

## GASPÉ PENINSULA / MAGDALEN ISLANDS:

# Close to 2,000 people participate in global climate change walk

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND – Approximately 2,000 people from the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands took part in September 27 demonstrations held in the region in order to advocate for the protection of humanity through a reduction in the factors contributing to climate change.

Those demonstrations were part of the global climate strike, a worldwide movement that had a large impact in Canada. In the region, demonstrations were held in Gaspé, Gesgapegiag, New Carlisle, Sainte-Anne-des-Monts and Cap-aux-Meules.

The biggest demonstration was held in New Richmond, where the attendance slightly surpassed 550 people. The young people were numerous, despite the fact that a number of schools had not closed for the occasion. Youth were required to get permission from their parents to attend the event, which culminated by an open mike gathering at Taylor Point.

“I am glad to be here, but also sad to be here; we shouldn’t have to do this (demonstrating to protect humanity). We must act,” indicated Akim Saint-Amour, a Secondary 2 student from Saint-Omer. He missed school to attend the demonstration. “My parents will justify my absence later,” he said to SPEC.

The New Richmond demonstration was spearheaded by the Planet goes to Parliament, a movement formed in 2018 to put pressure on the Quebec government.

In a heartfelt message, Cegep student Anaé Tremblay Bourque targeted federal politicians in the message she read to the crowd, a message including several requests. Regional politicians were notoriously absent from the rally but a convention regrouping municipalities’ elected offi-



Photo: G. Gagné

Between 550 and 600 people took part in the New Richmond demonstration.

cial was taking place in Quebec City the same day.

“Those requests, whether they soon materialize or not, will support our motivation to trust you, or not, in running (country’s affairs). We ask you to prioritize the environment in all your decisions over the economical stakes. We believe that it is a worldwide priority, surpassing the notion of individual value,” underlined Anaé Tremblay Bourque.

Her list of demands includes research in renewable forms of energy, the reduction of packaging, the reduction of fossil fuel consumption, a ban on disposable plastic, an emphasis on commuter transport including rural regions, incentives for car-sharing, and changes in the carbon tax that takes into account the mileage covered in a year.

Cascapedia-St. Jules’ resident Cynthia Dow, an occasional contributor to the SPEC who has participated in environmental initiatives over recent years, also expressed her

concerns.

“Our leaders say that we cannot modify our economy but an economy is something that must put human beings first and foremost. If we want to modify it accordingly, we can do it,” she said.

Maria artist Yves Gonthier denounced the part of the society that relies on planned obsolescence. “We talk about smart phones but they last a year, a year-and-a-half. If it was really a smart phone, it could last 20-30 years.”

Caplan’s environmentalist Bilbo Cyr put emphasis on the necessity of putting constant pressure on the governments. “There is no more room for smooth talking because we get used to obeying when we do.”



Photo: N. Sergerie

More than 200 people slowed traffic in downtown Gaspé during the Gaspé walk.



# News briefs

## HYDROCARBONS: Rocher-Percé will consider a ban but the decision has been made in Côte-de-Gaspé

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - The Rocher-Percé MRC does not intend in the short term to adopt a position against the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons, but there's no doubt that Côte-de-Gaspé will not be taking a stand.

Even though there are claims issued, there aren't any exploration projects headed in this direction in the Rocher-Percé MRC and the mayors did not feel the urgency to act.

The MRC d'Avignon has already voted against hydrocarbons, while the MRC of Bonaventure is in the process of doing so.

However, the prefect, Nadia Minassian, emphasizes that this reflection will be held in the coming months. In the meantime, she would have liked to clearly have this power in the regulations on hydrocarbons.

"The position we took was the repeal Section 246 (of the Planning and Development Act) which does not allow us to legislate and regulate on our territory. We remain convinced that we should do it," states the prefect.

### "No" on the Côte-de-Gaspé

The Côte-de-Gaspé MRC will not take a stand on this issue, which arouses passions in the Gaspé region.

Prefect Daniel Côté indicates that the situation is peculiar since there is already exploration on the territory.

The prefect wants to avoid a pursuit by an oil company if the MRC ever adopted such a position, as Gaspé experienced in the Petrolia case in 2013. The oil company attacked the Town in court because the company wanted to invalidate the regulation, which aimed to protect the drinking water sources of the municipality.

"Does it tempt us to make a legal debate? The next instance for us is the BAPE. The BAPE will have the power to give the go or a no go. . In the meantime, we remain extremely vigilant," says the prefect.



Photo: N. Sergerie

## Kidney Walk in Gaspé raises \$35,500

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - No less than \$35,500 was raised at the 2nd Kidney Walk held on September 14 in Gaspé.

Approximately 150 people showed up at the Birthplace of Canada in uncertain weather to participate in the event.

"We are satisfied. Our big fundraising activity is the Kidney Walk. Our goal was to exceed the amount of last year," says one of the organizers, Guy-Gabrielle Boulay.

Last year, \$30,000 had been raised.

## RÉGIM continues its efforts for electric buses

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - The Régie intermunicipal transport Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine continues its efforts to electrify its bus network.

Started a year and a half ago, the exercise is complex because there is no provincial program for organizations such as the RÉGIM.

The president, Daniel Côté, is trying to convince the Legault government to make it a pilot project.

"There are ministers who are touring to promote the electrification of transportation. This is a message that will be hammered away even if Gaspésie and the Islands become a pilot project. "

An electric bus is more expensive to buy than a traditional bus. Programs exist for school transportation and Mr. Côté wants to use this example.

"What we do is very much like school bus routes. It's a bit the same operation, except that we are not called a school, we are called a collective. "

According to Mr. Côté, Quebec would be hesitant to support the project in the Gaspé Peninsula because the government would have to do it for the transport companies in the major centres as well.

"We are very small. It would not cost so much. We have no end of inadmissibility. We wish it."

The first project was filed last winter. According to the president, carriers are very open to making this change.

