

## PROTECTING OUR LAKES: A VICTORY IN NOMINGUE



A regulatory amendment will improve safety on Lake Sainte-Marie in the municipality of Nomingue. An update to the *Regulations Amending the Vessel Operation Restriction Regulations* will prohibit the use of all power-driven vessels and implement a maximum speed limit of 10 km/h for vessels driven by electric propulsion.

After five years of working with Transport Canada, the *Association des résidents des lacs Sainte-Marie et Saint-Joseph* and the town of Nomingue, with support from the *Conseil Régional en Environnement des Laurentides*, saw their hard work pay off: the boating restrictions on Lake Sainte-Marie (0.6 km<sup>2</sup>) that they have been advocating for will be implemented.

“Congratulations! This regulatory amendment is a direct result of your efforts and your belief in **safety** and **environmental protection** for Lake Sainte-Marie. Our lakes are a precious resource, both for the quality of life of local residents and for our tourist industry, and it is up to us to protect them.” - *David*

Protecting our lakes is a *key priority* both for our riding and for rural regions more generally. A reflection, consultation, and research project is underway to share these concerns with the Government of Canada and propose potential solutions that fall under federal jurisdiction.

## Le P'tit Train du Nord linear park: a key section of the Trans Canada Trail!



“Mr. Speaker, I recently had the pleasure of celebrating the completion of Quebec’s section of the Trans Canada Trail. Le P’tit Train du Nord is the section of the trail that crosses the riding of Laurentides—Labelle. It is a roughly 200-km long linear park and a source of pride for everyone in my region. Thanks in part to the Government of Canada’s financial contribution to maintaining and improving this essential infrastructure, tens of thousands of locals and tourists enjoy direct access to the largest recreational pathway in the world. The P’tit Train du Nord, its scenery, mountains, rivers, and farms showcase the history of development in the Laurentians. Today, this section of the Trans Canada Trail is used by hikers, cyclists, cross-country skiers, and snowmobilers, and is another reason why the Laurentians shine in Quebec, Canada, and the entire world.”



*Statement in the House of Commons, February 9, 2018.*

In our last newsletter, we talked about downhill ski locations in our riding. Make sure to add *Mont Sauvage*, in Val-Morin, to the list!

The House of Commons have changed the available format for MP newsletters like this one in order to permit full colour editions. We have embarked on the pilot project and this newsletter is the first in the country to use the new format.

### What do you think of this new format?

- I prefer this new version
- I prefer the old version
- I don't remember the old version

Feel free to enclose additional information or comments.

### COMMENTS

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## CANADA 150 PINS

### CONGRATULATIONS

As part of the 150th anniversary of Canada’s confederation, in order to recognise inspiring citizens, each Member of Parliament was provided with pins made from the copper of the roof of the Parliament Building. It is with pride that I introduce you to our 20 recipients. These people work selflessly for the betterment of our community.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate so many people of quality. **Congratulations** to all for their involvement!

			
<b>Kim Elbilja</b> Saint-Aimé-du-Lac-des-Îles	<b>Marie-Andrée Cyr</b> Saint-Sauveur	<b>Yolande Blanchard</b> Val-des-Lacs	
			
<b>Andrée Bruyère</b> Saint-Sauveur	<b>Kinya Ishikawa</b> Val-David	<b>David Mance</b> Piedmont	<b>Marc Cormier</b> Piedmont (1969 - January 19th, 2018)
			
<b>Francine S. Mailloux</b> Piedmont	<b>Huguette St-Pierre</b> Rivière-Rouge	<b>Jocelyne Lafond</b> Sainte-Anne-du-Lac	<b>Gilbert Lafrenière</b> Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts
			
<b>Bertin Legault</b> Mont-Laurier	<b>Louis Internoscia</b> Mont-Saint-Michel	<b>Pierre Bourget</b> Mont-Tremblant	<b>Michel Bolduc</b> Mont-Laurier
			
<b>Madeleine Thivierge</b> La Conception	<b>Johanna Earle</b> Arundel	<b>Joanne St-Louis</b> Notre-Dame-du-Laus	<b>Jeannine &amp; Marc Charbonneau</b> Mont-Tremblant

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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:

With the announcement at the beginning of the winter that the federal government is contributing \$13 million toward Internet access in Antoine-Labelle and another \$2 million toward Internet access in La Minerve, both matched by the provincial government, 18 of our 43 towns will have access to high speed internet for more than 98% of households by the end of 2021.



