked closely with our current by-laws and, although they were revised in 2013, many changes are necessary in order to correct inconsistencies and reflect the evolution of our municipality from an urbanism standpoint. Shaped by citizens' comments, consultation meetings and CCU comments, the majority of the changes to be made have been identified.

However, last February we made the decision, due to the major changes identified, to postpone the changes because the process needed for their adoption would have resulted in the freezing of the issuance of all permits at the beginning of the summer, a situation that we wanted to avoid in order to not cause any inconvenience to our citizens. Over the past two months, we have made various more urgent changes to our bylaws, which have still allowed our citizens to move forward with their permit applications this summer without, however, delaying the implementation of certain necessary changes. For example, the municipality put in place By-law 2020-02 concerning exterior lighting (light pollution) which aims to implement standards that will, without reducing the safety of citizens, reduce intrusive light and frame adequately all exterior lighting devices to limit light pollution.

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In September or October of this year, the proposed changes to our current bylaws will be more significant. Of course, the essence and character of Lac-Tremblant-Nord will not change, but the Council is of the opinion that the proposed changes are necessary in order to facilitate the experience of citizens with our bylaws and to help them realize their projects. A more detailed presentation of the proposed changes will be made available to citizens at a later date, both in person (hopefully) and in writing, for those of you who may not be able to attend.

Here is a summary of the recent changes proposed for which we held a public consultation via Webex on Saturday June 6, 2020:

- Draft By-law 2020-01 modifying By-law 2013-003 related to zoning

Changes made regarding the definition of a **private entrance**, the conditions related to **short-term rental** (Short term rental is permitted, but, along with other guidelines, it must be of a **minimum duration of 31 consecutive days per stay, for a maximum of 180 days**), the conditions related to **exterior lighting** ( to ensure that the terms of the bylaw concerning outdoor lighting to control light pollution be enforced) and the conditions related to **finances and penalties** relating to **exterior landscaping and landscapes**.

- Draft By-law 2020-03 modifying By-law 2013-005 related to construction

Changes made regarding the conditions related to **exterior lighting** to ensure that the terms of this regulation are respected on all construction sites and the conditions related to the **deposit of materials on construction sites**.

- Draft By-law 2020-04 modifying By-law 2013-003 related to zoning

Modification of the definition of **intergenerational housing** to allow intergenerational housing, in particular to allow intergenerational housing inside a main building whose main use is single-family housing.

- Draft By-law 2020-05 modifying By-law 2013-003 related to zoning

Changes made regarding the conditions related to **docks** to increase the surface area of docks of up to **forty-two square meters (42 m<sup>2</sup>) for Lac Tremblant and Lac Gervais** and twenty square meters (**20 m<sup>2</sup>) for Lac Bibite**. In addition, walkways can have a maximum width of **2,5 meters**.

- Draft By-law 2020-06 modifying By-law 2013-003 related to zoning

Changes made regarding the removal of a sentence concerning the **agreement** signed by the Municipality with developers concerning construction, for example the construction of roads in certain areas. The agreement has been removed to facilitate the life of citizens while still respecting provincial and municipal bylaws rules standards.

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Our administrative team has also made changes to the permit application forms which will soon be posted on our website. The changes, we hope, will simplify and clarify the permit application process. Your comments on these changes are always appreciated.

## PERMITS

While some citizens may find the application and permit process difficult, it is important to follow its guidelines. The permits issued by the municipality are directly in line with our bylaws which were put in place by your elected representatives to protect the unique natural spaces, environment, history and culture of our municipality.

Compliance with our bylaws and the permit application process by all of our citizens also encourages others to do so. Please note that **in order to cut a tree, renovate or replace your home, renovate, demolish or build a building or to carry out work in the shoreline, etc., a permit is required.**

In the event of non-compliance with our bylaws concerning tree cutting or if the appropriate permits are not requested, infractions may be given. For more information on the regulations concerning the tree cutting, please refer to **sections 9 and 10 of By-law number 2013-003 relating to zoning.**

In order to obtain a **tree cutting permit**, the process is very simple:

- 1) Download the form from the municipality's website at the link mentioned below and complete it by providing all the information requested;
- 2) Send the form via email to the administration with photos of the tree or trees that need to be cut. Afterwards, you will receive the permit by email or you can pick it up at our municipal office. **It's free!**

During the hours when the office is closed, all permit application forms can still be brought to the office of the municipality or sent by email. All the application forms are available on our website at the following link: <https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/reglements-et-permis/>

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### *Invasive species*

The municipality wishes to remind all our citizens of the **importance of washing** personal watercraft, trailers, as well as **all equipment that touches the water**, including canoes, kayaks, rowing boards, fishing equipment, thermal suits, tubes, water ski ropes, etc.

