



ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, June 30, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
at Duhamel Town Hall**

The APLG Annual Meeting is a good opportunity to exchange information and voice your opinions or concerns. Formalities will be kept to a bare minimum so as to provide as much time as possible for exchanges with members.

Volunteers will be available as of 9:00 a.m. to assist anyone who wishes to join the association, renew their membership or get their sterilized bottle for a water analysis.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Adoption of 2012 Minutes
3. Treasurer's report
4. President's report
5. Profile of members
6. Municipal affairs
7. Election of the Board of Directors
8. Miscellaneous
9. Floor to members

YOUR WATER TESTS

Again, we invite APLG members to have their tap water or lakeshore water tested, under the same conditions as in previous years.

If you are interested, **reserve one or more sterilized bottles** at info@aplg.ca or call 438-338-6020 (André Brossard). We will have the bottles and instructions available for pick up at our June 30th annual meeting, at the Secretary's table, starting at 9:00 a.m. A few bottles will be available for those who have not reserved a bottle. You will be asked to cover the \$30 cost for the tap water analysis, and \$10 for the lakeshore water test. These are good prices. You will be required to take your samples the following day, the holiday Monday, and bring them to one of the following locations **before 9:00 p.m. on Monday, July 1st**: the Poliquin grocery store, or other drop-off locations that will be clearly identified in the instructions provided with the bottle. The laboratory will mail the results to you during the following week.

Results will be published in the form of a statistical table while maintaining strict confidentiality of individual data. The application form contains an authorization to that effect. Do not forget to tick the relevant box at the bottom of the form. This will allow the Association to provide both a service to participants and relevant information to all residents about water quality at Lac Gagnon.

The APLG will be testing the water for swimming purposes, as usual, in the middle of the summer.

WHITE PINES

Last October, we informed you that some white pine trees in the southern part of the ch. des Îles had been attacked by blister rust, a devastating disease. Following a site visit in late May, we noticed that the most affected pine trees, which were on private land, have been removed. There were no signs of the disease in other young white pine in the vicinity. In addition, branches attacked by the disease last fall seem to have healed. It is perhaps too early to declare victory, but the early signs are encouraging. It is therefore possible that by having cut some pines with the disease and removing currants in this sector, the owner concerned has managed to eradicate the disease. We will visit the site again with our expert at the end of June to ensure that there is no yellow swelling of the bark. Contact us at info@aplg.ca if you see these signs in young white pine.

EROSION

As we enter into the summer season, we want to remind you to avoid making big waves near the shore. Lac Gagnon is a large lake where you can have fun while respecting the environment. Water sports should be mostly at the centre of the lake, especially when using large boats, and not along the banks that are fragile to erosion. The area in the vicinity of the islands is even more fragile as there are loon nests along their shores. Let's protect our loons that delight us with their beautiful calls in the evening.

La Petite-Nation River is also a very sensitive area. Anyone going there should do so at very low speed. Think not only of erosion but also of the local residents whose premises are affected by the waves.

LE REMOUS
du
LAC GAGNON

June
2013



APLG

**Association des propriétaires
du lac Gagnon**

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www.aplg.ca

Board of Directors 2012-2013

André Brossard, President
Marc Dufour, Vice-president
Florence Riverain, Secretary
Jay Tardif, Treasurer
Bernard Bélanger
Léonce Lessard

Volunteers:

Gérard Bodard
Charles de Maisonneuve
Jean-Pierre Jarry
Pierre-Émile Rocray
Anne Wells

Contact: info@aplq.ca

Membership

Following a decline in membership last year, we increased our solicitation efforts somewhat. At the time of publication, 311 people had paid their dues for 2013. This represents a significant increase of about fifty members. We seem to have returned to our usual membership level. This edition of the Remous includes a request for support and membership forms for those who have not renewed their membership in recent years. Ongoing support of our membership is essential to the Association's smooth operation.

You can see the list of members on our website. If you cannot access the list, contact us at info@aplq.ca

INFRASTRUCTURES

In recent years, the Duhamel Municipal Council has implemented an ambitious program to replace major equipment and structures. Trucks and a grader that required costly maintenance were replaced with new equipment that should be more efficient for many years. In addition, an old fire truck that had become virtually unusable was replaced. The new pump truck was recently delivered to the municipality.

In 2012, following a CSST report that the municipal garage required substantial repairs, the Council decided that it would be better to build a new one. The cost of this project is now estimated to be \$545,000. Fortunately, the municipality has managed to get a Quebec government grant which should cover 70% of this cost. It is hoped that the new garage, to be built near the fire station, will be completed before winter.

The other major project that was put forward in 2011 is the Carrefour. The idea is to double the size of the library building to add a tourism and cultural vocation. This project was estimated at approximately \$200,000, \$40,000 of which has already been collected from Duhamel taxpayers out of their 2012 taxes. The rest of the funding was to come from grants, without which the project would not go forward. Regional authorities (MRC and Tourisme Outaouais) are ready to provide \$75,000 but it seems the provincial authorities have not committed yet to financing the balance. In addition, we believe that the project costs may have been under-estimated given repairs that should be made to the existing building. It seems that the Council will have crucial decisions to take in the coming weeks in this regard.

SALE OF SHRUBS

We have made shrubs available for sale to our members for the sixth consecutive year. This year there were 32 participants. They bought 345 shrubs that will naturalize and beautify the area around Lac Gagnon. Since the beginning of this program, we have distributed 2,200 shrubs.

Every year, we try to introduce new shrub varieties while continuing to offer shrubs that are particularly well suited to our location. This allows members who have not participated in the program to get well suited shrubs at good prices, and previous participants to obtain new varieties each year. In general, half of the participants are new customers.

We encourage all owners to reforest their property, which helps to maintain the health of Lac Gagnon. In addition to our sales of shrubs and the distribution of saplings by the municipality, you can purchase plants from the many providers in the region offering plants that are well adapted to local conditions.

BEACH CLEAN UP

We need volunteers to clean up the beach at the south end **Monday, July 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Come with your boat, ATV (with or without a trailer) or your car. The gate will be open. Bring rakes, work gloves, etc. The APLG will provide refreshments.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- David Pharand has announced that he will run again for mayor of Duhamel in the upcoming November 2013 elections.
- Work on Route 321 that was announced last fall will be undertaken in the coming weeks over an 8 km section between Chénéville and ch. des Hauteurs in Lac-Simon.
- At the request of residents of ch. de la Côte Jaune, work estimated at \$ 90,000 will be undertaken this summer to make the road safer. The owners of the affected area will pay 75% of the cost.
- The municipality of Duhamel has provided \$500 in financial aid to the APLG. This support will be used to partially absorb APLG expenses undertaken for the benefit of all Duhamel taxpayers (beach , stocking, etc.).
- The installation of blue street number signs should be completed this year. The northern part of Lac Gagnon has not yet been done.
- A draft of the new urban plan should be made public during the month of July. The plan implies changes in zoning, subdivision standards etc. There will be a public information session.
- The APLG renewed its membership in the *Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs* program for 2013. In addition to several water transparency readings, we will do three physico-chemical analyzes of lake water again this year.