



Municipalité de | Municipality of

# Pontiac

Dear citizens,

As 2023 draws to a close, it's time to look back on it. As you will no doubt have noticed, the Municipality is managing several projects with which you may be familiar. A few changes are also taking place on the Municipality's territory. I am therefore pleased to share with you a brief overview of our activities and achievements in 2023, as well as a reminder of some of our objectives for 2024.

## Public works | Municipal roads

The municipal announcement to take over in-house management of the residual materials and recycling collection service is accompanied by a wave of updating and fine-tuning to ensure adequate service that meets the requirements and regulations in this area. I would like to thank you for your patience and cooperation during this transition. It's important to mention that this program has helped create jobs within the Municipality, while reducing collection costs.

This decision is based on a concern to control the increase in expenses associated with the renewal of a subcontract. The same concern for economy was behind the decision to take over the task of mowing along the roads and sweeping the paved roads.

In the same vein, the Municipality is planning to reopen the ecocenter to meet the needs of residents and enable us to recycle our bulky items. We are at the approval and reopening stage. We have also applied

to the Ministry for the opening of a sand pit on the same site, which will enable us to increase the tonnage of gravel spread on our roads without increasing our budget.

On the composting front, we are actively working to set up an individual in-house composting service. This program should be finalized in 2024.

We have several priorities when it comes to road repairs. Although we are slightly behind schedule due to the ice storm that hit the Municipality at the beginning of the year and the spring floods that caused damage to infrastructure, we are striving to prioritize work to meet the needs of our citizens.

Several worthwhile projects have already begun, and some have even been completed. To name just a few, we've resurfaced Murray and Elm roads, part of Kawartha Road, and carried out work on Thérien and Bronson-Bryant roads. Paving work is also scheduled for 2024 on Kawartha, McKay and Braun roads.

## THE MAYOR'S REPORT...



## **Tolerance roads**

Snow clearing and light maintenance work on a large proportion of private tolerance roads is now offered by the Municipality, following the adoption of two municipal bylaws, once again offering our blue-collar workers the opportunity to work on an annual rather than a seasonal basis, and thus ensuring the maintenance and integrity of the structure of these roads.

## **Infrastructure | Public safety**

To provide better service to the population, the Municipality has installed an electrical panel for the use of a generator at the Luskville Community Centre. The purpose of this measure is to establish an emergency measure centre and thus offer basic services to citizens during emergencies or natural disasters.

We also installed a shower at the Breckenridge fire station. This will be available to citizens during emergencies.

## **Infrastructure | Community centres | Parks**

We're investing in the future of our infrastructure and community development.

For example, to ensure public safety, we have installed a park fence in the Quyon sector. This installation now allows us to organize large-scale activities requiring a secure site.

Acoustic panels have been installed at the Quyon community centre. We had the opportunity to evaluate their performance recently and were able to observe the big difference they made.

We are continuing to develop our parks and will keep you informed as improvements are planned. We had called in an external consultant for this purpose, but due to lack of time on his part, the project was postponed. We will be re-tendering the project by invitation in early 2024. A citizen survey will be prepared for this purpose.

## **Recreation, sports and community life**

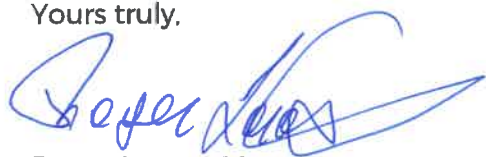
This year saw several fine events and a resumption of many activities that had disappeared since the pandemic.

We're very proud to have launched the new Pontiac Country Festival, a nod to the old Jam Fest. The festival will return for a 2nd consecutive year, with improvements made in response to various comments and suggestions received from citizens.

The Municipality also offered its support to various events, including Canada Day celebrations, the Tractor Pull, the Country Fair and the Archéo-Pontiac project. The resumption of activities by socio-cultural groups and sports teams is good to see and stimulates a sense of belonging.

In closing, on behalf of all the Municipality's employees, councillors and myself, I wish you all a wonderful holiday season, and may the New Year bring you health, peace, happiness and prosperity.

Yours truly,



Roger Larose, Mayor