

Diane Lebouthillier keeps her Gaspésie-Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine seat

Nelson **Sergerie**,
LJI Journalist

CHANDLER – It was predicted that the race would be close following the 2019 election: Voters re-elected outgoing Liberal Diane Lebouthillier in the Gaspésie-Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine for a third term in Ottawa.

With 222 ballot boxes counted out of the 223 in the constituency on the afternoon of September 23, Ms. Lebouthillier had a lead of 2,617 votes over her closest rival, the Bloc Québécois candidate Guy Bernatchez.

"It was a long campaign. It's over. The adrenaline is going down. I just want to go to bed. We will be ready to continue working," said Ms. Lebouthillier in a press briefing at 1 a.m. on September 21 highlighting her victory after a long evening.

While Canada will be ruled by a second consecutive

Liberal minority government, Ms. Lebouthillier indicated that regardless of the outcome, "the Liberal government will work for the people. We were there from the start of COVID-19. I will be there as a member of Parliament to represent the Gaspé and the Magdalen Islands not just talking about it, but taking concrete actions," said the re-elected member.

The 2021 election was shaping up to be a rematch as Diane Lebouthillier won Gaspésie-Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine against Bloc candidate Guy Bernatchez with a tight majority of 637 votes in 2019.

"With the campaign I have been running, there is a feeling of disappointment. I gave everything. It's the people who decided. It's democracy," stated Bernatchez.

In a context where an election could be called at any time, Bernatchez is not ready to say whether he will run for a



Photo: N. Sergerie

Diane Lebouthillier awaiting election results at the Chandler Golf Club.

third time.

For her part, re-elected MP Diane Lebouthillier puts the workforce at large at the fore-

front of the start of her third term.

"Anything that will affect the employment insurance re-

form and the labour shortage is really a priority because it is what undermines the development of the regions," said Lebouthillier.

Since her first election in 2015, Diane Lebouthillier relied on her record to return to Ottawa for a third time. She repeated over and over again that the riding is among the 25 having had the most support across Canada since 2019. She mentions that \$318 million has been invested by Ottawa: \$164 million in the Magdalen Islands and \$154 million in the Gaspé.

The Bloc candidate counted on the support of leader Yves-François Blanchet who had visited for three days on the last stretch of the election campaign. When asked about the efforts made to get their hands on Gaspésie-Les Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Mr. Blanchet said he was doing "anything but being too confident."

Kristina Michaud wins a second election by a landslide in Avignon-La Mitis-Matane-Matapedia

Gilles **Gagné**

CARLETON – Kristina Michaud, incumbent Member of Parliament for the Bloc Québécois in the riding of Avignon-La Mitis-Matane-Matapedia, won a second election in a row on September 20, another landslide victory as she received nearly 60% of the electorate's ballots.

Precisely, she received 19,776 votes for a 59.7% rate of support. Her nearest opponent, Liberal Party candidate Louis-Éric Savoie, finished in second place with 21.4% of the ballots, 7,905 more precisely.

Conservative Party candidate Germain Dumas, another resident of the Matapedia Valley like Ms. Michaud, gathered 2,912 votes, of 8.8% of support. New Democratic Party candidate Christel



Photo: Courtesy of Pénélope Garonnan

Kristina Michaud won by another landslide on September 20.

Marchand finished the campaign with 1,521 votes while Éric Barnabé of the People's Party of Canada and Mélanie Gendron, of the Free Party of Canada, received respectively

969 and 826 ballots.

Kristina Michaud, who is only 29 years of age, committed to upgrading infrastructure in her riding shortly after the results were official. She was

in the Matane area on the night of the election.

She is targeting three major projects that concern municipal elected officials and the population of its region, namely the Miguasha wharf, the Verreault shipyard expansion in Les Méchins and the Matane aquatic complex.

"If you want to keep people here and attract new people, you have to be able to offer them quality infrastructures, which not only meet their needs, but that will make the region more attractive in terms of tourism and the regional economy," stresses Ms. Michaud.

She deplores the lack of openness on the behalf of Transport Canada, which has left the Municipality of Nouvelle in the dark since 2009 by refusing to continue the transfer negotiations due to the pandemic.

"I met the mayor of Nouvelle as soon as I took office to discuss that file and try to move it forward quickly. The parliamentary secretary of the Minister of Transport assured me of his cooperation just before Mr. Trudeau decided to dissolve parliament," criticizes Ms. Michaud, who pledges to do everything in her power to resume those negotiations at the start of the next legislature.

"We owe it to Mr. Saint-Pierre (Yvan, the mayor of Nouvelle) who worked so hard on this file before deciding to withdraw and we owe it to the community which is ready to make the Miguasha wharf a real tourist attraction," she adds.

On the Verreault Shipyard issue in Les Méchins, the situation is different, but just as

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Quebec government acquires René Lévesque's childhood home

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE - Quebec Minister of Culture and Communications Nathalie Roy announces the acquisition of the house where former premier René Lévesque was raised. For 32 years, the house, located in New Carlisle, had been a focus for several regional organizations interested in protecting it.

Minister Roy's announcement comes two years after the Quebec government adopted a decree to begin an expropriation process so that the residence built in 1905 could be acquired. That step was chosen in the face of the difficulty of previous governments to come to an agreement with its owner, Denis Cloutier, who had started renovations in the beginning of the 1990s but never finished them.

For many people concerned with heritage protection, the condition of the house has been a concern since the mid-1990s.

The press release issued in the early evening of September 20, the day of the federal election, does not specify whether the acquisition of the house at 16 rue Mount Sorel was carried out following negotiations between the former owner and the Quebec government, or by expropriation. The end of the press release mentions the authorization of the decree of September 2019 and there is only one mention of the word "expropriation," without it being clearly established that this is the process that was used to acquire the house and the piece of land on which it is located. The press release specifies that the government will ensure "the protection, transmission and enhancement" of the house.

Originally from New Carlisle, Minister Roy specifies that she "has appointed an architectural firm specializing in heritage which will establish in the coming weeks the condition of the building in order to plan its restoration, ensure its sustainability and enhance it. Discussions will also be initiated with stakeholders in the area with a view to evaluating various scenarios in this direction."

This excerpt from the press release reassures, to a certain extent, Jean-Marie Fallu, spokesperson for Patrimoine Gaspésien. In 1989, he wrote the first letter to encourage the Quebec government to protect and improve René Lévesque's house.

"René Lévesque had



Photo: G. Gagné

The condition of the house where René Lévesque grew up has been a cause of concern for 25 years.

passed away two years before and a request had been made to have it classified. We were told that we couldn't because the house was of no architectural interest. It was not the aim of the Government of Quebec at the time to highlight prominent figures by protecting the house where they had been raised, as is done in Europe and elsewhere in Canada," explains Mr. Fallu.

"With the election of the Parizeau government in 1994, and with Gaspesian Member of National Assembly Marcel Landry as minister, it was quickly recognized in 1995, but still not classified," adds Mr. Fallu.

This recognition was, however, largely symbolic. It was not until 2012 and the adoption of the law on cultural heritage that the house was classified, which gives it better protection. However, talks between the owner and the Ministry of Culture to ensure its repair or sale to the Quebec government continued to stumble.

Jean-Marie Fallu knows "that during the (2021) summer, Denis Cloutier's lawyer and the lawyer for the Ministry of Culture were still talking to each other," he says.

"Now who will be the eventual owner, and who will manage it? It will be in partnership with one or more organizations in the region, I imagine." Mr. Fallu would like the government of the Coalition Avenir Québec to adopt a different approach for René Lévesque's house than that recommended with the creation of the *Espaces bleus*, a province-wide museum network. That network was recently announced by the Quebec government without consultation with regional authorities.

Gaétan Lelièvre, regional development consultant, former member of National Assembly for the Gaspé riding and president of Espace René-Lévesque, a place presenting the life and career of the former journalist and politician, is delighted that the house located on Mount Sorrel Street was acquired by the government. Espace René-Lévesque is located, at most, a few hundred metres from the house.

"I consider this to be good news, because a lot of people coming to visit Espace René-Lévesque ask us where it is and they want to see it. They are very satisfied with their visit (to Espace René-Lévesque) but they would like to see the house, visit it but it is not available. Its acquisition is, therefore, a step in the right direction. It remains to be seen what the government will do to enhance it and make it available. The building needs to be restored. (...) We are anxious to see what will happen. I hope that the development will be done in consultation and in close collaboration with authorities in the region," says Mr. Lelièvre. The cost of the renovation is unknown. The preliminary process leading to the expropriation dates back to August 2017, when Luc Fortin was Minister of Culture.

Would the management of Espace René-Lévesque be ready to take care of the house at 16 Mount Sorel and integrate it to its tourist offer?

"We are open to any potential collaboration. It is clear that there is a direct complementarity between the two products. We have an obligation to explore common, complementary and easy to integrate solutions. We want to be consulted. It is difficult to see how we could be ex-

cluded from the discussions. The two places are almost inseparable; they deal with the same historical person. A discussion seems desirable to me, almost unavoidable. It is clear that today, Espace René-Lévesque cannot afford to manage an additional building without assistance. Our ex-president, Dr. Louis Bernard, spoke of a zero-cost partnership for Espace René-Lévesque and he was right," concludes Gaétan Lelièvre.

