

# What's New @ NDIP



Notre-Dame-  
de-l'Île-Perrot

## INFORMATION

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## A Word from your Mayor **Danie Deschênes**

For many of us, 2020 will leave bitter memories. This pandemic has profoundly disrupted our lives and forced us to adapt. At the municipal level, fortunately, the picture is not completely bleak. Of course, our major events had to be cancelled, but community life did not stop in NDIP, far from it. The NDIP Nautical Centre saw record use. The Movies at the Farm series ran to almost capacity crowds every week at Quinn Farm. The Marie-Uguay Library offered contactless lending while we were at the red level and prepared more than 1,200 orders for a total of over 4,000 documents. We are also very proud to have been the only city on the island to run our day camp this summer, such an essential service for parents. And thanks to the professionalism of the management team and our instructors, no cases of COVID-19 were reported. We were also one of the few cities in the region to have continued to offer boat cruises, with great success, while respecting health measures.

In our Land Management service, work teams were reviewed to ensure continuity of services. The strategy worked well because there were no disruptions in municipal services. The Urban Planning team was particularly busy. As a result of the isolation requirements, many of you stayed home and wanted to make improvements to your property. There was a steady flow of permit applications, and our inspectors were able to handle them while minimizing contact.

During this time of great change, I would like to thank all the City's employees who have demonstrated professionalism and significant adaptability to ensure the continuity of municipal services. I would also like to acknowledge the great resilience of the residents of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot in the face of the constraints we have experienced. Collectively, you have demonstrated your strong sense of community.

As the end of this year approaches, we are well aware that the return to normal is not going to come overnight, but we are looking forward to 2021 with enthusiasm as well as realism. Several challenges await us and we are preparing the 2021 budget to deal with them responsibly for all residents of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot. I invite you to follow the broadcast of the special meeting of Council on December 15 during which we will unveil the City's 2021 budget.

**In closing, on behalf of the members of the municipal council, I wish you an excellent holiday season and a good start to 2021. Take care of yourself and your loved ones and I look forward to seeing you again in 2021.**



## Life in NDIP

COVID-19 will not break the holiday spirit of NDIP residents. On December 12, we hope many of you will watch Santa's float pass through the streets of NDIP. To the sound of music and in a festive atmosphere, lively elves will provide contactless delivery of gifts to children's doorsteps.

Join the celebration by decorating the front of your house and greeting Santa, the Star Fairy and the wonderful team of elves.

## TREE CUTTING AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Residential development is a central issue for municipalities. In NDIP, the city council always seeks to find a reasonable balance between preserving green spaces and residential development. We are very proud of the beauty of our landscapes and want to protect them for future generations. However, it should be remembered that development land within wooded areas belongs to private owners. If they so wish, these owners have every right to subdivide the land and build houses, as long as they comply with zoning rules. Obviously, any residential development project must be examined by the Technical Services and Urban Planning teams and authorized by Council. Once the compliance and technical feasibility of the project are confirmed, an agreement is signed with the developer in which the City can set specific requirements.

When cutting down trees is unavoidable, a conservation and protection plan must be approved by a municipal officer before work begins. This plan must prioritize the conservation of trees that are most likely to survive and grow in their new environment. When trees cannot be preserved or not in sufficient quantities, the City requires the conservation or planting of various species of trees according to specific density ratios and criteria set out in the Politique de l'arbre (Tree Policy).

Thanks to these requirements, new residential neighbourhoods will benefit from a healthy and diverse canopy for the foreseeable future.

## Green Thumb

October 2020, nearly 1,000 trees and shrubs were planted by the Arbre-Évolution team and Public Works employees of the City of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot to strengthen the forest ecosystem of a conservation area in the heart of a residential neighbourhood. A windbreak hedge was also restored along Don-Quichotte Boulevard to prevent snow drifts and ice formations on the roadway in winter.

Thanks to reforestation efforts, since 2010, the canopy index has remained relatively stable in the City (approximately 38%), despite the destruction of many ash trees by the emerald ash borer. Compared to other CMM cities, NDIP is in an enviable position regarding canopy and forest cover.

## FIRE STATION

### 2021 is a pivotal year

The fire station construction project is on target. The professional services contract has been awarded by Council, preparation of the plans and specifications has begun, and we will be ready to launch the call for tenders for construction at the beginning of 2021. However, we have encountered several obstacles regarding the authorisations required for the land. Despite a 1988 decision by the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec (CPTAQ), giving the City the right to build residential or commercial buildings on this land, which is in an agricultural zone, CPTAQ is now refusing to authorize the construction of a fire station that will improve the protection of our citizens. We are therefore continuing our efforts to have our rights to this land, acquired in 2009, recognized. This case is a good example of the lack of autonomy of municipalities to protect their territory. The City of NDIP consists of almost 70% agricultural land. Council does not approve applications for agricultural rezoning to build residential buildings, and we strictly oversee the cutting of trees by developers. Nevertheless, we face a lack of understanding on the part of certain government bodies in our efforts to ensure the safety of residents. The fire station will obviously protect our territory from fire-related losses, but it will also house the first responders service. First responders are now an essential service; they are the first to arrive at the scene of a disaster when an ambulance is called. They are also the first on site to provide certain care and to reassure residents. Building this infrastructure on our territory is not a mere whim; it responds to a real safety need. The stakes are too high: Council will not give up and will continue its efforts to ensure the project's completion as planned in September 2021.

## In the City

Council would like to highlight Carole Ayliffe's 35 years of service to the City of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot. Carole has been employed with the City since September 5, 1985, and has held a number of positions, including crossing guard and facilities attendant. An artist at heart and active at Studios libres, she shares her great creativity and joie de vivre with those around her. Thank you, Carole, for all these years of service to the City!

# COMALERTE

## REGISTER NOW

The City of Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot has acquired the ComAlert system used to reach NDIP residents quickly and effectively to inform or alert them in the event of an emergency.

Complete a short online form at [ndip.omnivigil.com](https://ndip.omnivigil.com).