

A.P.E.L. St-Joseph
C.P. 294, St-Adolphe d'Howard, QC
J0T 2B0

APEL ST-JOSEPH

St-Adolphe d'Howard le 13 avril 2009

Dear Fellow Members of APEL St-Joseph

A new summer will be upon us very soon. We are hoping for pleasant weather and, most importantly, for a **healthy lac St-Joseph**. As a member of APEL St-Joseph you know that the primary mission of the Association is to preserve water quality and ensure proper and responsible usage of the lake. We feel that the larger our membership numbers are, the stronger our voice will be in this mission. With this in mind we are enclosing the forms for your annual membership renewal.

The annual dues this year remain the same at \$35. For those members who would like to make a further donation, space is provided on the membership form for you to do so.

The proceeds from your annual dues, your donations, and grants from the municipality help us to maintain our activities and continue to represent you on environmental issues that concern the protection of lac St-Joseph. In fact, **your donations last year** enabled us to complete a third water test. These tests are essential to our better understanding of the health and evolution of the lake. Our objective for donations was attained last year and we hope it will be surpassed this year.

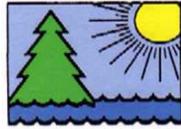
Continuing development around the lake and its watershed, the use of the lake by more and more people, and the danger of contamination by unconcerned individuals should make us more vigilant than ever this year. We bring this to your attention for a reason.

Last September the municipality ordered a test for blue algae on lac St-Joseph as it was suspected that it was present in one section of our lake. Fortunately the test proved negative. Residents of lac Theodore, however, were not so lucky; in the fall of 2008 blue algae was detected and we don't know what to expect in 2009. Without being alarmist, we should be made aware of these occurrences. **Your financial support is essential** for the Association to continue its mission.

Your Association cannot guarantee that there will not be blue algae or other disturbing situations on lac St-Joseph, but the members of the executive committee are making every effort to find ways to protect and improve the quality of our lake water and the quality of life that a healthy lake provides. In continuing to support us you are making a personal gesture of support for the environment of lac St-Joseph.

This year our annual meeting will be held Saturday May 16th at 10 am in the municipal council chambers at City Hall. If you will not be able to attend **we would very much appreciate** your taking a few minutes to mail us your annual dues. Last year the majority of you returned your registration form even though many of you could not be present at the annual meeting and we thank you for this. We would much prefer to focus our energies on activities which relate to the environment and the protection of our lake rather than the collection of annual membership dues.

For those who are interested, there will be a number of vacant positions on the executive committee for 2009/2010. If you **share the views of the Association**, if you would like to be



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more involved in the protection of our lake, if you have a few extra hours available each year, we invite you to attend the annual meeting and present your candidacy. Like all non-profit organizations, we are short of people who are prepared to give a little of their time and effort and become involved in the Association and its goals.

Finally, we ask you again, please assist us in increasing our membership by inviting your neighbours, friends, or those who use and enjoy the lake to become members of APEL St-Joseph. We estimate that there are **over 1000 people** who enjoy recreational activities on lac St-Joseph (motorized activities, fishing, kayaking, swimming, sailing etc.) and all should be strong supporters of an Association that is devoted to the protection of our lake. **We are counting on your effort to help us increase our membership.** You can also invite prospective new members to visit our web site at <http://www.apel-stjoseph.com/>.

I look forward to seeing you all in great numbers at our annual meeting on Saturday May 16th at 10 AM.

Yours truly,

Serge Roberge
Président
APEL St-Joseph
<http://www.apel-stjoseph.com/>.

p.j. Registration sheet