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New vocation for vacant Thurso pulp mill: biocarbon project after 5-year closure

Sophie Demers
 LJI Reporter

The former pulp mill in Thurso was lively on September 9 for the official launch of Évolys, the company who will be taking over the industrial site. Évolys was created by Canadian mining giant Rio Tinto and American company, Aymium, with the goal of accelerating decarbonisation in the metal industry. Specifically, on reducing greenhouse gas emissions created by Rio Tinto Iron and Titanium facilities. The existing Fortress pulp mill buildings will be redeveloped to build a new renewable metallurgical biocarbon plant using forest residues.

Évolys aims to be operational in 2025. It will create over 30 permanent jobs, and an additional 50 jobs for construction. This is welcome news for Thurso which took major losses when the Fortress pulp mill closed five years ago.

“These last five years have not been easy for the community. They have not been easy for families,” said Thurso Mayor, Benoit Lauzon. “Families who have been forced to move to continue working. We hope to see them come back home in the next few years, to come and work on this new site here with the Évolys company.”

The first phase of the operations consists of a \$50 million investment. The initial capacity will be 50,000 tonnes of biocarbon annually. In terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions this represents taking 30,000 cars off the road.

“In collaboration with Évolys Québec, our government is breathing new life into these facilities of great importance to Thurso and the surrounding area. The project will create jobs for the people of Papineau and stimulate our local economy. I'm very proud of the work accomplished over the past few years to revive this industrial site, to the benefit of the entire Outaouais



Provincial and municipal government representatives along with executives from Rio Tinto and Aymium at the September 9 official launch of Évolys in Thurso. From left to right, Sophie Bergeron, Executive Director of Rio Tinto Iron & Titanium and Diamonds; Benoit Lauzon, Mayor of Thurso and Warden of the Papineau MRC; Mathieu Lacombe, Minister of Culture and Communications, Minister responsible for Youth, Minister responsible for the Outaouais region and Member of the National Assembly for Papineau; Pierre Renaud, Mayor of Lochaber-Partie-Ouest; and James Mennel, Chief Executive Officer of Aymium.

PHOTO: SOPHIE DEMERS

region.” said Mathieu Lacombe, MNA for Papineau, Minister of Culture and Communications, Minister responsible for Youth and Minister responsible for the Outaouais region.

The Évolys project helps Rio Tinto's goal of being at net zero carbon emission by 2050. This also reflects the Quebec government's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2050 as well.

Biocarbon is created using biomass, Évolys plans to partner with the local forestry industry for their biomass supply which will consist of pulp quality round wood, forest residues, and saw mill residues. This will support the existing industries in the region.

“This project is much more than an industrial revival. It symbolizes our ability to evolve towards a more sustainable future and to preserve quality jobs. The forestry industry is thus coming back to life. This is therefore good news for Thurso and for the entire ecosystem because jobs will be secured in our city and everywhere in Outaouais,” said Lauzon.

Continued on page 6

Health Minister Dubé visits Pontiac Hospital, discusses healthcare challenges

Tashi Farmilo
 LJI Reporter

In a surprise visit to Pontiac Hospital, Quebec's Health Minister Christian Dubé met with key local figures to discuss the pressing healthcare challenges in the region. Among those present were Nicole Boucher Larivière, CISSSO President Dr. Marc Bilodeau, and Pontiac MNA André Fortin.

Dubé's visit was focused on understanding the unique difficulties faced by healthcare providers and patients in the Pontiac region. The discussions highlighted several critical issues, including the challenges of attracting and retaining healthcare professionals, the accessibility of surgical services in rural areas, and the impact of the region's proximity to Ontario on the local healthcare system.

Nicole Boucher Larivière, who has been vocal about the difficulties in the region, expressed cautious optimism following the meeting. “It was refreshing to see Minister Dubé take the time to come to the Pontiac and see firsthand the realities we face,” said Larivière. “We discussed the urgent need for better recruitment strategies and the importance of keeping essential services running at all times. The minister seemed to grasp the severity of our situation, but we need to see action soon.”

Continued on page 2



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See page 3

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Chelsea and Ottawa suffer the same tax avoiders



REUEL S. Amdur

Chelsea and the City of Ottawa are fighting the same battle, against the practice of the federal government and its agency the National Capital Commission (NCC), which are shortchanging them on payment in lieu of taxes. Since governments do not pay property tax, they pay in lieu, and in the case of both Chelsea and the City of Ottawa, they choose to pay less and less, leaving a big hole in municipal resources. Both municipalities are involved in litigation, to make the NCC pay up. While Ottawa has a variety of issues with the feds around money, both municipalities complain about how they are being treated by the NCC.

Chelsea went to the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Advisory Panel to get its opinion on the dispute with the NCC as to the amount to be paid. At the time, the NCC agreed to abide by the Panel's finding, but when it found for Chelsea the NCC broke its word. It has been paying less and less. Chelsea then went to Superior Court, which decided in favor of the NCC. Next the judges of the

Court of Appeals unanimously came to the same conclusion. Chief Justice Yves de Montigny said, "It is ultimately up to the NCC's discretion to establish the value of the land as well as the PILT to be paid to the municipality." Because the court was unanimous, the Supreme Court would ordinarily be unlikely to give leave to appeal. Nevertheless, Chelsea is seeking leave. The one possible factor that might influence the Supreme Court to take the case is that the City of Ottawa is also involved in similar litigation. Under the circumstances, Chelsea should be looking to how it might cooperate with the City of Ottawa.

On August 2, Ottawa Mayor Mark Sutcliffe issued an urgent plea to upper levels of government to meet what he sees as their commitments to his city. Commenting on what the NCC pays as PILT, he asked, "Imagine if I told you, as a property taxpayer, that you could decide how much you wanted to pay every year." He put some numbers to the situation. "Eight years ago, they were paying \$194 million a year in PILT. Now they're paying \$164 million." That, he complains, is \$95 million less than what they should be paying now.

Sutcliffe pointed to one way in which the NCC sets its valuations. It allows buildings to deteriorate, failing to provide adequate upkeep. Then, they decide that the building is worth less and that they should reduce the relevant PILT. Let's put it this way.

"Your Honor, I am pleading for mercy for my client, the defendant, standing before you on a charge of patricide. When sentencing him please give due consideration to the fact that he is fatherless."

The federal approach to PILT amounts

to downloading onto local government. In both Ontario and Quebec, local governments are forced to rely primarily on property taxes. This tax is regressive and erratic. Thus, as frequently noted, the three principal factors in establishing the value of a property are location, location, and location. The tax bears no relationship to ability to pay. By contrast, the federal income tax is broadly progressive. The federal government can also go into debt, while municipalities in Ontario and Quebec may not, though there are workarounds.

Health Minister Dubé visits Pontiac Hospital, discusses healthcare challenges

Continued from page 2

During the meeting, Larivière underscored four key issues that she believes are crucial for the region's healthcare system:

1. Proximity to Ontario Hospitals: Larivière pointed out that there are four Ontario hospitals—Arnprior, Renfrew, Pembroke, and Deep River—located near the Pontiac area. This proximity creates challenges in retaining healthcare professionals, as they have the option to work across the border. Larivière stressed the need for the minister to understand the geographic and competitive pressures faced by local hospitals.

