

INFO TEMIS

SEPTEMBER 2026

www.temiscaming.net

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



The past few weeks have been particularly important for the future of our community.

The announcement regarding the temporary economic shutdown of RYAM's Témiscaming mill, initially scheduled for September 15 and since postponed to October 3, has created significant uncertainty for our workers, their families, our businesses, and our local and regional economy as a whole.

From the outset, our objective has been clear: **to do everything within our power to ensure that Temiscaming's situation was heard, understood, and addressed by those who have the tools to act. More specifically, we put our energy and our contacts to work in an effort to prevent a shutdown.**

This isn't our first BBQ, and in a situation like this, we have to aim high.

We have therefore been working on several fronts at the same time, 24/7.

First, **our voice has been heard far beyond Temiscaming.** I gave several interviews to local, regional, and national media to speak about our reality and the impact this situation is having on our community. I had the opportunity to bring our message to major Quebec media platforms, including interviews with Mario Dumont, as well as Nathalie Normandeau and Luc Fernandez.

These interviews allowed us to talk about the workers and families affected, but also to introduce a much wider audience to **the exceptional industrial and forestry potential of our region.**

Believe it or not, by the end of several of these interviews, the teams wanted to help us so much that I even gained some important new contacts. Our message resonated and people wanted to help move things forward.

Because our message was never simply that Temiscaming needed help. We are not beggars! Above all, we have demonstrated why our region is worth investing in.

The Temiscamingue region has significant and diverse forest resources, recognized industrial expertise, existing infrastructure, and major opportunities for synergy between our businesses. And one of those businesses is a true flagship of Canada's pulp and paper industry, with its niche products and the many industrial innovations developed there over the decades.

We also have a long-standing relationship of collaboration with First Nations. No woodland caribou issue, no blockades. **It is the tariffs that are putting our long-term future at risk.**

Our voice has carried far – and so has the message about our potential.

At the same time, we fully mobilized **every political lever available to us**, at both the provincial and federal levels. We reached out to the various representatives, ministries, and offices involved so that no one could say they were unaware of the reality facing Temiscaming and the Temiscamingue region, or of the urgency to act.

Their first question was often: **"How can we help your Town?"**

My answer was always the same: **"The mill isn't closed yet. If you want to help the Town, help the mill."**

We presented concrete suggestions to governments. At the federal level, we suggested, among other things, that projects aimed at developing new products and new markets be eligible for direct, non-repayable financial assistance that is not limited solely to infrastructure expenditures.

We also stressed that the surpluses generated by tariffs and counter-tariffs should be reinvested directly and quickly into the system, on an ad hoc basis, without necessarily having to go through existing standardized programs or loans. **It is the citizens' money, not the government's.**

In Quebec, we asked that new measures be considered to support our economy, in partnership with the federal government.

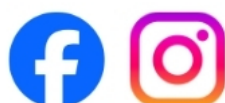
In both cases, we also asked them to consider the costs they can avoid by helping to prevent a shutdown.

Our position has been clear from the beginning: **we are facing a tariff war. A tariff war requires solutions that match the seriousness of the situation. In other words, economic "wartime measures."**

TOWN OF TEMISCAMING

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When businesses, jobs, and entire communities are suffering the consequences of a trade conflict beyond their control, conventional tools cannot be the only response. An exceptional situation requires exceptional measures.

Today, we have reached a new stage.

Every stakeholder we could reach has been contacted. Every political lever available to us has been mobilized. Our reality and our potential have been presented. Our voice has reached the national stage.

The parties involved are now talking. Discussions between governments and the company are underway. **For the next few days, the matter is in their hands.**

At this stage, our role is to closely follow the progress of these discussions and remain ready to intervene when necessary. The Town remains fully engaged, but the decisions that must now be made rest with those who have the financial, political, and industrial tools to put solutions in place.

We have done everything within our reach to bring this matter to this stage. We are now waiting for concrete solutions that reflect the urgency and importance of the situation.

I know this period of uncertainty is difficult. Behind all these discussions, we must never lose sight of what matters most: there are workers, families, businesses, and an entire community waiting to find out what the future holds.

Let us continue to support one another and our local businesses. Our solidarity remains one of our greatest strengths.

For my part, I will continue to follow this matter with all the attention it deserves and keep you informed as it evolves.

I cannot overlook the recent news that the mill’s planned economic shutdown has been postponed. In the current context, this is an encouraging development that gives us a little more time, but above all, it demonstrates that every possible avenue continues to be explored.

I also want to recognize the work of RYAM’s local management team and all of its employees. Over the past year, they have shown remarkable determination and dedication in exploring, developing, and pursuing every possible avenue to help ensure the mill’s success and future.

Our voice has been heard. Our potential has been demonstrated. Progress has been made. Now, the work continues as we look toward lasting results for the future of our mill and our community.

Alain Gauthier
Mayor of Temiscaming

DOTTORI HALL | MIA KELLY

GREAT NEWS, TEMISCAMING!

As part of Municipalities Week, the Town of Temiscaming is pleased to offer the community a free evening of live music at Dottori Hall.

MIA KELLY | SEPTEMBER 17, 2026 AT 8 P.M.
OPENING ACT: LAYLA & FAITH

Reserve your seat now!
www.salledottori.com | 819 627-3230



WATER METERS | FIRST READING AT LOCAL BUSINESSES

From September 14 to 25, Public Works employees will visit businesses, industries and institutions in Temiscaming to conduct an initial water meter reading. Employees will be clearly identified during their visit.

This reading will help the Town better understand water consumption and plan for the needs of the water distribution system.

Afterward, property owners will be asked to submit their own readings using the designated form.

For now, the data is being collected solely for measurement, analysis and planning purposes. There is currently no billing based on water consumption.