Founder of the Parti Québécois after having conducted a brilliant career as a journalist, René Lévesque was

premier of Quebec from 1976 to 1985. He was born in 1922 in Campbellton, New Brunswick, because his mother had decided to give birth in the hospital of that town. There was no real hospital in the Bay of Chaleur area at the time.

René Lévesque was, however, raised in New Carlisle, spending his entire childhood and part of his teenage years there. He died on November 1, 1987 of a massive heart attack. He was then 65-years-old and was working as an analyst for a Montreal-based radio station.

Police report



As the SPEC was reaching its deadline, the Sûreté du Québec was asking the public for help to find Nadia Lantin, a 51-year-old woman from Chandler who was last seen on Wednesday, September 22, around 5 p.m. as she was leaving work from the local IGA supermarket on René-Lévesque Boulevard West. Her vehicle was located on Thursday, September 23, along a side road of the ZEC des Anses. Her relatives have reason to fear for her health and safety. She stands 1.50m (5'4") and weighs 73 kg (160 lbs). She has shoulder-length back hair. Her eyes are brown. She was wearing her uniform when she left the supermarket. Anyone who sees Nadia Lantin is asked to call 911. In addition, any information that could allow Nadia Lantin to be found can be communicated, confidentially, to the Criminal Information Center of the Sûreté du Québec at 1 800 659-4264.

Quebec police services, in collaboration with the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) and Contrôle Routier du Québec (CRQ), carried out the National Concerted Operation - Distraction 2021 held to identify distracted drivers, between September 10 and 16 inclusively. The objective of that annual operation consists of making drivers aware of the dangers of distracted driving.

In addition to diffusing prevention messages on social networks through various media, the police services conducted across Quebec more than 2,500 operations and delivered more than 1,900 offense reports for the use of a portable electronic device or a screen steering wheel display. Police officers want to remind the public that the use of a portable electronic device or a display screen on the steering wheel reduce the driver's attention and concentration, and increases the risk of being involved in a collision. Distracted driving also greatly increases the risk of committing other highway safety code violations because drivers are not looking at the road.

In the Gaspé Peninsula, Magdalen Islands and Lower Saint Lawrence regions, the operation was conducted by the Sûreté du Québec. This year, there were no fatal accidents during the week, compared to two in 2020. The number of accidents causing injuries to vehicle occupants remained the same as last year, at 15, the same number of accidents causing material damage. In that case too, the number is similar to last year.

Up to 383 speeding tickets were handed out to drivers of both regions during that week, with 18 people had not fastened their seat belts. Police officers handed out tickets to 22 people using their cellular phone while driving and they distributed 202 other types of fines. Three people were stopped because they were impaired by alcohol or drug consumption. Those 608 tickets handed out in the 2021 week-long operation represent a 15.5% reduction compared to last year's 720. Police officers carried out 863 checks with drivers this year, compared to 932 a year ago. It is 69 fewer checks, or 7.4%. Those checks were related to the use of cellular phones, to speeding, to a failure to fasten seatbelts, as well as impaired driving checks.

Gilles Gagné Commentary



All that for this?

An election is usually won by a political party and its leader. The September 20 election in Canada is close to an exception. It looks as if every party involved in that election lost. It speaks volumes about the state of political leadership in Canada.

The Liberal Party won 159 seats, four more than before the Parliament's dissolution, while the Conservative Party stood still at 119 seats. The Bloc Québécois won an additional seat at 33, the NDP lost one at 25 and the Green Party stayed the same with two seats.

Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau comes out of the election 11 seats short of the majority he was hoping to get which was the only reason he called an election, despite his denial of that reality. Again, the Liberal Party finished second behind the Conservative Party in the number of votes received from electors, 32.2% compared to 34%.

By failing to get a majority, Mr. Trudeau could well have triggered a discrete movement that will lead to his demise as leader. He might relatively soon be on the way out.

Relatively soon means that he will likely stay at the helm of the party for the coming year, not much more if another election is held in 2023. He will try to achieve some personal goals, like landing the daycare program similar to the Quebec one, and extend it across the country. However, despite being only 50, Justin Trudeau already sounds like a man worn out by power.

His failure to live up to previous commitments and a lack of substance on vital issues are eroding his capacity to inspire Canadians. He has been going down since the 2019 election and he owes his stay as Canada's Prime Minister following September 20 to the weaknesses of the opposition.

A long reflection awaits Mr. Trudeau regarding his political future. If he doesn't do it, some people will do it for him and slowly show him the exit. Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, Innovation, Science and Industry Minister François-Philippe Champagne and Mark Carney, the former chairman of the Bank of Canada, are potential replacements. The party will need new blood though if it is to be perceived as a revamped team. Notably four women from the cabinet have to be replaced.

Over the short term, though, the most interesting situation to follow will be the Conservative Party's.

Leader Erin O'Toole probably tried to reassure himself and his supporters on election night and over the following hours by saying that he will be ready to represent the party again if an election occurs within the next 18 months. The probability of that happening is very low though. With the September 20 overall results and the anemic participation rate of voters, nobody will be tempted to be responsible for triggering another election.

Behind curtains, many schemes are simmering at the present time at the Conservative Party. Erin O'Toole's defenders insist on the fact that

Stephen Harper didn't win his first election as a party leader in 2004. He then won two minority terms in 2006 and 2008 before winning a majority in 2011. So, patience is required.

On the other hand, a strong current comes from Western Canada, from strong right-wing politics people disgruntled by the Conservative Party's recent performance. Those people are mostly hostile to Erin O'Toole's relatively new shift to centre-right politics, including his approach regarding abortion, a more moderate support to oil companies and the recognition that climate change exists. They are also upset that by and large, he accepts COVID-related public health constraints.

That strong right-wing current is of the view that Mr. O'Toole's shift favoured Maxime Bernier's People Party of Canada, whose support reached 5.1% across the country. They are partially right on that point, but their global math equation is wrong. The Conservative Party received a 34% rate of support because of Mr. O'Toole's political shift. Canadians have been opting and will opt for centre-left or centre-right parties in the foreseeable future. Any party drifting significantly from that will never access power.

That conclusion doesn't mean that Erin O'Toole had a good campaign. He clearly erred when he gave his support to Jason Kenney's way of handling the pandemic, among other mistakes but many of those orientations were suggested by Conservative strategists. Leaders usually pay the toll though.

In fact, no one had a great campaign. However, NDP leader Jagmeet Singh will likely not be challenged because the party's supporters have a tradition of patience, although it didn't show much in Thomas Mulcair's case.

Bloc Québécois leader Yves-François Blanchet's campaign was largely saved by a question asked during the CBC debate. He was aiming for 40 seats and he fell seven seats short of that objective.

Green Party leader Annamie Paul's term as a leader was such a disappointment that she will be gone soon.

The financial aspect of holding an election bothered many of taxpayers. However, the \$618 million tab for an election is far from the main aspect tied to it. Over 36 days, the duration of the campaign, many resources are mobilized by the election. That is not counting the few days before the election is called, the two weeks following it and the inertia coming with those periods.

A fair portion of governmental decisions are then put on hold. So are the private sector and community groups' decisions depending on government actions. That inertia costs far more than \$618 million.

Other people say, and rightfully so, that this is the cost of democracy. However, in the case of the federal election, democracy was somewhat twisted, as the real goal of Justin Trudeau when he called an election on August 15 was precisely to interfere to a certain point with the democratic process set in October 2019.

Two years ago, the electorate chose a minority government. Of course, it was not a country-wide concerted decision amongst people, as there is no space on a ballot box that offers to select a minority government. Canadians nevertheless decided at large that the Liberal Party was not deserving of another majority government

term.

In that context, it was the responsibility of Justin Trudeau's team to run that government as long as they could, which is clearly not what happened. With five minority governments out of the last six elections, we can guess that Canadians want their politicians to work together, even if it means working with other parties.

The Liberal Party was told the same thing on September 20. Run governmental affairs as long as you can, without planning schemes the way you did.

In Quebec, elections will be held at the municipal level within weeks, provincially within a year. Besides, there are tons of things to administer in Ottawa for now without having to plan another election.

The pandemic is far from over. There is a sizeable national debt reimbursement plan to organize, and Canada is supposed sooner than later to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, the most neglected topic of the electoral campaign, and one of the most urgent ones. So far, the country has failed to respect all of its pollution reduction targets. So, there is enough to keep the federal government busy. The next months will be more exciting than the campaign for sure!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

While on vacation during the beginning of August, I needed to visit the hospital in Maria, Quebec. My experiences at this facility were most favourable. The doctors and nurses at the emergency clinic were professional and treated me with the utmost care and compassion. I needed to make several visits there and each visit resulted in the same level of attention and cooperation. I was referred to a specialist in Rimouski and was consulted in a timely manner as the staff at Maria had predicted. The specialist agreed to follow up on my condition and refer me to other specialists once I returned home.

It is reassuring to know that the medical system in Quebec is so efficient. I can only praise the health care providers at this establishment for the treatment I received. My records were transferred to the hospital in my hometown for review once I returned home. The people of the Gaspé Coast are most fortunate to have this degree of care and coverage close to home. I am grateful for the care given to me by the professional health services on the Gaspé Coast.

*Peter McCulloch
Temiscaming, Quebec*



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A phenomenal season for Gaspesian lobster fishermen

Gilles Gagné

SAINT-GODEFROI - The 150 lobster fishermen operating in the Gaspé Peninsula had a phenomenal season in 2021, both in terms of catches and prices. In these two categories, the volume caught and the average price obtained shattered the record numbers recorded since the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has been keeping statistics, in 1984.