2. Staffing Challenges: Recruiting bilingual staff is a significant hurdle in the Pontiac, where many healthcare workers must be fluent in both French and English. Larivière highlighted that this requirement adds an additional layer of difficulty to an already challenging recruitment environment, exacerbated by the ease with which Ontario hospitals can attract staff.

3. Barriers for Out-of-Province Nurses: Larivière expressed concern over the stringent requirements for nurses from other provinces to work in Quebec. Unlike Ontario, where it is easier for Quebec nurses

to cross the border and work, Quebec requires out-of-province nurses to pass competency exams, which deters many from seeking employment in the region.

4. Maintaining Essential Services: Given the vast and dispersed population of the Pontiac, Larivière underscored the critical need to maintain essential services, such as emergency rooms and diagnostic imaging, within the region. She stressed that for many residents, "local" already means an hour's drive, making it imperative that these services remain accessible.

Continued on page 3



Health Minister Christian Dubé visited Pontiac Hospital, where he sampled pureed food and discussed local healthcare challenges with MNA André Fortin, among others. (TF)

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE BOUCHER LARIVIÈRE



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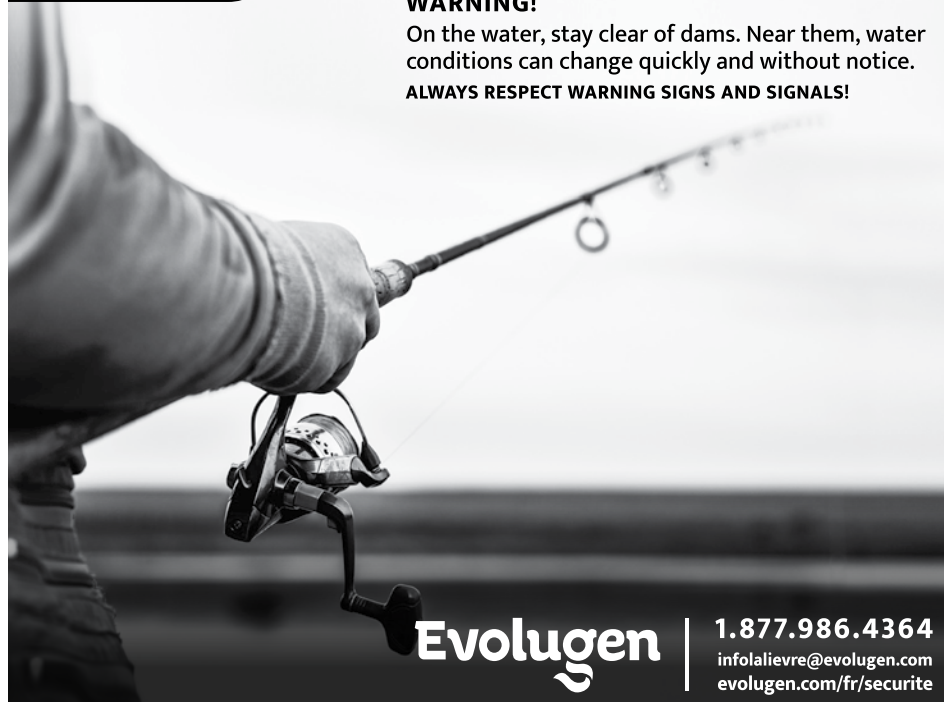
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Labour Day long weekend leads to three arrests for impaired driving



Taylor **Clark**
LJJ Reporter

A police officer was left with minor injuries after a 61-year-old man from Gatineau rear-ended a patrol vehicle in the early hours of Labour Day.

Gatineau police were called to assist the Gatineau Fire Department at the scene of a vehicle fire on Autoroute Guy-Lafleur around 2:30 am. While flashing its lights to warn motorists to reduce their speed, the stationary police vehicle was struck from the rear.

The officer inside the vehicle at the time of the impact was taken to the hospital as a precautionary measure, but only suffered minor injuries from the incident. The driver of the car that collided with the police cruiser was not injured.

The 61-year-old was arrested at the scene for impaired driving. Tests at the police station revealed a level of more than twice the legal limit. The vehicle was seized for 30 days, and the man's driver's licence was suspended for 90 days.



A 61-year-old man was arrested over the long weekend for impaired driving after rear-ending a stationary police cruiser on Autoroute Guy-Lafleur.

PHOTO: SERVICE DE POLICE DE LA VILLE DE GATINEAU
FACEBOOK PAGE

Police reported two other collisions over the weekend, which also resulted in impaired driving charges.

Officers attended the scene of a single-vehicle collision with a streetlight at the intersection of Maloney Boulevard East and Pélissier Street shortly after midnight on August 31. The driver was alone in the vehicle and was arrested at the scene after police observed signs of alcohol intoxication. Tests showed the 27-year-old man had a blood alcohol level above the legal limit. His driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, and the vehicle was impounded.

Hours later, police returned to Maloney Boulevard East, in response to a call concerning a collision between a vehicle and a traffic light. At the scene, officers discovered the occupants of the vehicle had fled, but they were quickly located. The driver, a 48-year-old man from Gatineau, was arrested for impaired driving and hit-and-run charges. Tests revealed a blood alcohol level more than twice the legal limit. The vehicle was seized for 30 days, and the man's driver's licence was suspended for 90 days.

Health Minister Dubé visits Pontiac Hospital, discusses healthcare challenges

Continued from page 2

The visit also included a lighter moment when Minister Dubé sampled a plate of pureed food, a new initiative by the hospital to improve meal presentation for patients on special diets. "The kitchen staff were thrilled that he took the time to try it," said Larivière. "It's a small gesture, but it meant a lot to our team."

André Fortin, who has been a strong advocate for healthcare improvements in the region, also shared his thoughts on the visit. "While I appreciate the minister's visit and his willingness to listen, the time for talking is over," said Fortin. "The Pontiac region has been neglected for far too long, and we need immediate action. Our healthcare workers are stretched thin, and our patients deserve better. I will continue to push for concrete changes, including addressing the pay disparity between Quebec and Ontario healthcare workers, which Minister Dubé himself promised to fix during the election campaign."

Fortin highlighted the need for urgent reforms to ensure that residents of the Pontiac receive the same level of healthcare services as those in urban areas. "Our people pay taxes just like everyone else in Quebec, and they deserve the same quality of care. It's time for the government to act."

In a statement provided by the Health Minister's office, Dubé commented on the visit: "We have had the opportunity to visit and speak with the healthcare staff in the Outaouais over the last few days, as we did earlier this summer on the Côte-Nord and in Abitibi-Témiscamingue. These are three regions where the situation is particularly challenging at the moment. The goal of these visits was to listen to the teams on the ground and meet with health partners, including unions. Already, our teams and those at Santé Québec are managing the priority issues identified, particularly in accelerating discussions on the allocation of regional attraction and retention funds as outlined in the recently signed collective agreements."

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Christian Dubé, Minister of Health, must resign



FRED Ryan

We join the readers of our sister newspaper, the Pontiac Journal, in calling upon Health Minister Christian Dubé to resign his position on the grounds that he has been unable to fulfill its requirements.

