



Minutes of meeting  
Tuesday October 11, 2011  
Val-des-Monts City Hall

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Present: Michel Francoeur (President of the Federation, lake St-Pierre), Jacques Laurin (Councillor of MVDM), Lise Girard (Assistant Director for Environment and Urban Planning MVDM), Claude Mondoux (Treasurer of the Federation, lake St-Pierre), Linda Brière (Director of the Federation, lake McArthur), Claude Bergeron (Director of the Federation, PSL), Denise Goulet (lake Achigan), Michel Goulet (lake Achigan), Marc Caron (lake Dam), Dale Taylor (Lake Brassard) Allyson Domanski (Les Trois Lacs), Norm and Barbe Smith (Lake McGregor), Carole St-Pierre (Lake Clair), Sylvain Brazeau (Lake Perdrix), Sylvie Beauvais (Lake Perdrix), Danielle Delisle (Lake Perdrix), Geneviève Michon (ABV des 7), Jean Leduc and Richard Labbé (Lake Bois Franc), Russel Rieger (Lake St-Pierre), Duncan Campbell (Lake St-Germain), Marie-Paule Phillippe (Lake St-Germain) and Mélanie Renaud (Coordinator of the Federation).

## **A. Board Administration**

### **1. Future meetings of the Federation**

Next meeting of the Federation: Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 6:30 p.m., Val-des-Mont City Hall

*Who : Federation Board and Mélanie Renaud*

*When : December 2011*

### **2. Presentation of the new *Project of Integrated Management of Val-des-Monts' Lakes Water by watershed***

Mélanie Renaud, coordinator, presented the proposal *Project of Integrated Management of Val-des-Monts' Lakes Water by watershed*. The description and the different steps of the project and the water management plan were described. The delimitation of the study area, namely the hydrological system of the watershed of the Blanche River in Val-des-Monts was presented on a map. The choice of this delimitation was also explained. In addition, the main stakeholders in the community, while emphasizing the importance of participation by lake associations, were mentioned. Furthermore, the timeline and possible sources of funding were discussed. The presentation ended with a period of questions and comments. The creation of a working group chaired by Michel Francoeur was discussed. An email invitation to sit on this committee will be sent shortly to all lake associations of Val-des-Monts to form this committee and officially start activities. The presentation of the project is also available on the website of the Federation of Lakes of Val-des-Monts ([www.federationdeslacs.ca](http://www.federationdeslacs.ca)).

*Who : FLVDM Council and Mélanie Renaud  
When: December, 2011*

### **3. Presentation of future projects**

Mélanie Renaud, coordinator, presented briefly the proposed projects of the Federation for the year 2012. In addition to the *Project of Integrated Management of Val-des-Monts' Lakes Water by watershed*, the Federation wishes to initiate an educational program titled *À l'eau Grenouille!* which consists in the creation of an educational kit and workshops for elementary students on the theme of ecology and management of our lakes' water. This project could also be part of Phase II of the *Project of Integrated Management of Val-des-Monts' Lakes Water by watershed* and could be created in 2013. In addition, an application for funding for an experimental control of Eurasian watermilfoil will be prepared for Lake McArthur (windmills). Another application for funding to obtain technological equipment, such as handheld GPS for lake associations and GIS software for the Federation will also be made during the winter of 2012 to Mountain Equipment Coop. In addition, a grant application for the realization of the "*Fête de la Pêche*" in June 2012 will be made to the Wildlife Foundation of Quebec to obtain, fishing licenses, fishing rods and a check of \$ 1,000 for stocking of fish at Plage Pelissier of Lake McGregor. The importance of recruiting as many volunteers as possible is underlined. Finally, the Federation will continue its regular activities, such as the distribution of the biannual newsletter *Echoes of our lakes*, the *Water Quality Day* and the sampling campaigns of total phosphorus in lakes and the search for funding for environmental projects.

*Who : FLVDM Council and Mélanie Renaud  
When: 2011  
Status: On-going*

### **4. Visit of the experimental windmill at Lake Lola**

Linda Briere from Lake McArthur made a report on the visit by Michel Francoeur, Russell Rieger, Melanie Renaud and herself to Mr. Bertrand from Lake Lola in La Pêche . Three windmills have been present on the lake for nearly 10 years and the results in regard to the presence of milfoil are amazing. Indeed, the milfoil has almost completely disappeared, native plants have come back to colonize the lake and the presence of fish also seems to increase. Ms. Briere will publish an article on the subject and the possibility of establishing windmills in Lake McArthur in the next edition of *Echoes of our lakes*.