The new records apply to total revenues and landings recorded in the four areas of the Gaspé Peninsula, namely area 19 covering the north side of the region, as well as areas 20A, 20B and 21, extending along the southern shore.

Overall, the Gaspé Peninsula data for 2021, still preliminary, is impressive from any angle. The volume of landings was 3,798 metric tonnes, compared to 2,927 metric tonnes in 2020, and 3,011 metric tonnes in 2019, the previous record. This is an increase of 26.2% between 2019 and 2021.

However, it is in terms of overall revenues that the new record is most striking. In 2021, Gaspé lobster boats received \$69,883,192, compared to \$33.2 million in 2020 and \$44.8 million in 2019, again the previous benchmark year in terms of record. Revenues for 2021 show an increase of 56% compared to 2019 and more than double that of 2020.

While 2020 was marked by the effects of the pandemic on the prices paid to fishermen, 2021 will have been an unprecedented year with the average price standing at \$8.35 per pound. That's a 62% increase from the \$5.15 per pound of 2020, and also a 19.2% hike from the \$6.75 of 2019, which was not a record year in terms of price, but very close.

O'Neil Cloutier, director of the Southern Gaspé Professional Fishermen Group, expresses great satisfaction at those statistics.

"In the Gaspé, we are getting closer to the Magdalen Islands in terms of the overall economic impact of lobster! I'm kidding a bit, but our data is growing. Before, our catches represented 25% of the volume fished on the Islands, then it increased to 35%. It's more than that now. These are the exciting years. We have just had a phenomenal year for the catches and for the price. We would never have suspected that prices and quantities would reach such levels," Mr. Cloutier says.



Gaspesian lobster fishermen experienced their best season ever, overall, in 2021.

"We had had indications that there was not a lot of lobster in the markets' inventories. We ended the season with a price of \$10.75 per pound. On the north side of the peninsula, where fishermen can start later, they received over \$11 in July. The average price (of \$8.35 according to Fisheries and Oceans Canada) should probably go up a little, when the final compilation is done. It may be an average of \$8.75 by this time," notes Mr. Cloutier.

"There has been a change in the market's sale practices. We were told that previously lobster sold in the United States at the wholesale market was not distributed through grocery chains, like crab. They (the wholesalers) have changed that practice. A pound of lobster meat was worth \$45 this year. If you sell a 150 gram serving, the consumer will see an affordable product. You can make a sandwich with a small portion and that's what happened on the markets," says Mr. Cloutier.

This particularity of retailing lobster in places other than fish markets, or restaurants which were closed for long periods since the beginning of the pandemic, has prompted many people, struggling with many restrictions, to buy more food to bring home, he also emphasizes.

"Another reason for cheap pricing is the COVID aid programs, which have been so

generous. There is a lot of money in circulation. Will it repeat itself in 2022? There could still be a strong price at the start of the season," points out O'Neil Cloutier.

Could the high prices of 2021 have been influenced by the early start of the season, the traps having been put at sea on April 24, for the first catches occurring the next day?

"Certainly for many fishing sub-sectors, starting early is advantageous, in terms of price and catches. In my area, Anse-à-Beaufils, if we don't start early, we are missing out on catches. In others, the opposite is true. We are therefore trying to have a mid-range opening date," explains Mr. Cloutier.

"With the changes we're seeing, we're going to have to start earlier. Right whales are arriving earlier and earlier. On two occasions, fishing area rectangles were closed near the coast, to protect them. It was off Newport. All marine species will adjust to climate change and their behavior will change," he says.

The prices for 2021 contrasted sharply with those for 2020, when the average was \$5.15 per pound in the Gaspé Peninsula. Lobster fishing began on May 9 in 2020, two weeks later than expected, due to uncertainty over the pandemic.

"It was a situation where part of the industry took advantage. Which? The distribu-

tion sector? Supermarkets? I do not know. The difference in the price paid to fishermen (62%) between 2020 and 2021 is not visible in the price difference displayed in supermarkets, from \$6.99 to \$7.99," says O'Neil Cloutier.

His attention is now focused in particular on the post-season evaluations carried out and paid for solely by the Southern Gaspé Professional Fishermen Group without support from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

"DFO has never been financially involved in our post-season assessments, even though we've been doing them since 2012 or 2013. The department does participate elsewhere. This year, they take place in zone 20, the large zone going from Gaspé to Bonaventure. They are carried out by five fishermen. Our assessment is based on the use of traps, while others use trawls," says Mr. Cloutier.

"We have collected very good data for 9 or 10 years. In 2021, we see an increase in post-season catches. We see

the curve steepening from 2015-2016. This is as valid for us as any other type of evaluation," he adds, highlighting the work of biologist Jean Côté.

O'Neil Cloutier expresses great confidence in the future of the lobster resource in the Gaspé.

"I am very confident. I have no reason to believe it could be any different in fishing in 2022, except if the sea conditions get horrendous. There are a lot of juvenile lobsters, small category 2 (two-year-old specimens) lobsters that come into the fishery when they are six or seven years old. We have seen a lot of them (in assessment traps) small ones, which pass between the mesh of the traps. The cohort of females is very, very strong. This is the most deserving change in terms of changes seen in recent years. The spawning is much better than it was before 2010. The water has warmed up, which is favourable for spawning, and there is less predation, since the pelagic species (herring, mackerel) are in a pitiful state," explains Mr. Cloutier.

The Southern Gaspé Professional Fishermen Group is once again seeding small lobsters in two sectors in 2021, in sub-zones 20A-5 in Anse-à-Beaufils, and 20B-5 in Shigawake. Between 225,000 and 230,000 specimens are submerged at sea this year.


O'Neil Cloutier specifies that a new research project is developing this year and it concerns right whales. "It pertains to trap ropes, with a resistance of 1,700 pounds of tension, as if a whale were hooking into the line. We should have the results soon".



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Erratum
Public notice of election
Town of Gaspé

Please note that there is an error in the public election notice published on September 8. In fact, any nomination papers must be produced at the office of the returning officer, without making an appointment, on the following days times:

From September 17 to October 1, 2021.

Schedule		
Monday	From 9h to 12h	From 13h to 16h30
Tuesday	From 9h to 12h	From 13h to 16h30
Wednesday	From 9h to 12h	From 13h to 16h30
Thursday	From 9h to 12h	From 13h to 16h30
Friday	From 9h to 12h	

Important: On Friday, October 1, 2021, the office will be open continuously from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

DONE at Gaspé, on September 29, 2021.

Isabelle Vézina, Returning officer

Gaspé resumes calls for tenders for the Rivière-au-Renard tourism project

Nelson **Sergerie**,
LJI Journalist

GASPÉ: - Gaspé will resume the call for tender process since the five bids received so far for the Rivière-au-Renard tourism revitalization project exceeded the estimates.

The lowest bid was submitted at \$7.2 million while the highest was \$9 million. This is a variance of \$1.2 million from the anticipated budget.

"The big factor is the cost of materials which have resumed a downward trend, especially lumber. The other big thing is that there were items on the quotation that were more luxurious. If we remove the "tailor-made" product and go for slightly more generic products, we should save

money as well. We are betting that by going back to calls for tenders, we will have the best prices in the end," says the mayor, Daniel Côté.

Beach recharging was scheduled for this fall and infrastructure work next spring. The two can be done in parallel next year, according to Mr. Côté.

The project includes water features for children, a redevelopment of the banks with a promenade with a view of the boats at the wharf and a multimedia concept in a historic building acquired for the project to enhance the local heritage.

The idea of revitalizing this district of Gaspé was born more than 10 years ago following the major floods of

2007 and 2010 which sowed devastation in this town.

Quebec already reserved \$2.3 million in 2017 for this project and Ottawa had announced a contribution of \$2.7 million last May for this project of \$6.8 million. The project is to be finalized in 2023.

Resurfacing of Pointe-Navarre Boulevard

Gaspé is asking the Minister of Transport for a complete repair of Boulevard de Pointe-Navarre. This portion of Route 132 between the Saint-Majorique crossing and Anseaux-Cousins is in very poor condition, argues the mayor, Daniel Côté.

"It takes quick and concrete action to re-asphalt this



Work will not start this fall on the Rivière-au-Renard project.

Photo: Courtesy Ville de Gaspé

section to give the entrance to the downtown a little more lustre. Work must be planned in the medium or long term to secure the section. Either they consolidate the bank, or make

it deviate behind the residences," says the mayor.

The idea of rebuilding the road behind the houses on the mountain has been in the ministry's plans for several years.

Slight decrease in cases retained at the DPJ

Nelson **Sergerie**,
LJI Journalist

GASPÉ - The administration of the Gaspé Peninsula Magdalen Islands Youth Protection (DPJ) has recorded a decrease in the reports retained for the year 2020-2021, going from 733 last year to 629 this year. A total of 1,661 reports had been made in the past year.

The closure of schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic could explain the situation.

"By having fewer children in school settings, the people reporting who are in a large proportion in schools and childcare centres had an impact on the entry of reports," specifies the interim director,

Michelle Frenette.

However, despite the decrease in the past year, the acting director notes a 15% increase over the past five years. "The more the years go on, the more people become aware of reporting a child's distress, but it is multifactorial in Quebec because it is not just in our region that we are experiencing this increase," she explains.

