

THE MAYOLOIS



Municipal newsletter
Autumn 2026

Dear residents of Mayo,

Autumn is settling in, and with it comes plenty of news to share with you.

First, I would like to congratulate Mr. Alain Dupuis, elected by acclamation as municipal councillor, seat no. 3. It is with confidence that we begin this third term alongside him.

It is also with pleasure that we welcome Ms. Émilie Faubert to our team as Assistant Clerk-Treasurer.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the importance of the survey on our new Municipal Family and Seniors Policy, which will soon reach you by mail and will also be available online. This project will shape the direction of our municipality for years to come. Your participation is essential: through your answers, you will directly guide the action plan that will be presented to municipal council. I warmly invite you to take a few minutes to respond. Every voice counts.

The Rivière-Blanche road bridge closure took longer than expected, notably due to a work suspension related to the strike, a situation beyond the Municipality's control. We know this closure was difficult for many residents, resulting in detours, longer commutes, and daily inconveniences. The Municipality followed the matter closely and made the necessary representations to the ministry so that work could resume as quickly as possible. We are pleased to announce that the bridge is now reopened to traffic. This is news that will certainly be welcomed by our entire community, especially as winter approaches. Thank you all for your patience throughout this work.

The purchase of a truck for the roads department is a concrete investment to improve the services offered to our residents. Since our roads manager handles maintenance and interventions on our road network on his own, it is essential that he can rely on a dependable vehicle well suited to his many tasks. This new equipment will allow him to respond more efficiently, whether for road maintenance, routine work or situations requiring a quick response. It is an investment that directly supports the work carried out every day and helps maintain quality service for our entire community.

I cannot overlook the success of our annual picnic, held on July 4 at Parc Gaétan-Brunet. The festive atmosphere and everyone's enthusiasm show, once again, the strength of our community spirit.

Finally, it is with great pride that we learned that our digital library service received a 2025 Méritas award from Réseau BIBLIO de l'Outaouais.

I wish you all a wonderful autumn.

Robert Bertrand
Mayor

News

Upcoming municipal council meetings

October 13

November 9

December 14

A survey to shape Mayo's future

In the coming weeks, you will receive a survey by mail on the new Municipal Family and Seniors Policy (PFM-MADA). It will also be available online.

This policy will guide municipal decisions in the years to come: transportation, safety, recreation, health, housing and more, for all ages.

Your participation is essential: your answers will directly guide the action plan that will be presented to municipal council. Take a few minutes to respond. *Every voice counts!*

Welcome to our new colleague!

The Municipality is pleased to welcome Ms. Émilie Faubert to its team as Assistant Clerk-Treasurer.

Ms. Faubert officially began her duties on April 22, 2026. With more than 5 years of experience in the municipal field, she brings experience and skills that will certainly enrich our team and the quality of services offered to our community.

We sincerely believe that her hiring represents a real benefit for the Municipality and for the entire community.

We extend our warmest welcome to her and wish her every success in her new role!



Election



Election by acclamation – Seat no. 3

The Municipality of Mayo is pleased to announce the election by acclamation of Mr. Alain Dupuis as municipal councillor – seat no. 3, effective August 7, 2026.

As no other nominations were filed within the prescribed time limits, Mr. Alain Dupuis was declared elected in accordance with the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities.

Mr. Dupuis is therefore beginning his 3rd term, having served as councillor for the Municipality of Mayo from 2017 to 2021 and from 2021 to 2025.



Fire Prevention Week

On the occasion of Fire Prevention Week, the Mayo and Mulgrave-et-Derry Fire Safety Service invites residents to take a few minutes to check their equipment and adopt good habits to reduce the risk of fire.

A working smoke alarm, a well-maintained chimney, properly used heating equipment and an evacuation plan known to every member of the family can make a big difference in an emergency.

Prevention starts at home. This autumn, be the first one responsible for your safety and that of your loved ones.



Fire safety tips for the cold season

As the cold season approaches, the volunteer firefighters of the Mayo and Mulgrave-et-Derry Fire Safety Service would like to remind you of a few simple measures that can help keep you and your loved ones safe.

Before winter arrives, remember to:

- check that your smoke alarms are working and replace the batteries as needed;
- have your chimney cleaned and swept if you use a fireplace or wood stove;
- make sure your civic address number is clearly visible from the road, especially at night, to help emergency services reach you.

In recent months, three major fires required the intervention of our Fire Safety Service as well as mutual aid from another fire department: two homes and a garage were affected.

