

COVID-19 cases slightly down on the Gaspé Peninsula during third week of November

Number of new cases down by 35% during the week

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – The number of new COVID-19 infection cases fell significantly in the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands between the second and third weeks of November, from 152 to 99 cases, a 35% decrease. The last week of October and the first week of November had been marked by 117 and 147 new cases respectively.

Only once during the third week of November was the number of new cases higher than 20, and it occurred on November 14, with 23 cases.

The situation is also reflected by the number of active cases at the end of the second and third weeks of November. As 240 active cases were reported on November 13, that number had fallen to 210 active cases, still a significant amount though.

The Côte-de-Gaspé MRC was still recording, by far, the highest number of active cases, with 118 on November 13, which was 19 less than a week before. The Percé Rock MRC had 36 active cases instead of 39.

The two MRCs that were most problematic from the end of September to the end of October, Avignon and Bonaventure, presented a much better picture on November 20, with 20 and 33 active cases respectively, compared to 28 and 36 a week earlier.

The context in the Haute-Gaspésie MRC and in the Magdalen Islands remains very satisfactory, as only three active cases were reported in the two areas as of November 20. The Magdalen Islands had six straight weeks without a positive test until one active case was identified, on November 16.

Five casualties were announced by the region's Public Health Board during the third week of November. Two of them were tied to the Manoir Saint-Augustin outbreak in Gaspé, while two deaths that



Photo: Simon Carmichael

Gaspé's Manoir Saint-Augustin is hit by the biggest regional COVID outbreak since the beginning of the pandemic.

occurred at the beginning of October were only added to the update five weeks later for a reason that was not provided by the health authorities. Another casualty was not officially associated to any of the region's outbreaks in seniors' residences.

The Manoir Saint-Augustin outbreak was still active as of November 20 but the situation was improving, as the number of daily cases was decreasing sharply. In fact, that day, only one new case was reported. It remains by far the biggest outbreak to have occurred in the Gaspé Peninsula since the beginning of the pandemic, with 66 residents and 35 employees affected, for a total of 101 people. Five casualties have occurred in that residence over the last weeks.

The Public Health Board and the Health and Social Service Integrated Centre recommended to move the Manoir Saint-Augustin residents that have received a negative coronavirus test to Hotel Baker in downtown Gaspé. With the advantage of reducing the risk of infection, ten rooms were reserved for that clientele on the same floor.

The Public Health Board also relocated the testing to the rest area located near the intermodal station. In Chandler, the test unit was moved from the hospital to the nearby former

Meubles Rail building. Appointments must be made before going there.

A test site was also installed in the Port Daniel-Gascons municipal building, located on 440 Bellevue Street. People can go there, whether they have an appointment or not.

As of November 20, there were three outbreaks still considered active in the Gaspé Peninsula, besides the Manoir Saint-Augustin one. They were located at the CHSLD section of the Mgr Ross, with less than five active cases; the New Carlisle Centre d'Accueil, with 18 staff members and 15 resi-

dents; and at Manoir Lady Maria, in Maria, with 44 residents and 13 employees infected. Those numbers reflect the totals since the beginning of the September and October outbreaks, not the active cases as of November 20.

Meanwhile, another large outbreak at the New Carlisle prison increased over the third week of November. From 14 infected inmates and three infected prison guards on November 13, the situation deteriorated to such an extent that 41 of the 56 inmates (75%) and seven prison guards were infected by November 20. Two

guards were considered recovered by then but a total of 11 guards were off duty as a preventive measure.

That situation prompted Quebec's Department of Public Security to close the prison to any new admission, effective November 19, until further notice. Of all the prisons in Quebec, New Carlisle has the second highest number of infected inmates, no matter the capacity of the jail, second only to a prison located in Montreal.

At least one prison guard from Percé came to New Carlisle to help his colleagues after November 13. The admissions that would normally have been directed to New Carlisle were rerouted to Percé and Rimouski.

In response to how quickly the virus was able to spread at the New Carlisle facility, Mathieu Lavoie, national union representative of the prison guards says "It is a clear sign that the New Carlisle prison, with its doors made of steel bars, is outdated and cannot fill the requirements expected from a modern prison. A modernization of the facility is needed," stresses Mathieu Lavoie, national union representatives of the prison guards.

Those testing positive for COVID-19 are following Public Health guidelines

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ – For the most part, Gaspésians are following isolation guidelines during the second wave of COVID-19.

The Department of Public Health hasn't had to issue an order since early fall.

"The isolation period being reduced from 14 to 10 days makes it easier to observe. We still have a few people who don't get it the first time. We call them back and ultimately they do it without having to go through the judicial process," explains the Director of Public Health, Dr.

Yv Bonnier Viger.

Public Health will, however, intervene when it becomes aware of non-compliance with instructions by people positive with the virus.

During the first wave, four orders had to be issued by Public Health, which had to go to court to force two people from the Estran sector to remain confined because they had disregarded the instructions issued.

The COVID-19 testing site changed location in Gaspé on November 19.

The trailer, which was located near the entrance of the emergency department of the

Gaspé hospital centre, was moved to the rest area site, near the city centre.

The Integrated Health and Social Services Centre of the Gaspé Peninsula indicates that the new site is easier to access for the population.

It is still necessary to make an appointment at 877-644-4545 to undergo a test. Priority is given to people with symptoms or those who have had close contact with positive individuals.

Anyone else must be referred by a doctor or Public Health before they can be tested.



Be there for yourself the way you're there for others

It's normal for these uncertain times to bring out negative emotions or anxiety. You're there for your loved ones when they're not doing well. Remember to be there for yourself. There are solutions for getting better.

[Québec.ca/gettingbetter](https://quebec.ca/gettingbetter)

 Info-Social 811

A November 13 drug bust in the Pabos Mills area of Chandler led Sûreté du Québec officers to arrest a 66-year-old man and a 59-year-old woman suspected of selling drugs. The operation was carried out at 2:40 p.m. at a private residence located on Anse aux Canards Street. The police

found ten grams of cocaine, approximately 420 grams of illegal cannabis, 14 grams of hashish, 250 methamphetamine pills, about 20 candies containing cannabis oil, 8,000 contraband cigarettes and an undetermined amount of cash. The car of the couple was also seized as it was

used to commit crimes.

The man and the woman were brought to the police station, questioned and released. They will be summoned to appear at the Percé courthouse at a later date. That date is unknown for now. They will face various charges related to drug posses-

sion and drug trafficking. Due to the presence of contraband cigarettes in the house, they will also face penal charges relating to Revenue Quebec laws. The investigation was initiated after police officers of the Sûreté du Québec detachment in Chandler received calls from the public.

As the SPEC was reaching its November 20 deadline, Rémi Francoeur, 30, from Carleton charged with theft, was scheduled to return to court on November 23 for his bail hearing, at

Cont'd on page 5



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Notice of Application to Dispose of Dredged Material or Other Matter at Sea, Gaspé Peninsula

Notice is hereby given that Fisheries and Oceans Canada, located at 104 Dalhousie Street, Québec (Quebec), intends on this 25th day of November 2020 to apply to Environment and Climate Change Canada for

FOUR DISPOSAL AT SEA PERMITS under the CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT, 1999

to load dredged material in the following harbours in the Gaspé Peninsula for the purpose of Disposal at sea at the disposal sites mentioned below, and by the following method: mechanical excavator and towed scows.

Harbour	Quantity in cubic metres (m ³) place measure	Disposal site	Proposed dates for loading and disposal activities
Port-Daniel (48.18233° N. and 64.96150° W. NAD83)	4 000	PD-6 (48.13500° N. and 64.94167° W. NAD83)	From March 15, 2021 to March 14, 2022
Anse-à-Brillant (48.72117° N. and 64.28950° W. NAD83)	4 000	ABR-1 (48.73200° N. and 64.28200° W. NAD83)	From March 15, 2021 to March 14, 2022
Anse-à-Beaufils (48.47200° N. and 64.30607° W. NAD83)	6 000	AB-5 (48.45000° N. and 64.25000° W. NAD83)	From March 15, 2021 to March 14, 2022
Saint-Godefroi (48.07310° N. and 65.11478° W. NAD83)	5 000	SG-2 (48.04500° N. and 65.08333° W. NAD83)	From March 15, 2021 to March 14, 2022

For further information regarding these activities, please contact:

Mr. Alex Harvey, Project technician, Small Craft Harbours, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Quebec Region, 104 Dalhousie Street, Québec (Quebec) G1K 7Y7
Alex.Harvey@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

The public may raise environmental concerns related to this notice or obtain information on the permit issuance process by contacting the nearest Disposal at Sea Program regional office:

Environment and Climate Change Canada, Quebec Region
Environmental Protection Operations Directorate
Disposal at Sea Program Coordinator, 105 McGill Street, 4th floor
Montréal (Quebec) H2Y 2E7, Tel.: 514-496-2653

Préavis de demande de permis d'immersion des déblais de dragage ou d'autres matières en mer, Gaspésie

Avis est donné par les présentes que Pêches et Océans Canada, sis au 104, rue Dalhousie, Québec (Québec) en ce 25^e jour de novembre 2020 a l'intention de demander à Environnement et Changement climatique Canada,

QUATRE PERMIS D'IMMERSION EN MER en vertu de la LOI CANADIENNE SUR LA PROTECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (1999)

afin de charger des déblais de dragage dans les havres suivants en Gaspésie, pour ensuite les immerger en mer aux sites de dépôt mentionnés ci-dessous, au moyen d'une drague à benne preneuse ou d'une pelle hydraulique ou drague hydraulique et de chalands remorqués.