All things considered; the MRC of Haute-Gaspésie has many retained cases compared to the other MRCs in the region.

"These are figures that we analyze regularly to see what caused an increase in Haute-Gaspésie in terms of reports. Last year, it was in the Côte-

de-Gaspé. Different factors can explain why in certain sectors there are increases or decreases," says Ms. Frenette.

The regional DPJ can count on a full workforce even though there have been several difficulties in recent years. "We have the last person joining our team next week. Our teams are now complete," emphasizes the interim director.

Educational neglect accounts for 22.9% of reports. "Our first most reported element is educational neglect regarding the difficulty or challenges of parents in raising children. It can also be non-attendance or truancy when working with parents or schools," explains Ms.



The interim director of the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine DPJ, Michelle Frenette.

Photo: Nelson Sergerie

Frenette. Psychological mistreatment and physical abuse are also among the first ele-

ments of reporting. These three themes account for 56% of the total reports accepted.

RéGÎM's free service attracts passengers

Nelson **Sergerie**,
LJI Journalist

CARLETON-SUR-MER - The gradual deconfinement of Quebec due to the pandemic is bringing customers back to the Régie intermunicipale de transport Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine (RéGÎM).

No less than 2,282 people used the RéGÎM services free of charge this summer. Offered to those under 18 years of age and seniors, the RéGÎM notes that half of the passengers were seniors. In 2019, before the pandemic, 3,060 young people travelled for free.

"Our ridership overall had been reduced by more than

half in the course of 2020. We are working to make up for the drop in ridership," specifies the director, Marie-Andrée Pichette, who notes that habits have changed with the pandemic.

An analysis will be made to adjust the services. "This is a good time to do it. We could see changes at several levels: as much in the time slots as in the routes and municipalities served. We are questioning everything," says Ms. Pichette.

The opportunity is great, especially as the contracts with the carriers will be renewed in the spring. The electric car-sharing pilot project is off to a

good start with 330 reservations made so far and the RéGÎM is satisfied. The start seems modest overall, but the organization hasn't really promoted the service. In addition, the management wanted to get the service underway before promoting it.

The TCiité project was launched at the end of June in partnership with the municipalities of Gaspé, Grande-Rivière, Chandler, Maria, Magdalen Islands and Carleton-sur-Mer.

Municipal governments offer electric vehicle rentals to citizens after hours of use by municipal employees. The RéGÎM also offers its vehicle.



Photo: Courtesy of RéGÎM

The RéGÎM buses are receiving more and more passengers after a low at the start of the pandemic.



**Don't wait until
it hits you.**

Get vaccinated.

Votre  **gouvernement**

**A vaccination passport
is now required to enter
certain public spaces.**

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

Québec 

Good News: Babies Some of the newest residents of the Gaspé

Diane Skinner

Meet some of the newest residents of the Gaspé, babies born during the last year and a half: Quinn, Jasmine, Theo, Eleanor (Ella), Parker, Courtney, Claire, Anna, Elliott and Hallie.

The last 18 months have been challenging for the world, however, there is always some good news if you look hard enough. One day, COVID-19 will be over, and all the animosity and worry will abate. In the meantime, here is some beautiful news to fill our hearts. This helps us to look forward to the future with optimism and hope. They are adorable, beautiful and affirm that the world will carry on. Enjoy these photos!

Meet: Courtney Lynne Mabe
Parents: Shanna Paulsen & Brian Mabe
Lives in: Corner of the Beach & Brownsburg, Quebec
Born: November 2020 / weight 7 lbs. 12 oz.

“Soon, Courtney will be making her third trip to the cottage in Corner of the Beach!” (Note: Courtney was born in the Hawkesbury General Hospital in Ontario, which is run by a Gaspesian from Percé.)
“While Courtney was in the womb, we didn’t know if she was a boy or girl, so we referred to her as Baby Covid. Then we named her Courtney when she was born.”



Meet: Elliott Arsenault Briggs
Parents: Bethany Briggs & Jean-Philippe Arsenault
Lives in: New Carlisle, Quebec
Born: August 2020 / weight 9 lb. 13 oz.

“Elliott is a happy, energetic little boy who loves the outdoors, especially playing in the sand or with rocks at the beach. He is always smiling and laughing; especially when his big sister is around!”



Meet: Eleanor Joan Almond
Parents: Heather Imhoff & Richard Almond
Lives in: Shigawake, Quebec
Born: November 2020 / weight 8 lbs. 1 oz.

“Ella is very easygoing and is definitely not shy as she smiles and waves at everyone, even people she has never met.”



Meet: Quinn Anita Condo
Parents: Emilie Woods & Aaron Condo
Lives in: Maria, Quebec
Born: December 2020 / weight 7 lbs. 6 ounces.

“Quinn is a happy, cuddly and curious baby. She loves the water, playing with her toys and trying many new foods.”



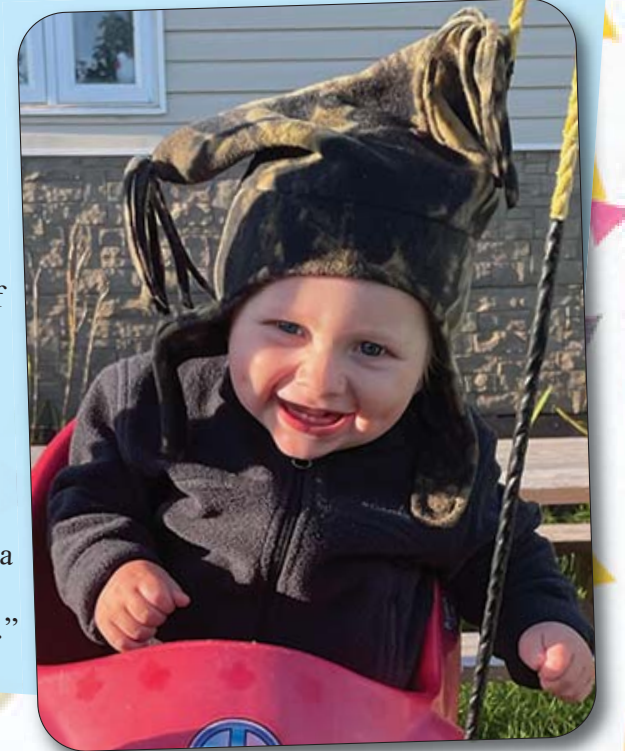
Meet: Parker Kenneth Hottot
Parents: Kendall Benwell & Logan Hottot
Lives in: Shigawake, Quebec
Born: May 2021 / weight 6 lbs. 10 oz.

“Parker is such a happy little guy with lots of energy. He always has a smile on his face, and he loves to giggle, play with his toys, watch Sesame Street and go for a drive. He loves to be held and is a momma’s boy,



Meet: Theo Brian Tyler Astels
Parents: Jennifer Gallan & Tyler Astels
Lives in: New Carlisle, Quebec
Born: October 2020 / weight 7 lbs. 12 oz.

“Theo is a happy baby that loves to laugh and eat. He is a real mama’s boy but loves when his daddy gets home from work. He can say a handful of words and climbing stairs is a new thing for him. He is almost walking without assistance, but that doesn’t stop him; he is into everything. Making a mess and getting dirty is something he loves to do.”



Meet: Jasmine Thompson Flowers
Parents: Amanda Thompson & Jeremy Flowers
Lives in: New Carlisle, Quebec
Born: July 2020 / weight 4 lbs. 12 oz.

“Jasmine is a sweet and curious child. She will push herself to discover more and more each day. She loves meeting new people and peeking out the win-



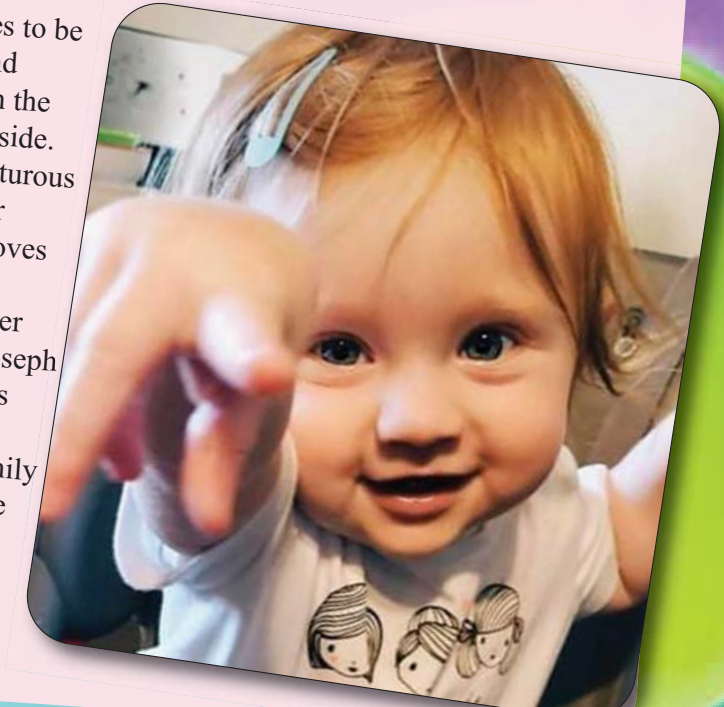
Meet: Claire Elizabeth Jean (left) and Anna Grace Jean (right)
Parents: Marquita Roberts & Cody Jean
Lives in: Gaspé, Quebec
Born: Claire - March 2021, at 6:20 p.m. / weight 5 lbs. 15 ounces
Anna - March 2021, at 6:08 p.m. / weight 5 lbs. 7 ounces

“Anna and Claire have already brought so much joy to all their family and friends. These two sisters share such a magical bond. As early as their first night – they continually look for one another and love holding hands. Anna is our adventurer, loves being outside and loves to interact with the family cat and her grandmother’s dog. Claire is our sensitive baby who gently rubs your arms or face as you hold her. She also really enjoys listening to any type of music – especially the oldies! Both girls are always smiling and are very happy



Meet: Hallie Rose Dupuis
Parents: Ashley Buttle & Mark Dupuis
Lives in: New Carlisle, Quebec
Born: October 2020 / weight 8 lbs. 14 oz.

