



Otterburn

P A R K

INFO OTTERBURN PARK
FEBRUARY 2022
Volume 32 | Number 1

NOT TO BE MISSED

2022 BUDGET

DETAILS, PAGE 9

DAY CAMPS ARE BACK!

REGISTRATION STARTING ON MARCH 29

Be sure to sign up for sports, sociocultural, co-operative, outdoors and special activities!

WWW.GVL-INC.COM
450 678-6290

AES, A division of GVL Inc.
Already 25 years!

DEAR FELLOW CITIZENS,

We recently adopted a strategic budget based on long-term planning, which demonstrates our commitment to our quality of life and community spirit. Our budget includes the creation of essential positions to improve the quality of our services in a context of growth. These include the addition of a specialized environmental resource—a key issue in 2022. In this regard, don't forget to participate in the "Pour ma mobilité, je m'active" (To get mobility, I get active) initiative, which will continue on March 16.

Once again this year, springtime encourages us to help each other and show solidarity. It is in this spirit that I invite you to join me on March 28 for the Ville d'Otterburn Park's blood drive. From April 24 to 30, it's the time to highlight the work of our volunteers during National Volunteer Week. Whether it is within organizations or resident committees, or when you give your time to help a neighbour or a loved one, I would like to thank you for your dedication.

MÉLANIE VILLENEUVE

Mayor
mvilleeneuve@opark.ca

JACQUES PORTELANCE

Councillor – District 1
district1@opark.ca

CLAUDE LEROUX

Councillor – District 4
district4@opark.ca

MARIE-CHRISTINE MOORE

Councillor – District 2
district2@opark.ca

MATHIEU CHAPDELAINE

Councillor – District 5
district5@opark.ca

MARC GIRARD ALLEYN

Councillor – District 3
district3@opark.ca

NATACHA THIBAUT

Councillor – District 6
district6@opark.ca



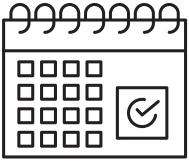
Main number: 450-536-0303
Fax: 450-467-8260
www.opark.ca
E-mail: info@opark.ca

INFO OTTERBURN PARK

Legal deposit: ISSN 1201-8961
Bibliothèque nationale du Québec
National Library of Canada

Published four times a year by the Ville d'Otterburn Park
Circulation: 3,465

Writing / Coordination: Communications Department



2022 CALENDAR

HOLDING OF REGULAR SITTINGS OF THE COUNCIL

Regular sittings of the City Council for 2022 will be held in the large hall of the Pointe-Valaine cultural and community centre, located at 85 Oxford Street in Otterburn Park. In addition, all regular City Council sittings will be held on the third Monday of each month, with the exception of the January (fourth Monday), April (fourth Monday), July (second Monday) and August (fourth Monday) meetings, which will be held on the following dates:

DATE	TIME
January 24	7:30 pm
February 21	
March 21	
April 25	
May 16	
June 20	
July 11	
August 22	
September 19	
October 17	
November 21	
December 19	

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCU)

DATE	TIME
TUESDAY	7:00 pm
January 25	
February 22	
March 29	
April 26	
May 31	
June 28	
August 9	
September 6	
September 27	
October 25	
November 29	
*Subject to change	

2022 TAXES

PAYMENT DATES
February 28
April 13
June 8
September 14

A single statement of account for unpaid municipal taxes will be sent to you after the fourth payment of the year. You can make your payment electronically on your financial institution's website. Simply add the Ville d'Otterburn Park as a vendor. The reference number to be used corresponds to the registration number indicated on your four detachable payment coupons at the bottom of your tax bill. You must enter all the numbers without the F or spaces.

VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 24 to 30 is Volunteer Week.

We would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank all residents who generously donate their time and whose contribution is essential to our community. THANK YOU!

DELEGATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

COMMITTEE – COMMISSION – ORGANIZATION	REPRESENTATIVE		
	1st	2nd	Substitute
City Council sitting	Mayor and Councillors		
Plenary City Council committee meeting			
Régie intermunicipale de police Richelieu-Saint-Laurent (RIPRSL)	Mayor		Jacques Portelance
Regional County Municipality of Vallée-du-Richelieu (MRC) – Council of Mayors	Mayor	No	Mayor or alternate
Régie intermunicipale de sécurité incendie de la Vallée-du-Richelieu	Mayor		Claude Leroux
Régie intermunicipale de l'eau de la Vallée-du-Richelieu (RIEVR)	Natacha Thibault		Marie-Christine Moore
Régie d'assainissement des eaux de la Vallée-du-Richelieu (RAEVR)	Natacha Thibault	Jacques Portelance	Marie-Christine Moore
Régie intermunicipale des services animaliers de la Vallée-du-Richelieu (RISAVR) – Board of Directors	Natacha Thibault	Marie-Christine Moore	Mayor
Corporation de développement communautaire de la Vallée du Richelieu (CDCVR)	Mayor	No	No
Finance and Administration Committee (CFA)	Claude Leroux (Chair)	Marc Girard Alleyn (Vice- Chair)	
Planning Advisory Committee (CCU)	Jacques Portelance (Chair)	Natacha Thibault (Vice-Chair)	
Municipal Safety Advisory Committee (CCSM)	Claude Leroux	No	
Environmental Advisory Committee (CCE)	Mathieu Chapdelaine (Chair)	Jacques Portelance (Vice-Chair)	No
Sport, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee (CCSLC)	Marie-Christine Moore	No	
Chambre de commerce et d'industrie Vallée-du-Richelieu (CCIVR)	Mayor		
Table de concertation des aînés de la Vallée-des-Patriotes	Natacha Thibault		
Table de concertation en petite enfance de la Vallée des Patriotes	Natacha Thibault		Marie-Christine Moore
Table de concertation jeunesse de la Vallée des Patriotes	Natacha Thibault		Marie-Christine Moore
Comité de pilotage local Municipalité amie des aîné(e)s (MADA)	Natacha Thibault		Marc Girard Alleyn
Comité de pilotage régional Municipalité amie des aîné(e)s (MADA)	Natacha Thibault	Claude Leroux	
Société Culturelle de Pointe-Valaine Inc.	Director	Director	
	Mayor	Marie-Christine Moore	

Note: The Mayor sits ex officio on all committees and commissions.

