



Word from the Mayor

News from your Municipality
March 2019

Removing snow on your roof – a good idea!

Looking outside, you would think there has been more snow than normal this year. Well, according to an article that appeared in the February 14th edition of *L'Information du Nord*, this is not the case. This year, the constantly moving jet stream is quite stationary, having a greater impact on some regions such as ours.

In addition, according to la *Régie du bâtiment du Québec*, during the winter season, several periods of warm weather followed by rain then by snow and bitter colds, have the effect of compacting snow, making it more dense and heavier than it would normally be.



La *Régie du bâtiment* also reminds us that it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that a building is safe for everyone.

Therefore, to reduce the risk of seeing your home's roof or the roof of your garage cave in, la *Régie du bâtiment* recommends that you remove the snow from the roofs of main buildings and garages. In the process, make sure to clear all emergency exits of buildings, as well as balconies and entrances to sheds, garages, etc.

However, if snow removal becomes necessary, their advice is that it is preferable to bring in specialists to do the job as they have the correct tools for this. They also know the best methods to use to safely remove the snow without damaging the roof's weather-proof membrane. Should you decide to undertake this job yourself, to reduce the risk of falls, please do this from the ground, using specialized tools such as a rooftop snow rake with a telescopic handle.

How to tell if your roof is at risk of caving in

In the majority of cases, there are some tell tale signs that a cave in might occur. For example, some small cracks can appear on interior walls or internal doors can be more difficult to close. If you notice any of these signs, do not hesitate and have your roofs cleared of snow, no matter the quantity of snow present.

For more information, please visit la *Régie du bâtiment du Québec* web site at :

<https://www.rbq.gouv.qc.ca/salle-de-presse/les-nouvelles/nouvelles-detail/item/2019-02-13-neige-accumulee-pensez-a-deneiger-vos-toitures-et-abris-dauto.html>

Excursions in isolated regions – prudence is best



La *Sûreté du Québec* recently published a warning for amateur outdoor enthusiasts who practice their activities in isolated regions either on their own or in small groups. An expedition in the forest or in the heart of an isolated region is not without risk and requires adequate preparation.

Each year, rescue operations need to be deployed to find and rescue people who are either lost or in distress because they have not taken the appropriate precautions before venturing out.

Therefore, before you begin an excursion in an isolated area, make sure that your project is realistic and that your physical condition allows you to undertake such an expedition. Once you have chosen your destination, prepare in advance. Proper preparation, which can take several days, should include the following elements:

- Prepare a detailed itinerary including each destination, the distance separating them, the time allotted between destinations as well as the expected date of arrival at each location. We recommend that you also leave a copy of your itinerary with your loved ones;
- Bring a detailed up-to-date map of the visited region and make sure you know how to read maps and how to use the different navigation tools (GPS, compass, etc.);
- Master survival techniques and make sure you know the means of travel you will be using (ex. walking, snowmobiling, etc.);
- Prepare yourself so that you can use your equipment appropriately. Ideally, all of your equipment should have been tested at least once before you venture off on an excursion in an isolated area; and
- Check the weather forecast in all the sectors where you wish to travel. If the forecast is unfavourable and risks causing problems for your safety do not venture out.

In addition, make sure to bring the following essential items:

- A communications device such as a satellite telephone, a portable UHF or VHF radio, a “spot” type locator beacon device or any other device that allows you to communicate from a remote location. Do not forget to write down and bring emergency services numbers in the region where you are going;
- A survival kit including at the very least some basic tools, illumination flares, a first aid kit, a knife, a large orange plastic bag, waterproof matches, a flashlight, a whistle, a lightweight aluminum treated blanket and food rich in calories such as chocolate or freeze dried food packets; and
- Clothing and footwear adapted for your activity.

During the excursion...

- Make sure to let your loved ones know of your whereabouts on a regular basis; and
- Mark your trail with the help of ribbons or other material that will stick to trees.

In case of problems...

- Try to build a shelter;
- Do not continue to move. If you have previously signaled your position, remain in the same sector; and
- Find a location free of trees and ensure you are visible by building a fire or by spreading your colourful gear on the ground over a large area.

Finally, la *Sûreté du Québec* invites you to visit their web site at www.sq.gouv.qc.ca and download their brochure entitled «*Orientez votre excursion*» as it is extremely useful in helping you prepare your outdoor excursions.

<https://www.sq.gouv.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/orientez-votre-excursion.pdf>

Ice fishing

We recently received a request for information about the possibility of ice fishing on Lac Manitou. We enquired and this is what we found out.

Sport fishing in Québec is regulated by le *Ministère des Forêts, Faune et Parcs*. Globally, Québec is divided into 29 fishing zones that take into account the distribution of fish species across the territory. Maps of the different zones exist. A person who fishes must respect the regulations that apply to that zone as well as any other requirements that apply to the territory where they wish to fish.



In summary, Lac Manitou is in zone 9 and when consulting the website, we can see that sport fishing or ice fishing is prohibited in winter.

However, if you wish to find out where it is possible to fish in winter, please consult the following website:

<https://mffp.gouv.qc.ca/publications/enligne/faune/reglementation-peche/periodes-peche.asp>

Centre de formation générale des Cimes



For those of you looking to return to school or those wishing to obtain a specific work related certification, le *Centre de formation générale (CFG) aux adultes des Cimes* of la *Commission scolaire des Laurentides* offers both in class and online courses at three locations in the Laurentians (Sainte-Adèle, Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts or Mont-Tremblant).

Le *Centre de formation générale (CFG) des Cimes* is a centre specialized in the education of adults who were at least 16 years old at the end of June of the previous school year.

Here are highlights of some courses being offered:

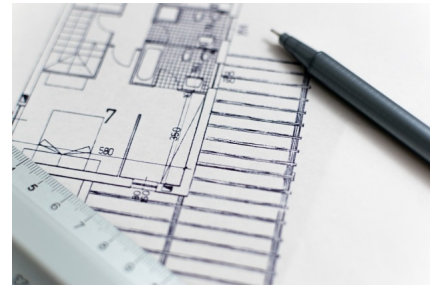
- General classes including mandatory courses such as English, French, history, mathematics and sciences as well as optional courses such as information technology, drug addiction prevention and others;
- Socio-professional integration giving students an opportunity to acquire competencies and experience in a work environment;
- Social integration allowing students with coping challenges to develop the skills, competencies and behaviours that will give them the tools they need to follow a path that will lead them to employment, other training or a rewarding personal and social life;

- French language training;
- Secondary school equivalency test (TENS); and
- General development test (TGD) for people over 18 years of age who wish to be admitted to a professional education programme or who wish to qualify with la *Commission de la construction du Québec (CCQ)*.

Pour more information, please visit the website at : <http://cfgdescimes.ca/>

Requests for permits – as soon as possible please

If you have any plans for construction or renovations, chances are you will require a permit. To avoid any disappointment with respect to the time it takes to treat your request for a permit during the summer season, we highly recommend that you bring us your requests for a permit as soon as possible and that you discuss your projects with *le Responsable du service de l'urbanisme*, the inspector, throughout the process. Requests for permits are treated on a first come first serve basis. By submitting your requests early, you limit the chances of surprises and you will be better served.



Other subjects of interest

Should you have any other topics you would like us to address in a future *Word from the Mayor*, just let us know and it will be our pleasure to address them.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask. The municipal team is here for you!

Once again, I thank you for the confidence you have shown in me. It has been a real pleasure representing you.



Mayor

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