“Hallie loves to be on the go and exploring, in the house or outside. She is adventurous and ready for action. She loves learning new things from her big brother Joseph and she adores her dog. Time spent with family is her favourite and she loves dance parties.”



If you also had a baby during COVID-19, send a picture and info to:
specs@globetrotter.net



Créations entre mer et montagne

A shop filled with the beauty of indoor plants

Diane Skinner

PORT-DANIEL: Plants can add so much to your home. Indoor plants not only provide beauty and interest, but they also have health benefits too. They clean the indoor air by absorbing toxins, produce oxygen and increase the humidity. Plants add life.

Finding a source of lovely, healthy houseplants on the Gaspé can be a challenge, but a shop owned and managed by Brandice Duguay of Port-Daniel offers you this and more! Her business, *Créations entre mer et montagne* stocks interesting houseplants including air plants, some rare plants, pots, planters and other accessories. There is, Brandice comments, “Something for every taste and budget.”

Her love of houseplants inspired her to start her business offering top quality indoor plants and other unique creations. She is currently studying floral design. Philodendron and pothos are two of her most popular plants



Photo: Courtesy of Brandice Duguay

Brandice Duguay offers personalized service when you are shopping for lovely, healthy houseplants.

and are always in high demand. She suggests monstera and fenestrated plants

as being a must for plant lovers. Fenestrated plants have leaves that are sepa-

rated. Brandice suggests that every plant lover have a monstera albo, which is white and green, on their wish list.

Brandice’s personal favourite plant is any type of philodendron because of their heart-shaped leaves. She finds that recently there has been an increased interest in houseplants in the region. Rare and hard to find plants are in high demand. Any plants with pink leaves are also very popular.

The care for each species of plant is different and those differences can be vast. She suggests taking your cue from the plant’s appearance. If the leaves become spotted or are discoloured and withered, your plant needs some

immediate T.L.C. Of course, if you visit Brandice’s shop, you can have the personal touch and ask questions about the plants. She provides a unique shopping experience, with personalized service suited to your space, lighting and budget. She offers bilingual service.

Plants give us oxygen for the lungs and the soul.

Future plans include growing more plant varieties and propagating rare, exotic plants.

The busiest times in the shop are during winter and spring. She will deliver from Gaspé to Carleton, on a monthly schedule. Online ordering will be available soon.


Her shop is located in Port Daniel. Before visiting, it would be wise to contact her or visit her facebook page for opening hours: <https://www.facebook.com/creationsentremertmontagne/>




There are many unique plants at the *Créations entre mer et montagne* boutique.

SADC


Accompany promoters in the development of La Côte-de-Gaspé by providing technical and financial support for businesses and organisations.



Mentoring



Tourism




Development

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING


The Gaspé SADC invites all Côte-de-Gaspé residents interested in economic development to attend its annual general meeting where the past year’s achievements will be presented.

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7 pm,
York River Community Hall or on Zoom.
 Registration required at sadcgaspe@outlook.com
 or at 418-368-2906 ext.1

Développement économique Canada pour les régions du Québec appuie financièrement les SADC et les CAE
 Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions offers a financial support to the SADC and the CAE



Développement économique Canada pour les régions du Québec



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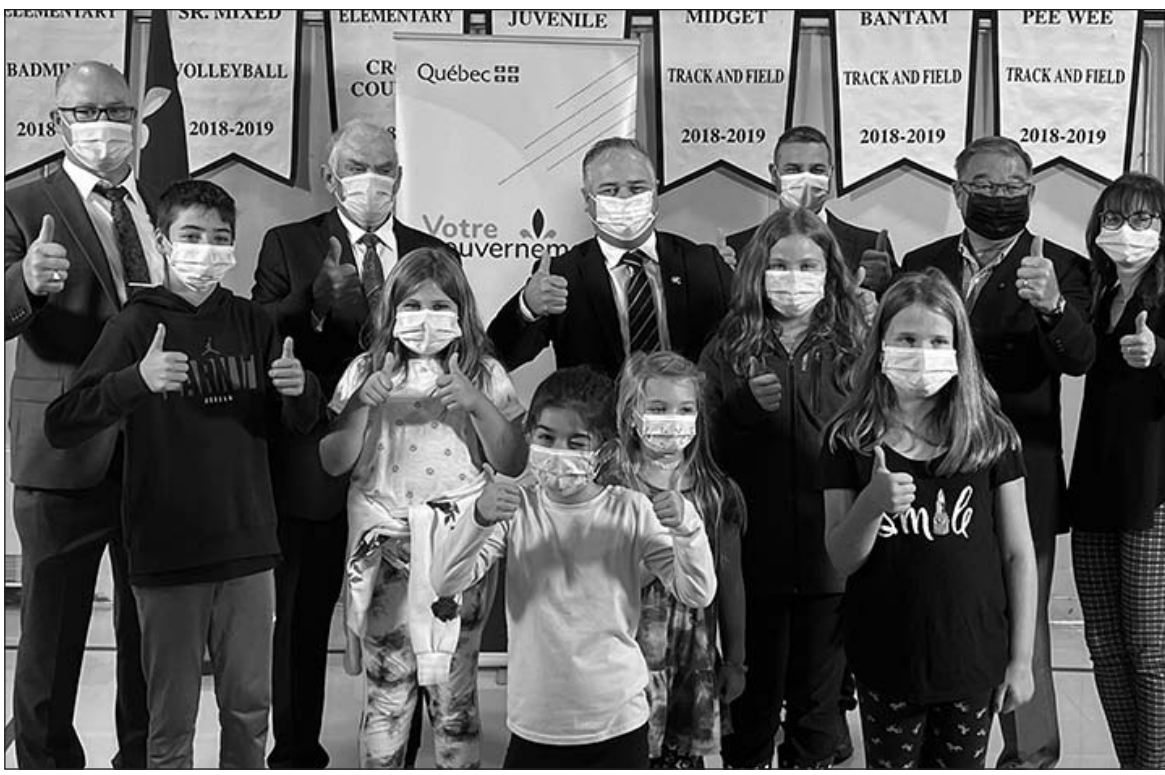


Photo: H. Smith

ESSB director general, Hugh Wood; ESSB chairman, Wade Gifford; Minister Responsible for the Gaspé, Jonatan Julien; Trevor Renouf, superintendent of services; ESSB commissioner, Ken Ward; and ESSB finance supervisor Sue Ward shared their satisfaction with New Carlisle High School students: Connor Boudreau, Annabell Stanley, Stephanie Huntington, Macy Gallan, Destanee Kruse Murray and Sara Lapointe.

NCHS replacement will require \$32 million investment

Gilles Gagné

Holly Smith

NEW CARLISLE – Eastern Shores School Board announced on September 24 that the construction of a new school to replace New Carlisle High School will require an estimated investment of \$32 million.

The project was launched that day in the presence of Jonatan Julien, Minister of Natural Resources as well as Minister responsible for the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands on behalf of the Minister of Education, Jean-François Roberge.

The original school was built in 1914 and despite several extensions, renovations, and continuous maintenance programs, the school is showing its age. The application for a new building was submitted to the Ministry of Education in August 2020.

According to Minister Julien, the new school will be characterized by a “new stimulating and modern en-

vironment that will accommodate, in particular, six preschool education groups and primary education and secondary students, for a total enrolment of 145 students.”

The infrastructure will be built according to the new government vision of “beautiful schools” in terms of construction, expansion and renovation, prospect of integration into the community and sustainable development, common spaces, modern architecture, natural light and the significant presence of wood and aluminum.

Wade Gifford, chairman of the Eastern Shores School Board, said that “this is a very exciting time for this building, that I feel part of. All good things come to an end and, at last, after a huge amount of effort from different people, we have managed to get what will be the most exciting news you have heard in a long time.”

The construction start and delivery dates of the new school were not released by Minister Julien. The exact location was not mentioned

either.

Originally, the search for a location by the Quebec government also included Paspébiac.

The Metis Beach School was the last addition to the Eastern Shores School Board network, having been officially inaugurated in November 2018.

Mr. Gifford also thanked Minister Julien for the investment in Eastern Shores School Board’s youth and surrounding communities.

“Today is a great day for hundreds of young people in the region! Every time we announce the construction of a school, I am feverish. Because we provide a living environment for our young people. A place where they will devote a large part of their youth and where they will forge friendships and memories. It’s also a great time, because we are meeting an important need. I am convinced that the construction of this school will promote the perseverance, success and full development of students of the region,” also stressed Minister Julien.