Please inspect any equipment that touches the water to detect the presence of weeds or any residue that could threaten the health of our lakes. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of this issue. Many

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nearby lakes have detected Eurasian watermilfoil and we may also be at risk for certain other invasive species, which is why it is important to always remain vigilant.

If the Eurasian watermilfoil were able to enter a lake, there are very few alternatives to eradicate it afterwards. Contamination by this invasive specie can have direct impacts on your quality of life, including your ability to swim in the lake, use your boat, or participate in other recreational activities such as fishing. Finally, please note that the presence of invasive species in our lakes may lower property values, which is why we must treat this issue with utmost importance.

In order to avoid the presence of invasive species in our lakes, prevention remains the key. Please tell your neighbors and friends so that you can effectively combat these species.

- Here is a link to a short film (2 min) on Eurasian watermilfoil that gives a brief but poignant overview of the reality around it: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=BE1fRCpQ4wU#>
- I also invite you to visit the following link for more information on this issue: <https://crelaurentides.org/index.php/documents/eau-lacs>.

If you think you have detected the Eurasian watermilfoil in one of our lakes, do not go near the specie because you might increase the risk of it spreading. Instead, notify the municipality immediately so that we can bring in experts on the matter to assess the situation and identify the specie. The sooner the presence of invasive species is detected, the better the chances are of preventing it from spreading.

## ***Some municipal environmental initiatives***

- Washing boats for MLTN citizens is free at PLTN. Kayaks, canoes, paddles, boards, equipment, etc. are also washed for free.
- In the spring of 2019, changes were made to our boat washing bylaws, mainly to emphasize the importance of washing trailers, docks delivered to lakes, accessories, etc. In addition, the amount of fines will be increased for those who do not wash their boats.
- Stickers confirming the washing of boats appear on the boat and the trailer with a corresponding number. This allows us to make sure that the trailers are washed after each use.
- We are in regular communication with the city of Mont-Tremblant to reach the goal of having all boats returned by PLTN, in order to ensure that the washing has been done and that an adequate inspection has been carried out.
- These issues are also regularly discussed at the Lakes Committee as well as during all discussions involving the lakes (events, changes to regulations, etc.)

## ***Water Master Plan***

Your Council is currently discussing various projects for this summer to ensure the protection of the quality of the water on our territory. We were chosen by the organisation of Bassin Versant (RPNS) to be part of a study that aims to establish a water master plan for Lac Tremblant. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, this study had to be postponed to 2021.

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This plan aims to identify the challenges associated with water resources in order to promote better management of these resources. This plan will result in better protection for water environments and aquatic ecosystems. Finally, this plan will have the effect of ensuring good management of our lakes and their watersheds through the implementation of various actions.

## ***Septic systems***

With the arrival of our inspector Marie-Lise and because of her expertise on the matter, we will take a closer look at some septic systems in our municipality to ensure that none of them are polluting our lakes. A tax credit is offered by the government to provide financial support to homeowners who must undertake repair work on their septic systems.

For more information on this tax credit, please consult the following link:

<http://www4.gouv.qc.ca/FR/Portail/Citoyens/Evenements/acheter-renover-maison/Pages/credit-assainissement-eaux-usees.aspx>

## **PROTECTED NATURAL AREA**

The health of our lakes is directly linked to the quality of the shorelines in the municipality. In order to protect our natural environment, on the vast majority of residential properties in our territory, a percentage of natural space must be respected. According to the definition of that natural space in our zoning by-law, this area of land must remain in its natural state and must keep its pioneer trees and plants in place. As for the shore, the three (3) layers of vegetation (grass, shrub and tree) must be preserved and brush clearing is forbidden.

It is important to underline that removing leaves and dead branches on the shore can accelerate the leaching of the soil and may cause fine sediments into our lakes, which could affect the quality of the water on many levels.

Generally speaking, all construction work is prohibited in the first fifteen (15) meters of the shore, with some exceptions that are indicated in chapter 9 of our *By-law 2013-003 relating to zoning* and a permit for these exceptions is mandatory.

