

CHELSEA EXPRESS

SUMMER 2021

Adoption of a tree policy

Chelsea's
first climate
change plan

New timeline
for the revision
of the Master Plan





A word from the Mayor

After three mandates, I will be stepping down as Mayor of Chelsea. Over the past 12 years, I have had the privilege to work alongside councillors, municipal staff and residents to accomplish many cultural, social, environmental and economic projects that benefit our community. Some of the major projects include the implementation of the wastewater and potable water infrastructure, the construction of the Meredith Centre, the development of Transcollines, the creation of La Fab Arts Centre, the advancement of the seniors' home in Farm Point, the rebuilding of the Hollow Glen dam, the Rails to Trails project (now Voie Verte Chelsea), the creation of La Maison de Collines for palliative care. I am pleased that the many policies and action plans we developed such as for Active Transportation, Family and Seniors, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Parks and Green Spaces, Rues Principales, continue to guide our decision-making.

Municipal elections will be held this November 2021, and I invite you to read pages 8 and 9 to learn about the process and timelines. Municipal council is the level of government that is closest to the local needs and concerns of residents. Consider standing for either the position of mayor or councillor in the upcoming elections. Get involved in your community and make a difference!

There are still several months left in this mandate, and Council continues its work on many files. Unfortunately, the revision of the Master Plan has been delayed, in large part due to the pandemic; please consult page 10 for details. Council's deliberations continue on the dock by-law and access to the Gatineau River, based on the results of the public consultations. The conversion of the former railway corridor is almost complete; details on the work that remains can be found on the municipal website.

In closing, I would like to say that it has been an honour and a privilege to serve the residents of Chelsea. Thank you to the many individuals and groups who volunteered time, energy and expertise. Your collaboration makes our community a wonderful place to live, work and play!

Kind regards,



Caryl Green

Caryl Green

Mayor

c.green@chelsea.ca

819-827-6217



LATEST NEWS



News

Reopening of Town Hall

As of July 12, the Town Hall offices are once again open to the public! Please enter through the main door on Chemin d'Old Chelsea and follow the hygiene and physical distancing measures in effect.

Offices are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, but anyone who would like to meet with an employee must make an appointment first. Only one person at a time is allowed at an appointment. This applies to all services, including permit applications.

The Municipality strongly encourages residents to continue to communicate, make payments, and send documents by phone or electronic means whenever possible.

chelsea.ca/covid-19-en

New signage at the intersection of Chemin d'Old Chelsea and Route 105

Two additional mandatory stop signs will be installed at the intersections of Chemin d'Old Chelsea and Route 105 on July 29. Once this change is in place, motorists will be required to make a complete stop in all directions.

The implementation of two priority crossings for active transportation is also planned. Recommended by the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee, this decision was made to improve the safety of active transportation users and motorists.

To ensure that road users are aware of this change, a signage notice has been installed 30 days prior to the implementation of the new stops.

First phase of Chemin de la Rivière repairs to begin in August

The contract for the Chemin de la Rivière road repairs is expected to be awarded at the August 6 council meeting.

The municipal team anticipates that the work will begin in mid-August and will last approximately two months. During this first phase, partial rehabilitation work will take place on a non-continuous 2 km section between Route 105 and Chemin de la Rivière. Only local traffic will be allowed.

Note that the majority of the work will be carried out during phase two, scheduled for 2022. Due to the presence of numerous wetlands and the river, the time required to obtain the necessary certificates of authorization must be taken into account in the schedule.

chelsea.ca/road-works

Short-term accommodation: Bill 67 adopted

The Quebec government has adopted Bill 67, which contains new provisions on the short-term rental of a principal residence. Starting March 25, 2023, it will now be possible to rent out a principal residence on sites such as AirBnb for a maximum of 31 consecutive days without running afoul of municipal by-laws. However, municipalities will be able to prohibit or limit the number of tourist accommodations in a principal residence in certain defined areas, subject to an appropriate referendum process.

The Municipality is aware that this change may not please everyone. We would like to reassure you that Council has decided to take a more restrictive approach in order to maintain the tranquility of neighbourhoods.