The Ministry of Health differs from all other cabinet offices. Its basic tenant is very personal, to provide a minimum of modern health care to all citizens of Quebec -- all, as fellow & sister human beings, not as members of linguistic or ethnic minorities.

Today it's the question of providing primes or bonuses to keep our public system's local health imaging technicians here in Quebec. Yes, the bonuses were recently

approved, but the fight to gain equality is unacceptable and not reliable going forward. Too many medical technicians are attracted by Ontario's higher salaries, by American offers, and even just by the imaginary conveniences of working in a city, as compared to working with our scattered rural population. There are too few health professionals working in our system -- with its almost double the vacancies of other employment sectors. We need every one we now have.

When Quebec finally did raise wages, incredibly, those raises were not offered to all technicians. Not to those working here, next door to Ontario.

Now local technicians can actually work in Ontario at higher wages, while still living in Quebec with its social pluses! Isn't the Outaouais itself the easiest target for Ontario

to go after, in all sorts of professions and trades? Isn't this where our province's attention -- and funds -- should go, first, not last? If at all?

Many political analysts have already interpreted this "shunning" of our technicians as a message to the minorities they serve: you do not belong here!

The loss of Obstetrics at the Pontiac Community Hospital and the steady decline of services offered in Wakefield's, and losses threatened in Buckingham's hospital -- and now the coming closure of most imaging services away from downtown Gatineau, are pressures. We've received no other explanation. There is money to pay technicians across Quebec -- but not for a few minority-heavy districts? How else are we to interpret that?

A dedicated minister of health would

be fighting even his own government to provide him the resources to help the whole province -- not sneaking into the region and leaving before any questions could be asked of him. All ministers have to fight for the funding their projects require; it's a sorry minister of state who keeps his head down and mouth shut when the budget is being allocated. To gain something... but failing at being a minister of health.

This squeezing off of access to the most basic human need, good health, must be made clear to as much of the world as we can reach -- if only to embarrass this so-called "good businessman", Premier Legault. He can't even present a human-balanced budget!

The time has come, Minister Dubé, do the right thing. Admit defeat. Resign.



How informed are you on the political history of Québec: 1867-2024? A Trivia Quiz for You

ANSWERS ARE AT PAGE 12. NO CHEATING ALLOWED!

- Who was the first Premier of the Province of Québec as of July 15th, 1867?
 - Henri-Gustave Joly de Lotbinière
 - Charles Boucher de Boucherville
 - Gédéon Ouimet
 - Pierre-Joseph-Olivier Chauveau
 - None of the above
- Who is the present Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Québec?
 - Manon Jeannotte
 - J. Michel Doyon
 - Pierre Duchesne
 - Mary Simon
 - None of the above
- Which two in office Opposition Members of the National Assembly of Québec have served as Ministers in previous Governments of Québec?
 - Joël Arseneau
 - André Fortin
 - Pascal Bérubé
 - Marc Tanguay
 - None of the above
- Which Premier of the Province of Québec served the longest number of years as Premier?
 - Robert Bourassa
 - Lomer Gouin
 - Louis-Alexandre Taschereau
 - Maurice Duplessis
 - None of the above
- The father of the present Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada is:
 - Pierre Elliott Trudeau
 - Robert Bourassa
 - Pierre Laporte
 - Claude Wagner
 - None of the above
- In which year was the Legislative Council of Québec abolished, and the Legislative Assembly of Québec renamed the National Assembly of Québec?
 - 1867
 - 1918
 - 1945
 - 1968
 - 1976
- Who was born in Campbellton, New Brunswick, on August 24th, 1922, and later became the Premier of the Province of Québec?
 - Bernard Landry
 - Jacques Parizeau
 - René Lévesque
 - Lucien Bouchard
 - None of the above
- In what year was the Ministry of Education of Québec created?
 - 1868
 - 1875
 - 1918
 - 1945
 - 1963
- Who is the present Minister Responsible for Relations with English-Speaking Quebecers?
 - Christopher Skeete
 - Eric Girard
 - François Legault
 - Pascale Déry
 - None of the above

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Godsibb



While waiting my turn in the cashier's line-up, my eyes scanned the scandalous cover headlines of the magazines displayed. Upon returning home, I turned on the TV where a panel of sportscasters was speculating on the merits of a major league baseball pitcher who was about to be traded.

Is this not a form of gossip, I asked myself? Gossip sells, especially when the subjects are celebrities. Reflecting on these matters brought me to the realization that not all gossip is inherently bad. How well I recall the personals in the *Buckingham Post* where I read about out-of-town visitors to others in town, of their journeys and of their adult children's enrolment at some college or university. Weren't we all interested in each others happy moments? Was this not a healthy sharing of our family dynamics? Perusing these thoughts further, I turned to the Internet, to the archives of the *Buckingham Post* circa 1940, where I read about life as it was in the town back then. More specifically, I chose the month of June 1941, since it coincided with my birth. There I discovered an Accidental Report where my grandmother and godmother Josephine Conroy was badly injured, leading to her death shortly after.

The omission of her name in that story left me with feelings of anger and frustration. These were very different times. My feeling became a bridge to those bygone days of injustice toward women like my grandmother. Online, I read about the Suffragettes' crusade for equality in Quebec in the 1940s. I read about Marie-Claire Kirkland-Casgrain, the first woman to become a member of the National Assembly in 1961.

The impetus for these revelations was scanning the cover stories of gossip magazines in a store. The origins of the word gossip are: "Old English godsibb, 'sponsor godparent,' from God + sibb 'relative.' The sense was extended to Middle English to 'a familiar acquaintance, a friend, neighbour' (c. 1300), especially to women friends invited to attend a birth, later to 'anyone engaging in familiar or idle talk' (1560s). The sense was further extended to 'trifling talk, groundless rumour.' Similar formations are found in old Norse guðsifja, Old Saxon gupziff."

There was another story of interest in that 1941 edition in the *Buckingham Post*. Here is that article:

IN APPRECIATION

This week we received another letter of thanks from one of the Buckingham boys overseas for the copy of the '*Buckingham Post*' which goes to him each week. It is as follows.

On Active Service with the Canadian Forces, May 30th, 1941.

It is with the greatest of pleasures I am writing you on behalf of the rest of the Buckingham boys serving in the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, at present in England. We all get together and read our 'Post' and talk about happenings of the town we are so proud to fight for.

Wishing to be remembered by all the people of Buckingham and district,

I am
yours in the C.A.S.F
Pte. Jack Rae

We are pleased to know that the *Post* is so much appreciated by the boys overseas to whom it goes on request, free of charge for the duration of the war. The pleasure more than repays for the expense at this end.

Linda Chenier, President of Branch 54 of the Royal Canadian Legion informs us that Jack Rae was President of that Branch of the Legion in 1951.

On November 11, I always reflect upon those who valiantly served our country during the various wars throughout our history. I also reflect on the fact that each of those who fought and died for our freedom had a mother who gave birth to them. During the Second World War, those mothers would see their sons, and sometimes their daughters, leave for overseas. Yet those same mothers did not have the right to vote or stand for elected office in their own province of Quebec.

Finally, from the pen of Joseph, Anthony, Victor is a little gossip poem that he's just written.

