

Hello members,

We haven't issued news in some time and wanted to share a few things from the Historical Society.

Walk Down Memory Lane - we were so pleased Mother Nature cooperated for our gathering last summer, and to see so many faces. In addition to Paige Roy playing fiddle tunes during the event, Gary's talks inside St. Matthew's on the early Lutheran faithful were very well received, and many strolled through the tiny cemetery where local ancestors are buried. It was great to see Don's and other historic displays like the old machinery, and of course, to share a word over some baking and peek at the photo boards and maps.

To our many new members who joined or rejoined that day, we say **welcome!** We also want to offer special thanks to Carol Clemenhagan Labelle who donated several copies of her recent book "Laforce Family History: Lac des Deux Montagnes & Mulgrave Township, Québec". The Society has filled several orders so far, and provided a copy to the municipal library in Derry.

Looking ahead, the MDHS will have a presence at the Salon du patrimoine de l'Outaouais, in Montebello on Saturday, May 18th. We invite our members to come and stop at our table for a chat! Here is a link to the details:

<https://www.reseaupatrimoine.ca/salon-du-patrimoine-2024/>

A special AGM in June - We hope all our historical supporters will circle June 1st on the calendar for our Annual General Meeting. It's a Saturday and we'll begin at 10:00 am inside at the parsonage. This year, the Historical Society is seeking to register our organization as an official non-profit agency operating in the Province of Quebec. We need good representation from you, our members, to achieve that vote of confidence at the meeting.

Some of the many benefits of registering the MDHS include:

- eligibility for provincial resources
- qualification to apply for special funding to support certain projects
- protection of volunteer board members from personal liability while serving

If we successfully adopt this proposed change, some of our board's terms will also need to change, to a maximum 2-year duration; this would additionally need your vote to confirm changes.

All that to say, we would *very much appreciate* your turning out to consider these issues on June 1st!

In closing, we hope you'll check out the Historical Society's website [www.mdhist.org](http://www.mdhist.org), which has benefitted from the touch of two excellent webmasters in recent years. We're getting more social too, the MDHS Instagram account "mdhist\_insta" is now up and running.

See you soon!

Julie, Sheila, Line, Don, Marie-France, Suzanne, Shirley, Ashley, Sandra, Sharon & Gary