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## Farmers from across Outaouais protest Quebec inaction in downtown Gatineau



Wakefield beef producer Cheryl Layer stands with her tractor at the April 17 farmers' protest in Gatineau. (BJ)

 **Bonnie James**

Three tractor convoys descended on downtown Gatineau on Wednesday, April 17, to protest the provincial government's failure to make agriculture a priority in the recent budget and to raise awareness about the plight of the farmers. They came from Wakefield in the north, Luskville to the west, and the east end of Gatineau, towards Thurso. 11 tractors from the Pontiac participated. In total, around 30 tractors lined Blvd de la Carrière, which was closed for the event.

Approximately 100 agricultural producers gathered for a rally at the intersection of Blvd de la Carrière and Blvd du Casino. Signs on tractors and other farm vehicles, as well as hay bales, bore messages like "No farmers, no food!"; "Our end will be your hunger!"; "Jeune on en rêve, adulte on en crève."; and a jab at the CAQ: "Contre Agriculture Québécoise". Around 100 vehicles participated in the convoy, including the tractors.

The protest was organized by the Agricultural Producers Union (UPA) to demand reform of Ministry of Agriculture (MAPAQ) programs, particularly to provide better support for farmers in light of the escalating climate crisis. The producers are also demanding reform of the government's agricultural vision. "It isn't right that the economic sector that feeds the population three times a day receives less than 1% of the provincial budget," said David Landry, UPA Communications Advisor.

"For more than two years, the agricultural sector has been facing significant challenges. The UPA has repeatedly urged governments to act urgently to support the sector in the face of economic downturns, rapid inflation, rising interest rates, and climate change. In response, the government has proposed a limited number of adjustments to existing programs and various so-called "emergency" measures that do not meet the expectations and needs of agricultural producers." Landry added.

*Continued on page 2*

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**See page 3**

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## Farmers from across Outaouais protest Quebec inaction in downtown Gatineau



MNA André Fortin addresses the crowd at the April 17 farmers' protest in Gatineau. (BJ)

### *Continued from page 1*

Audrey Lemaire, Vice-President of the UPA Outaouais-Laurentides Federation and dairy producer in Saint-Jérôme said: "If the announced decline in net farm income by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) for 2024 materializes, it will be the darkest year for our sector since the 1930s! What signal does this send to our future generations? Who will want to take over our farms when the financial burden and workload don't even allow for a decent living income?"

Jeff Overton of Big Rock Farm brought his tractor from Aylmer to participate in the demonstration. "We're not being supported the way that we should be. We're overlooked as an essential service. We have to fight tooth and nail to receive any kind of funding from the government and it takes forever," he said.

Gema Villavicencio of Pure Conscience Farm in Bristol was also in attendance. She said that she was there to represent farms of all sizes that are going through huge financial crises due to high interest rates, inflation, and the enormous costs involved in farm-

ing. She said that her husband has to work a fulltime job off the farm because without his salary they couldn't afford to continue. She said that more government support is needed for small farms as many existing programs aren't tailored to small scale operations and small farms aren't covered by crop insurance.

Pontiac MNA and Liberal agriculture critic André Fortin drove in from Quebec City to attend the event and hear the farmers' concerns. "If government doesn't act quick there's going to be a lot of farms across the province, and in the Pontiac, that will close. That would be a tremendous loss to our economy; to our food supply; and a tremendous loss to our Quebec heritage," he said. The only MNA in attendance, Fortin said he could understand why the producers feel that they are "at the bottom of the totem pole of government priorities when they didn't get anything in the budget and none of their representatives are here today. It's unfortunate that in 2024 agriculture is still treated as a second-class file by government."



# Local and national actions for environmental reform



Tashi **Farmilo**

As concerns over climate change and environmental degradation intensify, Canadians from various sectors are rallying to demand significant policy shifts and to champion sustainable practices. Notably, national petitions have surfaced alongside robust local efforts in Wakefield to confront these pressing issues head-on.

