



# Mayor's Report 2015

As your newly elected mayor in November 2015, I would like to reiterate by saying how proud and honored I am to represent the community of Otter Lake. Thank you for your trust and confidence in allowing me the opportunity to lead and govern our municipality for the next two years.

It is my pleasure to present you with my first report. These are the different elements that I feel are important to focus on in relation to the development of projects in the municipality and the involvement of the citizens in committees, social entertainment activities, sports and others that vitalize the community.

## FINANCES:

As of December 2015, the projected surplus was approximately \$400,000.00. During our 2016 budget process, Council has appropriated \$35,000 of said surplus in order to maintain our mill rate at .70/\$100. As well, we were able to maintain our waste management and water charges. The loan for the fire truck has been completely reimbursed in 2015 therefore the charge has been removed for 2016.

**The Municipality was awarded a TECO Grant(Programme de la taxe sur l'essence et de la contribution du Québec) for the period 2014 - 2018:**  
(\$676,695.00 Grant / Municipal contribution \$154,280.00)

## Expenditures to date from the grant includes:

- New generators at the Municipal Hall & Recreation Hall / Replacement of valves (Potable water);
  - New Heat pumps at the Municipal Hall & Skating Rink Building;
  - Road Work on Stephens, Beaudoin, Erfle, Clark, Mountview and Chemin de la Plage;
- Our Municipal contribution to date is approximately \$11,000.00.

**Provincial Grant** 2015 received from our deputy Mr. André Fortin's office \$30,000.00 was used for road improvement on Ranch Road.

## Capital / Infrastructure Expenditures in 2015

- Cement skating rink pad, material and labor (approximately \$140,000.00) & Purchase of a lake front property at 408 Tessier Street (\$150,000.00)

## Water Tower Debt

Balance debt due as at December 31, 2015 is \$1,098,400.00

**The Municipality also received \$45,046 in 2015 from Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Occupation du territoire.**

**This money was used for:** Fencing at the recreation park / playground equipment & covered picnic shelter at the recreation park; Total amount: \$46,412

## MUNICIPAL INITIATIVE

We are in the process of implementing internet banking with several financial institutions to better service our rate payers. Tentative date for this new service is scheduled on or before April 1<sup>st</sup> 2016. Please feel free to contact our municipal office for additional information.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

We are adding the service of a construction bin at our landfill site (**shingles not permitted**). Projected implementation is May 2016.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Our professional fire department is very active and are dedicated as a medical emergency response team (first responders);
- Currently consists of 20 members and recruited 4 additional this year;
- They also organize fund raisers and activities to support their cause.

## LESLIE PARK FOUNDATION

The Leslie Park Foundation is a non profit organization whose mandate is to manage Leslie Park in Otter Lake.

In recent years the park has evolved;

- 2 new sections for 36 new camping sites;
- Reconstructed the drain field and added septic services;
- Electricity and water on 55 grounds of Section A / Seasonal employment for 15 local individuals;
- Recognized by Bonjour Québec (Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport) as one among the 10 most beautiful camping grounds in Quebec.

## THE GOLDEN AGE

This active group of volunteers currently provide a number of activities:

- Exercise (VieActive) - Tuesdays at 10:00 am, Cards - Tuesdays at 7:30 pm, Darts - Thursdays at 7:30 pm and the Annual Valentine's dinner & dance.
- Numerous other events during the year that are well published.

## RECREATION ASSOCIATION

This dedicated group of volunteers also provide numerous activities to entertain all ages.

- Constructed an outdoor stage which will house outdoor events;
- New Years Eve party, outdoor concerts, murder mystery, Summerfest, ball hockey tournaments are just a few of their organized events;

We own a beautiful Recreational Hall for all community events as well as a recently constructed building next to the skating rink.

## WEB SITE

- You are invited to visit our Web site ([www.otterlakequebec.ca](http://www.otterlakequebec.ca)) for all upcoming events;
- We promote and support our local businesses and encourage development / tourism in our area.
- Entrepreneurs are invited to publish / advertise their business on our website.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

- The municipality of Otter Lake is pleased to have its very own Neighborhood Watch program since December 2015;
- This program is coordinated by volunteers with the assistance of the municipal council and the Sûreté du Québec;
- The objective is to provide a sense of security and to reduce the number of thefts in the area;
- With the participation of the community this program can be a continued success.

**In closing**, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our **employees** and **volunteers** for their hard work, dedication and support;

**We**, as a Municipal Council, continue to work together for the betterment of our community;

**As Mayor**, I feel very confident and convinced that by working together we can achieve our goals in order to maintain a successful and prosperous community.

Kim Cartier-Villeneuve  
Mayor