

Municipalité de Lac-Tremblant-Nord

Communiqué

Lac-Tremblant-Nord Conservation Project - Update and Next Steps

(Lac-Tremblant-Nord, August 1st, 2023) - As you probably already know, the municipality has initiated, in partnership with Les Amis de Lac-Tremblant-Nord, <u>Éco-corridors laurentiens</u> and <u>SNAP Québec</u>, a project to create a protected area and strengthen an ecological corridor on its public territory.

These actions would improve existing protection and result in a gain of 2.63 km² of protected territory, equivalent to 9.5% of the municipality's territory, and ultimately more than 68.8% of Lac-Tremblant-Nord's territory would be protected.

Through this project, the municipality wishes to pursue its conservation efforts in response to the concerns expressed by its citizens in terms of environmental protection.

With strategic guidance and financial support from *SNAP Québec*, the project's mission is to protect biodiversity and preserve the integrity of ecosystems and landscapes (in particular, the water quality of lakes, rivers and fish habitats).

Project progress

In recent months, we have worked diligently with citizens' associations, local environmental organizations and the Quebec government to ensure that our public and municipal lands are recognized for their true value as biologically diverse and sensitive areas.

Progress on the project includes the following:

- 1. The preliminary submission of our project to the Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP);
- 2. The signing for a grant for the project with the *Fondation de la Faune du Québec* (Agir Pour la Faune program);
- 3. The completion of an ecological inventory of the territory by *Biodiversité Conseil*, a scientific consulting firm renowned in the field of conservation in Quebec;
- 4. Photographs and video of the area by a professional photographer to showcase the beauty and wildness of our territory;
- 5. Two citizen information sessions were held on June 6 and 17 to present the project to the population and give our citizens the opportunity to interact with our partners *SNAP Québec* and *Éco-corridors laurentiens* and ask questions about the project.

In this regard, we would like to highlight the incredible support we received from citizens during these consultations, and we would like to thank you for your encouragement and active participation during these meetings.

Following the information sessions, we received many positive comments about the project and our protection efforts, confirming that the project is in line with the actions of past administrations, as well as with the vision and collective will of the citizens of our municipality for the long-term protection of our territory.

We would like to thank you all for your participation and your comments !

Next steps

- 1. Conservation of municipal land: Creation of the municipality's Social Utility Trust (SUT);
- 2. Consultation and mobilization of various stakeholders to advance the project (political actors and project advisory committee);
- 3. Development, in conjunction with our partners, of a proposed conservation and education plan for our municipal lands and public lands located west of the municipality;
- 4. Project press release announcing the signing of our agreement with SNAP Québec to execute the project.

Regatta 2023

 \rightarrow At the Regatta BBQ to be held on Saturday, August 5, the municipality will be hosting an information booth with our partner *Éco-corridors laurentiens* to provide information on voluntary conservation options on private land.

At the information sessions held last June, we received many questions on this subject, and a guide explaining the various voluntary conservation options on private land will be available to citizens.

In addition to the information booth, we will also be presenting professional photos of the territory taken as part of the project !

As we continue our vital efforts to preserve the quality of life in Lac-Tremblant-Nord and protect our natural heritage for future generations, we will continue to keep you informed on the progress on the project over the coming months.

Thank you once again to all our citizens for your enthusiasm for our conservation project!

Kim Meyer and the Conservation Project Committee