*A community's strength is showcased best when everyone is working together toward a common goal. Years of effort and hard work have gotten us this far, and now the finish line is in sight: high-speed Internet will be available soon in the northern part of our riding. Let's hope that this inspiring example of local residents joining forces will serve as a catalyst to help find sustainable solutions for the underserved areas in 25 communities that are still waiting to get connected.*

I have advocated since coming into office that companies that provide Internet service to communities must be required to service the entire community, not pick and choose who is most profitable. I said this to the CRTC when I presented in April, 2016, and I was roundly criticised by the large telecom providers for doing so in the weeks that followed.

Internet, in my opinion, is infrastructure; and infrastructure, as a general principle, is not something you can offer to some people and not to others. I also believe that infrastructure should be seen as service ahead of business, and so it gives me great pride to be able to support the Antoine-Labelle MRC's project to connect everybody who has a hydro pole to high-speed Internet through the use of a municipally-created co-operative.

This is ground-breaking in a lot of ways. There is not a long history of the federal and provincial governments supporting cooperatives of this type. If this one works well, that can hopefully change; Quebec has a rich tradition of co-operatives and there is no reason that this cannot also apply to telecommunications as it already has demonstrated over the years through two small local telecommunication cooperatives in La Conception and La Macaza.



*Models that work in other communities are a good source of inspiration. I had the opportunity to visit the Greenlight facilities in North Carolina, which provide reliable, accessible Internet service to the community. I brought back lots of great ideas to consider for our region.*

More importantly, the principle that the whole community should be serviced is being applied. While a shack deep in the woods beyond conventional utilities that does not have either electricity or phone service will not be getting a fibre optic connection through these projects, everyone else will.

It is my hope that the remaining 25 communities in Pays-d'en-Haut and Laurentides can work together to come up with a similar model to that found in the north of the riding so that poor Internet access becomes a thing of the past for the Laurentians. As with Antoine-Labelle, which pulled the entire project together from scratch in less than two years, my team and our government are a ready and willing partner to help carry it through.

Internet is, after all, infrastructure.

*David*

### AT YOUR SERVICE

My team and I are here for you! You are always welcome at any of our three offices. Do not hesitate to contact us, to send us your questions or comments about :

- Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Citizenship and Immigration
- Employment Insurance
- Canada Revenue Agency
- The Canada Pension Plan
- Any community initiatives
- Any other federal issue or service

### A TEAM DEDICATED TO THE COMMUNITY

Chloé Alary, Luc Lefebvre, Cristina Lapaz



Hugo Paquette, Su Lim LaRochelle, Jules Chiasson



**DAVID GRAHAM, DÉPUTÉ**  
LAURENTIDES — LABELLE

Ce bulletin est également disponible en français

# A CONSTITUENCY FULL OF INSPIRING PEOPLE!

*You know about inspiring people and projects in the community?  
Share your admiration: tell us about them!*



Every year, the players and coaches of *DesMonts*, the football and volleyball teams of the **Polyvalente des Monts** in Sainte-Agathe, invite local residents to attend their spaghetti dinner fundraiser. This high-energy event ran like clockwork!

What a great sense of community we have, with so many people volunteering with *Operation Red Nose*, including here in **Rivière-Rouge**! Bravo and thank you to the organizers of the Red Nose campaign in our area, which raised money for the *Maisons des jeunes* in Sainte-Adèle, Mont-Laurier and Mont-Tremblant and for the *Fondation de l'école du Méandre* in Rivière-Rouge!



In October, a number of municipal *fire departments* held doors-open events and gave people tours of their fire stations, including in **Mont-Tremblant**. What a great opportunity for people of all ages to learn more about the fascinating, valuable work our firefighters do!



Our communities are lucky to be able to rely on dedicated people who organize events like this one in **Huberdeau** to celebrate the holidays and bring everyone together to support the church in the village.



In **Lac-du-Cerf** in October, *Sentiers du Mont-Limoges* celebrated its 50th anniversary. Participants were able to reflect on the significance and the history of the trail network and to recognize the contributions of those involved in the event and in maintaining the trails, including Claudine Charbonneau, Denis Landry and Mayor Danielle Ouimet.



At the *Club La Toison d'or* in **Saint-Sauveur**, Chair Monique Guénette and the Board of Directors put in countless hours organizing social events for local seniors. You have my heartfelt gratitude!



*Jeannine Labonté* and *Fernand Léonard* of Mont-Tremblant celebrated **70 years of marriage** on October 4. I was thrilled to visit them, wish them a happy anniversary and present them with certificates, including one signed by the Prime Minister.



