



## **WORD FROM THE MAYOR – DECEMBER 2023**

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Dear citizens,

Hoping this message finds you well !

I would like to begin by thanking all of you who were present at the multiple events we have organized in the past few months, notably the public consultations for our protected area project and our environment day this spring, as well as at our traditional Regatta and BBQ this summer. We had a tremendous turnout for all the events and are very happy to see so many citizens invested in our community !

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Nicolas Primeau, a young citizen of Lac-Tremblant-Nord, who represented our municipality at the 57<sup>th</sup>

provincial finals of the Jeux du Québec in Rimouski this summer in the sailing competitions. As the Jeux du Québec is a large-scale event that brings together the most promising young athletes in Quebec, we wanted to highlight Nicolas' participation in the sailing events and thank him for representing our small community !

It has been an exciting year for our municipality, and the development of our protected area project has been a priority for our administration.

In collaboration with *Les Amis de Lac Tremblant Nord*, *SNAP Quebec* and *Éco-corridors laurentiens*, Lac-Tremblant-Nord is requesting that the entirety of our Crown land located on the west side of our territory receive a protected area status (Biodiversity Reserve), thereby increasing the quantity of land protected as well as the quality of the protection. Our public lands cover a large portion of our territory, contributing to making our territory so unique and pristine, and the objective of the proposed protected area project is to keep our territory that way for future generations.

The second part of our project includes the creation of a SUT (Social Utility Trust) where the municipality will be transferring municipally owned lands into the SUT in order to protect them in perpetuity. Finally, our administration would like to continue to work with citizens who are interested by voluntary conservation measures for their private land.

Please see more detailed information on our protected area project below, and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, ideas or want to participate !

Over the past year, the municipality's History Committee has been very active in gathering as much information as possible about our history, and several citizens of the municipality have been interviewed by our committee volunteers, the interviews will continue next summer. If you have any questions, would like to get involved in the committee, have old photos, objects, etc. that you would like to share with us, please don't hesitate to contact us at [communications@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:communications@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca).

On a more personal level, last month, I had the honour of being elected as deputy prefect at the MRC des Laurentides to work with Marc L'Heureux, who has been prefect for several years. This is an opportunity for me to work on issues on a regional level, but also to better represent our municipality at this level. Amongst my many subjects of interest, I will be focusing on the environment and conservation as well as social development.

Finally, as you probably know, Council is working on our 2024 budget that will be adopted at our Council meeting on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM, and a summary of the budget will be included in your tax bill that will be sent next February.

Hoping you enjoy the winter and on behalf of myself, our administration and Council, we wish you a happy holiday season !

*Kim Meyer and your Council*

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### **2023 LAC-TREMBLANT-NORD VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

In 2022, we began the tradition of honouring our fantastic volunteers who have devoted themselves and given generously of their time to the municipality, which has had a profound impact on the community we know today. Our municipality is lucky to be able to count on many volunteers, who provide us with precious help with day-to-day activities and allow us to move many projects and ideas forward.

In recognition of these remarkable and sustained efforts, the municipality presented the **2023 Lac-Tremblant-Nord Volunteer of the Year Award to Russell Goodman and Sarah Ellwood.**

Together, Russell and Sarah have been active in Lac-Tremblant-Nord as volunteers for many years, actively seen helping in the community but also quietly reviewing and contemplating long-term prospects and projects to help the municipality in its efforts to protect our territory and environment for future generations. Over the years, Sarah and Russell have taken on many difficult projects and have brought proactive solutions to many challenging situations.

For citizens who do not know Russell and Sarah very well, here are a few of their contributions to our community:

