

**APL – 31 Mile Lake  
Annual General Meeting  
August 26, 2023**

**Board Attendance:**

President : Hugues Raymond

Vice-President: Jim Mitchell

Secretary: Geneviève Bénard

Directors: Isabelle Geraets-Rose, Julie Cousineau, Luke Peart, David Simpson

**Board Regrets:**

Treasurer: Monique Campeau-Leblanc

Director: Geoff Green

**Opening Remarks**

Welcome from the President and presentation of the Board Members.

**1) Opening of the Meeting: 10:10am**

**2) Adoption of Agenda:**

- a. Amendment to the Agenda: Addition of a presentation from Luke Peart - Réseau de surveillance volontaire des lacs (RSVL)

**Moved by Denis Lacroix, seconded by Ron Serrurier and all in favor.**

**3) Adoption of 2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes:**

**Moved by Jean Desjardins and all in favor.**

**4) 2022 AGM Minutes Follow-Up:**

Milfoil - The President attended the Forum National sur les lacs 2023 held June 7-8 in Mont-Tremblant and presented an overview of the information presented. The President also provided an update related to the presence of milfoil on the lake and the actions taken by the Lake Association. An overview of the presentation included:

- the astronomical costs of eradicating milfoil;
- things that we can do to slow down the progression of milfoil;
- the purchase and placement of yellow buoys and floating signs to educate people and inform them to avoid milfoil areas;
- an update on the status of boat washing stations;
- an overview of the work done by the President leading to the Corporation du parc Régional du lac des 31 milles adopting a resolution where the protection of the lake is a top priority.

**5) Guest presentation by the Acting Director of the Corporation du parc Régional du lac des 31 milles – Ms. Marlène Thonnard**

The presentation covered the following key points:

- An overview of the Lake's increase in popularity and the development of the Corporation of the Regional Park which is still awaiting formal recognition from the Province of Quebec.
- Overview of the vision and mission of the park which includes Encadre/Harmonise/Protège (more information can be found on the Website of the Parc regional <https://cpr31m.ca/index.php/fr/a-propos>)
- The Mission is endorsed by the two Préfètes of the MRCs and the five mayors of the municipalities surrounding the Lake.
- Marlène's presentation was followed by a Question and Answer period.

## **5) President's Report:**

The Report of the President focussed on key issues which included:

- Increasing membership (new member definition)
- Participation by the APL President in both Board and executive council meeting of the Corporation du Parc Régional, as treasurer.
- Attendance at the Forum National sur les Lacs
- update on boat washing stations;
- millfoil buoys;
- ban on fireworks launched over the lake or in close proximity to the lake, development of educational material and support from the Regional Park to ban fireworks;
- Participation in the RSVL
- APL became a member of the Fédération Québécoise de défense des lacs et cours d'eau.
- education of fishermen taking part in fishing tournament and support for boat washing prior to launching;

Francis Leblanc, President of the Regroupement pour la protection de la vallée de la Gatineau qui regroupe les municipalités et les différents lacs dans la MRCVG, briefly mentioned that the Regroupement has been in place for the last 10 years. He informed the attendees that their AGM would take place on August 27, 2023.

## **6) Treasurer's Report:**

The President provided an overview of the Treasurer's Report which indicated that the Association is in solid financial condition.

**Adoption of the Report: Moved by Denis Lacroix and all in favor.**

## **7) Resolutions to vote:**

a) Resolution proposed by the President: Henceforth, membership dues to be renewed every calendar year (January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>) rather than current membership renewal which occurs by fiscal year (August 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>).

**Motion proposed by David Simpson and all in favor.**

b) Resolution proposed by Charlotte Simpson:

It is resolved that:

- a) campsites be monitored for excessive noise and disturbances to the natural environment to allow wildlife, fellow campers, cottagers and residents their normal peace and quiet;
- b) all boats be washed prior to entering the lake;
- c) c) the Boater Code of Conduct developed by the Association be provided for educational purposes and for enforcement by the Parc as soon as it has the necessary authority;
- d) d) only biodegradable products be allowed for use on campsites.

This resolution would then be presented by the APL to the Regional Park.

**Motion proposed by Charlotte Simpson, seconded by Bruno Séguin and all in favor.**

c) Resolution proposed by David Simpson:

APL 31 Milles to support the official recognition of the Regional Park by writing to the 4 Quebec Government Departments involved.

Below is the official resolution presented to the Corporation du parc régional du lac des 31 milles :

Considering that the project to create a regional park at Lac des 31 Milles in the Vallée-de-la-Gatineau was initiated in 2016;

Considering that a development and management plan (PAG) in due form has been submitted to the various ministries concerned since 2016;

Considering that following the successive work of the technical committee, the PAG had to be modified several times;

Considering that the latest version of the PAG was submitted in February 2023 and forwarded to the highest authorities;

Considering that Lac 31 milles is a jewel for the region, and that the official creation of an accredited regional park is a key element in ensuring its long-term survival;

Considering that as a result of the MRC de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau's tourism development orientations, Lac 31 Milles has become increasingly popular and that the management of its use is imperative for its protection;

Considering that the official creation of an accredited regional park will empower the two MRCs concerned to draw up a by-law in this regard;

Consequently, on the motion of Mr. David Simpson and seconded by Mr. Jean Desjardins, it is resolved that the Association pour la protection du Lac des 31 Milles supports the official creation of a duly accredited regional park and, to this end, asks the government authorities involved in the project to proceed with the park's accreditation and to transfer management powers to the two MRCs concerned, within the parameters defined for Quebec regional parks.

**Motion proposed by David Simpson, seconded by Jean Desjardins and all in favor.**

**8) Varia:**

**a) Presentation on Water Levels –Luke Peart**

Water visibility tests demonstrate that the Lake is still young and in a good condition. We must continue to work together and continue our efforts to protect it. We must continue to be vigilant as human activity can quickly age a lake.

The data provided by the water testing that is conducted every year will provide a good data base to monitor the condition and aging of the Lake in the future. An APL member offered to help graph all available data.

**b) Presentation on Water Levels – David Simpson**

Over the last year, water levels have been maintained close to the median levels or a bit lower. This is important for the fauna that nests around the lake and also for erosion.

**10) Election of the Board:**

a) Isabelle Geraets-Rose will step down from the Board. The President thanked her for her service.

b) Nomination of David Peloquin who will join the Board

**Proposed by Julie Cousineau and all in favor**

**11) Adjournment of the Meeting: 12:15pm.**

**Proposed by Jean Desjardins, seconded by Julie Cousineau and all in favor.**