Photo: N. Sergerie

The new discovery centre in Cap-des-Rosiers.

Lots of visitors at Forillon Park

Nelson Sergerie,
LJI Journalist

August: occupancy rates neared 100%.

GASPÉ - Impressive statistics mark the summer of 2021 at Forillon Park. From June to August, an additional 26,000 people visited the Penouille reception sites and the new discovery centre in Cap-des-Rosiers. This is a 95% increase from the 2019 numbers.

In addition, more than 2,000 additional overnight stays were recorded in the three campsites of Petit-Gaspé, Des-Rosiers and Cap-Bon-Ami. This is an increase of 9% compared to 2019. The total number of overnight stays is close to 23,900 in 2021. July was particularly busy, followed closely by

Alternative accommodations, including the addition of the five Oâsis tents, increased by 32% from 2019 to 2021.

Forillon Park notes that most visitors arrived well prepared, reserving their accommodations before arrival. As the 2020 services were limited due to restrictions related to the pandemic, the 2021 statistics are compared with those for 2019 to better reflect the increase in the customer base.

A full season review will be released once the season is over on October 11.

The Park notes that there are still vacancies for stays until the park closes.

ELECTION:

Cont'd from cover

important, whereas in recent years, the company has invested significant sums to expand the dry dock. The next stage of the work is the installation of an access door to the shipyard hold which will allow the reception of larger ships. This would give access to new contracts and the potential creation of 50 jobs.

For the installation of this new door, the company must enter into an agreement with Transport Canada for the acquisition of the wharf, but considering the offer currently

submitted, it would not be possible to cover the costs of maintaining the wharf.

“With the federal government and the port facilities, it's always the same song. Ottawa left its own infrastructure to wither across the country and expects municipalities and companies to take over without having to allocate the necessary sums for the upgrade. It is deplorable. I have already made a commitment to Verreault Navigation to put the necessary pressure for the offer to be enhanced and this is what I will do as soon as I enter the position,” says Kristina Michaud.



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Photo: N. Sergerie

Six people suffered from heart problems after receiving COVID-19 vaccine.

Six cases of vaccine-related problems in the region

Nelson **Sergerie**,
LJI Journalist

GASPÉ - The development of physical problems following the injection of COVID-19 vaccines is practically nil in the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands.

According to the regional Department of Public Health, six cases of pericarditis or myocarditis were reported since the start of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign last

December.

Pericarditis is inflammation of the lining of the heart, and myocarditis is inflammation of the heart itself.

According to Regional Director of Public Health, Dr. Yv Bonnier Viger, these are the only vaccine-related issues in the region while approximately 152,000 doses have been administered so far. The cases are not considered to be serious.

"It could be, but generally

it's relatively benign. This is usually treated with aspirin. It is still something quite rare and as we have seen, not very severe," explains the specialist.

Dr. Bonnier Viger says these cases should not dampen the vaccination momentum.

"We can see what problems COVID-19 can give: complications that can lead to hospitalization and death," says the doctor.

Active covid cases slowly decline over the last week of September

Gilles **Gagné**

MARIA - A week after seeing a stabilization in the number of new COVID-19 cases, the number of active cases decreased gradually between September 17 and 24, as it went from a peak of 29 to 15 active cases, as reported by the Public Health Board.

Of the week's seventeen new cases, fourteen of them came from the Avignon MRC, in most part tied to the Listuguj outbreak. One of the cases was from the Magdalen Islands, one from the Percé Rock MRC and one from the Côte-de-Gaspé MRC.

Some of those 17 new cases for the week were already considered recovered by September 24, which explains the 15 case count.

One person was hospitalized on September 20 but he or she was out the following day.

Between September 17



Photo: G. Gagné

The COVID situation is improving as the number of active cases has dropped by 50% between September 17 and 24.

and 24, a total of 29 people recovered from the coronavirus in the region.

The regional rate of vaccinated people is still in progression, although the increase is relatively slow. As of September 20, the latest number available, the propor-

tion of Gaspésians and Magdalen Islanders that had received their first shot was 81.3%, compared to 80.7% the previous week. As for the booster shot, the regional proportion stood at 77.7% on September 20, compared to 77% a week before.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



You never know what you may find

"I do love secondhand books that open to the page that a previous owner read oftenest."

Searching for interesting used objects can become a passion. Culling garage sales, antique shops, vintage clothing stores, flea markets and even online can reveal treasures. The items you acquire may not be worth a great deal of money, but that is not the reason to seek items. Look for things that please you and give you joy. Those are a type of treasure. If they turn out to be valuable, that is a bonus.

What are the advantages of buying secondhand?

It is good for the environment! The manufacturing of new clothing uses a huge number of resources. "Fast fashion" is the second most polluting industry. Oil is the first. Clothes manufactured in some countries use underpaid and overworked labourers. The more brand-new clothing you buy (sometimes referred to as disposable clothing because it is poor quality and trendy) the more of the Earth's precious resources are wasted. Secondhand is the new organic.

Buying used items keeps unwanted things out of the landfills.

Secondhand items cost significantly less. You must love it when somebody else pays full price first.

Second-hand items do not need to be transported, thereby cutting down on fossil fuel consumption.

You may find items that are unique. Vintage clothing is unique and nobody else will have, as an example, the same jacket as the cool suede jacket with a fringe that you scored for \$35! Vintage clothing comes from another time and another place. Be unique.

It is fun to browse antique stores and garage sales searching for items. You are a hunter searching for just the right items that please you. Be open, though, because chances are you won't know what you are looking for until you spy it in a store or on someone's lawn.

It can be exciting when you do find just what you wanted - even though you didn't know you wanted it until you spied it!

You are buying a little piece of history. An old pair of glass candlesticks, a coal oil lamp or a 1960s disco ball might be just the item you desire. Every item has a history, though you will never know it. It is still fun to wonder about who the previous owners were.

"Thrifting," as it is sometimes referred to, can inspire you. Finding a partial set of old dishes in floral pink or black bone china cups may inspire you to decorate your table differently. Just have fun with it!

If you buy an item secondhand, feel no guilt about modifying it. Buying old wooden picture frames is an adventure and painting them all one colour is part of the experience. It's not about what it is, it's about what it can become.

You will appreciate what you have when you realize that you need less. You do not always need to buy shiny and new. The world produces so much - and a lot of it is not necessary for our happiness as a species. Think of the used and antique items you purchase as preowned and preloved. Then when you choose to buy it, it becomes reloved.

Photo: Original painting of the "other" side of Percé Rock was recently purchased by a Gaspesian, from a shop selling antiques and collectibles, in Truro, Nova Scotia, for \$65!



Just a thought: When you love what you have, you have everything you need.

Announcements...



In Memory

RENOUF:

In loving memory of the Renouf family.
 Dad: Bert - 1983
 Mom: Sarah Annie - 2006
 Sisters: Nellie - 1975 and Ida - 2006
 Brothers: Lloyd - 2009, Bill - 2010, Aubrey - 2012 and Lester - 2014.
Gone but not forgotten.
 Lovingly remembered by Mary and family. xoxox



Funeral and Celebration of Life



BUDD: Connie (née Anningson)

Connie Budd (née Anningson), who passed away February 3, 2020, will finally be laid to rest in New Richmond, Quebec, on October 9, 2021.

The service will be held at 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's United Church, 211 Boul Perron. As there will be no reception following the service due to the current COVID restrictions, the family of Connie, Constance, Nanny, Aunt Connie, Grammy, mother, or by what ever name you knew and loved her by, would like to extend an invite to all who knew her, to attend the memorial service and share in this special day as Connie is laid to rest with her lifelong partner Powies and infant daughter Catherine. 250 people are permitted to attend funerals, and the family will conduct a receiving line following the service for those who knew Connie, to share their memories and well wishes.

Due to the fact that Connie was extremely proud of her military service in the RCAF during WWII, in England as a para rigger, all attendees with military or legion affiliation are encouraged to wear their medals, etc.

Happy 85th Birthday Mom!



*To the sunshine in our lives
 Happy 85th Birthday, Mom (Jane Crozier)*

To the sunshine in our lives, you are one in a million: a wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother; a guiding light; and a great inspiration to all. We want to wish you good health, happiness and the best of everything. Thank you for all the things you've done for us.

*Love always and forever,
 from all of us xoxoxox*



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COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

Gaspé Cancer Foundation

The citizens of the MRC of Côte de Gaspé are asked to please note that the Annual Gaspé Cancer Foundation Membership Campaign is in full swing. May we remind you that membership fees are \$12 per year. New members have a 30-day waiting period before being eligible to receive their travel assistance. If you are a member in good standing, are afflicted with cancer, and must travel outside the region for treatment, you are eligible for the following travel assistance: Chandler \$50, Maria \$80, Rimouski \$190, Rivière-du-Loup \$210, Quebec \$240 and Montreal and Sherbrooke \$300.

GASPE:

Shoebboxes for Sailors

Please be advised that there will be no collection of shoeboxes for sailors for the 2021 season. However, donations would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be sent to: Quebec Seamen's Club, 150 Dalhousie, C.P. 80, Hauteville, Quebec, QC G1R 4M8.

NEW CARLISLE:

Drive-In Gospel Meetings

Meetings at Fair Haven Bible Campgrounds. Sundays at 2 p.m. Rain or shine. COVID-19 considerations/social distanc-

ing will be respected. All are welcome - invite a friend! For more information, please call 418-752-3372.

