

Sherbrooke council calls in the mediators

By Jack Wilson
Local Journalism Initiative

Sherbrooke's city council is getting outside help to address what many are calling a difficult work environment. The council passed Rock Forest councillor Annie Godbout's motion calling for an outside mediator Feb. 20. The Commission municipale du Québec will be in charge of the mediation process. Godbout said she decided to draft the motion following suggestions from Sherbrooke mayor Évelyne Beaudin that the tension on council would be here to stay. "It isn't right for us to stay in this situation for two years. For me, the mayor needs to bring people together and make compromises," Godbout said. "This is an unacceptable position for the mayor." Godbout cited councillor Marc Denault's resignation as Société de transport de Sherbrooke president as an example of poor relationships on council. Denault had cited exclusion from a meeting with provincial Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility Geneviève Guilbault as the reason for his departure. He had charged that the mayor's chief of staff lied when he said the exclusion had come at Guilbault's request. "That wasn't fun," Godbout said. She also mentioned a "very difficult climate" for now former citizen participation secretary Néné Oularé. Oularé left her post as part of a confidential agreement with the City of Sherbrooke. She had previously charged that Beaudin had discredited and tried to control her. Godbout said Beaudin has also been overly critical of fellow councillors who have opposed her on certain votes. She said

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Thirty years of volunteering with the CABMN income tax program for Rick Fergusson



COURTESY

Kenneth Wraight, Richard Fergusson, Monique Lasnier and Jennifer McGeean- missing from photo, Carmen Aubin)

By Mable Hastings

The Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) serving the western sector of the MRC Memphremagog is proud to recognize the efforts of one of its steadfast volunteers, Richard

Fergusson who has been a volunteer with the CABMN income tax service benefitting low income couples and individuals for over 30 years. Richard (Rick) Fergusson who was also a devoted and committed volunteer with the Ken Jones Respite program for persons with intellectual

and physical disabilities for many years through the CABMN is a man of many talents and numbers is also one of them. Rick started doing the income tax service in 1994 in Potton completing taxes for persons in other

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