

**SEMIS D'AUTOMNE  
FALL SEEDING**

**M & R FEEDS**  
www.mandrfeeds.com  
Micksburg 613-735-3689  
Pembroke 613-732-2843  
Shawville 819-647-2814

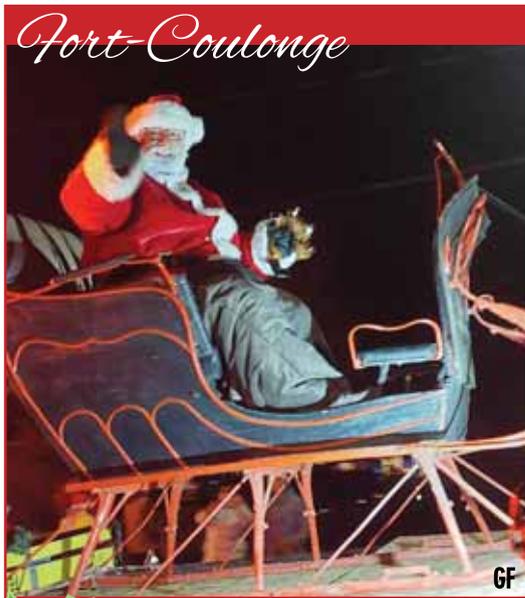
PONTIAC  
UNISSANT TOUT LE PONTIAC • UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC  
**Journal**  
DU PONTIAC

DECEMBER 13 DECEMBRE 2023 ~ VOL. 38 #24  
WWW.PONTIACJOURNAL.COM

**CENTURY 21 Elite**

**Alain Guérette** M.Sc., BAA  
Courtier immobilier inc.  
819.775.1666  
alainguerette@gmail.com

**Astrid van der Linden**  
Courtier immobilier  
819.712.0635  
astrid2@videotron.ca



**Le Père Noël arrive!**



**Santa arrives in the Pontiac!**



**À L'INTÉRIEUR  
INSIDE**



**Défilés du Père Noël  
Santa Claus Parades**

Voir/See pgs. 9, 12 & 23

**Plans nucléaires de Chalk River**  
Chalk River nuclear plans  
Voir/See pgs. 2 & 7

**Aire protégée des rivières Noire et Coulonge**  
Noire & Coulonge Rivers protected area  
Voir/See pgs. 3 & 19

**Mise à jour vétérinaire équine**  
Equine vet update  
Voir/See pgs. 7, 9 & 11

Meubles et matelas de qualité à des prix abordables!

**QUALITY Furniture & Mattresses at AFFORDABLE prices!**

**Ashley HOMESTORE select**

OPEN SUNDAYS 11AM-4PM  
OUVERT LE DIMANCHE 11 H-16 H  
613-629-5464  
10 MATTHEWS AVE. PEMBROKE, ON.  
ASHLEYPEMBROKE.CA

**DO-IT-ALL CONSTRUCTION FAIT-TOUT**

RBO # 5690-2182-01

Maisons neuves • Ajouts • Rénovations  
Charpenterie • Revêtement • Travaux de béton • Peinture  
Toitures de tous genres • Systèmes intérieurs • Portes et fenêtres  
Mousse polyuréthane soufflée

New Homes • Additions • Renovations  
Framing • Siding • Concrete work • Painting  
Roofing of all kinds • Drywall finishing • Windows and doors  
Polyurethane Spray Foam



**Jeff Presley**  
748 Principale, Bryson, QC.  
**Bur./Office: 819-648-5588**  
Cell: 613-795-5648 • 613-808-5812  
Email: constructionfaittout@hotmail.com

# More power and longer lifespan for future Chalk River nuclear reactor

SOPHIE DEMERS  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

**CHALK RIVER** – Global First Power (GFP) hosted a virtual open house on November 29, presenting updated information on their Micro Modular Reactor (MMR) project and collecting feedback.

The Ontario-based company, jointly owned by Ontario Power Generation and Ultra Safe Nuclear Corporation, plans to build and operate an MMR at Chalk River Laboratories in Chalk River, Ontario. The process for the MMR project began in 2019, and plans estimate the reactor to be in operation by 2028.

An MMR is a type of small modular reactor (SMR) designed by Ultra Safe Nuclear Corporation. SMR's nuclear reactors are an alternative to fossil fuel, used to generate low-carbon power for industry and remote communities. Canada is leaning toward this new technology to meet their goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

According to GFP, one MMR can replace 1.2 billion litres of diesel and require minimal operation and maintenance. The company also presented their updated plan for the nuclear reactor. The original design was for 15 megawatts of thermal energy and

5 megawatts of electrical. Now the design includes plans for 45 megawatts for thermal and 15 megawatts electrical.

The lifespan of the MMR has now been extended to up to 40 years before it will need to be decommissioned. This doubles the technology's lifespan compared to the original design. However, the MMR will require periodic refueling and the site will store new and used fuel temporarily before it's transported elsewhere.

According to the company's estimations, at the end of its 40-year lifecycle, the reactor will produce about 12 cubic meters of waste.

### Concerns expressed

Many concerns have been raised by the community about the MMR; residents still recall nuclear accidents at the Chalk River Laboratories site in the 1950s, including the world's first nuclear meltdown in 1952. During the cleanup of that accident, 4.5 million litres of radioactive water were dumped into ditches 1.5 kms from the Ottawa River. A second incident requiring a major cleanup followed in 1958.

"We're in a climate crisis. We need to take action now, and nuclear is not 'now'; it's going to take quite a few years to implement this. There's solar, wind, and water -



### BOUFFE PONTIAC GUIGNOLÉE

Members of Pontiac Ouest Fire Safety Services, Sûreté du Québec, and other volunteers were at the intersection of Pembroke Road and Hwy. 148 in L'Isle-aux-Allumettes on the morning of December 7 collecting non-perishable food items and cash for Bouffe Pontiac's annual Christmas basket campaign.

Donations were also collected simultaneously in Shawville and Campbell's Bay. -Peter L. Smith  
PHOTO: Back row L/R: Glynn Fleury, SQ officer, Joey Boisvert, Bruce Warren, and Matt Allard. Front row L/R: Sarah Adam, Chantal Lair, Brittany Morin, Patrick Larochelle, and Léo Mainville.

these energy sources don't need to be tested," said Deborah Powell, president of Pontiac Environmental Protection. "I don't believe this is a good picture to grab onto for a better future," she added.

However, according to Natural Resources Minister, Seamus O'Reagan, without nuclear energy, there's no model that will

allow Canada to reach its emissions goals.

An environmental assessment in accordance with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act is underway. The assessment must prove the project is not likely to cause significant environmental effects. More information about the assessment will be available in 2024.

## Micro-réacteur modulaire prévu pour le site de Chalk River

SOPHIE DEMERS  
INITIATIVE DE JOURNALISME LOCAL

**CHALK RIVER** – Global First Power (GFP) a organisé une journée portes ouvertes virtuelle le 29 novembre, présentant des informations mises à jour sur son projet de micro-réacteur modulaire (MMR) et

recueillant des commentaires.

L'entreprise ontarienne, détenue conjointement par Ontario Power Generation et Ultra Safe Nuclear Corporation, prévoit construire et exploiter un MMR aux Laboratoires de Chalk River à Chalk River, en Ontario. Le processus du projet de MMR a commencé en 2019, et les plans estiment

que le réacteur sera en service d'ici 2028.

Un MMR est un type de petit réacteur modulaire (PRM - SMR) conçu par Ultra Safe Nuclear Corporation. Les réacteurs nucléaires SMR sont une alternative aux combustibles fossiles, utilisés pour produire de l'énergie à faible émission de carbone pour l'industrie et les communautés

éloignées. Le Canada se tourne vers cette nouvelle technologie pour atteindre son objectif de zéro émission nette de carbone d'ici 2050.

Pendant le nettoyage de cet accident, 4,5 millions de litres d'eau radioactive ont été déversés dans des fossés à 1,5 km de la rivière des Outaouais. Un deuxième incident nécessitant un nettoyage majeur a suivi en 1958.

— Suite en p. 7

**Yolkowski Monuments**  
Carving Memories in Stone

Nous vous souhaitons, ainsi qu'à votre famille, un très joyeux Noël.

Que cette joyeuse saison vous apporte santé et bonheur !

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas.

May this joyful season greet you with health and happiness!

64 MAIN, ST., COBDEN  
**(613) 646-2275**  
www.yolkowskimonuments.ca

Clay Pieschke  
Entrepreneur général

**Construction Pieschke Inc.**  
R.B.Q. : 5621-8423-17  
Novoclimat  
Résidentiel • Commercial • Industriel

Résidentielle • Commerciale • Industrielle

Cell : 819-962-6010  
constructionpieschke@gmail.com  
www.constructionpieschke.com

**DANY LADOUCEUR**

CONSTRUCTION - RÉNOVATION - EXCAVATION

POUR TOUS VOS BESOINS DE RÉNO  
Portes & Fenêtres - Planchers - Terrasses - Salles de bain et plus  
FOR ALL YOUR RENO NEEDS  
Windows & Doors - Flooring - Decks - Bathrooms and more

**819-209-1244**

/ConstructionDanyLadouceurInc RBO # 5795-8126-01

**NOTAIRE | NOTARY**  
ME LISA GALLINARO

GATINEAU  
115, Promenade du Portage  
Suite 202  
Gatineau, Québec  
J8X 2K2

KAZABAZUA  
(opening January 2024)  
402, route 105  
Kazabazua, Québec  
J0X 1X0

LUSKVILLE  
2940, route 148  
Luskville, Québec  
(Centre Medical du Pontiac)  
J0X 2G0

Direct Line: 819-639-5000 • Tel.: 819-777-5000 • Fax: 855 639-8493  
lisa.gallinaro@notarius.net • www.notairelg.com

FINITION INTÉRIEURE / EXTÉRIEURE

**Rénovations**  
Ian Lépine

810, rue Vanier, Bryson, Qc  
**819-209-7283**  
ianlepinerenovation@outlook.com

RBO# 5766-4872-01

# Consultations publiques sur le projet d'aire protégée des rivières Noire et Coulonge

DEBORAH POWELL

**MRC PONTIAC** – conseil régional de l'environnement et du développement durable de l'Outaouais (CREDDO) et la Société canadienne pour les parcs et la nature – Section de la vallée de l'Outaouais (SNAP-OV) ont tenu deux séances publiques pour recueillir des commentaires sur l'aire protégée proposée pour les rivières Noire et Coulonge : le 5 décembre, en personne, à Gatineau et le 6 décembre en ligne. Une séance prévue à Fort-Coulonge le 4 décembre a été reportée en raison de la météo, mais sera tenue en janvier.

Depuis octobre 2019, le CREDDO et la SNAP-OV planifient des activités dans le cadre d'un processus visant à créer une aire protégée d'environ 1 150 km<sup>2</sup> dans les bassins versants des rivières Noire et Coulonge. Ce projet augmenterait d'un peu plus de 3 % la superficie du territoire protégé en Outaouais, tout en contribuant aux efforts des gouvernements fédéral et provincial pour protéger 30 % de son territoire d'ici 2030. Le 30 août 2023, la province a mis de côté 852,6 km<sup>2</sup> du territoire. Toutefois, l'EDRCDO et la SNAP suggèrent d'élargir la zone de protection, en particulier pour inclure la branche est de la rivière Coulonge et pour mieux protéger les habitats sensibles qui s'y trouvent.

Un certain nombre d'études ont été réalisées, y compris le potentiel d'impact économique et social, l'impact sur l'accessibilité de la zone, la gestion du réseau de routes forestières et un inventaire des tortues des bois le long des rivières Coulonge et Coulonge Est l'été dernier.

La collecte des commentaires des intervenants et des



L'aire protégée des rivières Noire et Coulonge (PHOTO : CPAWS-OV)

citoyens intéressés est un processus continu depuis 2019. Les commentaires seront une partie essentielle de la proposition de gestion et de délimitation pour l'aire protégée de Noire et Coulonge qui sera soumise au gouvernement mi-2024.

Lors de la rencontre de Gatineau, les membres du Club de canot-camping Pierre Radisson et du Club 50-50 Fish+Game se sont prononcés en faveur d'une aire protégée encore plus grande et ont posé des questions sur la gestion et les infrastructures potentielles.

Au cours de la séance en ligne, les participants de divers horizons ont posé de nombreuses questions, y compris le type de structure de gestion qui pourrait être réalisable. Un membre de la Green Lake and Black River Cottagers Association a exprimé de sérieuses préoccupations au sujet des effets de l'augmentation

**SPECIAL PINE PURCHASE**

T&G Pine  
1" x 6"

Tongue & Groove,  
Random Length, Bundles only  
Limited Quantities



**PIN ACHAT SPÉCIAL**

Pin bouveté  
1" x 6"

Bouveté, longueurs variées  
Vendu en paquets seulement,  
quantités limitées

**STEEL ROOFING / TOITURE EN ACIER**  
starting at à partir de

**\$3.24**

per running foot / par pied de planche

**DALE'S Home building centre**

136, ROUTE 303, OTTER LAKE, QC 819-453-7621

de la circulation dans la région, en particulier des personnes qui ne connaissent pas le territoire, et des risques pour la sécurité publique étant donné qu'il y a peu ou pas de réception de téléphone cellulaire.

Il existe un certain nombre d'autres façons d'avoir des commentaires sur le projet. Il y a le groupe Facebook Aire protégée - Rivières Noire et Coulonge (Aire Protégée Noire/Coulonge) et une description de projet sur le site web du CREDDO avec les coordonnées (pour la version anglaise, essayez une recherche sur le Web « CREDDO protected areas »).

**ATTENTION !**

**ÉDITION SPÉCIALE**

et la dernière avant les Fêtes est le  
**20 décembre 2023**

Date limite pour publicité est le  
**14 décembre à 14 h**

**SPECIAL ISSUE**

and the last one before the holidays  
**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Deadline for advertising is  
**December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**

PONTIAC  
UNISSANT TOUT LE PONTIAC • UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC  
**Journal**  
DU PONTIAC

Tél: 819-683-3582 – Fax: 819-683-2977

Centre  
Dentaire

Dentistes  
généralistes

de



Family  
Dentistry

**819-684-3316**

1987, chemin de la Montagne, Luskville, QC.

**Dr. Guy LAFRANCE ~ Dr. Hervé COCAUD**  
**Dre Myriam LOPES**

Dentistes généralistes ~ Dental Surgeons

Lundi : 8 h à 17 h ~ Monday: 8 am to 5 pm

Mardi, mercredi et jeudi : 9 h à 17 h

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9am to 5pm

# ÉDITORIAL

## Quand les rouages de la machine syndicale s'enraient



Dominique  
**BOMANS**

ÉDITORIALISTE  
EDITORIALIST

Le 28 novembre dernier, alors qu'elle avait à peine effleuré du pied le sol de Dubaï, Magali Picard, la présidente de la Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ), revenait d'urgence au Québec pour s'occuper – du moins, on l'espère, en tant que présidente d'un syndicat – du conflit de travail majeur opposant ici les travailleurs et les travailleuses à leur gouvernement. « Heureusement qu'on a des assurances annulation », précisait-elle avant de prendre l'avion.

C'est sûr que lorsque la présidente d'une organisation syndicale québécoise choisit de parcourir 10 400 kilomètres pour participer au Sommet sur le climat à Dubaï plutôt que de rester au cœur d'un conflit pour lequel son organisation est tenue, de par son mandat, de défendre les intérêts des travailleurs et des travailleuses québécois, il valait mieux qu'elle assure ses arrières. Dans quelle mesure les arrières ont-ils été assurés? C'est une question qui reste à poser, mais réjouissons-nous que l'équipe y ait pensé.