For example, if the slope percentage of your shoreline is less than 30%, you can maintain a grassy access leading up to the lake with a maximum width of 5 meters (about 16 '). However, no pruning of any kind is allowed outside your access. The shade casted by the trees near the lakes can limit the rapid warming of the water and can help prevent the bluish-green algae from hatching.

For those of you who have a slope percentage greater than 30%, only a wooden path or sidewalk on stilts can be built and pruning is authorized to create a visual breakthrough with a width maximum of five (5) meters. Also, it is important to mention that no acquired rights can apply over the width of access to the lake. We ask that you please be sensitive to this issue since the health of the lakes is an issue that we all have at heart.



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For more information on revegetation of shorelines, please use the following link:

<https://crelaurentides.org/index.php/documents/eau-lacs>

## ORGANIC WASTE AND COMPOSTING

In 2019, our municipality implemented the necessary measures to encourage composting and so far, we have seen a good turnout on the matter, but we have received very little feedback from our citizens on this initiative.

To our knowledge, we have not faced many problems with animals and compost bins. If ever a problem arises or if you have comments on composting, do not hesitate to contact us. In addition, I would be interested to know how the composting system works for those of you who use the lake as a way of transport, hoping that everything goes smoothly. If you're not composting, the municipality is always open to suggestions as to what we can do to encourage citizens to start this initiative.

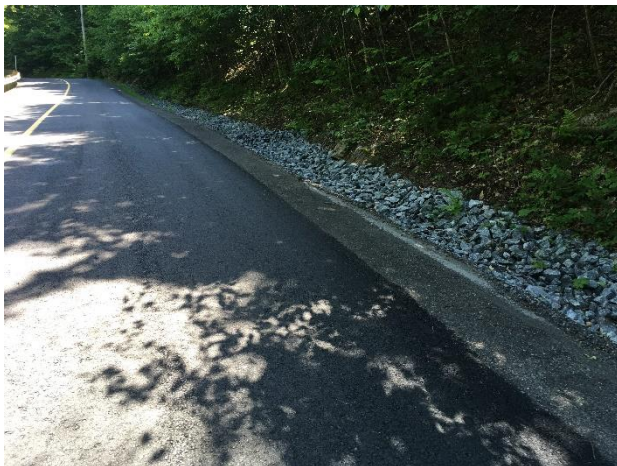
To help you with garbage collection, you will find at the link below a list of what can and cannot go in the different recycling, compost and garbage bins : <https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/en/garbage-collection/>

Please note that new signs containing this information were installed at the PLTN, Lac Bibite and Tranquillité's garbage sites.

## PROJECTS

### *TECQ fund*

This year, the major project associated with our TECQ funds was the repair and repaving of the Chemin de la Tranquillité. The project has been completed in the past few weeks and we are very pleased with the work done as well as the final product.



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We are still in the process of evaluating how to use the additional funds of approximately \$ 100,000 remaining and we will keep you informed of future plans. However, it is important to note that TECQ funds only apply to specific projects and it is sometimes difficult to find projects associated with the funds within our municipality.

## ***Park Fund***

When a property is subdivided, a percentage of the value must be given to the municipality in land or in money, in order to contribute to our Park Fund. These funds could in particular be used for:

- Improvements to John's Way and access to Lac Gervais in Tranquillité;
- The purchase of defibrillators for Tranquillité (already available at PLTN and at lac Bibite);
- Various improvements on the walking trails;
- Adding a floating dock extension to the main dock at the lac Bibite marina.

## **INTERNET**

For those of you who have a home on or near chemin Thomas-Robert, fiber optic has been installed by Bell as well as in most areas. We are aware that Bell has not completed the originally promised work up to lake Bibite and we are currently working on a solution to this problem.

## ***Project to come***

For more than a year, the MRC has been working on a project with Cogeco, using various government grants, to improve the deployment of fiber optics throughout the territory of the MRC. Last year, a study was carried out to assess the amount of territory involved and this data was used to negotiate the project, as well as to



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request government funding. Some of the funds needed have been confirmed and new funds continue to be announced.

The project continues to move forward, but we are unable to identify which areas are involved in the first wave at this time. In addition, although we were told that all properties that have access to electricity will receive fiber optics, I have not received confirmation as to whether areas where there are no roads are included in the project.

## **POLICE AT LAC-TREMBLANT-NORD**

Safety on the lakes is an important issue for our municipality and many of you have reported to me various events over the years: intrusion, vandalism, noise violations, boats coming too close to the shore, etc.

