



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

APPROXIMATELY 15 HA PROTECTED IN PERPETUITY IN THE LAKE MEMPHREMAGOG WATERSHED

Magog, March 20, 2025 - The Fondation Nature Memphrémagog (FNM) and the Memphrémagog Conservation (MCI) are proud to announce two new acquisitions for conservation purposes in the municipality of Ogden, close to 15 hectares in the vicinity of Lake Memphrémagog. This conservation success is the result of a unique partnership with key partners including the local community and Appalachian Corridor.

This new protected area adds to the 120 hectares already protected by the FNM. Several of these properties have been protected in partnership with MCI. This project is funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada through the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Community Designated Priority Sites for Species at Risk program.

Water quality and climate change: challenges to be met

This protected area located in the Lake Memphremagog watershed supports the quality of the lake's water, a major source of drinking water for the region. Forests, wetlands and riparian buffers provide several ecosystem functions, such as regulating water flow and filtering runoff.

These protected natural environments will help to combat climate change, thanks to their potential to capture carbon and mitigate the effects of extreme weather events such as heat waves and floods.

The protection of this new protected area shows that it is possible, both locally and in the Lake Memphremagog watershed, to contribute to global issues such as biodiversity loss and climate change.

Biodiversity protected forever!

The creation of this new private protected area will preserve valuable natural environments in perpetuity, including forests, wetlands and waterways.

Many of the species inventoried in the area are at risk, such as the Wood Thrush and the Eastern Wood Pewee, two forest birds; the Bald Eagle, a diurnal bird of prey; several species of bats; and plant species such as the Northern Maidenhair Fern and Canada Wild Ginger.

QUOTES

“This acquisition is an excellent example of collaboration between local citizens and conservation organizations, which has made it possible to protect land that is now withdrawn from residential development. The Foundation is also grateful for their financial participation, which enabled us to obtain the funds needed to carry out this project. Collaboration with citizens and other conservation



partners in the watershed is essential if we are to maintain a healthy environment for future generations.” Judy Hopps, FNM President

“MCI's efforts to protect exceptional natural environments, which began over 15 years ago, are finally bearing fruit! Our close collaboration with the FNM shows that it is possible to increase the number of protected areas in our watershed, thanks to the support of landowners, the community and the many partners involved. This is a very strong signal from the people who live in the watershed, and we thank them wholeheartedly on behalf of future generations!” Johanne Lavoie, MCI President

“Protecting this natural environment is excellent news. In addition to protecting the area's biodiversity, it will improve water quality. Appalachian Corridor is delighted to be able to collaborate with Fondation Nature Memphrémagog (FNM) and Memphrémagog Conservation (MCI) on this important conservation project.” Caroline Bisson, Co-General Manager Appalachian Corridor, communications and community relations.

The invaluable contribution of the community

A turning point in this conservation project was undoubtedly the commitment and participation of individuals from the community, who are also property owners and committed to preserving a site that is now part of the protected natural heritage. Their financial contribution served, among other things, as leverage to obtain funds from other financial partners.

The **Fondation Nature Memphrémagog (FNM)**, formerly known as the Fondation Marécages Memphrémagog, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of natural environments, in particular the wetlands, waterways and forests of the Lake Memphremagog watershed and the Tomifobia River valley.

The **Canada Nature Fund** helps protect Canada's biodiversity through the creation of protected and conservation areas, and through initiatives that contribute to the recovery of species at risk. The Fund is open to not-for-profit and aboriginal organizations, provinces, territories and other stakeholders. For more information: [Fonds de la nature du Canada - Canada.ca](https://fonds.de.la.nature.du.Canada.ca)

Appalachian Corridor is a non-profit conservation organization that has been active since 2002 in the Northern Green Mountains, a segment of the Appalachian Mountains in southern Quebec. Its mission is to consolidate and leave in perpetuity a vast corridor of protected natural areas. In response to the twin crises of climate and biodiversity, Appalachian Corridor, with the support of its conservation partners, is deploying a conservation strategy that to date has protected more than 18,000 hectares of high ecological value. corridorappalachien.ca

Memphrémagog Conservation (MCI) is a non-profit organization that has been protecting Lake Memphrémagog and its watershed for present and future generations since 1967. It works in concert with various regional and government bodies, as well as with citizens, to take concrete action. It relies primarily on scientific knowledge to inform, raise awareness and empower the various players involved in ensuring the environmental health of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed. www.memphremagog.org



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