



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: FROM RESILIENCE TO ACTION

The fall of 2024 will remain a memorable moment for many Temiscaming residents. The announcement of the closure of a significant portion of RYAM's operations raised real concerns about the future of our local economy.

Those concerns were understandable.

For generations, Temiscaming's economy has been closely tied to one major industry. Our largest employer has played an important role in supporting local jobs, attracting families and contributing to the quality of life we enjoy today. When major changes occur within a company that has such a strong presence in our community, it is natural to wonder what the impact will be.

This was especially true as we have been working for several years to diversify our economy, reduce our dependence on a single industry and create new opportunities for growth and development.

Today, nearly two years later, it is worth taking a moment to recognize how far our community has come.

Without minimizing the challenges faced by many workers and their families, we can see that Temiscaming has demonstrated remarkable resilience. The housing market remains active, property values have remained stable, vacancy rates remain low and several projects continue to move forward.

Of course, there is still work to do. Economic development remains one of the main priorities of Town Council. However, what we see today gives us confidence that Temiscaming is moving in the right direction.

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION: BETTER UNDERSTANDING OUR FUTURE

With that in mind, I am pleased to share that we recently received the report from the first phase of the Economic Diversification Study conducted by the Desjardins Research Chair in Small Community Development at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, in partnership with the Town of Temiscaming.

As a reminder, this initiative was launched in March 2025 to identify development opportunities that reflect the strengths and realities of our community. The goal is to better understand the opportunities that could help diversify our economy and support long-term growth.

The report is very recent and we have just begun reviewing its findings. This first phase will help us better understand our strengths, identify promising sectors and explore opportunities that could contribute to our community's prosperity in the years ahead.

While this study is not a solution on its own, it is an important planning tool that will support the work already underway to prepare for the future. The information gathered will help guide future decisions and actions related to economic development in Temiscaming.

AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION GAINING MOMENTUM

At the same time, the Temiscaming Economic Development Corporation continues to grow and take shape.

Now established in its downtown offices, the corporation is fully operational and its General Manager, Julie Bernard, is well settled into her role.

The corporation's first months of operation have been very encouraging. Entrepreneurs, developers and residents have already visited the office to discuss ideas, projects and business opportunities. Some projects are well advanced, while others are still in the early stages. What they all have in common is a desire to contribute to the development of our community.

The conversations and partnerships that emerge give us every reason to be optimistic about the future of both the corporation and our community.

MEETING WITH OUR ENTREPRENEURS

Over the past several weeks, Julie Bernard and I have met with entrepreneurs who have started businesses over the last two years, as well as others who are working to bring new projects to life.

We met with these entrepreneurs for one simple reason: to listen.

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TOWN OF TEMISCAMING

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To listen to their experiences, their challenges, their ambitions and their needs.

Every meeting reminds us how important entrepreneurs are to the vitality of our community. Behind every business are people who invest their time, energy and often a great deal of courage to make their projects a success.

I also believe that municipalities and the business community have much to gain from working together and understanding each other's realities. We intend to continue these conversations in the months ahead.

So far, these meetings have been extremely positive and encouraging.

THE RETURN OF THE TITANS: A SYMBOL OF CONFIDENCE

Among the many projects helping to energize our community, the return of the Titans holds a special place.

Since the announcement of their return, the excitement has been felt throughout Temiscaming.

Thanks to the efforts of a group of local investors, the commitment of many partners and the dedication of passionate volunteers, this project is becoming a reality. Players have been recruited, sponsors have stepped forward and the agreement between the Town and the Titans organization is nearly complete.

The Titans will officially return this season.

Beyond hockey, this project will contribute to the vitality of our community. Games will attract visitors, generate economic benefits for local businesses and create new opportunities for people to come together.

More importantly, the return of the Titans strengthens the sense of pride that unites us and demonstrates that Temiscaming continues to move forward, work together and invest in its future.

Go Titans Go!

KEEPING RESIDENTS INFORMED ABOUT RYAM

While our economy continues to diversify, RYAM remains an important part of our community.

Over the past several months, various rumors and information have circulated regarding our largest employer. As is often the case, the reality is more complex.

Yes, challenges remain. At the same time, several initiatives are underway to improve the company's performance and help prepare for the future.

Because RYAM remains an important part of our community, we believe residents should have access to accurate information that comes directly from the company.

Following discussions with RYAM's communications department, we agreed that it would be beneficial to occasionally share information about the company's projects and activities.

As a result, you may begin to see a new section in future editions of the Mayor's Message entitled "RYAM Updates."

This initiative is not intended to replace the company's official communications. Rather, it aims to provide residents with information on matters that have a significant impact on our community.

SHOP LOCAL: A CHOICE THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

I cannot conclude this message without highlighting the importance of shopping locally.

Behind every store, service business, restaurant and workshop are people who have chosen to invest here in Temiscaming. These entrepreneurs create jobs, support our local economy and contribute to the vitality of our community. When we choose to buy local, we directly support those efforts.

Every purchase matters.
Every customer matters.
Every action matters.

Shopping local is about much more than a transaction.
It is a concrete way to support local businesses, strengthen our economy and invest in the future of our community.

The challenges we have faced over the past few years have reminded us of one important fact: the strength of Temiscaming comes from its people. Our residents, workers, entrepreneurs, organizations and volunteers continue to demonstrate resilience, determination and community spirit.

While there is still work to do, the foundation is strong.
Together, we will continue building a diversified, dynamic and prosperous future for Temiscaming.

Alain Gauthier
Mayor of Temiscaming



ST-JEAN TÉMISCAMING 2026

LES BILINGUISH BOYS
CONCERT ET SOIRÉE DANSANTE

TOURNOI DE FERS
20 \$ PAR ÉQUIPE
INSCRIVEZ-VOUS AU CENTRE
OU AVEC LE CODE QR !



ET ENCORE PLUS !
BAR À NACHOS GOURMAND -
BAR (18+) - FEU DE JOIE -
FESTIVITÉS POUR TOUTE LA
FAMILLE ET TOUS LES ÂGES!

23 JUIN 2026
PARC PHILIPPE-BARETTE




SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CELEBRATION

Starting at 6:00 p.m., the park comes alive with:

- French-language music
- A nacho bar
- A bar on site (18+)
- A horseshoe tournament (great prizes to be won!)

At 9:00 p.m., the Bilinguish Boys will take the stage to entertain us throughout the evening with music and comedy — a show you won't want to miss!

The bonfire will also be lit to keep the celebration going.

Starting at 11:00 p.m., it's time to hit the dance floor!

Will we see you there?! Don't miss this evening filled with great food, great music, and great company!

Register for the horseshoe tournament here :




EXPOSITION DE VOITURES

Sport et classiques

LE 1^{er} JUILLET 2026
DE 12 H À 15 H
AU PARC PHILIPPE-BARETTE

Venez célébrer la fête du Canada avec nous ! Tous sont les bienvenus.
Prix à gagner !

Restez à l'affût
— programmation complète à venir !





CANADA DAY

The Sports & Classic Car Show is back this year — bigger and more impressive than ever!

- July 1st, 2026
- 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Philippe-Barette Park

Join us for a festive day featuring activities for the whole family, a great car show, prizes to be won, and fireworks in the evening.

The full program will be announced soon... stay tuned!