To better understand Bill 67 and its impact on the municipality, you are invited to a:

Online Public Information Meeting

August 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

To prepare for this public meeting and the questions you may wish to ask, visit our website.

chelsea.ca/accomodations

The vaccination campaign continues!



If you have not yet received your first or second dose of vaccine, there is still time! You can make an appointment or visit one of the walk-in clinics in the region. The main goal of the vaccination campaign is to reduce hospitalizations and deaths related to COVID-19 and to get back to normal life. Let's help make it happen!

cisss-outaouais.gouv.qc.ca/covid-19/vaccination



Adoption of a tree policy

The Urban Planning and Sustainable Development Department is currently working on a tree policy to ensure that trees are protected, planted, and maintained, both by residents and the Municipality. It will aim to protect our extensive wooded areas by implementing concrete actions on public and private lands. The policy will also include measures to protect remarkable trees and preserve our arboreal heritage. A first step was taken in this direction in June with the Remarkable Trees Mission, which aimed to identify such trees across the Municipality.

In order to draft the policy, a public consultation was held in July. Thank you to all those who took the time to participate! Stay tuned, the policy should be adopted soon.

Chelsea's first climate change plan

Climate change will have a significant impact on Chelsea in the coming years. For this reason, the Municipality has adopted its first Climate Change Adaptation Plan to prepare for potential impacts on municipal services.

The proposed measures will reduce the damage of climate change before it occurs and give the Municipality the means to adapt to extreme weather events. The plan includes specific measures for each department, which can be integrated into their planning and decision-making processes. A total of 39 adaptation measures have been planned over a five-year period, based on climate risk. With this plan, the Municipality aims to reduce the risks related to specific issues, including the vulnerability of ditches and culverts to flooding and increasingly frequent torrential rain events.

Creating this plan was an action identified in the Chelsea Sustainable Development Action Plan 2018 2021. It was made possible through participation in the Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP) of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

chelsea.ca/action-plans

Let's get rid of ragweed!

The 15th provincial ragweed removal campaign is underway. It invites Quebecers to prevent the spread of this weed, which causes problems every year for people who are allergic to it.



Unlike poison ivy, ragweed is not dangerous to touch. It can be pulled up or cut down as soon as it grows. The best time to do so is before it blooms, since the pollen can travel up to 1 km. Suggested times for mowing are mid-July and mid-August.

To dispose of ragweed, put it in a paper bag and drop it off at the invasive and dangerous plants collection organized by the Municipality on August 4. A team will be available to pick it up at the municipal garage between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

chelsea.ca/plants

Municipal Council



Municipal Elections

Chelsea 2021



Go to the polls on November 7!

On November 7, you will have the opportunity to vote for your mayor and councillors. You will also be able to vote for the prefect of MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais, since the election will be by popular vote for the first time.

The returning officer of each municipality is responsible for organizing and holding municipal elections. For Chelsea, the returning officer is Mr. John-David McFaul, Director General and Secretary-Treasurer.

Important information will be shared with you over the coming weeks in preparation for the November elections. Please check back our website frequently to stay informed.

chelsea.ca/election-en

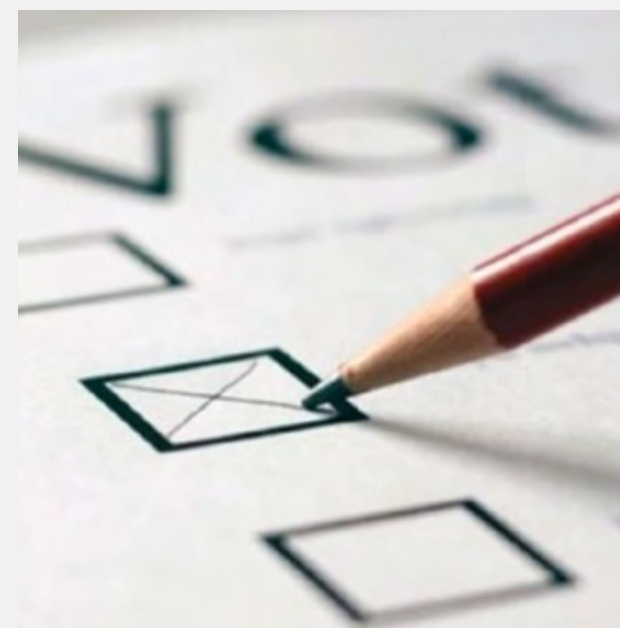
Have you made your change of address?

