



Barkmere Echo – March 2023

The following is a summary of the last Town Council meeting held on Saturday March 11th, 2023:

PUBLIC CONSULTATION - URBAN PLAN

- ✓ A public consultation was held on March 11th concerning Barkmere's Urban Plan. It is imperative that the citizens of Barkmere express their thoughts on the changes to the plan, as it will shape Barkmere's vision for the next 5-10 years. To consult the PowerPoint presentation on the public planning consultation, please click here ([master plan - consultation](#)).

BY-LAW 277 - PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES

- ✓ In the course of discussions within the MRC, it was noted that municipalities are the subject of proposals from certain companies for the application of pesticides and herbicides to control the population of insects and/or plants. Some even have contracts with these companies for the spreading of Bti product, such as the City of Mont-Tremblant, which we discussed a few years ago. In the same vein, some pressure groups are campaigning for a ban on these substances.
- ✓ The Council has noted that our regulation is rather lacking on this subject. The Town has a legal responsibility to protect Barklake and the natural environment of the species that surrounds it. It is therefore proposed to prohibit the land application of these substances as a precautionary principle for the health of the lake and the maintenance of the natural food chain.
- ✓ We invite you to read the draft by-law ([draft by-law 277](#)) and to send us your questions and comments.

BY-LAW 278 - FALSE FIRE ALARMS

- ✓ The Mont-Tremblant Fire Department (SIM) asked us to adopt a by-law to reduce the scourge of false fire alarms in the territory it serves. These false alarms are costly for the Service, which passes these costs on to the municipalities served. But above all, when firefighters and equipment are moved for a false alarm, they can no longer respond quickly to a real emergency situation requiring their presence.

- ✓ The SIM sent us a proposal for a common by-law for all municipalities served. The regulation aims to raise awareness among owners of alarm systems, and not to pass the bill on to these owners as in the days of RINOL. We invite you to read it ([draft by-law 278](#)) and to send us your questions and comments.

APPOINTMENT TO THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON URBAN PLANNING (CCU)

- ✓ Council appointed Mr. Pierre-François Chapleau to the CCU for the position left vacant following the death of Ms. Susan de Schulthess. Mr. Chapleau resides in the Cope Bay area and is a retired architect with expertise in the field of urban planning. He also shares our community's vision of maintaining the natural character of the Town.

LAST COUNCIL OF THE MRC DES LAURENTIDES

- ✓ The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MRNF) will soon begin revising its Public Land Use Plan (PATP). It is a bit like the development plan or zoning plan for public lands. The Ministère will conduct a public consultation with the various groups concerned, including other MRCs and municipalities.
- ✓ A few months ago, the MRCs of Laurentides, Pays-d'en-Haut, Antoine-Labelle and Argenteuil jointly decided to prepare for this process and retained the services of the Institut des territoires (IDT), an organization specializing in major development plans, to prepare our responses to the consultation.
- ✓ As we know, public lands are the scene of various activities such as forestry, mining, hunting and fishing, resorts, motor vehicle rides, etc. The Council therefore decided to participate in the IDT survey, to promote other uses of public lands such as the conservation of natural areas and the protection of species that live there, as well as light activities such as hiking and cross-country skiing.
- ✓ In the same vein, the MRC supported last month a project to create a protected area by the municipality of Lac-Tremblant Nord on its territory. More and more municipalities are promoting these protection projects, as are Montcalm and Barkmere, with our joint land protection project upstream of Lac des Écorces. The Montcalm Municipal Council formalized its participation through resolution last month.



Beautiful sunset in Barkmere (photo by Jessica Miller)