### TIDE PREDICTIONS

Carleton	Paspebiac	Gaspé
<b>Saturday, Oct. 5</b>	<b>Saturday, Oct. 5</b>	<b>Saturday, Oct. 5</b>
01:22 a.m. - 0.72m	02:34 a.m. - 0.36m	02:03 a.m. - 0.52m
07:15 a.m. - 1.89m	08:11 a.m. - 1.08m	07:36 a.m. - 0.98m
02:09 p.m. - 0.15m	01:21 p.m. - 0.62m	12:59 p.m. - 0.67m
09:13 p.m. - 1.70m	08:27 p.m. - 1.70m	07:48 p.m. - 1.52m
<b>Sunday, Oct. 6</b>	<b>Sunday, Oct. 6</b>	<b>Sunday, Oct. 6</b>
02:15 a.m. - 0.81m	03:42 a.m. - 0.43m	03:16 a.m. - 0.59m
08:04 a.m. - 1.82m	09:21 a.m. - 1.00m	09:14 a.m. - 0.92m
03:12 p.m. - 0.24m	02:13 p.m. - 0.70m	02:00 p.m. - 0.74m
10:24 p.m. - 1.64m	09:29 p.m. - 1.61m	09:06 p.m. - 1.44m
<b>Monday, Oct. 7</b>	<b>Monday, Oct. 7</b>	<b>Monday, Oct. 7</b>
03:16 a.m. - 0.87m	04:50 a.m. - 0.47m	04:34 a.m. - 0.62m
09:04 a.m. - 1.76m	10:36 a.m. - 0.99m	11:11 a.m. - 0.94m
04:20 p.m. - 0.31m	03:27 p.m. - 0.73m	03:16 p.m. - 0.79m
11:40 p.m. - 1.63m	10:35 p.m. - 1.56m	10:35 p.m. - 1.40m
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 8</b>	<b>Tuesday, Oct. 8</b>	<b>Tuesday, Oct. 8</b>
04:27 a.m. - 0.88m	05:51 a.m. - 0.48m	05:45 a.m. - 0.62m
10:14 a.m. - 1.72m	11:38 a.m. - 1.04m	12:17 a.m. - 1.00m
05:29 p.m. - 0.36m	04:48 p.m. - 0.70m	04:37 p.m. - 0.78m
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 9</b>	<b>Wednesday, Oct. 9</b>	<b>Wednesday, Oct. 9</b>
12:42 a.m. - 1.65m	11:37 p.m. - 1.56m	11:47 p.m. - 1.40m
05:43 a.m. - 0.85m	<b>Wednesday, Oct. 9</b>	<b>Wednesday, Oct. 9</b>
11:28 a.m. - 1.71m	06:41 a.m. - 0.46m	06:36 a.m. - 0.61m
06:31 p.m. - 0.39m	12:26 p.m. - 1.14m	12:58 p.m. - 1.07m
<b>Thursday, Oct. 10</b>	<b>Thursday, Oct. 10</b>	<b>Thursday, Oct. 10</b>
01:25 a.m. - 1.69m	05:55 p.m. - 0.62m	05:47 p.m. - 0.74m
06:49 p.m. - 0.78m	<b>Thursday, Oct. 10</b>	<b>Thursday, Oct. 10</b>
12:35 p.m. - 1.73m	12:32 a.m. - 1.57m	12:40 a.m. - 1.40m
07:21 p.m. - 0.41m	07:21 a.m. - 0.44m	07:13 a.m. - 0.59m
<b>Friday, Oct. 11</b>	<b>Friday, Oct. 11</b>	<b>Friday, Oct. 11</b>
01:56 a.m. - 1.73m	01:07 p.m. - 1.25m	01:29 p.m. - 1.14m
07:39 a.m. - 0.69m	06:51 p.m. - 0.53m	06:43 p.m. - 0.68m
01:32 p.m. - 1.76m	<b>Friday, Oct. 11</b>	<b>Friday, Oct. 11</b>
08:02 p.m. - 0.43m	01:21 a.m. - 1.60m	01:22 a.m. - 1.41m
	07:56 a.m. - 0.42m	07:41 a.m. - 0.58m
	01:46 p.m. - 1.37m	01:54 p.m. - 1.22m
	07:41 p.m. - 0.43m	07:29 p.m. - 0.62m

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# Police report



Photo: G. Gagné

Christopher Skeete, in the middle, was glad to hear what the representatives of the Gaspé Peninsula anglophone community had to say about the things that must be done to improve their situation.

## Gaspé Peninsula anglophone groups meet with Parliamentary Assistant Christopher Skeete

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE – Christopher Skeete, Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for relations with English-speaking Quebecers, met with representatives of the Gaspé Peninsula anglophone groups on September 5 and came out of the meeting satisfied, but with some challenges to tackle, including increasing the overall employability of the anglophone community.

Held in New Carlisle, the meeting was the first stop of Mr. Skeete's Quebec-wide consultation tour, as he will meet with English-speaking Quebecers in seven additional regions.

One of Christopher Skeete's main preoccupations in the first stage of his tour is the difference between the employability of anglophones and francophones. The anglophone community lags behind the francophone counterpart in that regard.

"If the employment rates were equal between the two communities, 12,000 more Anglo-Quebecers would be working in Quebec. Anglophones are in most cases long-

time Quebecers. What is the reason behind that difference in the employment rate? We have to find out. I am optimistic for the future," says Mr. Skeete.

He is aware that part of the answer lies in the socio-economical parameters characterizing the anglophone community. "It is a cause of concern but it can be addressed," adds Christopher Skeete.

He is a Member of the National Assembly for the Coalition avenir Québec government that has not developed deep links with the anglophone community so far but that particularity is not curtailing Mr. Skeete's enthusiasm about the potential of forging strong links.

"We are a nationalist government that is considered a bit mysterious by certain people. The current reality translates in three new cycles for Quebecers. First, we are evolving out of the referendum cycle for the first time in decades. Secondly, we have just come out of 15 years of Liberal Party government. Thirdly, the creation of the Secretariat dealing with English-speaking Quebecers is recent, as it was founded in

2017. Any community facing one such major change would have to adapt. Here, they (anglophones) experience three major changes at once," points out Mr. Skeete.

In the Gaspé Peninsula, he has noticed that organizations like CASA "have a very large mandate. They deal with families, with seniors and so on. There is a challenge in defining their role in the community," he says.

"In New Carlisle, I sensed the strong interest of these organizations and I welcome their active involvement in our consultation process," he adds.

He points out that "the improvement of the services provided for English-speaking Quebecers is a priority for our government and because I have a special interest in the regions, it is essential to meet with the communities in their home territory. The Quebec government's mission to offer high-quality services to the English-speaking communities relies on its partner organizations which, as indispensable allies, are also in the best position to be aware of, and explain, the concerns of their client groups," he concludes.

## The pigeons are virtually extinct in downtown Gaspé

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - The regulation adopted to crack down on people who voluntarily feed pigeons in downtown Gaspé has had the desired results.

In July, the municipal council amended its nuisance by-law to add the ban on feeding gulls and pigeons. The penalties are a minimum of \$200 and could be as high as \$2,000 for repeat offenders.

"There are practically no more pigeons in the city centre. There are some left, but there are fewer than at the be-

ginning of the summer. I think it's a mission accomplished," said Mayor Daniel Côté

A firm had also been mandated to move the pigeons on the Gaspé bridge to more suitable locations.

"There were the displacement of pigeons on one hand and the adoption of municipal regulations which certainly had a chilling effect on those who fed the pigeons," said the elected official who said the regulation will remain in effect for next summer.

Citizens have complained for several months about the



Photo: N. Sergerie

negative effects of the overpopulation of the birds before the adoption of the measures by the municipal authorities.

The Sûreté du Québec officers are investigating the suspicious death of a young man from Paspébiac, Paul Crothé, who was found in a vehicle parked on a wooded road 2 kms north of the intersection of Normandy Street and Church Street in New Carlisle, at about 10 a.m. on September 27. The body of the man in his twenties was found by two residents of the area. The first Sûreté du Québec spokesperson to relay information about the case, Louis-Philippe Bibeau, first explained that no scenario was ruled out to explain the death. "A perimeter of security was established on the site and a forensic technician is trying to shed light on the cause of that man's death," he said on September 27.

The Sûreté du Québec (SQ) has not revealed additional details over the three ensuing days. On September 30, the usual SQ spokesperson for the Gaspé Peninsula, Sgt. Claude Doiron, pointed out that "it remains a suspicious death but it is not sure that foul play was a factor in this case." He didn't comment further. Such a message from the Sûreté du Québec usually suggests that the death could have been caused by a voluntary act. Marks of violence were apparently visible on the victim's body but nothing proves so far that they were caused by a second party. Investigators also looked for clues in the woods next to the road where the car and body were found.

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A man from Gaspé, Kevin Leblanc-Curadeau, died following a duck hunting accident on September 25 in Pointe-Navarre, a sector of Gaspé. The paramedics and the Sûreté du Québec received the alert at approximately 7:20 a.m. They arrived at the same time at the marsh located along the Dartmouth River where the hunter was seriously injured, "When we arrived, a man was lying on the ground, seriously injured in the stomach area," explains Sgt. Claude Doiron, spokesperson of the Sûreté du Québec.

A raft was needed to carry the victim to the ambulance before the paramedics rushed him to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead. In fact, he never regained consciousness despite attempts made by the paramedics.

The second hunter was also admitted to the hospital, suffering from shock. The police do not confirm that he is next of kin to the victim, namely his father. Sgt. Claude Doiron is asking the public to show caution in the comments made on the social media. The second hunter will be interviewed eventually by the investigators to complete the inquiry. It is the first fatal hunting accident to occur in the Gaspé Peninsula since the death of a moose hunter between Murdochville and Grande-Vallée at dusk on September 30, 2006. At that time, the hunter had been shot by a crossbow.

