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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

DONATIONS TO GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS: MANAGING OUR RESOURCES COLLECTIVELY TO MEET TODAY'S NEEDS

In recent weeks, my Special Edition Mayor's Messages have mostly focused on the Ontario healthcare file, which continues to demand much of our attention. Today, I'd like to discuss another important topic: how municipal funds are used to support our community.

This is a subject that sparks a lot of interest—and sometimes questions. It is therefore essential to talk about it openly and transparently.

A SMALL TOWN WITH BIG RESPONSIBILITIES

Every year, the Town invests between \$40,000 and \$50,000 in donations and contributions to various local organizations and initiatives. This is a significant amount for a town of our size, and very few comparable municipalities provide support of this magnitude.

In addition, nearly \$100,000 per year is dedicated to organizing cultural and community events and activities, such as Dottori Hall programming, Neighbor's Day, June 24th and July 1st festivities, and many other events that strengthen our town's vitality.

These numbers show that we have an important political role to play, but also a duty to manage every tax dollar with care.

NEEDS THAT EVOLVE QUICKLY

Over the decades, we have seen a clear shift in the types of requests made to the Town.

Many years ago, most requests were related to recreational or festive events, often connected to private groups or specific activities—like a snowmobile party, a moose party, or the annual dinner of a retirees' association.

Gradually, these requests began focusing more on community organizations providing services to families or citizens with fewer resources, such as the Youth Center or the Temiscaming Family Center.

Today, we increasingly receive requests for urgent social needs, such as homelessness prevention, emergency housing for vulnerable individuals, crime prevention initiatives, and the opening of a community fridge and pantry to help those struggling to make ends meet.

These changes reflect a shifting social reality that the Town must adapt to with thoughtful and responsible decisions.

A DONATION POLICY UNDER REVIEW

To meet these new challenges, the Town has created a committee to review its donations and contributions policy.

Our clear goal is to ensure public funds are invested where they will have the greatest impact, prioritize support for families, youth, seniors, and the most vulnerable members of our community, and do so in full alignment with municipal responsibilities.

It's important to remember that a municipality cannot delegate the management of public funds to a private group, even one with the best intentions that reinvests its activity surpluses back into the community.

Our decisions must be made within a clear, fair, and transparent political framework.

FAIRNESS, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY

To date, the Town has maintained a level of support equivalent to that of previous years for all groups and organizations that apply.

However, in some cases, it has had to politely decline additional requests, explaining its decisions when they were less aligned with emerging needs or the Town's core responsibilities.

These decisions are never taken lightly. They take into account financial realities, changing social needs, and the mandate you entrust to us as elected officials—one we cannot delegate.

I understand these choices can sometimes raise questions. Nevertheless, I want to reaffirm that the Town always acts in the collective interest, ensuring sound management of your tax dollars and the well-being of our community.

A CALL FOR UNITY AND RESPECT

Our challenges are many, and we need solidarity and respect to face them together. I invite everyone to show courtesy—whether on social media, at public events, or in your interactions with our municipal employees. Through collaboration, transparency, and open dialogue, we can build a town that is united, fair, and proud of its collective choices.

A town where life is good.

Alain Gauthier,

Mayor of Temiscaming



TO CHOOSE WHAT SURROUNDS YOU

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2025

Your Voice, Your Power, Your Town!

On November 2, 2025, the Town of Temiscaming is preparing to write a new chapter in its history. Every vote counts, and every voice can make a difference for the future of our community.

Do you want to get actively involved?

- Submit your candidacy and directly contribute to the decisions that will shape our town.
- Make sure your name is on the electoral list so you're ready to vote.

Your involvement—whether as a candidate or a voter—is essential to building the Temiscaming of tomorrow. Discover all the key steps to be ready on election day and make your voice heard!

CANDIDATE'S KIT

- Download it from our website to print at home.
- · Available at Town Hall during opening hours.



SUBMISSION OF CANDIDACIES

• From September 19th to October 2nd (Monday to Friday : 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)



Location: Town Hall (20 Humphrey Street)



REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL LIST

Are you a new resident of Temiscaming or do you know someone who is? Share this information with them!

- October 16: 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- October 20 : 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Le Centre (20 Humphrey Street)

MUNICIPAL ELECTORAL LIST REVISION BOARD

The revision board is the time to verify your registration on the electoral list and, if needed, request modifications before election day.

You can:

- Correct incorrect information (name, address, etc.)
- Request the removal of someone who no longer resides at your address
- Register for the first time if this is your first election in Temiscaming or if you have recently moved

Important: No registration or changes will be possible on November 2nd, 2025 (election day). Make sure to verify your status before these dates.

ONLINE URBAN PLANNING PERMITS

We would like to inform you that application forms for urban planning permits and certificates are now available in PDF format on the Town of Temiscaming website. If you wish, you can now obtain your planning permit from the comfort of your home.

Steps to follow:

- Go to the website: Citizens \rightarrow Urban Planning \rightarrow Planning Permits \rightarrow Forms.
- Download the form that matches your request.
- Complete and sign the form.
- Email it to Cécilia N'Dri (Director of Urban Planning and Municipal Inspector) at dir.urb@temiscaming.net
- If requested, provide any additional information needed to process your application.
- If your permit is approved, you will receive instructions on how to pay online. (Payment processing takes an average of 2 business days.)
- After payment is received, your permit will be emailed to you as a PDF.

If you have any questions about the processing of your online permit application, please contact Ms. N'Dri for assistance at 819 627–3273, ext. 106 or by email at <u>dir.urb@temiscaming.net</u>.

<u>In-person meetings at the Urban Planning Department</u>

It is still possible to meet with Cécilia N'Dri if needed. Please schedule an appointment with her to ensure her availability.

We thank you for your understanding.