As already mentioned in a message regarding boating safety recently sent by email to our citizens, it is very important to call the police if you witness a safety or nuisance bylaw violation. Due to the limited activities on the lake due to COVID-19, the police will be more present on lake Tremblant this year and officers can go on the lake if a complaint is made. If you call the police and feel resistance from them, please notify me.

Here are the important numbers for the police:

- **911:** For emergencies such as an accident, a crime, a danger on the public road (including the lake), fire, smell of gas, serious health problems or to report a person in distress.
- **819-425-2723:** Number of the police station of the City of Mont-Tremblant. It takes you to the same location as 911, but it does prioritize emergency calls. Therefore, this is a number that you should call for the following problems:
  - Nuisances, including noise (from boats, parties, etc.);
  - Intrusion problems (with visual trace of intrusion). If you feel in danger due to the presence of a stranger on your property, **call 911**;
  - Speeding on the lake (the police can apply federal speed laws due to the buoys in place);
  - Failure to comply with the regulations for washing boats (fines according to the regulations).
- **819-425-8614 ext. 4040:** This number is available if you wish to leave a message confidentially.

It is important to specify that you are calling from the municipality of Lac-Tremblant-Nord. This number can be used to report non-compliance with the environment code or the nautical code of conduct, such as dangerous sailing, water skiing or wakeboarding within sixty (60) meters of the shore.

It is important to give as much detail as possible regarding the color of the boat and, if possible, the registration of the boat, the place of the offense, the time, the day and the date.

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Whichever method you use, **report violations, illegal acts and dangerous behavior to the police**. In order to demonstrate that an increased need for police presence is necessary at key moments, the police must identify when and where the problems occurred.

## **FIRE SAFETY**

Due to the very dry spring we had, SOPFEU had to ban campfires or other open sky fires several times. Please be sure to follow the applicable open fire prohibitions which are available at the following link: <https://sopfeu.qc.ca/>

It is important to mention that it is **necessary to obtain a burning permit** for an open fire, except for small campfires. To obtain a burning permit, you must, in the spring, fill out a form available at the Mont-Tremblant police service, which is valid for the entire season.

Please note that due to COVID-19, this entire process can be done by phone or email, but it is important to mention that your request concerns Lac-Tremblant-Nord and not the city of Mont-Tremblant. The number to call for a burning permit or to notify the police that you would like to have a fire is **819-425-2723**.

Once your permit is obtained, when you want to make a fire, all you have to do is call and inform the police. This way, you can make sure not to start a fire on a day when combustion is not authorized by SOPFEU.

For more information on outdoor fires, please consult our bylaw on the subject at the following link: <https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/R%C3%88GLEMENT-2010-06-FEUX-EN-PLEIN-AIR.pdf>

## **EMERGENCY MEASURES**

In November 2019, the municipality established and finalized its emergency response plan. Produced jointly with the city of Mont-Tremblant, the municipality of Brébeuf and subsidized by the government, this plan describes the procedures to follow in the event of a major incident.

### ***Emergency alerts: initial list and new registrations***

If you have a landline, your phone number (home and business) is already on the initial list. These phones can already receive emergency alerts.

For those who have just moved in, moved out, changed their phone number, or have a confidential phone number or cell phone, registration will be required to receive emergency alerts.

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## ***General interest alerts***

In addition to emergency alerts, citizens can also choose other types of general interest alerts by personalizing their profile according to their interests, for example: interruption of drinking water service, major obstacle traffic, street closure, etc.

**To receive alerts of general interest, registration is quick and easy and is done at the following link: [portail.lactremblantnord.somum.com](http://portail.lactremblantnord.somum.com)**

Subscribers will receive alerts by email, text message (SMS) or by phone, depending on their communication preference. If the person is absent when the system is activated, the information will be saved to their voice mailbox, if available.

The public alert system is an effective way to protect your family and property, hence the importance of quickly changing your contact information in the system when changes occur.

The data collected will be used exclusively for the municipality's automated alert system and will remain confidential.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### ***Municipality's Contact information***

Phone: 819-425-8154

Email address: [mairie@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:mairie@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca)

Website: <https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/>

### ***Next Council meetings***

Saturday, July 18, 2020 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, August 8, 2020 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, September 12, 2020 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, October 10, 2020 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, November 7, 2020 - 11 a.m.

Saturday, December 12, 2020 - 11 a.m.