Havre	Quantité en mètres cubes (m ³) mesure en place	Site de dépôt	Dates prévues d'activités de chargement et d'immersion
Port-Daniel (48,18233° N. et 64,96150° O. NAD83)	4 000	PD-6 (48,13500° N. et 64,94167° O. NAD83)	Du 15 mars 2021 au 14 mars 2022
Anse-à-Brillant (48,72117° N. et 64,28950° O. NAD83)	4 000	ABR-1 (48,73200° N. et 64,28200° O. NAD83)	Du 15 mars 2021 au 14 mars 2022
Anse-à-Beaufils (48,47200° N. et 64,30607° O. NAD83)	6 000	AB-5 (48,45000° N. et 64,25000° O. NAD83)	Du 15 mars 2021 au 14 mars 2022
Saint-Godefroi (48,07310° N. et 65,11478° O. NAD83)	5 000	SG-2 (48,04500° N. et 65,08333° O. NAD83)	Du 15 mars 2021 au 14 mars 2022

Pour de plus amples renseignements sur ces activités, veuillez communiquer avec:

Monsieur Alex Harvey, technicien de projets, Direction des ports pour petits bateaux Pêches et Océans Canada, Région du Québec, 104, rue Dalhousie, Québec (Québec) G1K 7Y7, Alex.Harvey@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Le public peut faire part de ses préoccupations environnementales suscitées par ce préavis, ou obtenir des renseignements sur la délivrance des permis, en s'adressant au bureau régional du Programme sur l'immersion en mer le plus près:

Environnement et Changement climatique Canada, Région du Québec
Direction des activités de protection de l'environnement
Coordonnateur, Programme sur l'immersion en mer
105, rue McGill, 4^e étage, Montréal (Québec) H2Y 2E7, Tél. : 514-496-2653

Gilles Gagné
Commentary



The Green Economy Policy: a tremendous lack of ambition

Quebec Premier François Legault announced on November 16 his government's *Politique pour une économie verte* (Green Economy Policy), which will allegedly provide tools to allow the province to reach its 2030 greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

The equation is relatively simple. Quebec, in order to respect some norms determined by the Kyoto Protocol, must cut by 37.5% its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions before 2030, the reference year being the emissions of 1990.

In 1990, the emissions of Quebec were reaching 86 million tonnes per year. They had fallen to 79 million tonnes in 2017, an 8.1% decrease. Is it reassuring? Not at all because they were rising between 2015 and 2017, the last year of updated statistics. They would also be supposed to have reached a 20% reduction in 2020, not 8.1%. Even if the numbers are not available yet, we are likely far from 69 million tonnes of GHG now.

So we are not headed in the right direction. If we are to respect our commitment to cut our emissions by 37.5% for 2030, a commitment that will be respected by a number of countries and jurisdictions similar to Quebec, we must get down to 54 million tonnes of GEG emissions. Chances are that Quebec's emission kept rising in 2018 and 2019. The COVID pandemic might keep them from increasing in 2020 and maybe in 2021, but chances are that our society will fall back in its same old habits of caring for the environment mainly on paper, not through actions.

When Premier François Legault announced his

Green Economy Policy, he indicated that it contains measures to cut 12 million tonnes of emissions over the next decade. That is 48% of the goal, that target being 25 million tonnes, however, most experts think that the 12 million tonnes mark is much closer to 40% of the goal because our total emissions have probably increased since 2017.

Why is Premier Legault calling his plan "very ambitious" then? He explains that more measures will be unveiled over the next few years in order to reach the 37.5% emission reduction target.

In reality, the Quebec government is shovelling snow in the middle of the trail it has to go through. The plan lacks ambition for many reasons.

First, the government fails to embed its commitment in a law. That commitment is just verbal. So there are no constraints if the targets are not respected.

Second, the amount of money earmarked for the policy is clearly insufficient, at \$6.7 billion for the first five years. It means \$1.34 billion yearly. It is a lot of money for any wallet in Quebec but it is petty cash if you want to turn around an economic policy and show ambition. Mr. Legault can always say that the budget and the policy itself will be works in progress. The sum of \$1.34 billion is just a tad over 1% of Quebec's yearly budget of \$127 billion.

Third, all the measures are incentives. There are no new taxes, no penalties, no constraints, if people don't adopt new ways of doing things, like using commuter services or if companies don't invest in pollution reduction plans. As presented, the policy will allot 50% of its \$6.7 billion budget to the electrification of transport, through grants for drivers wanting to buy or rent an electric car. Where are the measures to encourage car sharing in the big cities but also in the rural regions?

Fourth, the plan is embarrassingly silent about the compulsory reduction of fossil fuel use and the necessity to favour green spaces so as to cut on the number of urban heat sources. The Quebec government has no clear target on the number of cars that should be pulled off the roads. In fact, new roads occupy a front and centre space in Transports Quebec's future plans, while the province has a network that could greet three times more people than its current population.

François Legault did not want to add new taxes

because he thinks that Quebecers are already maxed out on that front. In a way, he is right but his Green Economy Policy as presented is almost a sure shot at duplicating the solutions that have failed over the last decade.

More taxes on gasoline has been adopted in almost every country that has succeeded in reducing polluting emissions. What Mr. Legault doesn't understand is that the pollution level in Montreal and Quebec City is such that it impacts the air quality, which affects the health of hundreds of thousands of people. Those people will need treatments. Where will they get them? In hospitals - a reality that will send our health expenses closer and closer to the 50% mark of Quebec's total budget. No additional gas tax means higher health bills, Mr. Premier. That additional tax could enhance your \$6.7 billion plan, by the way.

Environment Minister Benoit Charette points out that increasing the tax specific to heavy fuel consumption vehicles is like interfering in people's family decisions and hampering people who need a big vehicle for work purposes. This is hardly a serious argument. A lot of people needing a big vehicle to work already receive tax breaks when they fill their income tax documents.

Everything is not dark in the Green Economy Policy. Although it is not specified with statistics, there seems to be ample room for wind energy in that strategy, which smells good for a region like the Gaspé Peninsula. It will be more reassuring once we see some targets in energy production and the continuation of incentives destined to fabricate wind mill components in Quebec, including in our region.

Despite his very traditional, sometimes outdated conception of the economy, François Legault has proven that he can occasionally change his mind. For example, he is currently switching to a more modern approach regarding the relevance of wind energy, a move made in less than 18 months. Can he do the same adjustment for a really green economy?

So far, Premier Legault has managed a heavily centralized government, where he and his limited supporting cast control about every decision. It might be time to transfer some responsibilities to people who are more in tune with today's environmental values.



Guest Commentary
Emma Buckley

A friend indeed

With social encounters reduced again this autumn, I've turned to some friends who require no physical distancing: my books.

These friends have never really been far away, given that I am a complete bookworm. Reading was a gift I discovered at a young age, encouraged by my parents, rather bookworm-ish themselves. There were regular childhood trips to our local library, with its distinctive smell of ink and paper, hushed corridors, and nude portraits hung discreetly in the adult section (quietly subversive for a small rural town, I always thought, but then again, libraries are hothouses of quiet subversion). There were books as gifts for birthdays and Christmases, and books on all our bedside tables.

My parents' tastes were reasonably eclectic - dad liked political memoirs and Cold War-set thrillers and cricketing tales. Mum's tastes ran more towards autobiographies and sci-fi/fantasy. When I was in my final year at high school, mum gamely read all my prescribed English novels and poems (The latter were inflicted on all the family due to my habit of sticking them up inside the toilet.) This learning method totally works. To this day my brother can recite great chunks of the English poet Gerard Manley Hopkins.

