

Local Projects Receive Significant Funding

Ten projects receive federal support totalling \$1,342,171 from the Winter Tourism Initiative

Ten cross-country ski centres and snowmobile clubs recently received financial assistance from the Government of Canada. The Parc régional de la Montagne du Diable (\$94,454) and the Parc régional Val-David / Val-Morin received funding to purchase cross-country ski trail maintenance equipment (Far Hills sector in Val-Morin: \$12,798 and Dufresne sector in Val-David: \$14,220).

Snowmobile clubs L'Aiglon in Chute-Saint-Philippe (\$174,261), Piteman in Sainte-Anne-du-Lac (\$156,103), Sultans in Mont-Laurier—St-Jean—Val-Limoges (\$171,261), Les Franc-Nord Macaziens in Rivière-Rouge (\$175,755), Club auto-neige Amico in Notre-Dame-du-Laus (\$181,094), Diable et Rouge in Grand Mont-Tremblant (\$210,945) and Auto-neige Blizard in Sainte-Marguerite-du-Lac-Masson (\$150,975) also received non-repayable contributions covering 60% of the cost to purchase resurfacers and levelling and grooming equipment to maintain several hundred kilometres of trails.

This support comes from Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions — Winter Tourism Initiative. Laurentides—Labelle has so far received more than 13% of the \$10 million budget for the entire province.

I am very proud that the federal government is a partner in our winter tourism industry, an undeniable reality in Canada. To all the officials, employees and volunteers, bravo and thank you!



Parc régional de la Montagne du Diable, December 15, Ferme-Neuve



Support for 4 snowmobile clubs in the Antoine-Labelle MRC, December 15, Chute-Saint-Philippe



Club auto-neige Blizard, December 18, Sainte-Marguerite-du-Lac-Masson



Club de motoneige Diable et Rouge, December 18, Brébeuf.



Val-David
(Dufresne sector of the park)
Société du parc régional Val-David/Val-Morin
(Far Hills sector of the park)
December 19, Val-Morin.

Comments

Access to modern telecommunications is essential to our region's development. Like the Internet, cellular service is a priority issue.

How would you rate your cellular service?
(1= Good 3= Average 5= Poor)