In Wakefield, local action underscores the community's commitment to managing their most immediate natural resource: water. The H2O Wakefield group, a community organization dedicated to ensuring sustainable drinking water, has initiated a bilingual petition to rally the village's residents and local leaders around protecting this vital resource. This local initiative reflects the broader narrative of communities taking stewardship of their environments seriously, paralleling larger national efforts.

On the national stage, the Canadian Association of Physicians has launched a petition urging the government to ban fossil fuel advertising, accusing companies of devastating the environment while misleading the public about their impact. This move reflects growing concerns within the medical community about the health repercussions of unchecked environmental harm.

Simultaneously, the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), recognized as the country's leading financier of fossil fuels and ranked fifth globally, is the focus of another significant petition. This campaign calls on RBC to cease funding fossil fuel projects and to respect Indigenous rights, highlighting the financial sector's critical role in supporting industries detrimental to the planet.

As these petitions gain traction and community efforts like those in Wakefield mobilize support, the message is clear: Canadians are demanding tangible changes in addressing environmental issues, emphasizing sustainability and accountability at both national and local levels. To support these broader efforts, you can sign the petition against fossil fuel advertising at [https://you.leadnow.ca/petitions/big-oil-s-lies-cost-lives-support-bill-c-372?utm\\_source=leadnow&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=blast2024-04-07](https://you.leadnow.ca/petitions/big-oil-s-lies-cost-lives-support-bill-c-372?utm_source=leadnow&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=blast2024-04-07) and the petition urging the Royal Bank of Canada to respect Indigenous rights and stop funding fossil fuels at <https://act.>

From coast to coast, Canadians are rallying to demand significant policy shifts and to champion sustainable practices. (TF)

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (CAPE) FACEBOOK PAGE



gp/3sIU06a. For those in Wakefield, the H2O Wakefield group has established a bilingual petition to protect local drinking water, available at <https://chnng.it/s5Qyp4mGPT>. For more information or to get involved, residents are encouraged to reach out via email at [h2owakefield@gmail.com](mailto:h2owakefield@gmail.com).



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## Credit Squeezed?



FRED Ryan

One of our national media's favourite topics this season is the credit squeeze so many Canadians find themselves mired in. And, given our growing population, large numbers can seem monstrous. The percentages of the population facing a genuinely catastrophic credit train-wreck may not be as overpowering as headlines claim. It is disastrous to those who resist changing their spending habits. No doubt debt is threatening families, individuals, and small businesses; that's fact enough to merit our concern -- and action.

"Action" doesn't mean blaming particular politicians. Blaming is an excuse for not-acting!

Economists cite two causes: past low credit meant we spent too much, and, second, wages have not kept up with rising costs. Our corporate-run economy

can raise its prices; we the people have no equivalent response. People's real tools, strikes and job-actions, are made to look useless and selfish -- thanks to our corporate media!

First, Canada is coming out of extremely low interest rates -- unsustainably low. Nevertheless, who among us considered that interest rates could remain at 1, 2, 3, or even zero percent very long without crashing the banking system? It should have been magnificently clear that we could not, really, buy big homes, fancy cars, or take expensive holidays without having to pay them off.

Yet so many of us indulged in these luxuries. Many claim they felt the luxury was "owed to them": they were so exhausted from work, raising a family, working a farm, or creating a little enterprise -- all the things we do, our parents did, and our kids will do. Self-indulgence seems not the best response to exhaustion, as lovely as it feels. Again, this is not

a moral issue; it's an economics issue. Purchasers knew they would have to pay these expenses back and, eventually, with higher interest rates. They knew that banks do not have souls; they have bottom lines; they are profit-generating machines.

Maybe we all could have spent less, but there's the last point in our debt stumbling block: insufficient wage growth. Increasing employee salaries does not generate profits (except in the extremely long run). We do not live within a cooperative, caring economic system -- that is to say, businesses do not tolerate expenses without returns-on-investment.