They are gathered around a table
Where from gossip's vessel they sup.
Why when they put down another
Do they build their own images up?

One asks, "Did you hear...?" "No, I didn't."
Still, I know what's about to unfold.
A tale of someone's misdemeanours
Whose misdeed too soon will be told.

Then a hush comes over the dwelling
As that poor fellow walks through the door.
All eyes are now transfixed upon him
He's not welcome here anymore.



Israel's Curse

by Gwynne DYER

AUTHOR, HISTORIAN & INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST

Six Jewish hostages were murdered by Hamas last week just before the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) reached them, and a controversy has erupted in Israel about whether Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu should have done more to save them. But only among the ignorant and the credulous, because everybody else knew he never intended to save them.

If your child is kidnapped and you get a ransom note, do you

(A) pay the ransom if you can possibly raise the money, informing the police only after your child is safe; or do you

(B) ask the police to find and free the child, accepting the risk that she might get killed in the process; or do you

(C) write the child off, as you have other priorities that take precedence?

Most parents would choose option (A) if they could afford it and option (B) if they could not. Almost none would choose option (C). But politicians are dealing with other people's children, and the calculations are different.

When Hamas fighters from the Gaza Strip attacked Israel last October, killing 1,200 Israelis and taking 250 others back to the Strip as hostages, Israel's Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu owed the latter group a duty of care, but it wasn't unlimited.

In current circumstances, no Israeli leader could sell that outcome to Israeli voters, Netanyahu's coalition government would crumble, there would be a general election, and he would lose.

For public consumption, therefore, Netanyahu adopted Option (B): ask the police (or actually the army, in this case) to find the hostages and liberate them, although he must have known privately that they would be killed before they could be rescued.

This is a reality that is often ignored by the hostages' families and their supporters. The kidnappers in this case are not random criminals but trained and fanatical soldiers. They are holding the hostages in tunnels as much as twenty metres underground. Of course they will kill the hostages before Israeli soldiers reach them. There is no real Option (B).

These are the facts, and they would have forced Netanyahu to write off the

hostages or agree to a cease-fire even if he were a wise and honest man. He is neither, of course.

He is a man facing likely conviction in three criminal trials for corruption that have been interrupted because of the war. Conviction could carry a jail sentence, so he is in no hurry for the trials to resume.

He is a man who is playing for time, because the longer the time between last October's Hamas attacks and the date when the inquiry opens into his responsibility for not preventing that disaster, the better for him. Something else might turn up: a Trump election victory, a war with Iran that drags the Americans in, anything that changes the subject.

He is a man who, eleven months into the war, has yet to give a single hint about how he thinks the Gaza Strip should be governed when the war ends. Not even addressing the issue postpones the evil day when the reality of a cease-fire and a peace settlement must be discussed and decided.

He wants to avoid that day because his coalition is critically dependent on an extreme right-wing party which relies on the turmoil of the war to distract attention from its campaign to drive as many Palestinians as possible out of the occupied West Bank.

"Today, we have power in the government," said National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, a leading light of that far-right group. "I'm not ashamed to say that we're using this power to prevent a reckless deal and to stop any negotiations altogether." To prevent any deal and any negotiations at all, in fact.

There were big pro-cess-fire demonstrations on the day after the murdered hostages were found, including up to 5% of the Israeli population. There was a six-hour 'national strike' by the country-wide trade union Histadrut on the following day, but they tamely shut it down when the courts ruled that it was 'political'.

Netanyahu is Israel's curse, but he and his strategy are safe at least until the US election in November, and a lot longer if Trump wins then. Nothing Joe Biden can bring himself to do or say in the meantime will change that.

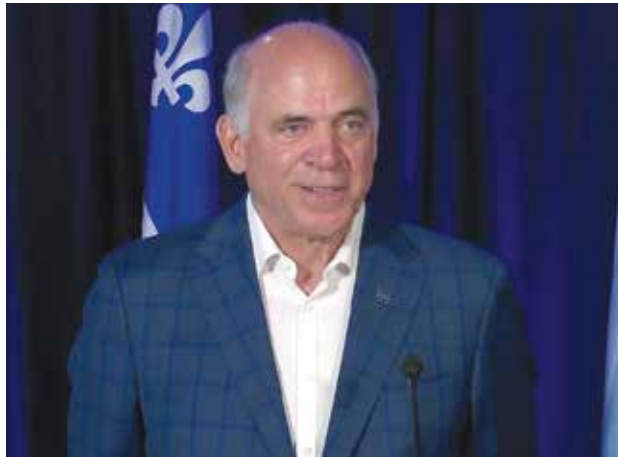
Quebec Civil Society Groups call for suspension of Bill 69 after Minister's resignation



Tashi Farmilo
LJJ Reporter

On September 4, civil society groups in Quebec called for the suspension of parliamentary discussions on Bill 69 following the resignation of Economy, Innovation, and Energy Minister Pierre Fitzgibbon. The bill, initially introduced on June 6, seeks to overhaul the regulatory framework for energy production and distribution in the province, with significant implications for both the public and private sectors. As discussions were set to begin on September 10, the groups argue that the government should seize the moment to rethink the legislation, particularly in light of the profound changes it proposes for the energy landscape.

Bill 69, if passed, would alter seven regulations, amend



Civil society groups in Quebec are urging the government to suspend Bill 69, which would allow greater private involvement in electricity production, following the resignation of Energy Minister Pierre Fitzgibbon, calling for a more democratic and ecologically focused energy policy. (TF)

PHOTO SCREENSHOT OF PRESS CONFERENCE ON CPAC

15 laws, and introduce a new legislative framework that civil society organizations argue would have far-reaching consequences. Chief among the concerns is the shift toward a model that would allow private producers to sell electricity directly to consumers, bypassing Hydro-Québec, the public utility long seen as a pillar of Quebec's energy sovereignty. This change, inspired by the liberalized electricity market of Alberta, would open the door for private investment in renewable energy projects, but critics argue that it risks undermining the collective management of the province's energy resources.

Currently, Hydro-Québec holds a monopoly on electricity distribution, purchasing surplus energy from private producers, who account for 17% of Quebec's electricity production. Under the new bill, private companies would be permitted to sell electricity directly to adjacent consumers, a move that has sparked concerns about the gradual privatization of the province's energy system. This shift is being framed by the Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ) government as a way to attract private capital to expand renewable energy infrastructure without relying heavily on public funds. By encouraging private investment, the government hopes to increase energy capacity to meet the needs of growing industrial projects without dipping into public coffers.

Critics, however, contend that this model prioritizes profit over public interest, with civil society groups warning that the bill could drive up electricity prices, exacerbate environmental injustice, and deepen social inequalities. The

CAQ's reliance on private capital for energy investments, they argue, mirrors the controversial health-care reforms inspired by Alberta's privatization model. Furthermore, while Hydro-Québec is a global leader in hydroelectricity, the company's ability to reinvest in infrastructure is constrained by its obligation to remit 75% of its profits to the government, up from 50% before 2008. This limits its financial flexibility, which the government hopes to offset by leveraging private capital to finance its ambitious \$180 billion investment plan through 2035.

