



New intermunicipal civil security agreement and implementation of a new automated alert system

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For immediate release

Yesterday, on January 22, the Town of Pincourt and the municipalities of Très-Saint-Rédempteur and Pointe-Fortune reached an intermunicipal agreement on civil security. This agreement proposes an innovative approach that will enable each municipality to comply with the Civil Security Act and its related regulations, ensuring a planned, adapted, and coordinated response to real or imminent disasters within their respective communities.

"This intermunicipal civil security initiative represents a significant step forward in collaboration, resource sharing, and mobilization, underscoring our unwavering commitment to the protection of our population," says Claude Comeau, Mayor of Pincourt.

The agreement includes, among other things, integrated governance, the hiring of a civil security manager, and the establishment of a real-time monitoring system (VIGIE) for extreme weather events. It also involves the development of a multi-municipal civil security plan, which will include specific intervention plans, a training plan tailored to the local context, simulations for elected officials and employees, as well as an awareness and risk communication plan for the population. This agreement also proposes the pooling of real estate, material, and human resources to reduce costs for each of the municipal organizations. It includes the allocation of costs for the civil security manager, the mass alert system (OMNIalert), as well as monitoring and forecasting services for hydroclimatic hazards (Hydro Météo).

"The municipality of Pointe-Fortune was seeking a partner municipality in civil security that would share its vision – namely, vigilance during periods of extreme weather events, communicating to our citizens the importance of civil security issues and the need to prepare for them, and being associated with a dedicated team whose expertise in this matter is well-established. We found this with the Town of Pincourt.

I would like to sincerely thank Mayor Claude Comeau and the members of the municipal council of the Town of Pincourt for their openness and understanding during our negotiations. I also want to express my gratitude to Mayor Julie Lemieux of the Municipality of Très-Saint-Rédempteur, with whom we shared the same concerns regarding civil security and with whom we worked to reach this agreement," declares Mr. François Bélanger, Mayor of Pointe-Fortune.

A multi-municipal approach that stands out

The agreement between Pincourt, Très-Saint-Rédempteur, and Pointe-Fortune includes a multi-municipal committee responsible for planning. This committee will consist of elected officials and the general



management of the signing municipalities, offering guidance based on the four dimensions of civil security (Prevention, Preparation, Intervention, Recovery).

The increasing frequency of weather-related disasters requires additional measures to meet, inform, support, and empower citizens regarding the necessary actions to address disasters. The alliance between the three cities will support this new reality and share the responsibility for civil security.

"The safety of our citizens has always been a top priority for the Municipality of Très-Saint-Rédempteur. This new collaboration reinforces this commitment and will help advance the civil security initiative with qualified and experienced individuals who share the same goal, especially considering the increasing number of weather-related events causing disasters in recent years," emphasizes Julie Lemieux, Mayor of the Municipality of Très-Saint-Rédempteur.

Inevitably, efforts and planning initiatives for fire safety and public safety will be integrated. This new synergy among different stakeholders and the implementation of solutions are unique and cutting-edge.

The mass alert system

In the coming weeks, significant efforts will be made to integrate citizen contact information into this new system, held by each municipality. Citizens will soon be able to subscribe to this system, and details will be disseminated on the website of each organization. Stay tuned!

It's worth noting that this automated system can reach the population by phone, email, and text messaging; and it can also, through mapping and geomatic tools, target a specific area or even properties in a given sector. Importantly, the automated calling system will only be used if the safety of people and property is threatened by a real or imminent disaster. Furthermore, the confidential data hosted in the system is protected in accordance with the provisions of the Act modernizing legislative provisions regarding the protection of personal information in the private sector (Act 25).

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