Elections are fast approaching and Élections Québec encourages you to be prepared by checking your registration on the list of electors. The change of address can be made online via the Service québécois de changement d'adresse or by telephone at 1 888 ELECTION.

After September 1, electors who need to change their address or register on the list of electors must do so in person at the Town Hall.

Run for election!

If you are involved in the community and want to put your experience to good use, municipal politics is a great way to do it! Nominations will be accepted from September 17 to October 1.



To apply, you must meet certain conditions and submit your completed application to John-David McFaul at Town Hall during regular business hours. No applications will be accepted before or after these dates. For conditions and details, visit chelsea.ca/elections.

Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation has a wealth of useful information available on their website, including a candidate's guide that will help you learn more about the role of an elected official.

jemepresente.gouv.qc.ca

Get involved! Several positions available

The Municipality is currently recruiting to fill various paid positions for election staff. Anyone over the age of 16 can apply. Find out more about the list of available positions and the conditions!

- Officers in charge of information and order (voter reception)
- Poll clerks
- Poll workers
- Auditors
- Revisers

chelsea.ca/election-en

Urban planning



New timeline for the revision of the Master Plan

The timeline for the revision of the Master Plan and the Planning By-laws had to be revised due to a number of factors, including the impact of COVID-19 and the municipal elections this fall.

The original timeline projected adoption by the Council by the end of the summer. However, the Municipality wants to take the time to hold full public consultations and give Chelsea residents ample time to submit comments, without rushing the approval process.

These by-laws will guide the evolution of the municipality over the next few years and they deserve the dedicated time and efforts required to produce quality documents that will meet Council's expectations and of which residents can be proud of.

According to the revised schedule, the draft by-laws will be adopted in early October. Public consultations, scheduled for 15 days later, will have to be postponed until after the election period, in December. The approval process of each by-law will then follow the applicable procedures established by the Act respecting land use planning and development. It is anticipated that the various by-laws will come into force between February and May 2022.

FIRST STEPS COMPLETED

The first two steps, the visioning exercise and the revision of the urban plan, have been completed. The team is currently working on the revision of the urban planning by-laws and regulations, which represents step three of the process. Once this stage is completed, the remaining step will be the adoption of the by-laws by the MRC and their coming into force.

chelsea.ca/plan-en

Public works



Conserving drinking water is everyone's responsibility!



During the summer months, it is important for users of the water system to respect the regulations on the use of drinking water. The hot weather and increased consumption during this period are good reasons to make responsible use of this important resource!

- **Mondays:** watering, filling a pool or hot tub, and washing a vehicle or a building are prohibited at all times.
- **Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays:** mechanical watering is permitted between 3:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. for buildings with even-numbered addresses, when it is not raining.
- **Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays:** mechanical watering is permitted between 3:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. for buildings with odd-numbered addresses, when it is not raining.

HHW collection improvements in the works

The Municipality is currently discussing and reflecting on how to improve the collection of household hazardous waste (HHW). Initially launched as a pilot project in 2019, door-to-door collection has been a great success. It replaced the annual collection at the municipal garage.

However, the Municipality has observed a significant increase in HHW put out on the street since last spring. Due to the popularity of this collection and the strict environmental standards that must be respected, changes will have to be made with the contractor to reduce delays.

Rest assured the team is working on a solution for the next collection scheduled for September.



NEW

APPLY FOR CERTAIN PERMITS ONLINE

Many permits are available!
Payment by credit card is also possible



chelsea.ca/permits





Commu- nication

The photo contest is back!

The Municipality is launching its annual photo contest for your free municipal calendar. This year's theme is our heritage.

Send us photos that you think represent Chelsea's heritage. These can be photos of the landscape, history, historic trees, the legacy of multiple generations, etc. Feel free to dig into your archives! Selected photos will be published in the 2022 municipal calendar distributed to all residents.

To be accepted, photos must meet the following requirements.

