



**Memphremagog
Conservation inc.**

*PRESS RELEASE
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Attention Publicity directors

Memphremagog Conservation Inc's lake patrol begins its activities for the summer of 2020, with priority given to the monitoring and control of the zebra mussel

Magog, May 25, 2020 – Memphremagog Conservation Inc (MCI)'s lake patrol begins a new season on Lake Memphremagog and will be patrolling the lake from June to September.

MCI's patrol works with various partners to monitor water quality in the lake and its tributaries, shoreline activities, and cyanobacteria blooms. They also carry out various scientific studies on the lake. This year, the patrollers will be concentrating their efforts on the monitoring and control of zebra mussels in collaboration with the the Memphremagog MRC, the City of Magog, and the provincial forestry, wildlife and parks ministry (MFFP). Well established colonies of this exotic invasive species were noted by the patrollers in 2018.

The patrol supervisor is Eric Phendler, studying in Biodiversity, Ecology and Environmental Sciences at Bishop's University. The patrollers are Frédérique Thibault-Lessard, studying in Environment and Marguerite Duchesne, studying in Ecology, both at the University of Sherbrooke.

This summer, boaters and shoreline residents must redouble their efforts to limit the spread of exotic aquatic species such as zebra mussels, which are invisible to the naked eye at the larval stage. It is more important than ever to wash, empty and dry one's boat or other aquatic equipment, such as fishing and diving gear, when moving from one lake to another to prevent the spread of new exotic species in Lake Memphremagog and other bodies of water in the province. Boats can be washed at various free washing stations around the lake, or at home, being sure to follow the instructions detailed on the MFFP's web site.

MCI is happy to offer the media and municipal officials the opportunity to join the patrol on the lake to see for themselves and better understand the various environmental issues that can affect the quality of the lake's water, a drinking water source for more than 175,000 people.

The patrol can be reached 7 days a week by telephone or text message at 819-620-3939 or by email at patrol@memphremagog.org .

Pictures :



Lake Patrol 2020 : Eric Phendler, Frédérique Thibault-Lessard and Marguerite Duchesne



A zebra mussel beside an indigenous mussel
Source : Maxime Veillette, MCI



Two zebra mussels in Lake Memphremagog
Source : Denis Mongeau, Plongée Magog

-30-

About MCI: Memphremagog Conservation Inc. (MCI) is a non-profit organization, made up of volunteers, working for the past 52 years on the conservation and environmental health of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed. With the strength of its numbers, it works to ensure that all residents of the region, permanent or not, shoreline residents or not, can benefit from a healthy lake, for present and future generations.

Source:

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