LET'S HELP THE SNOW CLEARANCE PERSONNEL IN KEEPING OUR STREETS SAFE.

WITH THESE SIMPLE TIPS, YOU CAN HELP TO OPTIMIZE SNOW REMOVAL OPERATIONS:

- Place your garbage and recycling bins on the street only on the morning of the collection.
- Shovel snow from your driveway onto your property instead of pushing into the street, into the ditch or onto sidewalks.
- Keep snow cleared from the fire hydrant near your property
- Respect the prohibition of parking your vehicle on the street at night (between 2 a.m. and 7 a.m., until March 31).

Remember when you see the heavy equipment that the snow they plow is being thrown. Be careful when the plows are passing by and give them wide berth, especially if you are on foot.

To be effective, snow-clearing equipment must travel between 30 and 40 km/hr. Be patient when following behind them!

Thank you for your co-operation!

OVERNIGHT PARKING

REMINDER

We would like to remind you that overnight parking, in the winter, is not allowed on the street, until March 31, between 2 a.m. and 7 a.m.

Thank you for your co-operation!

SPRING CLEAN-UP

The Public Works team is already in place for the big spring clean-up!

The spring clean-up season is short and will begin shortly. Our blue-collar workers will be cleaning up parks, green spaces and sports fields as well as planting flowers around the City. Work will also be done to clean and secure streets, and pedestrian and bicycle paths by pruning and cutting down trees, not to mention doing repairs to pavement and shoulders, as well as surface water drainage. Lastly, there will be wastewater management: emptying of sumps, inspection of the sanitary sewer network and flushing of water mains.

Spring is also a wonderful time to clear street corners to increase visibility at intersections. By doing so, you are contributing to the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

The visibility triangle is the triangular-shaped space near the intersection of street lines on a corner lot. Two sides of the sight triangle are formed by the street lines and their extension to the point where the extension of the street lines meet. The third side of the visibility triangle is a straight line joining the ends of the other two sides (see illustration).

Fences, walls, hedges, gates, winter shelters and signs are not permitted within the visibility triangle at any time.

SNOW FENCES AND TEMPORARY SHELTERS

April 15 is coming soon.

Don't forget to remove your snow fences, as well as the roof and structure of your temporary outdoor carport.

OUTDOOR LIGHTS

Walking is an activity that is currently experiencing a resurgence in popularity. In order to ensure the safety of people walking on our streets, we remind each resident that it is their responsibility to ensure the maintenance and proper functioning of their private outdoor lighting. The outdoor light should be equipped with a special device to ensure automatic operation and the light bulb must be changed regularly.

SNOW REMOVAL FROM YOUR DRIVEWAY AND SAFETY

Do you need to clear your driveway of snow? Be careful not to push or shovel snow into the street.

Do you live on a street corner? For safety and visibility reasons, you cannot pile up snow more than one metre high within the visibility triangle of a street corner.

Do you have a fire hydrant on your property? Don't bury it under piles of snow! Make sure that access to the fire hydrant remains free at all times. During a fire, the first few minutes are crucial and the Fire Department must have access to the hydrants as quickly as possible.

Lastly, we remind you that the City cannot use salt on all streets. It is therefore important to adjust your driving according to the road condition and the weather.

COLLECTION OF HOUSEHOLD AND HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) 2022

McMasterville

Saturday, May 21 – 8 a.m. to noon
International School parking lot: 720
Morin Street

Saint-Basile-le-Grand

Saturday, June 11 – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Municipal garage: 200 Bella Vista
Street

Otterburn Park

Saturday, August 27 – 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Municipal garage technical services:
120 Bellevue Street

ECO CENTRE

The eco centre is a public place where you can drop off residual materials that are more difficult to recover by curbside pick-up.

This includes bulky items or items that are disposed of on an ad hoc basis. The goal is to recycle the majority of materials received.

60 Fisher Street, Mont-Saint-Hilaire

Access via Benoît Road is preferred to facilitate traffic flow.

WINTER PRE-OPENING

Until March 31, 2022

Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 9 am to 4 pm

SUMMER SCHEDULE

April 1 to October 31, 2022

Thursday: 10 am to 6 pm

Friday: 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm

Sunday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ABOUT THE DIFFERENT COLLECTIONS

Any questions? Any comments? Complaints?
Not sure which materials are accepted or refused?

450-464-INFO (4636) or
1-844-722-INFO (4636)
infocollectes@mrcvr.ca

For more information on residual materials management, please visit www.mrcvr.ca in the Residual Materials Management section.

EAVESTROUGHS BEST PRACTICES GUIDE

As part of its efforts to improve stormwater management, the City provides information to its residents on the best practices to be followed.

Note: This guide is a tool to popularize the by-law and has no legal value.

The practice of evacuating rainwater as quickly as possible through the storm sewer system is no longer sufficient today. We have noted a trend toward a considerable increase in the intensity and frequency of rainfall due to climate change, which explains the urgent need to change our old habits regarding stormwater management.

Evacuation of rainwater from the roof of a building

Stormwater from a sloped building roof that is evacuated through eavestroughs and downspouts should be discharged onto the ground surface or into a percolating well, far from the infiltration area captured by the building's foundation drain when the receiving surface is permeable;

- The base of the percolating well must not be located below the water table.
- Stormwater from the roof must be discharged within the property limits.

