



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **A Unifying Event for the Benefit of Pontiac Citizens**

**Campbell's Bay, November 16, 2018** - The *2018 Pontiac Forum on Social and Community Development* came to a successful close today, having brought together no less than 125 people from different sectors of the Pontiac and Outaouais region.

*"Our goal of bringing together our local and regional partners at this important event for our communities has been achieved,"* said Janie Landry, president of the Pontiac Social Development Table (TDSP), speaking on behalf of the TDSP and the Pontiac Community Development Corporation (CDCP).

Speeches by MP William Amos, MRC Pontiac Warden, Jane Toller, and CISSS Outaouais CEO, Benoît Gauthier, kicked off the event. MP André Fortin spoke in the afternoon.

Then, guest speaker, Denis Marion, mayor of the Municipality of Massueville, president of the Quebec Network of Healthy Cities and Towns, and vice-president of the Quebec National Institute for Public Health (INSPQ), followed with a talk on how the work of municipal elected representatives had evolved in recent years. *"The citizens who elect them understand that quality of life in their community largely depends on decisions made at the municipal level, the decision level that is closest to them,"* said Marion.

His remarks provided the basis for an afternoon activity during which participants were asked to reflect on how organisations can best work with elected representatives in community development projects. It was agreed that to implement the five action areas in the *2018-2023 Action Plan for Social and Community development* presented at the Forum, the involvement of all stakeholders and the commitment of elected representatives would be essential.

The 2018 Forum was a joint CDCP/TDSP initiative made possible thanks to our financial partners: *CISSS de l'Outaouais, Travail, Emploi et Solidarité sociale Québec, the Concertation pour de saines habitudes de vie en Outaouais, the SADC Pontiac and Heritage Canada.* We would also like to thank our sponsors: the *Pontiac Chamber of Commerce, MRC Pontiac, and Pontiac MNA, André Fortin.*

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