⇒ Affordable 1 2 3 4 5

⇒ Available 1 2 3 4 5

⇒ Reliable 1 2 3 4 5

I don't have access to cellular service

I don't want to have a cellular phone

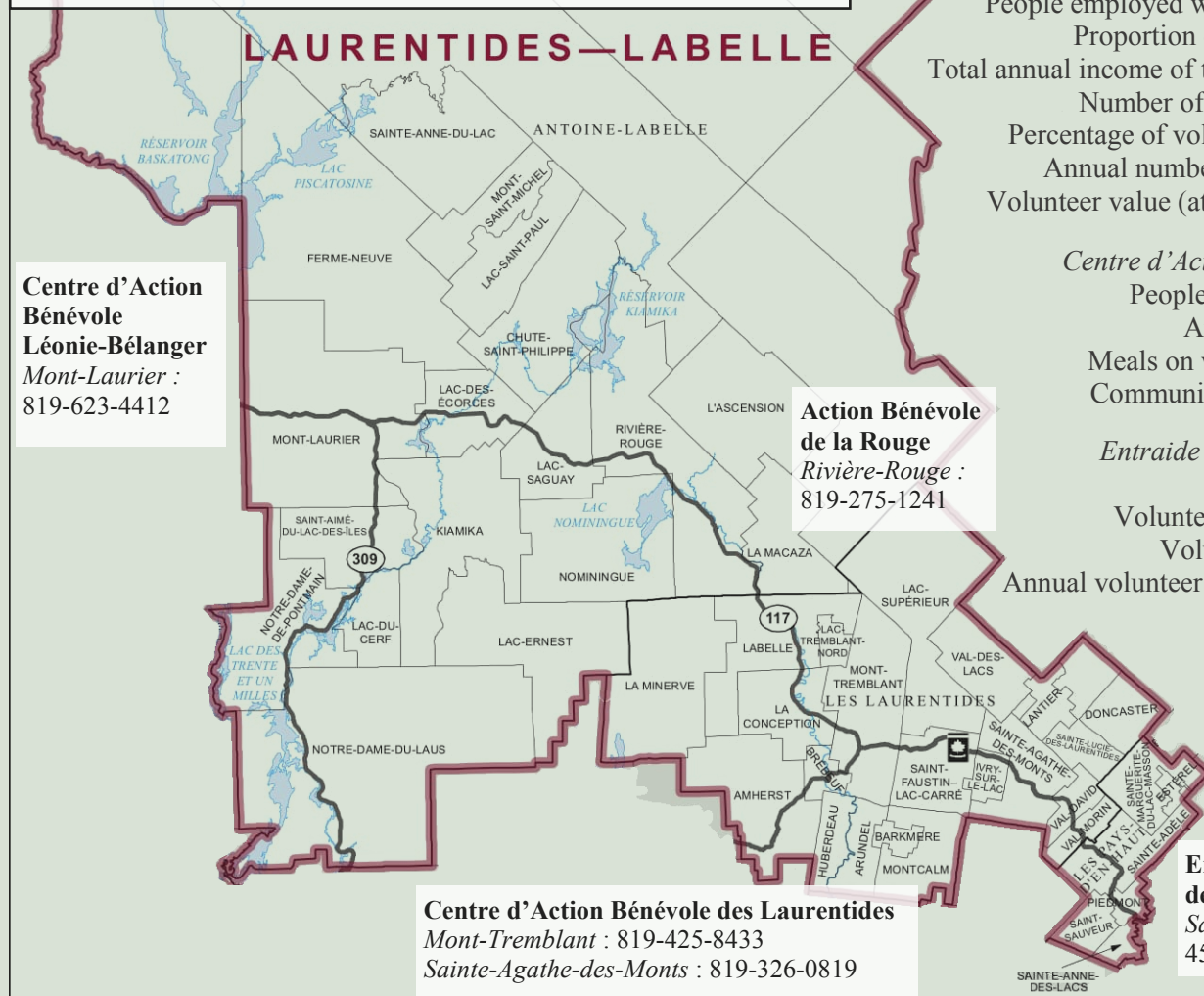
Feel free to include attachments

Thank you for your input. Please note that while I personally read every comment, with the volume of correspondence received it is not always possible to respond individually. Thank you! - David

Laurentides—Labelle can count on the remarkable and vital contribution of hundreds of community organizations in the region. Credit goes to the thousands of dedicated people in these organizations who contribute to improving our quality of life.

These individuals embrace values of social justice, equality, respect and solidarity. They are involved in food aid, health and social services, social development, volunteering, communications, the environment, housing, leisure, sports, culture, event organizing and work with women, seniors, youth, families, people with disabilities, people who are different from them, the disadvantaged, people who are isolated...

For every \$1 contributed by governments to volunteer organizations, the volunteers and their associations provide on average \$4 of services to their community.



Four local organizations offer the valuable meals-on-wheels service: Centre d'action bénévole Léonie-Bélanger, Action bénévole de la Rouge, Centre d'action bénévole des Laurentides and **Entraide bénévole des Pays-d'en-Haut** (photo). Hats off to the volunteers who generously cook the meals and deliver them to the homes of hundreds of seniors and people with reduced independence every week. You're incredible!



The mission of **Action bénévole de la Rouge** is to promote volunteerism and contribute to the well-being of people 55 years of age and older in the Vallée de la Rouge. Last year, the organization received funding from the federal New Horizons for Seniors Program to purchase equipment to provide cooking, nutrition and home economics workshops for seniors.

Volunteering in Canada*

Citizens (15 years and up) who volunteer: **12,700,000**
Percentage of the population that volunteers: **36%**
Daily volunteers: **7%**
Weekly volunteers: **30%**
Monthly volunteers: **25%**
Occasional volunteers: **37%**
People who volunteer at least once in their lives: **59%**
* Statistics Canada, 2013

In Laurentides—Labelle

Corporation de Développement Économique des Hautes-Laurentides
Independent community organisations: **49**
People employed within these organisations: **466**
Proportion of them that are women: **78%**
Total annual income of these employees: **\$10,300,000**
Number of volunteers within them: **1894**
Percentage of volunteers that are women: **59%**
Annual number of volunteer hours: **128,513**
Volunteer value (at minimum wage): **\$1,542,156**

Centre d'Action Bénévole des Laurentides
People who use their services: **3,428**
Annual volunteer hours: **20,530**
Meals on wheels served annually: **6,544**
Community meals served on-site: **4,354**

Entraide Bénévole des Pays-d'en-Haut
Annual service calls: **51,335**
Volunteer transportation calls: **11,250**
Volunteer transport hours: **19,357**
Annual volunteer transport kilometres: **683,184**

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David Graham

Member of Parliament for Laurentides—Labelle
FROM HERE, FOR HERE

f /daviddegraham

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A WORD FROM DAVID

Dear friends,

Over the past three-and-a-half years that I have been working on your behalf all across the region, I have been very impressed by the level of community engagement on display in our towns and cities.