What is a compliant eavestrough?

- A compliant eavestrough directs water to a lawn, flower bed or hedge, 1.5 metres from the building foundation, so that it is absorbed by the ground within the property limits.
- An eavestrough that discharges into a collection barrel with an overflow or to a percolating well 1.5 m from the building foundation.

What is a non-compliant eavestrough?

- An eavestrough that is connected to the foundation drain or that allows the discharge of rainwater directly or indirectly into the municipal sewer system.

What is a foundation drain?

The foundation drain, commonly called French drain or drainage pipe, is a perforated pipe installed around a building, underground, at the foundation level. It is used to direct the underground water that could accumulate in the ground to the outside.

Under no circumstances should eavestroughs be connected to the foundation drain.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Rainwater Collection Barrel

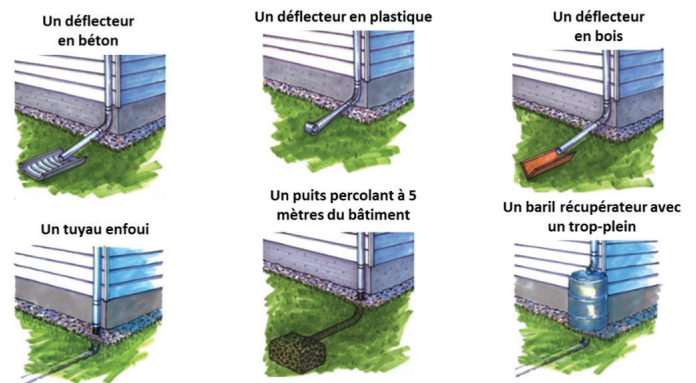
One of the best ways to manage rainwater is to reuse it by collecting it. Homeowners can purchase a rainwater barrel, which will reduce the amount of potable water used for watering and cleaning.

Surface Discharge

There are simple, inexpensive and effective ways to bring your eavestroughs into compliance. First, disconnect the downspout from the foundation drain. Then, divert the rainwater collected by the downspout more than 1.5 m from your home, within your property limits.

The following installations are recommended:

Note: Regardless of the system you use to manage stormwater on your property, you are responsible for its maintenance and proper operation.



Percolating well

A percolating well, also called an absorbing well, is a hole dug in the ground and filled with gravel to collect rainwater. It is easy to build and will help the water infiltrate into the soil on your property. A percolating well should be installed 1.5 m from the property limits. The size of a percolating well varies according to the amount of runoff that is directed into it. As a rule of thumb, a 1.2-m wide-and-deep pit should be sufficient for most properties.

Rain garden

A rain garden is a small basin dug into the ground and designed to receive runoff water, which encourages its infiltration into the soil. Various plants are used. This type of installation helps reduce runoff while allowing the plants to filter out contaminants and replenish groundwater. A rain garden is also known as a retention area.

Small-scale stormwater control on private property is an excellent management method at the source that prevents a significant volume of water runoff from entering the municipal sewer system. These measures ensure the efficiency of the infrastructure and avoid wastewater overflows. Consequently, the simple fact of bringing your eavestroughs into compliance by ensuring that rainwater is absorbed by the ground can help protect the territory's waterways and reduce the risk of flooding.

Thank you for your involvement in preserving the quality of our waterways and the condition of our infrastructure!

APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

Do you have a new project in mind? Don't forget to find out if you need to obtain a permit from the Urban Planning Department. Moreover, in order to avoid the inconvenience of a non-conforming project, we encourage you to check the standards that apply to your project before starting it.

Here is a list of some work for which you must first obtain a permit or a certificate of authorization from the City:

- Construction, expansion, repair, modification, addition of a building;
- Partial or total demolition of a building;
- Exterior and interior renovations;
- Installation or replacement of an in-ground, semi-in-ground, above-ground, demountable inflatable pool or not, as well as a spa with a capacity of more than 2,000 litres;
- Change of use;
- Septic installation and well;
- Signs;
- Tree felling, clearing or hole filling;
- Installation of off-street parking;
- Work in a riparian environment;
- Fences, balconies, patios, terraces, gazebos.

Permit requests can be done online!

Please note that projects located in a sector subject to the Site Planning and Architectural Integration Program (PIIA) require a longer process involving the presentation of the project to the Planning Advisory Committee (CCU) and the Municipal Council. For more information and to consult the Planning Advisory Committee (CCU) calendar, visit opark.ca.

HOME-BASED BUSINESSES

In the Ville d'Otterburn Park, several types of businesses (personal, business and professional services) are authorized in your home such as computer services, beauty salons or artists' studios.

To see the complete list of authorized uses and conditions, we encourage you to read article 194, zoning by-law 431 on the Ville d'Otterburn Park website or to contact the Urban Planning Department at 450-536-0303, extension 293.

A MOMENT IN HISTORY

Charles-Léon Denis,
Ville d'Otterburn Park businessperson
by Alain Côté

Charles Léon Denis (1882–1964) lived for more than 80 years, working in the Richelieu Valley and in the United States, like many French Canadians at the turn of the 20th century, attracted by jobs in the textile industry. His career path shows an obvious resourcefulness that led him to run a business in Otterburn Park from the 1920s until 1941.

Charles Léon Denis was born in Saint-Charles-sur-Richelieu. His family moved to Saint-Hilaire in 1891 and then to the United States in 1901 where he became a loom adjuster.

He returned to Saint-Hilaire in 1905 to ask Ernestine Bernard to marry him. The marriage was celebrated on May 29, and the couple returned to the United States. About a year and a half later, the young family moved to the Sorel area where Charles-Léon was a hotelier.

The First World War boosted the demand for production at the McMasterville Powder Mill. Charles Léon moved to Beloeil and found a job there.

