

The Gaspé Spec

ESTABLISHED • MAY 1975

VOLUME 48 / NO 31 AUGUST 10, 2022

Contract 400119680
\$1.50 (Tax included)

Gesgapegiag Mawiomi, a hot spot for dancers!

Cynthia Dow

GESGAPEGIAG: The Gesgapegiag Mawiomi (previously called “powwow”) took place this year on July 30 and 31. All the drum groups were from Nova Scotia: *Host Drum Eastern Eagle* from Indian Brook (Shubenacadie), *Stoney Bear* from Eskasoni, *Kiju Boys* from Paqtnqeg near Antigonish and *A Tribe called Mi’kmaq* from Millbrook. The Master of Ceremonies, Roger Lee Martin was joined at the mic by Michael Denny from Eskasoni, who does a lot of pow-wows and is a singer and drummer with *Stoney Bear* as well.

Lead dancers included Tasha Thompson from Akwesasne, New York; Craig Isaac from Listuguj; and John McComber from Kahnawake. Arena director was Trevor Gould from Paqtnqeg and, of course, Gesgapegiag’s own Amanda Larocque helped organize the event. Ms. Larocque was one of the Indigenous dancers who welcomed athletes to the Vancouver Olympics in 2010. Roger Lee Martin told SPEC, “Unfortunately, the weekend was very hot. I felt for these people dancing in their regalia! Despite the heat, they made it look so easy, even the children.” Mr. Martin noted that the objective of the Mawiomi committee is “to draw in and invite non-native people to the community. They are always invited to participate, to see what is going on, that we want to live in harmony.” On Friday, July 29, the community’s health and wellness fair was held in the big tent near the Mawiomi grounds.



Amanda Larocque is well-known for her dancing and has taught classes at Gesgapegiag.



John McComber of Kahnawake wore an amazing head-dress.



The sound of the Jingle Dress dancers is always a favourite with onlookers!

Photos: Cynthia Dow

Cement plant is far from having solved all its problems

Gilles Gagné

PORT-DANIEL – While the Quebec Ministry of the Environment and Saint Mary's Cement are discussing an attempt to eliminate various dust emissions generated by the Port Daniel cement plant, the operation of this plant continues to produce its share of cement dust.

This time, it is the loading of the trucks that causes problems at a frequency that is currently difficult to assess. On, or near July 22, a citizen took a video with his phone showing a truck driver cleaning the back of his trailer a few kilometres west of the Port-Daniel cement plant.

His closed trailer had obviously received a surplus of cement powder, the surplus having spread on the exterior part of said trailer. Apparently concerned and not wanting



A truck driver stopped in a Port Daniel parking lot to clean up excess cement that spilled over during loading. It is difficult to assess how often this action is made necessary for overflows occurring during the loading of trailers.

Photo: Facebook

the powder to gradually fly away during his journey, the driver chose to get rid of the excess cement in a parking lot on the edge of the Chaleur

Bay.

From the Facebook exchanges resulting from the publication of the short video of the cleaning operation, it is

reasonable to deduce that in principle, if there is an overflow during the loading of cement, this surplus should be removed before leaving the truck terminal.

“It would be completely normal for the cleaning not to be the trucker's responsibility if his trailer has been overloaded! We understand that cleaning is left to the discretion of the loading manager, an employee of the cement plant,” criticizes Pascal Bergeron, spokesperson for Environnement Vert-plus.

Saint Mary's Cement must file, with the Ministry of the Environment on or before August 8, documents attesting to the efforts that the company intends to put an end to recurring episodes of clinker dust and cement powder emissions. At least four documented episodes of significant emissions have oc-

curred during the operation of the Port-Daniel cement plant in three years, in July and August 2020, in June 2021 and in May 2022.

By email, the management of Ciment Saint Mary's acknowledges its responsibility for loading truck trailers within the limits of the Port-Daniel cement plant.

“Residual material on trucks that results from the loading or unloading processes are to be cleared and managed on site, while the vehicles are still at the plant. This has been reinforced with both our employees and outside parties who may be involved in the loading and unloading processes. We consider this part of our ongoing efforts to mitigate impacts that may directly or indirectly result from our operations,” the written notes mention.



Photo: Jean-Philippe Thibault

About forty citizens attended a meeting organized by the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands Public Health Board and the Ministry of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change.

Dust more harmful psychologically than physically, according to Public Health Board

Jean-Philippe Thibault

PORT DANIEL-GASCONS - The sticky dust emitted by the Saint Mary's Cement Plant in Port-Daniel-Gascons is harmless in the long term for physical health, but represents a major disturbance and is a source of stress for residents.

“The level of exposure of the population to dust is relatively low. (...) The long-term toxic risk is insignificant or very low. We can be reasonably reassured about the risks to physical health,” quickly explains the Regional director of the Public Health Board, Dr. Yv Bonnier-Viger.

Dr. Bonnier-Viger invited the local population to an Au-

gust 2 public meeting where he was accompanied by representatives of the Ministry of the Environment.

Three types of materials make up the dust that fell from the sky during different episodes of emissions in 2020 and 2021, which made headlines because of their occurrences and their stickiness on the vehicles of nearby residents. Cleaning companies had to be mobilized to clean those vehicles and some buildings.

The cleaning companies mainly washed limestone from the quarry, clinker (raw materials cooked at the exit of the kiln; mainly calcium, silica and aluminum oxides) as

well as cement products.

If the results of the atmospheric emission sampling reports for the past two years have repeatedly shown a concentration above the limit values determined by the Ministry of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change (MEFCC), the concentrations of potentially toxic or carcinogenic elements measured remain below Quebec standards. Four stations located around the site continuously analyze fine particles of less than 2.5 microns.

According to the Public Health Board, these systems make it possible to properly

Cont'd on page 3 ▶



Catherine Cyr Wright

Photo: Gilles Gagné

Québec solidaire wants the truth about the Port Daniel cement plant

Gilles Gagné

NEW RICHMOND – Québec solidaire requests from Saint Mary's Cement better transparency regarding its dust emissions, points out the party's candidate in Bonaventure, Catherine Cyr Wright. She attended the August 2 public meeting in Port Daniel, a meeting organized by the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands Public Health Board.

The Saint Mary's Cement Plant in Port Daniel has been making headlines lately due to its multiple contaminant releases and regular waivers to Quebec's environmental regulations.

As of May 31, the plant

was targeted by 80 reports and 11 complaints from neighbouring residents about various types of polluting emissions.

“I was truly touched by the courage of the citizens who shared their concerns, observations and asked questions. There is a lack of trust completely understandable towards the emissions data that come to us from the cement plant. The Minister of the Environment must listen to the concerns of the population of Port Daniel and demand that the ministry collect its own data and carefully monitor the plant,” says Catherine Cyr Wright.

She stresses that Québec

Cont'd on page 3 ▶

PUBLIC MEETING

▶ *Cont'd from page 2*

assess the long-term impacts. Arsenic, for example, which always triggers a flow of headlines due to continuous overruns at the Horne smelter in Rouyn-Noranda, is very rare. The median concentration is 30 times lower than the Quebec standard of 3 nanograms (ng) per cubic metre (m³). It is around 0.1 ng/m³ in Port Daniel-Gascons. The reports show no exceedances either for other elements such as beryllium, cadmium, chromium, mercury and lead, whose concentrations are 7 to 333 lower than the provincial standards.

However, the four stations do not detect the clouds of dust emitted since 2020. This dust, which is more than 2.5 microns in size, is too large and does not reach the lungs, but can settle in the mouth, nostrils and nasopharyngeal mucous membranes. They remain irritating when inhaled and can affect the mental health of nearby residents, which is not negligible.

"Emissions represent a major disturbance for residents. Over time, this can cause serious problems. Psychological and physical health are connected. Also, when you don't have enough information, it causes stress. This is what we are more concerned about. (...) It is not trivial what people experience and we think that there should be a lot more information publicly available," says Dr. Yv Bonnier-Viger.

The regional director of public health also intends to meet with the company Saint Mary's Cement which operates the Port-Daniel-Gascons cement plant – to obtain more data on this subject. He would also like to see reports on dust emissions, stack fumes and monitoring reports from sampling stations made public online.

Pressuring the company

In June, Quebec's Environment Department issued a notice of order to Saint Mary's Cement, noting that the company "regularly violates the law by releasing dust into the environment that exceeds the expected standards."

To date, 84 reports have been registered with Urgence-Environnement and 11 complaints for dust emissions from citizens living near the plant. Between August 13, 2020, and September 8, 2021, the ministry has identified at least 10 cases of equipment failure

having caused the emission of dust on the plant site, noting that "the corrective measures taken over the years prove to be insufficient to stop dust emissions beyond the established standards."

Present on August 2, Yan Larouche, assistant director at the Regional Environmental Control Department for the Gaspé Peninsula, Magdalen Islands and the Lower Saint Lawrence regions, recalls that criminal investigations are underway and that he can share all the information collected, but that the Ministry of the Environment intends to continue to question the company. "Notices of non-compliance are not nothing. There are consequences to that. They have already had administrative sanctions, but that did not resolve the situation. We increase the pressure with investigations and that is why the ministry has toughened up its tone with a notice prior to the order. The only way out for the company right now is compliance. We will continue to put pressure on it to comply and we provide increasingly strict directives as the breaches are repeated and are not corrected," explains Mr. Larouche.

On July 20, Saint Mary's Cement asked the department for a further extension of the deadline for making submissions following the notice of order. After being summoned to reply in writing by July 31 to the Environment Department, the firm received a first delay, until August 8 and, since July 20, now has until August 31 to submit the documents.

Not completely satisfied

Among the 40 citizens who showed up on August 2 at the municipal complex of Port-Daniel-Gascons, most of them welcomed this meeting of exchanges, but remained on their guard for the follow-up.

For Martin Grenier, who lives a few hundred metres from the cement plant, the process was altogether productive. "It's a start of the process, a first step, to see organizations that don't deny the problem. We find that the delays are long. There are several opinions that have been issued, but there are no results. The last one that was issued by the minister, on the other hand, gives a glimpse of hope," he points out.

Environnement Vert Plus spokesperson Pascal Bergeron affirms that the intention to intervene by the Environment Ministry and the Regional

Public Health Board to put an end to dust emissions is welcome, although several other difficulties persist, according to the environmental group. "Noise, seismic shocks, well collapses due to blasting, releases to the environment at the marine terminal; we are far from intervening on all the problematic aspects. We are still too dependent on the company's measuring instruments in relation to environmental issues. The department would have to have its own instruments, including cameras to monitor that big building," he states.