So, yes, many Canadians are caught in a credit squeeze. It's not "Trudeau's fault" -- we all made those decisions on running up bigger debt, but we also stick with, support, and vote for this very profit-system. This is all simpler than Big Media claims; the solution itself is not simple, but there is one ... if we really think hard about all this.

## LETTERS

to the **Editor** *Opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by the paper*

### Lessons from Covid: good read

I recently picked up a copy of your newspaper and want to say how interesting Ian Barrett's piece called Lessons from Covid was to me.

Living through a global pandemic has had more impact on each us than we realize. It might take a decade to really

understand what we did or didn't learn. And what we do or not in terms of actions from what we learned.

Keep up the good work -- glad to have a newspaper!

**Michelle Lortie  
Chelsea**

### Nuclear Waste site was approved?

Thankfully someone is challenging this scary waste site (Page 7 article called: Legal challenge against Ottawa River Waste Facility spotlights environmental concerns by Tashi Farmilo). Is this the only legal opposition to this site? Are the politicians in Ottawa not

alarmed by this nuclear waste site up-river?

Will the West Quebec Post interview MPs to see why they aren't more active on this topic?

**Laurie Gauthier  
La Pêche**

### Tic Tok and espionage: will journalists please confirm what governments say?

I wish journalists would take a close look what governments are saying about Tic Tok and international espionage. Is it all true? There's this big court case about Tik Tok needing to be sold to a non-Chinese company if the social media giant is to continue commercial activities in the US. But it almost sounds like fantasy. Or not. It is so hard to discern what governments are truthful about when it comes to international relations.

I know this local newspaper won't be doing a deep-dive into the legitimacy of government messages about international influence on Canadian politics by hijacking our social media. But I'm writing to the West Quebec Post on this because Ottawa is host to a public hearing on foreign interventions in our social media and in-person events for the purpose of

swaying election results.

I watched some of the hearing sessions and the influence happens at the level of a bus-load of paid members to influence riding votes. We have plenty of these in Outaouais. West Quebec has several MPs and MNAs, they could be influenced at the riding level easily.

And West Quebec has plenty of social media users -- these are also very susceptible to foreign -- and domestic -- radical influence. And because of radicalisms in all political stripes, it is hard to triage out fake information.

Truly, I hope experienced Canadian journalists will follow all the leads to give the public reliable information. Keep it up at the local level, *West Quebec Post!*

**David Smith  
Gatineau**

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**westquebecpost.com**

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## Remembering



*Remember me when the candle  
lights are gleaming  
Remember me at the close of a long,  
long day  
It would be so sweet when all alone  
I'm dreaming  
Just to know you still remember me.*

How often we hear the words,  
"We shouldn't live in the past."  
There is wisdom in those words,  
but sagacity in these words as well:  
"There is much to be learned from  
what came before." As we become  
older, as most of our life is behind  
us, we live in the present, yet re-  
flect upon where we once were,  
on our friendships today, on those  
friendships from which we are  
severed, and on where we might  
be tomorrow.

It is upon those reflections in  
lyrics of songs that I write about  
today. "Remember Me" is but one  
of many. Here are others:

Tell me the tales that to me were  
so dear  
long, long ago  
long, long ago.  
Sing me the songs I delighted to  
hear  
long, long ago  
long ago.

And...

Songs of home in living rooms  
and bars  
Songs of home on fiddles and gui-  
tars  
Off you go the music gives you  
wings  
And there's peace in what the  
memories bring.

Another...

When it's lamp lighting time in  
the valley  
Then in dreams I go back to my  
home  
I can see that bright light in the  
window  
It will guide me wherever I roam

That silver-haired daddy...

In a vine-covered shack in the  
mountains  
Bravely fighting the battle of time  
Is a dear one who's weathered life's  
sorrows  
Is that silver-haired daddy of  
mine.

More...

