



Notre-Dame-
de-l'Île-Perrot

What's new @NDIP

A word from the Mayor

Dear Residents,

Every now and then, certain topics seem to crop up again in the news. I'm thinking particularly of the controversial issue of the merger of island municipalities. Again recently, the position put forward by the business community has given rise to many comments and questions. Your Municipal Council, as a political body, has adopted a very clear position on this issue from the beginning of our mandate in 2009: we do not support such a merger. We continue to advocate that inter-municipal agreements are the most advantageous and beneficial for our municipalities and especially for our own residents. Because of the combined residential and agricultural model that we support for our municipality, NDIP deals with very different realities than other island communities. Our position is well understood and respected by the mayors of other municipalities and I thank them for their cooperation.

November may seem far away, but issues for the next election are starting to get talked about. Council members have been contacted by some residents who want to know our priorities and commitments for a second term. I personally experienced the interest of NDIP residents in various issues during our fantastic Winter Fun Festival! Over 1,500 of you turned out to enjoy the many pleasures of winter together. This record attendance is the greatest possible reward for our employees, who work so hard to organize this community festival.

For the councillors and myself, the festival was a marvellous opportunity to meet you and share in a happy, festive and family activity. We thank all those who gave us their comments or suggestions. Whether it's a community festival or a council meeting, we're always available so we can better meet the expectations and needs of all residents of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot.

Marie-Claude Nichols



What's new @ NDIP is also available on the NDIP website, in the **Publications section**. For up-to-date information on the municipal life, visit regularly our web site (www.ndip.org), Facebook page (www.facebook.com/VilledenDIP) and Twitter account (@ville_de_ndip).

living in NDIP



In February, the Régie des équipements en loisir de l'Île Perrot (RELIP) has announced the results of its survey of Île Perrot residents regarding their leisure facility priorities.

Among the options on offer, an indoor pool is the most popular choice. In total, 80% of respondents favoured the construction of this infrastructure. Other facilities (arena, cycle paths and multisport centre) also get very high percentages of support. However, the pool stands out since this option also has the highest use potential (82%).

In light of this result, the four RELIP partner municipalities are currently assessing the feasibility of such a sports facility.

For further information, please visit the RELIP website at www.relip.ca.

HOT TOPICS » URBAN PLANNING

Storing and parking vehicles and recreation equipment

In NDIP, many residents store vehicles or recreation equipment on the grounds of their home. Over the years, various practices have been tolerated that are not in accordance with regulations concerning storage and parking. However, after many comments and complaints, as of this spring, the City will be obliged to strictly apply the bylaw regarding the storage and parking of vehicles and recreation equipment and to correct the practices of non-compliant owners.

At present, storage of recreation equipment is permitted under certain conditions. Regulations govern the length of time permitted, depending on the location of the storage or parking area (e.g. in the front yard, at the side or in the back), and the minimum distance from property lines and roadways.

Non-compliant storage or parking areas will no longer be tolerated, even if clean and tidy. The City cannot permit exceptions to regulations based on aesthetic and subjective criteria.

The City is therefore asking all owners of vehicles or recreation equipment to take note of the applicable regulations by visiting the Urbanisme, permis et inspection section (urban planning, permits and inspections) of the NDIP website or by calling Land Management (514-453-4128, option 1) to ensure that their storage or parking area complies with regulations.

» AGROFORESTRY PROJECT

In September 2012, Council members voted to support the implementation of an innovative agroforestry project managed by CLD Vaudreuil-Soulanges on land along Don-Quichotte Boulevard. The goals of the project are to set up, with the participation of several partners, a large-scale experimental site to test and demonstrate intercropping techniques. This agroforestry approach consists of planting rows of widely spaced trees and cultivating crops such as grain in the space between the trees. The project will analyze the interaction between crop production and slow- or fast-growing or nitrogen fixing trees in order to develop sustainable farming techniques with direct benefits for local communities and next-generation farms.

Work to prepare the site will begin in spring 2013 (removal of brushwood, ploughing, harrowing, levelling and ditch digging) and a portion of the site will be given over to rapid cultivation (vegetable crops). The first trees will be planted in 2014. Since two thirds of its territory is agricultural, NDIP is proud to participate in this agroforestry initiative, probably one of the largest in Quebec, which will investigate issues relating to the presence of trees in an agricultural environment and encourage research aimed at reconciling agricultural productivity with environmental quality.

The City...

The Council members and all municipal employees would like to congratulate Mélissa Arbour-Lasalle, who is in charge of urban planning at the Land Management department, who recently scored an outstanding success in the qualifying exam for the Ordre des urbanistes du Québec. As an urban planning specialist whose expertise and skills are now formally accredited by the Order, Ms. Arbour-Lasalle is responsible for quality of life and harmonizes activities and planning in our territory to meet the needs of NDIP residents. Congratulations!

Did you know...

During winter, six municipal employees, including two full-time workers, are assigned to maintaining NDIP's five outdoor rinks. In addition to clearing the snow and watering the rinks, their duties also include general maintenance of the heated cabins and chalets available for skaters and hockey players. The rinks are generally maintained and watered between 4:00 AM and 12:00 noon, seven days a week. Our teams take advantage of each cold spell to keep the ice in good condition as long as possible.

In 2013, the rinks' performance record is very positive. For the first time in years, a rink was open to the public before Christmas, by December 23 in fact. Although thaws and rain have made things somewhat difficult, our teams had the expertise to manage the situation, thanks to all the preparatory work and watering carried out early in the season.

GREEN THUMB

Changez d'air! Program

What could be nicer in winter than keeping warm with a good old log fire! Unfortunately, heating with wood can be a major cause of air pollution. Conventional stoves are responsible for 40% of all particulate matter emissions in Quebec.

Mindful of this situation, members of Council at the session of November 2012 adopted a resolution to participate in the Changez d'air! Program. This program, promoted by the Association québécoise de la lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique (AQLPA) in partnership with members of the Association des professionnels du chauffage (APC) and the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs (MDDEFP), provides incentives for owners to stop using old-style wood-burning stoves or to replace them with 70% less polluting equipment.

Specifically, owners will receive a subsidy totalling \$200 for removing a stove or \$600 for replacing an old stove with an approved model, including a \$100 contribution from the City.

The City strongly encourages owners of old wood-burning stoves to take advantage of this opportunity to improve the air we all breathe.

For the conditions of eligibility for the Changez d'air! Program or to register, visit www.changezdair.org