

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
BROME-MISSISQUOI MRC
TOWN OF LAC-BROME**

BY-LAW NUMBER 2024-05

**BY-LAW FOR THE CLEANING OF
WATERCRAFTS ON BROME LAKE**

- WHEREAS the introduction of aquatic invasive species into a water body can have considerable social, ecological and economic repercussions.
- WHEREAS Brome Lake is a collective treasure to be protected.
- WHEREAS Brome Lake attracts a large number of tourists, with more than 1,500 motorboats sailing the lake each summer, and that more than 50% of boaters come from outside the Municipality.
- WHEREAS the Town of Brome Lake has been committed to a boat cleaning process since 2022 by becoming the owner of the Mobile boat cleaning station and that the Town council deems it appropriate to oversee the boat cleaning process.
- WHEREAS according to a report published in 2022, Brome Lake presents a moderate risk for the introduction of zebra mussels.
- WHEREAS zebra mussel contamination of lakes Memphrémagog and Massawippi increases the risk of introduction into Brome Lake, given their proximity and the fact that many boats navigate between the different bodies of water.
- WHEREAS motorized watercraft are recognized vectors of aquatic invasive species.
- WHEREAS cleaning boats is a recognized decontamination method for preventing the introduction of aquatic invasive species into lakes.
- WHEREAS a notice of motion was given by Mr. Lee Patterson at the regular meeting of April 2, 2024;

CONSEQUENTLY, THE COUNCIL DECREES AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE

PREAMBLE

The preamble and appendices form an integral part of the present by-law.

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE OF THE REGULATION

The purpose of this by-law is to require the washing of boats, accessories and trailers launched in Brome Lake, and to regulate the procedure, in order to prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive species, and to preserve the uses and biodiversity of the lake.

ARTICLE 3 AREA OF APPLICATION

This by-law applies to Brome Lake and the six main tributaries of the lake (Pearson Creek, Cold Creek, Argyll Creek, Quilliams Creek, Inverness Creek, McLaughlin Creek) in their portion flowing on the territory of the Municipality.

ARTICLE 4 DEFINITIONS

Unless the context indicates otherwise:

"Washing certificate": Official document certifying that the Craft in question has been cleaned at a specific time. The document must show at least the identity of the owner, the description and, if applicable, the license number of the Craft, the date and time of issue, and the period of validity of the Certificate.

"Boat": Any "motorized boat" and "non-motorized boat".

"Motorized craft": Any craft equipped with a mechanical means of propulsion powered by an energy source.

"Non-motorized watercraft": any watercraft without mechanical propulsion powered by an energy source, such as canoes, kayaks, pedalos, paddleboards, sailboards and hoverboards.

"Aquatic invasive species": An aquatic plant, animal or micro-organism introduced outside its natural range that colonizes new sites or regions, and therefore establishment and spread may pose a threat to the environment, the economy or society.

"Mooring tenant": Anyone who moors his or her boat around Brome Lake at a marina or mooring site and shows proof of rental for the current year.

"Marina": A tourist complex comprising the marina and surrounding facilities, including Knowlton Marina, Camping Domaine des Érables and Club nautique du lac Brome.

"Municipality": Town of Brome Lake.

"Cleaning": The action of washing a Boat, including engines, trailer, accessories and compartments likely to contain or accumulate water at a Boat Cleaning Station before launching. Cleaning is carried out using a pressure washer and hot water to dislodge all organic matter and organisms likely to contaminate Brome Lake.

"**Anyone**" means any physical or legal entity.

"**Resident**": Anyone domiciled in the Municipality or who owns an immovable.

"**Boat cleaning station**" means a physical facility set up for the purpose of cleaning boats before they are launched, the location of which is designated and recognized by the municipal council. To be recognized by the Municipality, the Station, whether operated or autonomous, must be able to issue a Washing Certificate following the cleaning of a Boat.

"**User**": Anyone using or owning a boat on Brome Lake and its tributaries, or destined to be on Brome Lake and its tributaries.

"**Drainage**": Action of draining water from watercrafts that access Brome Lake. This includes all water-carrying compartments, such as bilges, livewells, ballast tanks and engines. Drainage must be carried out more than 30 m from a water body, using a decontamination method recognized by the Quebec government.

"**Sticker**": Sticker issued by the Municipality attesting to the resident status of the owner of the boat.

ARTICLE 5 AND 5.1 OBLIGATIONS BEFORE LAUNCHING A BOAT

Before launching a boat on Brome Lake or its tributaries, each User, subject to the exemption for Residents and Mooring tenants in Article 6, must clean the boat at a cleaning station recognized by the Municipality, and obtain a valid cleaning certificate. Cleaning must include the engine, trailer, accessories and any compartment likely to contain or accumulate water.