Where is my wandering boy to-  
night...  
The boy of my tenderest care,  
The boy that was once my joy and  
light,  
The child of my love and prayer.

These words...

Thank you for the party  
We're always glad we came  
I'm the only one from the family  
tonight  
But I know they'd say the same.

Drink to me only...

Drink to me only with thine eyes,  
And I will pledge with mine,  
Or leave a kiss within the cup  
And I'll not ask for wine.  
The thirst that from the soul doth  
rise

Doth ask a drink divine;  
But might I of Jove's nectar sip  
I would not change for thine.

Home I'll be...

...You're as peaceful as a clear day  
You're as rugged as the seas  
I caress you oh, Cape Breton  
In my dreams

And home I'll be

Home I'll be  
Banish thoughts of leaving  
Home I'll be.

These are but a few snip-  
pets from songs that were going  
through my mind. Thank you for  
letting me share my love of the  
'old' songs with you today.



## Indian Election

by *Gwynne DYER*

AUTHOR, HISTORIAN & INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST

Extreme nationalism always looks foolish or  
even deranged to those who have not caught  
the virus, but in India it's now official.

In January, India's Ministry of Defence started  
setting up 822 'selfie points' at war memorials,  
railway stations and tourist attractions where  
people can take photos with a cardboard cutout  
of their hero, Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The timing was no coincidence. The national  
election begins on Friday and runs until 4 June,  
when the result will be declared. (With almost a  
billion voters, the country votes one region at a  
time.) The outcome is known in advance – Modi  
will win – but the Hindu fanatics who provide  
his core vote have the bit between their teeth.

In West Bengal, for example, the World Council  
of Hindus recently petitioned a court to separate  
two lions in a zoo enclosure. The male lion  
is called Akbar, after a 16th-century Muslim  
emperor, while the female is named Sita after  
a Hindu goddess.

"Sita cannot stay with the Mughal emperor  
Akbar," the petitioners demanded. "Such an act  
amounts to blasphemy and is a direct assault  
on the religious belief of all Hindus." The pair  
have been duly separated and now reside in  
different cages. Ridiculous, of course, but also  
deadly serious.

India's 200 million Muslims, about one-seventh  
of the population, are now deliberately targeted  
by Narendra Modi's militantly Hindu BJP (In-  
dian People's Party).

Some Hindus nurse an historical grievance  
because most of India was ruled for five cen-  
turies by Muslim conquerors originally from  
Central Asia, but that ended two centuries ago.  
Hindus were already in the ascendant under  
British rule, because they were readier to col-  
laborate with the new conquerors – and even  
that ended 77 years ago.

'Hindutva', the aggressive modern version  
of Hindu nationalism, is largely a contempo-  
rary ideology created for political purposes,  
but it currently dominates the Indian political  
scene. It has given Modi licence to transform  
an imperfect but functional democracy into a  
'soft' fascist state.

This will be Modi's third consecutive term  
in office, and many Indians believe that it will  
complete his transformation of the country.  
What will emerge, they fear, is a BJP one-party  
theocracy, nastier than Orban's Hungary or  
Erdoğan's Turkey although perhaps not as vi-  
cious as Khamenei's Iran.

It may well come to that. Even now opposition

politicians are routinely jailed on false charges,  
almost all the media are cowed into obedience,  
and Muslims face intimidation or actual violence  
with almost no hope of protection from the  
police. Some of the courts are still independent  
but the rule of law is definitely in retreat.

Yet it's too soon to give up on India's demo-  
cratic traditions. The BJP, for all its bombast  
and swagger, only got 37% of the popular vote  
in the last national election five years ago. Its  
apparent 'landslide' victory was only due to the  
opposition being divided into many smaller  
parties.

Hindutva is all-powerful in the 'Hindi belt' of  
northern India, but first-language Hindi speakers  
are only 40% of the population. Southern and  
eastern India speak other languages and have  
different preoccupations. And there is one topic  
that could unite them against the BJP: caste.