Ce qui préoccupe dans ce retour hâtif, ce n'est pas tant que Magali Picard soit revenue – et à quels coûts – mais bien qu'elle soit partie et que personne, de la

présidente ou de son équipe, n'ait pensé que ce n'était pas une bonne idée. Ce qui est d'autant plus inquiétant, c'est qu'aujourd'hui encore, elle semble ne pas l'avoir réalisé. Alors que la présidente précisait à quel point ce qu'elle faisait n'était pas de tout repos, ayant condensé l'ensemble des ateliers auxquels elle était censée participer sur plus d'une dizaine de jours sur une semaine seulement, elle nous vantait sa capacité à prendre part, de jour, à la COP et, de nuit, aux négociations syndicales ainsi qu'aux entrevues. Avec Magali Picard, le mythe de Wonder Woman ne prenait pas une seule ride.

Dans d'autres pays, on s'affilie au syndicat de son choix ou on ne s'y affine pas parce qu'être syndiqué ou pas, c'est un droit. Ici, vous avez le droit de ne pas être affilié, mais vous serez quand même tenu de payer votre cotisation. Le système n'est pas nécessairement meilleur ailleurs, mais il reste que les syndicats ne s'octroient pas tous les droits parce qu'ils savent que leurs syndiqués ont des choix. Si le syndicat est libre de faire comme bon lui semble, s'il n'a plus de comptes à rendre, s'il peut agir en toute impunité, le danger n'est-il pas qu'il ressemble d'un peu trop près au gouvernement qu'il combat? Il ne faut accepter l'aveuglement ni de l'un ni de l'autre. Quand vous serez dans la rue prochainement, que vous y brandirez vos pancartes de ralliement, n'oubliez pas que ce n'est pas à vous de vous battre pour votre syndicat, mais bien à lui de défendre vos droits, aussi sûrement que le gouvernement ne le fait pas.

## Is democracy really the problem?



Fred  
**RYAN**

ÉDITORIALISTE  
EDITORIALIST

How we govern ourselves is the puzzle of our times. "Democracy" is the usual response, although there are plenty who seem to actually want an authoritarian state. Many of our neighbours to the south seem determined to go that route. Is this a suicide wish by the USA?

Merely the uncontrolled cost of living in all areas is creating disappointment with democratic governance. Democracy also gives us unsatisfactory candidates and, thus, unsatisfactory representatives in Parliament.

Can't we notice that this is more the result of a broken political party system, rather than a result of "democracy"? Democratic governments have been the only ones to create lasting and helpful civic institutions - public health to public education. These are big things! Imagine our cost of living if we had private health care - "your credit card, please, not your health card!" - and, the only schooling would be indoctrinaire-religious or corporate-controlled.

Supposedly, Canadians are not in need of lectures on the benefits of public health and education. But, here's the thing: we want to blame. This is natural, unfortunately.

So, whom do we blame for today's expensive, chaotic and deceptive govern-

ment? We blame individuals and the misgoverning governments they create.

Rather than opting for authoritarian parties, shouldn't we blame our political parties? Supposedly, the party system rationalizes the democratic process - and, finally, a democracy is the easiest to resist, easier than struggling to over-throw a totalitarian dictatorship!

We can fight the sloppy and "vendu" nature of our political parties by pledging not to vote along party lines. Parties must be opened up and themselves made democratic, not open to purchase. And, underline this, please, we don't want a government that pretends to support all sides, as in the TransMountain Pipeline scandal, or, Chalk River's massive radioactive dump in Pontiac's backyard.

Citizens don't have the money to control political parties, but we can refuse to give any party our vote. Political parties are not sports teams, despite the media. Parties must know they can't automatically count on anyone's votes.

We must begin by being much more careful with our ballots. So many people don't vote at all! Voting is in our own self-interest.

Forget the old "my team, your team" approach to an election. In the end, it's us, all Canadians, who are responsible for the governments we end up with; we are supposed to be the only source of power in a democracy - that's our responsibility.

As we near the next election, we have got to vote as we've never voted before: carefully.

## NOUVELLES DE L'ÉCOLE – SCHOOL NEWS

### LOCAL BUSINESS HELPS STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE ESSENTIAL "R"

Pontiac High School science and technology teacher, Neil MacIntosh, takes his grade 10 students once a year for a short walk down the hill to visit a local business on Centre Street. When asked why he chose to take them to Renaissance Variety and Recycling, McIntosh said, "He (Jason Yereck, co-owner) has a whole earth attitude to full circle recycling. Students were unaware of the store and the role it plays in local recycling and repurposing."

Yereck and the work he does provides a good model, lining up clearly with the competencies students are to acquire in the cycle 2 course: seeking answers or solutions to scientific or technological problems, making the most of their knowledge of science and technology, and constructing and using resources.

Decades ago, Yereck identified a "technological problem" when he came upon dozens of computers at the old local landfill site. He took some for rebuilding and that was a start to one part of his business. Along with recycling and rebuilding, Yereck reuses and repurposes. "Plastic is a plague" he told students, brandishing a repurposed spray bottle, explaining it made more sense to reuse one already purchased with some product than to buy a new one. Even small steps to reduce waste can make a difference, he added. Almost anything that once used electricity but no longer works can be taken to Renaissance Variety where it will be separated into components and recycled to the fullest extent possible.

-Deborah Powell

PHOTO: December 5, 6 and 7, PHS teacher Neil MacIntosh (second from right) took his classes to visit a local business, Renaissance Variety. Owner Jason Yereck (right) spoke about the importance of repurposing, reusing and recycling, which is the essence of his beliefs and business.



SPONSORISÉ PAR /  
SPONSORED BY

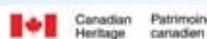
PONTIAC  
UNISSANT TOUT LE PONTIAC • UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC  
**Journal**  
DU PONTIAC

PONTIAC  
UNISSANT TOUT LE PONTIAC • UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC  
**Journal**  
DU PONTIAC

Tel: 819-683-3582 • Fax: 819-683-2977  
5-289, route 148, Mansfield, QC J0X 1R0



Plus fort tirage d'un journal de langue française dans le Pontiac  
Largest circulation English newspaper in Pontiac County



10 000 copies published every second Wednesday in both official languages; distributed by Canada Post to every address in Pontiac County. Permit no. 006. Dépôt légal/Legal deposit: ISSN 0846-4502  
Membre de / Member of: Quebec Community Newspaper Association; CARQ; CNRIE, Pontiac Chamber of Commerce

Les opinions exprimées dans votre journal ne reflètent pas nécessairement celles de ses employés. • The opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of its employees.

Lily Ryan: Éditeur / Publisher; Fred Ryan: Éditeur emeritus, Publisher Emeritus;

Lynne Lavery: Directrice générale / General Manager (info@journalpontiac.com)

Bonnie James: Rédactrice / Editor (editor@journalpontiac.com) (redacteur@journalpontiac.com)

Lisa Neuman: Display ads & Production Manager (journal@journalpontiac.com); Dana Bertrand: Comptes, petits annonces et ventes (notice@journalpontiac.com)

Bonnie Zimmerling: Sales & production; Peter L. Smith: Sales (peterlsmith50@gmail.com); Lionel Tessier: Traduction / Translations

Carl Hager, Cheryl Dolan, Deborah Powell, Gaëtan Fougues, Greg Newing, Jamie Cameron, Sophie Demers, Tashi Farmilo: Journalists

Écrivez votre opinion! ~ Your opinion counts!  
 redacteur@journalpontiac.com  
 editor@journalpontiac.com

# LETTRES

NEWSPAPERS  
**MATTER**  
 NOW MORE THAN EVER  
 LES JOURNAUX  
 PLUS IMPORTANTS QUE JAMAIS  
 newspapers  
 matter.ca

## Skewed priorities

The Quebec government is toying with the idea of yet again fixing the roof of the Big "O" stadium in Montreal. Presumed cost may reach one billion dollars. Money is promised to American hockey teams to play a few games in Quebec City. MNA's of QC took a 30% pay increase. Subsidies for battery plants cost billions. Yet there is no money to invest in Quebec's public education system.

The contract being negotiated by those who instruct, care for, and guide the youth of Quebec will be locked in for five years. Teachers are told: "Sorry you have workplace problems; we have other priorities. Endure your difficulties."

The Quebec government is focused on "protecting the French language" by hurting English institutions. It is "shuffling chairs on the Titanic" as far as healthcare reform is concerned. Now in a patriarchal tone, it tells Quebec teachers it does not have the means nor the mandate to invest in an improved public education system.

Legault follows the footsteps of his predecessors. He has ignored what educators and health professionals tell him to his own electoral peril.

Carl Hager  
 GATINEAU, QC

## Yes, please do keep an open mind

A response to Jane Toller's letter:  
 "Please keep an open mind about EFW"  
 Nov. 29, 2023

I'm not an expert about Energy from Waste (EFW), but I know many have questions. Will they have the opportunity to ask them? Will there be public consultations before a final decision? I hope so!

You say we can learn from Denmark "about their success with recycling, composting, reuse and reduction of packaging" – maybe we should start there instead of hauling tons of garbage up and down an inadequate highway system (who is going to pay to develop it?). Shouldn't we learn before committing? In fact, the Ottawa Citizen's Nov 30 article "Why Quebec's "wild west" wants Ottawa's garbage" reports "Denmark recently decided to cut its waste-to-energy capacity by up to 30%. In June 2020, the Danish Parliament, concerned about rising greenhouse gas emissions from the plants..."

You talk about "statements of danger to health and the environment that is speculation and fear mongering"; can you show beyond a reasonable doubt that the facility won't be a danger?

Why are you surprised by opposition? The project deserves a fair chance, but only after you've proven it won't harm the local environment and residents. You must evaluate all the pros and cons. You have a vision and can't see around it.

It's important we think for ourselves and question what we don't know or understand. We should all be allowed and encouraged to do our own research. We're all biased whether we realize it or not; you're not exempt.

Why weren't taxpayers allowed to vote on whether we want our money spent on researching this project?

How many experts against this type of facility are you listening to? Are you taking advice from both sides or just the side you

want to hear from? Many "experts" have been proven wrong.

Some people are for the project, but you'll find many who are either against it or know very little about it.

You say steam from the EFW facility could be used to heat the hospital. How? What infrastructure would be needed to get the steam from Litchfield to Shawville?

How are you so sure this is what we need? Why does it have to be on such a grand scale? Why don't we learn how to take care of our own garbage before we claim to know how to take care of outside garbage? Are you sure there isn't something better? Something that will produce more jobs?

Currently, with the lack of information, I don't think an EFW facility is what we need. The projected 50 jobs aren't worth the possible cost. The "800 jobs through construction" would be wonderful but seems unlikely considering it's rare that anything promised is delivered to the right people when the government is involved. We'll likely be told we don't have the "experts" to build it.

The Friends of the Pontiac petition is an opportunity for residents to voice disapproval. What other chances have the taxpayers been given to have their opinions heard?

We should all be allowed, and expected, to form opinions of our own instead of just parroting others. The more knowledge we have, the better able we are to form reasonable opinions. I hope you'd prefer a project going through after a majority had a chance to discuss openly and respectfully the pros and cons. Some opinions may be wrong, but you shouldn't shut out opposing views, some may have knowledge you should be listening to.

Don't bully us into this project!

What if you're wrong?

Bonnie Tubman-Zimmerling  
 SHAWVILLE

## Priorités faussées

Le gouvernement du Québec prône l'idée de réparer à nouveau le toit du grand stade « O » à Montréal. Le coût présumé peut atteindre un milliard de dollars. De l'argent est promis aux équipes de hockey américaines pour jouer quelques matchs à Québec. Les députés de QC ont pris une augmentation de salaire de 30%. Les subventions pour les usines de batteries coûtent des milliards. Pourtant, il n'y a pas d'argent à investir dans le système d'éducation publique du Québec.

Le contrat négocié par ceux qui instruisent, soignent et guident les jeunes du Québec sera bloqué pendant cinq ans. On diaux enseignants : « Désolé, vous avez des

problèmes en milieu de travail ; nous avons d'autres priorités. Endurez vos difficultés ».

Le gouvernement du Québec met l'accent sur la « protection de la langue française » en nuisant aux institutions anglophones. Il s'agit de « mélanger les chaises sur le Titanic » en ce qui concerne la réforme des soins de santé. Maintenant sur un ton patriarcal, il dit aux enseignants québécois qu'il n'a ni les moyens ni le mandat d'investir dans un système d'éducation publique amélioré.

M. Legault suit les traces de ses prédécesseurs. Il a ignoré ce que les éducateurs et les professionnels de la santé lui disent à ses risques et périls électoraux.

(Trans.)  
 Carl Hager  
 GATINEAU (QUÉBEC)

## Hey, let's build a railway!

We've all come to recognize that transportation along the Ottawa River is cumbersome, slow and inefficient. It served us well when canoes hauled furs down, and imported manufactured goods up, The Grand Waterway. It also served us as mass transport for rafts of timbers to the shipyards of Britain, but changing fashion and peace in Europe have diminished the markets for those products. Now is the time to consider a bold move into the modern world, by constructing a railroad through the Pontiac, to connect Ottawa and the east to Waltham and Pembroke, and the wide-open Westlands beyond. Anyone with an imagination can see that this will open up trade and facilitate Pontiacers exporting farm and forest products to world markets.

The costs will be minimal, as wealthy industrialists will gladly provide the funding

to purchase the right-of-way corridor, and the formidable task of levelling roadbed and laying tracks can be accomplished with cheap imported labourers. A new era of economic prosperity is just ahead of us!

Detractors may insist that steam-powered train locomotives are pollution machines, but eventually, the steam trains will be replaced by diesel-fuelled internal combustion engines, which are virtually pollution-free. The speed and efficiency of travel along smooth steel rails will bring a tear to the eye of commuters and business travellers, and we will wonder how we got along without it! History will show us to have been blessed with foresight, and our children's children will thank us for our timely action.

Author's note: Oops! I seem to have missed a publication deadline by about a century and a half; however, some aspects still apply.

Robert Wills  
 THORNE AND SHAWVILLE

## Blue Christmas

Christmas comes but once a year  
 And when it does you drown in beer  
 You buy a tree that looks bushy and big  
 When you get it home it's a  
 broken-down twig

Here comes your relatives up the walk  
 You close the blinds and let them knock  
 You take your presents out of the box  
 Just what you need, twelve pairs of socks

Your credit card bill reads "go to jail"  
 You crash your car in snow and hail  
 A reindeer put his foot through your roof  
 A drunken elf stole your 90 proof  
 If tis the season to be jolly  
 How come you look so melancholy?

Terry Toll  
 CAMPBELL'S BAY

**PLUS DE NOUVELLES : [www.journalpontiac.com](http://www.journalpontiac.com)**

- AGA d'ArtPontiac
- Le recensement annuel des oiseaux de Noël à venir

**MORE NEWS: [www.pontiacjournal.com](http://www.pontiacjournal.com)**

- Laughter and song with Dai Bassett

# ArtPontiac AGM



**MARK RYAN**  
 Courtier immobilier résidentiel et commercial  
 Residential and Commercial Real Estate Broker  
 Direct Phone & Text / Télé et Texte :  
**613 614-7150**  
 Courriel / Email: [mryanvendu@gmail.com](mailto:mryanvendu@gmail.com)  
[www.viacapitalevendu.com/courtiers/ryan-mark](http://www.viacapitalevendu.com/courtiers/ryan-mark)  
 Google - Mark Ryan Via Capitale  
**TOUJOURS DISPONIBLE ~ ALWAYS AVAILABLE**

**17 ANS / YEARS**  
 UN SERVICE PERSONNALISÉ DE PREMIÈRE QUALITÉ  
 TOP QUALITY AND PERSONALIZED SERVICE  
**UN COURTIER ATTENTIONNÉ ~ A BROKER THAT CARES**

**JAMIE CAMERON**  
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

**PORTAGE-DU-FORT** – ArtPontiac held its annual general meeting, November 30 at the Stone School Gallery in Portage-du-Fort, chaired by Ellen Boucher of the Pontiac Community Development Corporation (CDC Pontiac).