The Environment Ministry has confirmed that it has no ongoing independent data on blasting noise and shaking, relying in good faith on the company reporting itself. Could the department make up for this shortcoming? "It's part of our thinking. We are currently putting all our energies into the main and most important issue of dust. There are a lot of people working on this file. We have the staff and we want to issue an order," says Yan Larouche.

The spokesperson for Environnement Vert Plus would like the government to go further. Several citizens have also expressed their wish that the fine particle sampling measurements be independent of the cement plant, that it be possible to obtain a model of the plume of dust emitted into the atmosphere, that the dust transported on the trucks that are not cleaned within the confines of the site are better documented and finally, quite simply, that all available data is shared publicly in real time. "There are no real problems for it (better monitoring) to happen, apart from a question of willingness. We seem to consider that the data we have are sufficient. To me, it's blatantly obvious that it isn't. The MEFCC (Ministry of Environment) must equip itself with independent resources and find ways to reach out to the population to document the situation. The company should also ensure that it masters its process," concludes Pascal Bergeron.

The company itself was not invited to this meeting in order to give free rein to citizen discussion.

In addition to the July 2020, August 2020 and June 2021 sticky emission episodes made of clinker, the Port Daniel cement plant also generated overflows of cement powder in May 2022, at the truck loading terminal. (with the collaboration of Gilles Gagné)

Police report

A collision involving a motorcycle and a car occurred around 4:30 p.m. on July 29 in New Richmond. According to Sûreté du Québec spokesperson, Béatrice Dorsainville, the man was travelling east-bound on Highway 132 and made a left turn when he was hit by an oncoming car. The seriously injured man was rushed to Maria hospital and died shortly after his arrival. A collision investigation expert was on scene after the accident. Highway 132 was closed for a while following the accident but was reopened during the evening. The victim was Paul Malette, 62, of Timmins, Ontario.

The Sûreté du Québec confirms that they are aware of the numerous allegations currently circulating on social media concerning events that have taken place in the Rocher Percé MRC. Those allegations concern numerous events related to the date rape drug called GHB. Also, according to the allegations, complaints have been filed with the police. The SQ stated that it doesn't usually publicize information regarding this type of crime in order to protect the victims. Béatrice Dorsainville, communication officer at the SQ, confirms, however, that an investigation related to poisoning is currently underway.

"We are aware of the allegations regarding the intoxication cases. We are trying to validate the clues we have received. We are verifying. We are not making connections with locations or events for now. If the safety of the public was at stake at this point, we would say it," explains Ms. Dorsainville.

GHB stands for gamma-hydroxybutyrate, a drug with anesthetic properties. It is produced naturally in the human body in very small quantities. When taken as a recreational drug and especially when taken in combination with alcohol or other drugs, GHB, a central nervous system depressant, can be very dangerous. The drug makes people sleepy and slows down breathing and heart rate. The only medical use of GHB in Canada is as a treatment for narcolepsy, a rare sleep disorder. It is illegal to possess, traffic, import or produce that drug in Canada.

QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE:

▶ *Cont'd from page 2*

solidaire will never pit the health of the population against the profits of a big business. To stop environmental accidents at St. Mary's Cement and so that the cement plant stops harming the well-being of the population of Port-Daniel, Québec solidaire undertakes to quickly force the facility to comply with the environmental laws in force and to collect independent data to have the

right time on the emissions of the cement plant. With a Québec solidaire government, it will be up to the major polluters to pay the compensation for damage caused by their economic activities.

From Rouyn-Noranda, where Glencore's Horne smelter has been making headlines for weeks, to Port Daniel, Québec solidaire's priority is public health and the environment, not the profits of foreign multinationals, she concludes.



Voicemail: 418-752-5400

Please note that voicemail messages will be answered on Wednesdays and Thursdays only.

Facebook inbox

Monday to Friday (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Email:

specs@globetrotter.net

Monday to Friday (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

The office building remains closed to the public



Gilles Gagné Commentary



Another round of futilities from the planners of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec

The July 29 release of a new electoral map project following the work of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec shows once more the lack of thoughtfulness and the lack of respect shown by the planners of that organization regarding the Gaspé Peninsula, Magdalen Islands and Lower Saint Lawrence citizens.

The exercise must be carried out every tenth year or so, and every time a new map project is presented, regional stakeholders are hit by the futility of the "work" of the Commission's planners.

It is evident that the map and the documents coming with it were drawn with a total disregard for the working context of the future Members of Parliament that will have to serve the new constituencies and, above all, the people living in them.

Consider this. As it stands now, the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine riding spreads over 16,831 square kilometres of land. There are 33 municipalities in the riding, and two of them are 200 kilometres off the main coast. The population of the constituency stood at 75,580 people in 2016 and it is now rising slightly. In 2019, 64,748 of those inhabitants were voters. Diane Lebouthillier is the Member of Parliament representing the riding at the House of Commons in Ottawa.

Moreover, just next door, the riding of Avignon-La Mitis-Matane-Matapédia, represented by Kristina Michaud, spreads over 14,461 square kilometres. It had a population of 71,897 people in 2016 and 59,553 of them were voters in 2019. There are 56 municipalities in the riding.

In the case of both constituencies, the boundaries are aligned to the exact limits of MRCs. Although MRCs are a creation of the Quebec government and federal authorities are showing regularly a strong capacity to ignore the importance of acknowledging the practical side of respecting provincial ways of managing different issues, we would be tempted to believe that, at times, a nationwide organization like the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec would try to make sense. Taking into account the common interest of a constituency's population would be a fair way to achieve it.

Once more, it wasn't the case this year. The Commission planners obviously sat in front of a computer screen,

checked census statistics, the current electoral map and saw that in order to respect the average population of a Canadian constituency, which is of 108,998 inhabitants, the Avignon-La Mitis-Matane-Matapédia riding would have to disappear. Just that.

One part including 25 municipalities would be sent east, to Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, and the other part would be sent west, to a riding that would adopt a new name, Rimouski-Matane. The planners decided to add the suffix Listuguj to the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine riding. Although we can only praise the inclusion of a Mi'gmaq name to a riding, it looks like an awkward and questionable way to make acceptable a map that is completely silly.

The map is silly because it makes the new constituencies too big to be served by only one Member of Parliament.

With close to 29,000 square kilometres by 2024, the year the new map will come into force, the riding of Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine-Listuguj would be almost as large as Belgium, and about 60 times the size of Montreal Island.

The new boundaries would divide in two MRCs that are currently located in the same riding. As of now, Avignon, La Mitis, Matane and Matapédia are in riding. Except for La Mitis, they would all be split.

The case of Avignon is particularly stupid. L'Ascension-de-Patapédia and its 164 citizens would be sent to the Rimouski-Matane riding, even if that move, which splits uselessly an MRC, increases the population discrepancy between that riding and that of Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine-Listuguj!

It looks as if even if the Commission planners concentrated exclusively on mathematical data to draw the new map, they botched their calculation! It is that or they didn't really care, or both.

Ignoring the close ties between Matapédia and the Plateaux area's municipalities like Saint-François, Saint-Alexis, Matapédia and Saint-André is hard to believe. It means that for a common project requiring federal funding for that whole area, the mayor of l'Ascension and the mayors of the other neighbouring communities would have to deal with two different Members of Parliament!

The level of disconnection from the rural regions' realities nevertheless represents one of the most unsettling conclusions to be drawn from the poor work carried out by the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec.

One of the Commission's goals is to ensure that all citizens have approximately the same political weight. However, the only way the Commission's planners have found to ensure that is through applying as often as possible a senseless mathematical approach. The "effective" political weight is completely waived.

We see considerable transportation problems in the two ridings. Our passenger train services are either suspended or largely insufficient. Our roads are heavily damaged in many places. Our aerial services remain exorbitant, despite

the discount policy adopted by the Quebec government. The number of seats fails to meet demand and many flights are cancelled or were pulled out of the schedule before the summer due to a lack of staff.

How do you expect a Member of Parliament to serve her or his constituents in that kind of context, where transportation within the riding and between that riding and Ottawa is questionable at best?

In most rural ridings, those of Eastern Quebec but also in other parts of the country, a big majority of federal ministries are absent, The Member of Parliament office is trying to make up for that. This factor adds to his or her already considerable workload. How do you expect an already overworked Member of Parliament, dealing with 60 municipalities and poor travel conditions, to compensate for those shortcomings?

In Montreal, a citizen wanting to have access to a Member of Parliament might only have to walk a couple of blocks to meet that person. That citizen will also be able to find a wide range of federal services within a reasonable distance from home. A cab, bus or metro ride will also facilitate that access, considering that dealing in person with human beings can still be important in our society.

Citizens currently living in most rural ridings cannot reach that kind of service level from their Member of Parliament, no matter how hard both sides try, or from governmental offices, where the quality of service has been decreasing considerably since the beginning of the pandemic.

So the "effective political weight" of the rural areas' constituents seems completely forgotten by the Commission.

Let's not forget the moment selected by the Commission planners to release their sketch, the middle of Quebec's construction break, and the moment chosen to hold their consultation hearings, a provincial electoral campaign!

Once more, the lack of respect shown by the Commission's administrators is striking. Why wouldn't they consult some regional experts before drawing a new map? Why wouldn't they initially come up with a fair map for a change?

The Commission is a body independent from political circles and it must remain so. However, clever and general political considerations should be part of its conclusions. It can be achieved without favouring political parties. It looks as if the Commission members cannot walk and chew gum at the same time.

The reason might be simple. Through releasing a stupid map, they will have to change it and will therefore leave the impression that, in the end, they will have made concessions, that they will have listened to regional stakeholders. They will leave the impression that rural regions will have won, while they will lose again.

Once more, the Commission's practice leads to a useless mobilization of leaders that have something else to do. This is another regrettable aspect of its thoughtless work.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

WARNING: There will be herbicide spraying on the Gaspésie railway, from Matapédia to Gaspé, July 18 to July 22, 2022. The Société du chemin de fer de la Gaspésie (SCFG) has hired Industrial Vegetation Management to spray Distinct (diflufenzopyr/dicamba) and Credit Xtreme (glyphosate). Once again, the SCFG is using toxic herbicides, despite available alternatives that the Société de conservation ZICO de la Baie-de-Gaspé has repeatedly proposed, and despite by-laws in the Rocher-Percé and Bonaventure MRCs and the Town of Gaspé that prevent herbicide use in transport corridors. Moreover, we continue to inform the SCFG and the Québec Transport Ministry about the toxicity of herbicides.

Glyphosate is a human carcinogen. It is toxic to bees and is likely to harm over 93% of endangered species, as well as up to 96% of their habitats. In France, the national railway has already banned glyphosate. Germany will ban glyphosate on the railways by the end of 2022. Europe is committed to herbicide-free railways, using alternatives that

are already available and new ones.