- Russell has been president of the *Association du domaine de la Tranquillité* for many years, giving his time to oversee day-to-day activities, deal with the various neighbourhood challenges, negotiate with the municipality on the Association's behalf, etc. Sarah and Russell also make sure to welcome new citizens to the Tranquillité community;
- Russell sat on the CCU for the municipality for many years;
- Russell's recent involvement in PLTN includes co-chairing the Bylaw reform committee and being chair of the last two PLTN AGM meetings;
- Russell is the president of R2LTN (*Randonnée et Raquette Lac-Tremblant-Nord*), formed in 2021 as a volunteer-based not-for-profit corporation with its main goal being to help with the signage, marking, planning, construction, maintenance, and safety of the *Sentiers de Lac-Tremblant-Nord* trails. In the past two (2) years, almost 40 km of trails have been newly created and pre-existing trails have been revitalized under the direction of Russell and R2LTN's group of volunteers. I am sure that neither him nor Sarah can count the number of hours spent scouting our new or existing trails, opening, and putting up signs as well as doing the regular trail maintenance;
- Since the creation of the *Conservation Committee* in 2021, Russell's vision for the protection of Lac-Tremblant-Nord's lands for future generations and commitment to the environment has been unparalleled. From the creation of *Les Amis de Lac-Tremblant-Nord* to the day-to-day actions regarding conservation, Russell and Sarah's actions have played a pivotal role in the development of our protected area project as well as the private land conservation initiatives. While Sarah is not as visible as Russell on the forefront, she is always in the background, actively participating in the numerous projects the couple are involved in.

**« Russell and Sarah are a couple who are passionate, proactive, action oriented with a vision for a municipality where future generations can thrive. » - Citizen nomination**

Thank you, Russell and Sarah, for all your contributions to our community !

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### UPDATE – PROTECTED AREA PROJECT IN LAC-TREMBLANT-NORD

As previously announced, in collaboration with *Les Amis de Lac-Tremblant-Nord*, [Éco-corridors laurentiens](#) and [SNAP Québec](#), the municipality has initiated a project to create a protected area (biodiversity reserve status) and strengthen an ecological corridor located on the municipality's public territory.

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 Lac-Tremblant-Nord.



*Lac-Tremblant-Nord, 2023, photo @ Guillaume St-Amand*

*The actions proposed as part of the project would improve the existing protection of our territory, resulting in a gain of 2,63 km<sup>2</sup> 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, which was presented to citizens during two public consultations last June (see photo below), the municipality continues to pursue its conservation efforts in response to the concerns expressed by citizens in terms of Lac-Tremblant-Nord's environmental protection.



*Public consultation @ PLTN, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

→ All the information regarding the protected area project is available on our [website](#)

### **PROGRESS ON THE PROJECT**

Over the past few months, we have been working closely with local citizens' associations, local and regional 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.

Among the developments in the project since this summer's citizen consultations are the following :

1. [Official submission of our project](#) to the *Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP)*. The project aims to obtain a protected area status under the *Loi sur la conservation du patrimoine naturel* - i.e., biodiversity reserve status - for all public lands west of the municipality, including the Lac Tremblant white-tailed deer containment area, as well as the existing protected areas of the Lac Tremblant old-growth forest and a biological refuge.
2. The signing of a financial agreement for the project with the [Fondation de la Faune du Québec](#) (Agir Pour la Faune program) to develop, with the support of *Éco-corridors laurentiens*, a management plan to establish a global vision for the enhancement of our natural environments;

3. An ecological study of the project's area and a report on its high ecological value prepared by [\*Biodiversité Conseil\*](#), a renowned scientific consulting firm in the field of conservation in Quebec; and
4. Our municipality does not want the efforts we have made to date to conserve our natural environment to be rendered futile by the implementation of projects that would compromise the protection objectives that will reflect the protected area project. [\*Lac-Tremblant-Nord has therefore adopted a resolution requesting the MELCCFP to place the Crown lands in Lac-Tremblant-Nord under immediate reserve\*](#), as well as a [\*resolution requesting interim control over the Crown lands and a bylaw for this specific purpose\*](#).

### **NEXT STEPS**

1. Conservation of municipal lands: Creation of the municipality's Social Utility Trust (SUT);
2. Consultation and mobilization of various partners to move the project forward (political players and project advisory committee);
3. Development, with our partners, of a proposed conservation and education plan for our municipal lands and our public lands located west of the municipality; and
4. Explore, with interested citizens, voluntary conservation opportunities on private lands.

Although our project proposal has been officially submitted to the Quebec government, we are continuing our efforts with our various partners to ensure that the integrity of our natural environment and our rich biodiversity are protected for future generations.

Since the very beginning of our project, the unequivocal support we have received from all our citizens confirms that our project proposal is in line with our municipality's philosophy of environmental protection, as well as with our population's collective vision and will for the long-term protection of our territory.

Thank you once again to all our citizens for your enthusiasm for our conservation project. We will continue to keep you informed of our project's progress over the coming months !