ArtPontiac has been operating with minimal board members since last January, starting with Marcel Renaud's resignation as treasurer due to health reasons. After a nomination period, Maureen McAuliff, Stephanie Pete and Bryan Chen agreed to join the board and their roles will be determined at the first board meeting in January.

President Cheryl Beillard explained the organization has had "two successful years" since the COVID pandemic. "Going through old annual reports, I'm astonished by what this organization has achieved and the amount of work that has been done," she added.



De gauche à gauche : Claire Taillefer (vice-présidente), Cheryl Beillard (présidente), Linda Roy (secrétaire) et Ellen Boucher (CDC Pontiac).

ArtPontiac has been working on exploring different disciplines, placing more emphasis on crafts, and creating a shop to help artists sell their work, which has been successful. In 2023, they fought to maintain focus, keep the organization going, and expand by establishing new venues, among other things. For example, Brauwerk Hoffman in Campbell's Bay created a gallery to be part of the MRC Pontiac's new arts and culture map, and there's a

small gallery at Les Alpagas de Willow Lane in Bristol. They also expanded the number of exhibitions and types of artwork at Café 349 in Shawville.

Two issues the new board will have to deal with are finances and finding more volunteers. Every year, they need to secure enough funding to cover basic costs and more work is needed to obtain additional grants. There was talk of ways to lower operating costs and increase revenues; hosting more fundraisers,

requesting larger grants from new sources, holding more workshops, and approaching the MRC Pontiac and Culture Outaouais for help.

More online communication and keeping websites and social media pages up to date were stressed as priorities to better promote the artists and their work.

A resolution was passed to address some book keeping errors needing correction before January, but financial statements were sound.

1157 RUE DE CLARENDON, QUÉBEC QC  
 819.458.2354

**2024**  
 VENEZ CÉLÉBRER LA VEILLE DU NOUVEL AN AVEC NOUS!  
 JOIN US IN CELEBRATING NEW YEAR'S EVE!

**MUSIQUE LIVE - LIVE MUSIC**  
**MIDNIGHT 9 PM - 1 AM**  
**RAMBLERS 31 DEC**

BILLETTS SONT DISPONIBLES DÈS MAINTENANT! TARIF SPÉCIALE DE 15\$ POUR LES PREMIÈRES VENTES - JUSQU'AU 15 DÉCEMBRE! A LA PORTE - 20\$  
 TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW! 15\$ EARLY BIRD PRICE - ENDS DECEMBER 15TH! TICKETS AT THE DOOR - 20\$




**À nos fidèles clients,**  
 Cette période des fêtes est pour nous l'occasion de vous remercier chaleureusement de la confiance que vous nous témoignez et de votre collaboration tout au long de l'année.  
 Toute mon équipe et moi-même vous présentons nos meilleurs voeux de Noël et du Nouvel An !

*Me Mireille Alary*  
 NOTAIRE - NOTARY  
[malary@pmeagatineau.ca](mailto:malary@pmeagatineau.ca)

**To our loyal customers,**  
 This holiday season is an opportunity for us to thank you warmly for the trust you have shown us and for your collaboration throughout the year.  
 My team and I send you our best Christmas and New Year wishes !

**PME INTER**  
 NOTAIRES

**GAGNÉ ISABELLE PATRY LAFLAMME & ASSOCIÉS, NOTAIRES s.e.n.c.r.l.**

Hull – 188, rue Montcalm, bureau 300, Gatineau, QC J8Y 3B5 • T 819 771-3231 F 819 771-3232  
 Shawville – 131A, rue Victoria, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0 • T 819 647-6300 F 819 647-7004  
 Masson-Angers – 110, rue Georges, Unité 13, Gatineau, Québec, J8M 1A2 - 819-617-9031  
 Aylmer – 200, rue Principale, Gatineau (secteur Aylmer) QC J9H 6J4 • T 819 684-9222 F 819 684-8999



**FP**

**SECRÉTARIAT**  
**COMPTABILITÉ**

**Une formation qui répond à tes besoins!**

- ◆ Enseignement individualisé, tu avances selon ton rythme
- ◆ Offert à temps partiel, minimum 15 h/semaine

**TAUX DE PLACEMENT 95%**

**29 janvier 2024** **Mansfield-et-Pontefract**

**CFP PONTIAC**  
 250, chemin de la Chute  
 Mansfield-et-Pontefract  
 819 683-1419  
 Poste 19265

# Pontiac's equine vet situation: slowly improving

KATHARINE FLETCHER

**MUNICIPALITY OF PONTIAC** – The Outaouais region is suffering from a shortage of veterinarians, a situation mirrored across Canada and the world. However, since 36-year-old local vet Dr. Andrea Kelly took her life in July 2022, approximately 600 horses were suddenly without vet care and a continuing crisis ensued.

Dr. Kelly owned Kemptville's Ottawa Valley Large Animal Clinic (OVLAC), which has subsequently closed.

Without vets, Pontiac's equestrian community sprang into action. They lobbied government organizations such as Cheval Québec and L'Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec. They also helped Pontiacers trailer their horses to vet clinics in Ontario, shared expertise,

and supported one another whenever possible.

In a November 20, 2023 press release, Cheval Québec explained that although six equine vets practice in the Outaouais, "five have been practicing here for over 35 years, and no new veterinarians are expected to arrive in the coming year."

Meanwhile, Ontario's three partner clinics (Rideau-St Lawrence, Prescott-Russell, and Navan Veterinary Services) helped, including doctoring animals trailered to their Ontario premises. Unfortunately, because of Quebec's strict licencing and language laws, Ontario vets aren't permitted to practice here. Moreover, because trailering is often impossible, especially in emergencies, animals remained at risk.

Understanding the severity of the situation, the Quebec government has provisionally relaxed

regulations. Starting last May with one vet, now three Navan Veterinary Services vets are licenced to practise here. The two other partner clinics are assisting by accepting Pontiac horses for referral surgeries and certain in-clinic treatments.

To introduce themselves to Pontiac's large-animal owners, staff and vets from all three clinics held a "Meet and Greet" at the Quyon Community Centre, November 16. About 50 Pontiac equine and bovine owners attended.

Veterinarian Dr. Jean Cyr, a partner at Navan Veterinary Services, greeted attendees and introduced vets who discussed equine issues related to fever, colic, lameness and choking.

Everyone encouraged a team effort, suggesting what owners might do themselves as first aid before "automatically" calling a vet. Such interventions, explained Dr.

Cyr, could prevent unnecessary vet calls at a time when the clinics' services are stretched, particularly due to often two-hour drives to get to a patient. However, all vets stressed that owners should call if they need help.

Dr. Cyr emphasized that the clinics hope to expand services to four times a week – if they can attract more staff and pending Quebec's provisional licencing.

Meanwhile, Cheval Québec's press release explained that the "field of equine practice is largely unknown" to vet students who mostly come from big cities, because "contact with horses is virtually non-existent." Therefore, Cheval Québec initiated financial incentives for students at the Université de Montréal's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine where three



In May 2023, Dr. Eastman Welsford of Navan Veterinary Clinic floats a Pontiac resident's horse's teeth as a routine dental care procedure. Dr. Valerie Higginson is assisting Dr. Welsford.

students received internships in 2023, working with horses. Four internships are planned for 2024.

"Clearly, at this rate, change is a long time coming," Cheval Québec concluded.

## Micro-réacteur — de la p. 2

Selon GFP, un MMR peut remplacer 1,2 milliard de litres de diesel et nécessite un fonctionnement et un entretien minimaux. L'entreprise a également présenté son plan mis à jour pour le réacteur nucléaire, lui donnant une durée de vie plus longue et plus de puissance.

La durée de vie du MMR a maintenant été prolongée jusqu'à 40 ans avant qu'il ne soit nécessaire de le mettre hors service. Cela double la durée de vie de la technologie par rapport à la conception originale. Cependant, le MMR nécessitera un ravitaillement périodique et le site stockera temporairement le carburant neuf et usé avant qu'il ne soit transporté ailleurs.

De nombreuses préoccupations ont été soulevées par la communauté au sujet du SMR ; les résidents se souviennent encore d'accidents nucléaires survenus sur le site des Laboratoires de Chalk River dans les années 1950, y compris la première fusion

nucléaire au monde en 1952.

« Nous sommes dans une crise climatique. Nous devons agir maintenant, et le nucléaire n'est pas « maintenant » ; il faudra pas mal d'années pour mettre cela en œuvre. Il y a l'énergie solaire, l'énergie éolienne et l'eau - ces sources d'énergie n'ont pas besoin d'être testées », a déclaré Deborah Powell, présidente de Pontiac Environmental Protection. « Je ne crois pas que ce soit une bonne image à saisir pour un avenir meilleur », a-t-elle ajouté.

Cependant, selon le ministre des Ressources naturelles, Seamus O'Reagan, sans l'énergie nucléaire, il n'y a pas de modèle qui permettra au Canada d'atteindre ses objectifs en matière d'émissions.

Une évaluation environnementale conforme à la Loi canadienne sur l'évaluation environnementale est en cours. L'évaluation doit prouver que le projet n'est pas susceptible d'entraîner des effets environnementaux importants. De plus amples renseignements sur l'évaluation seront disponibles en 2024.



Venez voir nos professionnels pour la vérification de votre batterie avant les grands froids d'hiver.



Come see our professionals for your battery check-up before the cold winter weather arrives.

**Pièces d'Auto Bois-fort Inc.**

284, rue Principale, Mansfield, QC  
819-683-3415

sylfortin@napacanada.com • Fax: 819-683-3827

## CONSULTATION ET ÉVALUATION GRATUITES À DOMICILE ~ FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION & EVALUATION



**BRISTOL**  
MLS 16958519 349 900 \$



**BRISTO**



**LITCHFIELD**  
MLS 9744380 1 399 900 \$



**SHAWVILLE**  
MLS 16150057 999 900 \$

*Claire Gauthier*  
Courtier immobilier inc.  
**613.292.8267**  
clairegauthier@me.com

**EQG**  
ÉQUIPE CLAIRE  
GAUTHIER



216 chemin d'Aylmer,  
Gatineau, QC J9H 1A4

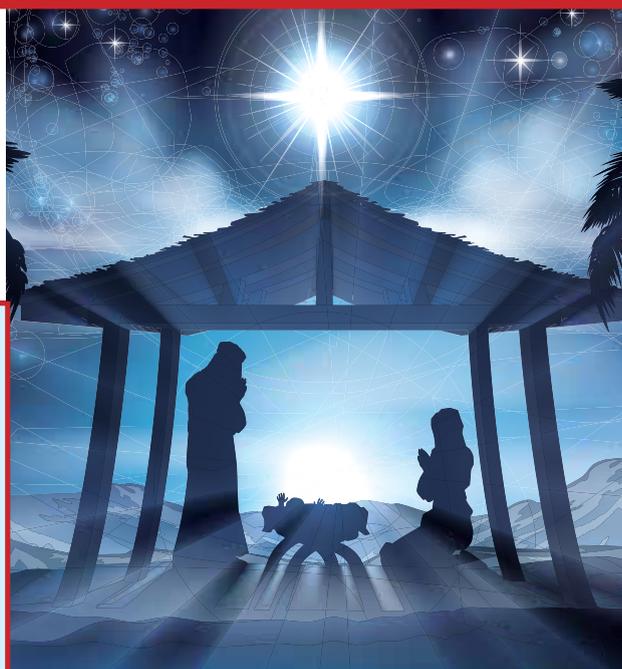
*Dwight Kucharik*  
Courtier immobilier inc.  
**819.661.5761**  
dwightkucharik@icloud.com



SERVICE PROFESSIONNEL PERSONNALISÉ • BILINGUE • PHOTOGRAPHIE PROFESSIONNELLE • MARKETING ÉTENDU EN LIGNE  
PERSONALIZED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE • BILINGUAL • PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY • EXTENSIVE ONLINE MARKETING

## TROUVEZ LE VRAI SENS DE NOËL!

Les paroisses catholiques romaines du Pontiac vous invitent à participer aux grandes célébrations de la saison de Noël.



## SEEK THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS!

The Roman Catholic Parishes of the Pontiac invite you to the celebration of the Great Feast of Christmas.

### St. John the Evangelist CAMPBELL'S BAY

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 19 h  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 7pm

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day  
10:30am at MANOIR ST-JOSEPH

31 dec. Veille du Jour de l'An - 16 h 30  
Dec. 31 New Year's Eve - 4:30pm



### Paroisse St. Pierre FORT-COULONGE

24 déc. - Veille de Noël  
21 h (9pm)

25 déc. Jour de Noël  
10 h 30 (10:30am)

1<sup>er</sup> jan. Jour de l'An / New Year's Day  
10 h 30 (10:30am)



### Our Lady of Perpetual Help WALTHAM

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 19 h  
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve - 7pm

1<sup>er</sup> jan. Jour de l'An - 8 h 45  
Jan. 1 New Year's Day - 8:45am



### St. Elizabeth's VINTON

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 19 h  
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve - 7pm

1<sup>er</sup> jan. Jour de l'An - 8 h 45  
Jan. 1 New Year's Day - 8:45am



### Paroisse St. Charles Borromée OTTER LAKE

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 16 h 30  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 4:30pm

31 déc. Veille du Jour de l'An - 16 h  
Dec. 31 New Year's Eve - 4pm



### Paroisse Ste. Anne ILE-DU-GRAND- CALUMET

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 21 h  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 9pm

1 jan. Marie Sainte Mère de Dieu - 10 h 30  
Jan. 1 Mary Mother of God  
(New Year's Day) - 10:30am



### St. James the Greater Parish PORTAGE-DU-FORT

24 déc. Veille de Noël - 19 h  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 7pm

31 déc. Fête de La Sainte Famille - 10 h 30  
Dec 31 Feast of the Holy Family - 10:30am



### Paroisse Immaculée Conception BRYSON

24 déc. Veille de Noël - 17 h  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 5pm

30 déc. Fête de La Sainte Famille- 16 h 30  
Dec. 30 Feast of the Holy Family - 4:30pm



### St. Alphonsus CHAPEAU

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 19 h  
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve - 7pm

25 déc. Jour de Noël - 10 h 30  
Dec. 25 - Christmas Day - 10:30am



### St. Paul the Hermit SHEENBORO

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 17 h  
Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve - 5pm



### St. Joseph Parish ST. JOSEPH

24 déc. - Veille de Noël - 21 h  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 9pm

25 déc. Jour de Noël - 9 h  
Dec. 25 - Christmas Day - 9am



### St. Edward the Confessor BRISTOL

24 déc. - 19 h Nativité du Seigneur  
Dec. 24 - 7 pm - Nativity of the Lord

25 déc. - 9 h Nativité du Seigneur  
Dec. 25 - 9 am - Nativity of the Lord



### St. François d'Assise LAC-DES-LOUPS

24 déc. - 16 h  
Messe de la Nativité du Seigneur

Dec. 24 - 4 pm  
Mass of the Nativity of the Lord



### The Holy Name of Mary QUYON

24 déc. - 19 h  
Nativité du Seigneur  
Dec. 24 - 7 pm - Nativity of the Lord

déc. 25 - 9 h  
Nativité du Seigneur  
Dec. 25 - 9 am - Nativity of the Lord





### CHRISTMAS PONTOONING IN CAMPBELL'S BAY

Santa Claus was out and about over the last couple of weeks, making stops in several Pontiac communities, including the annual Campbell's Bay/Litchfield Santa Claus parade, December 2. After touring the streets of Campbell's Bay, guided by a procession of 14 floats, Santa arrived at Mural Park where he met with children. The float winners were: best overall – the Shea family; second – St. John's Elementary; third – Pontiac Valley Electric; best business – Purerock Landscaping; best group – the Friend's of St. Joseph's Manor; best ATV – Pontiac Road Runners; and best animal – Grace Pasch and her horse. -Allyson Beauregard

PHOTO: The Municipality of Campbell's Bay was pontooning in the Christmas parade: L/R: Director General Sarah Bertrand, Mayor Raymond Pilon, Councillor Stephanie Hebert, and Councillor Tim Ferrigan.