The BJP is dominated by upper-caste Hindus  
who have convinced a great many other Hindus  
that they are all in the same boat, but they are  
not. Socially, economically and educationally  
the lower castes trail far behind. The opposi-  
tion, or at least the Congress Party part of it,  
has realised (better late than never) that these  
are the voters they need.

Rahul Gandhi, the scion of the family that  
has given India three prime ministers, has be-  
gun to demand a 'caste census' in every state,  
because that would reveal how small a share of  
the national wealth the lower castes actually get.

No such census had been published in India  
since the 1930s. However Bihar, an opposition-  
governed state, finally did one, and revealed  
late last year that more than two-thirds (73%)  
of its 130 million people belong to 'backward'  
or marginalised castes.

That's much higher than people thought,  
and it's political dynamite. So now Gandhi's  
election speeches sound like this: "Are any of  
you Dalits ('untouchables') or other low castes  
in the judiciary? Are any of you in the media?  
Do any of you own even one of India's 200 top  
companies?"

"Why are you all asleep? You are 73% of the  
population. What kind of society is this where  
you don't make any decisions?"

The idea that all Hindus share the same  
grievances and goals is just 'culture-war' lies,  
and caste is finally taking its rightful place on  
India's political agenda. It may be coming too  
late to turn back the BJP juggernaut this time,  
but fascism is not necessarily India's future.



## Pontiac Council Report

# Day camp staff hired



MO **Laidlaw**

The monthly council meeting was held on April 9 at the Luskville community centre at 7:30 pm. A few residents were present.

### ADMINISTRATION

The municipality wishes to issue \$2.2 million bonds to pay back loans sooner than originally set out in bylaws 05-16 and 09-17. The Ministry of Finance received three bids, the lowest being from Financière Banque Nationale Inc, which is awarded the bond issue.

The MRC des Collines is responsible for maintenance of watercourses. The municipality resolves to sign an agreement with the MRC to establish a maintenance project for the Ferris stream branch of the Bélisle

stream, to restore normal flow through farmland.

The Quyon family centre's request to be exempt from property taxes was accepted.

Incurred expenses of \$25,330 were accepted.

Katia Robitaille is hired as tax clerk.

An employee has retired and was thanked for his many years of loyal service. Another employee has resigned and is thanked for her dedicated services.

Council request the federal government to work with municipalities to provide funds for local infrastructure to support growth.

Council voted to support keeping the Caisse Populaire Desjardins ATM in Luskville.

### PUBLIC WORKS

Council accepted a tender for \$9,140

plus tax, from VO3, for a small scale test to reduce organic matter and trihalomethanes (THMs) (due to decaying vegetation found in lakes reacting with chlorine), in the Quyon drinking water plant. This may help the plant meet certain standards.

Only one bid was received for maintenance of green spaces. The one year contract is awarded to Entreprise MK for \$55,135 including tax.

Only one bid was received for supply and spreading of dust suppressant on gravel roads. The contract for 2024 is awarded to Multi-Route for \$81,086 including tax.

The municipality will join a group purchase of road de-icing salt (NaCl) with the Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ) for 4 years.

Patrick Kevin Brazeau is hired as a day labourer.

### PLANNING

A municipal "flood lot" at 110 ch Bord-de-l'eau will be sold to a neighbouring owner to install a septic system.

New members are appointed to the planning committee (CCU): Marielle Gervais-Joanisse, Muriel Dufour and Sophie Séguin, in addition to current members: Councillors Amyotte and Dagenais, and Mayor Roger Larose.

### RECREATION AND CULTURE

The following are hired for the 2024 Pontiac day camp: Annie Lambert, coordinator; Alexia Bélanger, head animator; and Madyson Belland, Amélie Piquet, Alyson Venne and Marie-Laure Bouchard, as animators.