The Municipality wishes to recognize the remarkable work of our volunteer firefighters, who showed courage, dedication and professionalism during these interventions. We sincerely thank them for their availability and for their efforts to keep our community safe.

These situations also remind us of the importance of adopting good prevention practices and remaining vigilant to reduce the risk of fire.

Forest fire prevention

Before lighting a fire outdoors, make it a habit to check the fire danger level. Conditions can change quickly, and a fire that seems safe can become difficult to control.

The fire danger level is available in real time directly from the home page of our website, using the dedicated button. www.mayo.ca

Check before you light. Prevention starts with a simple habit.

Public works

2026 road investment projects:

- Purchase of a truck for public works
- Double surface treatment on Chemin de la Rivière-Blanche
- Asphalt repairs on Chemin Cameron
- Shoulder repairs and ditch cleaning on Chemin Monagan
- Culvert replacement on Chemins Somers, Rivière-Blanche and Cameron
- Repair of a road sag on Chemin de la Rivière-Blanche

Coming in October:

- Construction of a storage shed for public works



Emergency number – Road obstructions

If a road obstruction or a situation posing a danger to road users (damaged pavement, obstacle on the road, fallen tree, etc.) occurs outside municipal office hours, an emergency number is available to reach the Municipality.

Emergency number: 819-664-1923

Please leave a message indicating:

- the nature of the situation;
- the exact location of the obstruction;
- your name and contact information.

A Municipal representative will contact you if needed, depending on the nature and urgency of the situation.

This number is reserved for urgent situations related to road obstructions. For non-urgent requests, please contact the municipal office during business hours.



Planning and environment

Update – Flood zone mapping of the Blanche River

New flood zone mapping of the Blanche River is underway to update the available data and better identify the areas likely to be affected by flooding.

The main stages of the project are as follows:

- 2024: analysis of existing data and identification of data collection needs;
- 2024 to 2026: collection of additional data (low water, floods, bathymetry);
- 2027: hydrodynamic modelling and production of the new maps;
- 2027–2028 and beyond: review, government approval and consultation with the municipalities and the MRC.

According to the current schedule, the new regulatory maps cannot come into effect before March 2028. However, the government approval process could cause additional delays, and their coming into force could be postponed until 2029 or 2030.

The Municipality will continue to follow the file and will inform residents when new information becomes available.

Hydro-Québec and vegetation management near power lines

To ensure the safety of residents and its workers, as well as the reliability of the power grid, Hydro-Québec regularly carries out vegetation control work near its facilities.

This work may include pruning branches, felling hazardous trees or selective cutting in certain areas. The goal is not to remove all vegetation, but to maintain a safe distance between trees and power lines while respecting the environment.

After the work, it is normal to find some cutting debris. Depending on the area and the type of work, branches may be chipped, removed or left on site to contribute to the natural cycle of the environment.

For property owners, one simple step can make a big difference: choose tree species suited to the available space before planting near power lines, to reduce future interventions.

For more information on this topic, please consult the following page: [Preventive maintenance of branches near power lines | Hydro-Québec](#)

Register your dog – it's mandatory!

Since March 1, 2019, dog registration has been mandatory throughout Quebec under the provincial regulation ([chapter P-38.002](#)).

It's also time to update the municipal dog registry!

The registration tag is valid for life, but an annual fee of \$10 per dog applies. We invite all dog owners to visit the municipal office to update their file.

Thank you for respecting this legal obligation, for the well-being of your pet... and of the community.

Culvert maintenance

Regular maintenance of your culverts is essential to ensure good drainage and prevent flooding on your property and on surrounding roads. By cleaning them and clearing them of debris, you help keep not only your property safe, but the whole community as well. A little attention today can prevent big problems tomorrow! ([By-law 2021-04](#)).

History and heritage

The heroic era

Pioneers

Lake, river and forest: this is what the first families of Saint-Malachie knew. It took great courage and patience to fell century-old oak, walnut, maple and pine trees with few tools and their strong arms. They had to make their own tools.

Oxen and horses were rare. Only the wealthiest families owned them. Historian Claude Baribault reports that in the mid-1800s, there were about 250 horses in the small community. That is less than one horse per family. Most people did not even own livestock.

Yet a few houses built during that period still stand today. They show the skill of these people and their determination to build a new life in a hard and poor world. Money, too, was scarce.

125 years ago, Mayo's pioneers were hard-working and full of talent. They learned everything through experience and life.

