

## LOGGING

The APLG reached its goal of protecting the outskirts of Lac Gagnon from logging until the end of the present 2008-2013 five year plan.

Due to a change in the policies applicable to logging, our initial 2008 agreement was likely to become useless. As a result of further negotiations in 2010, we succeeded in getting all 12 foresters operating in our region to endorse our agreement. In addition, the original agreement has been improved. Some parcels which were slated to be logged, for example, between lakes Gagnon and Bourgeois, are now protected. We have also better identified the trails to be protected. In summary, all the periphery of Lac Gagnon, up to the summit of the mountains, is protected until 2013. The details of the agreement and the maps illustrating the protected area are available on our website.

The mayors of the municipalities in the northern part of the MRC have taken the opportunity provided by this change of policy to negotiate a new agreement. The current regulations allow partial harvesting up to the edge of a lake, but prohibits the passage of machinery in the 20 meter band from the shore. The mayors have obtained that there will be no harvest in this 20 meter band. Regarding lakes inhabited by at least 5 homes, a first band of 30 meters around homes will enjoy full protection while only partial cutting will be permitted in a second band of 30 meters. There will be no harvesting on very steep slopes (i.e. over 41 °).

There will be partial logging this winter in an area east of Lac Lafontaine, but outside the area protected by the APLG agreement. A map showing the area to be harvested is available on our website.

## ROGERS TOWER

Rogers Communications has applied to the municipality of Duhamel to erect a 90 m. telecommunications tower on the east side of Lac Gagnon. The municipal council announced at its meeting on January 7, that it has requested the advice of its Urban Planning Committee (CCU) on this issue.

The APLG tends to favour the installation of such tower in the vicinity of Lac Gagnon. This would improve the quality of service for existing customers of Rogers and, depending on location, could provide a service to residents who currently have no such access.

However, we are concerned about the location proposed by Rogers, near the ch. du Milieu. The site is rather close to the lake and in the immediate vicinity of a nice lookout as well as a trail built to enjoy this exceptional natural site.

Our preference is for a location that would meet the following objectives:

- serve as many new customers as possible and not only reach people who are already served by other service providers;
- minimize the visual impact for as many people as possible;
- a hidden access road, by putting it behind a hill or slanting it;
- control the erosion from the access road.

We will intercede with Rogers and the authorities along these lines. It might be helpful to request a public consultation meeting. We will keep our members informed of developments.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(in dollars)

	2009	2010
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Dues	5 800	5 437
Social activities (mechoui)	–	1 937
Other activities	2 540	2 860
Subsidies	433	1 200
Total revenues	8 410	11 237
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Water tests	1 715	641
Liability insurance	667	875
Office expenses	265	158
Social activities (mechoui)	–	2 145
Other activities	2 761	3 166
Le Remous	1 081	1 096
Bank charges	158	198
Inscriptions, associations	210	–
Bouys, beach	411	223
Internet site	116	124
Taxes and permits	32	32
SÉPAQ		1 200
Total expenses	7 416	9 859
Surplus	994	1 378
Cash as at December 31	12 650	14 028



# APLG

Association des propriétaires  
du lac Gagnon

C.P. 354, Duhamel, Québec  
J0V 1G0  
[www.aplg.ca](http://www.aplg.ca)

## Board of Directors 2010-2011

**André Brossard, President**  
**Marc Dufour, Vice-president**  
**Derquise Houle, Treasurer**  
**Florence Riverin, Secretary**  
**Bernard Bélanger**  
**Réjean Toutant**

### Volunteers:

**Gérard Bodard**  
**Jean-Pierre Jarry**  
**Léonce Lessard**  
**Jay Tardif**  
**Anne Wells**

contact: [info@aplg.ca](mailto:info@aplg.ca)

## Membership

This edition of the Remous is mailed to all property owners at Lac Gagnon. A 2011 membership form is included. Please complete the form and send your \$ 15 payment as soon as possible to be a member in good standing. This will allow you to continue to receive the information that we publish and participate in our activities.

We now accept electronic payments through PayPal, a company known worldwide. You can also avoid using the regular mail by sending the 2011 membership form by email. Visit our website for information on the proper way to proceed electronically.

## BEAVER DAMS

At this time last year, we proposed a partnership with the municipality to deal with problems caused by some beaver dams. The municipality applied to the regional authorities for a subsidy to develop a regional intervention project. The request was not accepted but the project was instead assigned to the OBV RPNS, the watershed agency based in Duhamel. The OBV RPNS will receive subsidies to undertake this project of approximately \$ 100, 000 across its vast territory that includes part of the Laurentians.

First, a thorough inventory of dams will be conducted and priorities will be set. It is expected that five or six dams in Duhamel might justify an intervention. The services of experts will be used to plan these interventions.

This kind of professional approach applied at the regional level will require considerable resources and quite some time, but hopefully the end result will be better than a less thorough approach. It is expected that 2011 would be devoted to taking an inventory, organizing and planning, and that actual interventions could be performed next year.

## SHRUBS SALE

For the fourth year, the APLG will offer shrubs at an attractive price to its members over the spring. Our goal this year is to present a greater variety of shrubs, to leave a little more time for members to make their choices and to be more flexible on the delivery period. Electronic payments will also be accepted via PayPal.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The APLG has been defending the interests of property owners at Lac Gagnon for over thirty years. This longevity is due to the tireless dedication of people who volunteer their time and expertise to the vitality of our association. The other key element of this longevity is the continued support of our members. The great proportion of residents who renew their membership over the years allows us to better protect our interests. We strive to always maintain your trust.

Our interventions are not limited to a specific subject but we favour the protection of our lake and maintaining a good quality of life.

We will continue to encourage residents to protect our environment, particularly the shores of our lake. In this regard I wish to emphasize that all stakeholders, not just residents, should help keep our lake healthy. Lakeside residents may be required to implement all sorts of measures to protect the lake shoreline, but this can be rather futile if other stakeholders such as the municipality, forestry companies or those setting up telecommunication towers do not implement similar measures. The lake does not distinguish between the phosphorus produced by a carefree lakeside resident or by another stakeholder.

This implies a more ecological approach when performing road work, forestry work or other interventions that can have a negative impact on the lake. To its credit, the municipality has already embarked on this path last year, when it naturalized the roadside near the bridge over the Petite-Nation River, south of the lake. It is important to continue in this direction. Local residents are entitled to expect that other stakeholders act in an exemplary manner as well.

As for us at the association, our contribution is to first inform our members of local developments and issues facing us. We consult our members as much as possible and put forward measures that will benefit all of them.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank all who have encouraged us and I hope that the APLG can continue to count on your support.

André Brossard, President.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

- The municipality should go ahead with the redevelopment of the public access at Lac Gagnon over the next summer. The feasibility study has been completed and a request for a subsidy is under consideration. The municipality estimates that its costs will be \$ 27, 000. The extent of redevelopment would depend on the subsidy.
- At the presentation of its 2011 budget, the municipality announced its intention to do a major overhaul of *ch. du Lac Gagnon ouest* up to *ch. de la Grande Baie*. The budget for this project, which would include paving, amounts to \$ 300, 000. As this is a regional road, 75% of the cost of this work would be charged to all taxpayers of Duhamel while 25% would be charged to the local area which remains to be defined.
- In 2010, 54 people received emergency service from the emergency responders of Duhamel, including 26 during the summer.
- An agreement has been reached to build an ATV trail through the Réserve Papineau-Labelle.