

# EDITORIAL

The Ski Patrol sends out a big thanks to all who came out to support the Kormans' on their 50th Anniversary of Owl's Head and the Canadian Ski Patrol during their 75th.

## What a Hoot

### THE SCOOP



MABLE HASTINGS

On December 18, 1965 Fred Korman, an electrician from Mansonville opened the doors of the Owl's Head Ski for the first time. With the support and hard work of his wife, Lillian and then his daughter, Caroll, what started out as a hobby, transformed into a four season enterprise and one of the best ski and golfing centres in Quebec.

In respect of the rich and abundant heritage of the region, the Korman family decided to maintain the name of the mountain in honour of Abenaki chief, Owl whose reclining profile is said to resemble the mountain's summit.

On the last Saturday of March, the Ski Patrol organizes the much anticipated "Hoot" where families and ski enthusiasts can spend a wonderful fun filled day of activities with all proceeds going to the ski patrol.

This year, the day included BBQs, concerts, slush cup, races, inflatable games and loads of other activities for all. At 6pm the Owl's Head Ski Club offered a

méchoui dinner and then there was a fireworks display and more music!

This year, the Canadian Ski Patrol celebrates its 75th anniversary. Some may not be aware but, the patrollers you see on the slopes every day have been serving the public across Canada since 1940! Specializing in first-aid training these mountain guardians provide assistance an average of 300 times per ski season. They reassure beginners, make emergency descent in more serious cases and are essential to the safety during a day of skiing.

As Owl's Head celebrates its 50th year, it seems only fitting that the two milestone anniversaries would coincide. Thanks to Lillian and Fred Korman who have been involved with and great supporters of the Ski Patrol since Owl's Head was founded.

"On behalf of the men and women of the Owl's Head Ski Patrol, it is my pleasure to congratulate Lillian and Fred Korman," said Pierre Bastien, 2015-16 Patrol Leader. "Thanks to them we have 50 years of patrolling at Owl's Head and the adventure continues."

Despite the change in their appearance over the years, from Rainier red to yellow and then blue, to this year's new colours of red and white, the patrollers proudly offer the same professionalism and services as they have in the past as they have patrolled the Owl's Head slopes during this celebratory year.

The Ski Patrol sends out a big thanks to all who came out to support the Kormans' on their 50th Anniversary of Owl's Head and the Canadian Ski Patrol during their 75th. The money raised will help to purchase the first-aid equip-



Hundreds of families and ski enthusiasts turned out Saturday for this year's "Hoot," organized by Mount Owl's Head Ski Patrol. COURTESY

ment needed to support accident prevention on the ski hill.

For more information about the Canadian Ski Patrol and its over 4000 volunteers or the 50 volunteer ski patrollers at

Owl's Head Ski, or for information on how to support the Canadian Ski Patrol, visit their website at <http://www.pcsestrie.org/> or contact the local Ski Patrol Leader at Owl's Head.

### MY TAKE

By Matthew McCully

Every time I drive down St. Francis I say to myself, "This will be my day."

I know the electronic sign flashing my speed is just around the corner.

It's a personal challenge of mine to get 50 on the nose when I drive by.

If you speed, you get a strobe light and an exclamation point.

But, If you pass driving 50 or under, nothing.

We have the technology to design a sign that can clock your speed from 300 yards and flash a judgmental light at you. How much harder would it be to program a smiley face emoticon or a thumbs up symbol?

I don't need Bob Barker to jump out of the bushes, run up to my car and tell me what I've won, but a simple "strong work, citizen, way to keep it mellow on the road," would be nice.

## THE RECORD

1195 Galt East, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1G 1Y7  
FAX: 819-821-3179

E-MAIL: [newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com](mailto:newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com)  
WEBSITE: [www.sherbrookerecord.com](http://www.sherbrookerecord.com)

SHARON McCULLY PUBLISHER ..... (819) 569-9511  
STEPHEN BLAKE CORRESP. EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
SERGE GAGNON CHIEF PRESSMAN ..... (819) 569-9931

DEPARTMENTS  
ACCOUNTING ..... (819) 569-9511  
ADVERTISING ..... (819) 569-9525  
CIRCULATION ..... (819) 569-9528  
NEWSROOM ..... (819) 569-6345

KNOWLTON OFFICE  
5B VICTORIA STREET, KNOWLTON, QUEBEC, J0E 1V0  
TEL: (450) 242-1188 FAX: (450) 243-5155

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Member

ABC, CARD, CNA, QCNA

## Letter

DEAR EDITOR,

As a proud Anglo Quebecer, permit me to comment on the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) recent presentation to the parliamentary hearings surrounding Bill 86 - the school board governance reform plan.

The QCGN brief states that Bill 86 is "bad, unnecessary, and unwanted." Not so.

Bill 86 is good, necessary and much-needed.

It is "good" because Bill 86 has provisions that are aimed at improving student achievement. The creation of the Resource Allocation Committee, which also looks at 'special-needs' students, and the heavy involvement of parents in decision-making at all levels, is, indeed, pedagogically valuable.

Consider this excerpt from the Sherbrooke Record article on March 25, 2016: "Community groups react to Bill 86."

Townshippers' Association President Gerald Cutting rightfully said:

"...the fact that it (Bill 86) promotes a greater emphasis on student success as well as giving greater decision-making power to school officials and parents, is a plus."

Bill 86 is "necessary" because \$2 billion of the education budget is controlled by commissioners elected by so few people. About 17 per cent of the Anglo community voted in the November 2014 elections with 48 per cent of the seats acclaimed.

Lastly, the Bill is "much-needed" because it scraps Executive Committees - the home of school board secrecy, the menace to democracy.

In this high-tech communications era, rather than fight for a few school commissioners' jobs, it would be more productive for the QCGN to do battle for improving health and social services for Anglo seniors.

And while we're at it, let's go to war concerning school tax bills.

In some Quebec areas, homeowners affiliated with English school boards find themselves paying a higher tax rate than their neighbours associated with French school boards.

QCGN: Be fair-minded. Fight for the mainstream of the Quebec Anglo community.

CHRIS EUSTACE