



Warden's Report

October 28th, 2014

Drawing inspiration from the Act for local municipalities (art. 955 of the Quebec Municipal Code) and, above all wanting to ensure transparency, it is my pleasure as warden to inform you of our activities, on behalf of the members of your regional council.

This opportunity allows me to not only inform you of our financial situation, but to promote a constructive dialogue with regards to our development and to share a common vision, given our past and current realities. The time has come to put aside our individual efforts and move forward with a collaborative agenda, with all stakeholders on the territory. This reality is necessary more than ever, to allow us to respond efficiently to an increasingly alarming situation, which is detrimental for our eighteen (18) communities. It is currently essential that we work together to follow a multi-sectoral approach with concrete, mobilizing actions. Today we need to act and react with adaptable interventions that will permit us to better redefine the future of the Pontiac.

In addition, in order to conscientiously intervene for the benefit of all our communities, it is important that we multiply our efforts with a common strategic plan, while focusing our actions more specifically towards the different key sectors, such as: tourism, business and industry, our forestry and natural environments, agriculture and agri-food, not to mention culture, and social community. Concrete actions must be established with regards to our governance. Moreover, with regards to the poor current state of our administrative offices, we need to respond to this unacceptable reality and respond, today, to this pressing need for adequate infrastructure.

I am aware that it is not always easy to define the most plausible choice or solution, or to respond with credible actions that will address all of the obligations at the MRC level, but the issues and challenges that we must face are too important to not consider a shared commitment to excellence, with the primary objective of meeting the highest expectations of the population, to the best of our ability.

List of contracts

The list of all contracts involving the expenditure of more than \$25 000 during the 2013 fiscal year has been produced. Also included is the list of all contracts involving the expenditure of more than \$2 000 concluded in the same year, with the same contractor and when all of these contracts involve a total expenditure exceeding \$2500. The document is available at the Director General's office and will be posted on our website.

The financial statements for the 2013 year, according to the analyses presented by our auditing firm, JaniqueÉthier, C.P.A. Inc., show an accumulated surplus of \$542 512. The following results for 2014 indicate the REVENUES and EXPENSES according to the budget estimates.

The compensation of elected officials, before deductions and including benefits, is \$33 288 for the warden for which \$3 000 is distributed to community initiatives, education and culture,



\$19 418 for the pro-warden, \$8 322 for the committee chair and \$5 548 for the council members for 2014.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2013-2014

	REVENUES	Budget 2014	Financial Statement 2013
1	Municipal shares	\$2 678 000	\$2600000
2	Municipal services	134 586	132 828
3	SAAQ office	62 000	65 970
4	Lease management for crown land	202 875	0
5	Other revenues	110 481	99 590
6	Diversification of revenues	152 110	152 110
7	MRCoperation	126 900	126 900
8	Long-termfinancing	131 557	130 445
9	Public security	0	20 000
10	Environment management	16 112	0
11	Renovation programs	60 000	113 390
12	Developmentgrants	1 523 887	1 672978
13	TransporAction	286 000	389273
14	Diversification	0	145 480
15	PPJ management and maintenance	74 400	82249
16	Sports and leisure	34 767	26 592
17	Total revenue	\$5 593 675	\$5 757 805
18	Allocation of accumulated surplus	125 596	0
19	Total Revenue	\$5 719 271	\$5 757805