*Who : (FLVDM) Linda Briere  
When: Summer 2011  
Status: On-Going*

## **B. Public Affairs committee**

### **1. Regulations on lawn mowing**

In 2010, the MVDM has taken steps to ensure the implementation of new regulations by residents of Lake St-Pierre and Girard. Indeed, over 1500 photos of shoreline residents have been taken by the MVDM in 2010. About 25% of residences did not comply with new regulations and MVDM sent numerous warning letters to property owners not in compliance. The MVDM visited in 2011, the McArthur and Dam Lakes. The report, similar to the one already done for Lake St-Pierre, should be released in the month of November. According to feedback from different Lake Associations, there is a good improvement from the residents since the publication of the regulation. However, it appears that on average 25% of the residents still continue to mow their lawn. The MVDM confirms that it will apply these rules after receiving formal complaints.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud*

*(Council) Jean Lafrenière, André Turcotte, Jacques Laurin and Lise Girard*

*When : Summer 2011*

*Status : On-going*

### **2. Bay Captains of Lake St-Pierre**

At the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, Grant Walsh of the Lack St.Pierre Association, presented their new system of "Bay Captains". Fifteen residents of the lake volunteered as captains and have been assigned to a couple of bays or parts of the lake, including McMullin Lake. Their role is to inform and educate residents of their respective bay, on the challenges and solutions for the water quality of lakes. More specifically, residents will learn about municipal laws, including rules prohibiting the mowing of lawns on the first five meters from the shoreline as well as the importance of the re-vegetation of the shorelines; to use phosphate-free household products and ensure compliance of their septic tanks and weeping bed systems. When some residents are reluctant to comply with the regulations, the Bay Captains will refer complaints to the Russell Rieger MVDM or the Association of Lac St-Pierre. Bay Captains are also mandated to inform residents on the detection of blue-green algae to facilitate the transmission of information to the Municipality and the Minister of the Environment so that toxicity tests are performed. The experience of last summer shows that most people are very receptive to the work of Captains Bay. They started visits to hand out comprehensive information packages. However, they hope to be more proactive with local residents in 2012 and hope the number of Captains increases at least to 20. In terms of membership, it is currently 130 (of 400). In 2010 there were only 65.

*Who : (Lake St-Pierre) Russell Rieger*

*When : Summer 2011*

*Status : On-going*

**3. The dam between McGregor and Brassard lake**

The dam between McGregor and Brassard lakes is a major concern for the Federation and the residents of these lakes. However, the provincial authorities wrote to the Mayor to confirm that the province had no role to play since the dam is a private one. The mayor will continue his discussions with the elected authorities and the owners of the dam.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud  
(Council) Jean Lafrenière  
(Lake Brassard) Paul Brennan*

*When : Fall 2011*

*Status : On-going*

**4. Municipal launch ramp of Lake St-Pierre**

Following a study by Weso inc., the option of a ramp-like "metal plate" bolted to concrete structures already in place was chosen. The costs associated with the implementation of this structure are estimated at \$ 37 000. These costs do not include the feasibility study. In any event, the dates for carrying out the work specified in the certificate of authorization issued by the Ministry of sustainable Development, Environment and Parks were from August to late September 2011. Because of this, work will be carried forward to next year. It was suggested that a sign indicating that the Municipality is not responsible for damage caused by the ramp be installed at the ramp. Regarding the establishment of a new ramp with amenities similar to those on the ramp of Lake McGregor on another site, this option is still under investigation. In addition, it appears that the new metal structure proposed for the current ramp could be transferable to a new site at the appropriate time.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud  
(Council) Jean Lafrenière, André Turcotte and Jacques Laurin*

*When : 2011*

*Status : On-going*

**C. Environment committee**

**1. EcoAction 2010**

The final report of EcoAction 2010 was completed by the Coordinator of FLVDM and accepted by Environment Canada. The last check in the amount of \$ 1,321 has been issued.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud*

*When : October 2011*

*Status : Complete*

**2. EcoAction 2011**

A request for funding was submitted to Environment Canada for the establishment of a reforestation project of the shoreline of the lakes McArthur and Dam in the summer of 2011. An Environment Canada's response has been forwarded to us announced that the project was not selected. The problematic of lakes are not enough detail and more

budget cuts are the main reasons for the refusal. In addition, the same funding but for different lakes we had been granted to the Federation in the last 4 years for a dozen lakes in total.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Linda Brière (Lake McArthur), Mélanie Renaud*

*When : Fall 2011*

*Status : Cancelled*

**3. PPEEE**

The Federation has applied for funding to Environment Canada under the Partnership Programme against Invasive Alien Species. This project aims to prevent and curb the spread of Eurasian milfoil in lakes of Val-des-Monts and within the framework of two components: the inventory of beds of Eurasian milfoil in Lake St-Pierre, McArthur, Grand and McGregor, and creating an action plan for early detection of Eurasian water-milfoil and management of invasive aquatic plants in the lakes of Val-des-Monts. A response has been forwarded to us announced that the project was not selected.

