



Municipal Newsletter

# Le Babillard

Municipal Information Newsletter • Volume 08, number 04 • Winter 2020



*Happy  
Holidays to all  
our citizens!*



[www.cantondehatley.ca](http://www.cantondehatley.ca)

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Clowery**



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**COUNCILLOR 3**

**Jacques  
Bogenez**



**COUNCILLOR 4**

**Maryse  
Gaudreau**



**COUNCILLOR 5**

**Danielle  
Côté**



**COUNCILLOR 6**

**Sylvie  
Cassar**

**MUNICIPALITÉ DU CANTON DE HATLEY**  
4765 chemin de Capelton  
Canton-de-Hatley (Québec) J0B 2C0  
Tel.: 819 842-2977  
Fax: 819 842-1997  
Email: [info@cantondehatley.ca](mailto:info@cantondehatley.ca)

Graphic design and printing:  
Les Publications Municipales Inc.  
1 877-553-1955

## WORD FROM THE MAYOR

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As many already know, fall is an important period for Quebec municipalities. Now is the time to plan the budgets for the next year and thus set the tax rate for our citizens. In addition to its budget, the Canton of Hatley must participate in the budget planning of its various partners. This is most often done through the participation of the mayor on the various administrative committees of these organizations.

This year, we must note a significant increase in our contribution to the Memphrémagog Est fire management. This Régie presented an investment plan of more than 11 million over the next six years. This investment is made necessary due to the obsolescence of all of our barracks, which no longer meet minimum standards. In addition, for years, we have neglected the upgrade and maintenance of our equipment used to fight fires. These investments translate into a 6% increase in the 2021 budget of the Fire Authority.

As presented in my last Word from the Mayor, we have a new assessment roll in 2021. This roll presents an increase of just over 6% in the land value of our municipality, which is less than what we anticipated. Remember that the base year for building valuation is 2019. So we went from 406 million in 2020 to 437 million in 2021. This increase is mainly due to the increase in land values. The value of new constructions and renovation permits are also responsible for a good part of the increase, or approximately 9 million in 2020. Since 2016, the municipality has seen its land wealth jump by more than 34 million with the new constructions and renovations.

As you may have noticed, Covid-19 brings its share of significant government grants and contributions. To boost the economy, several funds are available for municipalities. Our Executive Director is always on the lookout for these aids which can greatly reduce the current tax burden on taxpayers and that in the future. It is important for the council to properly plan the infrastructure work of our municipality. Above all, we do not want to leave our successors with a poor road network and buildings in poor condition. It is important to mention that these grants come at a cost. As with the vast majority of grants, we need to match the value of the government contribution. We believe it is important and opportune to maximize this monetary contribution in the coming year, because the future is certainly likely to be less generous.

### PROJECTS

We always keep in mind our various projects, including the development of the Massawippi Valley, by creating new trails, or by upgrading a hall in the municipal building. You will understand that the rental of our halls, which showed more and more traffic for the Canton, was slowed down by the pandemic. Despite these difficulties beyond our control, we continue to prioritize and fund these projects within a realistic and responsible budget.

### SNOW REMOVAL

This year we are taking another step towards our autonomy in snow removal. We will be able to count on a fleet of vehicles belonging to us entirely. We will be even more flexible and proactive in order to intervene quickly and effectively during major storms, which were not lacking last winter, and this, also thanks to the skills of Pierre-Luc, responsible for roads and the dedication of his team.

As of this writing, the 2021 budget is almost complete. We anticipate a maximum increase of 1 cent per \$ 100 of valuation in the property tax rate. This increase, if any, will be used to accomplish the projects mentioned above.

In closing, I would like to remind you that the holiday season is a good time to think about our local merchants, artists and artisans. Don't forget to check the list on the Canton's website and encourage them for your Christmas gifts.

I wish you much happiness and good times during these difficult times filled with uncertainty.

Enjoy the beauties of winter and its activities. As I always tell my children, you have to live through winter and not endure it, otherwise it will be endless!

**Martin Primeau, mayor**



# FIRE PREVENTION

## SAFE HOLIDAYS

The holiday season will soon be here and that means trees, garlands and lights as part of the decor, both inside and outside your home. Because we want you and your loved ones to spend quality time in a safe environment, here are a few fire prevention tips for this festive time of year.

