



Press Release
For immediate release

41 Brome-Missisquoi projects approved by the Rural Pact Nearly \$385,000 for regional development

Cowansville, January 30, 2012 – This year the Brome-Missisquoi MRC is investing nearly \$385,000 of its Rural Pact in 41 projects from non-profit organizations and municipalities in its territory. The projects being financed are varied and touch on various sectors including tourism, culture, the environment and economic development.

For example, the Rural Pact is supporting the development of an agricultural land bank, a project that encourages access to land for young farmers and ensures that land that is not fully utilized doesn't remain uncultivated. The Rural Pact is also contributing to the new face of the museum display of Hodge's Store and the last phase of the startup of the Sutton en Haut cooperative, which operates a cross-country ski trail network and the Arbre Sutton high ropes course.

For a second year in a row, the MRC has set aside an amount of \$50,000 for the development of strategic development plans for the municipalities.

An agreement signed in 2007 with the Ministère des affaires municipales, des régions et de l'occupation du territoire (MAMROT) stipulates that the Rural Pact is to inject \$3 million over seven years for Brome-Missisquoi's development and the dynamic use of its territory.

This innovative fund, which functions on a bottom to top principle, responds to the development needs of the community. So far the Brome-Missisquoi Rural Pact has supported the creation of more than 200 projects that have generated investments equivalent to four times the amount invested.

The next call for projects will be held in the fall of 2012. Organizations interested in making a request can contact Tania Szymanski, Rural Development and Social Economy Advisor, at tszymanski@cldbmq.ca or at 450-266-4928, extension 281

For a complete list of projects being financed in 2012 and for previous years, go to www.mrcbm.qc.ca under the heading "Rural Pact."

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