The civil society groups opposing Bill 69 have urged that the energy transition—essential in the fight against climate change—must be guided by ecological and public good considerations rather than private profit. They argue that leaving energy production to private companies undermines the collective planning necessary for a successful transition to sustainable energy. The bill's promotion of private wind farms, for instance, is criticized as short-sighted, potentially leading to overconsumption and a failure to reduce overall energy demand, a key component of ecological sustainability.

Furthermore, the groups point out that the bill does little to address the phase-out of fossil fuels, which still account for 50% of Quebec's energy consumption. Instead, they argue, it risks further entrenching the profit-driven approach that has led to the global ecological crisis in the first place. They stress the need for a public energy policy that reduces energy consumption and prioritizes ecological integrity over economic development.

Ultimately, the civil society organizations are calling for a full withdrawal of Bill 69, insisting that the government first hold a broad democratic debate about the province's energy future. They argue that the legislation, crafted behind closed doors without public input, represents a stark departure from the foundational principles of Hydro-Québec's nationalization in the 1960s, which had been the subject of public debate and a referendum. They propose a new energy management plan developed in consultation with the public, ensuring that any future legislation aligns with Quebec's ecological and social goals. Until such a process is undertaken, they argue, any bill on energy reform lacks legitimacy and risks jeopardizing Quebec's energy sovereignty and environmental future.

The signatories of the call to action include prominent environmental organizations such as Greenpeace Canada, Équiterre, and the David Suzuki Foundation, as well as labour unions and health associations. Together, they represent a broad coalition advocating for a more democratic, sustainable, and publicly controlled energy policy for Quebec.

New vocation for vacant Thurso pulp mill: biocarbon project after 5-year closure

Continued from page 1

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Les libéraux du Québec proposent de nouveau la constitution provinciale



Djeneba **Dosso**

QUÉBEC - Décrite comme un moyen de « renforcer le statut du Québec au sein du Canada », la Constitution québécoise, une idée qui divise la province depuis 1968, est une fois de plus poussée, cette fois par le Comité national de politique (PNJ) du Parti libéral du Québec (PLQ).

Le 12 août, l'APN a proposé à la province d'adopter une Constitution québécoise écrite. Celui qui, selon Julie White et Antoine Dionne Charest, membres de l'APN, « unifiera » les Québécois tout en répondant à « leurs préoccupations quotidiennes ».

« Peu importe leurs [valeurs, leurs orientations ou leur langue, il s'agit d'un projet visant à affirmer le Québec au sein du Canada », a déclaré M. Charest au Journal. « Nous voulons que ce soit un projet qui unit tous les Québécois. »

Le débat en cours sur la nécessité d'une constitution provinciale écrite n'est pas

nouveau. Les idées d'une Constitution québécoise circulent depuis les années 1960. C'est l'événement d'avril 1982, lorsque le Québec a refusé de signer la Constitution canadienne, qui a suscité des points de vue différents parmi les dirigeants politiques. Depuis, certains ont fait pression pour que la province devienne indépendante, tandis que d'autres ont appuyé des liens plus solides avec le Canada. En 2017, la province a tenté d'ouvrir un dialogue pour revoir la Constitution canadienne, mais en vain.

Le PLQ affirme que son regain d'intérêt pour la proposition d'une constitution vient en réponse aux politiques de la Coalition Avenir Québec au pouvoir et du Parti québécois, qui prévoient « nous séparer du Canada ». Ils espèrent prendre les choses en main en offrant aux Québécois « une constitution qui nous permet d'affirmer qui nous sommes vraiment, avec notre langage, notre droit civil et les pouvoirs du gouvernement du Québec », ont-ils déclaré dans une vidéo publiée le 12 août. Avec l'adoption d'une constitution écrite,

le parti propose d'affirmer les droits de la communauté anglophone, notamment en matière de santé et d'éducation, mais aussi ceux des immigrants en mettant en place des dispositions sur l'immigration qui clarifieraient la politique d'intégration du Québec.

Pour Charest, fils de l'ancien premier ministre libéral du Québec Jean Charest, cette initiative aurait dû être prise beaucoup plus tôt en tant que « protection des droits de la communauté anglophone ».

« Si le Québec avait une constitution québécoise écrite qui enchâsse les droits de la communauté anglophone aux services et à l'éducation en anglais, le gouvernement ne reraît pas en question l'autonomie des conseils scolaires anglophones comme il l'a fait, ni le droit à des services en anglais dans toute la province », a-t-il déclaré.

Leur prochaine étape aura lieu en novembre. « La première chose à faire en tant que parti politique est de s'entendre sur l'idée d'une constitution », a déclaré Charest. « Nous venons de proposer à nos membres et militants libéraux d'ouvrir une discussion sur le projet de constitution, et nous avons lancé une campagne pour promouvoir le

projet de constitution. [Cela] nous mènera jusqu'en novembre 2024, où les membres du PLQ pourront voter sur le projet.

Le Québec n'est pas la seule province qui cherche à créer sa propre constitution. La Colombie-Britannique a déjà ouvert la voie, se positionnant comme la seule province à utiliser son droit à un ensemble de lois provinciales écrites. D'autres provinces, comme l'Alberta avec sa Déclaration des droits et maintenant le Québec, sont toujours dans l'incertitude.

« Il y a une volonté d'une nouvelle forme de fédéralisme qui respecte l'autonomie provinciale », a affirmé M. Charest. « La relation entre les provinces ne passe pas seulement par Ottawa. Ils ont des relations les uns avec les autres. La cohésion du Canada dépend d'abord et avant tout des provinces. Ce sont eux qui fournissent les services de base aux citoyens, la gestion quotidienne de ce pays. Ce n'est pas le gouvernement fédéral qui le fait.

M. Charest croit que si le Québec fait le geste et le fait bien, l'initiative pourrait inspirer d'autres provinces à rechercher leur autonomie par le biais de constitutions écrites.

Québec appelé à suspendre le projet de loi 69 suivant le départ du ministre Fitzgibbon



Tashi **Farmilo**

Le 4 septembre, des groupes de la société civile du Québec ont demandé la suspension des travaux parlementaires sur le projet de loi 69 suivant la démission du ministre de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie, Pierre Fitzgibbon. Le projet de loi, déposé par le ministre le 6 juin dernier, vise à transformer le cadre réglementaire

entourant la production et la distribution d'électricité au Québec, avec des répercussions importantes pour les secteurs public et privé. Alors que l'étude en commission parlementaire du projet de loi était censée débuter le 10 septembre, les groupes sont d'avis que le gouvernement devrait saisir l'occasion pour revoir le projet de loi en profondeur et en dialogue avec la société civile, le jugeant préoccupant à plusieurs égards.

Suite à la page 9



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Appel de projets – Programme des stratégies jeunesse en milieu municipal



Tashi Farmilo

Le Secrétariat à la jeunesse a lancé l'appel de projets 2024-2025 pour le Programme des stratégies jeunesse en milieu municipal, l'une des mesures structurantes de la mise en œuvre de la Politique québécoise de la jeunesse 2030. Ce programme vise à renforcer l'action et l'autonomie des organismes municipaux qui souhaitent intervenir auprès des jeunes de 15 à 29 ans de leur localité.

