

THE MAYOLOIS



Municipal newsletter

Winter 2024–2025

Dear citizens of Mayo,

As winter wraps our beautiful municipality in its white blanket, I am pleased to share several updates that will energize our community for the year ahead.

Thanks to an agreement with the Réseau BIBLIO de l'Outaouais, starting January 1, 2025, you will have free access to a variety of digital services: e-books, magazines, educational games, and much more. This is a wonderful opportunity to expand your knowledge and your love of reading!

The year 2024 saw several important infrastructure projects for road maintenance, and in 2025, the budget includes key investments to continue improving our infrastructure and citizens' quality of life. Maintenance work, sealant application, and road markings are planned on several municipal roads to ensure safer and more durable routes.

I am also delighted to announce the addition of a new section in Le Mayolois: history and heritage. This section will highlight the stories, places, and traditions that shape our collective identity.

During this festive season, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2025 filled with joy, health, and precious moments with your loved ones. May this season be filled with peace and solidarity.

Thank you for your dedication and participation in community life. Together, let's continue to make Mayo a dynamic and welcoming place to live.

Robert Bertrand
Mayor of Mayo

News

Prochaines séances du conseil municipal

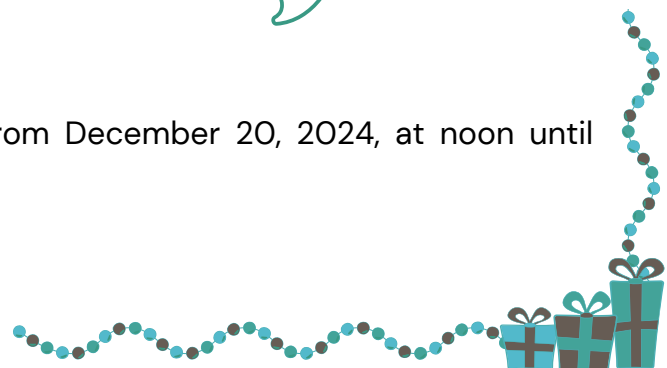
january 20

February 10

March 10

Holiday closures

The municipal office will be closed for the holidays from December 20, 2024, at noon until January 3, 2025, inclusive.



Extension of payment deadlines for november invoices

Due to the Canada Post strike that began on November 15, 2024, the payment deadlines for invoices issued in November have been extended. This includes:

- Property tax invoices dated November 11, 2024
- Transfer fee billing for property sales recorded between June 27 and October 29, 2024

During this period, the usual 18% interest and penalties are suspended and set to 0% until 30 days after Canada Post services resume.

The 18% interest rate on overdue accounts will take effect after this grace period.

2025 Municipal calendar

The 2025 municipal calendar is now available! You can download it online by following this link: [2025 municipal calendar](#).

A printed version will also be mailed with your 2025 tax bill. This calendar includes all the important dates for the upcoming year, including council meetings, waste collection, and community events.

Annual dog registration

We remind citizens that it is mandatory to register your dog each year in accordance with provincial regulations (Chapter P-38.002, r.1).

Registration is free until December 31, 2024. Starting January 1, 2025, the annual renewal fee will be \$10 per dog. This process ensures effective management of animals within the municipality of Mayo, in line with [bylaw 2024-03](#).

Please comply with this requirement for the well-being of your companion and our community!

Toques and caps



As autumn settles in and the weather cools, it's the perfect time to keep our heads warm! Take advantage of this opportunity to grab one of our toques or caps featuring the Mayo municipality logo. They are available for \$25 for toques and \$20 for caps. Show your community spirit while staying cozy!

2025 budget

The 2025 budget includes several investment projects to improve our municipality's infrastructure:

- Repaving of Rivière-Blanche Road
- Replacement of an 8-foot culvert on Roy Road
- Application of sealant and road markings on Roy Road
- Redesign of the intersection at McAlendin Road and Route 315

These projects aim to ensure the safety and durability of our roads for all users.

On the following page, you will find detailed documents explaining the 2025 budget and the planned investments.

Ireland discovers la Petite-Nation

The birth of St-Malachy

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, on August 1, 1864, just three years before the creation of the Dominion of Canada, the “*Municipality of the Parish of St-Malachy*” was established in the Outaouais Valley.

This young parish was dedicated by numerous Irish immigrants who had settled with their families in the Lochaber Township of the Ottawa Diocese — then known as Lower Canada — to a prominent religious figure from their ancestral land. St. Malachy, Archbishop of the Diocese of Armagh in Northern Ireland and Primate of the Irish Church, lived in the 12th century. He witnessed the Anglo-Norman invasion of 1169, which brought Ireland under the rule of Plantagenet King Henry II of England. Queen Victoria approved the request of Viscount Monck, the Honorable Charles Stanley, then Governor of the Province of Canada, in 1864.

