

ELECTIONS 2009

It's municipal election time. At the end of the nomination period, on October 2, three councillors were elected unopposed:

Seat no.2 Gilles Payer (re-elected)

Seat no.5 Daniel Berthiaume (re-elected)

Seat no.6 Nicole Tousignant (elected)

The remaining candidates are:

Mayor David Pharand
Yvon Charlebois
Hélène Côté Lamarche

Seat no.1 Léonce Lessard
Laurent Filion
Patrick Douglas

Seat no.3 Robert Bélanger
Claude Tétrault

Seat no.4 Guy Lalonde
Gaétan Lalande

The APLG Board of Directors has met some of the new candidates. We consider that all the seven candidates running for council are qualified to represent their constituency.

However, we have some reservation concerning two of the candidates running for mayor.

Mr. Charlebois was mayor of Duhamel from 1997 to 2005. Over that period we experienced confrontations and questionable decisions, taken without consultation, for which we are still paying the price.

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He was soundly defeated in 2005, and a return to another administration under his leadership is not desirable.

As for Ms. Lamarche, her presence on the Board of the APLG, from 1996 to 1998, does not lead us to believe that she is a team player. Furthermore, her interventions at municipal council meetings appear more indicative of a desire to be controversial than a willingness to seek answers. We are concerned that such a person as mayor could affect the proper functioning of the municipal council.

Mr. Pharand who has been a councillor since the May 2008 by-elections, shares the APLG concerns. He has shown an interest in protecting our environment and recognizes the need to manage expenses stringently and fairly. His political and professional experience leads us to believe that he would get the municipal council members to work well together.

For these reasons, the Board of Directors of the APLG supports David Pharand as Mayor of Duhamel.

How to vote

- by mail, your ballot has to reach the municipality by October 30
- in person, at the Duhamel Town Hall
 - on October 25, from noon to 8 p.m.
 - on November 1, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

INTERNET

High speed internet should be available soon in the northern sector of Lac Gagnon. Intelligence Papineau is taking the necessary steps to install another tower, probably near the public wharf. It is expected that the service will be available before year-end. Contrary to earlier indications, costs of this tower will not have to be assumed by the Municipality.

WATERSHED

The Rouge, Petite-Nation and Saumon river watershed organization (organisme des bassins versants (OBV)) has been created last September 15. The APLG has joined this new organization which will manage water resources on a large territory. This OBV will be divided into four sections, one of which will cover the Petite-Nation watershed. It will have its own permanent staff which should be in place within the next few months.

A FEW TIPS

- If you have a steel, polyethylene or fiberglass septic tank that was pumped recently, do not forget to fill it with enough water to prevent it from being lifted in the spring when the water table rises.
- We have been informed of an increase in bear sightings. This may be due to a food shortage following the poor weather this summer. Do not leave food waste near your home.