Books can educate, entertain, comfort and inspire.

There is something for every mood and taste. Reading opens up new worlds; a blessing at this strange time in history which finds us rooted in one place. Books enable us to take great imaginative leaps into other lives. It is no surprise that reading is considered to improve empathy and enhance understanding of other viewpoints. In a time of increasingly polarised opinions - one just has to look at the recent US election - the benefit of being able to see and understand things from someone else's perspective should be not underestimated.

For people living alone, books can be cherished companions or if your home life is full of voices clamouring for your attention, reading can be a rare quiet luxury. During this pandemic, books can cheer us up. They can simultaneously offer distraction and connection. By sharing in the hopes and fears of the characters in our books, be they real or imaginary, we feel less alone in dealing with our own difficulties.

The cold Canadian winters offer excellent conditions for reading. Reading by the fire and looking up from the page every so often to watch the flames feels decadently cozy, as does snuggling under the covers with a good book as a snowstorm rages outside.

I like to read fiction by Canadian authors to learn about the mindsets, landscapes and cultures in my new home; I read books and poems by Australian authors to revisit the sights, sounds and voices that I grew up with; and to 'refill the cultural tank', as a fellow Aussie emigrant once said to me.

Today we are able to read on various devices and e-book readers, but I prefer to leaf through pages. I'm always on the lookout for inexpensive sources of books. Book swapping with a friend is an excellent way to get your hands on some different titles. Secondhand and

thrift stores can also reveal the odd treasure. I particularly like finding used books with handwritten dedications or underlined passages. These books have already touched hearts and minds and, once finished, are best sent on their way, back out into the world to touch more and, of course, don't forget the local library, where quietly subversive ideas await you at every turn. I can't vouch for the nude portraits, however.

If you know someone who may be keen to improve their reading experience, the Gaspé Literacy Council is currently offering free online services aimed at improving adult literacy (previously noted in SPEC). Contact Chelsea@glsliteracy.ca for further details.

The Gaspé Spec
Penny MacWhirter

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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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Two vacant ESSB commissioner seats

Other seats filled by acclamation

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE: – Eight of the ten Eastern Shores School Board commissioners' positions were won by acclamation following the end of the nomination process. An election was scheduled for November 1 but was not held since none of the seats were contested. Two positions are left vacant, in wards 2 and 4, as there were no candidates.

The two seats cover the territory including a part of the city of Seven-Islands, down to the limits of Petit-Mécatina, for ward 2, and ward 4 comprises the municipality of Cascapedia-St-Jules, the town of New Richmond, the Mi'gmaq community of Gesgapegiag and the municipalities of Caplan and St. Alphonse.

"They are considered vacant seats and the two commissioners that were in those seats at the time of the election will hold them until they are filled or they resign. So for ESSB, this means we must post in the media by December 4 that there will be an election on January 17," explains Hugh Wood, director general of the Eastern Shores School Board.

Ward 2 is still filled by Keith Eldridge while Nancy Doddridge still takes care of ward 4 affairs. New commissioners could replace them shortly after January 17.

Following the fall's nomination period, New Carlisle's Wade Gifford keeps the chairperson position at the Eastern Shores School Board.

Mary Ellen Beaulieu remains the commissioner for ward 1, which covers Baie-Comeau, Fermont and part of the city of Sept-Îles. Michael Chesser keeps representing the municipality of Maria to Pointe-à-la-Croix; the Mata-pédia to Rimouski and the Metis Beach to La Pocatière areas.

Michael Clarke won by acclamation in ward 5, which covers St. Siméon, the town of Bonaventure and the municipality of New Carlisle while George Hayes remains the

commissioner in ward 6, which includes the stretch included between Paspebiac and Port-Daniel-Gascons.

The only change among incumbent commissioners occurred in ward 7, where Douglas Hunt replaced Gary Briand, who did not run. Mr. Hunt will represent the territory included in the municipal limits of Percé, Chandler, Grand River and Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé.

Donald Bourgoïn remains the commissioner of ward 8, which includes a part of the municipal limits of Gaspé, that part being situated south of the York River basin and that river shore. Ron Mundle will continue to represent ward 9, which includes Matane, the part of Gaspé situated south of the York River basin, that river shore and Murdochville.

Kerry Dickson stays as the commissioner representing the Magdalen Islands.

The Eastern Shores School Board also has three new parent commissioners, Denise Leblanc, Jackie Bizeau and Adam Renouf. There is also

one returning parent commissioner, Kathy MacKenzie.

The nomination period for the election of commissioners in ward 2 and 4 will take place between December 8 and 13. The advanced poll is scheduled for January 10 and the election day will occur on January 17 if one or the two seats are contested.

School board elections were abolished in Quebec's French school boards because they were turned into service centres by the Coalition avenir Québec government. The electoral process was maintained in the English school boards, but it was somewhat characterized by a relative discretion.

"We followed normal process. Notice of election was sent to Journal de Quebec and The Montreal Gazette. There was a nomination period and most schools were open to receive nomination papers. Results of the election were also posted in the newspapers, French and English, as well as posted on our website as per Quebec elections rules," explains Hugh Wood.



PUBLIC NOTICE

The municipal authorities of "Ville de Gaspé" would like to advise the population that:

- according to By-Law 1190-12, motor vehicles are forbidden to park on all the streets of the town, from 0 h to 7 h, between November 1st, 2020, and April 30, 2021.

Motor vehicles are forbidden to park on "rue de la Reine," from 3 h to 7 h, between November 1st, 2020, and April 30, 2021.

All motor vehicles parked in contravention with this By-Law will be towed at the owner's expense, and he or she will therefore be obliged to pay the fine and the costs described in this By-Law.

- according to By-Law 736-99, it is forbidden to make snow pile-ups or other pile-ups in the streets, alleys or public places.

Any person infringing this By-Law will be liable to a fine and the costs described in this By-Law.

Ville de Gaspé counts on the collaboration of its citizens regarding the respect of these provisions for security reasons and to make snow removal operations easier.

GIVEN at Gaspé, November 25, 2020.

Isabelle Vézina,
The Director of legal services and town clerk

POLICE REPORT:

Cont'd from page 3

the New Carlisle courthouse. He was initially charged on October 30 of theft amounting to less than \$5,000, break and enter, mischief, breach of conditions and breach of probation.

Rémi Francoeur already had pending files in similar matters. He is suspected of having committed thefts at the Carleton Golf Course and at the Petro-Canada service station and convenience store.

Another suspect in that case, a 31-year-old man, will be charged in February.

The first charges against Rémi Francoeur were laid after an October 29 operation conducted by Sûreté du Québec officers in a Carleton apartment where many stolen objects were found.

Kreg Condo, 29, from Listuguj, was sent to the Philippe-Pinel Institute in Montreal for a psychiatric evaluation following his last appearance at the New Carlisle courthouse on October 22. He was acquitted of numerous counts, eight out of 13, including armed robbery, forcible confinement, aggravated assault and uttering death threats.

The Philippe-Pinel Institute experts will try to determine if he must be declared a dangerous

delinquent. He already has the status of delinquent requiring control, however, he was found guilty on two counts of breaching a court order, one count of obstruction in the work of a police officer, of assault causing bodily harm and evasion from a legal guard. According to attorney Maxime Rocheville-Paradis, of the Department of Justice, Kreg Condo will return to court on January 11 for the representations on his sentence.

A 44-year-old man from Murdochville will eventually be charged with dangerous driving and obstruction in the work of a police officer following a November 17 police chase that started at 6:20 p.m. "A Sûreté du Québec officer was conducting speeding checks on Road 198 in Murdochville when a car passed by at a high speed. As the police officer started going after him, with the lights on, the driver decided to flee. The chase went all the way to Anse Pleureuse, 40 kilometres away, and the driver lost control of his vehicle and left the road. He was arrested there. He was not injured. He is known by the police. He was questioned, released and he will be summoned to appear later but the date is not determined yet," explains Sgt. Claude Doiron, spokesperson for the Sûreté du Québec.