Later, the family left Beloeil for Saint-Hilaire (Otterburn Park district). On September 15, 1924, Joseph-Philippe Dupuis sold Charles-Léon Denis three lots at the corner of Chemin de la traverse (Connaught Street) and the main road (Chemin des Patriotes). Since their arrival in Saint-Hilaire, the family had already been living in the building that served as both a store and a home. Charles-Léon had been running the post office there since 1921. Winning the confidence of his fellow citizens, he was elected school commissioner (from 1926 to 1933). In 1927, he acquired the property of his father-in-law, Wilfrid Bernard, near the church of Notre-Dame-du-Bon-Conseil. He operated his business until 1941, when he sold it to Émile Sirois of McMasterville. Charles-Léon Denis lived a full life in Otterburn Park where he died on March 1, 1964. His wife Ernestine Bernard died four years later, on November 8, 1968.

The full text in French of the text translated and summarized above is published in the 127th History Notebook (February 2022).
Sold in many stores and at shgmbmsh.org for \$10.

Other article in the issue: Basile Daigneault, first mayor of Saint-Basile-le-Grand (1831–1901), by Bruno Labrosse.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
DECEMBER 16, 2021

BUDGET 2022

TAXABLE ASSESSMENT OF REAL PROPERTY

The current assessment roll covers fiscal years 2022 to 2024. Therefore, the 2022 assessment is new. This assessment will remain the same for the next three years except for owners of a new construction or those who have made improvements to their building.

In addition, the City's assessment roll has the following features:

- The City's property wealth is primarily residential;
- There are very few commercial properties and no industrial properties.

The principles applied to the preparation of operating and capital budgets:

- Range of quality services offered at the best possible cost;
- Sound management of the City's debt, while respecting residents' ability to pay and applying the principle of intergenerational bequity, i.e., not making today's taxpayers pay for infrastructure and equipment that will be used over an extended period of time;
- A diligent and constant search for subsidies of all kinds offered by higher governments.

Key issues in the preparation of the operating budget:

- Increases in the collective agreements for municipal employees' compensation;
- Creation of four new jobs in the municipal organization;
- Sharp jump in the consumer price index;
- Increase in quota shares charged by para-municipal organizations to ensure proper functioning.

Key issues in the preparation of the Triennial Capital Expenditures Program (PTI):

- The continuation of the master plan to upgrade our water, sewage and drainage infrastructures and municipal roads;
- Maintenance and improvement of municipal buildings;
- Implementation of the master plan for parks, green spaces and recreational structures.

Highlights

- A new triennial property assessment roll for the years 2022–2023–2024;
- Increase in the average property tax bill of 3.1%.

2022 OPERATING BUDGET

	2021	2022	Variation	
REVENUES				
Taxes and payments in lieu of taxes	\$11,661,290	\$12,401,910	\$740,620	6.4%
Government transfers and dues	\$187,580	\$296,820	\$109,240	58.2%
Services rendered	\$388,280	\$315,390	(\$72,890)	-18.8%
Imposition of duties	\$1,154,650	\$1,183,350	\$28,700	2.5%
Other revenues	\$144,790	\$138,530	(\$6,260)	-4.3%
	\$13,536,590	\$14,336,000	\$799,410	5.9%
EXPENSES				
General administration	\$2,210,440	\$2,602,050	\$391,610	17.7%
Public security	\$2,267,910	\$2,384,630	\$116,720	5.1%
Transport	\$2,518,150	\$2,618,880	\$100,730	4.0%
Environmental health	\$2,669,480	\$2,744,910	\$75,430	2.8%
Urbanism	\$588,760	\$507,040	(\$81,720)	-13.9%
Recreation and culture	\$1,940,020	\$2,063,300	\$123,280	6.4%
Financial expenses	\$293,530	\$467,370	\$173,840	59.2%
	\$12,488,290	\$13,388,180	\$899,890	7.2%
ITEMS OF CONCILIATION FOR TAX PURPOSES				
Debt repayment	\$835,900	\$723,670	(\$112,230)	-13.4%
Working capital repayment	\$212,400	\$224,150	\$11,750	5.5%
	\$1,048,300	\$947,820	(\$100,480)	-9.6%
	\$13,536,590	\$14,336,000	\$799,410	5.9%

2022-2023-2024 TRIENNIAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES PROGRAM

	2022	2023	2024	TOTAL
INVESTMENTS				
Infrastructure	\$2,759,700	\$9,130,100	\$17,248,200	\$29,138,000
Buildings		\$460,000	\$460,000	\$1,586,200
Parks and playgrounds	\$287,500			\$287,500
Vehicles		\$402,500	\$574,900	\$977,400
	\$3,713,400	\$9,992,600	\$18,283,100	\$31,989,100
FINANCING				
Borrowings	\$2,129,700	\$7,122,160	\$3,879,200	\$13,131,060
Subsidies	\$500,000		\$7,943,900	\$8,443,900
Working capital	\$86,200			\$86,200
Operating surplus	\$867,500	\$460,000	\$460,000	\$1,787,500
Third-party contributions	\$130,000	\$2,410,440	\$6,000,000	\$8,540,440
	\$3,713,400	\$9,992,600	\$18,283,100	\$31,989,100