The La Blanche valley

In Great Britain, the Highland Scots from Lochaber and Gore endured the crushing defeat of 1746 during the Stuart uprising. For an entire century, they faced continuous upheaval. Following the Napoleonic Wars, with the British American Land Company holding extensive lands in Quebec, many Scottish families chose to emigrate to this British province in America. In 1807, the first group of Scots settled south of the La Blanche River valley, where Archibald McMillen acquired 13,261 acres of land. This marked the birth of the Lochaber Township and the future town of Thurso, in the former York County — renamed Ottawa County in 1829 — situated between the seigneurie of La Petite-Nation and Buckingham Township.

In Great Britain, Ireland, with its 5.5 million hectares and over 8 million inhabitants, had the highest population density in Europe during the 19th century. Primarily agricultural for over a millennium, the country faced thirteen consecutive years of famine, compounded by the deadly typhus epidemic of 1846–47. In that single year, over 80,000 Irish fled poverty, embarking from 18 ports to seek a new life in America. Upon arrival in Montreal, many were cared for by the Grey Nuns and the Sisters of Charity. The Montreal Witness of August 1847 reported: “One-third of the men aged sixteen to sixty were dead or ill upon arrival.” The nuns tended to the survivors in convents and hospitals, then guided them up the Ottawa River to find a new home. Diverting from the Ottawa River into the beautiful La Blanche and du Lièvre rivers, they discovered a territory that would become their own, in Lochaber.

In the neighboring northern township of Mulgrave-Derry, German refugees, mainly from Prussia and Rhenania, settled in Papineau County — a subdivision of the former Ottawa County — while others established themselves in Pontiac.

The La Blanche Valley began to organize. In February 1857, the Scots established their first Baptist chapel, served by Reverend John Dempsey. Missionaries from La Petite-Nation visited Irish families who attended the small chapel in Lochaber as early as 1854. From Notre-Dame-de-Bonsecours and later Buckingham, priests Hugh Paisley, John Brady, and Thomas Duhamel — the future Bishop of the Diocese of Ottawa — served the community until the arrival of the first pastor of Lochaber, Father Desaulnac, on July 17, 1864.

By the time of the first official Canadian census in 1871, Lochaber counted 1,776 inhabitants, while St-Malachy had 513 residents.

Fire departments

20 years of service honored

This year, we wish to highlight the exceptional dedication of 7 firefighters who received their 20-year service medals with the Mayo/Mulgrave-et-Derry Fire Department:

- Deputy director Brandon Lalonde (2023)
- Firefighter Ron Laurin (2024)
- Lieutenant Kevin Berndt (2024)
- Lieutenant Eric Berndt (2024)
- Lieutenant Marty Dionne (2024)
- Captain Sylvain Laframboise (2024)
- Firefighter Mike Duguay (2024)



A special thank you to Firefighter Ron Laurin, who, after 20 years of service, has decided to hang up his helmet. We wish him a well-deserved retirement filled with wonderful adventures!

The entire fire department team wishes you a happy and safe holiday season!

Tips for the cold season

The volunteer firefighters of the Mayo and Mulgrave-et-Derry Fire Department would like to remind you that for your safety, it is important to check the batteries in your smoke alarms, clean and sweep your chimney, and ensure that your civic address is clearly visible this winter for emergency services.

Urban planning

Temporary car shelters

In accordance with current regulations: Temporary car shelters may be installed from November 1 of the current year until May 15 of the following year. These shelters must respect a setback of 1.50 meters from the road right-of-way and a lateral clearance of 0.75 meters. ([Bylaw 2011-03](#))

Snow removal

To avoid obstructing snow removal operations and ensure the safety of all road users, [bylaw 2009-001](#) prohibits depositing snow on the opposite side of the road. Offenders are subject to a fine.

Floodplain Mapping Project for the Rivière Blanche

A floodplain mapping project for the Rivière Blanche is currently underway with the collaboration of several regional and provincial partners.

The work will be carried out in several stages:

- Analysis of existing data: Spring/Summer 2024
- Data collection:
 - Low-water periods: Fall 2024 and 2025
 - Flood periods: Spring 2025 and 2026
 - Other data collection: 2025
- Hydrodynamic modeling and mapping development: Summer/Fall 2026
- Submission to ministries and official approval: Date to be confirmed
- Implementation of the regulatory framework with official mapping: Winter 2026/Spring 2027

Although the municipality is not directly involved in the project, it is committed to keeping you informed of future developments. These timelines are provided for informational purposes only.