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEPOSIT OF THE REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR 2021-2022-2023

NOTICE is hereby given, by the undersigned, in accordance with articles 73 and 74.1 of the Act respecting municipal taxation C.Q.L.R., C. F-2.1 that:

- the real estate assessment roll of the Town of Gaspé for the fiscal years 2021-2022-2023 for the 1st fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2021 was deposited in my office on November 16, 2020;
- any person interested may examine the roll by contacting the Finance Department at City Hall during regular business hours at 418-368-2104, ext. 8514, or by email at serv.administratif@ville.gaspé.qc.ca.
- any person who has an interest in contesting the accuracy, presence or absence of an entry on this real estate assessment roll, in relation to an assessment unit, which he or another person owns, may file an application for review in respect of this roll.

To be admissible, any application for review must:

- be submitted before May 1st, 2021.
- be deposited duly filed at the following location or be sent by registered mail:

Ville de Gaspé
Services administratifs
25, rue de l'Hôtel-de-Ville
Gaspé (Québec) G4X 2A5

- be completed on the form prescribed for this purpose and available at the above address and on the website of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing at <https://www.mamh.gouv.qc.ca/evaluation-fonciere/evaluation-fonciere-municipale-au-quebec/recours-des-contribuables/>
- be accompanied by the required sum of money for this type of demand by by-law 97-79 of the M.R.C. de la Côte-de-Gaspé and applicable to the assessment unit referred to in the request.

GIVEN at Gaspé, November 25, 2020

Isabelle Vézina,
Director of Legal Services and Town clerk



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AVAILABLE TREATMENTS

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- Nail maintenance / Corns / Calluses
- Nails with fungus or mushrooms
- Ingrown toenails / Plantar warts
- Preventive care for diabetics
- Massage on certain reflexology points
- Insurance receipts available
- Appointment only / Bilingual service
- Gift certificates are available

Ottawa contributes nearly \$800,000 to various projects

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - Four growing or start-up companies are receiving \$510,000 from Ottawa.

The largest share will go to Accès Micro-Crédit Gaspésie, which will receive a non-repayable funding of \$272,000 to expand its activities in the Magdalen Islands and to also better serve its English-speaking clientele.

The pandemic is having an impact on requests for that company's services. "It is possible that financial difficulties might bring us clients who have difficulty accessing other credit. So much demand has been reduced in certain sectors that it has increased in other sectors. There is still a certain balance in the requests for support," says the coordinator, Yan Tremblay.

Chandler-based start-up company Popabid will receive a repayable amount of \$159,000 to develop a multi-lingual digital platform for the silent philanthropic auction industry.

Soudures marine Service Tourelle in Sainte-Anne-des-Monts wants to diversify its products and services and is receiving a reimbursable assistance of \$50,000 to assist in that venture.

Les Produits Tapp located in Gaspé will receive \$29,500 to increase its production capacity.

Amounts for the Clean Technology Cluster

Ottawa is providing \$270,000 to the Gaspé Clean Technology Centre to continue its mission to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

The team is working to find technologies to reduce the greenhouse gases from McInnis Cement and to develop an industrial symbiosis around the cement plant.

"We emerged from these forty-two innovations, six that caught our attention and with which we will continue to work in more detail in order to see how they could participate in our symbiosis project," states Pierre Sanschagrin who works for the centre.

More detailed work with these companies will be done in the coming months.

Ottawa has provided \$400,000 so far to the Clean Technology Centre.

Both announcements were made by the Federal Member of Parliament for the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands, Diane Lebouthillier.

PUBLIC SECTOR NEGOTIATIONS: Unions growing impatient

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - Union members in the public sector are increasingly showing their impatience at the slow pace of discussions with the Quebec government. Two central unions have demonstrated in recent days to demand concrete progress at the negotiating tables.

"In health, things must change now!" was launched on November 17 the Union of nurses, auxiliaries and respiratory therapists of Eastern Quebec during two gatherings in front of Gaspé hospital.

The union is criticizing Quebec's attitude at the negotiating table. "The government's offers are as if the health workers are spoiled children, but this is not the case. If we were spoiled children, people would scramble to do these jobs," states the president of the union, Pier-Luc Bujold.

Quebec wants to reduce overtime but to achieve this, the union is asking for better working conditions. "It would take measures that increase full-time positions, stabilizing work teams in order to make people want to work more," says Mr. Bujold.

The CSN too

Public sector workers affiliated with the CSN in turn demonstrated their solidarity in facing the government by ne-



The union members of the CSN demonstrated on November 14 in Gaspé.

Photo: N. Sergerie

gotiations to renew the collective agreement during a rally on November 14, also in front of Gaspé hospital.

Like their colleagues from other regions of Quebec, some 20 union representatives demonstrated in compliance with health measures. "We are disgusted to see that the government does not take its employees into consideration. All we want is respect and recognition," says the president of the Central Council of the CSN Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine,

Serge Saint-Pierre.

This respect is not present at the negotiating table as better conditions are demanded.

"Two weeks ago I met a nurse who had done four 16-hour days. She was pissed off because she didn't want to do a fifth day. This is unacceptable," Mr. Saint-Pierre says as an example.

Union members are leaving the public service before they lose their health, he adds. Collective agreements in the public sector expired last March.

Minister says everything was ready for the second wave

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - With some 150 seniors infected and 20 deaths in CHSLDs and seniors' residences in the Gaspé Peninsula, the Minister responsible for Seniors, Marguerite Blais, maintains that the Quebec government had everything in place to deal with this second wave of COVID-19.

Refusing to say what went wrong this fall in an interview with *The Gaspé Spec*, the minister instead targets community transmission as responsible for the poor record. Ms. Blais says that in the first wave, last spring, people were confined. Subsequently, family caregivers were permitted.

"What we are asking of the population is to be vigilant so that the contamination does not spread in the community. Since it's a virus and a carrier can be asymptomatic... We are doing a lot more contact tracing and testing than before."

The minister reiterates the importance of respecting sanitary instructions, issuing a specific warning: "do not get together in secret."

Regarding the Manoir Saint-Augustin in Gaspé, the place most affected by the second wave, the minister is aware of the situation.

"I can tell you that at Saint-Augustin, there were infection prevention and control teams that went; the operator of the residence collaborated very well; the CISSS is also func-

tioning well. We are able to work much faster," says the Minister. She also mentions that when COVID-19 starts to spread in a facility, that it happens very quickly.

A first Seniors' House in the Gaspé

The first Seniors' House in the Gaspé will be built in Rivière-au-Renard.

Being in Bill 66 aimed at accelerating its implementation, Quebec formalized its construction on November 16.

The building will be located near the old ferry station and will have 48 units, including 24 for adults with special needs. The building takes into account the new measures related to the pandemic: it will have four wings of 12 places with a bedroom, washroom, with an adapted shower and will be made of easy-to-clean materials.

"No more mechanical ventilation, more protection in the kitchens, more airlocks to make sure you don't get infected from unit to unit. We have adjusted," says the minister.

With this concept, the retention of the workforce will be made easier, according to the minister.

"The Rivière-au-Renard sector was the one where the needs were the most pressing according to the studies carried out by the CISSS in recent years," says the mayor of Gaspé, Daniel Côté.