NEW CARLISLE:

St. Andrew's Anglican Church

Please be advised, due to the Covid-19 regulations, there will not be a Harvest Supper at St. Andrew's in New Carlisle this year. A small organizing committee has been formed to ask members of St. Andrew's Anglican Church to make a financial contribution toward our Harvest Supper Fund. Any individuals interested in contributing can put their donations in the church plate marked "Donation toward Harvest Supper" along with their name, amount, and church envelope number, if applicable. If preferred, your donation can be given to Chris (Fraser) Ward (418-752-6837) or Norma Chedore (418-752-6214). Donations made by cheque should be made payable to St. Andrew's Anglican Church. We thank you for your support!

NEW CARLISLE:

Funeral Association AGM

The AGM for the New Carlisle Funeral Association will be held on September 30 at 6 p.m. at the New Carlisle Town Hall.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES: Fifty Plus Club

Bingo has resumed for the

season. Card pricing is \$10 for 3 cards and \$1 for each extra card. All activities are scheduled to return depending on the Covid-19 situation. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ROTARY CLUB WINNERS

The winners for the week of September 19 are: IGA Arbour-Leblanc, Pneus New Richmond, Nathalie Filion, Jean-Luc Jean, Augustin Dubé, Claudine Galant and Serge St-Pierre.

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, October 3

10 a.m. Hope Town

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Sunday, October 3

New Carlisle

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Hope Town

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Port Daniel

10 a.m. Morning Prayer

PARISH OF GASPE

Sunday, October 3

St. John's and St. Phillip's

Sandy Beach

9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer

TIDE PREDICTIONS

Sponsored by the Municipality of New Carlisle



New Richmond

Saturday, October 2

06:43 a.m. - 0.70m ↓

12:12 p.m. - 1.40m ↑

05:34 p.m. - 0.80m ↓

Sunday, October 3

12:26 a.m. - 2.00m ↑

07:28 a.m. - 0.60m ↓

01:05 p.m. - 1.60m ↑

06:37 p.m. - 0.60m ↓

Monday, October 4

01:18 a.m. - 2.10m ↑

08:04 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

01:49 p.m. - 1.80m ↑

07:35 p.m. - 0.50m ↓

Tuesday, October 5

02:06 a.m. - 2.20m ↑

08:36 a.m. - 0.40m ↓

02:30 p.m. - 2.00m ↑

08:30 p.m. - 0.30m ↓

Wednesday, October 6

02:52 a.m. - 2.20m ↑

09:07 a.m. - 0.30m ↓

03:12 p.m. - 2.30m ↑

09:22 p.m. - 0.20m ↓

Thursday, October 7

03:37 a.m. - 2.30m ↑

09:39 a.m. - 0.30m ↓

03:54 p.m. - 2.40m ↑

10:12 p.m. - 0.10m ↓

Friday, October 8

04:22 a.m. - 2.20m ↑

10:14 a.m. - 0.30m ↓

04:38 p.m. - 2.60m ↑

11:02 p.m. - 0.10m ↓

New Carlisle

Saturday, October 2

06:30 a.m. - 0.60m ↓

11:59 a.m. - 1.10m ↑

05:21 p.m. - 0.70m ↓

Sunday, October 3

12:19 a.m. - 1.70m ↑

07:12 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

12:56 p.m. - 1.20m ↑

06:31 p.m. - 0.60m ↓

Monday, October 4

01:10 a.m. - 1.80m ↑

07:49 a.m. - 0.40m ↓

01:42 p.m. - 1.40m ↑

07:31 p.m. - 0.40m ↓

Tuesday, October 5

01:57 a.m. - 1.80m ↑

08:24 a.m. - 0.40m ↓

02:25 p.m. - 1.60m ↑

08:25 p.m. - 0.30m ↓

Wednesday, October 6

02:42 a.m. - 1.80m ↑

08:58 a.m. - 0.30m ↓

03:06 p.m. - 1.80m ↑

09:18 p.m. - 0.20m ↓

Thursday, October 7

03:27 a.m. - 1.80m ↑

09:33 a.m. - 0.30m ↓

03:49 p.m. - 1.90m ↑

10:10 p.m. - 0.10m ↓

Friday, October 8

04:13 a.m. - 1.70m ↑

10:08 a.m. - 0.30m ↓

04:32 p.m. - 2.00m ↑

11:04 p.m. - 0.10m ↓

Gaspé

Saturday, October 2

06:07 a.m. - 0.70m ↓

11:39 a.m. - 1.00m ↑

04:56 p.m. - 0.70m ↓

11:56 p.m. - 1.50m ↑

Sunday, October 3

06:50 a.m. - 0.60m ↓

12:28 p.m. - 1.10m ↑

06:03 p.m. - 0.60m ↓

Monday, October 4

12:43 a.m. - 1.60m ↑

07:28 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

01:12 p.m. - 1.20m ↑

07:02 p.m. - 0.50m ↓

Tuesday, October 5

01:28 a.m. - 1.60m ↑

08:02 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

01:54 p.m. - 1.40m ↑

07:58 p.m. - 0.50m ↓

Wednesday, October 6

02:13 a.m. - 1.60m ↑

08:34 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

02:35 p.m. - 1.50m ↑

08:54 p.m. - 0.40m ↓

Thursday, October 7

03:00 a.m. - 1.50m ↑

09:06 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

03:15 p.m. - 1.70m ↑

09:50 p.m. - 0.30m ↓

Friday, October 8

03:51 a.m. - 1.40m ↑

09:37 a.m. - 0.50m ↓

03:57 p.m. - 1.80m ↑

10:46 p.m. - 0.30m ↓

On the lighter side...



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...



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, a few days of self-reflection is not a selfish endeavor. Sometimes you need to give yourself a little TLC so you can more effectively care for others.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if you find that some bad habits are increasingly getting in the way, then push those vices aside for good. Focus on activities that benefit your overall health.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, you are wielding a lot of energy and some people just may not be ready for your kind of motivation. Read the room before you come in like a whirlwind.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Mistakes that you made in the past are just that: in the past. You can learn from them and move on to bigger and better things. Enjoy turning over a new leaf.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

This week your energy and outlook are both very positive, Leo. You'll be in a good frame of mind to take on some new endeavors that have been pushed to the side.

HOROSCOPES

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Share what you are going through with someone you trust, Virgo. This person can help you through some sticky situations and provide valuable guidance.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, a great rapport with a new acquaintance could bode well for this budding relationship. Take things slow but enjoy getting to know this person.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you may ask yourself if a relationship with someone who is always drumming up drama is worth it in the long run. Carefully consider whether to cut ties.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

You don't always have to do everything you are told, Sagittarius. You can go your own way in the name of having a little fun. Color outside of the lines once or twice.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, satisfy an urge to travel

by getting away for a little while. Why not venture to some place a little exotic or off the beaten path? Expand your horizons.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, someone at work is putting personal issues in the way of professional responsibilities. Offer your support and see if this makes the situation better for all involved.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

You may need to pinch a few pennies to keep your finances in check, Pisces. Figure out areas where you can save some money.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 26

Serena Williams, Athlete (40)

SEPTEMBER 27

Jenna Ortega, Actress (19)

SEPTEMBER 28

Hilary Duff, Actress (34)

SEPTEMBER 29

Zachary Levi, Actor (41)

SEPTEMBER 30

Maddie Ziegler, Dancer (19)

OCTOBER 1

Brie Larson, Actress (32)

OCTOBER 2

Kelly Ripa, TV Host (51)

Coyotes, wily members of the dog family

Diane Skinner

Why is it that the haunting yip-yip and howls of the coyote bring shivers to us? At night the coyote, particularly after a successful hunt, will howl and that sound carries over a long distance. The sounds are amplified and what sounds like a large pack of coyotes may be just a couple. This howling keeps other predators who may want to share their bounty, away. Coyotes howl to announce their territory to other coyotes, and when they reunite with pack members.

Stéphanie Bentz, educational biologist at the Bioparc located in Bonaventure says, "The howls are their means of defending their successful hunting territory. In fact, coyotes have about 11 different calls, which is a lot more than wolves have. A coyote will often start by barking, then howling and then finish with more barks."

There is currently one coyote living in the Bioparc, which closes for the season on October 3. He is about nine years old, and Ms. Bentz tells Spec that they are not looking to introduce another coyote because it would be very stressful for their coyote,



Photo: Jerome Landry (Bioparc)

Amir, the coyote, was born at the Bioparc in Bonaventure in 2012. He exhibits characteristic wild behaviours such as tracing trails in his habitat to make sure no intruders visit his territory.

named Amir. Amir, who was born at the Bioparc, is fed mainly horse meat and dog food. Coyotes in the wild live for about six to eight years, and those in captivity live for about 20 years.

Coyotes live only in North America and some areas of Central America. They are found all over Canada except for the northernmost parts. Normally they live in dens that are about four feet tall and six feet wide. They dig a tun-

nel where they can enter their den and then dig out a larger area at the end of the tunnel. Often the dens have a second exit that is hidden. Sometimes they will dig a second den in case a predator finds their home. This is where they sleep and have their babies called pups or whelps. They have from two to six pups at a time.

They are omnivores and will eat rabbits, mice, shrews, voles, birds, snakes and deer.