Also in Europe, there are railway construction and rehabilitation measures that do away with herbicide use. We deserve to have that here, too, for example on the Port-Daniel-Gascons-Gaspé portion.

The SCFG is making no efforts to stop herbicide use and continues to break our bylaws. This is completely unacceptable.

We attended the 2019 Rail Transport Summit, and we continue to ask the Québec Transport Ministry to intervene in order to make sure that alternatives, including herbicide-free rehabilitation, are used. The focus should not be on how quickly trains will return without first ensuring herbicide-free rehabilitation and maintenance for the whole railway. All herbicides are toxic!

Our health and environment are at stake, especially our children's.

Margret Grenier, President, Société de conservation ZICO de la Baie-de-Gaspé, 418 368-1160.

The Gaspé Spec
INCORPORATED IN QUEBEC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
 President: Roger Wise
 Vice-President: Elaine Sexton
 Secretary: Maria Chatterton
 Directors: Hayden Sams, Bonita Annett, Bethany Paetkau, Patricia Ste-Croix Annett

Publisher:
Penny MacWhirter

News Editor:
 Gilles Gagné

Office Manager:
 Joan Imhoff

JOURNALISTS:
 Nelson Sergerie
 Diane Skinner

CONTRIBUTORS:
 Cynthia Dow,
 Jeanie LeLacheur

208-B Gérard D. Levesque
 New Carlisle, Que.
 G0C 1Z0
 Tel: 418-752-5400
 specs@globetrotter.net
 thegaspespec.com

Published every Wednesday by:
 Les Publications de la Côte Inc.
 (Sea-Coast Publications Inc.)

(Taxes included)
 1-year (paper or digital): \$46
 6-months (paper or digital): \$25
 Outside Canada:
 1-year paper \$165 digital: \$46

SPEC welcomes letters to the editor on subjects relevant to topics covered by the paper. Letters must be kept within 300 words or less and may be edited for clarity or to remove any slanderous, sexist, racist or homophobic statements. We reserve the right to reject any letters. Opinions or letters published do not necessarily reflect the editorial policies or beliefs of this newspaper. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include the address and number(s) for verification purposes. (Address & phone number will not be printed.) The Publisher shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The Publisher's liability for other errors or omissions in connection with any advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issue or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.
 We acknowledge special funding from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications.

Canada Québec

Member of:
 QCNA, CARD

News Media Canada
 Médias d'Info Canada

CMC
 AUDITE

Projected electoral map very badly received in Eastern Quebec

Gilles Gagné

GASPÉ – The proposal to redesign federal ridings in Quebec is far from unanimous in Eastern Quebec. It is, in fact, an understatement to indicate that elected officials strongly denounce the revision of the electoral map and the potential abolition, in the House of Commons, of a seat straddling the Gaspé Peninsula and the Lower Saint Lawrence regions. According to the proposal made public on July 29 by the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec, the seat of Avignon-Mitis-Matane-Matapedia would disappear. The territory currently covered by the riding would be divided without taking into account the integrity of the boundaries of the MRCs of Avignon, Matanie and Matapedia.

A part of each of these three MRCs would swing eastward, in the current riding of Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands, a name to which the suffix Listuguj would be added, referring to the Mi'gmaq community. The other part of these three MRCs, as well as the MRC de la Mitis, would pass towards the riding of Rimouski-Neigette-Témiscouata-les Basques, to the west. Its new name would become Rimouski-Matane.

For Bloc québécois Member of Parliament, Kristina Michaud, elected in Avignon-Mitis-Matane-Matapedia, the suggestion is absurd. “It doesn't make sense and it's not knowing the regional reality and the size of the territory. I have the impression that the people who decided this behind a computer do not know the reality on the ground at all. They rely on the mathematics of things when the riding is the least populated in Quebec.”

The Commission explains

that the objective of redrawing the electoral map is to ensure that all citizens have approximately the same political weight. The goal is to get closer to the electoral average of 108,998 inhabitants per riding, countrywide.

The Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands-Listuguj riding would thus have a population of 104,682 people, while that of Rimouski-Matane would have 107,562. The new map, whether it is modified in the coming months or not, will enter into force in 2024.

Oddly, in the Avignon MRC, the planning team of the same Commission has placed the 164 inhabitants of l'Ascension-de-Patapédia, in the riding of Rimouski-Matane, cutting the village from its neighbours of Saint-François, Saint-Alexis, Saint-André and Matapedia. That move would only increase the population difference between the two ridings!

The proposed division, which shifts the rest of the MRC of Avignon into the riding of Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands, also sends an uninhabited part of Avignon, the unorganized territory of Ruisseau-Ferguson, in Rimouski-Matane.

In the Matapedia MRC, the central town, Amqui, would now be cut off from the neighbouring village of Val-Brillant, the village where the MP also lives – which would now be located in Rimouski-Matane. Three other villages sharing common municipal boundaries and whose citizens get their main services in Amqui, namely Saint-Léon, Saint-Vianney and Saint-Irène, would also be located in Rimouski-Matane.

“Cutting MRCs in the middle is completely insane and I think that's the reaction of pretty much everyone,” says Kristina Michaud, whose rid-



Photos: G. Gagné

Kristina Michaud, MP for Avignon-Mitis-Matane-Matapedia, believes that the riding's new geographical redistribution proposed by the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec is only the result of a simple arithmetic exercise, nothing else.

ing already includes 56 municipalities divided into four MRCs, with as many offices of constituency.

For her part, Liberal Member of Parliament for Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands, Diane Lebouthillier says she was “stunned” when she learned of the proposed limits, and added that she literally felt nauseous. “It is inconceivable, inadmissible and unacceptable. It doesn't work,” she declares.

“We already have an underrepresentation of rural regions. It is a loss of democracy for the regions of Quebec. We will be present during the hearings. We will mobilize all of civil society to present briefs and defend the rural regions of Quebec,” she adds.

Also Minister of National Revenue, Diane Lebouthillier, mentions the extent of the territory to be covered, not to mention the trips to Ottawa for a good part of the year. “Let people take the time to stop for two minutes. If the division is accepted, we will ask an elected representative to represent a territory which is as large as Belgium. Humanly speaking, I don't know how it could be. It's huge and we already know the issue of transportation.”

The surface of her new riding would cover 62 times the surface of Montreal Island.

Diane Lebouthillier is therefore asking for the status quo and intends to make representations during the 22 public hearings that will be held this fall to collect comments on the boundaries and names that the Commission is proposing for each electoral division. The tour will stop at Baker's Hotel in Gaspé on Tuesday, September 6, and in Matane at the

Hotel-Motel La Vigie on Wednesday, September 7.

Taken by surprise

For his part, the prefect of the MRC of Avignon, president of the Table of Prefects for the Gaspé Peninsula and mayor of Carleton, Mathieu Lapointe, spontaneously uses the word “stupefaction” to describe the state in which he was when he saw the draft constituency redistricting on July 29.

“I'm quite surprised at what's proposed, both in terms of content and form. Avignon is split into two constituencies, which is surprising. We would overall end up (in Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands) with 700 kilometres of coastline, plus the Islands! It's a considerable challenge,” says Mr. Lapointe. He also wonders about the timing chosen by the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Quebec, “a Friday, right in the middle of the construction holiday. In addition, we are planning consultations during the electoral campaign in Quebec! It is also surprising to see that people from the MRC of Avignon, the only one that will be impacted in the Gaspé Peninsula administrative region, will be forced to travel such a long distance, since the consultation will take place in Gaspé. It is almost 500 kilometres from the furthest end of Avignon. We would have liked a consultation closer to the people affected.”

Mathieu Lapointe also points out that the Commission planners did not take into account the new demographic reality of the Gaspé Peninsula and the Islands, “especially since it is a new division for 10 years and that the population is

increasing now.”

The Gaspé Peninsula prefects will meet later in August to strategize ahead of the September consultations.

“We have the impression that this (the redistricting project) was done in a mathematical, technical way. We cannot require people from the same MRC to ask two MPs to solve such and such a problem. For people from the same MRC, it would be necessary to speak to two administrative regions for certain issues before contacting the federal government. It complicates everyone's procedures and it creates confusion for citizens,” says Mathieu Lapointe.

One of the points of discussion of the mayors of the MRC of Avignon and the prefects will nevertheless consist in weighing the relevance or not that the MRC switches its administrative region to the riding of Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands-Listuguj.

The proposed limits of the riding would also include some parts of the Matanie MRC, in addition to the Matapedia MRC. Both MRCs are located in the administrative regions of the Lower Saint Lawrence.

Back to the future

This is not the first time that it has been proposed to abolish a federal riding in Eastern Quebec. The Commission did the same exercise in 2012 and suggested at that time to split the MRC of Matapedia in two, which had raised the ire of local, regional and national elected officials.

Bloc québécois Member of Parliament Jean-François Fortin and New Democratic Member of Parliament Guy Caron who is now the mayor of Rimouski joined forces to demand the status quo, as did the prefect of the Matapedia MRC, Chantale Lavoie. The latter is still in office currently, but could not comment, being on vacation outside the country.

Although the past is not a guarantee of the future, Kristina Michaud is of the opinion that the fight is not over yet. “We will lead the battle to ensure that we do not lose this constituency. It is not lost in advance and there is no final decision yet. It was the same situation 10 years ago. I will talk to my colleagues to we will have a strong voice and we will put a strategy in place in the coming weeks,” she concludes. She also favours the status quo over electoral redistricting.

With the collaboration of Jean-Philippe Thibault.



Member of Parliament for the riding of Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands, Diane Lebouthillier, stresses that the new boundaries of the constituency would be the equivalent to the size of Montreal Island multiplied by 62.

HYDRO-QUÉBEC ENERGY CALLS FOR TENDERS: Eastern Alliance is well positioned

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - The Eastern Alliance has positioned itself well to obtain projects under the calls for tenders that closed on July 21 for 300 megawatts of wind energy and 480 megawatts of renewable sources.

Hydro-Québec unveiled the results of the proposals received on July 28. In total, by combining the projects submitted in one of the two sections, 10 projects out of the 24 accepted by the Crown corporation are in the crosshairs of the Alliance, of which the Gaspé Peninsula Magdalen Islands Energy Board is a member.

