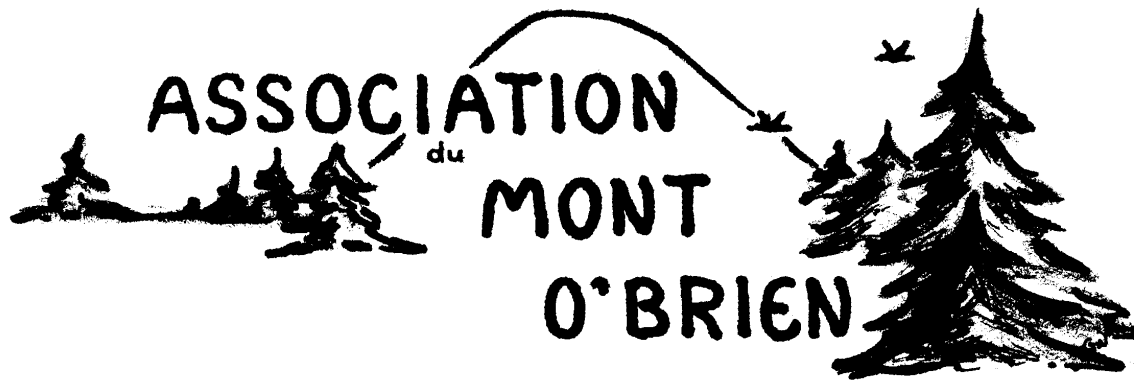


July 2002



## NEWSLETTER

### **What is the Association du Mont O'Brien?**

The Mont O'Brien Association, which began in Spring 2000, is devoted to creating a park on Crown land in the Mont O'Brien region, which lies to the west of Danford Lake, just south of Route 301.

### **The Association's mandate is to:**

Maintain the wilderness environment of the Mont O'Brien area by protecting the numbers and varieties of flora and fauna while providing educational opportunities and recreational access to the forests, lakes, rivers and mountains.

**If you would like more information on the Association, the future park, or the upcoming meetings, please contact either:**

Michele Sura @ 467-2835

Roy Peck @ 467-5473

Ed Elliott @ 467-2835

Pam Miles @ 724-5959

Charlene Scharf @ 467-3644

Georgia West @ 467-3249

Harold Emery @ 467-5251

## RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT - MRC PONTIAC

The Board of Directors of the Mont O'Brien Association is pleased to report that we have received the following *resolution of support* from the MRC Pontiac. It was very gratifying to have received the support of the other municipalities in our region.

"Whereas the MRC of Pontiac has recognized in its Revised Land Development Plan the aesthetic interest of Mount O'Brien;

Whereas the Mount O'Brien Association has been created with the mission of developing the site;

Whereas the Municipality of Allevyn-and-Cawood supports by resolution (No. 153-07-01) the Association in its mission;

Therefore, it is resolved that the MRC of Pontiac supports the Mount O'Brien Association in their initiatives to prepare a concept and a realistic business plan for the possible future economic development of this site of aesthetic interest."

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's "that time of year" to renew your membership in the **Mont O'Brien Association**. The cost this year will be \$10.00 for a family and \$50.00 for a corporate membership. The fee increase covers the cost of your key for the Right-of-Way Road gate. If you were a previous member, you will retain the same membership number.

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE (SCI)

Our application to the Natural Resources Canada SCI was accepted and we have received a grant of \$30,000.00. This money will be used to purchase a GIS for the use of the Association, the Municipality and our community. Our GIS (Geographical Information System) grant will provide us with a computer, printer, scanner, digital camera, the necessary software, three GPSs and training.

## FAPAQ FOREST AND FAUNA PROGRAM

We have submitted an application to the FAPAQ for funding from the *Forest and Fauna Program* to hire three people over a two-year period. If our application is successful, beginning this Spring, two wildlife technicians will conduct an inventory of the flora and fauna in the Mont O'Brien area. Based on their findings, a biologist would then prepare an integrated resources management plan. This plan will assist us in determining how to best establish a wilderness park in the Mont O'Brien region.

