

## NEWSLETTER

**Annual General Meeting  
Sunday, May 28, 2006  
1:00-3:00 P.M.**

**Library, Municipal Hall  
Jondee Road, Danford Lake**

*Special Guest: John McDonnell  
Executive Director, Friends of Forêt La Blanche*

Is this a model that Mont O'Brien Association should consider? Join us to learn more about Forêt La Blanche near Mayo, Quebec. They received Ecological Reserve Protected Status a few years ago and John will be sharing with us what they have accomplished in regards to educational and environmental programs; trail development; school programs; the effectiveness of their interpretation centre and how they are working with the community and their many volunteers.

Check out [www.lablanche.ca](http://www.lablanche.ca) for more details.

Please let us know if you will be attending by contacting Joe Jamison at (819) 459-3933 or by e-mail at [bjj@travel-net.com](mailto:bjj@travel-net.com)

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A view of one of the steep sections on LookOut Trail.



The annual group photo taken at the top of Mont O'Brien at the 2006 Thanksgiving Hike. We had great weather and the bannock and tea were excellent! Great time had by all.

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**Spring Hike 2006  
Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Join us for a morning hike along Mary Haydon and The LookOut Trail and enjoy the view from the top of Mont O'Brien.

Come early for your taste of home made bannock, thanks to Joe Jamison and Roy Peck, and an 'over-the-open-fire' cup of tea, thanks to John Noel.

Best to park up the hill from Ross' Creek.

Please rsvp to Joe Jamison by e-mail at [bjj@travel-net.com](mailto:bjj@travel-net.com) or by phone at (819) 459-3933.

Wear appropriate clothing, hiking shoes or boots and bring water to quench your thirst.

*We have a new web-site, thanks to Zenon Chmielowski. Check it out:  
[www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca/mo.html](http://www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca/mo.html)*

## 2006 Membership Forms Now Available

**Your membership has never been more important.** This year the Government of Quebec will be deciding if the Mont O'Brien area will be given protected area status. If this happens, the public (you and me) will have use of this beautiful piece of Crown Land for many years to come.

Please renew your membership and help make the proposed Mont O'Brien park a reality.

**The membership fee is \$15 per family** (which includes all children 17 years and younger). To receive a key for the gate on the lock at the entrance on Hwy 301, please return a signed acknowledgement form.

Help us build a legacy in the Danford Lake area by becoming a member of the Mont O'Brien Association.

Membership forms are available on the website [www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca](http://www.danfordlakevillage.qc.ca)

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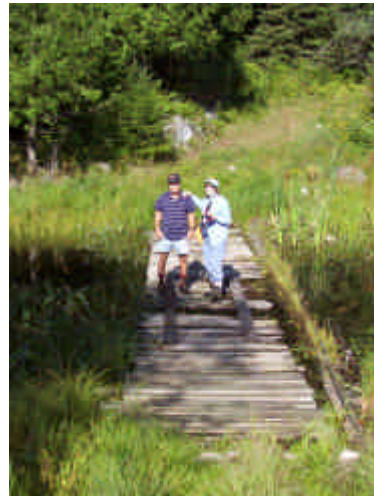
### Trail Update by Paula Dalgaard Armstrong

Trails are essential for the Mont O'Brien area because permanent, registered trails are protected from clear-cutting. Louisiana-Pacific and Bowater have clear-cut large areas totalling about 50% of all accessible forest during the past six years. While some is acceptable, if any more clear-cutting is allowed, it will damage the ecological integrity of the region, and destroy the beauty of shady trails that wind among tall trees that also shelter lilies and other plants that depend on an intact forest.

The Québec RNI standards specify no clear-cutting within 30 metres on either side of permanent, registered trails. The Association has applied to Quebec's Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife's Land Directorate for registered status for eight pedestrian trails, which were GPS'd and mapped last year, including of course the Mary Haydon and Lookout Trails. We are now awaiting

notification of registry, and we have asked the Alveyn-and-Cawood municipality and the Pontiac MRC for resolutions of support for their registration. We have also applied for a grant through the Volet II program administered by the Pontiac CLD, and from Mountain Equipment Co-op to support trail development and training.

Meanwhile, we call upon all members to support our trails program by using and enjoying our Mary Haydon-Lookout trail, and by bringing new members on hikes.



Roy Peck and Paula Dalgaard Armstrong near Copeland Lake during one of the many excursions to GPS potential trails.

Photo by Pam Miles.

### For more information contact a Mont O'Brien Board Member:

Pam Miles, President (613) 323-3071  
Roy Peck, Vice President (819) 467-5473  
Joe Jamison, Treasurer (819) 459-3933  
John Noel, Secretary (819) 459-2479  
Harold Emery, Road King (819) 467-5251  
*Members at Large:*  
Allen Noel (819) 748-9794  
Lindsay Peck (819) 467-4259  
Ellis Adams 234-0813

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*Content of this newsletter was prepared by Pam Miles and Paula Dalgaard Armstrong. Thank you to Michele Borchers for preparing the French translation and to Bertha and Chris Kirby for their role in managing the membership database. Photos provided by Pam Miles.*