Six files were submitted with private partners in the wind energy component: Madawaska Park in partnership with EDF located in Dégelis and Saint-Jean-de-la-Lande, in Témiscouata, with a capacity of 300 megawatts; the Forêt Domaniale, still with EDF in the MRC of Montmagny, in Chaudière-Appalaches of 210 megawatts; the Matapédia Park with Invenergy in the MRC of Matapédia, which totals 297 megawatts; Pohénégamook-Picard-Saint-Antoine with Invenergy in the MRCs of Témiscouata and Rivière-du-Loup for a total of 297

megawatts; the Saint-Paul-de-Montminy Park with Kruger in the Montmagny MRC with a capacity of 204.6 megawatts; and the Vauban Park with RES Canada in the Témiscouata and Kamouraska MRCs, in the Lower Saint Lawrence, with 300 megawatts.

Five of the six were also in the renewable energy component in the form of wind: Matapédia and Madawaka in a three-way agreement between the Alliance, private producers and Hydro-Québec with the same powers in this partnership announced last Monday.

Those of the Forêt Domaniale and Saint-Paul-de-Montminy are also there with the same capacity, as is that of Pohénégamook-Picard-Saint-Antoine with an increased power of 349.8 megawatts.

According to the president of the Lower Saint Lawrence Energy Board, Michel Lagacé, the Alliance can harvest a maximum of 900 megawatts in the process.

Other independent projects appear in the list in the Gaspé Peninsula: the Micmac Nations of the Gaspé are proposing a component 2 at the Mesgi'g Ugju's'n Park of 102 megawatts in the MRC of Avignon in the two components of calls for tenders and

Hydro-Canomore is offering a one-megawatt run-of-river hydropower plant in Saint-Elzéar.


Hydro-Québec received 27 proposals and selected 24 for a total of 4205 megawatts.

The provincial corporation will conduct the analysis and announce the results once the process is complete, which could be next December.

Once signed, the contracts must be approved by the En-

ergy Board and the promoters will be responsible for obtaining the required authorizations and permits.

Electricity deliveries must begin no later than December 1, 2026.


Fisheries and Oceans
Canada
Pêches et Océans
Canada

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) would like to remind the public of the importance of checking open areas before proceeding with shellfish harvesting


Several tools are available to help you check before you harvest:

- Use the interactive SHELLI app, available on the DFO Quebec Region website, www.qc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/en/shellfish-harvesting, under the heading Shellfish harvesting, or use the QR code below with your mobile device. You can even receive notices of area openings and closures directly in your inbox. Go to our SHELLI map and click on "I want to" to sign up!
- Call **1-800-463-4204** and a recorded message will inform you which areas are closed or open to shellfish harvesting in the Gaspé Peninsula.
- Pay attention to signs posted where shellfish harvesting is prohibited.

Remember that eating contaminated shellfish is dangerous and can lead to paralysis or even death.

Visit the DFO Quebec Region website for the regulations on shellfish harvesting.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada is closely monitoring shellfish harvesting and closed areas and asks the general public to report any poaching activity to **1-800-463-9057** or online on our website.



Pêches et Océans Canada (MPO) désire rappeler à la population l'importance de vérifier les zones ouvertes avant d'aller cueillir des mollusques


Plusieurs outils s'offrent à vous pour faire la vérification avant de planifier votre activité de cueillette :


- Utilisez l'application interactive IRMELL, disponible sur le site Web du MPO, région du Québec, au : www.qc.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fr/cueillette-de-mollusques, sous la rubrique Cueillette de mollusques ou en utilisant le code QR ci-dessous avec votre appareil mobile. Vous pouvez même recevoir les avis d'ouverture et de fermeture de zones directement dans vos courriels. Rendez-vous sur notre carte IRMELL et cliquez sur « Je veux » pour vous inscrire!
- Composez le **1-800-463-4204** et un message enregistré vous indiquera quelles zones sont ouvertes et fermées à la cueillette de mollusques en Gaspésie.
- Soyez attentifs à la présence d'affiches interdisant la cueillette dans certaines zones.

Nous vous rappelons que la consommation de mollusques contaminés est dangereuse et ses effets peuvent entraîner la paralysie et même causer la mort.

Visitez le site Web du MPO, région du Québec, pour connaître la réglementation entourant la cueillette de mollusques.

Pêches et Océans Canada surveille de très près la cueillette de mollusques et les zones fermées et demande à la population de dénoncer tout acte de braconnage au **1-800-463-9057** ou en ligne sur notre site Web.





A karateka from Gaspé at the Junior Pan American Championship

Nelson *Sergerie*

GASPÉ - A karateka from Gaspé will take part in the Junior Pan American Championship in Mexico City from August 25 to 27. Maïka Grenier, 13, qualified after winning a silver medal in the under 42 kilos category at the Canadian Championships held in St. John's, Newfoundland, at the beginning of the month. She finished the competition with four wins and two losses.

After a few days of reflection, Maïka Grenier confirmed she will be joining the Karate Canada team for the Mexican competition. The Canadian team will be made up of approximately 60 athletes from the U14 to U21 category.

Maïka Grenier will be the only representative from Quebec in her category. The athlete is part of the Club Kumite Kan de Gaspé.



Maïka Grenier at the Canadian Championships in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Photos: Courtesy of Club Kumite Kan de Gaspé

Decline in investments expected in the region

Nelson **Sergerie**

CHANDLER - Lower public investment is responsible for lower nonresidential tangible capital expenditure intentions in the Gaspé Peninsula and Magdalen Islands, which will be the only region in Quebec to post a loss in 2022.

This is the finding of the Institut de la statistique du Québec which indicates that expenses will reach \$722.6 million, down 2.5% compared to \$741.4 million in 2021.

Last year's growth came after the slowdown marked by the pandemic when \$691.5 million in spending was

measured in 2020.

Public sector investment in fixed assets will decline from \$519 million to \$476 million this year. Construction drops from \$419 million to \$389 million. The acquisition of equipment follows the trend with a decrease of \$13 million to \$86 million.

Fortunately, private investments in construction will increase from \$77 million to \$101 million, while the acquisition of equipment and tools remains stable at \$145 million.

The institute has good news in demography. While the government organization

predicted a significant decline in the population over the next two decades, a revision of the data leans towards stability.

The population will remain at 92,000 for the next 20 years. The institute revised the regional population upwards by 5.4% in 2041 while in 2021, it forecasted 87,000 people.

These new results are explained by the most recent interregional migration data where the region experienced a positive balance of nearly 1,400 in 2020-2021.

The variations will differ from one MRC to another. Es-

timated growth will be 2.8% in Avignon; 2.1% in Côte-de-Gaspé and 0.5% in Bonaventure. On the other hand, the MRC of Rocher-Percé will have a loss of 5.9%.

"I am very surprised with everything that is happening in the MRC when we are revitalizing a lot," says the prefect, Samuel Parisé. He provides the examples of the major investments in Port-Daniel-Gascons in recent years and the Blue Economy Zone project in Grande-Rivière and Sainte-Thérèse.

"I spoke with several players in the community and our real estate market is saturated.

I do not foresee a decrease in the population, quite the contrary," says the prefect.

The elected official will continue to work to find solutions for the lack of housing and childcare spaces. "The figures can be wrong and we will make every effort to reverse the projections for 2041," asserts the prefect with determination.

The population of Haute-Gaspésie will also see a decrease of 5.8%.

Additional data from the statistical projection indicates the labour pool in the region will decrease by 14% over the next 20 years.

Collaboration between Parks Canada and the Micmac Nation of Gespeg

Nelson **Sergerie**

GASPÉ - Parks Canada and the Micmac Nation of Gespeg have reached a new agreement that grants free passes to community members to access Parks Canada heritage places in the Gaspé Peninsula.

Free passes are provided to all members 18 and over who wish to access their ancestral territory, the Gespe'gewa'gi.

The Parks Canada sites targeted are Forillon National Park, the Battle of the Restigouche National Historic Site, and the Pointe-au-Père Lighthouse National Historic Site, near Rimouski.

The program already existed but Parks Canada wanted to make sure the Nation knew about it. "The goal



Forillon Park is included in the collaboration with the Micmac Nation of Gespeg.

is either to renew ties with the territory or to develop new ties. Why the three territories on the territory of the Gaspé

Peninsula? We wanted to provide access to Gespe'gewa'gi, the Micmac ancestral territory," says Indigenous Pro-

grams Advisor Angelle Rodrigue.

Parks Canada's Open Doors Program provides ease of access, by removing entry fees, to people who have traditional ties with Parks Canada sites as a way of encouraging their reconnection to these heritage places. It is part of a process of decolonizing access to the ancestral territories of Indigenous Peoples. Gespeg will manage the passes.

Relations with Parks Canada are good and based on respect, collaboration, and recognition of ancestral rights. The two groups are already collaborating on several initiatives, including a traditional camp in the northern sector of Forillon National Park, near

the Des-Rosiers campground.

"Parks Canada's Open Doors Program represents a great step towards reconciliation, through its consideration of Indigenous perspectives, and also demonstrates a great recognition of our ancestral rights to our traditional territory. We are proud of the realization of this collaboration, and I invite all the members of Gespeg to come without delay to occupy and appreciate their traditional territory," says Chief Terry Shaw.

Parks Canada wants a long-term partnership after collecting feedback at the end of the season to take stock and adjust the terms as needed. Steps are also being taken with Gesgapegiag and Lis-tuguj to develop such access.

Gesgapegiag Ladies get gold at 2022 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games

Mitchell Syvret-Caplin

Community Correspondent

GESGAPEGIAG – After a long hiatus, since 2019, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gesgapegiag was finally able to attend the long-awaited 2022 Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Summer Games (NSMSG). It was the community's fifth year attending this spectacular sporting event, that invites Mi'kmaq youth and adults from all over the nation to participate.

The 2022 NSMSG was held in Potlotek (Chapel Island) First Nation from July 15 to 24.

This year, Gesgapegiag was fortunate enough to send a Bantam division girls' volleyball team, known as the Gesgapegiag Ladies. The team had spent months practicing for various sporting events. The starting lineup of these nine dedicated young ladies included: Tenika Boisvert-Mar-



Gesgapegiag Ladies Bantam Volleyball Team: (Back Row) Coach Amber Jerome, Emmory Larocque, Anastasia Jerome, Tenika Boisvert-Martin, Abbygale Condo, Coach Haley Jerome, (Front Row) Patience Jerome, Belinda Martin, Malia Caplin, Mystie Jerome, Alexis Caplin.

tin, Alexis Caplin, Malia Caplin, Abbygale Condo, Anastasia Jerome, Mystie Jerome, Patience Jerome, Emmory Larocque, and Belinda

Martin, along with their coaches Haley Jerome and Amber Jerome.