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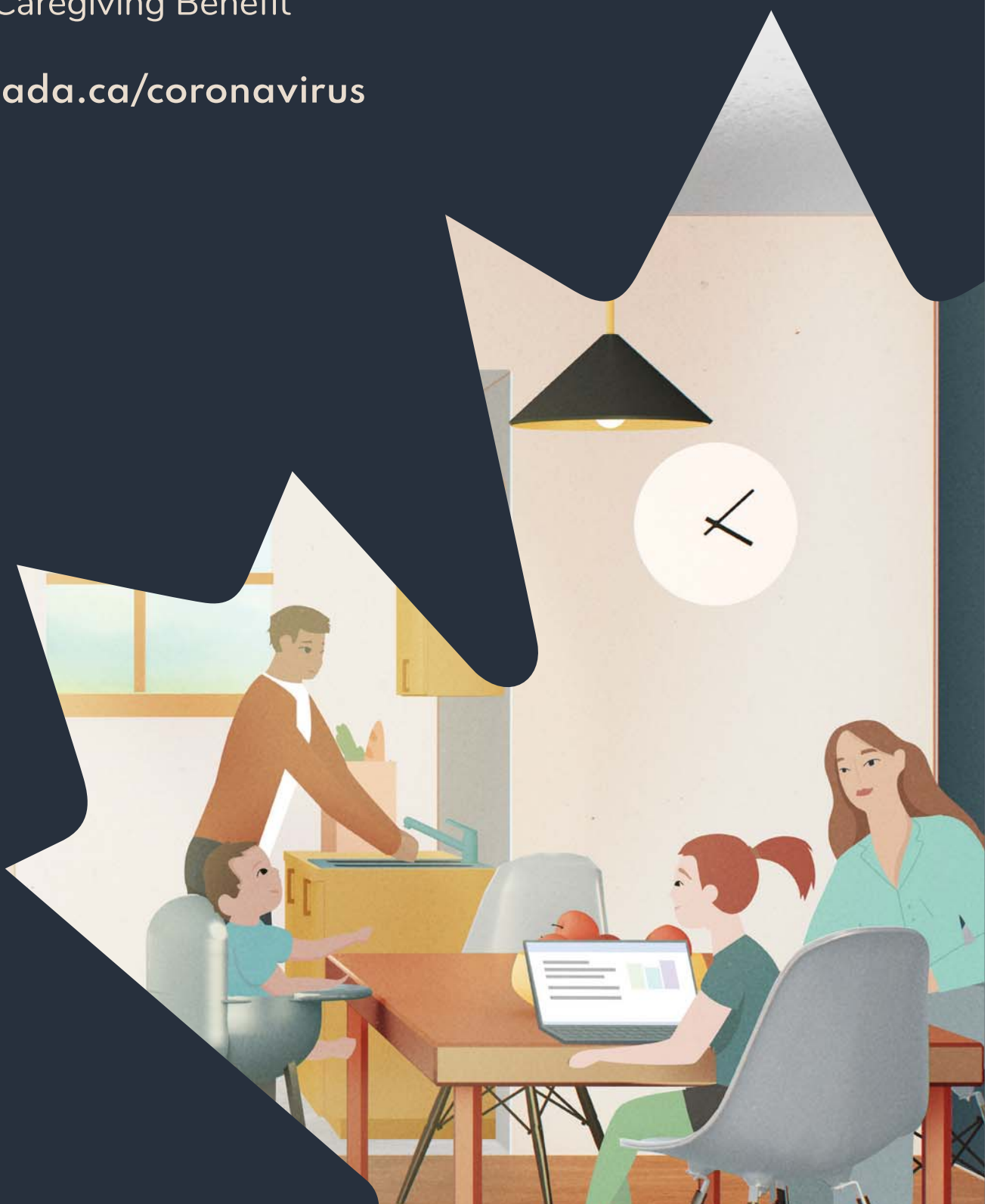
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Be there for yourself the way you're there for others



You are always there when your loved ones are going through difficult times. But don't forget about yourself—solutions exist to help you feel better.

The current situation may cause you distress. Experiencing various levels of anxiety in some spheres of life is normal. When this happens, you may find it more challenging to deal with your thoughts, emotions, behaviour and relationships with others. Most people succeed in adapting, but listening to your needs is vital. **Don't hesitate to do whatever is necessary to help yourself.**

Take care of yourself

- Rely on your personal strengths and have confidence in your abilities.
- Remind yourself of the winning strategies you used in the past to overcome difficulties. There is no one-size-fits-all solution! Each and every one of us must take steps to foster our own well-being.
- Enjoy life's little pleasures, such as listening to music, taking a warm bath, reading, exercising, etc.
- If you live close to nature, make the most of it. Breathe deeply and slowly as you walk.
- Learn to delegate, and allow others to help you.
- Ask for help when you feel overwhelmed. **It is not a sign of weakness, but rather a sign of strength when you are strong enough to do what is necessary to help yourself.**
- Lend a hand in your community in a way that respects your personal limits and public health directives. By helping others, you can improve their wellness and your own as well.
- Think about what has meaning and value for you. Reflect on the important things in your life that you can hold onto in hard times.
- Reduce the stressors in your life.
- While it is important to stay informed, limit the amount of time spent reading about COVID-19. Information overload can increase stress and anxiety, and even cause depression.



The Getting Better My Way digital tool

Getting Better My Way is a digital self-management tool for emotional health. If you are experiencing stress, anxiety or distress, this tool can help improve your well-being by identifying practical things you can do to feel better. Learn more at Quebec.ca/Gettingbetter



Give voice to your feelings

- Keep in mind that having a range of emotions is normal. Feelings play an important role in life, and it is essential to experience them without passing judgment.
- Use words to express what you are going through. Do you feel alone? Are you worried?
- Allow yourself to share your feelings with a trusted friend or family member. It might also be helpful to write down how you're feeling or call a helpline. Find what works for you!
- Those closest to you may not necessarily be able to "read" you. Express your feelings.
- Leave space in your life for your feelings and those of your loved ones.



Make judicious use of social media

- Use critical thinking before sharing something on social media. Ill-advised information can have harmful effects and be detrimental to everyone's efforts in these times.
- Use social media to share positive actions.
- Watch videos that make you smile.



Choose healthy living habits

- Try to keep to a routine for eating, resting, sleeping and other daily activities.
- Take time to eat well.
- Go to bed at an hour that lets you get enough sleep.
- Be physically active on a regular basis, while complying with public health directives.
- Reduce your consumption of stimulants like coffee, tea, soft drinks, energy beverages, chocolate, etc.
- Drink lots of water.
- Lower your alcohol, drug and tobacco consumption, or simply say no to them entirely. The same goes for gambling.

Help and resources

We are all going through unprecedented times that can intensify our emotional reactions. For example, you might feel greater fatigue or have fears that you can't shake, or even have trouble just dealing with the day-to-day. Focus on these signs of a problem and, as soon as you can, contact resources that can help you to better manage your feelings and develop new coping strategies.

- **Info-Social 811**
Info-Social 811 is a free and confidential telephone consultation service available 24/7
- **Regroupement des services d'intervention de crise du Québec**
Provides 24/7 referral services for people in distress (French): centredecrise.ca/listecentres
- **Suicide prevention crisis helpline**
Crisis helpline that provides suicide prevention services 24/7: 1 866 APPELLE (277-3553)

For a host of other helpful resources, visit Quebec.ca/gettingbetter

Quebec.ca/Gettingbetter

Info-Social 811

Flu vaccine seems popular this year

Nelson Sergerie

GASPÉ - Some 13,000 Gaspésians have already received the flu vaccine this year. There are still time slots available for a very specific clientele: people aged 75 and over, people with chronic illnesses, pregnant women and people who live or take care of those people.

"This is not a vaccination for all the population," says regional director of Public Health, Dr. Yv Bonnier Viger.

The last two winters have seen a higher number of influenza cases in the region, but the coming season promises to be less intense.

"There were almost no influenza cases this summer in the southern hemisphere. Since people are taking precautions not to catch COVID, it also prevents influenza virus from spreading," says the medical specialist.

Last year, approximately 20,000 doses of the vaccine were administered in the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands. Public Health hopes for a similar number this year. Influenza has not appeared in Quebec yet.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Christmas cards: Staying connected in 2020

*"A little smile, a word of cheer,
a bit of love from someone near,
A little gift from one held dear,
Best Wishes for the coming year."
- John Greenleaf Whittier*

This is the right year to bring back Christmas cards. In the last 20 years many people have stopped sending cards to friends and family near and far. Years ago, many of us can recall our family receiving many beautiful, thoughtful cards that would be displayed all over the living room. It was exciting to receive all the coloured envelopes, photo cards and personal messages. These may have been heartfelt wishes for the holiday season and new year, or a newsier message keeping people up to date with family happenings.

Over the years the sending of Christmas cards has certainly declined in popularity. Technology is part of the reason. People get in touch easily and quickly using computers and cell phones. Why go to the bother of buying cards, stamps and locating addresses? The reasons to do so are many, particularly during the times of COVID.

1. It is a meaningful way to connect with people. It is a personal and tangible connection. People of the Gaspé live all over the world. Don't forget the many Gaspésians who live 'Away.'
2. The cards will be on display for a couple of weeks. Every time the receiver looks at the card, they will think about you.
3. Cards will make a home cheerier. It is fun to give and, in the case of Christmas cards, a lot of fun to receive. All those different cards on display are lovely – small, big, glittery, photos, humorous, religious, artsy!
4. It's an opportunity to catch up with old friends. Tell them a bit about what is going on in your life. Go ahead and brag if you have a new grandchild. Fill your cards with messages of hope, optimism and love.
5. It is easy to do. Make a fun afternoon of addressing your cards. Put on some Christmas music. Gather your cards, stamps, favourite pen, your address book and you are ready for action.
6. You may cheer up someone who is feeling down. December is a month when many people feel lonely and that will likely be more so during the isolation of COVID. Why not brighten someone's mood with a card?
7. Sending cards may make you feel happier. An added benefit is that you will keep your address book up to date!
8. It makes the trip to the mailbox more exciting. Will you get a card? Who will it be from? If you send cards, you will be more likely to receive them in return.
9. Keep those cards to make Christmas crafts next year! You can fold tiny gift boxes for small gifts. The front of the card is the lid and the back will be the bottom of the box. If you do not reuse them, be a friend to the environment and donate them to someone who will. Lots of videos on Pinterest show how to do this.
10. Be particularly mindful of seniors, especially those who live alone, in a seniors' residence or in an old age home. Seniors come from a time when Christmas cards were very important. They will still feel that same happiness about receiving a card in 2020.