## La situation vétérinaire équine de Pontiac : s'améliorer lentement

KATHARINE FLETCHER

**MUNICIPALITÉ DE PONTIAC** – La région de l'Outaouais souffre d'une pénurie de vétérinaires, une situation qui se reflète à travers le Canada et le monde. Cependant, depuis que la vétérinaire locale de 36 ans, la Dre Andrea Kelly, s'est enlevé la vie en juillet 2022, environ 600 chevaux ont soudainement été sans soins vétérinaires et une crise continue s'est ensuivie.

Le Dr Kelly était propriétaire de « Ottawa Valley Large Animal Clinic » (OVLAC) de Kemptville, qui a par la suite fermé ses portes.

Sans vétérinaires, la communauté équestre du Pontiac est entrée en action. Ils

ont fait du lobbying auprès d'organismes gouvernementaux comme Cheval Québec et L'Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec. Ils ont également aidé des gens du Pontiac à amener leurs chevaux à des cliniques vétérinaires en Ontario, ont partagé leur expertise et se sont soutenus les uns les autres chaque fois que cela était possible.

Dans un communiqué de presse du 20 novembre 2023, Cheval Québec a expliqué que, bien que six vétérinaires équins pratiquent en Outaouais, « cinq pratiquent ici depuis plus de 35 ans, et aucun nouveau vétérinaire n'est prévu pour arriver au cours de la prochaine année ».

— Suite en p. 10



### Coupe d'arbre prévue ?

**ATTENTION !**  
Couper des arbres à moins de 30 mètres (100 pieds) d'une ligne électrique est dangereux.  
**SOYEZ PRUDENT ET GARDEZ VOS DISTANCES DES LIGNES ÉLECTRIQUES.**

### Planning to Cut Trees?

**WARNING!**  
Cutting trees less than 30 meters (100 feet) from power lines is dangerous.  
**STAY SAFE AND AWAY FROM POWER LINES.**





**1.877.986.4364**  
infolievre@evolugen.com  
evolugen.com/fr/securite



# LOTÉRIE 50/50 LOTTERY



## TIRAGE MENSUEL

N'oubliez pas d'acheter vos billets 50/50  
Du 1er au 27 de chaque mois

## MONTHLY DRAW

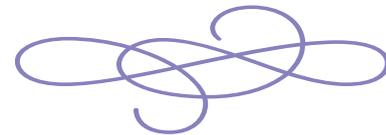
Don't forget to buy your 50/50 tickets  
From the 1st to the 27th of each month

Les Chevaliers de Colomb et Les Filles d'Isabelle sont des organismes de charité et de bienfaisance à but non lucratif.

Notre mission est d'œuvrer auprès des gens de la communauté dans le besoin.

Votre participation à cette loterie aidera à soutenir nos projets et nos objectifs.

Nos plus sincères remerciements!



The Knights of Columbus and The Daughters of Isabella are charitable non profit organizations.

Our mission is to help those in need in the community.

By participating in this lottery, you help support our projects and our objectives.

We sincerely thank you!

Lotterie / Lottery  
**DES CHEVALIERS DE  
COLOMB CONSEIL #7221  
ET DES FILLES D'ISABELLE  
CERCLE #1293**

**LOTÉRIE  
50/50  
MOITIÉ-MOITIÉ**



Allez à / Go to:  
[www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/cdc7221](http://www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/cdc7221)

TRUCKERS BID ADIEU TO ONE OF THEIR OWN

Robert (Bobby) Picard (1945-2023), a trucker for most of his life, passed away November 29. His life was celebrated by fellow truckers Thursday, December 7, following his funeral mass at St. Alphonsus Church in Chapeau. A convoy funeral procession was led by Picard's grandson Robbie, in his own big rig, from Chapeau up towards Nichabau and back down Chichester Sheenboro Road to George's Regal Beagle in Chichester for a celebration of life. Trucker Derek Fleming, who Picard worked for after selling his own rig, joined in the convoy with two of his trucks. Musician Larry Turner also paid tribute to Picard's memory in word and song at the Regal Beagle.

-Peter L. Smith

Thorne municipal office will be closed from December 25, 2023, to January 2, 2024, inclusively. The transfer station will be closed on December 25, 2023, and January 1, 2024.

Le bureau municipal de Thorne sera fermé du 25 décembre 2023 au 2 janvier 2024 inclusivement. Le centre de transfert sera fermé le 25 décembre 2023 et le 1er janvier 2024.

*Joyeuses Fêtes!*  
*Happy Holidays!*



**MUNICIPALITÉ DE THORNE**  
MUNICIPALITY  
775, route 366, Ladysmith, QC, J0X 2A0  
T: 819-647-3206 • F: 819-647-2086

PHOTO: Truckers pay tribute to one of their own, the late Robert (Bobby) Picard, at his funeral December 7 with a convoy from St. Alphonsus Church to George's Regal Beagle for a celebration of life.



PS

Vétérinaire — de la p. 9

Pendant ce temps, les trois cliniques partenaires de l'Ontario (Rideau-St Lawrence, Prescott-Russell et Navan Veterinary Services) ont aidé, notamment en traitant des animaux dans leurs locaux de l'Ontario. Malheureusement, en raison des lois strictes du Québec sur les licences et les langues, les vétérinaires de l'Ontario ne sont pas autorisés à exercer ici. De plus, comme le remorquage est souvent impossible, surtout en cas d'urgence, les animaux sont restés à risque.

Comprenant la gravité de la situation, le gouvernement du Québec a provisoirement assoupli la réglementation. À partir de mai 2023 avec un vétérinaire, maintenant trois vétérinaires des services vétérinaires de Navan sont autorisés à exercer ici. Les deux autres cliniques partenaires aident en

acceptant des chevaux du Pontiac pour des chirurgies de référence et certains traitements en clinique.

Pour se présenter aux propriétaires de gros animaux du Pontiac, le personnel et les vétérinaires des trois cliniques ont tenu une rencontre au Centre communautaire de Quyon, le 16 novembre. Environ 50 propriétaires d'équidés et de bovins du Pontiac y ont assisté.

Le vétérinaire Dr Jean Cyr, partenaire des Services vétérinaires de Navan, a accueilli les participants et présenté les vétérinaires qui ont discuté des problèmes équinés liés à la fièvre, aux coliques, à la boiterie et à l'étouffement.

Tout le monde a encouragé un effort d'équipe, suggérant ce que les propriétaires pourraient faire eux-mêmes comme premiers soins avant d'appeler « automatiquement » un vétérinaire. De telles

interventions, a expliqué le Dr Cyr, pourraient prévenir les appels inutiles chez les vétérinaires à un moment où les services des cliniques sont très sollicités, en particulier en raison de deux heures de route pour se rendre à un patient. Cependant, tous les vétérinaires ont souligné que les propriétaires devraient appeler s'ils ont besoin d'aide.

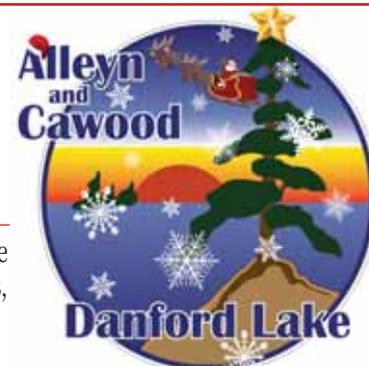
Le Dr Cyr a souligné que les cliniques espèrent étendre les services à quatre fois par semaine – si elles peuvent attirer plus de personnel et en attendant la licence provisoire du Québec.

Le communiqué de presse de Cheval Québec expliquait que le « domaine de la pratique équine est largement inconnu » pour les étudiants vétérinaires qui viennent pour la plupart des grandes villes, car « le contact avec les chevaux est pratiquement inexistant ». Ainsi, Cheval Québec a lancé des incitatifs financiers pour les étudiants de la Faculté de médecine vétérinaire de l'Université de Montréal où trois étudiants ont reçu des stages en 2023, travaillant avec des chevaux. Quatre stages sont prévus pour 2024.

« Il est clair qu'à ce rythme, le changement est long à venir », a conclu Cheval Québec.

Que cette période de festivités soit remplie de joie, de bonheur et de prospérité pour vous et vos proches.

May your holidays be filled with happiness, love and warmth of family and friends throughout this festive season.



Maire Carl Mayer, membres du conseil et personnel.

10, Jondée Rd., Danford Lake, QC ~ Tel. 819-467-2941

# NOS CONDITIONS DE TRAVAIL SONT VOS CONDITIONS DE SOINS.

**80 000** PROFESSIONNELLES EN SOINS EN GRÈVE

FIQSANTE.QC.CA/NEGO



FÉDÉRATION INTERPROFESSIONNELLE DE LA SANTÉ DU QUÉBEC

Nous souhaitons à tous un

*Joyeux Noël et une Bonne Année!*



We wish everyone a

*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

**Mireille Alary,  
Notary**

131A, rue Victoria, Shawville  
**819-647-6300**

**Stedman's  
V & S**

375 Main Street, Shawville  
**819-647-3729**

**Le Poulet DMD  
Chick n' Things**

305E Main St., Shawville  
**819-647-3632**

**Oktoberfest  
Ladysmith**

[www.oktoberfestladysmith.com](http://www.oktoberfestladysmith.com)

**Serenity Salon  
& Medispa**

354 Main St., Shawville  
**819-647-5403**

**Hotel  
Ladysmith**

2144, Route 303., Ladysmith  
**819-647-6797**

**Boutique  
Shawville Shooz**

387 Main St., Shawville  
**819-647-5711**

**Solutions D'Affaires  
AccountAbility**

335 Main St., Shawville  
**819-647-2520**

**Giant Tiger**

Route 148, Shawville  
**819-647-6320**

**Jer's Auto**

2170, Rte. 303 Ladysmith  
**819-647-6010**

**Mickey McGuire  
Construction**

729 Hwy. 148, Shawville  
**819-647-5760**

**Pontiac Butcher Shop  
819-647-6016**

**&  
K&L Dairy**

185 Centre St., Shawville  
**819-647-2858**

**W.A. Hodgins  
HOME HARDWARE**

325 Main St., Shawville  
**819-647-2731**

**Randy J.  
Labadie**

**Financial Services**  
101 Stanton Rd., Quyon  
**819-458-3202**

**Bonnie Zimmerling**

**PONTIAC JOURNAL  
REPRESENTATIVE  
819-647-2447**

Photo: Bonnie Zimmerling

LE PÈRE NOËL VISITE MANSFIELD ET FORT COULONGE

Samedi, le 2 décembre, les pompiers de Mansfield et de Fort-Coulonge ont organisé une parade de Noël illuminée. Le chef des pompiers de Mansfield, Patrick Bertrand, explique qu'ils en sont à leur quinzième édition de cette parade et cette année ils sont choyés d'avoir la participation des pompiers de plusieurs autres municipalités. Ils y avait près de trente-cinq chars allégoriques, des véhicules tout-terrain, des chevaux, des camions, des clowns et plusieurs camions de pompiers et de premiers répondants etc. C'était une très belle parade pour les centaines de spectateurs tout le long du défilé. La parade s'est rendue au Centre de loisirs des Draveurs pour rencontrer le Père Noël. M. Bertrand aimerait remercier tous les participants et spectateurs pour le succès de cette activité.

-Gaelan Forgues

La char allégorique de la Maison de la famille.



Deux jeunes femmes se sont regroupées pour monter dans le défilé de Mansfield et Fort-Coulonge.



Un côte-à-côte a tiré un char sur le thème de la chasse.

**ANNUAIRE DES PROFESSIONNELS**  
**PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY**

---

**CUISINES PÉLON**  
 KITCHENS  
**Fabricant d'Armoires de Cuisine**  
 Kitchen Cabinet Maker  
 www.pilonkitchens.com • Zach@pilonkitchens.com  
 Zach Pilon – 819-648-5654  
 RBQ 5676-1638-01

**MARK RYAN**  
 Residential and Commercial  
 Real Estate Broker  
 Direct Phone & Text / Télé et Texte :  
 613 614-7150  
 mryanvendu@gmail.com  
 www.viacapitalevendu.com/courtiers/ryan-mark

---

**TRÉPANIÉ & RAFFOUL**  
**NOTAIRES / NOTARIES**  
 Cessionnaire du greffe de Jean-Pierre Pigeon  
 Marc Trépanier / André Trépanier  
 Dany Raffoul / Marianne Guillemette  
 510 Maloney Est, #202, Gatineau • 819.643.2021  
 37 Patterson, Campbell's Bay • 819.648.2525

**VOUS POUVEZ RÉSERVER CET ESPACE /**  
**CALL TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE:**  
**819-683-3582**

**ORTHODONTIE**  
**Outaouais**  
*Votre sourire. Notre spécialité.*

Dr Brent Côté, DMD, MSc, Dip Ortho, FRCD(C)  
 Spécialiste en Orthodontie | Specialist in Orthodontics

*La première et seule pratique d'orthodontie à temps plein à Aylmer*

*The first and only full-time orthodontic practice in Aylmer*

**Soins d'orthodontie spécialisés pour enfants, adolescents et adultes**  
**Specialized orthodontic care for children, teens and adults**

- Broches traditionnelles et alternatives modernes
- Vaste aire de stationnement gratuite
- Ententes financières flexibles
- Disponibilités en soirée et tôt le matin
- Référence non requise !

- Traditional braces and modern alternatives
- Ample free parking
- Flexible financial arrangements
- Evening and early morning hours
- No referral required!