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A September 29 an all terrain vehicle accident claimed the life of Nicolas Vallée, 37, from Sainte-Anne-des-Monts. The accident took place on Du Phare Street in the neighbouring community of La Martre, at 8:25 a.m. "No other vehicle was involved. The victim lost control of his all-terrain vehicle and it tipped over," explains Sgt. Claude Doiron.



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## Commentary

Cynthia Dow

### Our comfort zone is killing us

I've been interested in environmental protection for some time now. While I was living in the city, I wasn't nearly as tuned in because I just didn't see what was happening but having been home now for some 26 years, I see the changes in our climate and its impact on everything around us.

Living close to nature makes it so much more obvious: fewer songbirds, fewer insects, increasing sea surges, flooding and erosion, wilder winds and drier summers. You name it, we are experiencing it. Having spent 13 months with the detour for Route 132 running past my house, I am very conscious of what impact all this is having and is going to have on our lives as years go by.

I've made some efforts to decrease my carbon footprint: I changed from an oil furnace to a heat pump, instigated water saving measures, no longer cut my lawn, sharply reduced my consumption of red meat, and I now bundle my errands in order to reduce how often I run into town with the car, but I still feel it's not enough. What I want now is a government willing to make even greater changes for us all.

The young Swedish environmentalist Greta Thunberg has really inspired me to make more changes. I used an online tool recently to look at my carbon footprint and it was easy to see that my car is by far the number one challenge. I'm looking into an electric car, and if that is out of reach financially, I'll see about a bicycle to get me to work every day during at least the more clement months.

A lot of people say they are willing to make changes -- as long as it doesn't turn out to be "inconvenient." We want our cake and eat it too (or our car and drive it too!) The problem is, as Ms. Thunberg points out, inconvenience is no excuse for inaction when the very existence of future generations is in peril. We have to get out of our comfort zone because it's literally killing us.

One of the most common themes governments and corporations are fond of using to argue against the kind of wholesale change we need is that gradually getting out of the fossil fuel industry will have a dire impact on our economy. Too many politicians treat the economy like it's some kind of monster that requires the ritual sacrifice of future generations in order to keep on churning out more stuff we just don't need.

The economic fear-mongering rests largely upon the warning of the loss of "jobs, jobs, jobs" if we cut back on polluting industries, ignoring the fact that there are also jobs in a green economy. In fact, there are lots of jobs in green energy, in climate change mitigation and in cleaning up the mess we have made. The thousands across this country who are already working in those fields are a testimony to the fact.

Let's not forget: the economy is a tool we ourselves have created, and we can change, adjust, scrap or restructure the economy in any way we want at any time we want. Yes, it's complex to be sure, but it can be done. Governments certainly have a very important central role to play in such restructuring, but so do consumers: what we buy matters. How we travel matters. Let's be more vigilant.

I was sad to hear some friends say they didn't think they should join the climate march held in New Richmond last week because they felt like a hypocrite: they drive a car, mow their lawn and are frequent flyers. In which case, we are all hypocrites! I was very proud of the fact that over 500 turned out -- and over half a million in Montreal -- to put pressure on Ottawa to increase Canada's goal to reduce greenhouse gases. This battle will require the

participation of every man, woman and child, no matter how much or how little they feel they can personally sacrifice.

Let's face it, every one of us has an addiction, but rather than an addiction to alcohol or food or work or shopping, this addiction is to fossil fuels and plastics. It will take some time for us to work it all out, to find other ways to live, to change long-engrained habits. There will be relapses and failures along the way, but we have to get serious about it. We have to at least start to make meaningful changes and see where we go from here.

The way I look at it, we have two choices: we can make the changes we need in the way we want or have as yet unknown changes forced on us in extreme situations by Mother Nature because sooner or later "inconvenience" and "discomfort" are going to be the least of our problems.

As environmentalist Rob Watson has so eloquently put it, "Nature always bats last." No matter what happens, we can be sure that the natural world will triumph in the end. Mother Nature has no respect for the pedestal on which we humans have placed ourselves.



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208-B Gérard D. Levesque  
New Carlisle, Que.  
G0C 1Z0

Tel: 418-752-5400  
specs@globetrotter.net  
thegaspéspec.com

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**News Editor:**  
Gilles Gagné



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**JOURNALISTS:**  
Nelson Sergerie  
Diane Skinner  
**CONTRIBUTORS:**  
Cynthia Dow,  
Jeanie LeLacheur

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New Carlisle (Quebec) G0C 1Z0  
Tel.: (418) 752-3308 • Fax (418) 752-6935



Tremblay & Barriault, notaires inc  
Notaries & legal counsel

Gilles Tremblay, notary  
Serge Barriault, notary  
Gaël Tremblay, notary

119B Perron Blvd West, New Richmond, Que.  
Tel.: (418) 392-5282 • Fax: (418) 392-6155  
E-mail: gaeltremblay@notarius.net

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# Major support for women entrepreneurs in Quebec

## YES launches women entrepreneurship program

Press release

MONTREAL, QC (September 13, 2019) – YES, a charitable non-profit program that provides resources, tools and strategies to improve employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for Quebecers, launched their new ELLEvate Women Entrepreneurs Project this week in New Carlisle, Quebec. Funded with support from the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES) Ecosystem Fund (Regional Stream), part of a federal strategy seeking to double the number of women-owned businesses by 2025, the initiative will help advance women entrepreneurs across the province of Quebec.

“This new funding will help YES expand its resources and services and provide mentors to over 1,000 women across Quebec, so they can successfully launch and scale their businesses throughout Quebec,” said Doris Juergens, YES President, Board of Directors. “I will be excited to see the impact of this program that has so much potential to expand the diversity and sustainability of the Quebec economy.”

From 2015-2017, emerging entrepreneurial activity was 8.3% higher among Quebec



YES representatives joined by local partners and entrepreneurs at ELLEvate program launch in New Carlisle.

men than Quebec women, and the rate of established women entrepreneurs in Quebec (3.8%) was lower than in the rest of Canada (6.4%) (GEM, 2017). YES will use the funding to launch the ELLEvate Women Entrepreneurs Project to address the disparity in women’s participation in the entrepreneur ecosystem. It will serve to develop and deliver targeted services and access to networks to English-speaking women entrepreneurs throughout the province, so that more women start and expand businesses in Quebec.

The program, which will run for 3.5 years, aims to provide over 1,000 women with a blended model of online and in-person workshops to address major barriers to entrepreneurship, as well as an online platform providing access to entrepreneur resources, tools, best practices and networking opportunities. An annual pre-accelerator program will also be launched to give 30 women entrepreneurs the tools, coaching, counsel, and experience to help them develop and analyze their business. Program participants will develop their pitch,

culminating in a pre-accelerator contest to provide seed money as they take their businesses to the next level.

For more information about the ELLEvate Women Entrepreneurs Project, please visit [www.yesmontreal.ca](http://www.yesmontreal.ca).



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FEDERAL ELECTION / ÉLECTION FÉDÉRALE  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 21 / LE LUNDI 21 OCTOBRE**



#ItsOurVote #CestNotreVote



**X**  
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C'est notre vote*

### Are you registered to vote?

Voting for the first time? Moved recently?  
Make sure your registration is up to date.

### Watch for your voter information card in the mail

It tells you where and when you can vote.

Contact Elections Canada if your voter information card

- has the wrong information
- hasn't arrived by October 3

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Vous votez pour la première fois? Vous venez de déménager?  
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### Surveillez l'arrivée par la poste de votre carte d'information de l'électeur

Elle vous indique où et quand voter.

Communiquez avec Élections Canada si votre carte d'information de l'électeur :

- contient des erreurs
- n'est pas arrivée d'ici le 3 octobre

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NCHS, joined by New Carlisle residents, held its own climate walk.



Motorists were detained by the climate walk in Gaspé.



NEW RICHMOND: Anaé Tremblay Bourque warned federal election candidates that their environmental platform will be taken into account before voting day.