La période de dépôt des projets est en cours jusqu'au 11 octobre. L'aide financière prendra la forme d'une contribution non remboursable d'un maximum de 50 000 \$, laquelle sera versée en totalité en début de projet et couvrira une période ne dépassant pas deux ans.

Le Programme des stratégies jeunesse en milieu municipal se décline en deux volets. Le volet 1 concerne les projets visant à soutenir le développement local pour la jeunesse en utilisant l'une de trois démarches, soit l'organisation d'une consultation jeunesse, l'élaboration d'un plan d'action jeunesse local ou la mise sur pied d'un comité consultatif sur la jeunesse. Le volet 2 concerne les projets visant à mettre en œuvre un plan d'action jeunesse local existant ou une consultation jeunesse réalisée récemment.

Pour les volets 1 et 2, les municipalités régionales de comté (MRC), les villes et les agglomérations qui exercent certaines compétences de MRC, les municipalités hors MRC, ainsi que les municipalités et les arrondissements de 2 000 personnes et

plus peuvent déposer un projet. Pour le volet 2, les organismes municipaux admissibles au volet 1 ainsi que les organismes à but non lucratif, les coopératives, les entreprises d'économie sociale et les organismes publics peuvent déposer un projet. Si le projet est déposé par un organisme autre que municipal, il doit être appuyé par un organisme municipal admissible.

Les principaux objectifs du Programme des stratégies jeunesse en milieu municipal sont de soutenir l'établissement d'une vision et d'une expertise jeunesse chez les organismes municipaux, en collaboration avec les partenaires jeunesse du milieu; d'amener les organismes municipaux à considérer la jeunesse comme une partie intégrante de leur croissance; de contribuer à la mise en œuvre d'initiatives structurantes qui engendrent des actions intégrées et cohérentes pour la jeunesse à l'échelle locale. La priorité sera accordée aux projets qui démontrent une capacité à mobiliser des jeunes aux profils variés et à les intégrer à chacune des étapes du projet. De même, les projets qui s'inscrivent dans une démarche complémentaire des actions déjà en place sur le territoire visé et ceux qui sont menés en partenariat avec les organismes concernés implantés dans le milieu seront également prioritaires.

Pour plus de détails sur le programme, voir : <https://www.jeunes.gouv.qc.ca/secretariat/strategies-jeunesse-milieu-municipal.asp>. Pour toute question, communiquer avec le Secrétariat à la jeunesse par courriel à l'adresse appel_projets@jeunesse.gouv.qc.ca ou par téléphone au 418 643-8864. Trad. : MET

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Québec appelé à suspendre le projet de loi 69 suivant le départ du ministre Fitzgibbon

Suite de la page 7

S'il était adopté, le projet de loi 69 aurait des implications importantes pour tout le secteur de l'énergie puisqu'il modifie sept règlements et quinze lois, et qu'il en édicte une nouvelle. Des modifications législatives prévues, celle qui inquiète le plus concerne la mise en place d'un modèle autorisant la production et la vente d'électricité par des producteurs privés directement aux consommateurs. Cette modification, qui s'inspire du modèle albertain, où le secteur de l'électricité est libéralisé, a pour objectif d'attirer des capitaux privés afin d'augmenter les investissements dans la production d'électricité renouvelable et ainsi accroître la capacité du Québec à accueillir des entreprises désireuses de développer des projets industriels alimentés en énergies renouvelables. Toutefois, les groupes soutiennent que cela risque de miner la gestion collective des ressources énergétiques de la province.

Hydro-Québec détient actuellement le monopole de la distribution d'électricité, achetant les surplus d'électricité que les producteurs privés ne consomment pas, ce qui représente 17 % de l'électricité produite au Québec. Le nouveau projet de loi permet aux producteurs privés de vendre par eux-mêmes de l'électricité à des consommateurs privés adjacents au site de production d'électricité. Cette mesure suscite des inquiétudes quant à la privatisation d'une partie du système énergétique de la province. On dit que le gouvernement de la Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ) présente ce changement comme un moyen d'attirer des capitaux privés pour développer les infrastructures d'énergie renouvelable sans engager les fonds publics colossaux requis.

Les groupes de la société civile soutiennent toutefois que ce modèle privilégie le profit au détriment de l'intérêt public, et préviennent que le projet de loi pourrait faire grimper les tarifs d'électricité, exacerber les injustices environnementales et aggraver les inégalités sociales. Selon eux, la volonté de la CAQ de s'en remettre aux capitaux privés pour augmenter les investissements dans la pro-

duction d'électricité renouvelable reflète les réformes controversées du système de santé inspirées par le modèle de privatisation de l'Alberta. La société Hydro-Québec, troisième plus grande entreprise d'hydroélectricité au monde, dispose pourtant d'une partie des leviers financiers nécessaires pour engager des investissements dans de nouvelles infrastructures ou pour la rénovation des infrastructures existantes. Le fait qu'elle doive remettre à l'État 75 % de ses bénéfices annuels, plutôt que 50 % comme c'était le cas jusqu'en 2008, amoindrit cependant sa capacité d'investissement. De plus, au lieu de mobiliser ces fonds pour faire des investissements structurants, la CAQ entend s'en remettre à des capitaux privés pour financer en partie le plan d'action d'Hydro-Québec, qui prévoit des investissements additionnels de 180 milliards de dollars d'ici 2035.

Les groupes de la société civile opposés au projet de loi 69 insistent pour dire qu'en permettant à des entreprises privées de produire et de vendre de l'électricité de façon autonome sur le territoire québécois, la CAQ empêche la planification de la transition énergétique et l'allocation de cette ressource publique à des fins de viabilité tant écologique qu'économique. La promotion d'un champ d'éoliennes privé, par exemple, est perçue comme une politique énergétique et industrielle de courte vue qui favorise la

surconsommation d'électricité. Les groupes allèguent que la libéralisation du marché de production-distribution d'électricité rend difficile la planification publique de la consommation des ressources d'électricité, qui doit avant tout être guidée par des principes de diminution de la consommation énergétique.

Par ailleurs, les groupes indiquent que le projet de loi ne contient aucune disposition assurant l'abandon des énergies fossiles, dont la consommation énergétique québécoise demeure dépendante à 50 %. Au contraire, ils estiment que le projet de loi risque d'enraciner davantage l'approche axée sur le profit qui est à l'origine de la crise écologique mondiale. Ils soulignent la nécessité d'une politique énergétique publique qui réduit la consommation d'énergie et donne la priorité à l'intégrité écologique plutôt qu'au développement économique.

Enfin, les groupes de la société civile demandent le retrait du projet de loi 69 dans sa forme actuelle, insistant pour que le gouvernement tienne d'abord un vaste débat démocratique sur l'avenir énergétique de la province. Ils soutiennent que les orientations du projet de loi n'ont été ni présentées à la population dans la

plateforme électorale du parti ni débattues, ayant plutôt été déterminées derrière des portes closes. Les groupes soulignent que ces orientations vont également à l'encontre des objectifs fondamentaux de la nationalisation de l'électricité dans les années 1960, qui avait alors fait l'objet d'un débat public et d'une élection référendaire. Ils proposent d'établir un nouveau plan de gestion intégrée des ressources énergétiques élaboré en consultation avec la population, afin que toute future loi soit conforme aux objectifs écologiques et sociaux du Québec. Tant qu'un tel processus n'est pas entrepris, affirment-ils, tout projet de loi sur la réforme énergétique manque de légitimité et risque de mettre en péril la souveraineté énergétique du Québec et son avenir environnemental.