Everywhere I go I meet people involved in many ways, by organizing and participating in fundraising meals and social, sport and cultural activities, all on a volunteer basis in the service of their fellow-citizens. The degree of engagement provides a measure of the health of our society.

Our communities are so dynamic thanks to the directors, staff, elected officials and volunteers of all ages who give their all so that other people, often those who are less privileged or more isolated, can enjoy a better quality of life. Thank you for crucial support and the contributions you make to local vitality! You are inspiring!

Across the region groups provide necessary services like food banks, caregiver support, seniors' clubs, youth and family centres, assistance to the intellectually and physically handicapped and other vulnerable individuals. Other groups work to improve things for the entire community they serve, starting with the important role of the medical foundations. Others work on a different aspect of our social fabric, such as lake and environmental associations, and cultural, sport and recreational activities and events. All contribute to building and maintaining our local identity.

My team and I are here to provide you our help in achieving your goals, and our recognition of all that you have accomplished so far.

As historian Michel Allard said during a talk on volunteering to the CAB des Laurentides in December 2017, "In the Laurentians, volunteering is based on a tradition of mutual assistance," explaining the history of old-time work bees. This tradition of mutual help and community involvement is ongoing. I am proud to participate as often as possible.

This issue is dedicated to the people who work so hard as well as the community organizations that contribute to maintaining and strengthening the social fabric of our community.

David

Sports clubs and associations have an impressive number of dedicated volunteers. Dozens of children in the Association de baseball mineur in Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts are given the opportunity to play on teams and be active, especially during the Défi Triple Jeu local (the local Triple Play Challenge).



HERE TO HELP

My team and I are **here for you!** You are always welcome at any of our **three offices**. Feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments on topics such as:

- Canada Child Benefit
- Old Age Security
- Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Citizenship and Immigration
- Employment Insurance
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Any other federal matters or services
- Any community initiatives

OUR TEAM, DEDICATED TO THE COMMUNITY

Chloée Alary



Luc Lefebvre



Cristina Lapaz



Hugo Paquette



Liliane DesBaillets



Jules Chiasson



DAVID GRAHAM, DÉPUTÉ
LAURENTIDES — LABELLE

Ce bulletin est également disponible en français

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The inks used are vegetable-based.



Spring 2019

A RIDING FULL OF INSPIRING PEOPLE!



The **Table des aînés** of *Antoine-Labelle* regularly brings together representatives of community organizations serving seniors in the MRC to share experiences, issues and challenges, projects and activities. Chaired by Jean-Guy Couture, this round-table is dedicated to the wellbeing of seniors.



The community newspaper **Ski-se-dit** in *Val-David* is 45 years old! Over the years, a dedicated small team and contributors have met the challenge of publishing an interesting and much-loved local monthly newspaper. Congratulations! At a recent anniversary dinner, editor Michel-Pierre Sarrazin and board members Jocelyne Aird-Bélanger, Louise Duhamel and Richard Marleau were recognized.

The three 2018 **Operation Red Nose** organizations in the region provided an impressive total of nearly 1,500 rides in December. Congratulations and thanks to the organizers, volunteers, partners and users of this service who helped keep our roads safe and raise funds for the youth centres in *Pays-d'en-Haut*, *Mont-Tremblant* and *Mont-Laurier*! In the photo, brave volunteers participate in a fundraising campaign in the village of Val-David on November 10.



In our riding, there are 21 FADOQ-Laurentides member clubs. Last September, the **Club des Cœurs Joyeux** in *La Conception*, chaired by Ginette Bélisle, celebrated its 40th anniversary. During the celebrations in the former village church, the people who contributed across these 40 years were recognized, including the very dedicated Huguette Champagne-Bariteau, the club's secretary for over 30 years. In the photo are directors Nicole Clément, Jacques Grondin and Danielle Labelle.



For 25 years, **Café communautaire L'Entre-Gens** has provided a welcoming space to bring the people of *Sainte-Adèle* and the surrounding area together to help break their isolation. They can enjoy a good meal, socialize, participate in recreational or educational activities or shop at the bazaar, among the warmth of others and a superb team of volunteers, coordinate by Élise Gauthier



What great energy and involvement from the volunteers at the holiday dinner hosted by **La Rencontre** in *Sainte-Marguerite-du-Lac-Masson* in December! This organization provides food and community meals throughout the year, helping to break the social and economic isolation of the municipality's residents. The organization receives financial support from the federal government, throughout the Rural and Remote Homelessness (RRH) program.