2022 TAX RATES

	2021	2022
PROPERTY Taxes per \$100 Evaluation		
Basic residential tax rate	\$0.8353	\$0.7668
Properties with 6 dwelling units or more	\$1.1135	\$1.0221
Non-residential properties	\$2.0883	\$1.9170
Vacant lands – served	\$1.6706	\$1.5336
RATES PER DWELLING unit OR COMMERCIAL PREMISES		
Water tax	\$204	\$181
Water treatment tax		
Debt service	\$30	-
Operations	\$255	\$264
Residual materials tax		
Recycling	\$75	\$95
Biomethanization	\$106	\$106
Landfill	\$168	\$159
TAX BILL FOR AN AVERAGE SINGLE-FAMILY HOME		
Taxable evaluation	\$309,646	\$355,286
Property taxes	\$2,586.47	\$2,724.33
Water tax	\$204.00	\$181.00
Water treatment tax		
Debt service	\$30.00	-
Operations	\$255.00	\$264.00
Residual materials tax		
Recycling	\$75.00	\$95.00
Biomethanization	\$106.00	\$106.00
Landfill	\$168.00	\$159.00
	\$3,424.47	\$3,529.33
	VARIANCE AS A \$	\$104.86
	AS A %	3.1%

The new Triennial Assessment Roll is in effect for the years 2022 to 2024, which explains why the average assessment for a single-family home varies from year to year.

SPORT, RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Markus Gauthier: *Les aventures du Clan Boréal*

For this edition, the Sport, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee would like to highlight the publication of a children's book by Otterburn Park resident Markus Gauthier. Markus has been working for several years on a dream: to produce a fantasy world for children with values that are important to him, such as friendship, openness to the world and, above all, respect for the life cycles in nature! With the help of illustrator Julien Lemaire, he just published a second book on the Boréal Clan's adventures called *Aventures du Clan Boréal – La Nouvelle Gardienne*. This is the story of Elenwë, a young elf who will need Tylon's friendship to embark on an adventure that will become a legendary vigil to be sung on the days of celebration by the Boreal Clan of elves!

For residents of Ville d'Otterburn Park and surrounding areas, you can get a signed copy by emailing info@clanboreal.com.

Information: clanboreal.com or facebook.com/clanboreal

CONGRATULATIONS MARKUS!

CITY BLOOD DRIVE

The Honorary Chair is Mayor Mélanie Villeneuve

Date: Monday, March 28, from 1:30 pm to 7 pm

Location: Pointe-Valaine Cultural and Community Centre

By appointment only: 1-800-343-7264 or online at hema-quebec.qc.ca

BELOEIL AQUATIC CENTRE

For any questions about the programming or the free swim schedule, visit piscinesbeloeil.com or contact the Beloeil Aquatic Center by email at info@piscinesbeloeil.com or by phone at 450-467-5678

TENNIS COURTS

Tennis fans, we would like to remind you that the 2022 tennis season will begin in April.

You can purchase your membership starting in April at opark.ca > recreation > tennis courts > buy your membership.

Information: 450-536-0303, ext. 292

MEMBERSHIP	FULL SEASON		HALF SEASON	
	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
Family (0-99 years old)	\$90.00	\$135.00	\$45.00	\$67.50
DUO (0-99 years old)	\$70.00	\$105.00	\$35.00	\$52.50
Adult (18-64 years old)	\$53.00	\$80.00	\$26.50	\$40.00
Youth, Teen, Senior (Youth 0-14, Teen 15-17, Senior 65+)	\$37.00	\$56.00	\$18.50	\$28.00
	MONTHLY		DAILY	
Family	\$28.00	\$42.00	NA	NA
DUO	\$22.00	\$33.00	NA	NA
Adult	\$15.50	\$24.50	\$6.00	\$9.00
Youth, teenager, senior	\$11.00	\$17.00	\$4.00	\$6.00

A deposit of \$100 (membership) or \$20 (daily) is required to obtain the key.

SPRING BREAK

Stay tuned to our Facebook page (facebook.com/VilleOPark) for more information about Spring Break 2022.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE ARMAND-CARDINAL LIBRARY

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Je n'ai pas la langue dans ma poche!
(I speak my mind!)

Bilingual storytelling (French/English)
(2nd Saturday of the month until June inclusively) 10:30 am
(ages 5 to 11)

L'heure du conte en pyjama (Story time in pyjamas)

(1st Wednesday of the month) March 2, April 6, May 4
6:30 pm (ages 4 to 6)

Jeunes VIP en pieds de bas (Young VIPs in stocking feet)

(2nd Wednesday of the month) March 9, April 13, May 11
6:30 pm (ages 7 to 9)

L'Éveil aux p'tits contes (Waking up with little tales)

(3rd Wednesday of the month) March 16, April 20, May 18
9:30 am (ages 6 to 24 months)

Doudou et comptines (Blankies and nursery rhymes)

(4th Wednesday of the month) March 23, April 27, May 25
9:30 am (ages 2 to 3)

APRIL

Musclez vos méninges (Exercise your brain)

beginning April 7 (10 sessions)
Registration at 450-467-2854, ext. 2268 or comptoir.bibliotheque@villemsh.ca

SPRING BREAK

Spring Break Workshop – Library

Registration on the recreation website: villemsh.ca/online-registration-platform

Monday, February 28 – 1 to 4 pm

Come create your own kamishibai!

A kamishibai* is an unbound book on large boards on which the images are visible through the butai window.**

Kamishibai: is a story told with illustrated boards shown in a butai (a mini-castle-shaped frame). It is the ancestor of Manga. It is how kamishibai entertainers gave performances in the streets of Japanese cities in the last century.

**Butai: a box in a shape like a mini castle used to tell kamishibai stories.

All materials for the activity will be provided by the library.

NEWS

March 5

- Addition of two acoustic booths.
- Independent learning space for children from 18 months to 5 years old.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

CENTRE DE FEMMES L'ESSENTIELLE (WOMEN'S CENTRE)

New programming with workshops to meet various needs and interests—all adapted to the health restrictions context. There will be a wide variety of topics and types of workshops.