- Your photo must be in horizontal (landscape) format.
- Your files must be at least 300 DPI (2396 x 3198 pixels), have a minimum weight of 4 MB and be in JPEG or PNG format.
- You must specify the photo credits.
- You must return the completed authorization form.

- You must respect the theme.

Send us your photos to communications@chelsea.ca by August 31, 2021.

chelsea.ca/contest

Have you subscribed to our platforms?

Subscribe to our different platforms so that you don't miss out on anything. You can stay informed by:

- Following our Facebook page (@ChelseaQuebecCanada);
- Visiting the municipality's website often;
- Signing up for our newsletter on the website's home page;
- Creating an account on the Voilà! platform;
- Paying close attention to what you receive in the mail to avoid throwing away important information sent by the municipality.

Public Security



New signs to raise awareness of the risk index!



Signs have recently been installed at certain locations on the territory to raise awareness of the SOPFEU danger index. You can observe them in front of the baseball field in the Centre-Village, at the fire station 2 (Farm Point sector) and at the entrance of the Hollow Glen sector on Chemin de la Montagne.

The SOPFEU fire risk can also be found on the home page of the municipal website. We ask that you refer to it before starting an open fire. However, please note that preventive measures issued by the

Municipality, such as a burning permit suspension or a ban on open fires, will take precedence over the SOPFEU fire risk index.

Adapt your behaviour

Here's how to adapt your behaviour to municipal regulations and each risk level:

LOW Low intensity fire risk with limited spread – This is a good time to light your campfire.

MODERATE Moderate risk of surface fire with moderate spread and generally well controlled – Small fires only (1m X 1m maximum).

HIGH Moderate to vigorous surface fire hazard that poses control challenges during ground combat – Do not light if wind speed is greater than 15 km/hr.

VERY HIGH High intensity fire risk with partial or complete ignition of crowns where conditions at the front are beyond the capability of ground crews – Light fires only in facilities equipped with a prescribed spark arrestor, applicable to Chelsea.

EXTREME High intensity, high velocity, potentially uncontrollable crown fire hazard – There is a total ban on all types of fires, including fireplaces with spark arrestors and fireworks

chelsea.ca/burning



MAYOR'S REPORT

Highlights of the 2020 financial report

In accordance with Section 176.2.2 of the Municipal Code, I would like to present the highlights of the financial report and external auditor's report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020. The report was verified by Pierre-Charles LaHaye, partner at Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton S.E.N.C.R.L., who is of the opinion that the financial statements accurately reflect the financial position of the Municipality in all material respects.

The 2020 fiscal year ended with an operating surplus for tax purposes of

\$2,830,863, bringing the unrestricted accumulated surplus to \$2,409,535 and the restricted accumulated surplus of \$1,780,373 as of December 31, 2020. For 2021, Council will allocate \$707,718 of these surpluses to debt repayment in order to comply with our new policy on the management of long-term debt and accumulated surpluses, and another \$450,000 to the cash payment of investments provided for in the Triennial Capital Expenses Program.

THE OPERATING SURPLUS WAS A RESULT OF:

- Higher than expected revenue, primarily from:
 - \$1,335,373 in additional transfer revenues;
 - \$386,961 in additional tax revenues;
 - \$97,998 less revenue in compensation in lieu of taxes;
 - \$38,128 in additional transfer revenues from MDDEP and Recyc-Québec;
 - \$615,847 in additional transfer revenues for COVID-19 (\$457,250 deferred to 2021 to avoid an increase in taxes);
 - \$144,239 in lower interest and penalty revenues (Interest and penalty vacation in COVID-19 period).
 - Lower than expected expenses, primarily from:
 - \$100,570 in additional salaries and benefits (new management agreement);
 - \$34,270 in lower abrasive product expenses;
 - \$51,161 in lower fuel expenses;
 - \$69,760 in lower electricity expenses;
 - \$40,497 in lower financing expenses;
 - \$158,945 in lower long-term debt repayments. (lower-than-expected expenditure due to a debt repayment grant from the Government of Quebec)
 - To unrealized expenditures of \$450,044 deferred to 2021
- Several expenses could not be realized in 2020 due to COVID-19, and were therefore postponed to 2021 in order to avoid double taxation to citizens. The unrealized expenses are mainly related to training and travel and to recreational and cultural activities.

