



## PRESS RELEASE

### **A Step Forward Towards the Establishment of an Ecocenter Network!**

**Lachute, September 10, 2009** – The MRC d'Argenteuil has reached a new stage towards the establishment of an ecocenter network on its territory. Indeed, the project has been filed with the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et des Parcs (MDDEP) in order to obtain the requisite authorizations. "This project always figures amongst the priority issues of the MRC d'Argenteuil" has confirmed the MRC d'Argenteuil's Warden, Mr. Daniel Beaulieu.

As soon as the current or future council of the MRC receives an answer from the government authorities, it will ensure that the subsequent steps are taken towards the establishment of these equipments, and this in accordance with the Residual Materials Management Plan (RMMP) of the MRC d'Argenteuil and the targets of the Québec Residual Materials Management Policy.

Mr. Scott Pearce, mayor of the municipality of Gore and president of the MRC's Advisory committee on the environment (ACE), reminds us that "the first objective of this ecocenter network is to allow each and every citizen of the entire MRC territory to contribute to the environmental improvement by promoting the recycling and by reducing the residual materials in landfills".

This request to the MDDEP was preceded by the deposit, last spring, of a report, realized by the engineering consultant firm BPR, that allowed to identify the essential parameters for the accomplishment of this regional mega-project. The parameters identified are: the types of acceptable residual materials in landfills; an estimate of the quantities that are potentially recyclable; and a proposal of a preliminary land-use plan.

Let us recall that it is following a feasibility study, conducted by the Cycle environment firm, that the MRC's council endorsed by resolution, in June 2008, the scenario recommended by the ACE aiming for the establishment of a central ecocenter in Lachute as well as three satellite ecocenters in the municipalities of Grenville, Gore and Harrington. A coordinating committee, made up of elected officials and representatives of the concerned municipalities, was formed to supervise the network implementation stages.

With respect to the RMMP adopted in June 2003, the MRC d'Argenteuil has kept the establishment of an ecocenter network as a strategic means of action to promote the reuse, the recovery and the reclaiming of residual materials generated on the territory and as a result to reduce the tonnage in the landfill.

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