**Plaza Glenwood**  
 210, chemin d'Aylmer, Gatineau  
 À côté du Coco Frutti | Next to Coco Frutti

**819.685.0808**  
 info@OrthoOutaouais.ca  
 www.OrthoOutaouais.ca

*Pharmacie  
Paulina Zhiukov,  
Uniprix*

240, rue Principale, Mansfield  
819-683-1818

Les entreprises des municipalités de Mansfield,  
Fort-Coulonge et des environs souhaitent à tous un  
*Joyeux Noël et une Bonne Année*



The Businesses of the Municipalities of  
Mansfield, Fort-Coulonge and surrounding  
areas would like to wish everyone a

*Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year*

**\$1+ MEGA \$1+  
DOLLAR**

228, rue Principale, Mansfield  
819-683-3446

*Maison  
de la Famille  
du Pontiac*

161, rue Principale, Fort-Coulonge  
819-683-2547

*Centre  
de Service  
Mansfield*

288, rue Principale, Mansfield  
819-683-1552

*Les Maisons  
des jeunes  
du Pontiac*

298-A, rue Principale, Mansfield  
819-683-1044

*Garage  
Mansfield*

NAPA Autopro  
284, rue Principale, Mansfield  
819-683-3415

*Matériaux  
JLS  
Building Materials*

Bryson 819-648-5881  
Mansfield 819-683-2482

*Entreprise  
Pat Bertrand*

385, rue Thomas-Lefebvre,  
Davidson  
613-401-7925



*Romain  
Petit  
Moteur*

306-1, rue Principale, Mansfield  
819-683-3504

*La Station  
Mansfield*

281, rue Principale,  
Mansfield  
819-683-1746

*Pizza  
Plus*

175-B ch. de la Chute,  
Mansfield  
819-683-5592

*Dana  
Bertrand*

Représentante des ventes  
Journal du Pontiac Journal  
Sales Representative  
819-683-3582

# Une mère locale a créé un livre bilingue pour enfants rempli d'aventures fantastiques



**RE/MAX VISION**  
Agence immobilière

**Raoul Nsabimana**  
Courtier immobilier résidentiel

**819 452-9222**  
raoul.nsabimana@remax-quebec.com

225, Bd de la Gappe, Suite 102,  
Gatineau, QC J8T 7Y3, 819 243-3111  
Franchisé indépendant et autonome de RE/Max Québec inc.

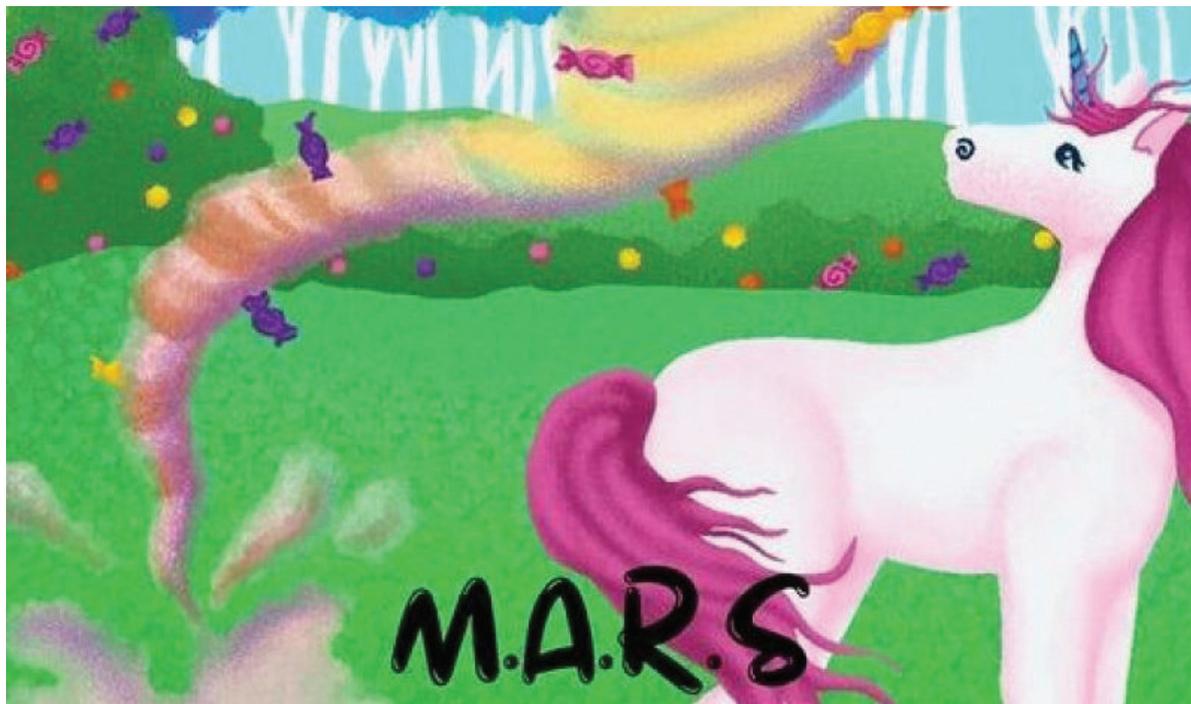


Tashi **Farmilo**

Bianka Guillemette-Denault, une résidente de Mansfield, a publié un livre bilingue pour enfants, intitulé *M.A.R.S.*, dont l'idée lui est venue lors de séances d'écriture avec son fils. Ce conte fantaisiste, mettant en scène des

robots et des licornes, est né du désir de Mme Guillemette-Denault de cultiver l'intérêt de son fils pour l'écriture. Le titre du livre est formé des premières lettres du nom des quatre animaux de compagnie de l'auteure, lesquels ont également inspiré les personnages du livre, ajoutant une touche personnelle à l'ouvrage. Visant à captiver l'imaginaire

des enfants et se voulant éducatif, le livre favorise l'apprentissage de l'anglais et du français, étant rédigé dans les deux langues. Mme Guillemette-Denault, qui publie elle-même son livre, souhaite instiller l'amour de la lecture chez les jeunes lecteurs. *M.A.R.S.* est plus qu'une histoire; c'est un voyage dans la magie du conte et la richesse d'être bilingue.



## Local mother created bilingual children's book filled with whimsical adventure



Tashi **Farmilo**

Mansfield resident Bianka Guillemette-Denault released her bilingual children's book, *M.A.R.S.*, inspired by writing sessions with her son. This whimsical tale,

featuring robots and unicorns, was born from Guillemette-Denault's desire to cultivate her son's interest in writing. Characters in the book are named after the initials of her pets, adding a personal touch. Aimed at captivating children's imaginations, the book also promotes bilingualism, being

available in English and French. Guillemette-Denault, who self-published the book, aspires to inspire a love for reading and learning in young readers. *M.A.R.S.* is more than a story; it's a journey into the magic of storytelling and the joys of being bilingual.



**DITES-VOUS SOUVENT QUOI? COMMENT?**  
DO YOU OFTEN ASK WHAT? PARDON?

**NOUS POUVONS VOUS AIDER À MIEUX ENTENDRE**  
**TEST AUDITIF DE DÉPISTAGE SANS FRAIS\***

**WE CAN HELP YOU HEAR BETTER**  
**SCREENING HEARING TEST AT NO CHARGE\***

\* Valide jusqu'au 31 décembre 2022      \* Valid until December 31st, 2022



Le Réseau  
**Vos Oreilles**  
AUDIOPROTHÉSISTES  
SASSEVILLE - BOLDUC - LÉGARE

Pascale Bolduc  
Audioprothésiste

Gatineau  
520, Boul. de l'Hôpital, 2C  
819 243-7773  
1 800 732-5370

Mélanie Légaré  
Audioprothésiste

Aylmer  
181, rue Principale  
819 557-1222  
1 800 567-1580

Wakefield  
Clinique Médicale des Collines

La Pêche  
895, chemin Riverside,  
bureau 200  
819 557-1222

[VosOreilles.com](http://VosOreilles.com)

**Service personnalisé et bilingue avec expérience et éthique.**

*Notre passion, c'est vous!*

**MONIQUE MONTSION**

**819-682-3737**

moniquederemax@gmail.com



**Personalized and bilingual services with experience and ethics.**

*Our passion is you!*

**CAROLYN DESPRÉS**

**819-664-0207**

carolynderemax@gmail.com





## LEADERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION RICHARD Y. BOURHIS AND JOHN McMAHON BRAVELY CONFRONT CAQ PROPOSALS ON HIGHER UNIVERSITY TUITION FEES AND INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF REQUIRED CEGEP FRENCH COURSES

The Quebec Federation of Home and School Associations Inc. (QFHSA) in co-operation with the COalition For the Future of English Education in Québec (COFFEE-QC) and the Committee for the Enhancement of the Curriculum of the History of Québec (ComECH-QC) co-hosted a virtual meeting with thirty-one participants on Wednesday evening, November 22nd, 2023, by ZOOM. The meeting agenda centred on Higher Education and the current issues facing our English institutions in the province of Québec.

Richard Y. Bourhis, Ph. D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychology, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), well known for his research on declining pupil enrollments in the English school system since the passage of the Charter of the French Language (Bill 101), presented a power point on the effects of the recently proposed tuition fee increases affecting Bishop's, Concordia, and McGill Universities. Please find the 20-slide power point presentation of Richard Y. Bourhis here. Bourhis.Fee.Hikes.3.FINAL.Anglo.Universities.Cuts.English.CEGEPS.Coffee.November.22.2023 revised - [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Ko75kzE298nRC39oZM4G3NZCUT9ixdqf/edit?usp=drive\\_link&ouid=100557378429286780067&rtfpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Ko75kzE298nRC39oZM4G3NZCUT9ixdqf/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=100557378429286780067&rtfpof=true&sd=true)

John McMahon, Director General of Vanier College CEGEP, well known for his in-depth knowledge of Law 14 (Bill 96), An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec, presented a power point on the effects of the legislation on increasing the number of French courses required at the CEGEP level.

Please find the 21-slide power point presentation of John McMahon here. Home School Association Presentation Nov 22 2023 Final - [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ictwFSaiDv7dHXuuDzYpeoMriCVWUqvi/edit?usp=drive\\_link&ouid=100557378429286780067&rtfpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ictwFSaiDv7dHXuuDzYpeoMriCVWUqvi/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=100557378429286780067&rtfpof=true&sd=true)

The question-and-answer session followed providing opportunities for many thought-provoking discussions that widened the knowledge of the audience on the future of Higher Education in the province.

Richard Y. Bourhis returned as a guest speaker on Wednesday evening, December 6th, 2023, with ten participants at a virtual meeting of the QFHSA Rights Subcommittee by ZOOM. Professor Bourhis presented a power point titled: "Six Vitality Clarification Themes for the English-speaking Communities of Québec". Please find the 13-slide power point presentation of Richard Y. Bourhis here.

Bourhis.2.Six.Clarification.Themes.QFHSA.Dec6.2023 revised - [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15\\_GCJ4R-eu4xpoc7R\\_PogNZ2PfoEOKtB/edit?usp=drive\\_link&ouid=100557378429286780067&rtfpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15_GCJ4R-eu4xpoc7R_PogNZ2PfoEOKtB/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=100557378429286780067&rtfpof=true&sd=true)

Additional recent relevant resources to share with you: Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT) Report of 2023: 27 pages here. PERT.Snapshot\_of\_Poverty\_Among\_ESCQ.Sept.2023.pdf - [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IXnuDUMNwAYXjIGq02u\\_wOayM6QBgy-p/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IXnuDUMNwAYXjIGq02u_wOayM6QBgy-p/view?usp=drive_link)

and Demographic Profiles of Quebec's English-speaking Communities of Montréal: based on the 2021 Census of Canada: Baseline Data Report Series 2022-2023 -one of seventeen reports by Joanne Pocock, Ph. D., Sociology and Anthropology, for the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN) here.

Pocock.Demographic.Profile.ESCQ.Montreal.2021.Census.pdf - [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-toXyEfcMSmYbVgSEQH5tWjaBSfSRy92/view?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-toXyEfcMSmYbVgSEQH5tWjaBSfSRy92/view?usp=drive_link)

A big thank you to the organizing team of David Cromwell, Natasha Drysdale, Carol Meindl, Rose Mary Murphy, and Brian Rock.


COMMISSIONNAIRES
commissionnaires.ca

Visitez-nous au 721,  
boulevard Saint-Joseph, Gatineau

Du lundi au vendredi, de 8h00 à 16h00

Prise d'empreintes digitales :  
819-776-0004

### PRISE D'EMPREINTES DIGITALES ET VÉRIFICATION D'ANTÉCÉDENTS

- Prise d'empreintes digitales numérique
- Vérification du casier judiciaire avec empreintes digitales accrédité par la GRC
- Vérification du casier judiciaire de base (nom et date de naissance)
- Suspension du casier judiciaire (pardon)
- Levée d'interdiction d'entrée aux États-Unis

### FINGERPRINTING AND BACKGROUND SCREENING SERVICES

- Digital fingerprinting
- RCMP accredited criminal record checks with fingerprints
- Basic criminal record checks (name and date of birth)
- Criminal record suspensions (pardons)
- U.S. entry waivers

### REJOIGNEZ NOTRE ÉQUIPE

Faites partie d'une équipe qui vous soutient et bâtissez une carrière enrichissante qui évolue avec vous. Chez Commissionnaires, nous sommes déterminés à assurer la sécurité et le bien-être des commissionnaires et de leurs familles grâce à des programmes axés sur les employés, à l'avancement professionnel et à notre passion pour rendre la pareille.

### JOIN OUR TEAM

Be part of a supportive team and build a rewarding career that grows with you. At Commissionnaires, we are dedicated to ensuring the safety and wellness of commissionnaires and their families through employee-centric programs, career advancement, and our passion for giving back.

Postulez dès aujourd'hui :  
[applications@commissionnaires-ottawa.on.ca](mailto:applications@commissionnaires-ottawa.on.ca)



RENDEZ-VOUS



## DECORATED TREES AUCTIONED OFF FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

The Christmas spirit was alive and well, on Saturday, December 2, when the Pontiac Agricultural Society's (PAS) Tinsel and Tidings Tree Decorating Contest and Auction took place at the Exhibition Hall on the Shawville Fairgrounds. Organized by PAS members Nancy Tubman and Lisa Coles, the auction was the culmination of three days of creative and varied decorating by 13 local businesses and organizations, followed by over 400 votes cast by the public for their favourite tree. First place went to Cartrite's Restaurant with a tree decorated with tiny paper hamburgers, French fries, fried eggs, toast and plastic cutlery wrapped with a checked paper "garland" used for lining take-out cartons. Second place went to Killarney's Bar with "Spruce Juice", a tree laden with homemade decorations using lots of beer caps pressed into styrofoam balls; M&R Feeds took third place with a more traditionally decorated tree.

PAS president, Vaughn Bastien, kept the auction bids moving along for the six trees up for sale, which raised \$1,775 for the Snowsuit Fund and Angel Tree charities. The PAS tree was purchased by Shawville Taxi; the Municipality of Clarendon bought their own tree; M&R Feeds tree was purchased by Jack Stewart; Atelier Bastien's tree went to Tom McCann; Shawville's 150th anniversary tree, the only live tree for sale, was purchased by Kayla McCann; and Killarney's bought their own "Spruce Juice".

Co-organizer Lisa Coles noted that after such a successful first time event, they would be planning for next year's event right after Christmas, when decorations go on sale, hoping to encourage entries that are even more creative for 2024.

-Lynne Lavery

**Photo left:** Cartrites Restaurant won the most votes for their creative entry in the first Tinsel and Tidings Tree Decorating Contest and Auction, held in Shawville on Saturday, December 2.

**Photo right:** "Spruce Juice" by Killarney's Bar took second place in the Tinsel and Tidings Tree Decorating Contest and Auction with their homemade beer cap decorations.



SOCIETY OF  
**Rural Physicians**  
OF CANADA

## Join the SRPC Team: Finance Officer Position Available

Are you driven by a passion for rural health care? Do you excel in dynamic, team-oriented settings? If the answer is yes, we warmly welcome you to apply for the position of **Finance Officer at SRPC**

**Location:** Shawville, QC

**Job Type:** Full-Time, In-Person

**Experience:** Minimum 5 years of bookkeeping/finance experience, familiarity with Simply Accounting or Quickbooks

**Application deadline:** December 17, 2023

### Overview:

We are seeking an experienced and detail-oriented bookkeeper to join our non-profit organization. The ideal candidate will have a strong background in bookkeeping, specifically using Simply Accounting/Quickbooks, and will be responsible for managing all financial transactions within the office. This role requires a high level of accuracy, organization, and the ability to work independently.

