

## New Richmond's Rotary Club donates \$18,875 to 27 community organizations

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND – The Rotary Club of New Richmond hands out \$18,875 to 27 Bay of Chaleurs's community organizations, as part of its donation program. The vast majority of those organizations either work with youth or seniors. The donations of \$18,875 that occurred on September 21 were raised during the Lucky Calendar Campaign.

New Richmond's Rotary Club was founded 55 years ago. It has 15 active members and distributes about \$30,000 annually.

"Rotary Clubs form an international organization. There are 32,000 clubs in the world and 1.2 million members. The idea is to give back to the community and to help people. Rotary Clubs donate about \$800 million annually. They have an impact. They change lives. It is a non-political, non-religious organization," says Jean-François Binette, New Richmond's club president.

The New Richmond club faces a recruiting challenge, admits Mr. Binette. "We want to raise our membership. Across the world, 25% of the members are women. We should aim for the same thing here," he adds.

The theme for the current



Photo: G. Gagné

*The recipients of the Rotary Club's donations received their cheques on September 21 in New Richmond.*

Lucky Calendar Campaign is lighthouses, and it will cover a larger area, as the New Rich-

mond Rotary Club members want pictures of lighthouses located everywhere on the Gaspé

Peninsula.

"We would like to donate \$22,000 to \$23,000 next year

out of our calendar sales," specifies Yvon Goulet, a very active member of the club.

Salmon dinner organized by the Rotary Club for seniors \$1,820  
**Rotary Club (support to the youth), \$1,500**  
Rotary Club (community support), \$1,055  
**Fondation santé Baie des Chaleurs, \$1,000**  
Organisme gaspésien des personnes atteintes de cancer, \$1,000  
**Maison de la famille MRC-Bonaventure, \$1,000**

### LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT RECEIVED DONATIONS

Fondation étudiante de New Richmond, \$1,000  
**Knights of Columbus (Christmas baskets), \$1,000**  
Relay for Life, \$500  
**Linda Lemore Brown Foundation (cancer), \$500**  
Fonds Leblanc  
Lobo Turcotte, \$500  
**Ressources d'aide aux personnes handicapées Gaspésie, \$500**

Volunteer Action Centre, \$500  
**Figure Skating Club, \$500**  
Maison des jeunes (New Richmond), \$500  
**Eagles' Club Cascapedia-Saint Jules, \$500**  
Saumoneaux (swimming club), \$500  
**Association des TCC-ACV, \$500**

Cascapedia 50-plus Club, \$500  
**Association des personnes handicapées**  
**Action-Chaleur, \$500**  
Club de ski alpin, \$500  
**Mutual Aid Club, \$500**  
Maison Oasis : \$500  
**La Passerelle (mental health), \$500**  
LIFE Club, \$500  
**Club de soccer (New Richmond), \$500**  
Naval League, \$500

## MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS: Several races for mayor in the region

Gilles Gagné

NEW CARLISLE – There is quite a bit of interest in the November 7 municipal elections along the Gaspé Peninsula's south shore, as the number of candidates was rapidly increasing towards the end of September, given that the period to submit candidacies ended on October 1, a few hours after SPEC's deadline.

In New Carlisle, Wilfrid Larocque, who made an unsuccessful attempt in 2017, is making a second attempt at the

mayor position. As of September 30, he was to face two opponents, Benoit Maltais and David Thibault, who was a councillor during the last term. Incumbent mayor Stephen Chatterton is retiring after 12 years in municipal politics, including eight years as mayor.

In Paspebiac, an election with at least two mayoral candidates was emerging, with Nelson Holmes and Marc Loisel already registered. Current mayor Régent Bastien has decided to retire after this term.

In Shigawake, incumbent

Mayor Colette Dow will try to maintain her position. Outgoing councillor Rolande Couture-Beebe will also be running for mayor.

The incumbent mayor of Hope Town, Linda MacWhirter, still had no opponent as of September 30. It was the same case for the incumbent mayors, Éric Dubé in New Richmond; Denis Gauthier in Saint-Siméon; Genade Grenier in Saint-Godefroi; and long-time mayor Hazen Whitton of Hope.

David Duthie was the only

registered candidate for the position of mayor of Cascapedia-Saint-Jules on September 30. Gaétan Boudreau has already announced he is not running again.

In Percé, incumbent mayor Cathy Poirier will face opposition from Olivier Lafontaine who has no known experience in local politics.

A day before the closing of candidacies it appeared Daniel Côté, incumbent mayor of Gaspé, would be re-elected by acclamation, as he was the only candidate for the position

he has held for eight years.

In Chandler, a former councillor, Marie-Claire Blais; Gilles Daraîche; and Denis Pelchat, an incumbent councillor, are all vying to replace Louise Langlois, who is retiring from politics.

In Grand River, Gino Cyr, the incumbent mayor, was the only candidate for that position a day before the candidacy closure.

In Port Daniel-Gascons, incumbent mayor Henri Grenier,