

Write to the **Minister du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (MDDELCC)**! It is expected that the use of compostable starch bags for organic materials (those we almost all use to avoid soiling our brown bins) soon will be prohibited. Only paper bags will be accepted, which are more expensive and may discourage the recycling of organic materials. If you want to protest and ask to continue using the compostable starch bags, you can send a letter to Minister Heurtel and to our MP Pierre Reid. A sample letter has been prepared and can be found on Potton.ca in the Residual Materials section and on the Bulletin board.

The Youth Centre Activities (282 Principale street, 450-292 4886):

- Thursdays: Boys Group (boys, age 5-12) 2:30-4:30 pm
- Fridays: Girls Group (girls, age 5-12) 2:30-4:30 pm
- Fridays: SADD (high school students) 7 pm
- Friday Drop-in (age 12+) 7-10 pm
- Saturday: Leadership 3-4:30 pm
- Saturday: Drop -in (age 12+) 4-10 pm
- Friday March 24th: Game Night (YC) 7-10 pm
- Friday April 1st: Pool Tournament (YC) 6-10 pm
- Saturday, March 18th: Dance Group starts 1-3pm
- <http://cabmn.org/youth-centre/?lang=en>

The Youth Hockey Program has ended for the 2017 season. The Municipality would like to thank all the parents who volunteered their time to coach and assist with the program. We will see you again next year.

The Festival of Hearts event has ended. Over 500 people participated in one or more of the 15 events that took place throughout the month of February. The Municipality would like to thank all those who offered an event or program during the month and to all the citizens who participated. It was a big success!

Apartments are available at \$647 per month at « **Potton Apartments** ». Monthly rent may be reduced with AccèsLogis. The dining room is available for community or private events. Info: 450-292-3323 or lesappartementspotton@gmail.com.

Edith Smeesters, Councillor in charge of the communication portfolio



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POTTON

POTTON IN BRIEF

March 2017

Do you wish to receive this bulletin by email? Simply make your request care of edithsmeesters@gmail.com

Recent decisions by the Municipal Council

General: Support of Council for the month of the daffodil for the Canadian Cancer Society and for the possibility of a postal bank concept.

Finances: Approval for the distribution for the financial help to Potton qualified organisations, \$36,000 in all; consult the minutes of the meeting March 6 for details. Approval also to disburse in three installments the moneys earmarked for the Cultural and Heritage Potton Committee - \$32,373.

Municipal taxes:

Citizens have until March 16th 4 pm to resolve their arrears on taxes, for which a letter was sent. Thereafter, they will have no choice but to go to the MRC Memphremagog, in Magog, to pay, including extra processing fees.

Civil rescue equipment:

The Township will acquire an all terrain vehicle for brush fires and off road rescues for its Fire and civil security service. It will be reimbursed all of the outlay of a little more than \$40,000 by the Firemen and First Responders Association. We wish to thank the contributing citizens for their generosity towards the Association and also the latter for its farsightedness in ensuring that Potton has the best equipment.

Waterworks:

After several months of consultations and preliminary internal studies, Council has decided to go ahead and approved several contracts aiming at securing the supply of drinking water for the Mansonville Village and its businesses; approximately \$32,000.

Environment:

Restocking of blue bins for recycling: \$10 000. Composting bags made of starch for organic matter recycling; please read carefully under Community Information, section starting with: Write to the **minister...**

Town planning:

Four minor derogations cases where examined and granted, as well as two demands under Architectural Implementation and Integration Plans (AIIP).

Community Information

Update about 'Cœur villageois' project: Last July, it was announced that our municipality was committed to the 'Cœur villageois' initiative promoted by Tourism Cantons de l'Est (TCE), which aims to highlight the most beautiful villages in the Eastern Townships. Since then, the actions suggested by the Steering Committee, which consisted of some twenty citizens, were presented to you and then to TCE. Today, we are pleased to inform you that a tourism committee is working on the implementation of these actions, several of which are planned for this year. This committee is made up of a dozen citizens and two elected representatives. A new employee, dedicated to tourism and communications, will soon join the group. The signature chosen in French is "*Une chouette communauté*" and we are still looking for a great English translation which will appear in TCE publications; the theme should be around the sense of the community of the citizens, through values of openness and mutual help which makes the Village of Mansonville a great meeting place. It also refers to all the great outdoor activities that can be found nearby: skiing, snowshoeing, kayaking, hiking, etc. and showcasing Mount Owl's Head, an attraction for Mansonville. How can you help strengthen this authentic Village personality and offer visitors a unique and original experience? Simply by welcoming our visitors in the heart of our great community and by continuing to animate the Village, whether at special events, or simply during your daily activities.

Exhibition at the library from March 7th until April 3d: Women from the Kuna Yala Islands of Panama: textile art presented by Kathryn Lipke Vegesaa; guide tour on March 28 at 2 pm.