After playing on Monday, July 18, the Gesgapegiag

Ladies walked away with gold medals, playing passionately against Membertou and Millbrook. The Gesgapegiag Ladies played remarkably. It

must be noted that they not only won every game, but also every set they played against these two teams.

Upon hearing the result of how well the Gesgapegiag Ladies did at their games in Potlotek, many community members expressed their pride and respect for these young ladies' dedication and sportsmanship, showing how invested the community is in promoting sport in its youth.

Others who played a vital role in the team's success include, the team's coaches and chaperones, Keishawn Bradstreet-Jerome, Andrew Martin, Andrea McWhirter, as well as the bus driver John Gedeon Jr., It was a wonderful experience for the youth of Gesgapegiag. Potlotek First Nation put together an exceptional event this year, and their warm hospitality won't be forgotten.

Photo: Blossom Labilliois



NEWS FOR YOUTH:

Community newspapers encourage young readers

BY RUBY IRENE PRATKA



As younger readers turn increasingly to social media platforms and mobile apps for news, newspapers across the country are wrestling with the question of how to keep younger readers engaged with their content, while continuing to publish the print publications that older generations rely on. Quebec's community newspapers are confronted with the same puzzle. Here are three creative ways that QCNA member papers have connected with younger readers.

IT'S A SNAP

Data from News Media Canada confirms the cliché that Millennials are less likely than older generations to get news from print newspapers – 42 per cent of self-identified Boomers prefer to access news in print compared with only 27 per cent of Millennial/Gen Y readers. However, nearly 90 per cent of Millennial and Gen Y readers engage with news content; they are just more likely to do so on a smartphone or laptop than with a print newspaper.

Lily Ryan, publisher of the *West Quebec Post*, *Gatineau Bulletin*, *Pontiac Journal* and *Aylmer Bulletin* and mother of two teenage daughters, enjoys telling a particular story that illustrates this – and illustrates the fact that the stories published in community newspapers still resonate with young readers.

“Shortly before the pandemic, my daughters’ friends were chatting in the kitchen and I heard one of them say, ‘Did you hear Rosie’s mom was on the front page of the *Bulletin*? She won the marathon!’ I thought, ‘How cute! The kids read the *Bulletin*!’” Actually, someone left the paper sitting out on the table and a kid saw it, took a picture of it and shared it on Snapchat. That’s how that story got from one medium to another and one generation to another,” she recalled. “Local news is still of top interest.”

The incident pushed Ryan to rethink her papers’ social media strategy. Although all four papers use social media to share news, Ryan ultimately decided she didn’t have the time or money to invest further in websites. However, she did receive a Quebec government grant to support a digital transition. As a first step, the paper is equipping staff with the same smartphones its readers use, and investing in training staff.

STARTING IN SCHOOLS

The *Gaspé Spec* in the Gaspé Peninsula region is one of several community newspapers that work with local public schools. At the beginning of the 2021-22 school year, through funding from the Community Media Strategic Support Fund, the *Spec* sent kits with cameras, recorders, notebooks and journalism guides to all English and Indigenous public schools in its coverage area, along with monthly suggestions for topics to cover.

“We’re sending them reminders that the *Spec* would like to hear from them and that we’re there to support them, and we’re starting to reap the benefits of that,” said *Spec* publisher Penny MacWhirter. Schools “are contacting us and, as a result, our readers are learning about all the exciting activities happening in those schools.”

In the future, MacWhirter hopes that when young people “have something exciting that they want to tell the public about, *Spec* will come to mind right away. ‘We’re doing a fundraiser for school; let’s write something and send it to *Spec*.’ One article at a time, MacWhirter and her colleagues are creating a new generation of *Spec* readers.

THE WELCOME WAGON

Every September, Bishop’s University in Lennoxville, the only English-language university in Quebec outside of Montreal,

welcomes thousands of students from across the country and abroad. Publisher Sharon McCully and her colleagues at the *Sherbrooke Record* see these students as new neighbours and potential readers.

“...someone left the paper sitting out on the table and a kid saw it, took a picture of it and shared it on Snapchat. That’s how that story got from one medium to another and one generation to another...”

Three years ago, the *Record* worked with a group of Bishop’s students to produce a video tour of Lennoxville. “We did a walking tour and said ‘Here’s the pub and here’s where you can get pizza and health food.’ We can’t expect students to come from another part of the country and embrace a community they know nothing about. So, it’s a bit of a greeting, ‘Hi, welcome to the whole community, not just Bishop’s. Meet your neighbours,’” McCully said.

Traditionally, at the beginning of every school year, the *Record* also offers a free digital subscription to students at Bishop’s and at Champlain Regional College, the local English-language CEGEP. Students see volunteer opportunities in the paper and get involved in organizations like Meals on Wheels. “It helps them see that they’re part of a community, and learn about what’s going on off campus,” she said. “All they have to do is log on.”

This QCNA AJRQ Quebec Community Newspaper Association special feature is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors:



Commission scolaire English-Montréal
English Montreal School Board

Funded by the Government of Canada



The importance of community newspapers in education

Diane Skinner

Community newspapers, such as The Gaspé Spec can provide a unique and inexpensive resource for teachers and students. Many students do not choose fiction for a variety of reasons. This includes accessing the level of the writing in fiction and the length and complexity of novels. Some students state clearly that they want to read about things that are “real.” Teachers know that forcing a student to read material that is too difficult, too long and not meaningful to them defeats the purpose of showing children that reading is a pleasure. A community newspaper hits all the targets for any child, not just the reluctant reader. The community newspaper is written at a level accessible to most students by grade 5, the articles are short to maintain interest and the subject matter is about real and relatable topics.

Grab some community newspapers. Older ones are perfectly fine or contact your local paper and inquire about limited bulk subscriptions or

even ask for a donation of older papers. It is easy to get enough copies for each child or every pair of students.

Once you have your papers in the classroom, many varying levels of students can be accommodated by modifying the expectations of the assignment. In the following, find some ideas to get you started, but often the students themselves will be your guide. They will tell you what they are interested in.

Activities:

- **News articles may be used for discussion** based on the framework of “who, what, when, where and why.” Use one article to teach how to identify these 5 Ws, as they are known in “newspaper world.” Then assign an article and have students find the 5 Ws in their chosen article. This can be done in pairs or individually.

- **Look at ads.** Which is most/least effective? Why? A follow-up activity is to design an ad.

- **Many community newspa-**

pers are not-for-profit such as The Gaspé Spec, but they need money in order to publish the paper. Brainstorm ways a newspaper can make money.

- **Use your community newspaper for mapping activity.** List all the places mentioned in one paper. Map the places mentioned.

- **Vocabulary activities:** Search for words such as plurals, compound words, possessive words, and place names. The words can be cut out and glued onto a piece of paper. This can be a group activity.

- **Questions** for older students: Do you read the newspaper? If yes, why do you read it? Do you believe everything you read in the newspaper? Why? Why not? Do you think newspapers will die out with news available online? Why or why not?

- **Who works for the newspaper?** What is the role of the editor, journalist, photographer, office staff and advertising sales? Contact your community newspaper and ask a staff member to come and talk to the

class.

- **Headlines:** Cut out headlines. Glue to the top of a piece of paper and assign students to jot down five pieces of information in the article. Was the title a good one? Why or why not?

- **Working in pairs** students read an article and summarize it in 3 – 5 sentences. Then they report orally to the larger group.

- **Have students write an article** based on a local issue or event.

- **In My Opinion.** Older students can practice writing letters to the editor. Some may be submitted to the community newspaper.

- **Newspaper treasure hunt.** Teacher creates a list, such as find some good news, some bad news, an ad, a news article, an opinion article, a photo, or a community event. Students cut out articles etc. and glue onto a larger piece of paper.

- **Give students a copy of the paper.** Have them list all the kinds of articles they can find. (Group activity) Hint: News, police report, commentary, his-

tory and culture, general interest, horoscopes, birth and death notices, and classifieds.

- **Find 10 difficult** or less common words that students can look up for meaning.

- **Read a news article.** Draw a 4-panel comic style drawing with word balloons that retell the article.

- **When the students are finished with the newspaper,** recycle or make papier maché.

Community newspapers are accessible to students with a wide range of interests and abilities. Community newspapers are about the students’ real, local world. These newspapers are a cheap, sometimes free, resource and are written in a clear, and concise manner. Your community newspaper can be an important component of classroom learning. A community newspaper is the centre of a community.

“A newspaper is the centre of a community. It’s one of the tent poles of the community, and that’s not going to be replaced by web sites and blogs.”

- Michael Connelly

Let’s talk journalism - Student ambassadors

Penny MacWhirter

HOPE TOWN: During the 2021-2022 school year, The Gaspé Spec equipped regional schools with the knowledge and tools needed to learn about media and actively become student journalists.

Promoting literacy and media knowledge through the Student Ambassador Program quickly became a favourite among SPEC projects. “The Student Ambassador Program benefits the entire community. Geographically, the schools are separated by quite a distance and Spec subscribers really enjoy getting a chance to learn about all the exciting activities happening in the schools near and far,” says program coordinator Holly Smith.

Students and staff are en-

couraged to write articles about what’s happening in their schools and editorials on issues that they care deeply about. They are also invited to share creative writing pieces that they are especially proud of or photos and captions of exciting happenings.

The Student Ambassador Program was initially funded through Heritage Canada’s Canadian Media Strategic Support Fund. As a result of that funding, SPEC was able to hire a project coordinator and provide schools with lots of journalism goodies. Packages were sent to all Eastern Shores School Board schools, as well as schools in Gesgapegiag and Listuguj. Some schools that house both elementary and secondary students received a package for each level.



The journalism care packages included items such as: digital cameras, memory chips, chargers, tripods, selfie sticks, voice recorders, writing essentials, etc.

For 2022-2023, SPEC will continue to support the Student Ambassador Program. Project

funding has come to an end, but this program continues to be a priority for SPEC. Teachers and students are invited to inquire about their school’s journalism tote. The SPEC staff will continue to send out monthly newsletters with journalism ideas

and tips and workshops (zoom or in person) will also be available upon request. Students and staff members who would like a direct copy of the monthly newsletter can contact mediasmatters.spec@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

www.essb.qc.ca



COMMISSION SCOLAIRE
Eastern Shores
SCHOOL BOARD

#NEWSMATTERS

Barachois celebrates 350 years! 1672 - 2022

Diane Skinner

The village of Barachois has kicked off their 350th celebrations and it promises to be an exciting year of events, exhibits, lectures, art activities and more! On July 20, the village of Barachois (Percé) officially launched their anniversary as the first permanent European settlement in the Gaspé Peninsula.