Complete programming

www.cfessentielle.org or call 450-467-3418

L'Essentielle is run by and for the women of the Richelieu Valley and the surrounding area. L'Essentielle is open to women regardless of their age, marital status, nationality or sexual orientation. We offer a place of belonging, services and a network of education and action according to community needs. The Centre is focused on the status of women in general.

Information

Tel: 450-467-3418

www.cfessentielle.org

essentielle@videotron.ca

POETRY SLAM FEMINIST TEXTS

March 8, 2022
7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
At Pointe-Valaine

FREE ADMISSION

PUBLIC READING
Cabaret-style evening

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2022

- Vaccination Passport
- Health measures in force

Presented by
Centre de femmes l'Essentielle
Les Diffusions Pointe-Valaine

INTÉGRATION COMPÉTENCES (SKILLS INTEGRATION)

La recherche emploi 101 (Job Search 101) (In French)

Be well informed, know the resources, trends and opportunities in the current job market
March 30, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Free of charge.

By videoconference

Objectif Intégration pour les immigrants (Integration session for immigrants) (In French)

*\$200 stipend for those who qualify

The integration session allows you to learn more about democratic and Quebec values as expressed by the Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, cultural codes in employment and the legal framework in the workplace.
March 21, from 6 to 9 pm.

Formation interculturelle (Intercultural training) (In French)

Intercultural communication training (online and open to all) helps recognize the impact of cultural differences in the workplace and discusses how to manage them in a positive way.

Information

Francine Landry

Tel. 450-464-4481, ext. 240 • francinelandry@integrationcompetences.ca

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF BELOEIL - MONT-ST-HILAIRE

LECTURES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022, 7:30 pm: "Diable, loups-garous et autres bêtes mythologiques : l'histoire du Québec vue par les contes et les legends" (Devil, Werewolves and Other Mythological Beasts: the History of Quebec as Seen Through Tales and Legends), lecture by Stéphane Tessier (in French). Travel back in time and discover the legends. The devil, the werewolf and the worst of all the beasts: man! Inspired by the traditional French-Canadian and old France repertoires.

Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 7:30 pm: "Histoire des îles du Richelieu" (History of the Richelieu Islands), lecture by Réal Fortin (in French). The archives contain documents which mention almost all of the 28 islands along the 130 km of the Richelieu River and reveal the significant role of this route. Discover the history of the islands and fascinating, little-known facts about them.

Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 7:30 pm: check the website in mid-May for details. The lectures will be offered virtually but will also be held in person when health regulations permit.

Stay tuned: shgbmsh.org/conferences-to-be or facebook.com/SHGBMSH.

Registration on the website is required by 8:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the lecture. Registrants will receive the link and instructions for logging on the day before the lecture. Cost: \$7/lecture. Free for members.

CIVIC SPONSORSHIP OF THE VALLÉE-DU-RICHELIEU

For nearly 40 years, the Parrainage civique de la Vallée-du-Richelieu has been working in the community by promoting the social integration of people with an intellectual disability, a mental health disorder or an autism spectrum disorder, mainly by pairing them with volunteer residents.

Clientele: 12 years old and up

Services offered: Sponsorship with a volunteer resident, occasional activities, integration outings, integration trips.

Volunteers wanted: a volunteer like you!

Each pair is unique. Do you do crafts? Do you bowl? Do you prefer painting or walking in the woods? You will be matched with someone who also enjoys these activities. A few hours a month can make a difference!

Information

450-464-5325 or 1-877-464-7287
info@pcvr.ca | pcvr.ca

PIRATES DU RICHELIEU

Are you between 6 and 17 years old? Do you like to move and are competitive? Football is for you!

The Pirates du Richelieu are pleased to announce an open house on April 30 at 10 am.

This event will allow you to attend a football practice and get to know this sport.

You can register on our Facebook page or simply come out to the Polybel High School synthetic field.

Spring Camp: April to June | Regular Season: August to the end of October

Registration: www.piratesdurichelieu.com/inscriptions (Rates vary according to level)

ASSOCIATION DE BASEBALL MONT-SAINT-HILAIRE OTTERBURN PARK – ABMO

REGISTRATIONS

Sports workshops parent-child	4-5 years old (children born in 2017-2018)	Rallye-Cap 4-5 years	To be determined	All summer	\$75
Introduction to baseball	6-7 years old (children born in 2015-2016)	Rallye-Cap 6-7 years	To be determined	All summer	\$125
Women's baseball teams	8-9 years old (children born in 2013-2014) **1st year playing baseball only	Grand Chelem	To be determined	2 times per week	\$200
	8-9 years old (children born in 2013-2014)	9U		2 to 3 times/week	\$255
	10-11 years old (born in 2011-2012)	11 U		2 to 3 times/week	\$275
	12-13 years old (born in 2009-2010)	13U		2 to 3 times/week	\$300
	14-16 years old (born in 2006-2008)	16U		2 to 3 times/week	\$325
	17-21 years old (born in 2001-2005)	21U		2 to 3 times/week	\$280
Mixed baseball teams	8-9 years old (children born in 2013-2014) **1st year playing baseball only	Grand Chelem	To be determined	2 times/week	\$200
	8-9 years old (children born in 2013-2014)	9U		2 to 3 times/week	\$255
	10-11 years old (born in 2011-2012)	11 U		2 to 3 times/week	\$275
	12-13 years old (born in 2009-2010)	13U		2 to 3 times/week	\$300
	Boys 14-15 years old (born in 2007-2008) Girls 14-16 years old (born in 2006-2008)	15U-F16U		2 to 3 times/week	\$325
	Boys 16-17 years old (born in 2005-2006) Girls 17-21 years old (born in 2001-2005)	18U-F21U		2 to 3 times/week	\$290

Online registration now: INFO / JOIN: baseballexpress.qc.ca - baseball.abmo@gmail.com

SANKUDO

AGE	SCHEDULE	COST
5-6 years old beginner (0-1-2 kyu)	Tuesday 6:30 to 7:15 pm	\$115 once/week
7-9 years old beginner and intermediate	Monday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.	\$120 once/week
9 to 12 years old beginner and intermediate	Wednesday 6:30 to 7:30 pm	\$120 once/week
Adults beginner and up	Monday and Wednesday 7:30 to 8:15 pm	\$135 once/week \$180 twice/week

At the time of going to press, we are awaiting confirmation from Public Health for the start of adult classes.

