



## Barkmere Echo – June 2024

The following is a summary of the last Town Council meeting held on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

### ANNOUCEMENTS

We are saddened to learn of the death of Andreas Gregaris. He is survived by his wife Tina Leber, his children Gregoria, Nikkie, Andreas Jr, Nicholas and Gregory, as well as his sister-in-law Andrea and brother-in-law Conrad. The Council offers their deepest condolences to the Leber family.

### TICKS AND LYME DISEASE

Ticks are pursuing their northern advance. The Integrated Centre for Health and Social Services (CISSS) for the Laurentians issued a communiqué showing that the municipalities of the MRC of the Laurentians have now become at risk for Lyme disease. There were no cases reported until now for the Town of Barkmere, but there were for Montcalm and Arundel.

Here is a link to learn more: <https://www.santelaurentides.gouv.qc.ca/sante-publique/maladies-infectieuses/maladie-de-lyme/>. The page is in French only but can be easily translated using a Google translate tool.

### FOLLOW-UP ON THE LAST MEETING

The public tender for the semi-buried waste containers has been launched.

### PROTECTED AREA PROJECT

Councillor Jake Chadwick provided an update of the Protected Area project. The project is moving ahead very well with the socio-economic study underway managed by a professor at the University of Sherbrooke and some master's students. The study will endeavour to determine what economic value residents of Barkmere and Montcalm put on the establishment of the protected areas. The government is about to launch its appeal for protected area projects in the coming weeks. Our application is already drafted and will be submitted as soon as the appeal is opened. We have tremendous support from neighbouring municipalities, the MRC and other stakeholders.

Most importantly, there will be a public presentation of the project at the Community Center on Saturday, July 6, 2024, at 10am. The presentation will be conducted by our partners and project managers Éco Corridors Laurentiens. We encourage all residents to come to the presentation to get a complete

overview of the details and to ask any questions they have. After the presentation a formal survey will be distributed as part of the socio-economic study.

## ANNUAL MILFOIL SURVEILLANCE

Our friends Anne Létourneau and Sylvain Miller will soon be starting their annual surveillance for milfoil, focussing on Silver Bay as usual. Since their visits are weather related, they will be informing us of their visits with as much advance warning as possible. We are encouraging those who would like to assist them, learn more about milfoil and its identification, to provide their email address to town management ([dg@barkmere.ca](mailto:dg@barkmere.ca)). That way, we will inform interested parties when Anne and Sylvain will be on site. They welcome the assistance and will be happy to provide training in the field so please let us know if you're interested in joining the list.

## ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new aluminum can collection initiative in Barkmere. From now on, you can drop off your aluminum cans near the containers at the landing, in containers designated for this purpose. Please note that only aluminum cans will be accepted; plastic and glass bottles will not be collected.

This simple, eco-responsible gesture is vital for the survival of our planet. By taking part in this recycling campaign, you are helping to preserve the environment while supporting an important cause. All cans collected will be used to finance La Traversée, a palliative care home. La Traversée welcomes people at the end of life free of charge, offering them care and support in a soothing natural setting.

Receiving only 40% of its operating costs in subsidies, La Maison La Traversée must find alternative sources of funding to continue its mission. Recovering aluminum cans represents an essential new source of revenue for La Maison La Traversée.

## LAST COUNCIL OF THE MRC

The MRC hired an engineering firm, Équipe Laurence, to prepare a study of the consequence of log transport over municipal roads. As expected, they concluded that most municipal road were not built to be able to support that kind of heavy and very frequent trucking. It would be extremely costly to upgrade them to that end. This supports the position of the MRC that forestry operations should be concentrated in designated areas with ready access to provincial roads.



*Opening of the season 2024  
Photo by: Isabelle Tétreault*

*For more details, please consult the minutes of the Council meeting that will be posted on the Town's website once they are ratified, generally at the next council meeting.*