Following a discussion with Mr. Bruno Paris, Program Officer, there were several cuts to the program and projects prioritized and accepted were those representing a wider area and where the impacts would be at the regional and provincial levels. It is therefore suggested to partner with other organizations if we make a new application.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud*

*When : Fall 2011*

*Status : Cancelled*

**4. Distribution of bottles for lakes water samples for phosphate**

Bottles for sampling the total phosphorus were distributed.

*Who : (FLVDM) Mélanie Renaud*

*When : October, 11 2011*

**5. Project City of Lakes**

The City of Lakes residential project raises questions from several lake residents and residents in Val-des-Monts. These concerns and questions were raised by the Federation by an email to Mayor Jean Lafrenière and André Turcotte of the Municipality of Val-des-Monts. The questions and answers were read at the meeting:

Email from Michel Francoeur (September 22, 2011):

"Like many residents of Val-des-Monts, I am informed that the proposed City of Lakes is being revived. As you know, it's a project we have been closely monitoring a long time and we are concerned about its possible impact on the water quality of Lake St-Pierre and possibly other lakes of Val-des-Monts .

Can you provide more information about this, or do you prefer to speak about it at the next meeting of the Federation Tuesday, October 12? "

Thank you ...

Answer of Mr. André Turcotte (replied on September 23, 2011):

*« To this day, discussions have taken place regarding the possible development of a residential subdivision within the property known as Cité des lacs. Our service has received a permit request for construction on this lot. But since the emission of such a permit requires the preliminary approval of a subdivision project brief, we wish to assure you that many steps must be taken before this construction takes place.*

*In accordance with regulation regarding such project briefs, an environmental characterization study must be carried out prior to any discussion concerning roadways and future lots. Once this study is completed, it will be attentively reviewed and analyzed by our staff. We will remove any lots deemed as unfit for development from the project and will ensure proper adaptation of the project to the environment, not the opposite.*

*Rest assured that we are giving the utmost attention to this project. Unfortunately, we are unable to discuss this development proposition further at this time, as all information remains confidential until the land registry becomes official.* (our emphasis)

*In our experience, approval of such a project brief requires several months and procedures. Therefore, no work should be authorized until next year. »*

2nd email from Mr. Michel Francoeur including the answers to questions from Mr. André Turcotte (October 3, 2011).

Hello Mr. Mayor and Mr. Turcotte:

Following the responses below from Mr. Turcotte, for which we thank you, we have some additional questions:

Q.1 In the past week, some residents have witnessed the start of work on Cité des lacs' lot. When approached, workers indicated that the Municipality had emitted or was on the verge of emitting the required construction permits. Is this correct?

A.1 *We do not know what the 'workers' have said. However, no construction or subdivision permit has been emitted to this day. Last week, we sent an email reminder of the regulation in place to the promoter and met with them in order to clarify guidelines. A visit by our inspector allowed us to conclude that no work had taken place.*

Q.2 Can you indicate where we can obtain the detailed process of all steps involved in a project of this magnitude to be approved by municipal or regional authorities?

A.2 *A subdivision project brief must be submitted prior to the beginning of any work. You can read about all of the steps involved in Chapter 3 of the Permits and Certificates By-law by following this link: [www.val-of-monts.net](http://www.val-of-monts.net) then click on the tab "General Information" to reach "Environment and Urban Planning" and "Regulation".*

Q.3 When will public hearings take place?

A.3 *Public hearings are not part of the analysis process for subdivision projects when municipal regulation does not require modification, as is the case with this project.* (Our emphasis)

Q.4 At what time and following what procedures do land registries become « official »?

A.4 *The first step consists in presenting a project brief. Once approved, road construction may begin. Upon their approval, land registry plans can be submitted to the Municipality. Once approved, they are sent to the Quebec Cadastre. Once integrated to the land registry, they become public.*

Q.5 Since the project concerns 3 lakes or more (St-Pierre, McArthur and Grand) we would like to propose that a meeting be held with municipal representatives as well as those of the three lake associations.

A.5 We will submit your request for a meeting to the Corporate services.  
Thanks...