Public works

Work for a more resilient electrical grid in Mayo

Hydro-Québec is undertaking major work to improve the reliability of the electrical grid in our municipality. Here's an overview of the planned interventions:

- 300 tree removals were carried out in 2023–2024 along Route 315 and Rivière-Blanche Road to reduce power outages caused by fallen trees on power lines.
- Vegetation management work will continue until 2026.
- 77 concrete actions have also been identified and will be implemented in 2025 to strengthen grid resilience, including:
 - Replacing tie wires
 - Installing new insulators
 - Replacing wooden crossarms and wooden poles

These efforts aim to ensure a more reliable and secure power supply for all residents of Mayo.

Road network maintenance

In 2024, the municipality of Mayo undertook several important infrastructure projects, particularly on Burke Road. Key projects included:

- Several culvert replacement and paving projects were completed on Cameron, Rivière-Blanche, and Burke Roads;
- Ditch digging to improve drainage and prevent water accumulation, helping to protect the roads;
- Slope stabilization on Burke Road, with the addition of riprap and erosion correction work to ensure the durability of the infrastructure and the safety of road users;
- Repair of a sagging section on Burke Road, including ditch digging to improve water flow;
- Sealant application on Roy and Monaghan Roads to extend the lifespan of the pavement.

Culvert maintenance

It is essential to regularly maintain your culverts to ensure proper drainage and prevent flooding on your property and the surrounding roads. By cleaning and clearing debris from them, you contribute not only to the safety of your property but also to that of the entire community. A little attention today can prevent big problems tomorrow! (Bylaw [2021-04](#)).

Recreation

New free digital services for Mayo residents!

Take advantage of FREE access to a wealth of digital resources, thanks to the Municipality of Mayo and the Réseau BIBLIO de l'Outaouais! E-books, magazines, escape games, genealogy tools, and much more!

Register for free at this [link](#).

Thousands of resources for the whole family!



Family assistance

Do you live in Mayo and have children under 17 years old enrolled in artistic or sports activities outside the municipality? The municipality offers an annual reimbursement of up to \$100 per child. To learn more about the family assistance program and apply for reimbursement, please visit the Municipal Office or print the form from our [website](#).

Parc des Montagnes Noires de Ripon

The municipality of Mayo is pleased to announce the renewal of its agreement with the parc des Montagnes Noires de Ripon for the 2024-2025 winter season. From November 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025, Mayo residents can enjoy free access to the park for their favorite outdoor activities.

To obtain your access, visit the Stéphane-Richer chalet with proof of residence (driver's license, tax bill, or electricity bill) to receive your parking pass. For more information, visit the [Parc des Montagnes Noires de Ripon website](#).



Enjoy the winter and the snowy trails with family and friends!

Community Library

You can come pick up books at the Mayo community library, located at the Forêt-la-Blanche Interpretation Centre, 300 Saddler Road. We have received several new books in French, along with our children's and teens' collection, and our selection of English books. There are no fees. The library is open every day from 10 AM to 4 PM. We recommend calling ahead at 819-281-6700 to ensure staff are available at the reception when you arrive. Happy reading!

Two outdoor evenings in Mayo this winter – moonlit snowshoe walks!

The Friends of the Forêt-la-Blanche invite you to explore the ecological reserve's trails on a moonlit snowshoe walk and join our fundraising event!

When: Saturday, January 11, and Saturday, February 15

Where: 300 Saddler Road, Mayo, QC J8L 4L8

- Trails open from 6:30 PM to 9 PM
- Free hot drinks and treats
- Trails for all levels, adults and children
- Snowshoe rentals: \$5 for adults / \$3 for children

Cost: (Cash or Interac transfer)

- Adults: \$8
- Seniors (65+): \$7
- Children (17 and under): \$5 / Free for children under 5
- Students (18+ with student ID): \$6
- Family (2 adults and 3 children): \$18



Not familiar with our trails? Our volunteers will be on hand to guide you. In case of bad weather, the event may be postponed. Please check our [Facebook](#) page to confirm if the event will take place.

Discover the forêt-la-blanche ecological reserve

Access to the trails requires a pass, which helps the non-profit organization "Les Amis de la Forêt-la-Blanche" continue its preservation mission and maintain trail access year-round.

You can now easily purchase your daily or annual passes online through the [website](#) or make a donation to support the reserve.

For more information or to book : info@foretla blanche.org or 819-281-6700



The entire municipal team and council members of Mayo wish you a holiday season filled with joy, peace, and warm moments.

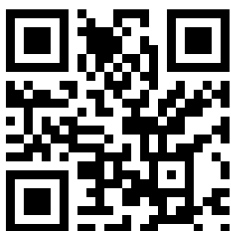


*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year 2025!*

Stay informed



MUNICIPALITÉ DE
MAYO



Not signed up for our newsletter yet?

Scan this QR code and go to the bottom of our website to subscribe!

Municipal Office
20 McAlendin Road
Tuesday to Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. to noon
www.mayo.ca
Email: mun@mayo.ca
819-986-3199