

Municipal Affairs

Gouvernement du Québec

O.C. 178-2002, 28 February 2002

Amalgamation of Municipalité de Northfield, Village de Gracefield and Canton de Wright

WHEREAS each of the municipal councils of Municipalité de Northfield, Village de Gracefield and Canton de Wright adopted a by-law authorizing the filing of a joint application with the Government requesting that it constitute a local municipality through the amalgamation of the two municipalities under the Act respecting municipal territorial organization (R.S.Q., c. O-9);

WHEREAS a copy of the joint application was sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal;

WHEREAS no objections were sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal;

WHEREAS, under section 108 of the aforementioned Act, it is expedient to grant the joint application;

IT IS ORDERED, therefore, upon the recommendation of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal:

THAT the application be granted and that a local municipality be constituted through the amalgamation of Municipalité de Northfield, Village de Gracefield and Canton de Wright, on the following conditions:

1. The name of the new town shall be “Ville de Wright-Gracefield Northfield”.

In conjunction with the first general election, a referendum shall be held, in accordance with section 517 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities (R.S.Q., c. E-2.2) to consult the qualified voters on the name to be given to the new municipality among the following: Ville de Wright, Ville de Gracefield, Ville de Northfield or any other name determined by the provisional council members. The elected council members shall, as soon as possible and in accordance with the Act respecting municipal territorial organization, apply to have the name changed so that the name chosen by referendum is attributed. The second paragraph of section 517 of the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities does not apply to the election held under this paragraph.

2. The description of the territory of the new town shall be the description drawn up by the Minister of Natural Resources on 6 December 2001; that description appears as a Schedule to this Order in Council.

3. The new town shall be governed by the Cities and Towns Act (R.S.Q., c. C-19).

4. The territory of municipalité régionale de comté de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau covers the territory of the former municipalities.

5. Until a majority of the candidates elected in the first general election takes office, the new town shall be administered by a provisional council made up of the council members of the former municipalities who were in office at the time of the coming into force of this Order in Council.

If a seat on the council of a former municipality is vacant upon the coming into force of this Order in Council or for each seat that becomes vacant thereafter, an additional vote on the provisional council shall be granted to the mayor of the municipality of origin of the council member whose seat has become vacant.

Should the vacant seat be that of the mayor, the mayor's votes shall be allotted to the councillor who was acting mayor of the same former municipality before the coming into force of this Order in Council; should that councillor's seat also be vacant, the votes shall be allotted to a provisional council member from that former municipality and designated by the other provisional council members from that former municipality.

6. Until the mayor elected in the first general election takes office and

(1) upon the coming into force of this Order in Council, the mayor of the former Canton de Wright, the mayor of the former Village de Gracefield and the mayor of the former Municipalité de Northfield shall alternate every month in that order as mayor of the new town;

(2) upon the coming into force of this Order in Council, the mayor of the former Municipalité de Northfield, the mayor of the former Canton de Wright and the mayor of the former Village de Gracefield shall alternate every month in that order as acting mayor of the new town.

Until the mayor elected in the first general election takes office, the mayors shall continue to sit on the council of Municipalité régionale de comté de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau and shall have the same number of votes as before the coming into force of this Order in Council. They shall continue to take part in the committees and carry out any other duties related to the regional county municipality.

A majority of the members in office at any time shall constitute the quorum for the provisional council meetings.

7. The first sitting of the provisional council shall be held at the Centre récréatif et communautaire Vallée-de-la-Gatineau.

8. The members of the provisional council shall continue to receive the same salary as before the amalgamation in their respective municipalities.

9. Jacques A. Bédard, secretary-treasurer of the former Municipalité de Northfield, shall act as the first clerk of the new town.

10. The first general election shall be held on 4 August 2002.

The second general election shall be held in 2005.

11. For the first general election and for any partial election held before the second general election, the only persons eligible for seats 1 and 2 are the persons who would be eligible under the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities if such an election were an election of the council members of the former Canton de Wright, the only persons eligible for seats 3 and 4 are the persons who would be eligible under that Act if such election were an election of the council members of the former Village de Gracefield and the only persons eligible for seats 5 and 6 are the persons who would be eligible under that Act if such election were an election of the council members of the former Municipalité de Northfield.

12. The terms and conditions for apportioning the cost of shared recreation services provided for in intermunicipal agreements shall apply until the end of the last fiscal year for which the former municipalities adopted separate budgets.

13. A municipal housing bureau shall be incorporated under the name of "Office municipal d'habitation de la Ville de Wright-Gracefield-Northfield". The name of the bureau may be changed the first time by a simple resolution of the board of directors within one year of its constitution. Notice of the name change must be sent to the Société d'habitation du Québec and published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

The municipal housing bureau shall succeed on the date of coming into force of this Order in Council to the municipal housing bureau of the former Village de Gracefield, which is dissolved. The third and fourth paragraphs of section 58 of the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec (R.S.Q., c. S-8) shall apply to the new municipal housing bureau as though it had been incorporated by letters patent under section 57 of that Act.