## TRAIL CUTTING/SURVEYING

We are looking for a couple of people to act as **team leaders**, plus **volunteers**, to look after trails. Current trails will need to be GPS'd and a master plan created. Once this has been done, we will be able to evaluate which trails should be retained and what should be added. This summer we would like to improve the existing trail up to the three lookouts on the top of Mont O'Brien. Another project for this group would be a circular trail around the top of Mont O'Brien.

If interested in being a team leader/volunteer, please contact: Pam Miles weekdays 724-5959, weekends 467-4468; or [pmiles@cprn.org](mailto:pmiles@cprn.org)

## **ACCESS GATE UPDATE**

Due to the hard work of our volunteers, we have only 400 feet to go, then the Mont O'Brien Region will be accessible by ATV or other 4X4 vehicles. Once the spring runoff has dried up gravel can be put down to make it accessible by other cars and trucks as well. We expect that the road will be gated in late June, at which time you will be able to get your key, and sign the Member Responsibility Form, which governs your behaviour while on the Right-of-Way Road.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Our thanks go out to Brenda Chaussé, Lorraine Erickson and Michèle Thèbaud-Borchers who have been helping with the translation of our newsletters, website and other documents. We know that our members are grateful for their services.

## **MONT O'BRIEN CREST**

Georgia West has been developing a Mont O'Brien crest, which should be available for sale in the Summer. The crest would be great for a jacket or perhaps your backpack!

## **LOUISIANA-PACIFIC**

We are in the process of establishing a Year 3, 4 and 5 cutting agreement with Louisiana-Pacific.

## **MORE VOLUNTEERS!!!**

- Government grants are available to hire youth in the community. We are looking for a volunteer willing to apply for these grants, then act as a coordinator to work with the young people on appropriate projects.
- Fundraisers Needed – anyone who would like to organize a community breakfast, a garage sale, or an evening social. We need your organizational skills and your imagination!

## **BOWATER - YEAR 2 CUTTING**

Bowater's Year 2 cutting was done by Louisiana-Pacific in early January. The extent of the cutting will be checked in early summer. We expect small cuts compared to last year, but we will check to see if there is a need to alert the Ministry of Natural Resources.

## **MUNICIPALITY OF ALLEYN and CAWOOD'S LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Once we have received the first draft of the municipality's Land Development Plan we will be provide them with input on how to maintain the area surrounding Mont O'Brien as "park friendly". For example, should their plan include street lights, we would want them to be "friendly" towards keeping our night sky dark to better observe the stars from a proposed observatory at the top of Mont O'Brien.

Keeping the surrounding area "park friendly" is essential to maintaining the wilderness environment of the Mont O'Brien area.

## **MONT O'BRIEN ASSOCIATION BUSINESS PLAN**

Since the Annual General Meeting we have found some possible funding sources to hire a professional to prepare our business plan. Applications must be made, and once this is done, we will be able to hire someone with the expertise to complete this important undertaking.

## **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

<http://www.danfordlakevillage.gc.ca>

The Danford Lake Village website is the repository for the Mont O'Brien Association, including the 2001 President's Report & dates of monthly meetings (posted at Miljour's Store as well). Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.

From the website, click on the Mont O'Brien homepage located on the left-hand sidebar.

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**TREASURER'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2001**

December 31, 2000 BALANCE FORWARD 832.46

**INCOME**

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Memberships     | 730.00         |
| Donations       | 591.00         |
| T-Shirts        | 1500.00        |
| Pole Prize      | 50.00          |
| Municipal Grant | 2000.00        |
| Interest        | <u>0.01</u>    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>4871.01</b> |

**EXPENSES**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Name Search Fee                        | 24.16          |
| Membership Cards                       | 25.00          |
| Fee to repair GPS                      | 356.45         |
| T-Shirts                               | 1225.57        |
| Board of Directors Insurance           | 381.50         |
| Regroupment du Pontiac Membership Fees | 50.00          |
| MRN Road Improvement Fees              | 115.03         |
| Bank Charges                           | 93.70          |
| Road Volunteers' Gas money             | 124.80         |
| Culvert                                | <u>1267.58</u> |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>3663.79</b> |

December 31, 2001 BALANCE 2039.68