## BECAUSE WE HAVE YOUR ACTIVITIES AT HEART COMMUNITY EVENTS

**ALOHA! AYLMEYER'S LGBTQ BEACH PARADISE PARTY** Saturday, May 11, 2024, 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m., 94 Rue du Patrimoine, Aylmer (QC). Grab your grass skirts and shades, bring your beach vibe, and join us for a night of cheap drinks, tropical games, and dancing! Come get your lei on, play limbo, hula hoop competition, and take fun pics at the photo booth. Tickets: \$20 in advance (at Top Bronzage) or \$30 at the door.

**AYLMER LEGION:** -May 5 at 1 p.m.: Ceremony to mark the Battle of the Atlantic Anniversary on the front lawn at the Branch. The ceremony will be followed by a cadet presentation and reception at the Branch. -May 13 at 1 p.m.: Euchre League. -May 14 at noon: Seniors & Friends Lunch, Karaoke and Dance. -May 18: Dinner fundraiser: Order a delicious rotisserie-style chicken meal. You can either have your meals delivered to your home by our volunteers, order them to go, or enjoy them at the Branch. This dinner fundraiser is organized by volunteers to raise money to cover the costs of repair work needed on the sidewalk and in the parking lot at the back of the building. These repairs are essential to ensure safe access for seniors, veterans and members of the community. To order your meals, please call Denise at 613 614-7847. -May 31 at 7 p.m.: Volun-

teer Appreciation Night with live music from Arc of Fire; a musical evening organized to thank our volunteers, supporters and veterans. -June 6 at 6 p.m.: D-Day 80th Anniversary Commemorative Ceremony at Aylmer's Parc Commémoratif followed by cadet presentation at the Branch and live music at 7:30 p.m. with the Better Times Band. -Knitting group every Monday at 1 p.m. All are welcome to the Aylmer Legion, 59 Rue Bancroft, Aylmer, Qc. Info and inquiries: Aylmerlegion33@gmail.com.

**BEATLE NATION AT PUTTERS** Join us for an unforgettable evening as we take you on a magical journey through the timeless music of the Beatles. Get ready to sing along and dance to all your favorite hits! Saturday, May 4, 2024, at 8:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:00 p.m.).

Tickets are \$20 each and available at: <https://lepointdevente.com/.../beatle-nation-chezputters...> Tickets at the door (if any are left): \$25. 181 Principale Street, Gatineau (Aylmer), QC J9H 6A6 (entry via Wilfrid-Lavigne Boulevard). Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to experience the magic of Beatle Nation live! Grab your friends and family and come relive the golden era of rock music. Admission is restricted to patrons 18 and over.

**BINGO AYDELU.** 94, rue du Patrimoine, Gatineau (secteur d'Aylmer). Tous les mercredis soir / Every Wednesday night. 18 h 45 / 6:45 p.m. Ouverture des portes 16 h / Doors open at 4 p.m. 3 800 \$ en prix / in prizes. 18 ans et plus / 18 years and older. Places limitées / Limited places. Nouveau programme / New program. Service de cantine / Canteen service. 819 684-7888 ou/or 819 230-2240.

**CITIZENS' SYMPOSIUM ON CHANGE:** On May 19 at La Cabane en bois rond. Email me to get your free ticket, 130 available. A dozen speakers (including Gatineau mayoral candidates) will present ideas to prevent poverty and stimulate our economy. Sylvain 613 501-4357.

**DEBATE! THE AYLMEYER BULLETIN AND THE BRITISH** are collaborating to host a live debate between mayoral candidates on May 28, at 6:30 p.m., at the British Pub & Restaurant - 71 Rue Principale, Gatineau (Aylmer sector).

