



ASSOCIATION DES PROPRIÉTAIRES
DU LAC GAGNON

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON JUNE 30, 2024

MINUTES

1. Opening and President's Comments

Louis begins the meeting by asking people how long they have been at the lake, from up to 10 years to 60 years. There was no official count. He welcomes everyone (again, no official count) and then introduces the mayor and municipal councillors in attendance. He talks about the new logo, to which "Depuis 1968" has been added. He then goes on to talk about the exceptionally high water levels in the lake and shows a few graphs published on the association's website. He recommends that boaters reduce their speed near the shore because of the high water levels. Lastly, he introduces the Board of Director members.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Adoption proposed and seconded by Richard Chartrand and Anthony Le Moine respectively.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting

Amendments are made regarding Anthony Le Moine. Adoption proposed and seconded by Claude Gendron and Alain Doucet, respectively.

4. Presentation and acceptance of the financial statements and 2024 budget

Anne presents the financial statements and explains certain income and expense items and the 2024 budget. The financial statements and budget are proposed and seconded by Richard Chartrand and Claude Gendron, respectively.

5 and 6. Remarks by Mayor David Pharand and question period

Mayor Pharand highlights the mutual trust that exists between the association and the municipality. The members of the municipal council are committed to continuing the ties between the two organizations. He discusses good news such as the repaving of roads using subsidies obtained; repairs to the bridge north of the lake and its upgrading to current standards; the extension of Route des Zingues by 70 km to Val-des-Bois, which will be part of Sentier Grande Randonnée trail; and the operation of a new sandpit on Route 7. He also announced less welcome news, such as the rise in the lake's water level and all the problems this has caused such as the need to repair several roads and culverts, as well as a 3.9% increase in tax rates. He would like to return to a normal rate of around 1.9%. Yves Bourdages asked about

maintenance of the Lac Gagnon East road. The mayor tells him that funding was available but that the terrain conditions were difficult.

7. Recognition

The APLG corrected an oversight regarding the Max Bauchet Award, which was presented to Richard Chartrand in 2018. This year, Mr. Bauchet himself received the award. Max is absent because of recent eye surgery. His friend Richard accepted on his behalf and will present the award to him.

Louis recounted that Max travelled almost all the rivers and lakes of Quebec before settling at Lac Gagnon in 1953. He was its first permanent resident. He helped found Skira and also wrote a very detailed canoe camping guide.

8. Mining Issue

Louis explains how the situation has evolved, with the mining industry seeking to take over territory in the southern part of the province. Lomiko Metals has no shareholders in Quebec. He shows a map illustrating how the claims have evolved in recent years and points to an open-pit mine in Malartic. Another map illustrates the watersheds in the region. The graphite content is around 5% in the region, while it is close to 15% on the north coast.

The company has received \$11.5 million from the US Department of Defense, and the Canadian government has also given it several million dollars without consulting the Quebec government. A company that claims to be environmentally friendly therefore has the means to continue its activities. It remains to be seen how the government will define social acceptability. It has already taken away the citizens' right to file claims on their property.

9. Municipal Alliance

According to the mayor, the rules of the game with regard to mining favour companies rather than municipalities. The latter are therefore taking the lead on studies, information, assessments, and social acceptability. This situation has led the five municipalities in the region to join forces to submit a brief to the ministry using a new strategy: taking a leading role by organizing an information session in each village. Lomiko will be present during the Duhamel session on July 21. At the end of the exercise, social acceptability will be measured. There will likely be a large demonstration afterwards. Marie-Céline Hébert proposes writing to our elected representatives to voice our opposition to the project.

10. Protected Area

The government wants to protect 30% of the province's territory by 2030. Currently, 17% is protected province-wide, and only 5% in Papineau County. Louis presents the Marie-Lefranc project. The initial project was previously analyzed by the Minerve coalition but was not approved. The new expanded project is supported by three RCMs and covers a vast area east and north of Lac Gagnon. This would protect the entire length of the Petite-Nation River from its source to Duhamel. Indigenous archaeological sites would also be excavated.

11. Grant

The APLG has applied for and received a \$7,000 grant from MNA Mathieu Lacombe. Of this amount, \$5,000 would go towards revamping the website, and the balance would be allocated to creating and installing new road signs for the APLG.

12. Website

Pierre presented the beta version of the website currently under construction. It will be very user-friendly, with information accessible via tabs. He gave a rough overview of the content of some of the tabs. Olivier Boddard will continue to maintain the site and the Facebook page. The latest news will remain online for one year before being archived.

13. Duhamel-APLG Pact

The APLG and the municipality have created an alliance for an action plan relating to buoys and shoreline development. Mireille is leading this issue.

14. Invasive Plants

Mireille states that the Sentinels are in their sixth year of activities monitoring Eurasian watermilfoil (37 volunteers at this time). She invites members to participate to enhance the lake's monitoring. She emphasizes the importance of cleaning everything that goes into the water (fishing lines, nets, etc.). An information session will be held soon. Periphyton will also be discussed at that session.

15. Water test results

Charles informs us that the water is excellent for swimming and that seagulls can be a source of coliforms in some areas. Water transparency results are normal, as are those regarding physical and chemical properties. However, while there is a slight increase in chlorophyll and phosphorus, this is not a cause for concern.

16. Navigation

The guidance in the navigation chart is not really applicable at this time because of the very high water levels. It is important to reduce speed when travelling in the river. It is proposed to add signs limiting speed on the river.

17. Fishing Committee

David highlights the collaboration of a biologist from the ministry. The committee's 2024 objective focuses on the angler's logbook implemented last year (155 entries in 2023). A study on walleye has been initiated by the ministry, and the committee is providing its assistance. That species is not native to Lake Gagnon.

18. Miscellaneous

Some people have been looking into the possibility of renting docks for their watercraft, which would create a situation similar to Airbnb.

19. Election of Board of Directors members

The members were elected unanimously.

All items on the agenda having been discussed, the meeting is adjourned at 12:00 p.m.