Cinéma Potton will present at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall of Mansonville:

- Thursday March 16th, L'Avenir (Things to come), French-German drama directed by Mia Hansen-Love in 2016, starring Isabelle Huppert. Original French version with English subtitles.
- Thursday April 6th Le Fils de Jean, French Quebec drama directed by Philippe Lioret in 2016, starring Gabriel Arcand, Marie-Thérèse Fortin and Catherine de Léan, co-owner of a house in the Ruiter Valley.
- Admission: members 7\$, students 5\$, non-members 9\$.

Conference on the Coexistence and Proactive Management of the Beaver (in French only) will be given by Olivier Tremblay, Wildlife Manager, Saturday, April 8th at 10 am at the Bolton-East Town Hall on route 245. Free admission.

The Potton Cultural and Heritage Committee (CCPP) needs your help and suggestions. The mandate of this committee is to promote and support the development of the cultural and heritage life of the Township of Potton. These activities include: Sunday in the Park, The Multicultural Festival, Christmas concert etc. We need your input and your active participation in the meetings (4 or 5 per year) and suggestions for cultural activities that you would like in your village/Township. If you are interested or have any suggestions, please contact Gisèle at: giseleCCPP10@gmail.com

The multicultural Festival will hold its 25th edition this year! Time goes by since Karen Muzerall organized the first festival in 1992. The steering committee will need volunteers to help on August 11th and 12th. Get involved and have fun. Call Diane at 450-292-5817 or Trish at 450-292-3313 ext. 228.

Words of thanks for the Coop des Petites Ziboux: The Municipality is pleased to announce that all three local, private daycares are now offering new socialization workshops as part of their weekly activities. The Municipality and the Tiny Tots committee would like to sincerely thank the Coop des Petites Ziboux of Potton and the funds from the CHSSN du CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS, for their generosity and support for their community.

Information regarding the **Outdoor Adventures Day Camp** is now available at <http://potton.ca/township/recreation-leisure/day-camp>

Information for the summer **soccer program** will be available April 1st at www.potton.ca. For more information please call (450) 292-3313 ext. 228

The spring session of the Gymnastics Program for ages 3 to 14 will take place every Saturday starting March 11th and ending April 22nd. Time: Ages 3-5 (10-10:50 am) 6 + (11-noon). Possibility of an advanced group that will run from 11 to noon. Registrations will take place at Mansonville Elementary School starting at 9:30 am on March 11th. \$45 for Potton tax-payer, \$90 non-Potton resident. Information: 450-292 3313 ext. 228

Free conference on conflict resolution-Thursday, March 23rd from 7 to 8:30 pm- Apartments Potton (27 rue Neil-Armstrong). Are you involved in a conflict with a neighbour, co-worker, friend or family member? Conflicts are part of life, that is why it is important to learn how to best manage them. Information and registration: Municipality at 450-292 3313 ext. 228 or CABMN 450-292 3313. Please note this conference will be delivered in English with a bilingual discussion. French documents provided. Welcome to all.

Les correspondances sortent d'Eastman are coming to Mansonville, March 24th at the Marie-Paule Villeneuve House Church at 8 pm. Pascale Montpetit and Lise Gauvin: An invitation to travel on the St-Lawrence River highlighted by stopovers during which the noted places will be linked to the works that celebrated them. Montréal and Dany Laferrière, the Îles de Sorel with Germaine Guèvremont, Trois-Rivières poets' city, Quebec with Anne Hébert and Jacques Poulin, Tadoussac and the Mingan Islands, Joséphine Bacon and Rita Mestokosho, and the Îles de la Madeleine with Jacques Cartier and Christine Arseneault-Boucher. Space is limited, but no reservations required: first arrived, first seated. Two local restaurants are offering specials for the event:

- **La Trattoria:** 3 services dinner between 5 pm and 7:30 pm. Reservation mandatory before Thursday March 23d. Tel: 819-200 6844
- **Euro Deli:** \$10 special: Polish sandwich, salad, drink of your choice. All day.

Come celebrate the "Hoot" at Owl's Head on Saturday, March 25th from 10 am to 10 pm: it's an annual event that celebrates the end of the ski season with many fun activities for young and old, including the "Slush Cup" at 2 pm (ski jumping in an ice-cold pool!) and a BBQ in the evening. The profits of the day are used to purchase First-Aid equipment for the Owl's Head Ski Patrol.

Cheese sale from St-Benoit Abbey to raise money for the Foundation Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Québec (HAPQ). This rare disease affects our friend Kendall from Potton. Please order before April 5th with Wendy Bedard or to get more information: 450-292 8937. There is a choice of two different boxes: one is \$35 and the other \$40. Cheese will arrive during the week before Mother's Day.

The Township clean-up will take place this year on April 22nd, Earth Day. More than 50 people participated in the ditch clean-up last year, and finished their day with a complimentary lunch and door prizes. This event waste in the ditches along several important roads. Gloves and bags will be distributed on site. Details for this year's chore event will follow in the April Potton in Brief.

The Volunteer's Day will be held on April 27th from 5 to 7 pm at the Town Hall. If you are volunteering for an organization, you are invited to register with the head of your organization. If you are volunteering behind the scenes and not associated with an association, please call Trish Woods at 450-292 3313 ext. 228