**LE SALON MÉTAPHYSIQUE ET SPIRITUEL D'OTTAWA/GATINEAU** Le samedi 11 mai 2024 de 10 h à 18 h. Plus de 80 exposants. Cet événement entièrement GRATUIT est organisé par Crystal Dreams. Entrée gratuite. Tous sont les bienvenus! Vous trouverez des produits, des services et des informations sur une variété de sujets: pierres précieuses, cristaux, santé holistique, huiles essentielles, souvenirs, bijoux, arts, spiritualité, naturopathes, encens, tarot, yoga, méditation, Shamans, chakras, nutrition, modes de

vie verts, bien-être, pierres précieuses, métaphysiques, médecine alternative, écrivains, chercheurs paranormaux, inspiration, plantes médicinales et bien plus encore. Lieu: Palais des congrès de Gatineau, 50, boulevard Maisonneuve, Gatineau, QC J8X 4H4. Pour plus d'information, consulter [www.CrystalDreamsWorld.com](http://www.CrystalDreamsWorld.com). Si vous souhaitez devenir exposant au Salon métaphysique d'Ottawa, envoyez-nous un message à [Info@CrystalDreamsWorld.com](mailto:Info@CrystalDreamsWorld.com).

**MOBILE ECOCENTRE AYLMEYER SECTOR** Paul-et-Isabelle-Duchesnay arena parking lot, 92 Rue du Patrimoine (access via Wychwood Drive). Saturday, June 15, 2024, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, October 5, 2024, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mobile ecocentres are open to Gatineau residents only. Proof of residency will be required. ACCEPTED MATERIALS: Tires (maximum 12 per visit), electronic products, household hazardous waste (HHW) (e.g., batteries, paint, used oil, aerosols, compact fluorescent bulbs), green waste, styrofoam, clothing and textiles in good condition. REFUSED MATERIALS: Wood, appliances and other bulky items, bulky waste, dry materials, metal, household waste, construction waste. INSTRUCTIONS: Citizens are responsible for unloading their items by hand. Attendants are not required to assist them. Ville de Gatineau reserves the right to refuse the unloading of any load of items mixed with household waste or any other refused material. For more info: [gatineau.ca/ecocentres](http://gatineau.ca/ecocentres).



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**FUN FÊTE DECORATION SERVICE** for weddings, birthdays, christenings, and any other events. Balloon arrangements; preparation of goodie bags for children's parties; rental of chair covers, tablecloths, etc.; rental of cotton candy, popcorn or snow cone machines; rental of foot spa machines; rental of inflatable play structures. Phone: 873 353-2399. Email: [funfete.2019@gmail.com](mailto:funfete.2019@gmail.com).

### FOR RENT

**BACHELOR FOR RENT** Aylmer sector of Gatineau. \$795/month, no pets. For more information, call 819 414-1627.

### FOR SALE

**SEMI-INGROUND OVAL POOL (28' X 15' X 4') PARTS** - T&G cedar boards, liner, fabric base, pump, misc. hardware. \$800. For more details, call 819 485-1011.

### HALL RENTAL

**AYDELU RECREATIONAL CENTRE** 94 Rue du Patrimoine (Aylmer sector). Community hall rental, perfect for all kinds of occasions. For reservations, call Pauline at 819 921-3891.

**HALL RENTAL FOR ANY OCCASION.** With or without bar service; kitchen; air conditioning; Wi-Fi; TV; dance floor, and more. Questions? Email us at [Aylmerlegion33@gmail.com](mailto:Aylmerlegion33@gmail.com) or leave a detailed message at 819 684-7063 and we will return your call as soon as we can. Aylmer Legion, 59 Rue Bancroft, Gatineau (Aylmer) QC.

### HELP WANTED

**COLLECTION OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR THE AYLMEYER FOOD CENTRE:** People who want to make a difference and help our community can drop off their donations at the Aylmer Bulletin office, located in the Galeries Aylmer, Monday to Friday during regular business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.). Thank you for your support!

### JOB OFFERS

**GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE WORKER** - Les Vieux Moulins Golf Club. Duties include mowing of greens, maintaining the golf course, and operating related machinery. References required. Send resume to [patmoe@videotron.ca](mailto:patmoe@videotron.ca).