LE REMOUS
du
LAC GAGNON

October
2009



APLG

Association des propriétaires
du lac Gagnon

C.P. 354, Duhamel, Québec

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www.aplg.ca

Board of Directors 2009-2010

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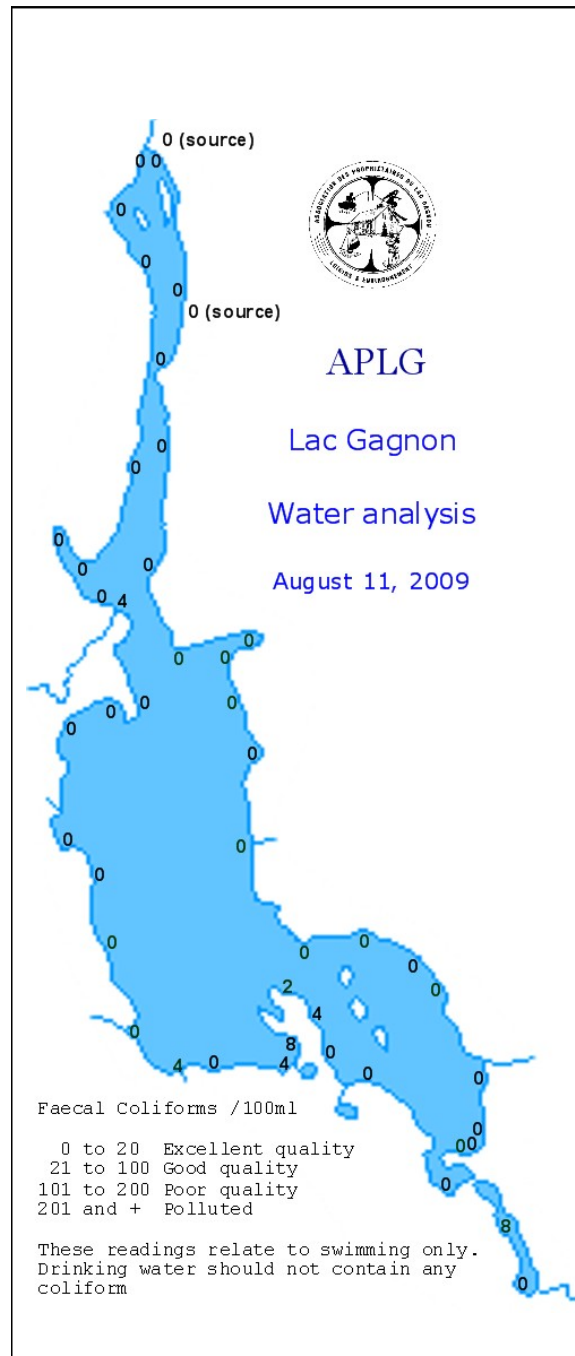
contact: info@aplq.ca

Membership

Thank you to the 365 homeowners who have paid their 2009 membership fee.

Those who may have forgotten to pay their 2009 membership fee can still send us their \$15, or better still, send \$30 now and pay their 2010 membership fee at the same time.

Remember to notify us of any change of email address by contacting info@aplq.ca



WATER ANALYSIS

Results of water analyses, for swimming purposes, are shown in the enclosed graph.

The APLG took 50 samples on Tuesday, August 11, which is the same period as last year, and in similar weather conditions. The water was fairly warm and it was a sunny day. Although such conditions could yield rather disappointing results, the tests revealed that the quality of the water, for swimming purposes, is excellent throughout the lake. Results are even better than those of the last several years.

As requested at our last annual meeting, we also used the services of a recognized laboratory to analyze water from two sources at the north end of the lake. Results confirm that this water is clearly potable. There were no traces of fecal coliform, or even total coliform, in the water from these two sources. Furthermore the source at the far end of the lake did not show any atypical coliform, while there were 16 such coliforms in the sample taken from the source more to the south. The acceptable limit is 200. The water quality is therefore quite good.

The source at the northern tip of the lake is at the bottom of chemin de la Pointe. The other source, more to the south, near chemin du Soleil, is accessible by boat. Water is collected in a stainless steel tank which can be seen from the lake.

Thank you to all the residents for acting responsibly, which contributes to maintaining excellent water quality.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Two APLG pioneers retired from the Board of the Association at the annual meeting last June. Nicole Tousignant, our President over the last four years, took a well-deserved break over the summer, and then ran for a municipal council position. She was elected unopposed on October 2.

Marie Bodard, our Secretary-treasurer over the last seven years, has also left our Board. In August, she was appointed President of the "comité de gestion des aires de conservation" of the Municipality of Duhamel.

The Association has lost two good collaborators, but we are happy to see that our community will continue to benefit from their commitment and dedication.

HELICOPTER

An extension to a wharf was set up this summer at the Poliquin campground to allow helicopters to land on Lac Gagnon. The wharf has been stored along the shoreline for the winter season, which leads us to believe it will be used again. Although these installations would seem to have been used only for private purposes, given that the campground is a commercial zone, it would always be possible to use this helipad for commercial purposes. The APLG does not believe that these types of installations are a good fit with the natural, quiet nature of Lac Gagnon. Let us know if you share our concerns and want us to make representations to the authorities to either prohibit or limit the use of wharfs by helicopters.