Make attractive tiny boxes from last year's cards. This assortment was made by artist Elaine Almond.

Photo: E. Almond

The 12 Days of a Gaspesian Christmas

**The Gaspesian Way will be hosting
12 episodes of a regional variety show
presenting just some of our
English-speaking Gaspesian artists,
artisans, and community heritage and
culture through music, skits, storytelling,
online markets, and fun,
all in the Christmas spirit and tradition.**

**Join us every evening from
December 1 through December 12
at 7 p.m. by watching the
live stream on
The Gaspesian Way Facebook page.**



Dawn Dussault: soldier, student, business woman

Diane Skinner

Women fill many roles on the Gaspé. Whether working inside the home or in the community, Gaspesian women take the lead in many ways. They are the driving force in organizations, outstanding educators, community advocates, innovators, and leaders. Some fill non-traditional roles, but all the women that will be profiled in this series make a difference - not because they are women, but because they lead the way. They are strong, positive examples for our young people. This is Week # 4.

Dawn Dussault has a long family history on the Gaspé Coast despite not being born here. She was born in St. Eustache, Quebec, and then about the age of four, she moved to the Gaspé where she spent most of her childhood. She recalls visiting her grandparents in Laval most summers and during some winter holidays.

She attended Shigawake-Port Daniel School and New Carlisle High School for Junior High. When she was 14 years old, she moved to Laval and graduated from Lake of Two Mountains High School.

Dawn's grandfather lived here and many of his siblings. Some of her family and friends have passed since she moved and she has returned for the funerals for some of them. She mentions in particular Myrna, Barry, Alfred and Adrian.

She has several family members who still live here including Winnifred and Barbara Hottot and her great-aunt Celia Smith. She lived on the third range in Port Daniel West at the end of the road. She says she loved her neighbours, including Lenny Whalen who was her stepfather when she was growing up, and his blood relatives. She mentions Perry, Lori, Alfred, Laurette, Tunny and all the other kids who were around her age who lived on their road.

After high school Dawn received a full scholarship to RMC, Royal Military College, where she accomplished a great deal. She was always top athlete, in a position of leadership, and was one of two people selected to do an exchange with the prestigious West Point Military Academy in New York for a semester. She held the highest position within her squadron at RMC



Photo: Courtesy

Dawn's hopes for her future are to be content and have a simple life, with some adventures here and there to keep her on her toes.

during her last semester, and she was awarded top army cadet as well.

Dawn was the first female infantry officer in the history of Canada's last remaining Infantry Regiment that had previously had no female officers. That was the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). She served from 2001-2016, and lived all over Canada, the U.S., and was deployed to Afghanistan. She was a Captain in the infantry, having chosen to work in Canada's special forces, in the busiest squadron at Joint Task Force 2.

Dawn tells us, "After releasing from the army, which took a toll on me, mentally and physically, I wanted a new challenge, and I love anything survival related, so I decided to apply and actually got selected for the tv show, Naked and Afraid. She was the first Canadian to be on the show which is aired on the Discovery Channel. Naked and Afraid is a show about primitive survival. You may choose one survival tool, and you meet a stranger to start your challenge with. Dawn states, "It is bizarre. I went to Montserrat and South Africa, and, yes, I was naked (it is censored for TV), but there is nothing sexy about being muddy, stinky, hairy, cut and bruised, and trying to survive without clothes, comfort or even people around you."

When asked about her childhood influences, she replies, "It is hard to say. I always felt very different and a

calling for "more" and I never really saw any women like me growing up, although these days, there are a lot of great female examples.

My brother Dennis and my sister Corinne were big influences on my interests and passions throughout my life. Dennis pushed me to be better and do better, in school, in sports, and at work. He was humble and worked hard. He never complained, just knew work needed to be done and no one else was going to do it for him type of attitude.

My sister was also a huge influence on me, always made me feel grounded and wanting to explore nature and the outdoors. She was always patient and calm, which honestly helped me survive a pretty hard childhood on the Gaspé Coast. They were literally my yin and yang." Dawn also mentions her stepbrother Matthew who she says was like a real brother to her.

Dawn reflects that women face more challenges in life. Further, "It is very ignorant for people who say that it is not the case, when they have not studied the history of gender dynamics (which I have and still study in university): in religion, in the workplace still, and especially in male dominated activities or hobbies such as the military and bodybuilding. There are two sides to this though, especially for government jobs, however, I do believe we should always hire the best person for government jobs and not fill quotas. We are weakening our country if we

do."

Currently Dawn owns her own business, Athena Incorporated. She chose this unique name because she loves the history around the goddess Athena, who was an attractive, smart, and fit warrior and Dawn was on Op Athena Roto 8 in Afghanistan, so it's fitting. She trains government and security professionals in Advanced Firearms, Tactical Driving, Use of Force, and highly specialized courses like Standing Rapid Deployment Team Courses for Global Affairs.

She is also a full-time student working on a second university degree, in Cognitive Sciences, aiming for her PhD, and prepping for a bodybuilding show. She recently competed in two competitions in the Toronto area. She competes in the Wellness division, which focuses more on a muscular and athletic physique.

Dawn's hopes for her future are to be content and have a simple life, with some adventures here and there to keep her on her toes. She is on an Eco Challenge team and they are planning to backpack through Patagonia competing against other teams next year, but they are still waiting for confirmation.

She will be doing a 75 km trek in the mountains in December through rivers and canyons, overnight, which she is currently preparing for. Dawn's advice to students contemplating their path in

life - "You are young, but time does not stop for anyone. The entire world is going to pressure you, shame you, guilt you into fitting a mold, yes, even not being like the others is still fitting a mold. Labels don't matter. Material things don't matter. Do what you are passionate about. Do what makes you feel like you have a sense of purpose in life. That can be through a job, a hobby, raising your family etc. Do not allow others to dim your light. Be of service to others. I donate to multiple charities a month, ones I am passionate about, and serve my community in ways that I can. Even small things matter. Be good to people, and when they are not to you, be even more so."

Dawn feels that growing up on the Gaspé influenced the person she is today. She loves the Gaspé and its beauty. She says that she had a hard childhood and she adds that growing up in a small town that many people are aware of that. Sometimes it was hard to see the positives growing up but these experiences formed the person she is. She states, "I saw things I did not agree with and decided to do everything in my power to live under a certain moral and ethical code."

Dawn was planning to attend the Shigawake Fair this past summer but because of COVID everything changed, however, Dawn looks forward to a reunion with the people she misses next summer here on the Gaspé.



Dawn was the first female infantry officer in the history of Canada's last remaining Infantry regiment that had previously had no female officers.

Cornelius-Brotherton Foundation allots \$16,785 for 10 projects on the four campuses of Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ – The Cornélius-Brotherton Foundation is allotting \$16,785 to ten projects that will enhance innovation in study programs, bring improvement to the student life on the Cégep de la Gaspésie et des Îles-de-la-Madeleine's four campuses and improve student mobility in the province.

Those three criteria were considered in the assessment of the initiatives submitted following a call for projects launched in the spring. The Foundation management stresses that "members of the Cégep's staff innovated through the quality, variety and dynamism of the projects proposed. In view of the pandemic, trips and internships abroad were not authorized for CEGEP students and staff."

The foundation management also stresses that "the areas of intervention of the proposals submitted to the analysis committee were diversified. These initiatives targeted objectives as varied as the outdoors, aquarism, student anxiety, forestry, experimenta-

CAMPUS	Project	Field	Grant	Program or service
Carleton-Sur-Mer	Badminton shuttle cock	Student life	\$2,000	All students
	Explanatory interview as a pedagogical approach	Program of studies	\$625	AEC in Specialized Education
EPAQ	The improvised aquarist: A series of interactive online presentations	Student life	\$720	Aquaculture
Gaspé	Opening of a student café on campus	Student life	\$2,850	All students
	Regional Tournament of Student Entrepreneur Clubs of Eastern Quebec	Student mobility	\$700	Club members
	Week for humanity and society	Student life	\$2,000	Social sciences and philosophy
	Establishment of a network of permanent plots in the teaching forest	Program of studies	\$1,050	Forestry
	Outdoor group for women (PAF) in TTA	Student life	\$2,400	Adventure tourism
Magdalen Islands	Zen programming	Student life	\$1,900	Islands Campus and possibly other campuses
	Pedagogical vegetable garden	Student life	\$2,400	Young Madelinots

tion with vegetable crops, badminton and inter-campus or provincial exchanges."