Les signataires de l'appel à l'action comprennent des organisations environnementales de renom, telles que Greenpeace Canada, Équiterre et la Fondation David Suzuki, ainsi que des organisations syndicales et des associations de professionnels de la santé. Ensemble, ils forment une vaste coalition qui plaide en faveur d'une politique énergétique plus démocratique, durable et contrôlée par l'État pour le Québec. Trad. : MET



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Fraud scheme: bank advisor impersonators, police warns



Djeneba Dosso
LJJ Reporter

The Gatineau Police is urging residents to stay alert amid the resurgence of a scheme known as “false representative fraud.” Gatineau residents who have recently received suspicious calls from financial institution’s fraud departments alerting them of fraudulent activity on their debit or credit cards, may have been victims of an elaborate scheme. Local fraudsters, with intent to steal their victims’ credit card information and personal identification numbers (PINs), are known to cosplay as bank advisors, police officers or Canada Post postmen. These disguises allow them to obtain access to personal information inconspicuously. The Gatineau Police, who have received over a hundred complaints regarding this scheme since the beginning of March, released prevention tips on September 5.

“Even for the savviest among us, it can be really hard to know when we’re being conned,” Jay FitzGerald, a TD Bank

Fraud Risk Manager told TD Stories. “First, scammers get your attention, mostly by email or phone, but sometimes in person. Then they work to win your trust, at which point they’ll go for the score.”

False representative fraud usually involves two or more perpetrators who all play different roles in obtaining both victim’s trust and personal information. The first perpetrator is tasked with initiating contact. Usually by phone but sometimes in email form, they will present themselves as a bank fraud officer and swiftly alert the victim that fraud has been committed on their card. Now panicked, the victim will likely ask for instructions on the best course of action, at which point the perpetrator will reassure the victim, advising them not to panic, as someone will come to pick up the card at their home. This is when the second perpetrator will make his entrance, the police press release details.

“This accomplice is presented as an employee of Canada Post, a colleague of the financial institution he says he represents, or a police officer. Some

victims give the cards in person to the accomplice, but most of them, following the instructions of the interlocutor who keeps them online until his accomplice recovers said cards, leave them in a sealed envelope in their mailbox.”

The credit card scammers then use the cards to make purchases and withdrawals at varying locations to avoid suspicion. The victims, who may overlook mysterious charges thinking the issue is being resolved by the bank fraud officer they spoke to, usually takes some time to realize they have really been scammed.

The fraudsters behind these schemes target clients from various financial institutions. They know how to be convincing and to ensure “they have enough information about their victims to put them in confidence and convince them to hand over all their cards.”

As the number of complaints continues to spike, the Gatineau Police is urging residents to stay vigilant when accepting calls. “Fraudsters have more than one trick up their sleeve,” they warn. “Current technology allows fraudsters to bring up any number on your

display, so even if the number displayed corresponds to that of your banking institution, beware.”

As a prevention tip, they advise to hang up and dial the number indicated on the back of the card when receiving an unexpected call from someone who claims to work for a financial institution.

“Fraudsters are skilled,” they add. “They will try to create a sense of urgency in you and will urge you to reveal confidential information to them.”

The best call is always to avoid giving up personal identification numbers (PINs) or card numbers over the phone, especially to an interlocutor whose identity you have not been able to confirm.

As the number of fake representative fraud schemes continues to climb in the region, a little vigilance and attention to detail is all it could take to avoid being scammed out of hundreds, sometimes thousands of dollars. A good rule of thumb is to avoid picking up unsolicited calls. “If in doubt, hang up and contact your police department,” concluded the Gatineau Police.

Circonflexe program offers free bike loans to promote inclusive outdoor recreation



Tashi Farmilo
LJJ Reporter

Launched during the *Fiesta du Vélo avec Circonflexe* event on September 9, the *Circonflexe* program introduced a free, ongoing bike loan service at the *Relais plein air* in Gatineau Park, offering electric bikes, Fat Bikes, and adapted equipment to promote active and inclusive outdoor recreation for individuals of all abilities, including those with physical limitations.

Residents can borrow these bikes for up to one hour daily, with free access always available to children under 15. Adapted bikes are provided at no cost to people with disabilities, with additional support services to ensure safe and enjoyable use. The program emphasizes inclusivity, ensuring that everyone can



The *Circonflexe* program introduced a free bike loan service in the Outaouais region, providing electric, Fat, and adapted bikes to promote inclusive, year-round outdoor activities for people of all abilities. (TF)

PHOTO: TASHI FARMILO

engage in cycling regardless of their physical ability.

Funded with \$597,320 for the Outaouais region, the initiative involves 11

regional partners, including community leisure organizations and youth-focused non-profits. These partners offer various equipment based on community needs, such as bikes, pedal boats, skis, skates, and scooters, with the goal of increasing accessibility to outdoor sports.

Connected lockers for self-service loans will also be introduced in four parks—Maniwaki, Masham, Mansfield, and Papineauville—by fall 2024 to expand the program’s reach.

Reflecting a broader provincial effort, the *Circonflexe* program aims to foster active lifestyles, ensuring that people with disabilities and limited mobility can participate in outdoor activities year-round, while also promoting sustainable and active transportation for recreation and commuting. For more information on the *Circonflexe* program and its services, visit circonflexe.ca.

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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.

FOR RENT

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

HOUSE TO SHARE. LOVELY, BRIGHT SOUTHWEST GATINEAU HILLS VIEW. One-acre yard. Amazing network of trails for hiking, skiing, and biking. Shared perennial and veggie gardens. 1.5 bathrooms, fully equipped kitchen. Woodstove, baseboards. Quiet dead-end. Eight minutes from the village of Wakefield, five minutes from Philippe Lake, Gatineau Park. 819 661-0858.

FOR SALE

TIMBRES POUR COLLECTIONNEURS Timbres du monde entier en approbation en sets et en paquets à l'unité. Timbres Philat. Stamps, P.O. Box 112, Saint-Sauveur, QC J0R 1R0 www.timbrephil.com

FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE \$499,000, 18, Rue Xavier, Gatineau, QC. This is a gem of a house in a great location. It's in a quiet street and the river is a minute's walk away at the bottom of the road, Parc des Cèdres starts there, and the marina is a short stroll or skateboard along the path. It is an easy walk to the park for a picnic or a swim. 3 Br, 2 bath. Patio and private backyard. See the listing on Duproprio. Owner: 819-319-1403.

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 ALL OCCASIONS. With or without bar service; kitchen; air conditioner; Wifi; TV; dance floor. Questions? Aylmerlegion33@gmail.com or leave a detailed message at 819 684-7063.

HELP WANTED

COLLECTION OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR THE AYLMEER 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, from Monday to Friday during business hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m.). Thank you for your generosity!

JOB OFFERS

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 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.