The chief and Council of Gesgapegiag support and stand in solidarity with the youth of our community and the world in insisting that First Nations governments and the governments of all natives take immediate and concrete action to protect Mother Earth, which includes the water that sustains all life and the air that we breathe.

Mother Earth has sustained all nations since time immemorial and we demand that governments and companies recognize that the Earth is our mother. Mother Earth has given birth to all species visible and invisible and as such we are all related. Hence we must care for "all our relations" and treat with respect the Mother that has given birth to us all

We pray that humanity's heart and soul hear the cry of our future generations to preserve Mother Earth.

Chief John Martin



## Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



## Gaspé by the Numbers

When we attended school, chances are that we excelled in Math OR Language Arts or simply that we preferred one over the other. People may even describe themselves as Math or Language people. Frankly, I must admit that I find Math more challenging. Spelling, reading and writing just came easier, however, numbers are critically important. Without Math, we would not know if we were being cheated in a store, tell time, estimate driving distances, make a household budget or calculate how much our monthly bills will be.

So, because numbers are important, today's column is all about numbers: Gaspesian style.

- 1534 – The year Jacques Cartier landed on the Gaspé.
- 5 – This is the number of regions that the Gaspé is divided into. Namely: The Coast, The Upper Gaspé, Land's End, Chaleur Bay, and The Valley.
- 1911 – The railway from Matapedia to Gaspé is completed.
- 2,000 – The approximate number of kilometres of snowmobile trails on the Gaspé.
- 1268 – The height in metres of Mont Jacques Cartier, the highest point on the Gaspé Peninsula.
- 1816 – A famine hits the Gaspé, over the winter of 1816 – 1817.
- 30 – There are 30 bays named in 'The Most Beautiful Bays in the World.'  
The Bay of Chaleur is one of these.
- 1942 – The Battle of the Gulf of St. Lawrence takes place. German U-Boats sink 23 ships between 1942 and 1944.
- 1763 – The Gaspé officially becomes a part of the Province of Quebec.
- 5 – The number of MRCs on the Gaspé Region. Namely Avignon, Bonaventure, La Cote-de-Gaspé, La Haute-Gaspésie, and Les Iles-de-la-Madeleine.
- 1955 – The mining of copper ore begins in Murdochville.
- 270 – The length of the Gaspé Peninsula in kilometres.
- 132 – The highway that circumvents the peninsula.
- 31,075 – The area of the Gaspé in square kilometres.
- 140,599 – Population of the entire Gaspé Peninsula. (2011 census)
- 8 – Number of books in Paul Almond's historical fiction series, The Alford Saga, set in the Gaspé Peninsula.
- 1940 – The year that women in Quebec got to vote.

### Populations based on 2016 census:

- 3,103 – Percé
- 14,568 – Gaspé
- 7,546 – Chandler
- 2,210 – Port Daniel – Gascons
- 3,164 – Paspébiac
- 1,388 – New Carlisle
- 2,706 – Bonaventure
- 3,706 – New Richmond
- 1,659 – Nouvelle
- 1st – Our position as the most beautiful, peaceful peninsula on the planet. That is, according to those who live here!

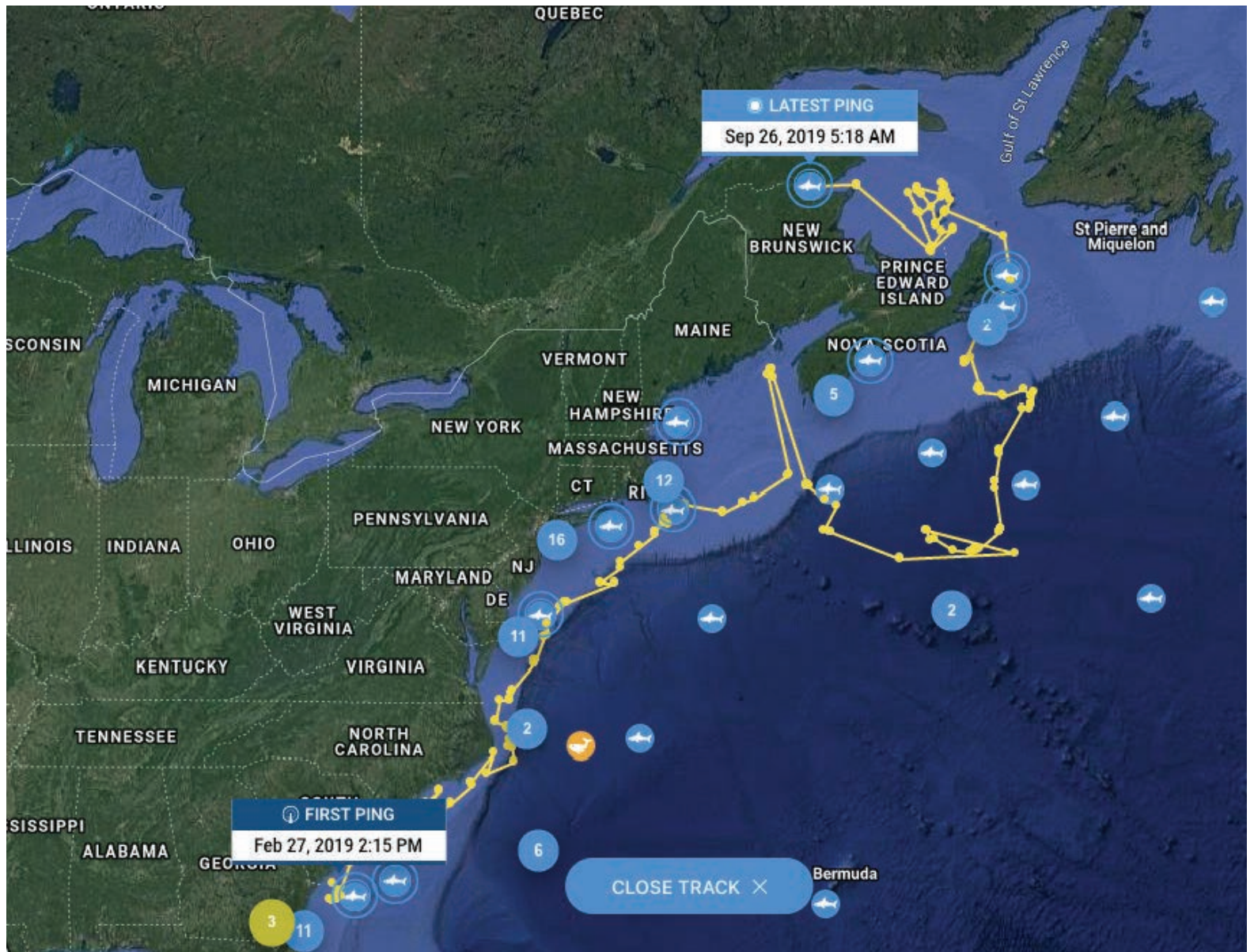




# White shark in Bay of Chaleur

Gilles Gagné

**PASPEBIAC** – A rising group of Bay of Chaleur people have been following a white shark called Brunswick over recent weeks. That shark was sighted off the New Brunswick side of the bay in September. It is a male measuring 8 feet and 9 inches and weighing 431 pounds. Such were his features when he was measured by a group of scientists earlier this year. His whereabouts have been followed since February 27. At the time, he was swimming off the southeastern coast of the United States. Ocearch is a data-centric organization built to help scientists collect previously unattainable data in the ocean. The mission of the organization is to accelerate the ocean's return to balance and abundance, through fearless innovations in scientific research, education, outreach,



Follow Brunswick, a white shark currently in the Bay of Chaleur area, on Ocearch.

and policy, using unique collaborations of individuals and organizations in the United States and abroad.

## Cascapedia-St-Jules holds 19th annual fall festival

Cascapedia-St-Jules will be a bustle of activity this upcoming weekend. Some of the events planned for the weekend of October 4, 5 and 6 are:

Friday, October 4: Open Dart Tournament - 6 p.m. and the The Garage Band will be playing in the tent at 9 p.m.

