



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY JUNE 5TH. 2010

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members,

The year 2009 was very active in our organization pursuing recurring annual projects put in place in the last three years and this by improving the administration and effectiveness of them. You will notice with the Treasurer's financial report the list of all projects including their financing and their costs. However what is not recognized in the numbers, as in any organization like ours, is the value of volunteer's work made by directors and members. For Renaissance Lac Brome the number of volunteer hours spent is very important and explains the reputation of our organization as well as the number of members it represents which was nearly 600 in 2009.

In 2009 we produced three important documents for our elected officials in order to speed up decision making on actions to take but also to structure adequate laws and regulations that govern us. Indeed we must fix the abuses of the past and better manage the development of our territory according to strict environmental criterias but essential for the conservation of our natural heritage which is the backbone of our local economy.

The report on the situation of septic systems on the territory of Ville de Lac Brome filed August 8th., 2009 is a comprehensive analysis of each sector with appropriate recommendations for each. We intend to sit with our elected officials to discuss the report so that town council can provide a five-year plan when filing its next budget. We will prioritize actions in certain areas while having a spread over several years of

investments needed. We will work with town council to allow proper decision to be taken.

Under the revised Master Plan Town of Lac Brome and public consultations held on the subject we presented a report on sustainable land use. Among several recommendations we want to integrate to the zoning plan sensitive areas such as wetlands, special woodlands and steep slopes, we also want to exclude from the normal urban zone , a special zone around the lake that would be designated as special area in order that we can apply special rules needed for water quality. We are confident that our municipal authorities will incorporate our recommendations into the new Master Plan this fall.

The other report I am proud of is our memoir to the Quebec parliamentary commission on Transport and Environment, with support from some of our partners, we quite frankly described the problems that an organisation such as ours must encounter in its struggle against cyanobacterias. For Renaissance Lac Brome too many necessary and urgent measures to be taken are left to municipalities which results in delays and measures that differ from one region to another. Yet the problems, causes and solutions are common to all lakes and watersheds. Can you imagine if we had left to each municipality the responsibility of drafting and enforcing anti-smoking laws for the entire province?

One of our struggles is reforestation and replanting the banks of tributaries such as the lake itself. To achieve our goal 157.000 trees must be planted across the watershed. Since 2008 we have managed to plant 28.000 trees, however, I must inform you that we must work very hard to successfully find enough land owners accepting 4000 trees for each of the past two years. At this rate we'll never make it. Again incentives and strong measures are not taken. If Quebec does not assume its full responsibilities we will have to address the municipalities via the MRCs to act.

Having noted the absence of several streams on existing mapping of the watershed we started identifying all the streams to improve watershed management. This is a long and hard exercise but we will continue this project for the next few years.

For the lake itself we ordered a study on the evolution of aquatic plants. The study shows that there is 35 species covering 15% of the surface of the lake. Unfortunately many bays are in the process of siltation. Some measures for aquatic plants control could be evaluated and taken but require a certificate of authorization from Quebec Environment Dept. after meeting certain criterias.

We also intend to order an updated bathymetric map of the lake that tells us the exact depth of each sector. This tool is essential to manage the traffic of motor boats so we can avoid the stirring of bottom sediments. Roxton discovered that the bottom of the lake had risen two feet since 1964. Hopefully the surprise is not as bad for our lake.

Much has been done and much remains to be done. All our reports and activities can be viewed in detail on our website www.renaissancelbl.com

I am happy to share a constant improvement of our relations with our town officials since the past three years. We have secured funding from the Town for \$ 25,000 for cost-shared projects and we fully intend to strengthen this partnership in the coming years while maintaining our independence and pressure necessary to achieve our goals.

Now I want to talk about our organization and of its directors.

Pierre Beaudoin and Jacques Fournier Secretary and Vice president have been the two pillars of the organization and it is not surprising that each of them have been honoured by different sources for their contributions to Renaissance Lac Brome as dedicated volunteers.

Our Treasurer Diane Degree refined to its highest point accounting management by project and I congratulate her for the quality of the result.

Dr. Francine Duclos-Beaudoin of our technical committee concerned of the health effects of cyanobacteria continues its scientific assessments of reports provided to us.

Sylvia Morin our communications expert has given, among other things to Renaissance Lac Brome a colorful new logo, representative of our mission.

Dr. Michel Delorme biologist of our technical committee is dedicated in keeping biodiversity in our area and he took over the tree planting project for 2010.

I would like to thank those leaving the Board Lisette Parent responsible for monitoring environmental complaints with the officials concerned,

Mr. Andre Charbonneau responsible for distributing 3,000 shrubs and planting 4,000 trees in 2009 and Mr. Michel Green.

On behalf of all members I warmly thank each director for their dedication.

My concerns with respect to maintaining the strength of our association are wide because of the excessive number of volunteer hours of some directors. For this reason we decided to increase the number of directors from ten to twelve. These concerns are greatly toned down with the arrival of new fresh and competent forces that submitted their candidacy to be on the next Board of Directors. All candidates were invited to attend our last two meetings and they have already got on the job.

I would like to thank especially Mrs. Claire Kerrigan and Mrs. Claire Léger who both co-chaired our fundraising campaign in 2010 with major donors.

Finally 2010 promises to be another busy year as we firmly intend to continue religiously our projects so that Renaissance Lac Brome with the support of members and donors, remains one of Quebec's leader in the fight against cyanobacterias.

Respectfully submitted this June 5th. 2010,

James A. Wilkins

President