### Christmas Tree Prevention:

It only takes 30 seconds for a tree to light on fire. It is thus very important to take the following precautions to avoid such a situation:

- If you are using a natural tree, it is preferable to choose a freshly-cut tree. The needles are green and do not fall off easily;
- Opt for an artificial tree;
- Slice off the bottom of the tree, even if you buy a pre-cut tree. The new cut will help the tree absorb humidity;
- Place the tree in a water recipient that is always kept full;
- Install the tree at least 1 metre from any heat source;
- Always shut off the lights when you leave your home.

### The new cut will help the tree to absorb moisture;

- Place the tree in a container of water that is always full;
- Install the tree at least one meter from any heat source;
- Always turn off the lights when you leave your residence;

### Decoration Prevention:

- Use lights that are CSA or ULC approved;
- Ensure lights are in good condition;
- Check manufacturer instructions when installing Christmas lights;
- Do not use decorations designed for indoor use outside;
- Use approved extension cords;
- Never place extension cords in a high-traffic area. Install the tree and other electric decorations near electrical outlets, so as to avoid using extension cords;
- Do not hide extension cords under carpets or area rugs;
- Do not pass extension cords in doorways. The cord's insulation could be damaged if the door is closed on it.
- Do not overload outlets or extension cords. Use a power bar instead.
- Only use one extension cord at a time. Do not plug extension cords end-to-end.



### Other Advice:

- Always keep walkways free, both indoors and outside;
- Identify the exits when you visit family, friends or reception halls. The main building entrance may not be accessible in the case of an emergency;
- Ensure that smoke detectors are functioning properly. Smoke detectors are the fastest and most efficient way to detect a fire and save lives;
- Know the location of fire extinguishers and ensure they are functional at all times. However, in the case of fire, never take risks. Call firefighters immediately.

*Best wishes for a safe Christmas season  
filled with joy and happiness!*



Régie Incendie Memphrémagog Est  
2100 rte 143, Hatley (Québec) J0B 4B0  
[prevention@regieincendieest.com](mailto:prevention@regieincendieest.com)  
819 838-5877  
[www.regieincendieest.ca](http://www.regieincendieest.ca)



## Stay informed

To stay abreast of the latest municipal news, subscribe to the newsletter on the home page of the website. You can also follow the municipality's Facebook page.

## Let's continue to protect ourselves!



Cough into  
your sleeve



Wash your hands



Keep your  
distance



Cover your face  
(if less than 2 meters)



Limit your travel

[Quebec.ca/coronavirus](http://Quebec.ca/coronavirus)

1-877-644-4545



# SNOW REMOVAL

## MAIL BOXES

The municipality is not responsible for mailbox breakage caused by the snow removal truck if the installation does not meet the standards in force. Please check with the municipality.



## A SNOW REMOVAL TOUR TAKES 3-4 HOURS

During a snowfall, it can take around 3-4 hours to pass the entire municipal area once with the snow plow trucks. Usually, snow removal crews start their runs around 3 a.m. to finish their first tour between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. A second tour takes place in the afternoon when it snows during the day, starting around 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Thank you for your collaboration.



## SNOW STAKES

Snow stakes should be within the boundaries of private land to allow adequate snow removal from the public road.

## WHEELED BINS AND SNOW REMOVAL

For the winter period, place your bins in your driveway, just behind the shoulder line so as not to interfere with snow removal operations.



# EVERYONE MUST KEEP HIS SNOW...

**Pushing snow on public roads or in ditches is not allowed.**

If you hire a snow removal contractor, do not forget that he works under your responsibility. Snow deposited on public roads is **punishable by fine**.

**Thank you for your cooperation !**





## FALL-WINTER 2020

In accordance with the rules governing the holding of council meetings in the context of the state of health emergency, the council of the Municipality of the Canton of Hatley has been meeting by videoconference since April.

### COUNCIL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

#### Waste collection 2021-2025

The municipality awards the residual materials collection contract for 2021-2025 to Sani-Estrie.

#### Harfang Estrie Snowmobile Club

The municipality approves a modified plan for municipal road crossings for the Harfang de l'Estrie snowmobile club, on chemin Dunant (near 3600) and on chemin Bel-Horizon (near 1900).

#### Paving Rodgers Road

The municipality mandated Eurovia to pave a section of Rodgers Road at the intersection of Dunant Road.

### COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 5, 2020

#### Adoption of by-law 2020-05 - non-return valves

The municipality adopts By-law 2020-05 relating to the obligation to install protection against water damage in residences. This regulation replaces the one adopted in 2018 on the same subject.

#### By-law 2020-07 zoning - secondary housing

The municipality files a draft by-law to authorize secondary housing in agricultural zones. Secondary accommodation:

- shares the same address as the main accommodation;
- shares the same access to the electricity supply, drinking water supply and wastewater disposal system as the main accommodation;
- is connected to the main accommodation so as to allow communication from the inside

#### Adoption of the budget of the Régie de Coaticook

The municipality of Canton de Hatley is a member of

the Intermunicipal Solid Waste Management Board of the Coaticook region (RIGDSC), and must therefore approve its budget. The 2021 approved budget of the Régie de Coaticook of \$ 2,851,353 whereas the 2020 budget was \$ 2,142,391.

### COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2020

#### Adoption of by-law 2020-06 concerning animals

The municipality adopts a new by-law concerning animals. This takes into account the Act to promote the protection of individuals by setting up a framework for dogs adopted by the Government of Quebec.

#### Eastern Townships SPA Agreement for 2021-2025

The municipality authorizes a new agreement with the SPA de l'Estrie. The per capita rate will go from \$ 3.33 in 2020 to \$ 4.15 in 2025 in order to reach the same level, in 2025, as that of the City of Sherbrooke, main partner of the SPA de l'Estrie.

#### 2021 Council meeting schedule

January 11, February 1, March 1, April 12, May 3, June 7, July 5, August 2, September 13, October 4, November 1 and December 6. Please monitor whether the sessions are held in public or via videoconference. The videoconference sessions are recorded and available on the website.

#### Winter maintenance of the bike path

The municipality gives a mandate for the maintenance of a cross-country ski trail and a walking trail over a distance of 8 km, between the Capelton mines and the dam on Vaughan Road, at the cost of \$ 3,000 for the 2020-2021 season, including machinery, gas, gear and time.

### SENIORS SERVICE - MEALS ON WHEELS

For more information, contact Community Help at 819-821-4779

### CULVERT MAINTENANCE

Did you know? Every owner is responsible for installing a culvert to access his land and to ensure its maintenance in order to allow the free flow of water in the municipal ditch.



# ENVIRONMENT

## 2021 PICK-UP CALENDAR

Please pay attention to the changes made to the waste collection schedule in 2021. The schedule will be mailed to you. It will also be available on the [cantondehatley.ca](http://cantondehatley.ca) website.

Collection	Bin	Number of collections	Details
Organic waste	Brown	42	Every week from April to October Twice a month from November to March
Recyclables	Blue	26	Bi-weekly
Ultimate waste	Black	20	Bi-weekly from April to October Once a month from November to March
Bulky ultimate waste		1	August 26, 2021
Christmas trees		1	January 15, 2021

The goal is to help create a waste-free society through sound management of residual materials. The fundamental objective is that the only residual material eliminated in Quebec is the ultimate residue.

The ultimate residue results from sorting, conditioning and reclamation of residual materials. It is no longer likely to be treated; we cannot extract the recoverable part or reduce its polluting or dangerous nature.

Definition of ultimate residue: Residue which is found at the very end of the waste recovery cycle and which is neither recyclable nor recoverable under prevailing technological and economic conditions.

### GLASS RECOVERY

A container for collecting glass (bottles and jars, without caps or lids) is available in the parking lot of the Town Hall at 4765 chemin de Capelton.

### CARTRIDGE AND CELLPHONE RECOVERY

Ink cartridges and old cell phones may be left at the municipal office for the Mira Foundation.

### RECOVERY OF CORKS

You can drop off your corks at the municipal office. They are recovered to make new products.

### HOUSEHOLD BATTERY RECOVERY

You can drop off your used household batteries at the municipal office. Batteries are also accepted at ecocenters.



### ONE BLACK BIN PER UNIT

In 2021, the Canton of Hatley each accommodation is limited, in the basic service, to a black bin (ultimate waste). Additional black bins will be billed at the current rate.