We suggest you visit sankudo.ca and the Sankudo Karate School Facebook page.

Participants 13 years and older must have a vaccination passport.

Francine Sarrazin

Tel: 450-464-4853

www.sankudo.ca

info.op@sankudo.ca

MEPEC

Join MEPEC on Feb. 14 from 12 noon to 1:30 pm for an interactive workshop on Self-Love and Self-Care. Explore ways to nourish our mind, body, and soul through the practice of self-love and self-care.

The "Seniors Sneakers" exercise program is for people 55+ who want to stay active during the winter. This program will start when public health measures permit. Mondays 10:30 to 11:30 am at the Legion.

Join MEPEC for online Trivia the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.

Online Workshops

- Feb 16 from 10 to 11:30 am "From Social Isolation and Loneliness to Belonging and Well-Being"
- March 16 from 10 to 11:30 am "Diabetes Type 1 and 2"
- March 22 from 12 noon to 1:30 pm for an interactive workshop on the benefits and practice of laughter to increase well-being.
- April 20 from 10 to 11:30 am "Music Therapy – Music for your Mind, Body and Spirit by Lara McKinnis"
- May 18 from 10 to 11:30 am "Age-Related Hearing Loss – Causes, Complications and Care offered by an Audiologist."

Book Club – our next meetings will be Feb. 23, March 23, April 20 and May 18 at 7 pm. Meetings are currently by Zoom but will resume in person when public health measures permit.

Sprouts Program – Circle time fun for parents and young children. Every Thursday in the MEPEC Library. This program will start when public health measures permit.

Mums & Tots Yoga – Online: Every Tuesday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Come join us!

MEPEC has created a Youth account on Tiktok, so we encourage everyone to follow us on Tik Tok. You will be able to Follow Me on my Ambassador journey via Tik Tok and Instagram, STAY TUNED! #mepecyouth

For more information or to register for any of the above, please email info@mepec-pemca.org

OTT'ADOS YOUTH CENTRE

We are looking for people who want to get involved in their community by creating a gathering place for our youth.

If you are interested in getting involved, please email us at the following address: mdjottados@gmail.com

CANOE CLUB

Since 1921, the Otterburn Canoe Club has welcomed young and old to Pointe-Valaine to learn about the sports of sprint canoeing, dragon boating, and more, offered through various summer programs, school or extracurricular workshops and corporate activities.

New for 2022

In addition to its regular programs, the Club now offers a "Full Day" option for all of its recreational and competitive programming to meet the different needs of families in the area.

The Club also offers a weekly day camp for eight weeks in the summer, a sports camp (four blocks of two weeks), a rental service for single/double kayaks and paddle boards (SUP) from May to September and much more.

Information and registration (from March 1): info@canoekayakotterburn.com | canoekayakotterburn.com

L'ARRIÈRE-SCÈNE

Drama centre for children and youth in Montérégie

FURIOSO

March 6, at 3 pm

Two valiant enemy knights vie for the attention of the beautiful Yuhuan.

Puppet theatre / Ages 7 and up

Produced by Théâtre de l'Œil

HISTOIRES D'AILES ET ÉCHELLES

(Stories of wings and ladders)

March 20, at 11 am and 3 pm

A playful and poetic journey inspired by Paul Klee that uses the power of our imagination.

Théâtre d'objets (Object theatre) / Ages 4 and up

Produced by Sylvie Gosselin

RIPOPÉE

April 24, at 3 pm

A fable about friendship. Artists plunge into a zany world while discovering their great strength.

Théâtre clownesque (Clown theatre) / Ages 5 and up

Produced by L'Aubergine

BOULUPOILU

May 15, at 3 pm

A multidisciplinary show with a hairy monster, an aquarium, video recordings and a musician on stage.

Théâtre de lumières (Theatre of lights) / Ages 3 and up

Produced by L'Interrupteur

Theatre for all children!

Two sensory adapted performances (RSA) for young people with autism and their families.

Reservations by phone only: 450-464-4772.

- *Arbre, tout un monde* (Théâtre Motus): April 10, at 3 p.m.
 - *Ripopée* (L'Aubergine): April 24, at 10 a.m.
-

Ticket office

Tel.: 450-464-4772 | centreculturelbeloeil.com

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HIGHLIGHTS

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our members, Guy Dubé, Francis Beauregard and Alexandre Turcotte, who represent residents on the Committee. We enthusiastically welcome our new chair, Mathieu Chapdelaine, as well as the mayor as an ex-officio member. We would also like to thank Mario Comtois, whose term ended after two years and who continues to provide us with his expertise in urban forestry, as well as Denis Parent, who has made it possible to get the committee up and running again since 2019.

Three seats for residents are to be filled on the Committee, and we are already accepting offers to volunteer for environmental activities in 2022. Please write to the contact person at cce@opark.ca.