## **D. Membership and Finance committee**

### **1. Grant MVDM**

MVDM confirmed the grant of \$ 65 000 to the Federation in 2011. An initial payment of \$ 10 000 and two payments of \$ 20 000 were made. A final payment of \$ 15 000 remains to be paid

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Claude Mondoux*

*When : Summer 2011*

*Status : Approved*

### **2. Membership and contributions of association**

The Executive Committee of the Federation wishes to propose a new structure for annual membership for associations. The President of the Federation will communicate with all associations to update the number of member associations of the Federation and get information on the particularities of each. The possibility of a vote by e-mail in particular was raised. However, it was concluded that the usual rate will be charged for the year 2011. Associations of lakes Champeau, Clair, Dam, Grand, TenPenny, St-Germain, McGregor, Achigan, Brassard, Girard, McGlashan, The Three Lakes (Gilmour, Hardwood, Lynch), McArthur, Bois-Francis and PSL (Barnes, Louise, Bataille, Maskinonge, Chevreuil, Rheaume, Corrigan, Truite, Epinette) have already paid their membership. Membership fees for the Associations of Lakes Partridge, Dodds, Marble, Letourneau, McFee, St-Pierre and McMullin, Petit lac Clair and Domaine St-Antoine is expected. On that basis, we conclude there are 24 associations representing 35 lakes. As a consequence, a vote to change the fees structure of the membership of the Federation would require 50% +1 of the 24 associations, i.e., 12+1=13.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur and Executive Committee*

*When : 2012*

*Status : On-going*

## **E. Communication committee**

### **1. Echoes of our Lakes**

The Fall 2011 edition will be published in November 2011. However, the Federation calls for the participation of its members for the work of editing, translation and revision.

*Who : (FLVDM) Linda Briere, Mélanie Renaud*

*When : November 2011*

*Status : On-going*

### **2. Water Characterization Plan (PSLL)**

The Association PSLL received a grant of nearly \$ 7,500 from the CREO to conduct a survey of Bataille and Rheaume Lakes (physical chemistry, streams, watershed, road, shoreline...) and identify problems. A recommendation report was produced thereafter. The project is in collaboration with the COBALI Conference of Elected Representatives of the Outaouais. A study of beaver management was also conducted by Odysseé. A second Water Characterization Plan for Lake Louise is almost complete, there only remains to complete the inventory of wetlands. The report of recommendations will follow shortly after the end of the field work.

*Who : (FLVDM) Claude Bergeron*

*When : Fall 2011*

*Status : On-going*

### **3. Val-des-Monts Address**

Following the last edition of the *Echoes of our lakes*, several people have expressed their dissatisfaction with not receiving their copy because of outdated addresses on our old list. An updated mailing list was provided by the Municipality of Val-des-Monts and requires only a sorting to exclude vacant land. Obtaining this list will facilitate the distribution newsletters to all taxpayers.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud  
(Council) André Turcotte*

*When : Fall 2011*

*Status : On-going*

### **4. Nesting boxes for ducks**

Nest boxes were produced and sold by the Federation throughout the summer. Those who wish to get them can still do so by contacting Melanie Renaud. Those who wish can volunteer to assemble. The plans and materials will be provided.

*Who : (FLVDM) Mélanie Renaud*

*Status : On-going*

**5. Insurance**

The Executive Board wishes to propose an insurance policy for the Federation. It is proposed to test the models already used by the association of Lake St-Pierre and PSL.

*Who : (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Claude Mondoux*

*When : October 2011*

*Status : On-going*

**7. Varia**

Workshop on "the beaver and its habitat: problems and solutions" will be offered for free on October 17 from 13h to 17h at the community center park Thibault, places are limited. Reserve with Geneviève Michon, of the ABV des 7 to

[genevieve.michon@abv7.org](mailto:genevieve.michon@abv7.org) or 819 771-5025

*Who : (ABV des 7) Geneviève Michon*

*When : October 17, 2011*

*Status : On-going*

Lachaine Lake is a major concern for the Federation and the residents of the lakes that are connected. A complaint concerning the work done without permits at Lake Lachaine has been given to the Municipality of Val-des-Monts. A large part of the little lake ahead has been drained in Lake Lachaine causing its share of sediments. Deforestation around the lake were also observed. The Municipality of Val-des-Monts and MDDEP currently working on the case to regularize the situation.

*Who: (FLVDM) Michel Francoeur, Mélanie Renaud,*

*(MVDM) Jean Lafrenière, Jacques Laurin, André Turcotte, Lise Girard*

*When: Fall 2011*

*Status: On-going*



**NEXT MEETING OF THE FEDERATION**  
**Thursday December 15, 2011 at 6:30 pm**  
**Val-des-Monts City Hall**

**Note: the election of members of the Board for 2012  
will take place at this meeting**