**ADVERTISING CONSULTANT POSITION AVAILABLE.** Help local businesses increase their visibility and sales. Interpersonal skills are essential. You must be bilingual and own a vehicle. Responsibilities: Offer many innovative advertising solutions to local merchants, provide customer service to advertisers, apply different marketing strategies, and expand print and web sales. Send your résumé by email to the Aylmer Bulletin at [pub@bulletinaylmer.com](mailto:pub@bulletinaylmer.com).

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**HOT STONE ENERGY THERAPY** Reiki Master Pauline Brown. 75-minute treatment. Visit [www.healwithpauline.com](http://www.healwithpauline.com) or call 819 684-7885.

### PERSONNEL

**SEEKING A MOTORCYCLE COMPANION** for a happy healthy retired 63-year-old 120-pound woman. Kim 613-805-1303.

### RECHERCHÉ/SEEKING

**SENIOR LADY LIVING ON AN IMPOSSIBLE SENIOR PENSION** looking for an affordable room to rent in the Aylmer area. I am quiet, clean, and respectful. References available. Michele 819 819-0163 or 1 438 542-5787.

### SERVICES

**WINDOW CLEANING** Spare your back with Lavage de vitres ALTA! Impeccable windows await you! Contact our family-owned business at 819 801-4448 or send us an email at [info@altaservices.ca](mailto:info@altaservices.ca). Treat yourself to the quality space you deserve!

**TOPSOIL AND MULCH DELIVERY;** general yard cleaning, tree pruning, hedge trimming, and lawn mowing. Call Ray at 613 880-9796.

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## BECAUSE WE HAVE YOUR ACTIVITIES AT HEART COMMUNITY EVENTS



**MIRAGE GROUPE VOCAL PRÉSENTE CHANTER LA PAIX ET L'AMITIÉ** sous la direction de Daniel Lafleur. Le samedi 11 mai 2024 à 13 h 30 à l'Église St-Paul, 26, chemin Eardley, Gatineau (QC) J9H 0K2. Coût : 20 \$. Gratuit pour les moins de 12 ans. Billets disponibles au [miragegv@gmail.com](mailto:miragegv@gmail.com) ou à la porte. Les profits de la vente de billets seront remis à Itinérance Zéro Gatineau.

**OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH SPRING AUCTION** On Wednesday, May 8, 189 Archambault Street (Hull) Gatineau. Viewing 5:30 p.m., bidding 6:30 p.m. Cash

sales only. Admission \$2. For more information, call 819 776-4434 or 819 777-8825.

**THE AYLMEYER MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION (AHMA) WILL HOLD ITS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** on May 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Robinson Community Hall, 96 Rue du Patrimoine, 2nd floor. Info: 819 930-2020 or [www.hockeyaylmer.com](http://www.hockeyaylmer.com).

**RAIN BARREL SALE** \$65, pre-order online at [rainbarrel.ca/gatineau-eng](http://rainbarrel.ca/gatineau-eng). Pickup on May 25 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at 714 Rue Vernon, Aylmer, QC. Cathy 819 360-7561.



# Onslow kindergarten class built bug hotels for Earth Day



Tashi **Farmilo**

In a delightful prelude to Earth Day, the youngest students at Onslow Elementary School in Quyon were buzzing with excitement and learning. Under the guidance of kindergarten teacher Sofia Ferreira, her class embarked on a hands-on educational journey to explore the vital role insects play in our ecosystem. These curious kindergarteners delved into the world of insects,

learning about their diverse roles, from pollination to soil aeration. The highlight of their project was constructing "bug hotels," creative sanctuaries for bugs to live in, lay eggs, and hibernate during the winter months. Using natural materials found in gardens and forests, they crafted environments that are not only functional but also educational. These bug hotels, now nestled in the school's green spaces, stand as a testament to the innovative ways children can contribute to environmental conservation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHY NUGENT, PRINCIPAL AT ONSLOW ELEMENTARY IN QUYON



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