Following the recommendations from the analysis committee, the Foundation decided to contribute financially to the

realization of the ten projects submitted for a total amount of \$16,785 (see the chart above).

The Cornelius-Brotherton Foundation promotes realizations improving student's life at the Cégep de la Gaspésie et des

Îles. Upgrading educational, sports and cultural activities is a notable addition to the actual range of possibilities.

For the 13th consecutive year, such a financial aid is granted to a wide variety of

projects. Since 2008, a total of 217 projects from the four campuses have received \$452,297 from the Foundation.

(With documentation provided in a press release)

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Announcements...



Obituaries



JEAN: Sydney James

April 21, 1926 – November 11, 2020

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mr. Sydney James Jean at the age of 94 years on November 11, 2020.

Predeceased by his beloved wife, the late Mrs Ruby Mabel Jean.

He leaves behind his four children: Reed (Wendy), Dale (Myrna), Bonnie (Austin), and Donna (Isaac); his six grandchildren: Brent, Tracy, Paula, Drapper, Lindsay, and Tiffany; his five great-grandchildren: Amber, Sabrina, Emma, Calib, and Corry; his great-great-grandchild: Emilia; his sister: Margorique; and his two brothers: Ross and Kenneth.

The funeral will take place at a later date in 2021.



MILLER: Merilyn

Merilyn passed away peacefully on Friday, November 6, 2020, after a brief struggle with COVID-19. Merilyn was the beloved wife of 67 years of Russell and loving mother of Nancy (Joe) Williams; Rick; and Andrew (Lana Phillips). Merilyn was also the sister of the late Leigh (Marjorie) Coffin; Myrna (late Rick) Landers; and the late Sandy (late Kathy) Coffin.

Merilyn and her twin brother Leigh were born in Farewell Cove, Gaspé, Québec, in 1932 to Alec and Dolly (Boyle) Coffin.

Merilyn and Russell lived for many years in Murdochville, Quebec, eventually moving to Ottawa, where she greatly enjoyed working at the Canadian War Museum Archives.

Throughout her life, Merilyn had the great pleasure of keeping in touch with a vast network of family and friends. She was always drawn back to the Gaspé where her family roots were deep and broad.

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THEGASPESPEC.COM**



ROBERTSON: Elva

Caplan, Quebec, May 18, 1932 - October 30, 2020

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Elva Robertson at the age of 88 years on October 30, 2020, at Maria Hospital.

Elva was predeceased by sons: Bobby and Danny. She leaves behind her sons: David (Karen) and Howard; her daughters: Patsy (Mike) and Sarah; devoted granddaughters: Candace (Ryan) and Kristen; sister Ida (Steve); brother John (Wilma) and many nieces and nephews.

She cherished her friendship with the late Lois Harriman, Simone Bujold, June McColm, Faye McGuire, Leila Jackson, Barb Fairservice, the late Florence Campbell and Violet Powell just to name a few.

Her daily routine would consist of her daily bible reading and Our Daily Bread devotions. Sunday was always a day of rest. She occupied her time between her daily chores and her favourite pastimes which were doing daily word searches, making place mats, covering a total of 3,881 hangers, knitting hundreds of dish cloths, socks, slippers and mittens and collecting pop can tabs and bread tabs to donate towards a charity to buy wheelchairs. She started the recycling business before it became popular by exchanging clothes and household items with friends and community members.

Although Mom was a diabetic and had other health issues, she had an amazing memory. She remembered everything you told her, so there was no getting away with excuses. Mom always looked forward to daily phone calls from friends and family who called faithfully. Although she was a very reserved type of person, we all knew how much she loved and cared for her children and grandchildren. She had a different way of showing her love, but we understood. She taught us many lessons in life. It was a tragic loss for her when her son Danny passed away seven months ago. She was heartbroken but still kept a strong faith.

Our mom will be dearly missed by us all. She touched many lives. She was our strength and our rock. Rest in peace "Ma."

Card Of Thanks

On behalf of the family of the late Elva (Robertson) Campbell, we would like to thank all those who were so kind during the loss of our mom, mother-in-law, grandmother, sister, and aunt. Thank you for the cards, flowers, phone calls and all the messages we received during this difficult time. We also would like to extend our special thanks to the pallbearers – Eldon Powell, Delwyn McColm, Barry Harrison, Bill Campbell, Ralph Campbell, Michel Bujold, and honorary thanks to David Campbell and Mark Garrett. Thank you to those who paid their respects at the funeral home, and attended the funeral/burial during Covid-19.

Howard, David, Patsy, Sarah and grandchildren Candace and Kristen



In Memory



SMITH: Charles William (Chick)

1936-2012

So much has changed in the eight years since you've been gone.

*Through ups and downs our lives move on,
But as time rolls by one thing remains true,
We'll always have memories of you.*

Your forever loving wife Yvette; son Robert (Sylvie-Anne); daughters Cindy (Réjean), and Audra (Bryan); and your beautiful granddaughters Rachel, Stephanie, Taylor, and Ashley. We all miss you so much.

The New Carlisle
Funeral Association
extends sympathy to the family of
Brenda Ann Buttle

OUR RATES:
CARD OF THANKS, BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT, PRAYER, ENGAGEMENT, BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, MEMORIAL SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:
\$30 (\$35 with picture) up to 20 lines.
IN MEMORIAM: \$30 (\$35 with picture) up to 20 lines - \$40 (\$45 with picture) More than 20 lines.
OBITUARY OR WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT: \$40.00 (\$45.00 with picture) (Max. 300 words).
Please send your announcement to:
joan.spec@globetrotter.net.

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LAND FOR SALE: Completely serviced lot in New Carlisle, Quebec, located on Church Street, south of Route 132. Lot number 6041558. Asking \$28,000. For more information, please contact Richard at 905-299-3695.

Kittens to give away: Call 418-752-2676.

COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

Gaspé Cancer Foundation

Members and supporters of the

Gaspé Cancer Foundation are asked to please note that our office at the Gaspé Hospital has been temporarily closed due to COVID-19. To renew or become a member of the Foundation, please send your twelve dollar (\$12) payment to the address indicated below. For members who have travelled outside the region for treatment while we are closed, please send your referral paper(s) with your address and phone number to: The Gaspé Cancer Foundation, CP 6078, Gaspé, QC, G4X 2R6. Your request will be processed and a cheque will be mailed to you.

YORK:

ACW Christmas Sale

Please note that due to the COVID-19 situation, the York ACW Christmas sale and tea that was scheduled for November 21 has been cancelled.

NEW CARLISLE:

Gospel Meetings

The meetings that have been

held at Fair Haven Bible Camp grounds all summer will now be held at the New Carlisle Bible Chapel, Sundays at 2 p.m. COVID-19 considerations/social distancing will be respected. All are welcome - invite a friend! For more information, please call 418-752-3372.

NEW CARLISLE:

Linda LeMore-Brown Foundation

Members and supporters of the Linda LeMore-Brown Foundation are asked to please note that our office located at 168 Gerard D. Levesque, New Carlisle, is closed to the public due to COVID-19. To renew your membership or to give correspondence, we ask that you please mail it to our office. For financial support travelling outside the region for cancer treatment or any other information, call the office at 418-752-5995. To make an appointment you must also call the office. Walk-ins will not be permitted. We thank you for your patience

and cooperation during these difficult times.

Rotary Calendar Winners

The winners for the week of November 15: Frank Vachon, Pierrette Cyr, Sylvie Ritchie, René Cormier, Perry Coull, Normand Moreau and Réal Cyr.

The winners for the week of November 22: Carole Bilodeau, Yolande Dionne, Adrien Arsenault, Diane Imhoff, Roger Deroy, Nicole Paquet and Yean-Yves Berthelot.

The winners for November 29 and 30: Olivier Barriault and Collette Cyr.

The winners for the week of December 1: Sonia Arsenault, Suzanne Poirier, Éric Cormier, Robert Leblanc and Claude Bourque.