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### **MUNICIPAL VISION THROUGH THE BYLAWS**

Many of us chose Lac-Tremblant-Nord for its natural beauty and previous Council's decisions (dating back to the 1970s) implemented many urbanism elements that ensured the protection of our exceptional living environment, for example our large property sizes, restricted deforestation percentage per properties, setbacks from the lake, protection of the shorelines, etc.

Over the years, our bylaws have evolved with the changing needs of our community, and in recent years, in an attempt to identify our population's priorities for municipal action, we have surveyed citizens on multiple occasions and held consultations to determine what was most important to our citizens.

The clear priorities for municipal action from our population are the following :

1. Protect the environment, specifically the lakes, the landscape and preserve our rich biodiversity;
2. Protect our territory as much as possible from industrial activities (forestry, mining, etc.);
3. Limit the visual impact of new constructions (homes, roads, driveways, etc.); and
4. Avoid light pollution as much as possible.

As Council updates our bylaws to better reflect the vision of our citizens for municipal action, we try to respect this desired vision and center our efforts on our population's priorities.

Many citizens may not be familiar with our bylaws, like the need to obtain permits for certain work or projects, while some do not understand why some bylaws are in effect and others unfortunately simply chose to ignore them.

In order to respect our citizens' vision for our municipality and preserve our environment in its current state, municipal infractions have unfortunately become a regular part of our administration's tasks. Council has clearly asked our administration, as a first approach, to communicate directly with the citizens involved to implement corrective measures where possible and prioritize action in areas related to the above-mentioned priorities. This approach is not always an easy task, and often met with resistance from citizens.

With the global vision of protecting our environment in mind, I plead with citizens :

1. If you are unsure if you need a permit or what is allowed to be done on your property, please contact our administration ([info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca)) who are tasked with applying Council's approved bylaws;
2. If you don't understand why we have a certain bylaw, please ask Council. We will be happy to explain or hear how it directly impacts you and see if changes are required to better achieve our goal;
3. Please respect our bylaws and lead by example.

Our municipality is only as strong as the community that lives in it, and if we collectively want to keep the pristine and well-protected municipality that we all love, then individually, we all need to work towards that common goal.

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**BYLAW TO PREVENT LIGHT POLLUTION (DARK SKY PHILOSOPHY)**

As early as 1915, the protection of Lac-Tremblant-Nord's landscape was enshrined in the charter that created the municipality, thus ensuring the protection of its natural environment that continues to this day. In 1970, the municipality introduced innovative urbanism bylaws to provide a stricter framework for real estate development.

In the years that followed, residents also demonstrated their strong commitment to preserving our environment and landscape.

To this end, back in 2007, municipal bylaws were amended to include regulations to better manage potential sources of light pollution. As a result, in 2020, the municipality adopted a [specific bylaw on the control of outdoor lighting](#) to ensure the respect of the [dark sky philosophy](#) and to eliminate possible sources of light pollution throughout our territory, for both new construction projects and existing buildings.

As a reminder, among the complementary measures proposed in the bylaw to help reduce light scattering and light pollution, particularly in the direction of a lake, are the following :

- Light sources should ideally be switched off after 11 PM, or their brightness reduced by at least 50%;
- The installation and use of a limited number of light fixtures on the ground or buildings is encouraged;
- The use of yellow light sources is favoured over white or blue light sources;
- The use of low- or high-pressure sodium light sources or amber, red or orange diode light fixtures with less than 2,500 lumens is favoured;
- The use of control systems (timers, dimmers, automatic triggers) is favoured over the use of continuous light sources;
- The use of light fixtures for functional and safety purposes is favoured over decorative fixtures;
- The installation of a screen (deflector) between the light fixture and a lake is favoured; and
- Reducing the number and intensity of light sources inside a building is favoured.

→ If you have any questions about the bylaw regarding outdoor lighting, please contact the municipality ([info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca) or 819-425-8154).

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### WELCOME GUIDE

The municipality has been working on a *Welcome Guide* to introduce new citizens to the various workings of our municipality, and to provide all our citizens with relevant information on how our municipality operates.

This guide will be a useful tool for everyone, offering a portrait of the municipality and a summary of the various municipal services (citizen communications, leisure programs, Lac Bibite and Tremblant marinas (PLTN), urbanism, environment, etc.).