OPERATING RESULTS FOR FISCAL 2020

- Operating revenue : \$21,496,988
- Operating expenses : \$19,831,596
 - Including the RCM share : \$3,625,365
 - Including financing costs : \$1,143,182
 - Including salaries and benefits: \$5,657,882
 - Including amortization : \$3,333,722
- Reconciliation for tax purposes : \$1,165,471
 - including debt repayment : \$2,503,283
 - Including amortization : \$-3,333,722

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL 2020 :

Despite COVID-19, the Municipality invested in several projects in fiscal year 2020. The total cost of capital expenditures for the year was \$8,550,837. This amount includes the various grants obtained by the Municipality in order to lighten the tax burden of residents and thus reduce total expenditures.

THE MAIN PROJECTS CARRIED OUT ARE :

- Purchase of computer equipment, printer and water system software: \$47,923
- Redevelopment of the access ramp and parking lot at the Farm Point Community Centre: \$110,758
- Finalization of the rehabilitation and construction of a bicycle path on Chemin de la Mine: \$736,563
- Partial rehabilitation of Route 105 between Chemin Scott and Meredith: \$359,957 (\$249,891 grant from TECQ 2019-2023)
- Rehabilitation of Chemin du Lac-Meech (TECQ 2019-2023 grant confirmed in the amount of \$750,500): \$380,813
- Rehabilitation of Chemin de la Rivière (TECQ 2019-2023 grant confirmed in the amount of \$750,500): \$150,476
- Drainage and stabilization work on the Voie Verte Chelsea: \$614,000

- Voie Verte Chelsea improvements: \$1,021,365 (Véloce III - active transportation- grant in the amount of \$1,508,267)
- Slope stabilization work on two tributaries of Chelsea Creek: \$3,551,825 (\$2,734,277 grant from the Ministry of Public Safety)
- Drainage work on various roads: \$175,123
- Purchase of various vehicles, machinery and equipment: \$238,928
- Irrigation system for soccer field #4: \$138,983
- Lighting system at the baseball field: \$260,342 (\$100,000 grant from Jayscare Foundation and \$16,500 from Caisse populaire Desjardins and Baseball Chelsea)
- Purchase of Hydro-Quebec lands: \$49,124

In conclusion, the financial report as at December 31, 2020 shows us that the Municipality is in a good financial situation. I would like to thank the Municipal Council, the administration and employees, and the residents for their hard work and contribution to all the projects. This thank you is even more important in this difficult year that was marked by COVID-19. Our municipality continued to operate normally during this period and even surpassed the expectations. The majority of projects were completed and services to citizens were maintained.

Congratulations to the entire team!



Voie Verte Chelsea

Priority to motorists on the trail

The right of way at intersections between roads and Voie Verte Chelsea has been changed. Motorists on the cross roads now have the right of way. You will notice the addition of yield signs on the trail at the intersections of most roads, with the exception of Chemin de la Rivière, Chemin St-Clément, and Route 105. For the latter, mandatory stops are now in effect.

Signs have also been added along the roads to warn motorists of the upcoming intersection with the trail and the possible presence of pedestrians and cyclists. This will allow everyone to be warned and thus improve safety.

The Community Trail Committee had initially recommended that trail users be given priority. However, following discussions with Ministère des Transports du Québec, the Municipality had to modify the priority in order to respect the *Highway Safety Code*.

Find out about upcoming and ongoing work!

Visit the Voie Verte Chelsea page on our website regularly for updates on the progress of the work and a list of current and upcoming work. The trail is still under construction. Several improvements are planned for this summer including the addition of guardrails, the replacement of some culverts, and more.

chelsea.ca/voie-verte-en



Leisure

NEED HELP WITH YOUR LIGHT WORK?

Between now and August 13, the Chelsea Youth Entrepreneurship Initiation Cooperative (CICE) is available to help you with your light work! Whether it's for painting, landscaping, or anything else, our team of young people aged 12 to 17 years old is at your service. By hiring them, you give them the opportunity to acquire work experience and introduce them to the world of entrepreneurship!