Coyote: a trickster Indigenous Tales

All cultures have stories about crafty creatures or tricksters who use their cunning to obtain food or cause mischief. Indigenous traditions have many tales about the cunning of the coyote. In these stories, coyotes are often portrayed as intelligent and quick as well as being the hero who sometimes helps and teaches humans. At times, he is the antihero who teaches us a lesson from his misdeeds.

The Mi'gmaq Confederacy of PEI lists several resources including children's stories and Mi'gmaq legends. One of these tales is *Mr. Coyote Meets Mr. Snail* written by Jean Agapith. This traditional tale recounts what happens to Coyote when he gets stuck inside a tree and in his attempts to get out of the tree, he misplaces his eyes. He tricks a snail into giving him his eyes and to this day, "Mr. Snail is crawling with his head down looking for his eyes. And all coyotes have brown eyes instead of blue; this is because Mr. Coyote was naughty when he took Mr. Snail's eyes. And Mr. Raven still has those beautiful blue eyes in his secret hiding place, but he cannot return them because the secret hiding place was so secret not even Mr. Raven can find it!"

Coyotes will also eat fruit, grass and vegetables. They can sometimes be seen digging up gardens or foraging in garbage cans. If they find carrion (dead animals) they will consume them.

Their fur is greyish brown to a yellowish grey. The throat and underside are a lighter, almost white colour. The front of the legs, sides of the head, muzzle and feet are reddish brown. The tail is bushy like a fox's tail and has a black tip.

The adult coyote is about the size of a medium dog, weighing approximately 20 pounds. They have yellow eyes and small feet.

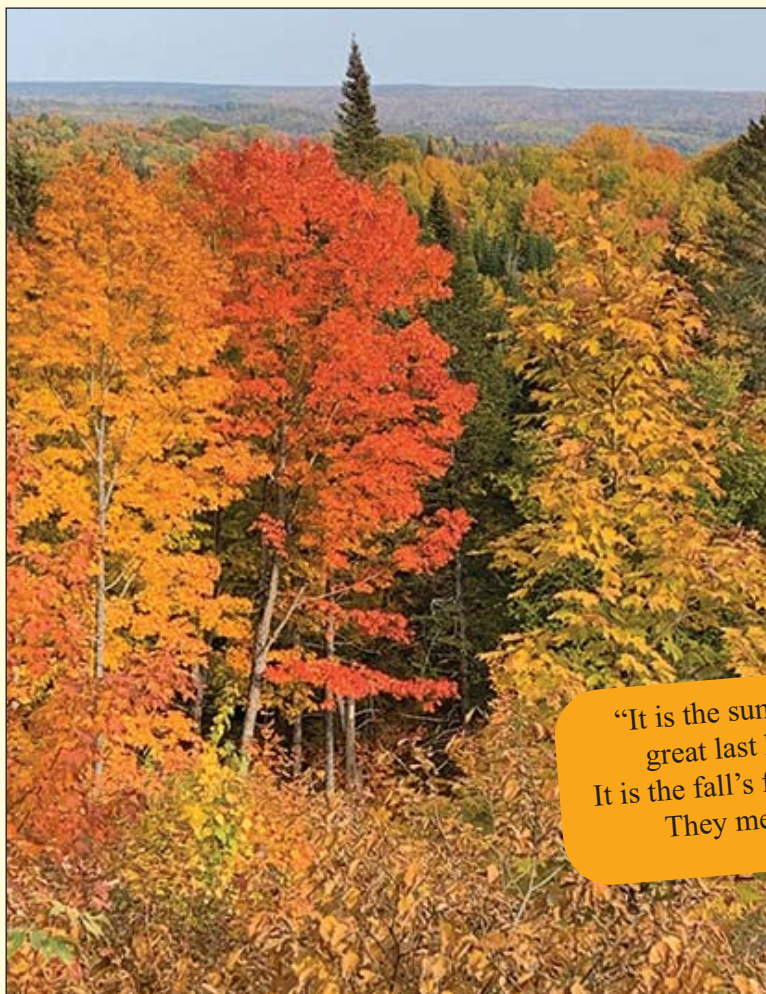
Stéphanie Bentz, educational biologist states, "The coyotes will usually stay away from humans. Do not put your dog's food outside because it could attract coyotes." Coyotes are wild animals and if you encounter one, take no chances. Yell and back away slowly.

Looks like autumn! Smells like autumn!

Diane Skinner

According to an old saying, "If autumn leaves are slow to fall, prepare for a frigid winter." While keeping an eye out for that, enjoy the rich and vibrant colours of the leaves; red, yellow and orange and all the shades in between. Red, yellow and orange are just the tip of the colour iceberg. Search a little deeper for words to describe leaves such as scarlet, maroon, cinnamon, carrot, coral, peach, mustard, flax and gold!

Autumn arrived this year on Wednesday, September 22. It is the official beginning of the autumn equinox when day and night are both just about 12 hours long here in the Northern Hemisphere. On this day, the sun rises directly in the east and sets directly in the west. This is referred to as the Autumnal Equinox which literally means "equal night." Soon the temperatures will begin to drop as the hours of daylight decline and of course the first frost will soon occur.



"It is the summer's great last heat, It is the fall's first chill: They meet."

Photo: D. Skinner

The magnificent colours of autumn: red, yellow and orange are good for starters. Add to that scarlet, maroon, cinnamon, carrot, coral, peach, mustard, flax and gold!

Adults look at the leaves and think about raking and bagging those leaves. Kids

see an opportunity to jump in leaf piles! Creatures of the woods and fields are storing

food for the long, frigid days and nights ahead. Canada Geese are preparing to winter in the south. Gaspesians are piling their wood inside, checking their generators and glancing at snow shovels, winter boots and winter jackets. Others are already preparing their snowmobiles for the beautiful snow rides to come. Of all the seasons, winter is the one that demands the most preparation.

We are mindful of the colder weather to come. We can see the changes in the trees, however, another powerful sign of autumn for many are the smells of the new season. The smell of leaves: (wet,

dry or burning) fruit that has fallen on the ground and has started to rot, and the crisp and chilly days - these all combine to evoke the undeniable truth that fall has arrived. The earth smells different in the fall - damp, earthy and cool. Wood stacked inside the basement or woodshed emits a smell

that is wonderful and the smell of burning wood is so satisfying. A favourite of many is the distinct smell of crackling juniper. Chimney smoke is a definite sign that autumn has taken hold.

People seem to bake more in the fall, and maybe that's our nesting instinct at work. Time to prepare for longer nights... of eating! The smell of applesauce cooking is a familiar scent of fall and the added cinnamon creates a lovely aroma. Some people simmer cinnamon sticks in a pot of water on the stove. This fills the house with a delightful fragrance.

If we were to create a perfume called "Autumn Equinox" it would need to have these ingredients: leaves, apples, wood smoke, and damp earth. Until that happens, just get outside and breathe in the beautiful smells and sights of autumn.

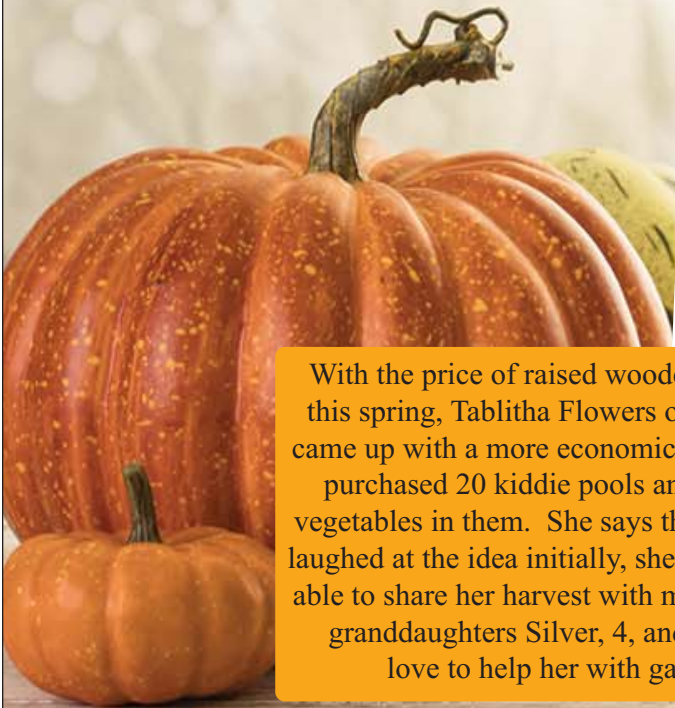
*"Of autumn's wine,
now drink your fill;
The frost is on the pumpkin,
and snow soon on the hill."*

AUTUMN Harvest



Roxanne Major of Paspébiac harvested this interesting double cucumber from her greenhouse.

Axl Major of Hope Town grew these giant sunflowers in a “three sisters” garden, a staple of many permaculture gardens today. The sunflowers were planted in the middle of plots surrounded by corn, beans and squash. Those plants work as companions to provide the best growth conditions. The sunflowers help attract bees for pollination, lure birds away from the corn and provide extra stability for beans. The tallest flowers reached 11’3”.



With the price of raised wooden garden beds this spring, Tablitha Flowers of New Carlisle came up with a more economical solution. She purchased 20 kiddie pools and planted her vegetables in them. She says that while people laughed at the idea initially, she was proud to be able to share her harvest with many others. Her granddaughters Silver, 4, and Kamelia, 1, love to help her with gardening.



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