The bureau shall be administered by a board of directors formed of seven members. Three members shall be appointed by the council of Ville de Wright-Gracefield-Northfield, two elected by all the lessees of the bureau, in accordance with the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec and two shall be appointed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Greater Montréal, after consultation, from among the most representative socio-economic groups of the bureau's territory.

Until a majority of the candidates elected in the first general election takes office, the board members shall be the members of the former bureau.

The directors shall elect from among themselves a chair, vice-chair and any other officer they deem necessary to appoint.

The term of the board of directors is three years and is renewable. If their term expires, the board members shall remain in office until reappointed or replaced.

The quorum for the meetings shall be the majority of the members in office.

The directors may, from the coming into force of this Order in Council,

(1) secure loans on behalf of the bureau ;

(2) issue debentures or other securities of the bureau and use them as a guarantee or dispose of them for the price and amount deemed appropriate ;

(3) hypothecate or use as collateral the present or future immovables or movables of the bureau to ensure the payment of such debentures or other securities, or give only part of the guarantees for those purposes ;

(4) hypothecate the immovables and movables of the bureau or otherwise affect them, or give various types of surety, to ensure the payment of loans secured other than by the issue of debentures, as well as the payment or execution of other debts, contracts and commitments of the bureau ; and

(5) subject to the Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec, the regulations made under that Act and the directives issued by the Société, adopt any by-law deemed necessary or useful for the internal management of the bureau.

The employees of the bureau that has been dissolved shall become, without reduction in salary, employees of the bureau, and shall retain their seniority and fringe benefits.

Within fifteen days of their adoption, the bureau shall send to the Société d'habitation du Québec a certified true copy of the by-laws and resolutions appointing or dismissing a member or administrator.

14. If a budget was adopted by a former municipality for the fiscal year in which this Order in Council comes into force:

(1) the budget shall remain applicable;

(2) the expenditures and revenues of the new town, for the remaining part of the fiscal year in which this Order in Council comes into force, shall continue to be accounted for separately on behalf of each of the former municipalities as if the amalgamation had not taken place;

(3) an expenditure recognized by the council of the new town as resulting from the amalgamation shall be charged to the former municipality, based on its standardized property value in proportion to the total values of the former municipalities, as they appear on the financial statements of the former municipalities for the fiscal year preceding the year in which this Order in Council comes into force;

(4) the subsidy paid for the first year of the amalgamation under the Programme d'aide financière au regroupement municipal (PAFREM), after deducting the expenditures recognized by the council under paragraph 3 and financed by the subsidy, shall constitute a reserve to be paid into the general working fund of the new town for the first fiscal year for which it adopts a budget for the entire territory it covers; and

(5) if the new town receives an additional \$50 per inhabitant under the Programme d'aide financière au regroupement municipal (PAFREM), which corresponds to the population of the former Village de Gracefield, the amount shall be paid into the surplus accumulated on behalf of that former municipality.

15. Any surplus accumulated on behalf of a former municipality at the end of the last fiscal year for which the former municipalities adopted separate budgets shall

be used for the benefit of the ratepayers of the sector made up of the territory of the former municipality to carry out work in that sector or to repay any debt charged to the sector.

16. Any deficit accumulated on behalf of a former municipality at the end of the last fiscal year in which separate budgets were adopted shall continue to be charged to all the taxable immovables of the sector made up of the territory of the former municipality.

17. The annual repayment of the instalments in principal and interest of the loan made by the former Village de Gracefield under By-law 181 shall be charged to all the taxable immovables of the sector made up of the territory of the former municipality, in accordance with the tax clauses provided for in the by-law. The annual repayment of the instalments in principal and interest of the loan made by the former Municipalité de Northfield under by-laws 197 and 217 shall be charged to all the taxable immovables of the sector made up of the territory of the former municipality, in accordance with the tax clauses provided for in the by-laws.

If the new town decides to amend the tax clauses in accordance with the law, the amendments may only apply to the taxable immovables located in the sector made up of the territory of the former municipality that adopted the by-law.

If applicable, the available balance of all the loan by-laws referred to above shall be used for the annual repayment in principal and interest of the loans, or, if the negotiable instruments were issued for a shorter term that originally determined, they shall be used to reduce the balance of the loans.

18. For the first five fiscal years following the coming into force of this Order in Council, a tax rebate shall be credited to all the taxable immovables of the sector made up of the territory of the former Canton de Wright and the former Municipalité de Northfield, based on the values that appear on the assessment roll in effect each year.

Following the amalgamation, the tax rebate shall be,

for the first year, \$0.25 per \$100 assessment;

for the second year, \$0.20 per \$100 assessment;

for the third year, \$0.15 per \$100 assessment;

for the fourth year, \$0.10 per \$100 assessment;

for the fifth year, \$0.05 per \$100 assessment.

19. The second sentence of the second paragraph and the third and fourth paragraphs of section 126, the second paragraph of section 127, sections 128 to 133, the second and third paragraphs of section 134 and sections 135 to 137 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (R.S.Q., c. A-19.1) do not apply to a by-law adopted by the new town in order to replace all the zoning and subdivision by-laws applicable to the territory of the new town by a new zoning by-law and a new subdivision by-law applicable to the entire territory of the new town respectively, provided that such a by-law comes into force within four years of the coming into force of this Order in Council.