MISCELLANEOUS

QCNA offers a one-order, one-bill service to advertisers. Call us for details on reaching English Quebec and, through classified ads, French Quebec and every other Canadian province and territory. Contact us at sales@qcna.qc.ca or 819 893-6330. For details, visit <https://qcna.qc.ca/>.

MUSIC

VIOLINS, VIOLAS, CELLOS, BASSES, AND BOWS. Made, restored, repaired, and appraisals. Violin shop since 1980 at 309 Chemin Eardley, Gatineau, QC. Peter Mach Luthier, 819-684-3886.

SEEKING

LOOKING FOR A GOALER FOR HOCKEY AYLMEER from 2 pm to 3:30 pm either Monday, Wednesday, or Friday. Call Raymond 819-682-3345

SERVICES

HIGH CEDAR HEDGE TRIMMING SERVICE. 35 years of experience. Call 819 664-1750.

www.westquebecpost.com



BECAUSE WE HAVE YOUR ACTIVITIES AT HEART COMMUNITY EVENTS

AYLMER LEGION: -Izzy Dolls Knitting group "A Humanitarian Initiative": every Monday afternoon from 1 to 3 pm. -Sunday, Sept 15 at 1 pm: Commemorative ceremony to mark the Battle of Britain's 84th Anniversary, on the Branch front lawn, followed by a reception and Open House launching Legion's Week. -Tuesday, Sept 17 at noon: Seniors and Friends Lunch followed by songs, karaoke, and dance. Tickets are available in advance. Call 613-614-7847. -Sunday, Sept 22 at 1 pm: Euchre Tournament. -Tuesday, Sept 24 at 10 am: DRUM Circle! It's free to participate! Register now! Call 819-557-0615. -Thursday, Sept 26 at 1 pm: Join us for a free DIGITAL LITERACY WORKSHOP Intro Computer 101, Cell phones, tablets, and more! -Saturday, Sept 28 at 6 pm: OKTOBERFEST Dinner & Live Music with 4 Better Times Band. *Seating is limited. *No tickets for Oktoberfest will be available at the door on the day of the event. Get your tickets now call 613-614-7847. The Aylmer Legion Branch #33 is located at 59 Bancroft Street, Aylmer, Qc. Everyone is welcome! For more information send us an email at: Aylmerlegion33@gmail.com.

DESCHÊNES PARK ALLIANCE INVITES YOU TO ITS ANNUAL DESCHÊNES FOREST PARTY on Sunday, September 22, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. In case of bad weather, the party will take place on September 29 at the same time. Meet in front of 100 Chemin Fraser (Aylmer sector). Come celebrate with us and take a guided hike in the forest!

FALL MARKET Sunday, September 15, from 10 am to 3 pm. Come celebrate the beginning of fall with fun for the whole family, with over 30 craft vendors on site, including a variety of food vendors, music and a bar on site. We will have face painting as well. Free entry, door prizes, kid activities. 78 Rue Principale, Gatineau, QC.

FREE FALL RHAPSODY On Saturday, September 28, come celebrate the arrival of fall with us and admire the magnificent change in leaf color! A day full of magic and fun awaits you. On the program: FREE family activities! Face painting for children: 10 am - 1 pm Inflatable play structure: 9 am - 5 pm Arts and crafts workshop: 10 am - 4 pm Children's entertainment (30-minute presentation): 10 am, 12 pm, 2 pm Guided walking tour: (schedule to be confirmed) Treasure hunt:

All day Walking labyrinth adventure: All day Schedule for paying activities: Water labyrinth adventure: 9 am - 9 pm. Don't miss this festive and colorful day! See you on September 28 for an unforgettable autumn experience! 52 Chemin Des Sources, Wakefield, QC.

IT'S OFFICIAL, LA GRANDE FRIPE IS BACK THIS FALL! The largest second-hand clothing and accessories market in Outaouais. The event will feature different vendors over two days! You'll find clothing for women and men of all sizes! Enjoy a delicious chai latte while browsing our brand-new dried flower bouquet kiosks! Join us at 425 Boulevard Saint-Joseph and take advantage of free entry and parking on Saturday, September 14, and Sunday, September 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Psst... Keep an eye out to get your hands on one of the VIP access tote bags, which will be announced here and on our Instagram page @habitude. friperie in the coming weeks. You won't want to miss this! Remember to bring a reusable bag for your purchases!

MIXED TRIPLES DART NEW DART LEAGUE AT PUTTERS! Located in the Galeries Aylmer 181 Principale Street, Gatineau (Aylmer). Starting Thursday, September 12 at 7 pm. The cost is \$5 per person. Everyone welcome! Info: Christine: 819-213-9069, ctubman36@gmail.com or Gaston: 819-210-7041, gastonlarocque21@gmail.com.

NEW IN AYLMEER AT PUTTERS!! CONNAUGHT PLACE HORSE-RACE BETTING SALON showing live horse races on giant screens. Join in the fun! Galeries Aylmer, 181 Rue Principale, Gatineau. 819 557-1188, info@chezputters.ca.

OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION ANNUAL INDOOR GARAGE SALE 189 Archambault Street, Hull sector. On Saturday, September 14, 8 am-1 pm. Household and personal items, jewelry, tools, toys, Christmas items, and baked goods. Hot dogs and drinks. For more information: 819-776-4434.

THE TERRY FOX GATINEAU RUN on Sunday, September 15, 2024. Fundraiser for cancer research. Registration: 9 a.m., start: 10 a.m. Start to finish: 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Location: Aylmer Marina, 28 rue Principale, Gatineau, Qc. Distance: 1 to 10 km. Accessibility: Run, walk, bike, inline skates, wheelchairs, dogs on leash.

ANSWERS

1. d. Pierre-Joseph-Olivier Chauveau : July 15th, 1867 – February 25th, 1873. Premiers serving later are: de Lotbinière = 1878-1879; de Boucherville = 1874-1878; and Ouimet = 1873-1874.

2. a. Manon Jeannotte : since January 25th, 2024. Doyon served from 2015 until January 25th, 2024; Duchesne served from 2007 until 2015 ; and Mary Simon has been the Governor General of Canada since July 26th, 2021.

3. b. André Fortin & c. Pascal Bérubé.

4. d. Maurice Duplessis served 18 years and 82 days Bourassa served 14 years and 227 days; Gouin served 15 years and 108 days; and Taschereau served 15 years and 338 days.

5. a. Claude Ryan & d. Mario Dumont
Ross served as Premier from 1884 to 1887; Flynn served from 1896 to 1897.

6. d. Claude Wagner, former Minister of Justice of Québec and later Canadian Senator, was the father of Richard Wagner, the present Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada.

7. d. in 1968.

8. c. René Lévesque

Landry was born in Saint-Jacques, a rural municipality in the Lanaudière region in 1937; Parizeau was born in Montréal in 1930; and Lucien Bouchard was born in Saint-Coeur-de-Marie sector of Alma in 1938.

9. e. in 1963

10. b. Eric Girard, MNA for Groulx.

*SCORING: one point for each correct answer: out of ten: /10
10 = A+; 9 = A; 8 = A-; 7 = B+; 6 = B;
5 = B-; 4 = C+; 3 = C; 2 = C-; 1 = D-;
0 = time to visit the nearest library!*

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