

The MRC of Bonaventure will have its cultural policy

New Carlisle, May 21, 2020 – During the December meeting of the Mayors of the MRC de Bonaventure, the mayors adopted the implementation of a process that will lead to the adoption of the whole first cultural policy of the MRC in about a year, in January 2021. This approach will also allow the development of the three-year action plan for cultural development in the territory.

"This democratic exercise of concertation and mobilization will make it possible to gain a good understanding of the cultural sector and above all to identify development priorities for the region, says Éric Dubé, Prefect of the MRC of Bonaventure. Thus, a cultural policy will allow the MRC to give itself a vision and a global and long-term strategy in terms of cultural development on its territory."

A concertation procedure

Because this reflection process is carried out in concert, a cultural committee has been set up, which will be responsible for advising the MRC on the cultural development priorities for the territory. The committee is made up of 6 members :

- One elected official, Mr. Roch Audet, mayor of Bonaventure, president of the committee;
- A representative from the field of history, heritage and museology: Mr. Thomas Marten, director of the National Historic Site of the Banc de pêche de Paspébiac;
- A representative of the English-speaking community, of the performing arts, and of the events sector: Mr. Dave Felker, Director of the Shigawake Agricultural Fair;
- A representative of the media and the English-speaking community, Ms. Cynthia Dow, consultant;
- A representative of the field of dissemination and cultural leisure, Ms. Chantal Robitaille;
- A citizen interested in cultural development, Mrs. Chantal Molloy.

Bruno Mainville, project manager, is responsible for coordinating the cultural committee and the entire policy development process.

"The adoption of the cultural policy will position the MRC as a leader in regional cultural development and will allow it to acquire a tool for consolidating and developing cultural projects, says Roch Audet, mayor of the city of Bonaventure and president of the cultural committee."



Involving the population

Throughout the process of developing a cultural policy, the population will be invited to express their priorities for cultural development on their territory, in particular through public consultations. In the context of the current health crisis, consultations will be conducted online through surveys and web conferencing meetings.

The citizens of the MRC of Bonaventure are invited to fill out a survey on their cultural habits and needs. A cultural prize valued at \$ 200 will be draw among the participants. Citizens and organizations interested in participating in the enrichment of the cultural development of the MRC of Bonaventure can contact Mr. Bruno Mainville by email at <u>culture@mrcbonaventure.com</u>.

To learn more about the process surrounding the development of the first cultural policy of the MRC de Bonaventure and to access the survey, citizens can visit the mrcbonaventure.com/en/culture.

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