Saturday, October 5: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Soapbox Derby (12 to 49 years and 50+ years) on Route Gallagher. Nadine Landry and Sammy Lind will be providing musical entertainment from 1 to 5 p.m. A washer competition will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. with an Old Fashioned Turkey Dinner being served from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Nash Stanley will have everyone up dancing in the tent starting at 9 p.m.

Sunday, October 6: The Rotary Club will be holding a

brunch from 8 to 11 a.m. The Classic Car Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Music in the tent with The Landsmen "Open Mic", games for the kids and many other activities at the Community Centre will be starting at 1 p.m.

The fishing guide competition will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The washers competition will be held at 2 p.m. The presentation of trophies for Soap Box Derby, Classic Car Show, Washer Tournament and Dart Tournament will take place at 3 p.m.

A silent auction will be held Friday 6 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Face painting will be available for the children Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Canteen and bar service will be held throughout the weekend.

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## Asphalt: elected officials want to counter the monopoly of Eurovia

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ: - With the bankruptcy of the firm Nasco and the company *Usine asphalte Leblanc* who managed Chandler's asphalt plant, elected officials are seeking solutions to counter the return of a monopoly on the Gaspé Peninsula.

It was a big surprise for the Town of Gaspé when it opened bids for the surfacing of certain streets in the spring. Only the firm Eurovia had made a bid. The problem was that the requested amount was \$645,000 while the Town estimated the work at \$500,000.

The competition of the previous years with Nasco had put downward pressure on prices, but it has withdrawn from the Gaspé Peninsula because of its financial problems.

Faced with this observation, the Prefects' Table will explore all possibilities in the coming weeks, looking in particular at what has already been achieved by the defunct regional conference of elected officials.

"We had a mandate to bring out this issue, to re-examine it to see what had happened at the time and what could be done as a next step," explains the president of the table, Nadia Minassian.

The member of the National Assembly for Bonaventure, Sylvain Roy, brought to the table the idea of an intermunicipal board to save significant amounts.

"Elected officials must buy equipment and plan the paving of the entire territory in a consistent manner, but it takes political entrepreneurship," insists the elected PQ.

This idea will be one of those to be analyzed: "We must explore this possibility but, also there may be other models to watch for including the possibility of making an alliance with the MTQ (Quebec Ministry of Transport) and looking at group purchasing scenarios. We are exploring the possibilities and disadvantages in order to make decisions to improve the region and not harm it," said the president.

The table does not want to set a precise timetable, but still wants to look at the situation before the return of the beautiful season.

"It's extremely difficult to get out of this as there is a competitor who just banged his nose, it would be surprising to see another competitor arrive in the decor," said the mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté, who defers to the table of prefects.

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## Telus dispute delays deployment by Navigue.com

Nelson Sergerie

SAINT-GODEFROI - The deployment of the Navigue.com fibre optic network is being delayed because of a dispute with Telus. The project could even be in danger.

The project has been on the table since April 2018 after Ottawa and Quebec chose the industry's largest players, Telus in this case, to develop the network. As a result Navigue.com chose to build its own network from its capital.

Construction began last March and the \$1.2 million investment was intended to serve customers between Saint-Godefroi and Port-Daniel-Gascons. Residents of Saint-Godefroi are now served by the new facilities, but a dispute with Telus over the use of the poles is slowing progress towards Port-Daniel-Gascons.

"If we want to deploy our own fibre, we have to go to the poles of the multinationals. Unfortunately, in our case, we are in direct competition with the owners of the poles and delays are dragging on," says Navigue.com President Jean-Marie Perreault.

According to Navigue.com, Telus is finding all sorts of mechanisms to delay authorizations. "It even puts our project somewhat in danger because yes, we want to develop fibre but if we cannot go on the poles, it becomes very difficult," says the entrepreneur who points out that his options are all limited.

### Significant costs

Before starting the construction of its network, the company had to train employees and purchase equipment. "All that waiting time, we have paid employees who can't work. The company is under monetary pressure because it is in a sense being held hostage and everyone thinks it's normal for multinationals to control everyone.

### Telus responds

When asked to comment, Telus says it follows the regulatory process.

"These steps are crucial, especially to ensure that the infrastructure in place can accommodate new equipment without impacting the reliability and safety of citizens that could result in a service interruption or collapse related to an overload on poles," Telus Media Relations Manager, Jacinthe Beaulieu stated in an email.

Telus says it is doing its best to minimize delays.

"We cannot do much. We must simply accept this," says the president of Navigue.com.

## Public Notice

Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles

### VACATION SITES OFFERED FOR LEASE BY MEANS OF A RANDOM DRAW IN THE GASPÉSIE-ÎLES-DE-LA-MADELEINE REGION

The Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN) is giving the general public an opportunity to take part in random draws for the allocation of 10 vacation sites located in the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine region.

Draw Code	Draw Name	MRC	ZEC	Number of Sites
TE1101	Rivière Stewart	Avignon	N/A	10 (not waterside)

Averaging 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>, the sites in question are wooded and accessible by land, but are not located alongside bodies of water. They are available to rent, by means of a lease that is renewable annually.

Sites are also available by random draw in the following regions: Bas-Saint-Laurent, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, Mauricie, Outaouais, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Côte-Nord and Laurentides.

#### REGISTRATION AND DRAWS

Registration period: September 21 to October 27, 2019

You may register:

- online, by completing the registration form at <https://mern.gouv.qc.ca/territoire/location-terrains-droits/participer-tirage-sort/>;
- by telephone, by calling 1 800 665-6527 (toll-free).

You must be 18 years of age or older on September 21, 2019, and must pay a non-refundable registration fee of \$31.04 (\$27 plus QST and GST). Only one registration is permitted for each draw registration code. The MERN recommends that you visit the sites before registering. Please be careful if you visit the area during the hunting season.

The draws will take place electronically in November 2019, under the supervision of an external auditor and in the presence of witnesses. Participants will be informed of their ranking by e-mail, within 48 hours of the draw.

#### ALLOCATION OF SITES

The MERN will allocate the sites **by invitation** in the weeks following the draw, based on the ranking order. The number of people receiving invitations will depend on the number of sites available. The invitation letter or e-mail will contain details of the place and date of allocation. Participants must be present when the sites are allocated.

The MERN reserves the right to withdraw a site from the draw at any time up to allocation.

#### COST

Every participant to whom a site is allocated **for lease** must pay a file processing fee of \$129.92 (\$113 plus QST and GST), as well as an administrative fee of \$394.36 (\$343 plus QST and GST), the first year's rent, development costs of \$914.05 (\$795 plus QST and GST) and, in some cases, preparation expenses. All these amounts must be paid in full at the time the site is allocated. If required by municipal or MRC by-laws, the lessee must also, at his or her own expense, hire a surveyor to survey the site. Where necessary, the lessee is also responsible for the cost of building an access road from the main road.

In addition, the lessee must pay municipal and school taxes, comply with municipal, provincial and federal by-laws and legislation, in particular regarding wildlife and the environment, and comply with municipal standards for buildings and site development.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you would like additional information on the sites and on the rent, leasing conditions, tariffs, obligations and rights associated with this offer, please visit the MERN's website (<https://mern.gouv.qc.ca/territoire/location-terrains-droits/participer-tirage-sort/>) or contact its regional office:

MERN - Direction régionale de la Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine: 418 388-2125

Québec



# Route 198 near Murdochville will be reconstructed

Nelson Sergerie

MURDOCHVILLE - Trucks cannot cross Highway 198 between L'Anse-Pleureuse and Murdochville because the road has been washed out.

The situation is a result of the heavy rains left by Hurricane Dorian on the Gaspé Peninsula in early September.

Asphalt paving and road repairs will begin shortly at kilometre 38, where the soil was soggy and trucks were getting stuck on the road.