**To read full job details and how to apply please visit: [srpc.ca/careers](http://srpc.ca/careers)**

# Norway Bay pier: "Swiss cheese" say inspectors

**DEBORAH POWELL**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

**BRISTOL** – Divers from ODS Marine Construction conducted an underwater inspection of the Norway Bay wharf on December 1. Three divers took turns over more than six hours examining the 260 meters of the steel structure. The results were captured on video, including each divers' comments on what they were seeing.

Over 70 years of wear and tear has taken a toll on the sheet pile structure. Both divers and their supervisor, Mike Chard, used the term "Swiss cheese" when asked about the wharf's general condition. Ice erosion has worn it paper-thin, 30-50 cm below the waterline, with holes ranging from small to cavities large enough that the divers could put their arms through. The divers generally avoided striking the metal to determine soundness for fear of causing further damage.

Repair is going to be a large and costly job. Bristol Council has already paid out close to \$20,000 to W.F. Baird and Associates Coastal Engineers for the study of the structure and recommendations for action. The evaluation by ODS Marine Construction,



ODS Marine Construction Supervisor Mike Chard spent the day watching the evaluation video live from the divers' camera and discussing what was on view. The team worked until well after dark.

recommended by the engineering firm, cost over \$11,000.



An ODS Marine Construction diver starts on evaluation of the west side of the Norway Bay pier.



A diver re-enters the water after equipment adjustment during the evaluation of the condition of the Norway Bay pier. Two engineers from W.F. Baird and Associates, pictured looking down from above, stayed for part of the morning.



## WINTER MAINTENANCE PACKAGE

**Service Includes:**

- Oil and filter change up to 5 litres of 5W/20 or 30 oil
- Rotate and inspect 4 tires
- Top off windshield washer fluid
- Courtesy check including:

**Brake & Front End Check**

- ✓ Battery ✓ Fluids ✓ Air Filter
- ✓ Antifreeze level and strength
- ✓ Lights ✓ Hoses ✓ Belts and more...

# \$69<sup>99</sup>

Plus tax. Most vehicles.

For 5 W/20 or 5W/30 oil.

## \$99<sup>99</sup>

for most Synthetic Oil

"We Take Care of Everything!"

\*Up to 5 litres of oil. Synthetic or other grades of oil extra. Plus shop fee of up to 15% based on non-discounted retail price, not to exceed \$35.00, where prohibited. Plus disposal fee where prohibited. Void where prohibited. TPMS Reset not included. Installation of seasonal tires extra. No cash value. Coupon required. Not valid with other offers. See participating stores for details.

613-735-6151 625 Pembroke St. E. 613-735-0053





**PULSE™**  
BRING LOVE TO LIFE

*Every motion... a shimmer.  
Every shimmer an emotion.*

Star-Set  
— Jewellers —

845 Pembroke St.E.,  
Pembroke  
613-735-7111  
Arnprior  
613-623-5344





Retirement Living at its BEST

*Situated on the Scenic, Spectacular Ottawa River in the heart of Pembroke within walking distance to down town.*

Our Facility

All Suites have a Full kitchen and Balcony  
Studio, 1 Bedroom and 2 Bedroom Suites Available

Come join us for a Tour and Lunch

*Looking Forward to Meeting You.*

To book a tour please call Becky Meadows, Executive Director  
at 613-732-0077 ext. 224 — 201 Joseph St, Pembroke, ON





SHAWVILLE CHRISTMAS STREET MARKET

Saturday, December 9, saw Main Street in Shawville partially blocked off so that 16 local vendors could set up tables to sell their wares to Christmas shoppers. Other shops along the street, including W.A. Hodgins, Stedmans V&S, 99 Reasons and White Buffalo Vintage offered tax-free or 15% discounts as well. Despite the chilly grey skies, business was brisk with booths selling jams and other preserves, baked goods, jewellery, bath products, knitted goods, wreaths, other decorative items and more. Santa even showed up to help cheer the vendors, get his photo taken and maybe even do a bit of shopping!



-Lynne Lavery

PHOTO: Santa stopped by one of the vendor's booths to check out their wares, at the Shawville Street Market on Saturday, December 9. Over 16 vendors had tables set up along Main Street, running west from Centre Street between 10 am to 2 pm.



THERE'S A NEW BUSINESS IN TOWN!

Bistro Meli-Melo, located in the former Freshmart building in Campbell's Bay, hosted its grand opening, December 2, amidst the town's annual Santa Claus parade. Owner Lisa Boisvert (photo) explained her three children and partner are all implicated in the venture, helping out where needed.

"We decided to take this adventure 'all in' because there's less and less to do in the Pontiac. I'm aiming to reach all ages with my menu, offering healthy choices. I've been on the road quite a bit and have had to make many stops, but there aren't many healthy choices. With busy parent schedules, we tend to eat out of boxes or cans, so I'm hoping to offer healthy options; smoothies, salads, chili, soups, naan pizzas, sandwiches, parfaits, and additions to come like chicken rice and quinoa bowls," she explained.

In the future, Boisvert plans to offer activities in the evenings such as crocheting workshops, guitar lessons, healthy eating planning, dance nights for 16+, movie nights, and anything else there's demand for.

-Allyson Beauregard

**Septic Tank PUMPING**  
 YEAR ROUND SERVICE  
 613-732-4926  
*You call, We Kumm!*

**GREENWOOD PAVING**  
 PEMBROKE LTD.  
 SURFACE TREATMENT & ASPHALT PAVING  
 ANDREW PLUMMER, C.E.T. 177 MacKay Street  
 Supervisor Pembroke, Ontario, K8A 1C2  
 greenwoodpaving@nrtco.net Ph. 613-735-4101 Fax 613-735-7407  
 www.greenwoodpaving.ca Cell 613-602-0493

**'SNO PROBLEM.**

There's nothing quite like waking up to 4 feet of snow.

A beautiful sight until you walk out the door. But if you have a Massey Ferguson® tractor, then snow is truly a beautiful sight.

Enjoy winter chores from the comfortable cab of the Massey Ferguson GC1700 Series with mid-PTO and quick-attach systems to never leave you out in the cold.

Demo Massey Ferguson compact and utility tractors like the MF 2800 E Series and the MF 4700 Series for bigger jobs at your local dealer today.

View our current stock at [ElliottFarmEquipment.com](http://ElliottFarmEquipment.com)

**ELLIOTT FARM EQUIPMENT LTD.**

Pembroke, ON 2447 Greenwood Rd. 1.800.508.5542  
 Carleton Place, ON 7642 HWY 15 Carleton Place 613.253.3344

APPLY NOW FOR **0% FINANCING\***

\*Offer valid on select models and subject to credit review and approval by AGCO Finance, LLC. Offer ends soon and may be subject to change without notice. Contact your local AGCO dealer for more details. ©2023 AGCO Corporation. Massey Ferguson is a worldwide brand of AGCO Corporation. AGCO and Massey Ferguson are trademarks of AGCO. All rights reserved.

*Holiday Greetings!*

May this Christmas be joyful and the New Year bright!

**IRVING BIG STOP Restaurant**

1751 Paul Martin Dr, Pembroke, ON  
 613-735-1066

# Public consultations on proposed Noire and Coulonge Rivers biodiversity reserve

**DEBORAH POWELL**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE

**MRC PONTIAC** – The Outaouais Regional Environment and Sustainable Development Council (CREDDO) and the Canadian Society for Parks and Wilderness – Ottawa Valley Section (CPAWS-OV) held two public sessions to gather input on the proposed protected area for the Noire and Coulonge Rivers: December 5, in-person, in Gatineau and December 6 online. A session planned for Fort-Coulonge on December 4 was postponed due to weather but will be rescheduled in January.

Since October 2019, CREDDO and CPAWS-OV have been planning activities as part of a process to create a protected area of approximately 1,150 km<sup>2</sup> in the watersheds of the Noire and Coulonge Rivers. This project would increase the area of protected territory in Outaouais by a little more than 3%, while contributing to the efforts of the federal and provincial governments to protect 30% of its territory by 2030. On August 30, 2023, the province set aside 852.6 km<sup>2</sup> of the territory. However, CREDDO and CPAWS suggest expanding the protection zone, in particular to include the eastern branch of the Coulonge River and to better protect the sensitive habitats found there.

A number of studies have been carried out including Economic and Social Impact Potential, Impact on the Accessibility of the Area and Management of the Forest Road

Network and a Wood Turtle inventory along the Coulonge and East Coulonge rivers this past summer.

Gathering input from stakeholders and interested citizens has been an ongoing process since 2019. Feedback will be an essential part of the Management and Delimitation Proposal for the Noire and Coulonge protected area that will be submitted to the government mid-2024.

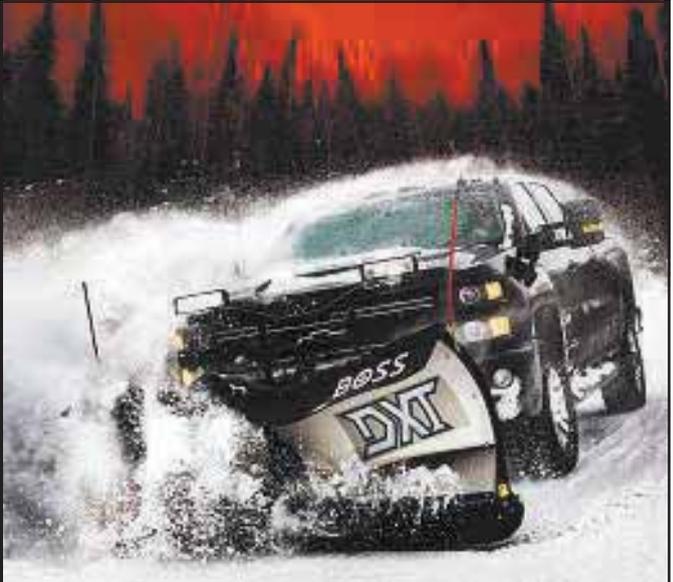
At the Gatineau meeting, members of the Club de canot-camping Pierre Radisson and the 50-50 Fish+Game Club spoke in favour of an even larger protected area and asked questions about potential management and infrastructure.

In the online session, participants from varied backgrounds asked many questions including what sort of management structure might be feasible. A member of the Green Lake and Black River Cottagers Association expressed serious concerns about the effects of increased traffic in the area, particularly of people unfamiliar with the territory, and the risks for public security given there's little or no cell phone reception.

There are a number of additional ways to have input on the project. There is the Facebook group Aire protégée - Rivières Noire et Coulonge (Protected Area Noire/Coulonge) and a project description on the CREDDO website with contact information (for English version try a web search "CREDDO protected areas").

**NEVER SETTLE.  
DEMAND GENUINE.**





**Proven to perform, guaranteed to fit and available at your local BOSS snowplow dealer.**

- 100% factory-backed
- The only parts designed to BOSS factory specs
- Guaranteed to fit and enhance your BOSS snowplow or spreader
- Innovative, tough and proven to perform



**TRUCKS PLUS**  
TOTAL ACCESSORY SHOWROOMS

[www.trucksplus.ca](http://www.trucksplus.ca)  
613-732-2824  
1-800-560-0513  
936 Pembroke St. E., Pembroke, ON



**BOSS**  
SNOWPLOW

©2019 BOSS Products. All Rights Reserved. All trademarks belong to BOSS Snowplow.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS







**Au Noir**

### Victorian Sweet

Ladies Fashion - Shoes - Menswear - Giftwear

1115 Pembroke St. E., Pembroke, ON K8A 7R4  
613-732-1036 ~ victoriansweetpembroke@gmail.com

**We Are #1 in Customer Service!**  
Serving Our Customers For 25 Years

WOMENS AND MEN'S #1 BOUTIQUE IN THE VALLEY

## 10% OFF EGGCESSORIES



Big Green Egg

JACKSON GRILLS



LUMBERJACK



DYNABLAST



Select "Backyard Oasis units and accessories", BBQs, smokers, and pressure washers. See dealer for details.



**HUCKABONES  
EQUIPMENT**

16002 Hwy 17 E, Cobden, ON  
613-631-2708  
[huckabones.com](http://huckabones.com)

10 Matthews Ave., Pembroke

Shop Online at:  
[ashleypembroke.ca](http://ashleypembroke.ca)

613-629-5464

613-629-5465

OPEN SUNDAYS: 11 AM - 4 PM



# ASHLEY



## NEED IT BEFORE CHRISTMAS?

**COME FAST FOR BEST INVENTORY SELECTION!**



**WATCH FACEBOOK FOR THE ADVENT CALENDAR SALE OF THE DAY!**

### FURNITURE, MATTRESSES & HOME DECOR READY TO GO!

Take home the same day or use our premiere delivery service and have it done for you, no hassle, full assembly and set up!



**VISIT US FOR QUALITY FURNITURE & MATTRESSES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES.**

UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC

CHRISTMAS CHEER DINNER  
BRIGHTENS THE SEASON

The Seniors' Christmas Cheer Dinner was held Wednesday, December 6, at the Anglican Church Hall in Shawville. For decades, the Shawville Lionettes organized and prepared this turkey dinner to spread seasonal cheer for seniors, especially those with no immediate family. After a four-year break due to COVID restrictions, and with the guidance of some retired Lionettes, the Shawville Lions took over the task of organizing the dinner, with a guest list generated to include people who are either alone, widowed or a widower. Elwin Lang's Shawville Taxi provided rides for those who needed them.



PHOTO: SUZANNE KIRKHAM

Café 349 prepared the meal, and the Lions, with help from other volunteers, served approximately 140 attendees. The seniors enjoyed Christmas carols sung by New Life Singers from the Grace Community Bible Church, who have been providing the music for years to this event. Santa even made an appearance with gifts for all.

Lions President, Ed Walsh, thanked Café 349, Giant Tiger, Shawville Taxi, Grace Community Bible Church, and the Anglican Church, stating: "Your generous contributions helped make this dinner possible."

-Suzanne Kirkham

PHOTO: Seniors enjoy a Christmas Cheer Dinner at the Anglican Church Hall in Shawville, December 6.

ANNUAL ONSLOW  
CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE

The Quyon Community Centre was bustling with excitement at the Annual Onslow Christmas Craft Sale on Saturday, November 11. From knit items and wellness products, to Christmas decorations, books and goodies to eat, there was something for everyone.



Because the sale was held on Remembrance Day, a moment of silence was observed to honour the sacrifice made by our soldiers for the peace that we enjoy today.

Onslow School raised \$1,750 from canteen sales and vendor table fees. The grade 6 graduating class also raised over \$600 from their raffle, which will go towards their graduation trip.

-Cheryl Dolan

PHOTO: Christine Chevrier of Paperer's Workshop showcases her wares at the Onslow Christmas Craft Sale, November 11.

PEACE • JOY • HAPPINESS • LOVE • FRIENDSHIP • HEALTH

**FINNIGAN'S**  
ROAD HOUSE  
FINE DINING, ROADHOUSE STYLE!

December 24 Closed at 3pm	December 25 Closed	Boxing Day December 26 Closed
------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------------------

*Merry Christmas!*  
Please don't drink & drive  
this holiday season!

