



## Barkmere Echo – August 2024

The following is a summary of the last Town Council meeting held on Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

### ANNOUCEMENTS

Mayor Luc Trépanier invited the whole population to a public consultation meeting which will be held on Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup> at the Community Centre and at the same time virtually on Zoom. The Council will present the revisions they want to the Town's Urban Plan and the changes to the bylaws that will result from these revisions.

We remind you of the importance to answer the survey for the socio-economical study supporting the creation of a protected area upstream from Bark Lake. It only takes about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. You can access the survey by clicking on [this link](#).

### FOLLOW-UP ON THE LAST MEETING

The administration advised the owner of the lot where the Residents' Park is located, that the Town intends to acquire this land, by way of purchase or expropriation. Negotiations are ongoing.

### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL

Ms. Annie Larocque was appointed Assistant Director General for the Town of Barkmere. This position was left vacant following the departure of former building inspector Marc-André Paquin. Annie will continue her work as municipal inspector for the Town. We congratulate her for this new position.

### NEW CONTAINERS FOR DOMESTIC WASTE

The Town purchased 12 semi-buried containers for domestic waste, to replace the current containers located in the municipal landing area and at Duncan Road. These new containers, while being visually more aesthetic, will also be easier to access and their opening will allow to control the size of the items being deposited.

Only one offer was received following the public tender, from *Groupe Environnemental Ecoloxia*, for an amount of \$108,094 plus applicable taxes. For their installation, two offers were received, from *Gilbert Miller & Fils* and *Paysagistes Northland*. The Council selected the lowest bid, for an amount of \$65,000 plus applicable taxes.

This project is entirely funded by the Gas Tax program 2021-2024.

### **ADDITIONAL RENTAL WHARVES**

To meet the additional demand, the Town purchased additional rental wharves, for the “B” wharves (the first set located left of the temporary 6-hour parking wharves). These floating docks will be added to the end of the current wharf and will create 8 additional slips.

Two bids were received from *Industries A.J.A.* and from *Quais Laurentiens*. The Council accepted the lowest one, in the amount of \$40,930 plus applicable taxes. This company had already provided the current docks for the “A” and “B” sections.

This purchase is entirely funded by the Gas Tax program 2021-2024.

### **GRANT FROM GAS TAX PROGRAM 2024-2028**

The grant program for municipal infrastructures based on the redistribution of the federal gas tax was finally renewed. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has confirmed the amount available for infrastructure projects at the Town of Barkmere, which is \$517,000.

### **FIRST RESPONDERS**

Earlier this year, the Town advised of its intention not to renew the agreement with the Municipality of Arundel for the provision of a first response service. Since then, the municipalities of Montcalm and Huberdeau approached the Town of Mont-Tremblant, for such a service, which would be provided from the Montcalm Fire Station.

The offer from Mont-Tremblant is less expensive than the Arundel service, but only covers level 1 and 2 calls. These are respiratory and/or cardiac arrests, anaphylactic shocks and important traumas.

The Council requested from the Town of Mont-Tremblant to include the Town of Barkmere, in its final offer of services to be presented to the two other municipalities, at the beginning of September. The agreement would be a pilot project for a duration of one year, at the end of which, the parties will be able to decide on the pertinence to extend it. In our case, the capacity of intervention on the lake and the response time will be determining factors.

The Town will still continue the initiatives for public security currently being planned, which are the purchase of defibrillators, the provision of first aid courses and the distribution of relevant information on the importance to ensure one’s personal security in the context of remote residences in rural and forested areas.

### **ADDRESS IDENTIFICATION ON BARK LAKE**

The Council approved the second phase of the plan aiming to identify the addresses of the residences in Barkmere for public security, with the purchase of the address plates for the properties located on Bark

Lake. As soon as they will be received, the Town will start affixing them to wharves and docks around the lake.

This will allow the public security services (firemen, first responders) to identify residences faster in the case of an intervention. Wharves and docks were chosen with the intent to standardise the location where they will be visible.

## ENVIRONMENT COMMENTS

Councillor Jake Chadwick provided an update on the milfoil search and removal work. A total of 84 plants have been found and removed so far this summer. This is a welcomed reduction from the 400 plants found last summer. The good news has the continued caveat that lake visibility has been challenging this summer and will continue to be with the storms we have had lately. Once again, we thank Anne Létourneau and Sylvain Miller for their efforts and dedication.

Residents are reminded to log their shoreline surveillance under the CEAP program by filling in the Google Form which can be found [here](#).

## DOCK LIGHTS AND REFLECTIVE STRIPS

The Town wishes to remind you that it is forbidden to install lights on the docks. However, it is imperative to ensure everyone's safety. Each dock must be equipped with reflective strips visible on at least two sides. These strips make it easy for boats and other lake users to spot the docks when visibility on the lake is poor.

## REMINDER – FIREWORKS PROHIBITED

We've had a call about fireworks on the lake. We would like to remind you that fireworks are prohibited throughout the territory under Section 270 of the Nuisance Act. The particles from these fireworks are harmful to the health of the lake and the surrounding forest.

## BARKMERE'S 100<sup>TH</sup>



The committee for Barkmere's 100th anniversary is actively working on organizing the upcoming festivities. We invite all citizens to click on the second link in the e-mail, which leads to a document soliciting your participation in helping to document our town's history.

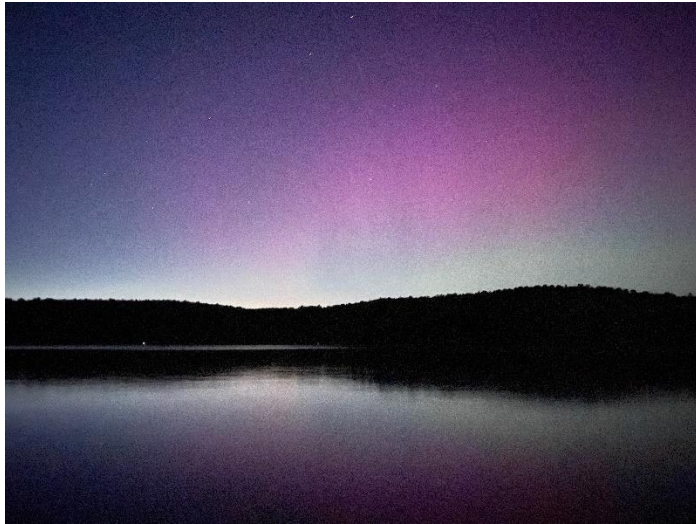


Photo of the lake last Tuesday  
*Photo by: Daphné Trépanier-Mehnert*

*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.*