	EXPENSES	Budget 2014	Financial Statements 2013
1	Legislative	\$226 246	\$211922
2	Financial and Administrative Management	759 787	770273
3	Other	11 500	11 852
4	License Bureau	150 708	130 959
5	Public Security		
6	Fire and Public Safety	162 464	151646
7	Animal Control	85 830	77198
8	Evaluation	752 110	506 533
9	Sports and leisure	90 864	81858
10	EnvironmentalHealth (Environnement)	85 790	83377
11	Land Planning	87 690	92885
12	Geomatics	93 390	93341
13	Forestry	74 000	13420
14	Lease management for crown land	142 890	0
15	Strategic Development	40 000	130410
16	Trail networks	230 300	227 338
17	Culture and heritage	172 000	162957
18	Rural Pact	595 875	527 477
19	Transport	306 000	389273
20	Specialprojects	200 850	100 069
21	Partnerships and development	1 059 196	1 499089
22	General expenses	56 224	44136
23	Renovation programs	54 000	102130
24	Other	7 400	2 416
25	Short and long term funding	137 157	35 321
26	Capital costs	137 000	25295
27	Total expenditure	\$5 719 271	\$5 471 174
28	Surplus (deficit)	\$0	\$ 286 631



The services rendered are governed by laws and regulations over which we do not necessarily have control, but the allocation of costs associated with them are made with the best interests for Pontiac in mind, despite a continually challenging environment.

It is very important to maintain a tax rate that responds to the collective needs of our communities. However, given that our development does not receive due attention on many levels, our political choices are important! If we do not invest now, our reality will continue with the same problems we have today. This leaves little room for a promising future for our region, since it will be even more difficult to achieve. We must act together now.

Here is a brief overview of the rate of taxation for the years 2009-2014.

Budget Year	Share \$	Increase %	TaxRate (/100\$)
2009	1 698 231 \$	0.00%	0.13300
2010	1 999 686 \$	17.72%	0.1458
2011	2 349 139 \$	17.48%	0.1601
2012	2 501 243 \$	6.47%	0.1563
2013	2 600 000 \$	3.95%	0.1563
2014	2 678 000 \$	3.0%	0.1497

Share Distribution 2014

Budget	Cost	Shares
Legislative and Administrative	\$ 1 148 241	\$780818
Evaluation	752 110	740 360
Public Security	162 464	162 464
Animal Control	85 830	85 830
Environment	85 790	69 678
Sports and Leisure	90 864	56 097
Land Use Planning and Development	3 393 972	782 753
Total	\$5 719 271	\$2 678 000

Return on Investment

Year	For each \$1 invested, we generated :
2013	\$1.98



2014	\$2.13
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Considering the importance of maintaining the services offered to communities and to the whole county, as well as the importance of sound management to develop a return on our investment in our current state, it is essential that higher levels of financial aid be secured and that certain programs be adapted for our specific situation. I am therefore taking this opportunity to challenge our MPs, both provincial and federal, to join us in meeting our many challenges. It is time to act now ... and despite our efforts for our regional municipality, your collaboration and interventions are greatly needed.

Conclusion

In an initial interpretation, I see a large opening to continue our efforts. The vision of status quo can no longer exist. Our definition of community is continually changing and our responsibilities, within the context of present local and regional economics, are more than troublesome. Our challenge is to be recognized for:

- Our diverse and innovative speciality products;
- Our environment, including the forestry sector, which is and will always be a pillar in our economy;
- Our potential and our innovative attractions
- Our diverse and competitive services;
- Our region as a destination renowned for the quality and vitality of its communities.

The collective effort, which allows us to enhance our environment and excel in our activities, is reflected by the ceaseless collaboration of the members of your regional Council, employees, various organizations, and especially an abundance of volunteers that have contributed to the realization of many exemplary projects in 2014. A big Thank You to everyone!

Now, the principle of how ... we must certainly have a new communication strategy and expand our partnership efforts from a perspective of the Pontiac pride. For these two reasons, ladies and gentlemen, I invite you to encourage positive discussions, to begin constructive dialogue and to participate with elected officials an important step where everyone collectively participates to create and build a future that meets our expectations.

I also want to thank you especially, dear citizens, for your understanding, your cooperation and your support in all the steps we are taking, as well as for the trust you place in us. On my own behalf and on behalf of the staff and the County Council, receive our best wishes for Health, Happiness and Prosperity to you and yours.



Raymond Durocher

Warden