With the participation of committee members, the City has been able to achieve several environmental successes in the past year:

- The re-establishment of a partnership with the Centre de la nature du Mont Saint-Hilaire with which we are working on several environmental issues such as the protection of natural environments, the evaluation of the state of our remarkable trees and their enhancement, the development of knowledge and understanding of our collective wealth;
- The hiring of a technical resource in environment person is added to the budget for 2022;
- Increase in the budget for activities related to environmental protection and promotion;
- Our contribution to the adoption of a new bylaw promoting the conservation of the arboricultural heritage in our area;
- The establishment of a partnership with the Centre régional de l'environnement de la Montérégie to work on issues related to greenhouse gases and the addition of sustainable transportation alternatives as well as the improvement of active transportation in our area;
- Work on the fight against invasive exotic species with the collaboration of Catherine Bégin, an enthusiastic horticulturist;
- Donation of 100 bare root trees to increase the City's tree cover, plant on private properties and create islands of freshness;
- The addition of certifications to enhance pollinator and water quality protection.

In 2022, make a difference with us!

Send us your environmental wishes at cce@opark.ca

IN 2022, HOW CAN WE MAKE NEW CHOICES TO REDUCE SPENDING?

In 2022, take on a major challenge!

Get ready for the #défisansvoituresolo which starts next fall.

Try new, more affordable modes of transportation.

Options are available on embarquemonteregie.ca, from carpooling to downtown Montreal, parking spaces to share a car and public transit schedules in the surrounding area.

Share your 2022 challenges on the City's Facebook page.

LET'S GET TO KNOW POLLINATORS

“What do insects such as bees, wasps, bumblebees, butterflies, hoverflies, bee flies, some birds and some mammals have in common? They are pollinators!”

(Source: spaceforlife.ca/pollinators)

According to the Ministry of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change, the decline in pollinator populations has raised concerns in the international scientific community. As a result, protecting them has become a global challenge.

Scientific studies have shown that the decline of bees may be due to a combination of several factors, including:

- exposure to pesticides;
- parasites, pests, pathogens and genetic diversity;
- habitat loss, food availability and hive management;
- climate change and weather conditions.

Pesticides are a major threat to pollinators. Fortunately, the City has banned them.

But you can take action too!

Here's the Pollinator Protection Pledge, which you can sign, too.

I pledge to help protect pollinators by:

Choosing to create a habitat for pollinators by adding native plants to my garden or on my property.

A pollinator habitat is a place where pollinators can live, eat, sleep and raise their offspring. Native plants and native pollinators have evolved together for millions of years and they need each other. Even a small planter or flower pot makes a difference.

Planning to have at least three different flowering plants that can bloom for more than one season.

Pollinators look for pollen and nectar as a food source from early spring through late fall. Let's get our yards blooming as early and as long as possible.

Choosing to buy pesticide-free plants and seeds and also garden without using pesticides.

Plants sold in stores are not always labelled “pesticide-free,” so ask the vendor; the use of chemical herbicides, weed killers, fungicides and insecticides harms pollinators and the soil they live in.

Choosing to leave dead leaves on the ground during the cold season.

Leaving seed heads, berries and leaves in the fall and waiting until late spring to cut plants helps protect the habitats that pollinators need during the winter; leaf blowers harm insect habitats.

Choosing to promote the protection of pollinators and their habitat.

Spread the word by talking to others, putting up a “pollinator-friendly garden” sign, mentoring new gardeners, and volunteering to plant pollinator gardens in schools, community gardens, or senior residences. Share your experience on social media using the keyword #pollinators or #biodiversity or #bees or #PollinatorProtector. Check out the resources at BeeCityCanada.org and develop your own ways to share your pollinator promise!

“Greatest things are done by a series of small things brought together.”

- Vincent Van Gogh

DÉMARCHE POUR MA MOBILITÉ, JE M'ACTIVE

Démarche pour ma MOBILITÉ, je m'ACTIVE is a series of five workshops (in French) designed to engage residents and local partners in a process to exchange ideas and have discussions concerning active mobility. This project is part of the fight against climate change and the promotion of inclusive and healthy communities.

The complete process consists of activities organized and developed by the CRE Montérégie, allowing participants to:

- Identify the active mobility issues in their living environment (consultation);
- Explore solutions to these problems through lectures, workshops and reconnaissance walks with partners who are experts in active mobility (knowledge transfer);
- Identify possible solutions with residents and partners (co-creation);
- Define priority projects to promote active transportation for residents (consultation);
- Conduct a citizen and collective project in support of active mobility (implementation).

Join us on March 16!

IT'S WINTER, LET'S GET READY TO SOW!

Have you made your seed choices for the coming season?

The "Space for Life" blog gives some excellent tips for gardening with native plants. This way, you kill two birds with one stone. You're helping pollinator habitat and fighting invasive exotics at the same time.

Native plants for your garden

Go to www.spaceforlife.ca

WHAT IS A PRESERVED TREE?

How do we know if we are in the presence of a preserved tree, also called a special or protected tree?

According to Louise Thériault, author of an article published in the magazine *Fôret de Chez Nous*, this subjective designation comes primarily from an exceptional feature that invariably makes a strong impression. The advanced age of the tree, its unusual dimensions and its rarity are determining factors. Added to this is the beauty of its bearing, shape or its historical and cultural heritage value. (Fédération des producteurs forestiers du Québec, 2017)

Do you know the shagbark hickory tree?

The shagbark hickory is an uncommon tree in Quebec. Limited to the south, it does not grow beyond the greater Montreal area. We are lucky to find several mature specimens in the Bois des Bosquets!

Easily recognizable by its bark formed of large rolled-up strips, its leaves are composed of five to seven leaflets. Its nuts are edible and are similar to pecans. In fact, this resemblance is not accidental since the pecan tree—present in the United States—is a close cousin. Shagbark hickory nuts ripen around October, but the tree usually only produces them every other year.

The shagbark hickory can live up to 300 years old. The largest and perhaps the oldest specimen in Quebec can be found not far from here in Saint-Charles-sur-Richelieu. Since it grows close to the place where the Patriotes won their one and only victory, this hickory tree is probably the last living witness!

Text by the Centre de la Nature du Mont Saint-Hilaire (translated)