As a result of these rains, the ministry has banned heavy vehicle traffic, creating a long detour to reach Murdochville. A bypass is under construction and trucks may be able to circulate again by October 1.

The roadbed will be rebuilt in this area before paving again. Transport Quebec believe that the work will be completed at the end of October.



## Mental Health and Wellness Fairs 2019

Together We Can!

October 19<sup>th</sup>  
Gespeg Hall, Gaspé

October 26<sup>th</sup>  
Galgoasiet Hall, Gesgapegiag

**It's time to talk about mental health and addictions.**

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Everyone Welcome

For more information and to confirm your presence for lunch, please call the CASA office at 418 752-5995 or the Vision Gaspé-Percé office at 418 368-3212.

Hope to see you there!



## PUBLIC NOTICE

**AVIS PUBLIC** est par les présentes donné par la soussignée, greffière de la Ville de Gaspé, ayant son domicile professionnel au 25, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville à Gaspé, Québec G4X 2A5, qu'en vertu de la résolution du conseil municipal en date du 3 septembre 2019, les immeubles décrits sur la liste disponible sur le site internet de la Ville de Gaspé seront vendus à l'enchère publique à la salle du conseil de l'hôtel de ville, 25 rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville à Gaspé, le 13 novembre 2019 à 10h00, pour satisfaire au paiement des taxes municipales et scolaires, comprenant les intérêts, plus les frais encourus, à moins que ces taxes, intérêts et frais n'aient été payés avant cette date par argent comptant ou chèque certifié. - **PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given by the undersigned, town clerk for Ville de Gaspé, having her professional domicile at 25, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville in Gaspé Québec G4X 2A5, that in virtue of the resolution passed by the municipal council on September 3rd, 2019 the properties described on the town's website will be sold by public auction at the Town Hall council meeting room, 25, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville, on November 13th, 2019 at 10h00, in lieu of payment of municipal and school taxes, including accumulated interest, plus incurred expenses, unless these taxes, interests and expenses are paid up before that date (cash payment or certified cheque).

La liste des immeubles mis en vente est disponible sur le site internet de la Ville de Gaspé au <https://ville.gaspe.qc.ca>. The list of properties is available on the website of the Town of Gaspé at <https://ville.gaspe.qc.ca>.

Ces immeubles seront vendus sujets au droit de retrait d'un an. - The properties described will be sold subject to a one year right of withdrawal.

Ils seront vendus avec bâtisses dessus construites, circonstances et dépendances, s'il y a lieu, sujets à toutes servitudes actives ou passives, apparentes ou occultes pouvant les affecter, sans aucune garantie légale, aux risques et périls de l'acquéreur. - The properties will be sold with the buildings erected on them and appurtenances, if the case arises, subject to all active or passive, apparent or hidden easements, which may affect them without any legal warranty and at the buyer's own risk.

Le prix d'adjudication de chaque immeuble sera payable immédiatement en monnaie légale (argent comptant, mandat-poste, traite bancaire ou chèque visé fait à l'ordre de la Ville de Gaspé). Lorsqu'applicables, la taxe fédérale sur les produits et services (TPS) et la taxe de vente provinciale (TVQ) se rajoutent au montant d'adjudication. L'adjudicataire qui est un inscrit auprès des gouvernements eu égard à ces taxes doit fournir ses numéros d'inscription au moment de l'adjudication. - The price of each property as determined by auction shall be paid immediately in legal tender (cash payment, money order, bank draft or certified cheque made to the order of Ville de Gaspé). When applicable, the federal tax on goods and services (GST) and provincial sales tax (QST) are added in the amount of the price of the property. The purchaser who is registered with the government with respect to these taxes must provide their registration numbers at the time of the auction.

### CONDITIONS POUR ENCHÉRIR - CONDITIONS TO MAKE A BID

**Personne physique (pièce d'identité avec photo): - Natural person (identity paper with photo):**

- nom; - name;
- date et lieu de naissance; - date and place of birth;
- adresse résidentielle complète et postale, s'il y a lieu; - complete residential and postal addresses;
- mandat ou procuration si représente autre personne physique. - mandate or power of attorney if representative of another natural person.

**Personne morale: - Legal person:**

- nom; - name;
- forme juridique et Loi constitutive; - legal form and act of incorporation;
- adresse complète et postale du siège social, s'il y a lieu; - complete and postal address of head office.

et - and

**Pour le représentant de la personne morale: - For the representative of the legal person:**

- nom; - name;
- qualité du représentant (mandataire); - authority of the representative (proxy);
- copie de la pièce justificative l'autorisant à agir (résolution, mandat, procuration). - written proof of the authorisation to act on behalf of (resolution, mandate, proxy).

Lieu et date : Gaspé, le 2 octobre 2019  
Place and date : Gaspé, October 2nd, 2019

Nom et qualité : Isabelle Vézina, greffière / town clerk  
Name and title

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## Fall Quiz Answers

1. Pumpkin spice is a combination of cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, allspice and cloves.
2. It is sugar! The redder the leaf, the more sugar it has been storing.
3. The tilt of the earth. Fall begins when the centre of the sun crosses the equator. It is not the distance from the sun.
4. Scientists believe that one of the causes is global warming. The leaves change colour due to lower temperatures. It now remains a bit warmer in the early fall days.
5. Earth receives almost 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness.
6. Often September 22 but this year it will be September 23. The other date is March 22 or March 23.
7. This may be due to lower levels of Vitamin D which we get from sunshine. The lower Vitamin D tells our bodies to store more fat to get ready for winter. Most people gain 2 – 4 pounds in the fall. So, go ahead and pile on the whipped cream!
8. Surprising, but supported by data, is that people born in the fall are more likely to live to be 100 years old.
9. There was no artificial light, so the Harvest Moon allowed farmers to work into the night gathering their crops from the field.
10. Equinox translates as "equal." Makes sense!

~ Diane Skinner Flowers

*hello  
fall*

## COAST ROUND-UP

COAST ROUND-UP: \$5 per week  
CLASSIFIED: \$6 per week

### COAST ROUND-UP

#### **GASPE:** **Frederick James Richmond and Muriel Richmond Trust Fund**

Are you a former Gaspé Polyvalent student? You may qualify for a financial assistance bursary. Students currently pursuing a university degree are encouraged to apply before October 31, 2019. Application forms can be requested in person at the Gaspé Polyvalent office, by fax (418) 368-7289, or by e-mail (gps.admin@essb.qc.ca). Along with the completed application form, you must send a copy of your receipt for payment of university registration.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Gaspé Polyvalent office at 418-368-6532.

#### **MALBAY:** **Harvest Supper**

**October 12:** Malbay Harvest Supper. Takeouts beginning at 4 p.m. Supper at 5 p.m. Adults \$12, children 12 and under \$6. Everyone welcome.

#### **DOUGLASTOWN:** **Community Centre**

**Tuesdays:** Zumba from 7-8 p.m. \$10/class.

**October 5:** Square dancing beginning at 7:30 p.m. Voluntary contribution of \$5 would be appreciated.

**October 7:** Information meeting on a theatre project beginning at 7 p.m. We are recruiting 6-99 year old anglophone and francophone participants.

**October 10:** Computer basics workshop. Learn computer basics through Vision Digital Liter-

acy Project. Free activity. For registration, call Vision at 418-368-3212.

#### **BARACHOIS:** **Legion Branch 261**

**Every Monday:** The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 261, will be having a money bingo at 7 p.m. at the Legion. 18+ only.  
**Every Thursday:** Cards and Games from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Free. For more information, contact Lloyd Roussel at 418-645-3700 or 418-645-2786.

#### **PORT DANIEL:** **Three Star Golden Age Club**

**Every Wednesday:** Pétanque from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost \$3. Come and join the fun and learn a new game!

**October 26:** Military Whist.

**November 16:** Christmas Tea.

#### **PORT DANIEL:** **St. James Anglican Church Upcoming Events**

**October 12:** Annual Harvest Supper from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Community Centre. Adults \$12, Children 6 to 12 years old \$6, and under 6 free.