It was on July 20, 1672, that Seigneur Pierre Denys de la Roche was granted the “râde de l’Isle Percée”, a concession by Intendant Jean Talon. De la Roche built the Petite-Rivière fishing post, a year-round settlement that eventually became Barachois. According to research, indigenous people had been the area’s only year-round residents prior to this permanent settlement.

The 350th anniversary’s opening day event was held on Wednesday, July 20, at the Barachois Recreational Centre. The Initiator of the event and leader of the organizing committee and the master of ceremonies that day was Ms. Janet Harvey. On that day, Terry Shaw, chief of Gespeg, presented a copy of his book *My Story* to Ms. Harvey.

A community barbecue followed, and the attendees were entertained by the Triculturals at 7 p.m.. All activities were free of charge.

The activities will bring together both locals and tourists around the themes of history, families who settled in the area, cultural diversity and highlight the exceptional beauty of the area around



Hon. Diane Lebouthillier speaks at the opening day of the year long celebrations on July 20.



Gespeg Chief Terry Shaw presenting his book, My Story to Janet Harvey

Barachois.

Several musical events have been planned and include: The Triculturals (French, English and Indigenous), Ray Legere and his band Acoustic Horizon, Félix Soude, and the Eddy Blake Trio.

Attendees enjoyed shows under the tent by Nash Stanley and the Narrows, Tammy Adams and Violins of Yesterday as part of the annual Malbay festival from July 21 until July 24.

Visitors can enjoy a unique historical photo exhibit in the Old Robin’s Store, attend lectures on the history of the village, enjoy art workshops, shop at a public market plus many more unique activities!

This special commemoration of the 350th anniversary



The Triculturals, a unique group of musicians from three cultures entertained on the opening day of the 350th anniversary celebrations in Barachois.

Photos: Courtesy of Barachois 350

of the establishment of Barachois has taken two and a half years of planning and it is an opportunity for residents and visitors to connect with Gaspesian history!

Go to Facebook to see upcoming events at 350e Bara-

chois 1672 – 2022 to see what is happening in Barachois over the next 12 months. It prom-

ises to be a wonderful and informative year of “happenings.”

COVID is not over: Omicron variant is proving more deadly for seniors

Diane Skinner

We have entered the seventh wave of COVID-19 and the latest variant of COVID, Omicron, is mostly to blame. In fact, about 60 % of all cases in Quebec currently are due to Omicron infection. This is confirmed by Quebec’s Public Health Director, Dr. Luc Boileau.

Citizens are being reminded to get their fourth vaccine and there may even be a return to masking. The concern is that rising rates of infection also put additional strain on the health system which has not fully recovered from over two years of COVID. Hospitalization rates are increasing, after a lull in June. In the span of one month, hospitalizations in the province have risen 50 %.

Omicron variant (BA.5) is spreading and along with that is the concern that people who are particularly vulnerable will be at risk of serious illness or death. This includes seniors and those with autoimmune deficiencies. Included in this higher risk group are people with COPD and asthma. If you are eligible for a fourth dose now is the time to consider this.

Dr. Boileau states that there is no immediate plan to impose measures, but he reminds people to follow some of the previous restrictions: isolate if you test positive, avoid large gatherings and “get boosted if eligible.” As of June, 81% of Canadians had received two shots, but only 50% have had three or four.

Omicron spreads more easily but tends to cause less severe illness – but not always!

The COVID virus is constantly evolving, and the latest predictions are that another wave of infections will emerge in the fall. New waves of the virus demonstrate that COVID-19 is nowhere near over.

Vaccine booster eligibility

Everyone over the age of 18 can now get that second booster dose of an mRNA vaccine in Quebec IF at least three months have passed since your first booster. Residents can book online or go to a walk-in clinic. Call 1-877-644-4545.

Marriage certificates available in French only

Diane Skinner

Marriage certificates available in French only

Quebec’s new language law bill, Bill 96, has taken effect and, if you are planning to be married in this province, your marriage certificate will be available in French only.

Changes in the language laws have not all taken effect yet, but this one is already being followed, since June 1. Consequently, some couples are travelling to Ontario to be married in order to get their marriage certificate in English. Towns that are in Ontario, but close to the border with Quebec, are seeing an increase in couples who want the certificate in English.

Those who officiate weddings in Quebec received notice of this change in a letter from Quebec’s “État Civil” on June 1 informing them of the

change. Those applying for a marriage license can fill in the blank spaces in English, but they will have their actual certificate mailed to them after the wedding in French.

The French marriage certificate could pose problems for Quebecers when applying to work in the United States.

When applying for work visas to the U.S., all documents, such as marriage certificates, must be submitted in English only. At an additional cost to them, couples will then have to submit a certified translation.

An additional hurdle for people who come to Quebec (Montreal is a major destination wedding spot for Americans) to be married will also be compelled to have their marriage certificate in French. This could present problems. Destination weddings bring a lot of money into the Quebec economy.

Ah! Market Season

Carol Gilker Beebe

Community Correspondent

NEW CARLISLE: - The New Carlisle Local Market began its eighth season on July 16 with continued success. We had 21 vendors providing shoppers with products from produce, pottery, jewelry, baking, sewing, crystals, crafts and more. Vern Huntington entertained us all with a nice variety of music and his fine voice. It was so wonderful to see so many happy, smiling faces.

It started out eight years ago with some enthusiastic volunteers and an idea with a plan but no money to do anything. The committee was very lucky that the town believed in the idea and the committee was able to buy some tables and canopies. Enough money was made in that first season, by charging vendors a minimal fee for the use of the tables and canopies, to allow more to be purchased, partly by the market and partly by the town. Now eight years later, while maintaining



Photo: Courtesy New Carlisle Local Market

low fees, the market brings in enough to replace tables and canopies when needed, tries to have music every week and a “fun for all” garlic festival at the end of the season.

The original philosophy was to provide a service to the community and a place for vendors to sell their products, as well as for people to gather and enjoy each other's company. That philosophy is still the market's strength. The suc-

cess and joy of all involved can be seen on the vendors' faces as they sell their beautiful locally grown produce and locally made products to satisfied and happy customers.

The market runs until September 24 from nine a.m. until noon. September 24 is the market's garlic festival.

Feel free to drop by any Saturday and have a sublime market experience.

Boosting your garden, the “natural” way Epsom salts!

Diane Skinner

Epsom salts, which you can pick up for a reasonable price at the drugstore, can provide a natural mineral that can help your garden grow in a myriad of ways. Epsom salts was first discovered in Epsom, England, and, if you are familiar with them, you have likely used the salts in your bath to ease sore muscles. Add them to your garden for some surprising results.

Epsom salts contains magnesium sulfate, and these minerals provide nutrition to your plants and other uses in the garden.

Pests: Epsom salts sprinkled around the garden will deter snails and slugs. It will not kill them but keeps them away from your plants. Because it dissolves in water, you will need to apply the salts after a heavy rain.

Sweeten fruit: Spread Epsom salts around the base of fruit trees, bushes and vines, and it will help to boost the chlorophyll which will produce sweeter fruit.

Tomatoes, peppers and potatoes: These plants love magnesium which will, in turn, produce greater yields



and boost the flavour. Sprinkle about one tablespoon of Epsom salts around the base of each plant. Repeat approximately every two weeks.

Weeds: To kill weeds, mix about two cups of the salts to a large container of vinegar (4 l) and a squeeze of dish soap. Place into a spray bottle using a funnel and target the weeds but avoid your plants.

Yellow leaves: This is not a good sign, and it may mean your plant is lacking magnesium. This happens more often when growing in planters. Sprinkle about one tablespoon of Epsom Salts on the soil once a month.

Roses: Do you wish for roses that are larger with deeper colour? Epsom salts may help. Add the salts when planting and when the roses are in bloom. Sprinkle around the base of the plant about once every couple of weeks. Many gardeners also suggest sprinkling ashes from a wood stove on the soil to enrich it. Do not use the perfumed Epsom salts. Just the plain, which is less expensive. If you have any left over at the end of gardening season, pour yourself a hot bath with the salts added to ease your tired, achy muscles from working in the garden.

Reflections

by

Diane Skinner Flowers



Is an apology enough?

“I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the Indigenous Peoples,” Pope Francis

Pope Francis, the leader of the Catholic Church visited Canada last week. This was his first trip to Canada, and he issued an apology for the church's treatment of Indigenous children who attended residential schools between the 1870 and 1996.

Is this reconciliation? Reconciliation is an act meant to heal a broken relationship, in this case between Indigenous people of Canada and the Catholic Church. We have heard this word many times in reference to the launching of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, established in 2008. This Commission listened to the heartbreaking stories of over 6,000 residential school survivors and their families. As a result, the Commission presented over 90 “calls to action,” things that can be done to help mend relationships between Indigenous people, the Canadian government and the church.

On September 30, Orange Shirt Day also referred to as National Day for Truth and Reconciliation will be marked. This day, held annually, is marked to raise awareness about the horrors of residential schools by acknowledging history. Can you recall the image of the tiny shoes placed in front of government buildings? Heart wrenching.

Pope Francis gave his apology to a crowd of thousands who had come to hear what he had to say. Did it take the healing between Indigenous people and the Catholic Church any farther? Was progress made? Why was the apology made now?

The Catholic Church was responsible for setting up and running residential schools which stripped Indigenous children and their families of their culture and took them away from their community. Many suffered emotional and physical abuse. The effects of this are still part of the Indigenous psyche today. Does an apology help to heal that loss? It is estimated that more than 5,000 children died at residential schools. That is a long road to healing.

Was the apology a step in the right direction? Does it help with the desire for reconciliation? Now that Pope Francis has made the apology, what is the next step? The Pope stated that he was hopeful that his visit and the apology will help to “heal the evil” that was done to Indigenous people.

Why did the apology happen now in 2022? The request has been ongoing for decades, but the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada issued in its final report in 2015 a statement which requested a formal apology from the Catholic Church.

That was seven years ago, so why in 2022 did it finally come to be? Was it because of the discovery of the thousands of unmarked graves at residential schools across the country! The Pope issued an apology in Rome, in April but the decision to make that apology on Canadian soil came to be a reality just last week. The discovery of the graves of those children was the catalyst.

When does the healing begin? Would the Catholic Church returning Indigenous artifacts that are in Vatican museums and funding Indigenous language and culture classes help? This apology just happened, and we know that the wheels of justice (and reconciliation) move slowly. I am non-Indigenous, but I feel a sense of shame and heartache for what happened to the Indigenous children and their culture.

Does an apology without action mean anything? So many questions that need to be answered.