The **Centre de la famille des Hautes-Laurentides** is celebrating its *30th anniversary*. Thank you to all those who have contributed to the well-being and development of so many families over the years!



It was great to meet so many people at the Christmas dinner hosted by the *Club Les Amitiés du 3e âge* in **Sainte-Adèle**, represented by Gilles Lachance and energetic organizers! Thank you for everything you do to help our seniors!

At the *La Rose des vents* farm in **Mont-Laurier**, owned by Diane Aubin and Jean-Guy Lacelle, the next generation is already hard at work: sisters Geneviève and Myriamne Lacelle and their spouses. This family business employs 25 people and is well known for its exceptional poultry. Pictured are company representatives and Benoit Cochet, Director of the Antoine-Labelle CFDC.



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

*There is an old adage that goes: we need to know where we come from to know where we are going. I love my country and am passionate about discovering the origins of places and the people who made them. So I invited my father, local historian Joseph Graham, to tell us a bit about the history of our region. If you have any historical subjects that you would like to learn more about, let us know! Enjoy the read!*

### The evolution of communication in our region

When studying our earliest history, it is a marvel to see how communications travelled along the rivers. Different Indigenous nations were related through trade, and people attended large events across the land. Tadoussac was the first inter-continental port of call, but the major trading partners for the Weskarinis Anishinaabe from here were the more proximate Huron-Wendat who supplied them maize in exchange for furs, canoes, pemmican and other goods they fabricated. News spread back along the river systems through the massive network of Iroquoian and Algonquian nations.



**Augustin-Norbert Morin**  
Photo courtesy of the SHGPH (Société d'Histoire et de Généalogie des Pays-d'en-Haut)

When the Five Nations dispersed the Weskarinis and the Huron-Wendat in the 1650s, the whole area became Five Nations hunting and trapping territory, but it was untenably large, and slowly the Anishinaabe and Cree repopulated it trading with the French, the Canadiens, whose major crop was wheat.

The wheat crop collapsed during the 1830s and the seigneuries were overcrowded. New farms and methods had to be found, and in the early 1840s, the Patriote, Augustin-Norbert Morin, founder of the newspaper *La Minerve*, became the minister of agriculture and colonisation. He founded an experimental

potato farm that became Sainte-Adèle and thereby encouraged farmers to move to our region. He depended heavily upon the Catholic Church, not just for religion, but for social services and education, and the pulpit was central for spreading information, as were the steps of the church after mass. As the colonists advanced north, they discovered places that were already occupied or named, Manitonga Soutana (Mont Tremblant), La Macaza, Chutes aux Iroquois (Labelle), Rapide de l'Original (Mont Laurier) and more.

Sadly, while some of the Anishinaabe were absorbed into this new social fabric, many died of disease or departed when the forestry companies razed their hunting and trapping grounds.

Curé Antoine Labelle greatly expanded settlement and as the population of Canadiens increased, so too did the influence of the more urban communications media, the newspapers. As each town was established, it was also serviced by a post office, and Morin was commemorated in the naming of the *La Minerve* post office in 1896. Jean-Baptiste Rolland, an entrepreneur who arrived in Montreal with a few coins in his pocket in the 1830s, began work as a typesetter for the newspaper *La Minerve* and intervened in 1879 as its financial savior. His family set up a paper mill at the landing spot on the North River where Morin had arrived, singing to the rhythm of the canoe paddles, to create the original experimental farm. A new town called Mont Rolland formed there. Later, media baron Pierre Péladeau chose Sainte-Adèle for his country retreat.



**Stanislas Jean-Baptiste Rolland**  
Source: : P001,S06,SS01,D03,P02 Photo courtesy of the SHRV (Société d'Histoire de la Rivière-du-Nord)

The influence of the Church continued to grow, and Curé Labelle expanded it to the northwest. The region was first organized as part of the Diocese of Ottawa, then as new areas were settled, it became part of the Hull Diocese, and finally Mont-Laurier's.

In 1896, another great journalist became a leader in our midst. Henri Bourassa, grandson of Louis-Joseph Papineau and founder of *Le Devoir*, represented the riding of Labelle (the federal riding of that time) in Wilfrid Laurier's government, and subsequently was elected as an independent. Communications technologies evolved leading to the telephone, radio and television, and today, the Internet. As instantaneous and omnipresent as this latest one seems to us, each form of communication, right back to the Weskarinis, through the Church and the newspapers, was as fast as it needed to be for the times it served.

Joseph Graham

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