**November 1:** Gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. at the Golden Age Club in Port Daniel. All proceeds for St. James Anglican Church.

#### **HOPE TOWN:** **Hope Baptist Church**

Hope Baptist Church welcomes you. Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. and Corporate Worship at 11 a.m. on Sundays. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Young Peoples for grades 7-11

at 7 p.m. on Fridays. 305 Route 132 West, Hope Town, 418-752-5838.

#### **HOPE TOWN:** **Community Centre**

**October 12:** Military Whist beginning at 8 p.m.

**October 18:** Hayes Bursary gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m. All proceeds are for the Hayes Bursary Fund for continuing education.

**November 23:** Christmas gift bingo beginning at 7 p.m.

#### **NEW CARLISLE:** **Bible Chapel Services**

**Sunday:** Breaking of Bread for Believers - 9:30 a.m.; Night service - 7 p.m.; **Wednesday:** Bible Study and Prayer - 7 p.m. "You Must Be Born Again."

#### **NEW CARLISLE:** **Heritage New Carlisle**

**October 11:** Soup and Sweets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the New Carlisle Town Hall. All proceeds go to Heritage New Carlisle. Cost \$10, Door prizes.

#### **NEW CARLISLE:** **Harvest Supper**

The Anglican Church will be having its annual harvest supper on **Saturday, October 26**. More details to follow.

#### **NEW CARLISLE:** **Royal Canadian Legion**

**Saturdays:** Legion opens at 1 p.m.

#### **CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:** **Fifty Plus**

**Every Tuesday:** Grocery Bingo at 7 p.m.

**Every Thursday:** Dame de Piques at 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Thank you for your support.

**October 12 and 25:** There will be jam sessions open to all musicians and spectators at the club. Doors open at 7 p.m and entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m.

#### **CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:** **Book Room**

The book room is now closed, but if you call Kathleen at 418-392-4896, she can set up a time to go in.

#### **CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:** **Fall Fest**

**October 5:** Bake and Craft Sale. To reserve a table please contact Susan or Kelly at 418-392-4042 or on facebook. The cost is \$10 per table. There is a limit of 35 tables in the tent - first come, first served. \*\* No ticket sales please. \*\*

#### **CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:** **Royal Canadian Legion Br. 172**

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 172, meets monthly every third **Saturday** at the Legion located at 55 Gallagher St.

#### **GESGAPEGIAG:** **Important Meeting**

This is to inform the community members of Gesgapegiag and the surrounding area that Gesgapegiag Healing Lodge (NNADAP) hosts AA meetings and is open to everyone. If you are interested in a lifestyle free of alcohol and substance abuse and have the desire to change, you are invited to attend meetings every **Monday** at 7 p.m.

PURCHASE YOUR  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
ONLINE AT  
THEGASPESPEC.COM

#### **GESGAPEGIAG:** **N.A. Meetings**

N.A. Meetings held every **Tuesday** at 7 p.m. at the Mawioimi Treatment Centre located at 85 School Street in Gesgapegiag. Everyone welcome! For more information, call 418-759-3522.

#### **ROTARY CLUB WINNERS**

**The winners for the week of September 22 are:** Georgette Samson, Serge Leblanc, Sylvain Loubert, Annie-Marie Leblanc, Stanlet and Barbara Harrison, Adeline Milligan and Suzan Boudreau.

#### **UNITED CHURCH**

**Sunday, October 6**  
2 p.m. Hope Town

#### **ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**

**Sunday, October 6**

**New Richmond**

3 p.m. Holy Eucharist

**New Carlisle**

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

**Hope Town**

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Shigawake**

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Port Daniel**

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

#### **PARISH OF GASPÉ**

**Sunday, October 6**

**St. John's & St Phillips**

**Sandy Beach**

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist



# On the lighter side...



## SUDOKU

	3	7				5	8	2
		6	7	1			9	
		5	2					
6					9	7		
		4		5				9
			3					1
		8		3				
	5	2		6	8	4	1	
3	9	1			7			6

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

### Here's How It Works:

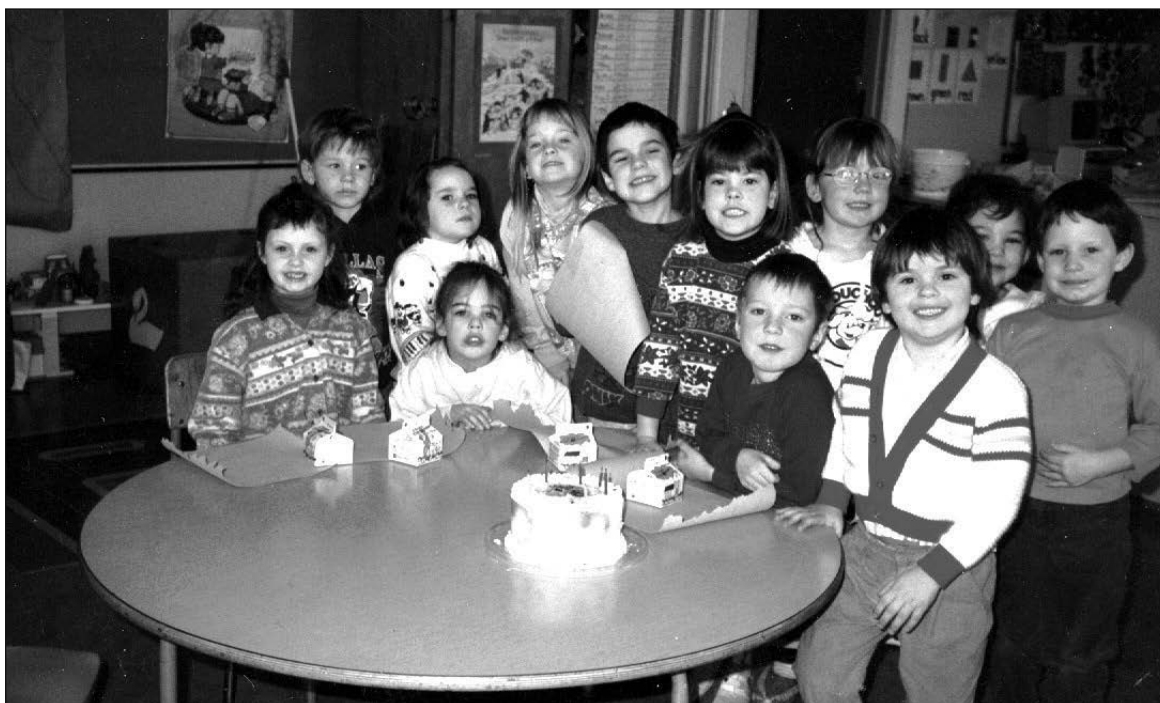
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	9	1	5	4	7	8	2	3
3	7	8	2	9	6	4	1	5
4	6	8	1	3	2	9	7	5
5	8	9	3	7	6	2	4	1
2	7	4	8	5	1	6	3	9
6	1	3	4	2	9	7	5	8
9	4	5	2	8	3	1	6	7
8	2	6	7	1	5	3	9	4
1	3	7	6	9	4	5	8	2

ANSWER:

## SCHOOL DAYS

We urge all teachers on the Coast to please send or email their old class pictures to share with our readers.



New Carlisle High School  
Kindergarten - 1995

Seated at table: Jessica Belanger, Melissa Bourgaize, Bruno Dupuis and Spencer Smith. Back row: Michael Ross, Karen Major, Tiffany Huntington, Steven Renouf, Juliana Beebe, Johanna Walker, Wendy Barrett and James Beebe. Thank you to Enid Bechervaise for submitting this photo.

## Driftwood treasures...

On the Gaspé we have an abundance of driftwood. Why not take something that has no use and make something artistic and beautiful for our homes...