Magic Man, David Philippe, to cover 1,000km on a tricycle to raise funds for the Baie des Chaleurs Health Foundation

Nelson **Sergerie**

MARIA - David Philippe, affectionately known as the Magic Man, decided in June to cover 1,000 kilometres on a tricycle. This is his way of being active and contributing to the regional side of a Quebec-wide initiative called Generations Challenge. The regional side of that challenge is spearheaded by the Baie des Chaleurs Health Foundation.

"The tricycle was bought to promote active sport in Maria, where I am an elected official. I started the Generations Challenge around mid-June. Amy-Chloé Bernard then asked me if I wanted to be the spokesperson for the Generations Challenge for the Baie-des-Chaleurs Health Foundation," explains David Philippe.

The Baie-des-Chaleurs Health Foundation is involved in several initiatives destined to improve the area's medical equipment and the well-being of the population.

"I just hope that my own challenge encourages people to do physical exercise and contribute to our health system. I



Photo: Amy-Chloé Bernard

David Philippe started his challenge in June.

want to cover 1,000 kilometres by September 24. I have already done 300 kilometres. It is not that evident, on a tricycle, aside from work, an upcoming

trip and my magic contracts! I covered 35 kilometres last weekend to attend the Festival des artisans in Carleton. I am trying to find flat spots! I have

to cover 15 kilometres daily in order to reach my goal. I'll be travelling to Ontario for two weeks and I can't bring my bike there. That's why I have to maintain a goal of 15 kilometres per day between now and September 24," says Mr. Philippe.

Over the last 20 years, he has dealt successfully with two types of cancer, affecting his lungs and bones, and a brain tumour.

People can contribute to his initiative and also through the Generations Challenge Web page. "By clicking Gaspésie, it will bring you directly to the Health Foundation initiative, since it is the only one in the region," stresses David Philippe.

People can encourage his progress by checking his Facebook page and following instructions. He is also thinking of a few ideas that could encourage youth to participate in the challenge

"My initial objective was \$500 but I have now passed \$1,000 and my new goal is \$5,000. When I started, some people were giving 5 cents per kilometre. The other day, I

stopped in front of a house where people were having a good time outside. I did a little magic trick. One man there who had committed to giving 5 cents per kilometre increased it to 20 cents!"

The Baie-des-Chaleurs Health Foundation goal during the challenge is to raise \$50,000.

The Generations Challenge, lauded by the minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, is the fruit of a vision rooted in a new philanthropic culture. It's confronting the longstanding practice of working alone which divides rather than rallies. It's a collaborative model that is changing philanthropy.

The goal is to contribute collectively to speeding up the development of Quebec's hospitals so that patients and their families can have access to the best healthcare. The Generations Challenge leaders are convinced that giving citizens the power to reinvest in their health institutions is an innovative way to help the health system recover from its current crisis.

PRICES IN EFFECT UNTIL AUGUST 31, 2022

22 VERSA

FINANCE
from **2.99%**



84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Versa S MT	Rate	5.74%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 276	\$ 282

22 SENTRA

FINANCE
from **2.99%**



84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Sentra S CVT	Rate	5.49%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 338	\$ 348

22 KICKS

SV

\$58
WEEKLY

24 MOS.
LEASE

\$2,195 DOWN



84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Kicks SV	Rate	5.49%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 365	\$ 376

22 QASHQAI

LEASE
from **3.49%**



84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Qashqai S FWD CVT	Rate	5.74%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 392	\$ 401

22 ROGUE

LEASE
from **3.99%**



84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Rogue S AWD	Rate	5.24%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 480	\$ 499

22 MURANO

FINANCE
from **3.74%**



84m Finance		NCF	Banks
Murano S	Rate	5.74%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 564	\$ 577

22 FRONTIER

CCSV4WD

\$578
MONTHLY

60 MOS.
LEASE

\$995 DOWN



60m Finance		NCF	Banks
Frontier CC SV	Rate	5.49%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 897	\$ 917

22 ARMADA

SL

\$445
BI-WEEKLY

64 MOS.
LEASE

\$0 DOWN



60m Finance		NCF	Banks
Armada SL	Rate	5.74%	6.39%
	Payment	\$ 1,393	\$ 1,415

Bank rates based on market data as of August 2, 2022



ROY NISSAN

158, boulevard Gaspé, Gaspé, Quebec
Tel.: (418) 368-6226 Fax.: (418) 368-1221
E-mail: roynissanventes@cgocable.ca

Announcements



In Memory



HAYES: Larry

In loving memory of a son, brother, husband, dad and now granddad. 30 years ago on August 11, 1992 changed the lives of so many.

*To know we never said goodbye,
Will always bring regrets.
But the hearts that loved you dearly,
Are the ones that don't forget.
It's not the tears that are shed at the time,
That tell of the hearts that are broken.
But the lonely times in the after years,
When the loved one's name is spoken.*

Missed and loved by mom: (Jean Hayes) sister: Brenda and family.

WARD: Elliott Clarence

In loving memory of a dear father, father in law, grandfather and great grandfather, who passed away on 13 August 2003.

*We miss you more than ever.
Your guidance and your love.
But we know you're still watching,*

*Silently from above.
The love you gave still warms us,
The way it always has.
But leaving left an empty space,
That time can never fill.
From Heaven you're still giving,
The love you always had.
We know you hear us talk to you .
We will always love you Dad.*

Sadly missed and forever loved by: Daughter Frances (Bernie); grandson Mark (Erin) and great-grandsons Reid, Cole and Benn; grandson Kevin (Courtney) and great-granddaughters Avery and Carys. Sons: Ken (Chris), Everette and Wayne (Monique); grandsons Brian and Dave (Josiane); great-granddaughter Julia and great-grandsons Elliott and James.



Celebration of Life



BRAKE: Bryan - November 1, 1942 - July 29, 2021

BRAKE: Brad - October 6, 1969 - October 23, 2021

A graveside service to celebrate the lives of Bryan and Brad Brake took place on July 30, 2022, at 2 p.m. at the Black Cape cemetery. The service was officiated by Rev Pierre Momberg from the United Church in New Richmond.

The Gaspé Spec AGM is fast approaching, and we are currently seeking several NEW directors to fill vacant positions. Responsibilities include: Attending four meetings per year (zoom), as well as, the Annual General Meeting.

**LOOKING FOR:
New Directors**

MESSAGE PENNY MACWHIRTER IF YOU ARE INTERESTED!
SPECS@GLOBETROTTERNET

The New Carlisle
Funeral Association
extends sympathy to the family of
Mme. Caroline Horth

CLARK
SCOTT B. CLARK
1946 - 2022
HEIRMAN &
CAROL A. TEED
1947

CLASSIC MEMORIALS

**Four Generations
of Monument Craftsmen**

HIGHEST QUALITY - BEST PRICES

MONUMENTS, MARKERS, CEMETERY LETTERING,
LASER DESIGNS AND PORTRAITS

SALES REP:
Steven Imhoff **418-752-6041**

Covering Port Daniel to New Richmond

Renew your subscription today to keep up-to-date on all local events and activities

Mail your form along with your cheque or money order to:

The Gaspé Spec
208-B Gérard D. Levesque,
New Carlisle, Quebec, G0C 1Z0

Call with your credit card at 418-752-5400 or order online at:
thegaspec.com

Name: _____
Address: _____
Your gift Message: _____
1 year: Canada \$46 6 months: \$25

Name: _____
Address: _____
Your gift Message: _____
1 year: Canada \$46 6 months: \$25

Business & Professional DIRECTORY

Grenier, Grenier & Grenier LAWYERS



Réal Grenier, b.a.ll.l.
Jules Grenier, b.a.ll.l.

96 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd, P.O. Box 519
New Carlisle (Quebec) G0C 1Z0
Tel.: (418) 752-3308 • Fax (418) 752-6935



Gagnon Claveau Law Firm

Isabelle Gagnon
Attorney and family law mediator

Ann-Chloé Boudreau
Attorney

418-392-3542
www.gagnonclaveau.com
info@gagnonclaveau.com

Fully bilingual services in the whole Gaspé peninsula

GAËL TREMBLAY
Notary and legal counsel

TREMBLAY & BARRIAULT, NOTAIRES INC.
1198 Perron Blvd West
New Richmond, (Québec) G0C 2B0
Tel.: (418) 392-5282
Fax: (418) 392-6155
E-mail: gaeltremblay@notarius.net

Tremblay & Barriault
Notaries and legal counsel

FULLY BILINGUAL SERVICE

Our services :
Support | Training | Tools

TECHNOCENTRE TIC

Leading the region's digital transformation

ITC Technocentre Gaspésie-Magdalen Islands
163, Commerciale Street West, office 101
Chandler (Qc) G0C 1K0

technocentre-tic.com

Local Advertising *That Makes the Cut*



VILLAGE
Real Estate Agency

Suzanne Landry

CERTIFIED REAL ESTATE BROKER AEO
418-752-0792
suzannelandry@royallepage.ca
www.suzannelandry.ca

Friendly bilingual service from Matapedia to Port Daniel
19 years experience

Forage Moreau Inc.

418-392-9501

Mathieu Mercier - Driller/Owner



- Artesian Well Drilling
- Budgetary Price
- Bilingual Service
- RBQ: 5672-1467-01

foragemoreaumercier@gmail.com



By Appointment

Richard Ste Croix

Denturologist

Construction and repair of dentures.
We also make dentures on implants.

9 Adams Street, Gaspé Tel.: (418) 368-1525
Quebec G4X 1E5 Fax: (418) 368-1542



GROUPE OHMEGA
Going beyond and reliable since 1982



Electricity - Plumbing
Automation
Industrial computing
Counter sales

3 Rue Cerisiers
Gaspé, Québec G4X 2M1
Tel. (418) 368-5425
Fax (418) 368-7290
www.groupeohmega.com

To reach the anglophone population, advertise in
The Gaspé Spec!

Contact our
Advertising Representative
Heather Imhoff
581-233-2062

gaspespec.revitalization@gmail.com



Pro Pieds de la Baie

Roxanne Major N.D.
Foot Care Technician

Service in the comfort of your own home.

418-752-3670

NEWPORT TO NEW RICHMOND

Free advice with every visit!



AVAILABLE TREATMENTS

- Health Checkup / Thick nails
- 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



Dr. Pascal Cyr
Optometrist



Dr. Stacey Starrak
Optometrist

**CLINIQUE D'OPTOMÉTRIE
L'ÉMERILLON**

LENSES CRAFTED ON THE PREMISES

PASPÉBIAC: 104 Gérard D. Levesque Blvd West • 418-752-5553

CHANDLER: 260 René Lévesque Blvd East • 418-689-5553

MARIA: 435 Perron Blvd West • 418-759-5553

BILINGUAL SERVICE

MEMBER OF

Canada's Largest Network of Optometrists

Harnois

Énergies

H&O Mobil™

YOUR MULTI-ENERGY SUPPLIER

Diesel | Gas | DEF
Heating oil | Lubricant

Available everywhere in Gaspésie.

