

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The APLG's primary role is to act in the interest of all its members, lac Gagnon property owners. To fulfil this role, the Association focusses on ensuring the quality of our lake and the quality of life of its residents, be they permanent or part-time. This does not prevent us from taking an interest in regional issues, but our priority must remain lac Gagnon.

There are two components to our activities: information and intervention. Information requires that we keep abreast of what is happening that could impact us. We then need to communicate this information, something we do on a regular basis, by internet and mail. Intervention requires that we clearly understand the interests of the majority of our members and then act, on a timely basis, to assert our members' needs or concerns with the local authorities.

More specifically, we will continue to monitor the quality of the lake water. This year, we may undertake a few more analyses than usual. Additionally, this summer, we will inventory aquatic plants at the north end of the lake where they seem to proliferate.

Our relationship with the Municipality remains cordial and we always prefer cooperation over confrontation. However, that should never prevent us from acting immediately, when deemed necessary, as was the case recently with temporary shelters. In that context, it might be time to review, with the Municipality, how certain rules and policies are applied. Some policies would benefit from being formally clarified. Recent personnel changes are a good opportunity for undertaking this type of exercise.

André Brossard, President

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In the past few years, our revenues have been slightly higher than our expenses. As a result we have accumulated a capital of \$20,000, which should serve us well in the event of unexpected expenditures or if we need to replace any of our equipment. This year, therefore, we will be replacing the APLG signs around the lake.

Thanks to the support of our many members, we are able to keep our annual dues at \$15, which compares very favourably with other similar associations and still ensures that we have a sound financial position.

## BALANCE SHEET

(in dollars)

<b>Assets:</b>	<b>2 014</b>	<b>2 015</b>
Cash	25	25
Caisse Populaire	18 125	20 336
PayPal	58	404
Prepaid expenses	321	217
Inventory	207	215
Equipment	879	390
<b>Total</b>	<b>19 619</b>	<b>21 605</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Prepaid Membership	1 190	1 290
Paccount payable	-	218
Capital	18 429	20 097
<b>Total</b>	<b>19 619</b>	<b>21 605</b>

## REVENUES AND EXPENSES

(in dollars)

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Memberships	5 010	4 980
Water tests (members)	660	720
Subsidies	1 200	-
Interests	79	81
Other revenues	165	10
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>7 114</b>	<b>5 791</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Social activities	10	10
Water tests (members)	660	720
Water tests (APLG)	1 101	1 086
Water tests (RSVL)	25	-
Le Remous	636	873
Insurance	137	191
Office expenses	316	284
Banking charges	92	104
PayPal charges	97	53
Picnic area	65	-
Buoys	260	453
Internet site	253	261
Registration fees	34	34
SÉPAQ	1 200	-
Other expenses	550	54
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5 436</b>	<b>4 123</b>
<b>Surplus (-Deficit)</b>	<b>1 678</b>	<b>1 668</b>

LE REMOUS  
du  
LAC GAGNON

February  
2016



Association des propriétaires  
du lac Gagnon

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## Board of Directors 2015-2016

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**Pierre-Émile Rocray, Secretary**  
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**Gérard Bodard**

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## Membership

Having identified several new owners last year, we had hoped to increase our membership by about 40 new members. Despite their support, our 2015 membership level was similar to the average for the past ten years, about 340 members. We could bring our membership up to 400 if all those who have joined the association during the past three years remembered to renew their membership this year.

We are seeking the support of all our members in 2016, a year during which we may have to communicate with them more often. Remember that our members always get the news first. The more members we have, the greater the number of people at lac Gagnon who will be informed and who will be able to express their point of view.

## TEMPORARY SHELTERS

A draft bylaw was tabled by the Municipality of Duhamel on January 8, 2016 which proposed to allow the use of “temporary” shelters year round.

At a public consultation on February 12th, the APLG submitted [a brief](#) explaining why we requested that the temporary nature of these shelters be maintained.

We invited APLG members to voice their opinion and 63 of the 66 members who emailed the municipal council stated they were opposed to the proposal. Additionally, a petition signed by 46 people was submitted. These are lac Gagnon residents, mostly permanent ones, who are opposed to the proposal. If we remove duplicate names from the two lists, 100 lac Gagnon residents voiced their opposition to allowing the use of temporary shelters year round.

There is no doubt about the opposition to this proposal at lac Gagnon. We hope that the municipal council will therefore disallow the use of temporary shelters year round.

It's somewhat surprising to see how much time this topic has taken at the municipal council in the past six months. Starting with a somewhat raucous public consultation last September, they moved to a resolution that was carried with a four to three majority in December and led to the withdrawal of tickets issued in August for shelters that were still standing after May, to a compromise draft by-law in January that only fanned the flames of public dissatisfaction at another public consultation that was held in February.

The topic of temporary shelters can and should be shelved, but perhaps the time has come to address council members' involvement in the application of by-laws.

## VALUATION ROLL

The valuation roll that was used to calculate the 2014 to 2016 municipal taxes will not be revised this year. In January 2016, the municipal council decided to keep the current roll for another three-year period. Taxes for the 2017, 2018 and 2019 years will therefore be calculated using the property valuation shown on this year's tax bill, unless there have been major renovations.

The Municipality will be saving \$45,000 in valuation costs that would have been required for the next three-year roll.

Although the roll has not been revised this year, you can still contest the valuation. The deadline to request a revision is April 30th.

## EROSION

The Municipality now makes an effort to stabilize the banks of the ditches using rock riprap when it undertakes major work in order to prevent the drainage of sediment into the lake that contains phosphorus and promotes the growth of algae.

However, we have been informed that there is still some sediment drainage from ditches that have not been stabilized. The APLG is offering to help by identifying at-risk areas so that potential Municipal action can be prioritized. Owners of properties near such streams are in the best position to help us in this initiative. We will be calling on them to help us in the spring.

It is in everyone's interest to safeguard the health of our lake. Doing our utmost to prevent sediment from draining into the lake is certainly consistent with our Association's and the Municipality's objectives.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

- The Sépaq is continuing its measures regarding the future use of its lot which includes the beach at the south of the lake. Some surveying work was undertaken at the end of last summer to define the lots that could be sold. While there are no definite plans yet, the various parties are still discussing options
- Manon St-Louis was appointed as municipal inspector on February 12, 2016. She replaces Adrien Fillion, who will be serving as a truck driver for the Municipality when it starts waste collection services as of April.
- There will be no logging activities around lac Gagnon this year.
- As suggested at an APLG annual meeting, we will be setting up scary eye balloons this spring on the island used as a nesting ground by seagulls in early summer in an attempt to keep them away.
- We would like to thank people who acted on our advice about not feeding the deer. There seems to be fewer deer around the lake, which is a good sign. It's interesting to note that the Municipality of Mont-Tremblant has also asked its residents to [stop feeding deer](#).
- Residents near lac Doré are concerned about mining exploration east of their lake. Since the location is about 5 to 10 km south-east of lac Gagnon, should the project go ahead, it should not impact lac Gagnon residents.