



A WORD FROM THE MAYOR

LET'S TALK OPENLY ABOUT THE TOWN'S FINANCES

Dear residents,

Responsible management of public finances is one of our top priorities, and I would like to provide you with a clear and transparent overview of the Town's financial situation.

The Town's operating budget stands at \$8 million. This amount covers both the operational costs of municipal services and the repayment of our loans, which alone represent \$850,000. As of now, the municipal debt is approximately \$6 million.

A significant portion of the budget—\$1.8 million—is dedicated to sports, recreation, and culture, which are at the heart of community life.

On the revenue side, the Town also brings in \$8 million, which comes mainly from three sources:

- Municipal taxes: \$6 million
- Revenue from sports, cultural, and recreational services: \$500,000
- Grants, government transfers, and other income: \$1.5 million

SOME CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS

Dependence on Industrial Property Taxes

Roughly 30% of our tax revenues come from the industrial property tax. However, the value of industrial assets is expected to decline over time. This creates a gradual shift of the tax burden onto residents—unless we diversify our economy and industry, which remains one of our top priorities.

Risks of a Single-Industry Town

In a single-industry town, there is always the risk of the primary industry shutting down. Municipalities in this situation often aim to build up financial reserves. Ours currently sits at \$2 million, which is modest compared to our overall budget and debt. That is why, early in my mandate, I proposed focusing our efforts on securing the remaining jobs at the RYAM mill, in partnership with the relevant stakeholders, before considering any new development initiatives.

Deferred Infrastructure Maintenance

Over the past 15 years, we have accumulated a delay in the maintenance of our infrastructure, particularly our water pipes and roads. This summer, we will be rehabilitating a third road in three years as part of our five-year intervention plan, developed by an engineering firm. This plan is required by law and is essential to maintain our eligibility for grants.

Aging of the Cultural Centre

The Cultural Centre requires major investments to ensure its long-term sustainability. Some major upgrades have already been completed (arena ice surface, pool, ventilation), but an additional \$2 to \$3 million will be needed in the coming years for further work on the pool, building, and arena.

Deficit in Sports, Recreation, and Culture

These activities currently generate a \$1.3 million deficit. While some level of deficit is normal, this amount has doubled over the past eight years, largely due to rising costs and minimal increases in user fees. To ensure fairness between users and the general population, we have revised our fee structure this year.

POSITIVE PROGRESS

A Stronger Municipal Team

A few years ago, we revised the Town's organizational structure by adding three strategic positions. The goal was to free up time to focus on grant applications and long-term planning. That decision is now paying off: the Town is securing more grants and operating with better foresight.

Project Budgets Under Control

Recent municipal projects have been completed on budget—or even under budget, thanks to more rigorous planning and improved execution.

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Controlled Budget Pressures

Past and current borrowing—especially for infrastructure catch-up—could have led to a 10% tax increase. When inflation is taken into account, that figure could rise to 20%. However, through sound financial management, smart compromises, and careful prioritization, we have managed to present balanced budgets without significant spending increases. This has required tough but necessary decisions.

We remain committed to limiting the impact on your property taxes. Your support and understanding are key to our collective success.

Together, we can build a thriving, welcoming community we’re all proud to call home.

With gratitude,

Alain Gauthier

Mayor of Temiscaming

JUNE 23 AT PHILIPPE-BARETTE PARK

A St-Jean to Kick Off the Party!

Starting at 6 p.m., the park comes alive with francophone music, BBQ, a bar, and a horseshoe tournament... Then at 9 p.m., FolkloFolie sweeps you into a whirlwind of lively, festive Quebec folklore. At 10:30 p.m., the bonfire is lit, and DJ Félix B. Desfossés (ICI Musique, Jazz Festival) takes over with vinyl beats – funk, soul, disco, afrobeat... everything you need to dance under the stars!

New this year: In partnership with the Youth Centre, we’ve created babysitting kits to help parents get out and celebrate!

JULY 1ST AT PHILIPPE-BARETTE PARK

Canada Day in Temiscaming – A Fun-Filled Day for the Whole Family!

Join us for a festive, free day packed with activities for all ages! Inflatable games, car show, bike circuit, and much more!

Enjoy a slice of Canada Day cake with us after the official ceremony. And cap off the day with a spectacular fireworks display at 10 p.m.!

A vibrant, inclusive celebration that brings everyone together – see you at the park!



URBAN PLANNING: WORK REQUIRING A PERMIT

Please note that under the Town of Temiscaming’s Permit and Certificate By-law #430, obtaining a municipal certificate of authorization is mandatory for certain types of work, including but not limited to:

- Full or partial demolition of a structure
- Repairing or renovating a structure
- Excavation, filling, or grading work
- Tree cutting or removal

Do I need a permit?

If you’re planning any work on your property, we encourage you to discuss it with Cécilia N’Dri from the Urban Planning Department at (819) 627-3273, extension 106, or by email at dir.urbetemiscaming.net.



FIRE DEPARTMENT: USE OF A BARBECUE

Using a barbecue—whether charcoal, gas, or electric—is one of the great joys of summer. However, improper use can lead to serious fire hazards. To fully enjoy your grilling safely, please follow these essential rules:

- 1.Safe Location :** Always set up your BBQ outdoors on a stable, non-combustible surface (concrete, gravel). Keep it at a safe distance from any structures (house, balcony, fence, outdoor furniture)—ideally more than one meter away. Avoid enclosed or poorly ventilated areas, as this increases the risk of gas or carbon monoxide buildup.
- 2. Constant Supervision :** Never leave a barbecue unattended while in use.
- 3. Regular Maintenance :** Clean the grills and grease trays regularly to prevent buildup of flammable residue.
- 4. Safe Ignition :** For gas BBQs, always open the lid before lighting to avoid gas buildup.
- 5. Shutting Down :** For gas models, first turn off the propane tank valve, then the BBQ controls.
- 6. In Case of Emergency :** Keep a portable fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water on a barbecue fire. If possible, close the BBQ lid to smother flames or call 9-1-1 immediately.



LET’S PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER

To preserve the quality and quantity of our drinking water, a municipal by-law regulates its use, especially regarding residential watering.

Manual watering of gardens, vegetable patches, flower boxes, shrubs, and trees using a hand-held hose equipped with an automatic shut-off nozzle is allowed at all times.

For lawn watering with removable sprinkler systems, usage is permitted only from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.: even-numbered days for even-numbered addresses and odd-numbered days for odd-numbered addresses. Automatic sprinkler systems may operate only from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Vehicle washing is allowed at any time, provided a hose with an automatic shut-off device is used. Cleaning driveways, sidewalks, patios, or buildings is prohibited outdoors from April 1 to May 15, except when such cleaning is justified by specific work.

Finally, water play devices must have a trigger-activated system; continuous drinking water supply is prohibited.

By respecting these rules, every citizen contributes to responsible water management – and so do we!

