

# What's

### A word from the Mayor

#### Dear Residents,

It is often said that in politics six months is an eternity. But, believe me, that doesn't mean we have time to get bored! Because of the incredible diversity of daily business in a city like NDIP, our lives as members of your Municipal Council are intense... but oh so exciting!

Inspired by the trust you showed in us four years ago, we have implemented numerous projects during our mandate to meet residents' needs and to maintain the exceptional quality of life that we all enjoy in NDIP. I'm thinking of the extension of avenue Forest, the installation of the waterplay area, and the completion of the multi-purpose trail along boul. Saint-Joseph Sud, not to mention the innovative agro-forestry project that will start up in our territory. Through our strict management of the City's financial resources, we were able to carry out these projects and provide more services for residents, especially in terms of leisure, while maintaining the same tax rate.

In these difficult times in the municipal sector, I am proud of the transparency that the Council has demonstrated in the management of all its files. We have listened to all points of view, which were sometimes widely divergent, and we re-examined some decisions so as to respond as much as possible to the sometimes irreconcilable expectations of residents, as for example in the case of bylaws on the storage of recreational vehicles.

On behalf of City Council, I thank you all for your support over the past four years.

Marie-Claude Nichols

f Y 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). You can also follow the mayor on Facebook (**www.facebook.com/MarieClaudeNicholsMairesse**).

# living in NDIP



The City of NDIP is updating its signage by installing four new signs at key intersections in its territory: two electronic signboards (at the intersection of Don-Quichotte and Saint-Joseph and at the entrance to the industrial park) and two directional signs (at the intersections of Don-Quichotte and Saint-Joseph and of Saint-Joseph Sud and Perrot).

Work began at the end of August and the new signs will be phased in during September and October.

## HOT TOPICS >> ROAD SAFETY

#### Road Safety on Boulevard Don-Quichotte

In 2013, the City submitted to the Ministry of Transport (MTQ) a series of requests for action to improve road safety on Don-Quichotte (a collector road for which the Ministry is responsible). In particular, we asked to lower the speed limit in the stretch between the limits of L'Île-Perrot and Saint-Joseph Blvd and to install asphalt shoulders on the section east of Saint-Joseph.

In letters dated February 6 and June 17, the MTQ refused to respond to these requests by stating that the problem sites identified by the City are not classified as accident spots under current ministerial standards. The MTQ based its conclusion on the results of a study of the different parameters of the road and its history of accidents over a five-year period.

Regarding the blowing snow corridor on the section east of Saint-Joseph, the MTQ has acknowledged the problem identified by the City and has recommended the installation of a plant windbreak (planting trees along the right of way) to prevent the accumulation of snow at problem locations. The City intends to implement this recommendation this fall so that the windbreak is functional for the coming winter.

#### » URBAN PLANNING

#### Areas at risk of ground movements

The territory of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot has certain zones where geological features create favourable conditions for ground movements in areas with steep slopes, poor drainage and sparse vegetation. To ensure residents' safety, municipal bylaws (on zoning, construction, permits and certification) take into account the geological conditions of our territory. Under the bylaws, in order to reduce risks for human occupancy, certain construction projects on properties located in areas prone to ground movements may be subject to specific immunization requirements and require the submission of a report from an expert in geotechnical engineering.

The Municipal Council is aware that the application of bylaws relating to areas at risk of ground movements may cause inconvenience to some property owners and that certain decisions are not gathering unanimous support. However, the City must take necessary measures to ensure the protection of the whole population of Notre-Dame-del'Île-Perrot.

# The City...

The City and the Syndicat des travailleuses et travailleurs de Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot – CSN signed a new collective agreement on July 16. Because of the harmonious tenor of negotiations, union and management needed only five meetings to reach agreement.

The Council wishes to congratulate City employees on the climate of cooperation that prevailed during the whole process. The new agreement on a five-year contract will expire on December 31, 2018.

#### Did you know...

The Council has decided not to award a contract for the construction of a boat-launching ramp at Parc des Mouettes because the bids submitted were considered too high. The engineering firm retained by the City to estimate costs priced the project at approximately \$165,000 plus taxes. However, at the opening of tenders, City officials responsible for the project were surprised to find that bids were twice as high as the estimate.

Elected officials have decided to postpone the installation of the ramp. They are aware that some residents have requested this facility but, in the present context, consider it unreasonable to spend double the estimate. The City will seek an explanation for the great disparity between the estimate and the actual bids and will reassess the feasibility of the project in light of our financial priorities.

# **GREEN THUMB**

Urban agriculture has been igniting more and more interest and the City receives many requests from residents wanting to know if bylaws permit keeping a few chickens at home. Under the bylaw *Règlement concernant les animaux*, adopted in October 1989, "urban chickens" are not allowed on the territory of NDIP. However, given the enthusiasm of "pro-chicken" residents, and aware that some are already raising hens, Council members have recently sought various opinions on the subject and may now consider amending current bylaws if the proposal receives sufficient support among residents.

The Council plans to hold a conference in the spring on raising a limited number of chickens in urban areas in Notre-Dame in order to inform residents on the issues involved and give them an opportunity to express their views on this topic. In light of the comments received, Council members will vote on whether or not to change the current bylaws.

An interesting file to follow up on...