Such a by-law shall be approved, in accordance with the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities, by the qualified voters of the entire territory of the new town.

Such regulation must be approved in accordance with the Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities by the qualified voters of the entire territory of the new town.

20. Any debt or gain that may result from legal proceedings for any act performed by a former municipality before the coming into force of this Order in Council shall continue to be charged or credited to all the taxable immovables of the sector made up of the territory of the former municipality.

For the first five years following the coming into force of this Order in Council, any proceeds from the sale of an asset belonging to a former municipality shall be paid into the surplus accumulated on behalf of the former municipality.

21. This Order in Council shall come into force on the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

JEAN ST-GELAIS,
Clerk of the Conseil exécutif

SCHEDULE

OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LIMITS OF THE TERRITORY OF VILLE DE WRIGHT-GRACEFIELD-NORTHFIELD IN MUNICIPALITÉ RÉGIONALE DE COMTÉ DE LA VALLÉE-DE-LA-GATINEAU

The territory of the new Ville de Wright-Gracefield-Northfield, in Municipalité régionale de comté de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, following the amalgamation of the Canton de Wright, Municipalité de Northfield and Village de Gracefield, in Municipalité régionale de comté

de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau, includes all the lots of the cadastres of the townships of Blake, Northfield, Wright and Village de Gracefield, lines of communication, hydrographic and topographic features, built-up lots and the parts thereof within the perimeter starting at the apex of the northeastern angle of Lot 57 of Rang 5 of the cadastre of Canton de Blake and running along, successively, the following lines and demarcations: southerly, the dividing line between ranges 5 and 4 of the cadastre of Canton de Blake, that line crossing several lakes that it meets; westerly, successively, part of the southern line of the cadastre of Canton de Blake crossing Baie Bertrand in Lac Pemichangan, the southern line of the cadastre of Canton de Northfield across Lac Heney and extending through Rivière Gatineau, then the southern line of the cadastre of Canton de Wright, the latter crossing Route 105, the railway (Lot 59 of the said cadastre), Rivière Picanoc and the secondary roads that it meets; northerly, the dividing line between the cadastres of the townships of Wright and Dorion; easterly, part of the dividing line between the cadastres of the townships of Wright and Bouchette to the dividing line between ranges 7 and 6 and the former cadastre, that line crossing the Lac des îles that it meets; in reference to the cadastre of Canton de Wright, southerly, part of the dividing line between the said ranges extended into Lac Profond to the westerly extension of the northern line of Lot 55 of Rang 6; easterly, the said extension and the northern line of the said lot; southerly, part of the dividing line between ranges 6 and 5 to the southern line of Lot 53 of Rang 5; easterly, the southern line of the said lot, that line extended through Lac Perreault that it meets; northerly, the dividing line between ranges 4 and 5 to the northern line of Lot 4 of Rang 4; easterly, the northern line of the said lot, that line crossing the railway (Lot 60 of the said cadastre); northerly, the western shore of Lac du Castor Blanc to the northern line of the said cadastre; easterly, successively, part of the northern line of the said cadastre and its extension to the centre line of Rivière Gatineau, that line crossing, in its first section, Route 105 that it meets; southerly, the centre line of the said river downstream and skirting to the left the islands closest to the right bank and to the right the islands closest to the left bank to the westerly extension of the northern line of Lot 51 of Rang 3 of the cadastre of Canton de Northfield; in reference to that cadastre, easterly, the said extension and the said lot line, that line extended, in its last section, across Chemin de Bouchette that it meets; northerly, part of the dividing line between ranges 4 and 3 to the dividing line between the cadastres of the townships of Northfield and Cameron; easterly, part of the broken line dividing the cadastres of the townships of Northfield and Blake from the cadastre of Canton de Cameron to the apex of the southeastern angle of Lot 1 of Rang 6 of the cadastre of Canton de Cameron situated on the west bank of Baie Malone;

northeasterly, a straight line across the said bay, passing north of île 21 and île 22 of Lac des Trente et Un Milles of the cadastre of Canton de Cameron to the east bank of Baie Malone; in a general southerly direction, the east bank of the said bay to the southernmost point of Lot A of Rang 6 of the cadastre of Canton de Cameron; into Lac des Trente et Un Milles, easterly, a straight line to the southernmost point of île à la Croix, that is, facing the centre of île 39 of Lac des Trente et Un Milles of the cadastre of Canton de Blake; successively, easterly and northerly, the southern and eastern borders of the said island to a straight line on a bearing of $220^{\circ}00'$, originating from the meeting point of the east bank of Lac des Trente et Un Milles with the northern line of Lot 57 of Rang 5 of the cadastre of Canton de Blake; northeasterly, in Lac des Trente et Un Milles, the said straight line; finally, easterly, the northern line of Lot 57 of Rang 5 of the cadastre of the said township to the starting point.

The directions are astronomical azimuths in reference to the local meridian.

Ministère des Ressources naturelles
Direction de l'information foncière sur le territoire public
Division de l'arpentage foncier

Charlesbourg, December 6, 2001

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