Volunteers are very much involved in the **Théâtre du Marais**'s activities. On October 26, Jean-Pierre and Pâquerette Masse, Suzette Bibeau, Line Bolduc and others hosted a benefit spaghetti dinner.

This impressive cultural venue in *Val-Morin* also relies on a passionate team and directors with diverse experiences to keep it going.

In *Kiamika*, an energetic **recreation committee** inspires the community. It organizes winter festivities, the popular antique car and art exhibition in August, a children's Christmas celebration and social activities throughout the year. In February, a strong team of volunteers helped out with the 2019 carnival, which included a social dinner and dance on Saturday.



Every Monday evening in *Huberdeau* and on special occasions such as the annual brunch, musicians, folk dancers, members and friends of the **Regroupement folklorique de la Rouge** continue their lively and fun-filled tradition. It's always a pleasure to see you! Thank you for sharing your passion!



KNOWING OUR REGION: from the past to the present...

As the saying goes, "You have to know where you come from to know where you're going." In the past three years, my father, local historian **Joseph Graham**, has passed on various parts of our regional history via this Newsletter. For this edition, he presents us a family that has been living in the Laurentians for over 150 years and has contributed to the local community. Enjoy the read!

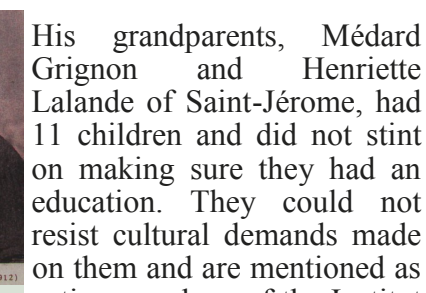
The Grignons, Community Builders

Claude-Henri Grignon, author of *Un Homme et son Pêché*, televised as *Les Belles Histoires des Pays d'en Haut*, is known well beyond the hills of Séraphin and is one of the most significant people in our local cultural history. Perhaps less well known is that he came from a large family that contributed enormously to our greater community.



**Médard Grignon
Henriette Lalande**

Source: freepage.rootsweb.com
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His grandparents, Médard Grignon and Henriette Lalande of Saint-Jérôme, had 11 children and did not stint on making sure they had an education. They could not resist cultural demands made on them and are mentioned as active members of the Institut canadien des artisans de Dumontville, conceived for the cultural development of its members. They were also known to willingly extend themselves to help anyone who was at a disadvantage, and, as owners of a popular auberge, their home became a local destination. In those days of the early 1900s, Médard's facility on the fiddle and a large drum of whisky contributed to the ambiance.

Their large family grew to include three doctors and many other professionals. Wilfrid Grignon, the eldest, became a doctor in Ste. Adele and a noted lecturer on agriculture, while Dr. Edmond Grignon set up practice in Ste. Agathe. The third doctor practiced medicine in Menominee, Michigan, the largest lumbering centre in the United States in the 19th century. According to our local histories, many farmers left to work as lumberjacks in Michigan.

Two sons of Ste. Adele's Dr. Wilfrid are also well remembered; the elder, Louis, a veterinarian, set up his practice in Mont Laurier, and the younger was Claude-Henri.

Dr. Edmond, remembered as Le Vieux Doc, wrote that it was Curé Labelle who encouraged him to go to Ste. Agathe. In his book *En Guettant les Ours*, he described his role not just as a doctor, but also as an educator. He was also a community builder. He was secretary of the Cercle Agricole as well as of two municipal corporations. In 1912, Grignon accepted to write the history of the parish to commemorate its first fifty years, and the book, *L'Album Historique de la Paroisse de Sainte Agathe des Monts*, is still an extremely useful reference work, loaded with anecdotes and perspectives on the times. Back then, doctors fulfilled a lot of different roles, not limited to the health and social services, and, as a master community builder, Curé Labelle had good instincts in encouraging the right people to come north to help him build our community. Le Vieux Doc's eldest son, Henri, also became a doctor, carrying the family mission to St. Jovite, and we must recall the next generations, notably Pierre Grignon, the former mayor of Ste. Adele.

There is a humour, a perspective on the world, in the family. Médard and Henriette's happy, worldly home echoed down the generations as their other children and their spouses, including a lawyer, a notary, an engineer and various others, carried that spirit with them to their communities.

Through their values and actions, the Grignons and many other families helped build the community.

Joseph Graham



Vieux Doc Grignon
pharmacy and medical
office, 11 Tour-du-Lac,
Sainte-Agathe. The
building burned down in
2017.

Photo:
Lortie-Renaud collection

Credit:
Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts
Heritage Committee

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