Interested? Contact them at 819 360-0630 or by email at ciec@chelsea.ca

chelsea.ca/cice

WHAT IS THE CICE?

This program is an opportunity for young people aged 12 to 17 to gain work experience by creating their own business for a summer in a structured environment. It aims to reduce school dropout rates, promote mutual aid, and encourage community involvement.

Created in 2003, this initiative is made possible by Fonds étudiant II, which, as a major financial partner, covers the salaries and training of the coordinators. The Canada Summer Jobs program and the Conseil québécois de la coopération de la mutualité are also major partners.



Love Reading



SUGGEST READING



Pascale,
responsible for
the Chelsea
TD Summer
Reading Club

The Caterpillar Woman, texte de Nadia Sammutok, illustrations de Carolyn Gan, 2016.

Piujug transforms into a caterpillar-woman. Not wanting to scare her family, Piujug hides in isolation for months. One day, she meets someone who will bloom with her. This beautiful story with its wonderful images has enchanted me and will surely do with you.

TD SUMMER READING CLUB



The TD Summer Reading Club is back at the Chelsea Library! Register your kids to story time and different activities offered by the Library.

To register, go to the Library's website, under *Activities, Events and Exhibits*.

Registration is mandatory for every activity in which you would like to participate! Places are limited.

NEW! BIBLIO-JEUX



Biblio-Jeux is a language stimulation program for children aged 6 months to 6 years and their parents. Through selected board games, the use of their specially designed instruction sheets by speech-language pathologists, and the guidance of trained library staff, Biblio-Jeux provides parents with information on language and literacy acquisition, language stimulation strategies to apply during play, and suggested activities for when they go home. The cards are in French only.

Events



JULY

27

7 P.M.

MUSICAL TUESDAYS – JACOB RIVER MILNES
Farm Point Park

Join us for the last show of the season! Multi-instrumentalist Jacob River Milnes brings you original compositions with a folk/rock sound. Due to public health measures, reservations are required.

Details at chelsea.ca/musical-tuesdays



AUGUST

3

7 P.M.

COUNCIL MEETING
Online

Municipal Council meetings are open to the public. They are held on the first Tuesday of every month, with some exceptions.

Details at chelsea.ca/council-meetings



AUGUST

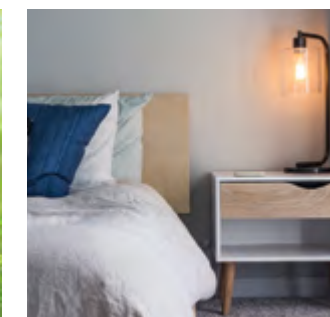
4

3 P.M. TO 7 P.M.

COLLECTION OF INVASIVE AND DANGEROUS PLANTS
Municipal Garage – 119 Chemin Scott

Remove invasive and hazardous plants from your property and dispose of them safely during the collection. For everyone's health, the rules must be respected.

Details at chelsea.ca/plants



AUGUST

10

6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING – SHORT TERM ACCOMMODATION
Online

The Quebec government has recently adopted a new law concerning short-term accommodation and you are invited to come and learn more about it.

Details at chelsea.ca/accommodations

Road Works



Plan ahead
your travels!
chelsea.ca/road-works



Councillor district 1
Simon Joubarne
819-607-1515
s.joubarne@chelsea.ca

Councillor district 2
Pierre Guénard
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p.guenard@chelsea.ca

Councillor district 3
Greg McGuire
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g.mcguire@chelsea.ca

Councillor district 4
Kay Kerman
819-827-4708
k.kerman@chelsea.ca

Councillor district 5
Jean-Paul Leduc
819-827-2782
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Councillor district 6
Kimberly Chan
873-354-6742
k.chan@chelsea.ca



Municipality of Chelsea
100, chemin d'Old Chelsea
Chelsea, QC J9B 1C1
info@chelsea.ca
chelsea.ca

Main numbers
Town Hall 819-827-1124
Public Works 819-827-1160
Public Works (after-hours
emergency) 819-827-9911
Fire (general information)
819-827-6200

MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais
819-827-0516
Transcollines 819-456-1114
Emergency 911
Police 819-459-9911
Chelsea CLSC 819-459-1112
Info-Santé 811