125, Route 132, Bonaventure (QC) G0C 1E0 | 418 534-2777 harnoisenergies.com

COAST ROUND-UP

GASPE:

Gaspé County Women's Institute

Gaspé County Women's Institute is pleased to announce that the annual fair will again take place on **September 10**, in York Hall. We will be following the same program that was organized for Fall 2020. The judges will be advised that the exhibits may have been started in the fall of 2019. To register or for information, contact Bonita Annett at 418-368-3453 or email gaspe22@gmail.com

CORNER OF THE BEACH: Cultural Museum

The Biennial Quilt Show is taking place at the Corner of the Beach Cultural Museum (former Anglican church) after a delay last year because of Covid. It opens on Friday, **August 12** from 6 to 8 p.m. and continues on Saturday, **August 13** and Sunday, **August 14** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please come and see the beautiful selection of quilts and other smaller quilted items that are for sale and exhibit. Free Admission. Door prizes of a queen size quilt donated by

Barbara Mabe and Shirley Boyle and a crib size quilt donated by Earle Mabe and Nancy Rich will be awarded at closing time on Sunday.

PORT DANIEL:

Three Star Golden Age Club

Tuesdays: Pétanque is starting once again. Come out from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Tuesday evening to have fun and learn a new game. Cost is \$3.

SHIGAWAKE:

Community Centre

September 5: Hunting Bingo

NEW CARLISLE:

Funeral Association

September 3: We will also be having a Pot Luck Supper at 5 p.m. at the Town Hall. \$15 per adult and \$7 for children 10 years old and under. Anyone wishing to donate a casserole or any other food items, please contact Mary Woods or Betty Ann Crozier.

NEW CARLISLE:

Heritage New Carlisle

Wednesdays: Afternoon tea every Wednesday until August 17. Menu: Scones, muffin of the day, tea biscuits, jam of the day, tea, coffee and lemonade. Two

sittings available 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$12 adults and \$10 for children. Special teas in the Alcove 2nd floor is also available. Cost \$15 per adult. For reservations please call 418-752-1334, message on facebook or email heritagenc@globetrotter.net.

NEW CARLISLE:

Royal Canadian

Legion Branch #64

Saturdays: Open at 1 p.m. Everyone welcome.

August 13: Music with Roger Lee Martin beginning at 8 p.m.

August 14: BBQ lunch celebrating Mr. John Kaye Walker beginning at 11:30 a.m.

August 20: Music with Nash Stanley beginning at 9 p.m.

NEW CARLISLE:

Bible Chapel Meetings

Sundays: 9:30 a.m. Breaking of Bread for believers. Drive-In Gospel Meetings will be held at Fair Haven Bible Camp in New Carlisle Sundays at 2 p.m. In case of rain, meetings will be held at the Bible Chapel. All are welcome – invite a friend! Sponsored by the New Carlisle Bible Chapel.

Thursdays: 6:30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study. For more information: 418-752-3372 or 418-752-6011.

NEW CARLISLE:

Farmers Market

Saturdays: Farmers market will now be held every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the park next to the municipal hall. For more information about booking a table, visit our facebook page: Marché Local Market - New Carlisle or contact 581-233-0658. Hope to see you there.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

Book Room

The book room will be closed until **September**. Anyone who needs assistance this summer can contact Kathleen at 418-392-4896.

CASCAPEDIA-ST-JULES:

50 Plus Club

August 13: BBQ at 319 Route 299 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Hot dogs, hamburgers and salads will be served. Everyone welcome.

August 19/August 26:

Jam sessions, open to all musicians and spectators. Doors open at 7 p.m. with

entertainment beginning at 7:30 p.m.

September 17: Harvest Bingo beginning at 1 p.m. Cost: \$10 for 3 cards and \$1 for each additional card.

October 7-9: Fall Fest.

ROTARY CLUB

WINNERS:

The winners for the week of July 31 are: Hervé Pardiac, Gabrielle Genest, Zlataron Plamens, Claudine Boudreau, Kimberley Henderson, Louise Poirier and Martin Cyr.

UNITED CHURCH

NEW RICHMOND

Sunday, August 14

10 a.m. Service

UNITED CHURCH

HOPE TOWN

Sunday, August 14

No Service

ANGLICAN

CHURCH

OF CANADA

Sunday, August 14

SHIGAWAKE FAIR

GROUNDS

9:30 a.m. Gospel Service

PARISH OF GASPÉ

Sunday, August 14

St. Matthew's - Peninsula

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Rev. Canon Stuart Pike

DEADLINE FOR THIS PAGE:
WEDNESDAY AT 4 P.M.

Please send your Classified or Coast Round-Up to: holly.smith@globetrotter.net



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, your energy levels are elevated this week and that's just the start of the positive energy floating around you. Harness your energy and use it to complete a project.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21

A quiet week is ahead, which is the perfect opportunity to sort through your feelings and thoughts, Taurus. Not every day has to be a "get up and go" adventure.

GEMINI – May 22/June 21

Gemini, you will have plenty of time to meet new friends and acquaintances this week, whether in-person or online. Networking is an important skill.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22

Try to take initiative at work as it will possibly gain you favor with your bosses, Cancer. Even while getting ahead, be sure you continue to be a team player.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23

A powerful energy will be brought to your professional life, Leo. Use these vibes to take inventory of your space at work and get organized. It may help you be more successful.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, cosmic energy could light a fire within you this week, helping you tap into your creative side. You will find a way to merge the analytical with the creative.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23

Your love life could use a little support this week, Libra.

Figure out how to spend more time with your significant other. Something different from your usual activities can create a spark.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, use your time this week to engage in important conversations and discussions, especially if they pertain to your career. There's never been a better time to get ahead.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21

Lean into your playful side, Sagittarius. Resist any urge to be too serious. Give yourself a break to pursue some new recreational outlets and hobbies.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, you will be more outspoken and authoritative than usual this week. Using your voice will compel others to take you more seriously, including those at home.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18

Avoid any temptation to act impulsively this week, Aquarius. Doing so could be a misstep. Self-discipline can help you get where you want to be.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, individuals you currently characterize as acquaintances may become very close friends in the days ahead. Embrace this change.

FAMOUS

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 7

Charlotte Ronson,

Designer (45)

AUGUST 8

Shawn Mendes,

Singer (24)

AUGUST 9

Anna Kendrick,

Actress (37)

AUGUST 10

Kylie Jenner,

Reality Star (25)

AUGUST 11

Hulk Hogan,

Wrestler (69)

AUGUST 12

Cara Delevingne,

Model (30)

AUGUST 13

Sebastian Stan,

Actor (40)

Fair schedule

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

6 p.m.
Opening night wine and cheese

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Baking, handicrafts, vegetables
and crops must be received by
11 a.m. for judging

1 p.m. Local single horsehaul
1 p.m. Games for kids
2 p.m. Music workshop for kids
4 p.m. Kids Karaoke
6 p.m. Traditional Games

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Family Day (petting zoo for kids, magician David
Philippe, etc.)
11:30 a.m. Registration for the volleyball
tournament (4vs4)
12:00 Opening horse show
(horses must be registered before 12:00)
5:30 p.m. Lawn Tractor Race (registration \$20)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

10 a.m. Gospel Service
1 p.m. Domestic Pet & Exotic Animal Judging
2 p.m. Double Horse Haul
3 p.m. End of the fair
(pickup all submitted handicrafts in loft)

Shigawake Fair & Music Festival 2022

Tickets

WEEKEND PASS: \$30
Thursday: Free
Friday: \$10
Saturday: \$20
Sunday: \$7
12 years and under: Free

SERVICES ALL WEEKEND:

Bar

Canteen

MUSIC IN THE TROUGH
Friday, Saturday and Sunday

ATM on site

Vendors
Saturday and Sunday

Camping
Free rustic offsite camping

Music schedule

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

7 p.m. Open Mic
8:30 p.m. Nash and the Narrows (Country)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

7 p.m. Rockin' Blues Trio (Blues)
8 p.m. Micmac Drive (Rock)
9 p.m. Wolfy (Hip Hop / Classic Rock / Country)
10 p.m. Cropdusteuse (Rock)
11 p.m. Clemville Outlaws (Country)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

12:00 Nadine and Sammy (Old Time / Traditional)
1:00 p.m. Li'l Andy (Country)
2 p.m. Irish Narrows (Irish)
3 p.m. Mlou (French Pop)
4 p.m. Hezekiah Proctor - Andy (Old Time / Ragtime / Traditional)
7 p.m. Barr / Grass / Shper (Indie / Alternative)
8 p.m. Zouz (Hard Rock)
9 p.m. Les Deuxluxes (Rock)
10:30 p.m. Patrick Watson (Indie / Alternative)
12:00 Morning Bone (Rock / Funk) In the Trough

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

10 a.m. Gospel Service (Gospel)
12:00 Li'l Andy and Friends (Gospel)
1 p.m. Mother of Cups (Folk)
2 p.m. Shaina Hayes (Folk)
3 p.m. Triculturals (Folk, Mi'gmaq, Eng, Fr)
4 p.m. Thanya Iyer and Shaina (Future Folk)
5 p.m. Joe Grass (Folk)

Canada

Municipality of Shigawake

MRC de BONAVENTURE

CENTRE DE LOCATION
d'outils et d'équipements



Register now!

cegepgim.ca/english-section

Cégep de la Gaspésie
et des Îles

Business & Professional Directory



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

diane

AXIO
ARPEUTEURS – GÉOMÈTRES

AXIO
arpenteurs-géomètres inc.
land surveyors

1518, Avenue de Grand-Pré, Bonaventure (Québec) G0C 1E0

Alexandre Babin, Arpenteur-géomètre
C abag@axioag.com

Guillaume Lapierre, Arpenteur-géomètre
C glag@axioag.com

Membre de l'Ordre
des Arpenteurs-Géomètres du Québec

418 534-3113 / info@axioag.com
axioag.com

T 418-364-7082 / 1-844-664-7082

LFG
CONSTRUCTION

PROUD PARTNER IN
YOUR CONSTRUCTION
PROJECTS FOR
MORE THAN
45 YEARS!

constructionlfg.com

Gaspésie–Les Îles | Côte-Nord | Bas-Saint-Laurent

BUILDINGS ENERGY AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC

ENERGY
TRANSPORTATION GROUP

Are you
**Driven to be
Different?**

Discover our career opportunities!

www.shipENERGY.com