Users of motorized watercraft must drain the water contained in the watercraft before launching it, at a distance of more than 30 metres from a water, a ditch, storm water system or the Municipality's sewer system.

5.1 Launching

No person may launch or permit the launching of a boat from private property or from any other location, whether private, public or commercial, without first having it cleaned in accordance with the conditions set out in the present by-law and without having obtained a valid Certificate of Washing.

ARTICLE EXEMPTION: OBLIGATIONS FOR RESIDENTS AND MOORING TENANTS

All Residents or Mooring tenants are exempt from the obligations described in articles 5 and 5.1 if their Boat has not been launched on another water body since its last use. To benefit from this exemption, the Resident or Mooring Tenant must have a sticker valid for the current year and have signed the Engagement for owners of watercrafts (Annexe 1 of this by-law) .

ARTICLE WASHING CERTIFICATE

All Users, subject to the exemption for Residents and Mooring Tenants in article 8, must obtain a Washing Certificate prior to launching their Boat.

7.1 Obtainment

To obtain a Washing Certificate, all Users must:

- a) Inspect, clean and dry your boat, including accessories and trailer, at a cleaning station recognized by the Municipality;
- b) Drain water from your boat, engines and compartments;
- c) Pay, if applicable, the fees for the Washing certificate provided for in the By-law decreeing the rates for the financing of certain goods and services for the year 2024 or subsequent years.

7.2 Contents

The Certificate of washing (Annex 2 of these regulations) certifies that the boat, engines, accessories and trailer have been washed according to the applicable rules and indicates at least the following :

- a) The owner's identity;
- b) Permit number, if applicable, and description of the boat;
- c) The date and time of issue of the Certificate;
- d) The validity period of the Certificate;
- e) The signature of the Boat cleaning Station attendant, if applicable;
- f) The identification of the Boat Cleaning station.

7.3 Validity

The Washing Certificate is valid for 24 hours. It expires when the boat leaves the lake.

7.4 Possession

For control purposes, a Washing Certificate must remain accessible at all times. No one may use a Washing Certificate with any other Craft than the one for which the Certificate was issued.

ARTICLE

STICKER - FOR RESIDENTS AND MOORING TENANTS

Any resident or mooring tenant owning a boat and wishing to navigate on Brome Lake must hold a Sticker supplied by the Municipality. This must be affixed to the glass or hull at the front of the boat so that it is visible at all times.

The Sticker allows residents and tenants to moor:

- i) to be exempted from the obligation to obtain a Washing Certificate;
- ii) the right to have the boat washed free of charge at the Cleaning Station.

8.1 Obtainment

Any resident or mooring tenant wishing to obtain a Sticker must complete the Sticker application form for watercraft (Appendix 3 of this by-law) and pay the fees set out in the By-law decreeing the rates for the financing of certain goods and services for the year 2024 or subsequent years. To do so, please contact Town Hall reception or visit the Town's website.

In order to properly assess eligibility for Resident and Moor status, the applicant must provide the attached additional information:

- a) Resident:

- A piece of identification
 - A document showing a match between the name of the resident and his or her address in Town of Brome Lake (example: copy of tax bill);
 - Where applicable, the license number of the concerned motorboat, and the name and address shown on the license.
- b) Mooring tenant :
- Photo ID and address;
 - Proof of rental at a marina or other location (example: rental lease) valid for the current year. The rental period must be indicated. The proof must indicate the license number of the boat;
 - Where applicable, the license number of the concerned motorboat, and the name and address shown on the license.

8.2 Replacing a boat

A Sticker will be issued free of charge to an owner of a Watercraft who already has a Sticker for the current year, if he or she demonstrates that his or her Watercraft has been replaced.

ARTICLE APPLICATION OF THE REGULATION

The municipal council authorizes by resolution any designated person to issue statements of offence for this purpose. Such notices may be served at the time of or after the commission of the offence.

ARTICLE OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

Any person who contravenes or allows the contravention of the present by-law commits an offence and is liable, in addition to the applicable fees, to a fine of \$200 if the offender is a natural person, or to a fine of \$400 if the offender is a legal entity.

In the case of a repeat offence, within two years of conviction for the same offence, the offender is liable, in addition to the costs for each offence, to a fixed fine of \$400 if the offender is a physical person, or a fixed fine of \$800 if the offender is a legal entity.

ARTICLE COMING INTO FORCE

These regulations shall come into force in accordance with the law.

Richard Burcombe
Mayor

M^e Owen Falquero, LL. B J.D
Clerk

Follow-up:
 Notice of motion: April 2, 2024
 Project presentation: April 2, 2024
 Project submission: April 2, 2024
 Adoption of regulations: May 6, 2024
 Public notice: May 29, 2024
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 COMING INTO FORCE: May 29, 2024