

AT THE MRC DES PAYS-D'EN-HAUT

on November 5, 2017

My Warden



Photo : Annie Desmeulles



is
**ANDRÉ
GENEST**

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Listening • Action • Vision • Commitment

« I'm not one to make promises. I make our citizens' aspirations my priorities and I work hard to make them happen. To me, being Warden of the MRC means being able to make a difference in its orientations over the next few years, until 2021, by siding with each and every one of its municipalities. »

On November 5*, when you vote for your City Council and Mayor, you will also vote for the Warden of the County Regional Municipality (MRC). Piedmont citizens will only vote for the Warden.

*Advance Poll date: October 29. Your municipality might add other dates and might allow voting by mail.

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Who is André Genest?

I am always listening to people and I get actively involved in matters where I believe that my contribution can make a difference.

That's how I walked **40 km in the winter** to make the Schoolboard aware of the fact that our children, even in primary school, have to travel by bus up to 3 hours daily. I am not afraid to get involved personally to defend the causes that matter to you.

That is also why my municipality, Wentworth-Nord, was the first in all the Laurentians to have a First Responders service.



Photo: Isabelle Houle

Here are the priorities that guide me:

- ✔ Call attention to our needs and **promote our projects** with the regional and national authorities while ensuring that solutions are underway that **will benefit all citizens** in the MRC.
- ✔ Support all projects and initiatives that **meet the aspirations** of our families—our youth as well as our elders—, our workers, our entrepreneurs and our businesses.
- ✔ **Foster the development of our region** not by attracting heavy industries but rather knowledge and education centers whose projects are closely related to our identity and our realities. Examples? How to develop our forests without destroying them. • How to develop tourism without it being a nuisance for our residents and vacationers. • How to create stable and interesting local jobs for our young people. • Etc.
- ✔ **Bring the weight of the MRC to bear when our municipalities need it** in the areas of competence that the Provincial Government has devolved to them without providing the necessary funding. E.g.: Local roads.
- ✔ **Bring the MRC closer to our citizens** by:
 - Supporting citizens' initiatives and helping people, companies or organizations to prepare their applications for grants
 - Creating mailing lists to **inform you** directly about what is happening.

WHEN YOU VOTE FOR ME, YOU VOTE FOR ALL THIS

Culture: Create a synergy between outdoor recreational tourism and our cultural attractions, including tours such as a tour of our churches, historical and patrimonial routes, arts circuits, etc.



Photo : M.-A. Dionne

- **Enhance support for our artists and craftsmen** by promoting various events such as arts & craft fairs, Christmas markets, and local as well as touring crafts markets.

Recreational Tourism: Continue to invest in the Parc linéaire and the Corridor aérobie and work to **ensure the permanence of our networks of tracks and trails.**

Access to nature: Restore access to nature, forests and lakes for the entire population by developing **public access to non-developed, untouched lakes on our public lands.**

Forest and nature: Acquire authority over our forests to preserve them and develop their use with a sustainable model (trails and non-timber forest products).

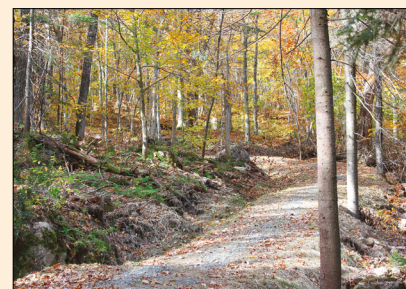


Photo : M.-A. Dionne

A Few Highlights:

- Mayor of Wentworth-Nord for 25 years and Deputy Warden for 15 years.
- Vice-president of Solidarité rurale (2011-2016).
- 2nd Vice-President of the CLD des Pays-d'en-Haut (2009-2015).
- Member of the Board of Villes et Villages en santé du Québec (2010-2016).
- Founding member and member of the Société de gestion du Parc régional éclaté (SOPRÉ), which became Société de plein air des Pays-d'en-Haut (SOPAIR).
- Member of the Agence régionale de mise en valeur des forêts privées des Laurentides.

There would be so much to say! To know more about me and my achievements, please visit my site:

andregenest.net



Photo: Courtesy FOM



Photo : M.-A. Dionne

Schools: Support the creation of the **alternative school** and invest in the implementation of rural schools connected via Internet, so as to reduce our children's commute time and **counteract dropping out.**

Economic development: Create a **Business Concertation organisation that will bring together all stakeholders** in the MRC: SADC, Carrefour jeunesse emploi, CLE, chambers of commerce, self-employed workers, businesses, elected representatives, community groups, trade schools, outdoor recreational, recreotourism and cultural entities, etc.

Sports Complex: Build the Sports Complex next to A.-N.-Morin high school to secure the \$22M in Government subsidies, AND work towards the **development of sports facilities in all municipalities of the MRC.**

Internet and Cellular Coverage: Increase the **pressure** on large providers to adequately serve even the less populous areas.

Landscapes Protection: Enforce our **Landscape Charter** as well as our regulations, especially in terms of signage, without giving in to pressure from governments or large corporations.

Sanitary: Insist and keep demanding that the Government subsidize the replacement of residents' non-compliant septic tanks and wells—just as sanitation and water supply are subsidized in cities—in order to significantly improve the **protection of our lakes and rivers.**

Public Safety: Improve civil protection to be **better prepared against the effects of climate change**, catastrophic events (beaver dams collapses, ice storms, tornadoes, etc.), and **develop intermunicipal mutual assistance.**



Photo : M.-A. Dionne



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Police : Focus on **education rather than repression.** Develop community policing to **bring police services closer to citizens** and increase the use of cadets to improve community and trail presence.

What does the MRC do? With a budget of over \$6M funded mainly from your taxes, the MRC is responsible for many things that impact you directly, including:

- Establishing the assessment role and tax sales
- Waste management (separate collection)
- Management of water courses and intramunicipal public lands
- Public and intermunicipal transportation funding
- Support for businesses, entrepreneurship, self-employment and young entrepreneurs.

MRC des Pays-d'en-Haut—Our MRC is made of 10 municipalities whose mayors constitute the Mayors Council, which meets at least once a month. They are : L'Estérel, Lac-des-Seize-Îles, Morin-Heights, Piedmont, Saint-Adolphe-d'Howard, Sainte-Adèle, Sainte-Anne-des-Lacs, Sainte-Marguerite-du-lac-Masson, Saint-Sauveur and Wentworth-Nord. **Warden:** The Warden presides over the Mayors' Council and represents the MRC locally and at the regional and national levels.