

# **MAYOR'S REPORT 2020**

Dear citizens,

I am pleased to inform you of our community's accomplishments and improvements for the year 2020. Overall, it was a successful year with many accomplishments despite the pandemic. Below are the highlights:

**Taxes:** The mill rate of 0.62 cents/\$100 evaluation was maintained. It has not been raised in 5 years.

**Public Works – Equipment Purchase:**

- Capital Truck Sales – 2006 International 7600 with plough, wing and sander \$59,890.00
- Twin Equipment – Fisher 4.4-yard gas sander \$11,087.00

**Road Work:**

- Graveling road work on Miliken East, Polish Hills, Rang A and Ranch, Mitchell, Yates, Bellemore, MacCreadie, Lafleur and Trout \$125,000.00
- Ditching on Bellemore Road and brushing on Polish Hills Road
- Grant received from André Fortin's office used for graveling on Stephens road and high brush cutting on Belmont road \$45,000.00
- Maintained an inventory of crushed gravel at Dubeau pit
- Agreements signed with logging companies to ensure the safety of citizens, as well as an application for a grant to help maintain dual-purpose roads heavily used by logging companies.

**Fire Safety:**

- Built new washroom facility for the fire department
- Installed smoke extractors at the fire hall as per CNESST requirements

**Communications and Advertising:**

- Modernized our website for a more user-friendly and informative platform – *otterlakequebec.ca*
- Distributed our tourist guide at various locations to attract tourist to Otter Lake
- Provided timely communications on our Facebook page – *facebook.com/OtterLakeQC*
- Installed an emergency notice telephone system (Telmatik)

**Environment:** The continuous participation of citizens in recycling and composting allows us to reduce waste and save money. Thank you all! You are making a difference.

Thank you to Serge Sabourin for his many years of quality service and dedication to our community. *Have a happy retirement, Serge!*

We welcome René Miljour to the team as our new landfill monitor.

**Recreation:** Increased the height of the baseball field fence for the safety of citizens. Project financed by a grant from the FDT, the RA committee and the municipality.

**Raymond Johnston Community Centre:** Installed automatic door openers and energy efficient exterior LED lights. This project was funded with a New Horizon grant obtained by the 50 Plus Club.

**Municipal Library:** Hired Glenda Beauregard as assistant librarian. Welcome to our team, Glenda!

**Leslie Park:** Revision of the lease agreement with the foundation. The lease will be signed in early 2021. The park had a successful season despite being challenged by the pandemic.

**Summer Student:** Hired Brandon Beauregard to organize youth activities for a period of 8 weeks. Project funded 100% by the Canada Summer Jobs federal program.

**Boat Wash:** Entry into force of By-law No. 02-09-2020 for mandatory boat washing before launching. Compliance with this by-law will help protect our lakes. A grant was received to help fund the boat wash program, which will be implemented in 2021.

**Planning & Development:** Open invitation to citizens wishing to share their views and advice with the municipality on issues related to the implementation of by-laws.

As my second term as Mayor of the Municipality of Otter Lake is coming to an end in November 2021, I look back with pride on the accomplishments of the past few years and the excellent teamwork between citizens, staff and council members. No municipality can give its best without committed and compassionate people coming together to work on common goals. It is through your efforts and commitment that the Municipality of Otter Lake has become a great place to live, work and play. I would therefore like to extend my sincere thanks to:

***our residents***, for your investment in our village and your generous contribution of time and ideas;

***our municipal employees***, for your dedication and hard work. Please know that we are grateful to you and appreciate your contribution to the success of our community;

***our Council members***, who work tirelessly and passionately to make our village a great place. You have challenged one another to dig deep on issues and you always do so with the utmost respect for your peers. You are resourceful and visionary thinkers who are actively engaged in the great plan for our future.

The pandemic has made 2020 an exceptional year, full of challenges and obstacles. I would like to thank and congratulate all of you for your understanding and compliance with health sanitary measures. You have made a difference! When life presents us with challenges, **TOGETHER** we shall prevail!!

Your mayor,

*Kim Cartier-Villeneuve*