955 Pembroke St. E., Pembroke, ON ~ 613-735-2333

PEACE • JOY • HAPPINESS • LOVE • FRIENDSHIP • HEALTH

Wishing You  
a Very  
Merry Christmas!

Caring and dignified service  
in your time of need.

**Neville**  
FUNERAL HOME

Serving Pembroke & Area Since 1908

Funeral Directors  
Lorne Neville, Chris Neville, Paula Neville,  
Erin Myles and Eric Zadow

Pre-need Funeral Planning. Chapel Facilities Available. Serving all Faiths.

**613-732-7481**  
491 Isabella Street, Pembroke, ON

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

**MACGREGOR**  
CONCRETE PRODUCTS (BEACHBURG) LIMITED  
Serving Ontario & Quebec since 1975

**SEPTIC TANK PUMPING**

- Precast Concrete Septic Tanks
- Ready Mix Concrete
- Well Tile

**613-582-3459 • 1-800-267-0118**  
Fax: 1-613-582-7383 • [www.macgregorconcrete.com](http://www.macgregorconcrete.com)

**Murphy Funeral Home & Chapel**  
Caring for Our Community Since 1963

**Peace, Joy & Hope at Christmas**

Funeral Directors:  
John Huff  
Sandra Huff  
Warren Huff  
Gene Murphy

[www.murphyfuneralhome.ca](http://www.murphyfuneralhome.ca)  
296 Isabella Street, Pembroke  
613 735-5711  
Privileged to serve the communities of Pembroke and the Pontiac.

RENFREW PONTIAC LIVESTOCK  
Coburn, ON

Merry Christmas  
from  
**RENFREW PONTIAC LIVESTOCK**

**SALE EVERY TUESDAY AT 1 PM**  
**CALL MATT 613 633 1598**  
WE TRUCK ANYWHERE IN ONTARIO & QUEBEC !

RENFREW PONTIAC LIVESTOCK LTD

**JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS...**  
**Womens' Carhartt**  
 Jackets, Hoodies, Shirts, Bibs & Accessories  
 Special Orders Available

**Valley WorkWear**  
 more than a boot store

**680 Pembroke St. E. 613-735-8290 (across from Mcdonalds)**



WALTHAM SENIORS ENJOY CHRISTMAS FEAST

La Gare/Waltham Station staff served up a special turkey supper followed by a variety of desserts December 2 in honour of local seniors. More than forty community members gathered for a hot meal and to share some stories. Even Santa and Mrs. Claus (Norm Tremblay and Heather Sandney) were in attendance bringing Christmas cheer.  
 -Peter L. Smith

PHOTO: Waltham Golden Age members enjoy a Christmas supper at Waltham Station December 2.

*Shop Pembroke*  
 THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Get your local Christmas shopping guide:  
[pembroke.ca/shopping](http://pembroke.ca/shopping)

## Mike Wood named Pontiac Ovest Firefighter of the Year



Pontiac Ovest Fire Safety Service members with Chief Glynn Fleury (centre); retiring firefighter André Chartrand (left of Fleury); and Firefighter of the Year, Mike Wood (right of Fleury).

PETER L.SMITH

**L'ISLE-AUX-ALLUMETTES** - The annual Pontiac Ovest Fire Safety Service awards dinner, held December 1 at Harrington Community Centre, paid tribute to members of the department, which serves L'Isle-aux-Allumettes, Chichester and Sheenboro. About 90 people attended the full course turkey supper, served by local caterer Bread of Life from L'Isle-aux-Allumettes.

Donald Gagnon, a 35 year member of the department, paid tribute to the late Robert (Bobby) Picard who served as fire chief for Chichester from 1987-1995.

Fire Chief Glynn Fleury presented Mike Wood with a plaque as Firefighter of Year for 2023. He also presented retiring firefighter André Chartrand with a plaque for 17 years of service.

Fleury also presented pins to: Donald Gagnon and Gary Gagnon for 35 years

service; Leo Mainville, 30 years; Tim Sullivan, 25 years; Stewart Adam, Richard Martin, Shawn Martin and Glynn Fleury for 15 years; Dan Fleury, 10 years; and Ian Payne, Mike Wood, Tyler Keon, Scott Kelly, and Paul Gagnon for 5 years.

Certificates were given to 8 pumper operator graduates (Mike Wood, Ian Payne, Brooke Demond, Marie-Eve Couture, Noah Vaillancourt, Tyler Keon and Matt Allard) and ten Firefighter One graduates (Alex Souliere, Lucas Mulligan, Noah Vaillancourt, Mike Wood, Matt Allard, Marie-Eve Couture, Brooke Demond, Ryan Venasse, Marcos Garcia and Maria Garcia).

Two new recruits joined the department: Ryan Stickler and Pat LaRochelle. They are waiting for a new course to begin.

Fleury outlined goals for 2024, which included conducting home inspections for fire safety.

**SANTA CLAUS COMES TO L'ISLE-AUX-ALLUMETTES**

The annual Santa Claus parade, held Sunday December 3, was blessed with a light snowfall putting everyone in the Christmas spirit. About 25 floats gathered at Dr. Wilbert Keon School and paraded through the streets of Chapeau much to the delight of children and parents along the route. The jolly old elf, Santa Claus, rode high on top of a firetruck thanks to the Pontiac Ouest Fire Safety Service who chauffeured him. The parade was accompanied by the Sûreté du Québec for safety.



Floats included Dr. Wilbert Keon School; Chapeau Recreation Association; Chapeau Minor Hockey/Upper Pontiac Sports Complex; Municipality of L'Isle-aux-Allumettes; contractor M. Kidd & Sons Ltd.; Kerry Mullen Trucking; Sheenboro Line Dancers; Chapeau Agricultural Society; Caisse Desjardins des Rivières de Pontiac; a religious themed float; GSX (Griff Slaughter Xperience with his tour boat); many horses and riders; and ATV enthusiasts.

Afterwards, everyone gathered at Harrington Community Centre for a visit with Santa. The Chapeau and District Lions Club and the Chapeau Recreation Association, who organized the event, provided free hot dogs, hot chocolate and cake for all.

-Peter L. Smith

PHOTO: The team from Kerry Mullen Trucking in the L'Isle-aux-Allumettes Christmas Parade, December 3.



**A PEMBROKE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS**

The 2023 Pembroke Santa Claus Parade of Lights, held November 25, registered over 90 floats under the theme of Country Christmas. Crowds lined both sides of Main Street to catch a glimpse of the Merry Old Elf.

-Peter L. Smith

**SANTA SAYS SLED SAFELY THIS SEASON!**

**PETE'S SALES & SERVICE LIMITED**  
613-735-3711  
2107 Petawawa Blvd., Pembroke  
www.PetesSalesAndService.ca

**PETE'S SALES AND SERVICE**

That Ski-Doo Feeling. Check out our 2024 line up! **ski-doo**

*Happiest Holiday Wishes*

From **OUR FARM** to **YOUR HOME**

**FARMERS FEED THE WORLD!**

**M & R FEEDS**  
www.mandrfeeds.com  
Micksburg 613-735-3689  
Pembroke 613-732-2843  
Shawville 819-647-2814

*Merry Christmas from*  
**SCHUTT'S WHEEL ALIGNMENT**

Wheel Alignment - Parallélisme  
Balancing - Équilibrage des roues  
Brakes - Freins  
Exhaust - Échappement  
Air Conditioning - Air climatisé  
General Repairs - Réparations générales  
Headlight Aiming - Orientation des phares

**SPRAY ON BOX LINERS**

**KROWN**  
Protect Maintain Save  
Rust control that really works

1410 Pembroke St. West, Pembroke, ON.  
613-732-7373 OR 613-732-8805

**REMOTE CAR STARTERS**

Call for your special pricing. Full warranty. Professional Installation

Gift Certificates Available

• HEATED SEATS • CAR STEREOS • TRUCK ACCESSORIES  
• AUTO DETAILING AND MORE

**Normandean's Car Care**

811 Pembroke St. West  
Pembroke, Ontario  
**613-735-1644**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**metro**

In your community **60** years!

**FULL SERVICE GROCERY STORE**

- Gluten Free Products - Organics
- Gift Cards - Lottery - Post Office Service
- Fresh 2 Go Meals - All Occasion Platters
- Fruit Baskets - Full Service Departments

**425 Pembroke St. E.**  
613-735-4136  
Enjoy Your Shopping Experience!

**AIR MILES**  
Travel and More

Sun.: 8 am-6 pm; Mon-Fri.: 8 am-9 pm; Sat.: 8 am-6 pm

# Merry Christmas

Got Pain? Try acupuncture!



**Blaise T. Ryan & Associates**  
ACUPUNCTURE  
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

Safe effective therapy for pain and other health problems.  
~ Voted Top Acupuncture Services in Ottawa 5 years in a row. ~

Located at 383 Parkdale Ave. in Ottawa (across from the Parkdale Market)

Book online at [www.blaiseryan.com](http://www.blaiseryan.com)  
or call 613-702-5377

*Merry Christmas*  
FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHAWVILLE

★ Celebrate  
★ New Year's Eve!  
★ Shawville 150 Celebration

Shawville Lions Hall  
Sunday, December 31, 2023

Roast Beef Supper  
catered by Cartridges

Supper - 7pm  
The Denny Welburn Band - 9 pm

**\$50** / ticket

Tickets found at Town Hall, Cartridges,  
Boutique Shawville Shooz or contact  
Susan McCleary at 819-647-8094

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

and thank you to our customers for your continued support from all of us at Shawville Auto Service.

- Murray, Gerald, Gloria, Justin, Dave

SEE YOU ALL IN THE NEW YEAR!



Mechanical - Alignments  
Computer Scan - Tune-up & Emissions

**SHAWVILLE AUTO SERVICE & USED CAR SALES**

475 Main Street, Shawville • 819-647-3881  
Murray & Jerry Prop.

### SHOPPING FOR UNIQUE GIFTS FROM LOCAL ARTISANS

The Annual Christmas Artisan Market at the Little Red Wagon Winery in Clarendon, Friday, December 8 through Sunday, December 10, highlighted 20 local artists and artisans from whom shoppers could choose unique, handmade gifts. Some visitors also enjoyed a light lunch with the LRW's traditional charcuterie board, or took home a bottle or two of the red, white or rosé wine available for sale.



The beautiful square log building was bustling with visitors as they met and purchased from the vendors present. Wares included knitted goods and specialty yarns; handmade paper journals and grapevine wreaths; fused glass vases, plates and decorations; herbal products; silk scarves; silver jewellery; framed artwork; alpaca socks and insoles; beeswax candles in different shapes; handmade soaps and bath bombs; seasonal flower and plant arrangements; wooden cutting boards, bowls and decorations; baked goods and local honey; and new this year, a large display from Semelles Allumettes / Matches Seeds with their specialty vegetable and flower seed packets. There was also the new wool pellet fertilizer for sale from Luskville's Leystone Farms.

This special show, as well as several other markets featuring local artisans and craftspeople in recent weeks, are perfect examples of how much talent there is in the Pontiac, and how unique gifts are available right here at home.

-Lynne Lavery

PHOTO: Shoppers filled the Little Red Wagon Winery, over the December 8th weekend, purchasing from 20 local artisans and vendors selling handcrafted wares

### SANTA AND HIS ELVES AT THE RBC

The Royal Bank of Canada in Shawville has pulled out all the stops again this year with their annual decorating of the branch by Aileen Sheppard. A giant Santa head greets customers as it sits on top of a huge tree covered with sparkling decorations; next to it is a table filled with different well-dressed elves and underneath is a miniature Christmas train; there's also a sparkly carousel spinning gaily behind. It's a feast for the eyes! On Thursday, December 7, Santa came to see the display and to greet over 250 local children from McDowell School and the daycares in town, making this a special day at the branch for staff and customers alike.

-Lynne Lavery

PHOTO: Ms. MacLeod's grade 2 class from Dr. S.E. McDowell Elementary visits with Santa at RBC Shawville during their customer appreciation day, December 13.



PHOTO: SYDNEY MACLEOD

## ATTENTION!

ÉDITION  
SPECIALE

et la dernière avant les Fêtes est le  
**20 décembre 2023**

Date limite pour publicité est le  
14 décembre à 14 h

SPECIAL  
ISSUE

and the last one before the holidays  
**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Deadline for advertising is  
December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

PONTIAC  
UNISSANT TOUÏE LE PONTIAC • UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC  
**Journal**  
DU PONTIAC

Tél: 819-683-3582 – Fax: 819-683-2977

## ATTENTION LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS

**Ontario Stockyards Inc., Cookstown, Ontario**  
is an approved facility to market Quebec livestock. If you choose to market your livestock through Ontario Stockyards Inc. we would require your stakeholder number and a site number.

For more information and to market your livestock please contact:

**Ab Carroll: 705-344-6654**  
**Brian Pascoe: 705-878-6918**

**Office Tel: 705-458-4000**  
**Fax: 705-458-4100**

Email: [info@ontariostockyards.on.ca](mailto:info@ontariostockyards.on.ca)



**Box 1051, 3807 Hwy 89**  
**Cookstown, ON L0L 1L0**  
[www.ontariostockyards.on.ca](http://www.ontariostockyards.on.ca)

# PONTIAC PERSPECTIVE

BY PETER GAUTHIER

## Municipal waste: landfills, EFW, and the circular economy

MRC Pontiac has a garbage problem. We are sending our waste to a site in Laval, which is most notable due to the extra costs imposed on our municipalities and, ultimately, the residents. But this is not the only issue. The landfill method of waste disposal has immediate and long-term environmental problems that tend to be overlooked. So, we have a current debate about the proposal for the construction and operation of a waste-to-energy facility. Essentially, this is the concept of burning the waste at high temperatures and generating electric energy. At a first glance, this sounds great, but closer examination uncovers many issues.

The first step in finding a truly viable solution may begin with the question: "why so much garbage?". We (Canadians) generate 694 kilograms of waste per person per year - the worst record of all nations on planet Earth. 510 kilograms of this goes to landfill. This explains why, in part, Canadian landfill sites are rapidly becoming full and garbage disposal is a major issue for us and

our environment. Obviously, something must change. But what?

The most effective solution lies in the concept of the circular economy. This is a system whereby materials never become waste. Products and materials are kept in circulation by maintenance, reuse, recycling, and remanufacturing. The final stage is composting, where residues are returned to the environment for natural disposal. The circular economy recovers as much value as possible. It is the wise use of resources to ensure humanity's true values and the planet's ecosystem.

Implementing the circular economy will require changes in many of our current destructive practices. We need new business models that account for currently hidden environmental costs. And these new models should be global. Manufacturing processes must include considerations for recycling and final disposal. These changes are being made. Individual companies are altering their manufacturing process to better fit with the circular economy. Right-to-repair legislation is becoming more common. The European Union is preparing standards and procedures that will make the circular economy a requirement. The Government of Canada has made the concept of a circular economy an essential part of its plans for sustainability.

And what does this have to do with the proposed waste-to-energy facility for MRC Pontiac? Well, first, there will not be enough garbage to make the facility operational over a long period of time. Second, operating such a facility will become very expensive. Simply put, the long-term viability of a waste-to-energy facility can be seriously questioned. Yes, garbage is a serious issue, but MRC Pontiac has had too many ineffectual attempts at injecting economic activity to be able to afford another failure.

## Annual Christmas Bird Counts coming up

DEBORAH POWELL

**PONTIAC** - It's time to count the birds of Christmas and be part of North America's longest-running Citizen Science project!

Just a few minutes out of your day can contribute to one of the world's largest sets of wildlife survey data. Just make a note of the maximum number of any bird species that you see at your feeders, or on your property, at any one time and send the results to the bird count organizer in your area on your local count day.

