



Memphremagog
Conservation inc.

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Attention Publicity Directors

Provincial elections: Memphremagog Conservation's priorities

Magog, September 28, 2022 – With provincial elections coming up this October third, Memphremagog Conservation (MCI) would like to highlight its provincial level priorities, this to ensure the protection of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed, which straddles both Québec and the state of Vermont.

Both the cities of Sherbrooke and Magog draw their drinking water from Lake Memphremagog. The lake, the mountains, the forests, and the magnificent landscapes make of the region an important Québec tourist and residential destination. The past few years have seen the reappearance of several issues surrounding Lake Memphremagog related to, among other things, residential development pressures, the enlargement of the Coventry landfill site, the increase in exotic invasive species and climate change. These increasing problems have an impact on water quality and the loss of biodiversity.

MCI would like the next provincial government to:

1. Contribute financially to the designation of protected areas, and encourage conservation organizations to increase the pace of preserving biodiversity and natural landscapes to help achieve the objective of 30% protection within the watershed by 2030.
2. Support municipalities that wish to implement concrete measures to protect natural landscapes and thus contribute to reducing GHG emissions and help moderate the effects of climate change.
3. Provide concrete support to local actors in the implementation of an action plan to reduce the phosphorus load within the watershed based on the International Joint Commission study.
4. Start a provincial program to prevent and combat exotic invasive species.
5. Become actively involved in the Coventry landfill site file in Vermont and oppose any treatment of leachate within the watershed.
6. Pressure the federal government to better control motorboats on our waterways, including those whose sport generates oversized waves, reducing shoreline erosion and the resuspension of bottom sediments in the water column.
7. Ensure concrete support to local lake associations in their efforts to protect the province's waterways.

« The state of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed is a heritage that we leave to our children and future generations. Our elected officials have a duty to act preventively to ensure that this precious source of drinking water for 175,000 residents be protected in perpetuity. At a time when we must face the repercussions of climate change and the loss of biodiversity, the preservation of this jewel must be a priority. We must do better: we owe it to our children. » Johanne Lavoie, MCI's volunteer president.

MCI wishes the best of luck to all of the candidates and looks forward to working with the region's elected officials to ensure the protection of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed.

About Memphremagog Conservation Inc. (MCI)

Memphremagog Conservation Inc. (MCI) is a non-profit organization working for the protection, conservation and improvement of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed for the benefit of current and future generations.

MCI works in concert with various regional and governmental stakeholders, as well as with citizens, to carry out concrete actions.

MCI relies mainly on scientific knowledge to inform, raise awareness and empower the various stakeholders to ensure the environmental health of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed.

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Source

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