



ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday July 3, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Duhamel Town Hall

All APLG members are called to the annual meeting where we will provide an update on matters of interest. The Mayor of Duhamel will be on hand to answer questions.

Volunteers will be available as of **8:30 a.m.** to assist anyone wishing to join the Association, renew their membership or pick up the sterile water analysis bottles.

AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
 - 2. Adoption of the 2015 Minutes**
 - 3. Financial report**
 - 4. President's report**
 - 5. Beach at the south end**
 - 6. Major road work**
 - 7. Election of the Board of Directors**
 - 8. Members' concerns**
- Question period**

MANAGEMENT OF THE BEACH

Last year a significant portion of the annual meeting was spent presenting and discussing a summary of a plan that would allow the Municipality of Duhamel to own and manage the Sepaq site at the south end of the lake. In exchange, the Sepaq wanted a zoning change that would allow it to sell some portions of the property for private residences. The Sepaq wanted the APLG's support for the project, which we were prepared to provide, under certain conditions.

At this time, the Sepaq has not been able to obtain the necessary approvals from the respective ministries or the Municipality. While the project could be amended and eventually approved, its outcome is far from certain. Instead of renewing our annual agreement with the Sepaq to manage the property, in early May, the APLG asked the Municipality to take over its management. At its June 3rd meeting, the municipal council mandated the General Manager to negotiate an agreement with the Sepaq.

If the property is not transferred to the Municipality, long-term public access is not guaranteed, but that was also the case under the annual agreement with the APLG. However, the Municipality has considerably more means to manage the area, be it in terms of staff, equipment or the authority to enforce regulations.

We believe that such a scenario is to the benefit not only of our members but also the entire population of Duhamel.

We've been informed that negotiations between the Sepaq and the Municipality are progressing well. The agreement could be in effect for this summer season. The Mayor could provide an update on the matter at the annual meeting on July 3rd.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- After a two-year hiatus, the APLG will resume taking water samples to measure levels of phosphorous, dissolved organic carbon and chlorophyll in our lake water as part of the Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs. We'll be taking samples from the centre of the lake three times, in June, July and August. We'll also continue taking regular water transparency measures at the centre of the lake and in the Baie des îles.
- As suggested at previous annual meetings, the APLG has set up four scarecrow balloons on the southernmost island in the Baie des îles. We're hoping this will reduce the number of gulls that nest there until the end of July.
- You'll soon be seeing signs along the road around the lake with the new APLG logo. ([Preview](#))
- After the spring thaw this year, a number of items floated away. Thanks to the Association, some owners were able to retrieve their property: dock sections, a slide and a sailboat. Thank you to everyone who helped.

Remember that feeding ducks, Canada geese or gulls should be avoided in order to protect the quality of our beaches and water.

Have a good summer season

LE REMOUS du LAC GAGNON

**June
2016**



**Association des propriétaires
du lac Gagnon**

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Board of Directors 2015-2016

André Brossard, President
Marc Dumouchel, Vice-President
Pierre-Émile Rocray, Secretary
Jay Tardif, Treasurer
Bernard Bélanger
Charles de Maisonneuve
Marc Dufour
Anne Wells

In charge of buoys :
Gérard Bodard

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Membership

To date, we have received payments from 320 members, up slightly from the usual level at this time of the year. Remember that you can renew your membership or join the APLG at the annual meeting on Sunday, July 3rd at the Duhamel town hall.

You can also check if you've renewed your annual membership by going to the [member list](#) posted on our web site.

We'd like to thank everyone who supports the APLG either through their words of encouragement or by simply maintaining their membership over the many years our property owners' association has existed.

WATER TESTS

Once again this year, members can have their drinking and swimming water tested. The process is the same as in previous years.

Members may reserve one or more sterile bottles at info@aplg.ca. The bottles and instructions for taking samples will be available at the desk on the morning of the APLG annual meeting at the Duhamel town hall on **Sunday July 3rd as of 8:30 a.m.** Payment must be made at that time, \$30 per drinking water sample and \$10 per swimming water sample. This special price for members is about half the standard cost.

The samples must be taken on that same day (**Sunday**) and dropped off at the Poliquin convenience store in the village **no later than 8:00 p.m. July 3rd**. Samples will be delivered to the lab on Monday morning and the lab will mail the results to you directly.

We'd like to continue publishing statistics of the results on the web site while ensuring the confidentiality of individual data. There is an authorization option in the form for this. Please remember to check the box at the bottom. This will allow the Association to provide a service to participants and keep all owners informed. [Previous years' results](#) are available on our Web site.

The APLG will be conducting the usual swimming water quality tests at the end of July. We'll be taking about 50 samples in various locations along the lakeshore. Results will be published on the Web site and in an upcoming edition of the Remous.

ROAD UPGRADES

As mentioned in the December 2015 Remous, the Municipality will be undertaking extensive road work over the next five years to bring some parts of the road network up to code. The total cost could be \$2.5M.

On June 3, 2016, the municipal council approved \$1M for the first phase, consisting primarily in upgrading the infrastructure for a priority section covering part of the Tour du lac road, to the south of the village, Principale street and lac Gagnon Ouest road. The bulk of the work on lac Gagnon Ouest road will be done from the village to the intersection with lac Gagnon Est road. This work could start this year. Financing consists of a \$800,000 subsidy and a \$200,000 loan payable over 20 years by all Duhamel taxpayers, since it is a regional road.

A second component for \$1.5M is under study. This work would be carried out from 2017 to 2019 at a rate of \$500,000 per year and would consist of upgrading local roads that are less of a priority. Up to half of the cost of some of this work could be covered by subsidies. The roads in question serve Pointe-à-Baptiste, the Grande Baie sector, Preston road (lac Simon), and lac Doré Nord road. The Municipality has called residents from each of these sectors to a public consultation meeting.

The first meeting was held on Friday June 10th for the Pointe-à-Baptiste sector. The Mayor presented a summary of the work and financing. The work would consist in widening the road to 6.5 m, moving poles, adding gravel, replacing culverts, digging ditches, lining culverts and some ditches with stone and undertaking surface treatment (paving).

Three scenarios were presented ranging from partial to total coverage of this sector. Costs would range from \$358,000 to \$549,000, depending on the scenario. The amount charged to this sector, net of the subsidies would be from \$89,500 to \$137,250. Financed over 20 years, the special annual tax would amount to \$112 to \$172 per owner.

There was strong opposition to this work north of the campground. Residents don't see the need for it and even feel that there are environmental and cost disadvantages. However, there was no opposition expressed to the proposed work on Pointe-à-Baptiste road and Camille Poliquin road up to the campground, or de l'Épervier road. This portion of the road, which is used more because of the campground is already larger and has ditches.

The proposed unit rate approach was also questioned. It would be unfair if the campground did not pay more than a simple property owner given that it would be, by far, the greatest user of the upgraded road. A rating system to reflect this special user should be considered.

The next consultation meeting will take place on Friday June 17th at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the Grande Baie sector. Two other meetings are planned in the following week for the Preston road and lac Doré Nord road sectors.

We should have a better idea about this project early next month, at our annual general meeting on July 3rd. With the Mayor in attendance, it will be a good opportunity to get an update or to simply get comments from people who could not attend the consultation meetings.