How to find which Christmas Bird Count (CBC) area you are in? Consult the maps on either of the following sites: [www.birdscanada.org](http://www.birdscanada.org) or [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org), or contact the local CBC organizer who can send you info. The dates for upcoming CBCs are:

- L'Isle-aux-Allumettes/Pembroke: Saturday, December 16
- Quyon/Bristol/Shawville: Wednesday, December 20
- Île-du-Grand-Calumet and area: Thursday, December 28
- Breckenridge/Dunrobin: Tuesday, January 2
- Fort-Coulonge and area: Thursday, January 4

Counts are carried out within a 24 km diameter circle that stay the same from year to year and happen in over 2000 localities throughout the Western Hemisphere.

In addition to feeder watchers, Christmas Bird Count teams will be out on



Barred Owl are common in our area and often heard at night with their distinctive "Who cooks for you" call. It's always a great plus to find one perched during the day and be able to add that species to a Christmas bird count.

the roads and trails, scanning fields and forest and listening closely to count the birds of Christmas. Your road reports may also be valuable if you are travelling locally. Just send information on time, location and species to the local organizer. Experienced birders are invited to form their own road teams to cover a sector of a count circle.

For more information on contacts for local bird counts, email [debp@storm.ca](mailto:debp@storm.ca) or call 819-647-2910. Local counts are organized through the Club des ornithologues de l'Outaouais (COO) and contact information is also available on their website: [www.coo.qc.ca](http://www.coo.qc.ca).

## Happy New Year

# CASSIDY'S TRANSFER & STORAGE LTD.

"Your Total Transportation Company"



## GET READY FOR WINTER STORAGE

20 Foot 14 Gauge Steel Containers  
Wood Floor / 1360 Cubic Feet / 5290 Lbs Tare Weight

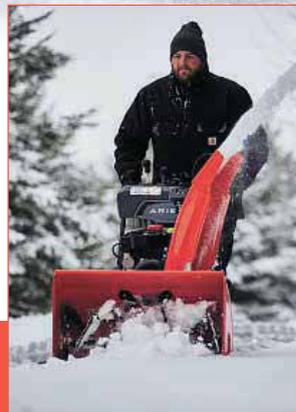


All Containers are wind & water tight.  
Container Condition, Colour and Grade will be reflected by the price.

1001 Mackay St., Pembroke - Telephone: (613) 735-6881  
Toll Free: 1-800-663-6615 • [www.wemovetheworld.com](http://www.wemovetheworld.com)  
Free Delivery within Renfrew County

THE FAMILY THAT FEARS

# NO FORECAST



ARIENS

LIMITED STOCK  
BUY FOR THE 2023/24 SEASON  
!! BUY NOW !!



**RG Dick Plummer**  
MARINE & POWER PRODUCTS  
1495 Pembroke St. W.,  
Pembroke, ON  
613-735-2316  
[www.dickplummer.ca](http://www.dickplummer.ca)

**0% FINANCING FOR 36 MONTHS\***  
\*See in store for details.

# Petites Annonces / Classifieds

819-683-3582 ~ [notice@journalpontiac.com](mailto:notice@journalpontiac.com)

5-289, rue Principale (rte 148) Mansfield (QC) J0X 1R0

## FOR SALE

QCNA offers a one-order, one-bill service to advertisers. Call us for details on reaching English Quebec, and through classified ads French Quebec and every other Canadian province & territory. Contact us at [sales@qcna.qc.ca](mailto:sales@qcna.qc.ca) or 819-893-6330. For details visit <https://qcna.qc.ca/>

**MINI BARNS, STORAGE SHEDS, BUNKIES, PRIVIES, HAY FEEDERS FOR HORSES.** We built to fit your backyard. Come check us out at 1022, Cold Creek Road, Eganville, ON. Closed Sundays.

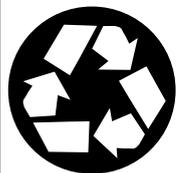
## OFFRE D'EMPLOI

**SORTIR DU BOIS** est à la recherche de gens (18-45 ans) intéressés à vivre une expérience de travail rémunérée (15\$/heure) de 22 semaines. Cette démarche vise l'intégration au marché du travail. 819-648-5065. Venez tenter votre chance!

## JOB OFFER

**SORTIR DU BOIS** is looking for people (18-45) interested in a paid (15\$/hour) 22 week work experience that leads to reintegration on the labour market. 819-648-5065. Come and try it out!

**ACCOUNTANT REQUIRED** - Minimum 3 year's experience. Prepare financial documents, complete bank reconciliation including verifying balances. Knowledge of tax matters including GST/QST monthly remittances. Must be bilingual. Email resume : [info@nugentconstruction.ca](mailto:info@nugentconstruction.ca)



PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER AFTER READING

## SERVICE

**Christmas Dinner**  
SAT DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Join us for a Festive Country Christmas dinner  
INCLUDING: Turkey, Ham, Stuffing, Potatoes, Carrots, Salad & Christmas Treats.  
BEER AND WINE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

**HARRINGTON HALL - CHAPEAU, QUEBEC**  
5PM-9PM

**\$30 PER PERSON**  
TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE 613-890-7548



## AVIS PUBLIC



MUNICIPALITÉ DE  
*Mansfield-et-Pontefract*

## AVIS PUBLIC

(AFFICHÉ LE 7 DÉCEMBRE 2023)

Par les présentes, avis est donné par le soussigné, Eric Rochon, directeur général et secrétaire trésorier de la municipalité de Mansfield-et-Pontefract.

### QUE :

Le Conseil municipal tiendra une séance extraordinaire en vue de l'adoption du règlement numéro 2023-012 dont l'objet est le budget municipal pour l'exercice 2024, la fixation du taux de taxes foncières, du taux de la taxe spéciale sur le traitement des insectes piqueurs, du taux de base pour la taxe sur le traitement des matières résiduelles, du taux de base pour la taxe sur le service d'aqueduc, du taux de base pour la taxe sur le service d'égoûts et le plan triennal des immobilisations 2024, 2025 et 2026.

Cette séance extraordinaire pour l'adoption du budget se tiendra le jeudi 21 décembre 2023 au nouveau lieu ordinaire des séances du Conseil au 314 rue Principale à 19 h 00.

Quiconque désire prendre connaissance du projet de règlement pourra le faire au Bureau municipal, 314, rue Principale, durant les heures habituelles d'ouverture au public à compter du 7 décembre 2023.

Donné à Mansfield-et-Pontefract ce sixième jour de décembre de l'an deux mille vingt-trois.

*Eric Rochon*

Eric Rochon, Directeur général.

## OFFRE D'EMPLOI / JOB OFFER



## OCCASION D'EMPLOI OCCASIONNEL

Le **Journal du Pontiac** recherche un journaliste communautaire à temps occasionnel pour **SHAWVILLE** et **FORT-COULONGE**.

Parfait pour un retraité, un deuxième revenu ou toute personne intéressée par un travail occasionnel.

Vous aimez assister aux événements locaux ? Voulez-vous soutenir votre communauté ?

Vous aimez écrire, vous avez une voiture et un appareil photo ?

Vous voulez des horaires flexibles et faire partie d'une équipe ?

**CET EMPLOI POURRAIT ÊTRE PARFAIT POUR VOUS !**

Envoyez un bref curriculum vitae et une lettre de présentation à [info@journalpontiac.com](mailto:info@journalpontiac.com)

## CASUAL JOB OPPORTUNITY

The **Pontiac Journal** seeks a part-time community reporter for **SHAWVILLE** and **FORT-COULONGE**.

Perfect for a retiree, second income or anyone interested in occasional work.

Do you like attending local events? Do you want to support your community?

Do you like writing and have a car and camera? Do you want flexible hours and to be part of a team?

**THIS JOB COULD BE PERFECT FOR YOU!!**

Send a brief resumé and letter of introduction to [info@journalpontiac.com](mailto:info@journalpontiac.com)

In the air there's a  
feeling of Christmas...

and we hope that feeling lifts your spirits and fills  
your heart and soul with peace, joy and comfort  
that will last throughout the year.

With gratitude for your continued support,  
we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Campbell  
Monument**

Tel: 613-735-5178

Toll Free: 800-567-6228

1318 Pembroke St. West  
Pembroke, ON

[www.campbellmonument.com](http://www.campbellmonument.com)



OBTENEZ L'INTÉGRALITÉ DU JOURNAL EN LIGNE!  
GET THE ENTIRE JOURNAL ONLINE!

PONTIAC  
UNISSANT TOUT LE PONTIAC • UNITING ALL THE PONTIAC  
**Journal**  
DU PONTIAC

**WWW.PONTIACJOURNAL.COM**

# HYUNDAI PEMBROKE

www.hyundaipembroke.ca



THREE time President's AWARD of Merit Winner  
Signature Certified

Merry Christmas from our family to yours!



' FREE WINTER TIRES ON SELECT PRE-OWNED VEHICLES ' UNTIL DECEMBER 31ST 2023.

	CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED	CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED	CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED
<b>2018 HONDA CIVIC SE</b> Stock #24041A 62,720 KM <b>\$96.92 + TAX &amp; LICENSING WEEKLY 72 MONTHS @ 8.99%</b> PLUS HST APR NOW \$23,199	<b>2024 KIA SELTOS SX-TURBO</b> Stock #24064A 10,121 KM <b>\$141.50 + TAX &amp; LICENSING WEEKLY 84 MONTHS @ 8.99%</b> PLUS HST APR NOW \$37,999	<b>2022 HYUNDAI ELANTRA HYBRID - ULTIMATE</b> Stock #24026A 39,143 KM *includes 1 year powertrain warranty, 1 free oil change <b>\$120.55 + TAX &amp; LICENSING WEEKLY 84 MONTHS @ 7.69%</b> PLUS HST APR NOW \$32,428	<b>HYUNDAI TUCSON PREFERRED AWD</b> Stock #P647 *previous daily rental 17,000 KM *includes 1 year powertrain warranty, 1 free oil change <b>\$134.51 + TAX &amp; LICENSING WEEKLY 84 MONTHS @ 7.69%</b> PLUS HST APR NOW \$36,349
			<b>2022 HYUNDAI SONATA HYBRID ULTIMATE</b> Stock #23410A 27,931 KM *includes 1 year powertrain warranty, 1 free oil change <b>\$149.46 + TAX &amp; LICENSING WEEKLY 84 MONTHS @ 7.69%</b> PLUS HST APR NOW \$40,546



Des véhicules arrivent chaque jour.\*

<b>TUCSON 2024</b> Louez la version Preferred à traction intégrale pour: <b>105\$</b> par semaine à <b>8,99%</b> pour 48 mois avec acompte de 1 495\$*	<b>KONA 2024</b> Louez la version Preferred à traction intégrale pour: <b>95\$</b> par semaine à <b>8,99%</b> pour 48 mois avec acompte de 1 695\$*	<b>ELANTRA 2024</b> Louez la version Preferred pour: <b>75\$</b> par semaine à <b>7,99%</b> pour 48 mois avec acompte de 1 695\$*

SEE WHAT SETS US APART FROM THE REST, ITS NOT JUST A VEHICLE, ITS A LIFESTYLE!  
WE ARE OPEN & WOULD LOVE TO EARN YOUR BUSINESS!  
Join the Hyundai Pembroke Family today, visit [Hyundaipembroke.ca](http://Hyundaipembroke.ca)  
FOLLOW us on Facebook & Instagram for GREAT giveaways.

**SEE YOUR HYUNDAI PEMBROKE SALES TEAM TODAY!!!**

<b>KATY CONNORS</b>	<b>DEREK THRASHER</b>	<b>BRANDON BERTRAND</b>	<b>SHANNON SLAUGHTER</b>	<b>DON BELL</b>

\*\$599 Administration fee and \$10 OMCV fee included. Plus taxes and licensing. All financing rates are "on approved credit" (OAC). CPO rates are available only on select models. Additional charges may apply for the CPO program. For example, a \$12,000 loan at 5.99% for 6 years has a payment of \$198.82a month.

Balayez le code QR pour en savoir plus et commandez votre véhicule aujourd'hui.

Informations supplémentaires:  
 • Le concessionnaire peut imposer des frais d'administration allant jusqu'à \$599, variables selon le concessionnaire.  
 • Les membres actifs et les vétérans des Forces armées reçoivent jusqu'à 750 \$ en ajustements de prix. Visitez [hyundaicanada.com](http://hyundaicanada.com)

**5 ans / 100 000 km**  
Cotisation globale limitée\*

**ON FABRIQUE DU WAH** **HYUNDAI**  
[hyundaicanada.com](http://hyundaicanada.com)

"Your Time, Your Pace, Your Purchase"

**HYUNDAI PEMBROKE**  
1945 Petawawa Blvd.,  
Pembroke 613-735-5636

@hyundaipembroke  
#hyundaipembroke

\*\*INTEREST RATES SUBJECT TO MANUFACTURER CHANGE\*\*

The **SMART** PLACE TO SHOP.  
[hyundaipembroke.ca](http://hyundaipembroke.ca)

The Hyundai names, logos, product names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and are used under license. Plus Taxes.

JUSTE À TEMPS POUR NOËL ! JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS !



INSCRIVEZ-VOUS À NOTRE INFOLETTRE  
ET COUREZ LA CHANCE DE GAGNER



Un ensemble d'outils Milwaukee

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER  
FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

a Milwaukee tool kit

INSCRIPTION DU 13 AU 22 DÉCEMBRE  
REGISTRATION FROM DECEMBER 13 TO 22  
TIRAGE LE 23 DÉCEMBRE 2023. DRAW ON DECEMBER 23 2023.



VALEUR DE 260\$ / 260\$ VALUE

\*Concours : Inscrivez-vous à notre infolettre et courez la chance de gagner un ensemble Milwaukee comprenant 2 outils, batterie, chargeur et sac (42786183) d'une valeur totale de 260\$ dans tous les magasins JLS participants. Le tirage aura lieu le 23 décembre 2023. Pour participer, vous devez vous inscrire à notre infolettre et devez compléter le formulaire à l'adresse suivante: <https://materiauxjls.ca> dans la section concours et règlements entre 13 et le 22 décembre 2023. Tous les détails sont disponibles à l'adresse web mentionnée, ou en magasin.

\*Contest: Sign up for our newsletter for a chance to win a Milwaukee set including 2 tools, battery, charger and bag (42786183) worth a total of \$260 at all participating JLS stores. The draw will take place on December 23, 2023. To participate, you must subscribe to our newsletter and complete the form at <https://materiauxjls.ca> contest and rules section between December 13 and 22, 2023. Full details are available at the above web address, or in-store.

CADEAU DE  
DERNIÈRE MINUTE ?

Offrez notre carte-cadeau!



LAST MINUTE  
GIFT IDEA ?

Offer our gift card!

LIQUIDATION DE NOËL  
JUSQU'À 30% DE RABAIS\*

CHRISTMAS CLEARANCE  
UP TO 30% OFF\*

DU JEUDI 14 AU MERCREDI 27 DÉCEMBRE 2023  
THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14 TO DECEMBER 27, 2023

\*Produits sélectionnés, disponibles en magasin seulement, jusqu'à épuisement du stock. Aucune commande spéciale.  
\*Preselected products offered in-store only, while quantities last, no special orders.



VISITEZ / VISIT  
MATERIAUXJLS.CA

BRYSON / 819-648-5881 / 660, ROUTE 148  
MANSFIELD / 819-683-2482 / 285, RUE PRINCIPALE