The winners for the week of December 6: Angela Ball, Karen Imhoff, Alain Leblanc, Félix Cyr, Pierre Bourdages, Perry Coull and Édith Poirier.

QCNA BLANKET CLASSIFIEDS

Puppy Adoption: Free to good home, two Yorkie puppies re-homing, AKC Reg, contact me via Email for more details on: jamesmark3091@gmail.com

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
Sunday, November 29
New Carlisle
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist



On the lighter side...



Christmas trees with a twist...

HOROSCOPES

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, even though you're not typically wild and crazy by nature, a more risk-taking, playful side comes out this week. Your significant other or friends may be caught off guard.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, even if you are confronted by bad news this week, do not let it sideline you for too long. You

are resilient and can bounce back quickly.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

You may decide to reveal a secret side of yourself, Gemini. There is a part of you that is looking for a deeper level of intimacy, and you are ready to take the next step.

CANCER – June 22/July 22

Cancer, this is a good time to rest and relax. Although you might have many chores to tackle and bills to pay, do what you can to disconnect from work and worries.

LEO – July 23/Aug 23

Home and technology figure

largely this week. You may spend time rewiring a home or changing internet providers, Leo. Get the job finished promptly so you can relax.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you may have heard about being in the right place at the right time. This is especially true when trying to make a romantic match, which could be a possibility soon.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

A jolt of physical energy this week could be the push you need to get some hard work done, Libra. Home improvements or a project

at work can be the focus.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

You may have too much to do around the house and no idea where to start, Scorpio. Do not throw up your hands in frustration. Work on one thing at a time. SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21 Be a cheerleader this week for others who may need a boost of positivity, Sagittarius. You are generally great at encouraging others to put their best selves forward. CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20 Capricorn, your discipline in how you approach your goals im-

presses others. As a result, you may soon be called on to help others with their own work.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, if you have been running yourself ragged, you need to pull back and look at the bigger picture. Being down for the count for pushing yourself too much can be detrimental.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, all it takes is a few tweaks and you will have the answer that you have been seeking. Be patient and stay the course.

Gift Buying Guide

- Diane Skinner

Gifts for the outdoorsy types

If you truly love nature, you will find beauty everywhere.

It is time to order or purchase your Christmas gifts. Christmas “present” will not look exactly like the Christmases of the past. Consider buying online or shopping early and at off-peak times if you go into the stores. Make a list. You do not want to spend a prolonged time shopping in person. This may be the year to consider gift cards for stores or Amazon. Then hard-to-shop-for teens can choose their own gifts.

Winter is not all freezing rain, snow squalls, ice and windchill. The person who does not enjoy fighting the elements can enjoy a sunny, crispy day outside in winter. Enjoying the outdoors is easy in a beautiful environment like the Gaspé and is one of the great pleasures of being here.

Fresh air, exercise, and beauty while being safely socially distanced is waiting for you. Many Gaspésians are avid snowmobilers and there is lots of other winter fun to be had including walking, snowshoeing, skating and skiing.

Here are a few ideas to get you thinking about gifts for the lovers of the outdoors!

No scrape windshield brush
Waterproof and fog proof binoculars
Snowshoes
Ice fishing auger
Hand knit wool socks, warm toques, waterproof gloves and mitts
Waterproof outdoor GPS
Compass
Inflatable hot tub
Swiss army knife
Old Farmer’s Almanac
Phone lamp (turns cell phone into a lantern)
Glow in the dark playing cards

Hand and foot warmers
Rechargeable hand and foot warmers
Skates
Toboggans, sleds, crazy carpets
Snowboards and helmet, skis, snow blades, snow tube
Rink kit
Head lamp for night skiing or snowshoeing
Snow fort brick maker
Snow art kit
Jackets, snow pants
Boots with nonslip grips
Mitt and boot drying rack
Popcorn maker to use over a bonfire
Trail pass for snowmobilers
Hockey net, hockey sticks
Yak Trax (anti-slip boot cleats)
Snowboard goggles
Downhill ski pass
Winter gear for your canine (booties and coats)
Thermal long johns
Sunglasses with UV protection

Gifts around \$10

It isn't the size of the gift that matters, but the size of the heart that gives it.

Do you recall the saying, “It is the thought that counts”? It truly is and it is heartwarming just to be remembered. It is possible to find items that will not break the budget and will still be greatly appreciated. If you are stuffing a Christmas stocking for someone, choose a couple of these to help fill it.

- A \$10 gift card
- A box of chocolates or candy
- A mug
- A magazine or two
- A bottle of wine
- Lottery tickets
- Bubble bath, bath bombs, shower gel
- Nail polish and nail polish remover
- Coffee beans (hoping the person has a coffee grinder!)
- Snow brush for car
- Old Farmer’s Almanac
- Tea – an assortment pack or a favourite
- A tin of cocoa, marshmallows
- Lip gloss or Chapstick
- Sleep mask
- Avocado slicer (or any handy unusual kitchen gadget)
- Hair scrunchies, hair clips
- Green plant
- Teeth care kit (toothbrush, toothpaste, floss)
- Scented candle
- Oil for diffuser (eucalyptus, tea tree, jasmine)
- Work gloves
- Pens, pencils and a notepad
- 2021 Day-Timer /wall calendar
- Jigsaw puzzle
- Vegetable spiralizer
- Hair brush
- Beard oil
- Cloth ski mask
- Funky Christmas socks
- Cotton hankies
- Hot sauce sampler pack
- Mouse pad
- Make up bag
- Playing cards
- Cribbage set
- Christmas tree ornament
- Fishing lures
- Chew toy for a dog
- Toy mouse for a cat
- Puzzle book/Sudoku book
- COVID Face mask
- Hand sanitizer

Gifts for the book lover

A book is a gift you can open again and again.

If you have a bibliophile, a person who loves or collects books, in your life, it may be a challenge to know what to get them to fulfill their reading wishes and desires. If they have told you specific titles they would like that makes it much easier, however, if not here are some suggestions that may be helpful.



Gifts for book lovers that are not books:

An illuminating tableside lamp for night reading.
A cozy soft blanket to cover the reader on cool evenings.
A foot rest or ottoman so readers can stretch out their legs.
A side table beside their favourite reading chair.
Book Lover’s Journal (Priced between \$7 and \$20)
A lovely new mug to hold tea or coffee to sip while reading.
A gift card for Indigo or Amazon so they can choose their own books.
A membership for Audible.ca (Audible.ca provides audiobooks with a huge selection

of titles. Each month you receive a credit to download one book for \$14.95 per month. Some additional titles are offered free. For example, a book such as Outlander by Diana Gabaldon will give over 32 hours of enjoyable listening.
Headphones for the book lover who listens to Audible.ca

Some of the top selling books of 2020:

The Return (Nicholas Sparks)
Anxious People (Fredrik Backman)
One by One (Ruth Ware)
A Song for the Dark Times (Ian Rankin)

Troubles in Paradise (Elin Hildebrand)
The Book of Two Ways (Jodi Picoult)
The Evening and the Morning (Ken Follett)
Greenlights (Matthew McConaughey)
Burke’s Law (Brian Burke)
Untamed (Glennon Doyle)
From the Ashes (Jesse Thistle)
We the North (Doug Smith)
All the Devils are Here (Louise Penny)
The Pull of the Stars (Emma Donoghue)
A Time of Mercy (John Grisham)
Criss Cross (James Patterson)
The Institute (Stephen King)

War: How Conflict Shaped Us (Margaret MacMillan)
The Skin We’re in (Desmond Cole)
21 things You May Not Know About the Indian Act (Bob Joseph)
Forever Terry (Desmond Fox)

Helpful hint: Ask the reader – Who are some of your favourite authors?

Do you like fiction or non-fiction? Plus go online and read a short description of the book to see if they might enjoy it.

If you are really unsure, hand them this list and ask them what titles they may like. Happy shopping!

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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

DIANE LEBOUTHILLIER
MP • Gaspésie–Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine

Serving the English-speaking community of our beautiful region!

Grande-Rivière office
418 385-4264

Magdalen Islands office
418 986-1489

Sainte-Anne-des-Monts office
418 764-2890

New Richmond office
581 355-0060

Email: diane.lebouthillier@parl.gc.ca

The COVID-19 pandemic in Canada is serious.

Continue to practise all public health measures:



Follow local guidelines for gatherings



Maintain physical distancing



Wash your hands



Wear a mask



Stay home if you have symptoms, even mild ones



Canada

Download the COVID Alert app

Protect yourself and others.
Learn more at Canada.ca/coronavirus or 1-833-784-4397.



Government of Canada

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