## ON THE WATER WORD SEARCH

G C C M E N G I N E C Y C N H B F I I D  
R L K I O E A S O T C O T F O L A E S B  
E U O A P O T B S E N E R I O O N W G T  
I B O A T E R A E S C E L O A R I N I S  
P N B R R L L I O A D B C H S M I L O O  
Y I L N F L L N N M C I O P L C M S U  
D K R Y A A E G E G U P M L I K E M C T  
C Y C B K W L F N P W B A P G W I O K B  
L E N E D Y M R A A E T P N D E C N K O  
E L B C D O B N D N F T K F Y K O D B A  
A L D A E H T R I O C E L K P T W O B R  
T A G K F S A H R S F Y B I S K P I S D  
C G B L R W C M I I B K T E D C M O S H  
S Y R I R R I Y Y R R O R A L I A O R B  
L L D O H W E N I Y P F E O N A K W P T  
L P F N C G I D W L K H Y I O G W F L R  
U Y B W T B G C O C K K T E B L S N T O  
H T K L A E U F O L F H P G L E L A U P  
P S D C H L P D U R R E K C O L W O E G  
T D D S T A R B O A R D D R A O B N I O

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

ABEAM  
ALOFT  
BALLAST  
BILGE  
BIMINI  
BOAT  
BOW  
BULKHEAD  
CABIN  
CHINE  
CLEAT  
COCKPIT  
CONSOLE  
DECK  
DOCK  
ENGINE  
FENDER  
FLYBRIDGE  
FORWARD  
GALLEY  
GUNWALE  
HATCH  
HEAD  
HULL  
INBOARD  
KNOTS  
LOCKER  
MOORING  
OCCUPANTS  
OUTBOARD  
PIER  
PILING  
PORT  
STARBOARD  
STERN  
SWIM PLATFORM

## HOROSCOPES

### ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

A hectic few weeks find you looking forward to some time off, Aries. You may have to finish some complicated tasks first to free up moments for relaxation.

### TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, this week, feelings that have been simmering just under the surface come to light. Clear the air and you'll discover everything was just miscommunication.

### GEMINI - May 22/June 21

There's more going on with friends

than meets the eye, Gemini. Do not rush to think something negative is going on. Keep an open mind and you could be surprised.

### CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Temporary responsibilities at work have you feeling a tad overwhelmed, Cancer. This project was put in your hands, so you will have to see it through to the end.

### LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Talk things through with a close friend before you swing into action, Leo. Sometimes it is better to have a springboard for ideas to see if things are truly feasible.

### VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you may be having doubts about just where the future will bring

you. But you don't have to be looking too far ahead for the time being. Focus on the here and now.

### LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

It is sometimes good to look at the world through rose-colored glasses, Libra. However, do not let this cloud reality to the point that you do not see the truth.

### SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

You are so busy with various activities that it is impossible to be bored for the next several days, Scorpio. You may be able to eke out a little time to recharge if you delegate.

### SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, new friends come into your life this week. It's an exciting opportunity to get to know new faces.

You can benefit from expanding your social network.

### CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Avoid a knee-jerk reaction to a stressful situation, Capricorn. You may find that not all stress is bad; some can spur you to accomplish things you never imagined.

### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, miscommunication can be a tough hurdle to clear. Make a greater effort to communicate effectively in the coming days and weeks.

### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Make family your top priority this week, Pisces. Everything else can take a back seat for the time being. There will be time to get everything done.

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

#### SEPTEMBER 29

Halsey, Singer (25)

#### SEPTEMBER 30

Olivier Giroud, Athlete (33)

#### OCTOBER 1

Brie Larson, Actress (30)

#### OCTOBER 2

Sting, Singer (68)

#### OCTOBER 3

Gwen Stefani, Singer (50)

#### OCTOBER 4

Alicia Silverstone, Actress (43)

#### OCTOBER 5

Travis Kelce, Athlete (30)



# Behold the Birch

*The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now.*

Diane Skinner

The ubiquitous birch tree - they seem to be everywhere on the Gaspé! The birch tree is appreciated in song and many artists choose the splendid birch tree as a subject for their paintings. On top of that, it is darn useful for firewood - not as heat-providing as maple, for example, but much used, nonetheless. It burns well and the bark serves as an effective fire starter. Birch bark was prized by natives because it could be stripped from the tree easily and was used to make canoes, shelters and even bowls. Birch 'tar' was made from the sap and then used as a type of glue on arrow tips.

Birch trees prefer moist soil and beware of planting them too close to your house. This is because the roots like to travel in search of moisture.

Birch wood is hard and if used to make furniture you will likely need to use power tools, because hand tools will make working with birch quite difficult. It is a pale wood and very fine-grained, and has many uses. It can be used to make plywood, which is light and strong, but use it only for the interior as the wood is not suited for exterior use. It is used to make skateboards because it is also a flexible wood. Model airplane builders use it for the same reason. Howard Hughes, the famous American billionaire and inventor, built an airplane mostly from birch wood which he incorrectly called the "Spruce Goose."

Scandinavians use a bundle of birch tied together in the sauna, which they slap themselves with to stimulate



*Like many plants and trees in the past, the birch was used for healing and medicinal purposes.*

Photo: D. Skinner

blood flow and provide a relaxing feeling after the sauna.

Like many plants and trees in the past, the birch was used for healing and medicinal purposes. The chaga mushroom, which is reputed to have powerful antioxidant properties, is a fungus which grows mainly on birch trees. It is unattractively dark and hardens with a crusty exterior. I give credit to whoever first dared to try this fungal parasite as a cure. It is not attractive, however, the reputed benefits are most impressive. They prevent and treat cancer, strengthen the immune system, fight viruses and inflammation, and increase stamina.

Do not pick these yourself unless you know exactly which ones are safe to ingest.

Most people buy chaga mushrooms at the health food store. They are then chopped or

ground to make a potent tea. If you want to learn more, there are many online articles which explain how to make chaga tea.

There is a group of people who are not fans of birch trees and that would be those with birch tree allergies. Late spring is when the pollen is most plentiful and the most common reactions are itchy eyes, sneezing and runny nose. The estimate is that about 25% of people have this allergy to some extent. There is a group of foods that you may have an allergy or sensitivity to if you are allergic to birch trees. These include almonds, hazelnuts, walnuts, peanuts, soya beans, apples, pears, cherries, apricots, plums, peaches, kiwis, potatoes, carrots, and celery. When you eat them, the body thinks its birch pollen. Cooking breaks down the proteins, but a visit to an allergist can confirm this.

The poet Robert Frost concludes that "One could do worse than be a swinger of birches," however, we know that a birch is useful for a great deal more than swinging on!

## Teachers' Guide (Suggested grade level: 9 - 11)

### Comprehension:

1. List at least 5 uses for the birch tree.
2. Why is birch a challenging material for making furniture?
3. Why does birch make good skateboards?
4. What is a chaga mushroom?
5. Some people are allergic/sensitive to birch trees. What are the most common reactions?

**Vocabulary - Define these words:** ubiquitous, antioxidant, fungus, inflammation, allergy/sensitivity (what is the difference?)

### Extras:

- Research a recipe for making chaga tea.
- Who was Howard Hughes or Robert Frost? (At least 5 facts)

## Business & Professional Directory

CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE

**AUBERGE DOUGLASTOWN**

HOSTEL

Tel.: 418-368-0288  
28 St-Patrick, Douglastown, Quebec  
Email: centre.douglas@douglastown.net  
DOUGLASTOWN.NET

abca<sup>+</sup>

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ASSOCIATES

ALPHONSE BERNARD, FCPA, FCA  
CLAUDE BERNARD, CPA, CA  
HÉLÈNE LAGACÉ, BAA

alphonsebernard.ca  
CARLETON-SUR-MER  
418-364-7471  
CPA

STUDIO DENTAIRE

Art-DENT

Dr. Éloïse Audet  
Owner

349, boul. Perron  
Maria Qc G0C 1Y0  
Tel. : 418 759-3640  
artdent@globetrotter.net

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