# **MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

# SPECIAL EDITION #5 HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN ONTARIO



# UPDATE ON OUR ONGOING ACTIONS: MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Dear Citizens,

Since the beginning of this crisis, many of you have mobilized, taken concrete actions, and made your voices heard. This past week has been marked by several important developments.

Today, I want to share these advancements with you and remind everyone that, even though the road is challenging, our determination brings us closer to a solution.

## **OUR PROGRESS**

#### **COMPLAINTS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Thanks to your efforts, 85 complaints were submitted to the CISSSAT. Among these, 28 were deemed urgent, forcing the immediate handling of the most critical situations.

This is an initial victory, showing that every single complaint matters. Let's continue encouraging our friends and neighbors to submit theirs — it's a tangible way to create change.

#### AN INITIAL OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION CHANNEL

The CISSSAT public meeting did not provide all the answers we had hoped for. However, it did lead to the creation of a dedicated phone line and email address for citizens whose appointments have been canceled.

It's a small step forward, but every step counts. We will remain vigilant and continue to demand rapid and tangible actions.

We have also established a citizen support network. If you need help navigating this process, don't hesitate to reach out — volunteer assistance is available.

#### **GROWING REGIONAL SUPPORT**

The council of mayors of the MRC of Temiscamingue adopted resolutions similar to those passed by our Town on August 12, including one directed specifically to the *Protecteur du citoyen*.

Good news: the *Protecteur du citoyen* has agreed to investigate our situation. This is a strong sign that our voices are being heard beyond Temiscaming and Kipawa.

#### **SOLIDARITY BEYOND OUR TOWN**

A petition launched in Val-d'Or for the reinstatement of the healthcare corridor with Ontario has already gathered nearly 500 signatures in less than 48 hours.

This action shows that our fight is shared by other citizens in the Abitibi region who recognize the injustice we are facing. Find it on social media, sign it, and share it to amplify our collective voice.

#### **TOWN OF TEMISCAMING**

Phone number: 819 627-3273

Email: ville.temiscaming@temiscaming.net

#### **GOVERNMENT OUTREACH**

Despite several communications sent to Minister Dubé's office, we are still waiting for concrete commitments. I will personally follow up in the coming days because we refuse to let this situation stagnate.

### **INCREASED POLITICAL OVERSIGHT**

Following the recent cabinet shuffle, Premier François Legault has designated himself as responsible for the Abitibi-Temiscamingue region.

It's too early to judge the real impact, but we see a glimmer of hope and will seize this opportunity to present our reality to him without delay.

### **OUR POSITION TODAY**

We are officially calling for:

- The CISSSAT to be placed under trusteeship.
- The reopening of the healthcare corridor with Ontario through a permanent political solution.
- Minister Dubé to come to Temiscaming to meet with the population and the staff of our facility, so he can see firsthand the urgency of the situation.

These demands are clear and essential to restore trust, protect our health, and regain our collective dignity.

### MY COMMITMENT TO YOU

I want you to know that I will not give up.

- I will continue to inform you transparently at every step.
- I will keep up the pressure on the government.
- I will stand by your side, ensuring that our voice is never silenced.

Here, every extra kilometer traveled, every canceled appointment, and every administrative barrier puts our health and quality of life at risk.

# But together, we are already making a difference.

Every action, every complaint, every signature strengthens our cause.

The status quo is unacceptable, and through unity and perseverance, we will succeed.

By your side,

#### **Alain Gauthier**

Mayor of Temiscaming

# **USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION**



To contact the CISSSAT directly if you need assistance or have experienced a cancellation: <a href="mailto:transfertmedtkessss.gouv.qc.ca">transfertmedtkessss.gouv.qc.ca</a> or by phone at 819 627-3385

Citizen volunteer assistance with your administrative procedures: 819 627–3273, ext. 104