According to Irish tradition, the father was the undisputed head of the family. He assigned tasks according to each person's age and abilities.

Women worked in the fields. They often helped build the houses and farm buildings, carrying their babies on their backs. Like their husbands, they worked from dawn until nightfall, and sometimes later still: carding, spinning, weaving, knitting and sewing made every home a real beehive.

The young gathered fruit, nuts, wild berries and medicinal herbs.

The "colleens," those lovely Irish girls, were so skilled that even today's men would be proud to wear the pretty straw hats they braided. They also made mittens, moccasins and boots. Since sewing machines and steel needles did not yet exist, they shaped animal bones into needles. With them, they sewed fabric, wool, and calf or deer leather to clothe their families.

At the general store, other goods could be bought, often paid for through barter.

The lumber industry was active. The men of Mayo improved the trails and built sleighs and carts to travel to Buckingham or Thurso and sell the produce of their land. They had to burn hundreds of acres of wood and sell the ashes in Bytown (Ottawa) for eight dollars a barrel. Today, at the southeast corner of the Mayo cemetery, you can still see the large crater where the wood was burned down to ash.

Log driving also allowed men to earn good wages. Companies such as Black Lead Mines and Feldspar mined iron ore on the farms of Philippe and Owen McCoy. A little money could also be earned by grinding wheat and grain, or by selling hay to feed the horses of the W.C. Edward company, which hauled timber by road.

These were the heroic years of the 19th century, which ended in 1899 with the famous public referendum on fences: a fascinating story that Mayo's records continue to tell.

To be continued in the next edition of The Mayolois...

Excerpt from the book *Mayo 150 ans 1864-2014*

Environmental health

Ecocentre

Please note that you have until November 28 to use your 2026 access card at the Canton de Lochaber ecocentre. It will then be closed until next year.

Recreation



Halloween evening and walk at the Forêt-la-Blanche

October 30, 2026, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Open house, free admission for all. Treats will be handed out to children.

Who knows? You might run into ghosts, witches or other strange creatures on the trails...

Safety: Bring a flashlight or headlamp and make sure your costume leaves your feet clear so you can walk the trails without tripping.

The activity will be cancelled in case of rain.

Trail clean-up

Saturday, November 7 (postponed to November 8 in case of rain)
Open house, free admission for all
Bring your rake if you have one.

Thanksgiving weekend Lunch provided for volunteers

October 10-11-12
12 km of trails that will show you all the colours of autumn!



NEW!!!

The labyrinth has had a makeover. Come test your knowledge of the animal world. You will find all the information at the reception desk. A fun and educational activity for kids (and the young at heart!)

Family assistance

Do you live in Mayo and are your children aged 17 and under registered in arts or sports activities outside the municipality? The Municipality offers an annual reimbursement of up to \$100 per child. For full details on family assistance and to apply for a reimbursement, please visit the Municipal office or print the form from our [website](#).

Recognition for our digital library!

The Municipality of Mayo is proud to announce that its digital library service received a 2025 Méritas award for digital services, presented by Réseau BIBLIO de l'Outaouais.

This recognition highlights the efforts made to offer residents simple, convenient access to a vast collection of e-books and online resources, available at any time.

Thank you to all the users who enjoy this service and contribute to its success!



Recreation

Looking back on the 2026 annual picnic

On July 4, Parc Gaétan-Brunet hosted the Municipality of Mayo's annual picnic, a wonderful day of festivities. The méchoui brought together 156 people, making the event a great success.

Mayo citizens of all ages enjoyed the day's activities, including entertainment by the Service Animation Jeunesse Outaouais (SAJO) which was a hit with families, the delicious supper, and the evening concert – all of which created a warm and festive atmosphere.

The door prize draws and bingo generated a lot of excitement, with \$470 awarded in bingo prizes.

Thank you to all our sponsors:

- \$1,000 contribution
Les Pavages Lafleur & Fils
- \$500 discount on a snow removal contract
Déboisement Déneigement Mayo
- Single outdoor rocking chair (\$140)
Canadian Tire Buckingham
- Bistro set (\$115)
BMR Émile Charette & Fils Buckingham
- Annual family pass (\$90)
Centre écologique de la Forêt-la-Blanche



Thank you as well to the volunteers, municipal employees, elected officials and all the residents who made this day a success. We can't wait to see you again next year!

Stay informed

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MUNICIPALITÉ DE

MAYO

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Tue. to Thu.: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. to noon

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