



PRESS RELEASE

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Deer Situation in Michel-Chartrand Park

Longueuil, July 28, 2021 — In light of the data made public on the number of deer in the Michel-Chartrand Park, the mayoral candidate for Longueuil Citoyen, Jean-Marc Léveillé, reiterates his desire to see the emergence of alternative solutions to the slaughter of deer. According to observations from members of the *Amis du parc* and the *Sauvetage Animal Rescue* organization, there are now 50 to 70 deer, compared to around 30 last year.

“Many people know of my commitment to the animal cause. The citizens of Longueuil will therefore not be surprised to learn that animal welfare will be my top priority when it comes to white-tailed deer in Michel-Chartrand Park. A file that I intend to settle in the first weeks if I am elected mayor of Longueuil. In this context, I would like the working table to focus on alternatives to slaughter as a priority, and this fairly quickly. There are avenues that have never been evaluated”, said Jean-Marc Léveillé.

Broaden the white-tailed deer debate

The mayoral candidate also suggests broadening the debate now so that citizens, organizations and experts can transparently discuss alternatives to deer slaughter. For him, the working table has a role to play and he intends to give it the necessary time to make its recommendations to the elected officials.

“As Councillor Colette Éthier quite rightly pointed out last April, considering that the overpopulation of deer in urban areas is a complex issue that arouses passions among several groups with very varied interests, the development of a strategy should not be a closed process. It is crucial that the process be as open and transparent as possible by involving citizens from the start”, continued Jean-Marc Léveillé.

The latter therefore intends to conduct special consultations on the subject with citizens, experts and organizations in the coming weeks. “We absolutely have to be proactive this time around and avoid the mistakes and unfortunate excesses of last year, when many felt that they were faced with a *fait accompli*. I come to municipal politics to listen to citizens: it starts now”, added the mayoral candidate for Longueuil Citoyen.

“We are in July 2021 and the problem has persisted for more than 8 years in Longueuil. We have to be proactive and ask our experts to think outside the box and draw inspiration from experiences in other provinces or countries”, concluded Jean-Marc Léveillé.

Let us recall that on November 18, 2020, only the elected officials of Longueuil Citoyen voted against the slaughter of half of the white-tailed deer in Michel-Chartrand Park.

Jean-Marc Léveillé in brief:

Founder of several successful organizations, including *Dotemtex Recherche de Cadres*, *Elitis Pharma INC.*, *PROSYGMA Services professionnels en maintenance et fiabilité* and cofounder of *Services Animaliers de la Rive-Sud* (Proanima). He was CEO of the Orchestre symphonique de Longueuil (OSDL) and President of Anima-Québec until May 2021. He was also President of the organizing committee for funding of the Carrefour pour Elle organization.