## RECREATION

### RECREATION SURCHARGE REFUND

Any request for reimbursement of the surcharge must be submitted in the same calendar year as the date of registration. Therefore, any reimbursement request must reach the municipality before December 31. If the office is closed, the postmark will be used as proof of the date.

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND WALKING TRAILS

Enjoy a cross-country ski trail and a longer walking trail this winter! Two trails are planned, one for walking and another for cross country skiing for a distance of 8 km this year, between the Capelton mines and the Massawippi River dam on Vaughan Road.







# Compost, how and why?



## DID YOU KNOW



Table scraps in the trash do not turn into compost in the landfill, on the contrary it produces more greenhouse gases which contribute to climate change!

**39%**

of what we throw in our bins is compostable



Paper bags are accepted



Compostable bags are NOT accepted



Compostable plastic bags interfere with air circulation and do not degrade along with the composting process.

## 3 simple rules

- ✓ **It can be eaten?**  
Cooked, raw or expired foods, bread, fruits and vegetables, meats including bones, etc.
- ✓ **Is it a garden residue?**  
Herbs, leaves, plants, small branches, sawdust, natural wood chips, etc.
- ✓ **Is it paper or cardboard?**  
Paper towels, tissues, pizza box, shredded paper, cardboard plates, etc.

... It goes in the brown bin!



## To avoid odors in summer and prevent materials from sticking to walls in winter

- ✓ **Wrap your organic materials**  
In a paper bag, cardboard, or wrapped in unwaxed newspaper.
- ✓ **Freeze your food scraps**  
Store meat and dairy products in the freezer while awaiting collection.
- ✓ **Protect your bin in winter**  
Place a piece of cardboard or newspaper at the bottom of the bin, or use a large bag yard waste paper. Avoid putting liquids in your brown bin.



► See the residual materials section of our website for more details [cantondehatley.ca](http://cantondehatley.ca)



# IN THE CANTON, let's buy LOCAL!

## INVESTING IN THE CANTON A CHOICE THAT PAYS!

It's a fact that the territory of the Canton de Hatley is spread out and does not have a "downtown", as do many other municipalities. Although the City Hall is geographically centered, its businesses are spread throughout the area. It's not always the easiest to find a local merchant, but is important to do during these uncertain economical and social times.

**With the coming Holiday Season,  
we invite you to rethink the way you buy:  
Why not first look to buy local?**

Local businesses work hard to provide their clientele sanitary measures to protect them and secure their health during the pandemic of Covid-19. To visit their establishments will be the best proof of your solidarity for them. They need to know that we appreciate their dedication and that we support them in these difficult times.

Consult our list of companies on  
the Canton's website at:

**[cantondehatley.ca/info/entreprises](http://cantondehatley.ca/info/entreprises)**

Here you will find the perfect gift that will be appreciated by your family and friends for a long time. Do not hesitate not to go directly to their website for more information on services and products that are offered.

## WHY BUY LOCAL AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Buying locally is to do business with the people that supply us with products created, manufactured or grown around our neighbourhood, here in the Canton. Did you know that we have 10 businesses that offer fresh produce, some are organic? Seventeen artists and artisans provide quality clothing items and beautiful decorative art work for our homes. Ten other businesses repair and renovate our homes, 4 others offer educational classes while 18 offer other services. Our visitors enjoy 7 charming lodgings and 10 entertaining activities. So much to chose from!

**If that's not enough, here are some other good reasons:**

- **To buy local is to contribute:** you may think sometimes that it costs more to shop in independent businesses of your neighbourhood, but the raw material they use justifies the price. They ensure that you get quality products that last longer.
- **To buy local means equitable treatment of the job market:** Our workers are well treated and paid equitably, from the ones who conceive a product, its creation and marketing.
- **To buy local is to be ecologically responsible:** The proximity of the businesses means that the products or services that you purchase are close to home, so there is no need to drive many kilometers to get what you want. Since supplies and food are not transported through the world to get to you, the cost of transportation is minimized. For example, a t-shirt manufactured in Vietnam that arrives in Quebec by boat, will engage high costs in fuel or other energy resource.
- **To buy local is to ensure our businesses, artists and artisans expand:** Jobs are created and maintained through the purchases you make, which allows them to remain stable and enable them to increase employment.

## SPEND LESS BUT SPEND WELL!!

Sylvie Cassar  
Vincent Fontaine  
Municipal Councillors