



## ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday June 28**

**9:00 a.m. To 11:30 a.m.**

**Duhamel Town Hall**

All APLG members are invited to the annual meeting where we can discuss topics of specific interest to members. We'll keep the formalities to a minimum so there's more time for discussion.

Volunteers will be on hand as of 8:30 a.m. to assist anyone who'd like to take the opportunity to become a member, renew their membership or pick up their sterilized water analysis bottles.

## AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
  - 2. Adoption of the 2014 Minutes**
  - 3. Treasurer's report**
  - 4. President's report**
  - 5. Future of the beach**
  - 6. Municipal matters**
  - 7. Election of the Board of Directors**
  - 8. Members' concerns**
- Question period**

## FUTURE OF THE BEACH

The large sandy area at the south end of Lac Gagnon is owned by Sépaq and, over the years, Sépaq has allowed the APLG to set up a picnic area there with public access at all times.

More and more people are taking advantage of this site, not just families from Lac Gagnon, but also from Duhamel and other areas. Ensuring the appropriate management of this site now requires resources that are beyond the APLG's capabilities. The Municipality, under a different mayor, had offered to acquire the property from Sépaq a few years ago, but its offer was declined.

There is currently a review taking place between Sépaq and Duhamel. The APLG would not object, subject to certain terms and conditions, to the Municipality becoming the site's owner and manager, even if it means granting certain concessions to Sépaq to support an ownership transfer that would benefit all parties involved.

The project under discussion provides for transferring ownership of the beach section to the Municipality in exchange for changing the zoning of properties at both sides so they could be sold for residential use. Sépaq would construct an access road at the back (south side) of the lot at its expense, and would then transfer it to the Municipality. The Municipality would therefore receive a developed site at no cost and could use the annual tax income from the new residential lots to cover the beach maintenance and management costs. Under the zoning by-law, commercial activities would continue to be prohibited.

The project will be presented and discussed at the APLG annual meeting on June 28th. The zoning change would be subject to the approval of residents of some regions of Lac Gagnon.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

- The consultation on the cadastral revision of the south part of the lake has been postponed once again, but could take place during the summer.
- On June 5th, the Municipal Council approved roadwork on part of Chemin du Lac Gagnon Est that will be financed through a \$169,000 loan, with 25% being payable by the sector and 75% by all taxpayers.
- The Municipality may lease the building in the centre of the village formerly housing the Karisa restaurant for a three-year period. The building would be used for tourism and community activities. Project details are not yet available.
- The Ecocentre is opened on Wednesdays rather than Thursdays this year. Dump trucks may no longer be used to discharge waste.
- On May 30th, 76 residents went to the Ecocentre to pick up 2,892 trees distributed at no cost by the Municipality.
- Bell's LTE network is now accessible to most Lac Gagnon residents from the tower located to the south of the lake. Compatible mobile devices now have increasingly faster access.
- The Municipality is considering introducing a group system for emptying septic tanks for the Lafontaine, Iroquois and Chevreuil lake sectors. We don't know whether a majority of the residents in this area really want the Municipality to take on this service. Depending on the project results, the approach could be expanded throughout the Municipality.

**LE REMOUS  
du  
LAC GAGNON**

**June  
2015**



**aplg**

**Association des propriétaires  
du lac Gagnon**

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

## Board of Directors 2014-2015

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

**In charge of buoys :**  
**Gérard Bodard**

**Contact:** [info@aplg.ca](mailto:info@aplg.ca)

## Membership

At the start of the year, we invested considerable time and effort in updating our property owner lists. This enabled us to either find former members whose information had changed or identify new Lac Gagnon property owners. The number of changes that took place over the years is quite surprising. This initiative helped us add 30 new members.

However, a few of our regular members have not yet renewed for 2015. As a result, we have the same number of members as we usually do at this time of the year, about 300. Remember that you can always pay your \$15 membership fee at the annual meeting.

The [list of members](#) may be viewed on our web site.

## WATER ANALYSIS

Again this year, APLG members can have their water tested for both drinking and swimming. The terms are the same as in past years!

There are many good reasons for having your well water tested. Even though your water may look and taste fine, many harmful substances can get into well water over time as a result of various activities or through surface water run-off. Even though your neighbour's well may have been tested and found to be safe, this does not mean your well water is safe.

The bottles and instructions for preparing your sample will be available at the registration desk on the morning of the annual meeting, on Sunday, June 28th, as of **8:30 a.m.** The cost of the analyses must be paid at that time, \$30 per sample of drinking water and \$10 per sample of water for swimming. These are special group rates that are half the regular cost. We should have enough bottles to meet the demand, but members can reserve one or more sterilized bottles at [info@aplg.ca](mailto:info@aplg.ca) ahead of time.

You will need to take your samples on **Sunday** and bring them to the Poliquin grocery store **before 8:00 p.m. on Sunday June 28th**. The APLG will bring the samples to the lab on Monday morning and the results will be mailed to you.

We'd like to continue posting the overall results in a statistical table while maintaining strict confidentiality of individual data. The

application form contains an authorization to that effect. Don't forget to tick the 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. Prior years' results are posted on our Web site.

As usual, the APLG will be testing the water for swimming purposes around late July.

## GARBAGE REMOVAL

Early this year, the Municipalité de Lac-Simon notified Duhamel that it was terminating ahead of time the agreement under which it provided garbage removal services to the municipalities of Chénéville, Montpellier and Duhamel. The agreement that was to end in August 2016 will now end on March 31, 2016. As a result, the Municipality must make new arrangement for garbage removal in the coming months.

At its June 5th meeting, the Municipal Council decided that Duhamel will arrange for its own waste removal system. Four options are under review and a decision will be made in August. At this same June 5th meeting, the Council also approved the purchase of a 14-yard capacity, 6-wheel garbage truck. A \$195,000 loan has been approved to finance the purchase.

It's likely that the cost of an internal service will be higher than the current inter-municipal service. The Municipality will likely also have to spread the pick-up schedule over several days each week to cover its entire territory.

These major changes should not affect waste removal services this summer.

## CODE OF ETHICS

The start of the summer season is a good time to remind everyone about rules that can help us enjoy the lake even more. The Municipality of Duhamel will be publishing its updated code of ethics shortly and we'll post it on the APLG web site. An English version will be posted as well to ensure that this type of information is passed on to all members. We support promoting respectful behaviour.

Here are a few rules of conduct:

- To maintain water quality, avoid spilling pollutants in the lake (detergents, fuel, oil, etc.);
- Don't make waves near the shoreline;
- Don't travel more than 25 km/h within 70 meters of the shore or more than 70 km/h elsewhere;
- Yield to swimmers and non-powered watercraft;
- Water activities, such as skiing or wakeboarding, should be undertaken in the centre of the lake, at least 100 meters from shore;
- Noise pollution is as much of a concern as other types of pollution. Think about your neighbours and other people around the lake. Sound travels over water, especially at night. Keep the noise down.

Feeding wildlife is not recommended. Attracting ducks, geese or seagulls could lead to a deterioration in the quality of water for swimming.

Let's think about others!