The *Welcome Guide* will be emailed to citizens when completed and will also be available on the [home page](#) of our website.

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### MUNICIPAL PROGRAMS YOU CAN BENEFIT FROM

Over the years, Lac-Tremblant-Nord has provided various financial initiatives to citizens, to complement the services provided via the *Ville de Mont Tremblant* with the [Access card](#) :

1. Citizens can request a [free annual access pass](#) for the Parc national du Mont-Tremblant ([SÉPAQ](#)) through the municipality.



To obtain the annual pass :

- a) Fill out the form on our website, available in our [Leisure](#) page; and
  - b) Email the form to the municipality at [info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca), we will then send it to the SÉPAQ and return your pass by mail or email.
2. Children living in the municipality can request a **reduced rate for the Ville de Mont Tremblant day camp**. All the necessary information (registration procedure, prices, programming, etc.) regarding the day camp is available on the [Ville de Mont-Tremblant website](#).

Once you have registered for the camp, please send your bill to the municipality, and we will reimburse the applicable amount.

3. **New this year:** Citizens who register their child under the age of 12 in an organized activity for a complete session, can receive a reimbursement from the municipality of up to 100 \$ per child.

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### **HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS**

Despite the pressure applied by our municipality to obtain high-speed Internet access for our entire population, unfortunately, for many residents of Lac-Tremblant-Nord, this situation remains unresolved.

After numerous discussions with the government's high-speed internet service to explain the problems we face, notably the lack of access to Starlink preferential rate service for our citizens, the government's high-speed internet team is currently trying to find a way to handle access requests in Lac-Tremblant-Nord and to find solutions applicable to all addresses in the municipality that still do not have internet access.

In recent weeks, we have sent government officials a list of all the addresses in Lac-Tremblant-Nord that still don't have access to high-speed Internet at the Starlink preferential rate offered by the Quebec government. We are in contact with the government to find solutions to resolve the situation as quickly as possible.

For citizens who wish to take advantage of Starlink's internet services without going through the process of obtaining a government preferred rate, please contact Starlink directly through their [website](#).

→ To see which Internet services are available to you, please consult the [Quebec government's interactive high-speed Internet map](#).

The interactive map is regularly updated to indicate whether your address is eligible for Cogeco or Starlink services.

We would like to thank each and every one of you for your patience and cooperation in this delicate situation. We will keep citizens informed of progress in this matter as soon as possible.

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### **MORE HARM THAN GOOD : PLEASE STOP FEEDING THE DEER !**

As many of you know, feeding the deer can not only change the migration patterns bringing them closer to roads and leading to accidents, but it can have negative impacts on their health and increase the risk of transmission of diseases.

To this end, the Quebec government recently introduced a law prohibiting the feeding of deer for 9 months of the year (December 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>), and imposing fines for doing so.

→ For more information on the impact of feeding wild animals, and to learn about the best practices to adopt, please consult the [following Quebec government page](#)

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### **IN MEMORIAM – MRS. MARGARET BOYLE AND MR. STEVE OUTHET**

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of two Lac-Tremblant-Nord citizens this past year.

This summer, Mrs. Margaret Boyle passed away in Nova Scotia. A long-time resident of Lake Tremblant, wife to David Boyle and mother to three (3) children, Margaret had recently visited the family home on *Boyle Island*, and many residents have spoken to me fondly about their shared memories with Mrs. Boyle.

This fall, Mr. Steve Outhet passed away at his home. Brother to Rickson Outhet, the Outhet family has a long history on Lake Tremblant. Though Steve recently sold his *Wildcat* property, he was ever-present on the lake and as recently as this fall, where he and his family gathered. Steve was always up for a good laugh and had many adventures on the lake over the years.

Council would like to express its sincere condolences to the families of Mrs. Boyle and Mr. Outhet.

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### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

→ **Contact information :**

- Municipal office address : 2-2044 chemin du Village (Mont-Tremblant), J8E 1K4
- Phone : 819-425-8154
- Email : [info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca](mailto:info@lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca)
- Website : <https://lac-tremblant-nord.qc.ca/>

→ **Next Council meeting :**

- Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 11 AM (144, rue du Couvent, Mont-Tremblant)

→ Dates for the 2024 Council meetings will be added on our [website](#)