



## Winter Update 2017-2018

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Well the summer and fall of 2017 are now behind us and it's been another great season of golf that I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy.

This was a year of transition as the first year for our new Superintendent, Chris Hart and the last for Diana Minty as our Operations Manager. Diana has been in her role for the last 15 years. Her contributions and passion towards the Club's success are immeasurable and on behalf of the Board and entire membership, I thank her and wish her a well-deserved retirement. I would also like to personally thank Ingrid Gratz for her efforts in leading the transition process. Diana will be succeeded by Stephanie Logothetis who will handle bookkeeping and Catherine Spaulding as Operations Manager.

Now that Winter has officially arrived, I wanted to keep you informed about the 2018 priorities on which the Board will be focusing their efforts. As the big issue that remains outstanding is the Club House Improvement Project, most this update will be from the report from that Committee. This has been a monumental effort and I would like to thank Lynn Palmer for leading this project and John Vanstone, Stan Roy, Rod Armstrong and Andrea Minty for their hours of dedication and time.

### **The Board:**

We have some directorship change on the Board. Scott Laekas is stepping aside as Member At Large Director and Scott Macleod has accepted the nomination to replace him. A big thank you to Scott for all your help in making the events at the Club a success this past year.

After 6 years of exemplary work, Kate Tindale will be resigning from the Secretary Director position. On behalf of all the Board Members I would like to thank Kate for her tireless work to keep the administrative side of the Board in tip top shape over the past 6 years, your efforts did not go unnoticed! Andrea Minty has accepted the nomination for Secretary Director. Pierre Demers has accepted the nomination for Vice President and Peter Parsons has accepted the nomination for House Director. Lastly, I will be replacing Lynn Palmer as Past President and Michael Fehr is nominated to be the next President of DCC. These nominations will be voted upon at the AGM next spring.

## Greens:

Our top priority this year was to improve the quality of our greens and I believe that Chris Hart, Rhys Berry, Bobby Latimer and Bradley Macleod have done an exceptional job of bringing this plan together. We will continue to invest in equipment and provide Chris and his team the necessary resources to continue their outstanding work to improve play on the course. As well, thanks to Alan Morton for your leadership and planning.

## Social :

This year has been another outstanding year by the Social Committee in making Dunany more than just a place to play golf.

A big thank you to Jamie Armstrong and all members that donated their time this past year, keeping the Club House busy. This year was our first-year venturing into lawn bowling. Jamie has bigger and better plans for this new Dunany sport in 2018, stay tuned!

If you are interested in helping with the Social Committee in 2018, please let Jamie know.

## Club House Improvement Report:

### Club House Renovation Project – Fall Update

**Executive Summary** – A lot has happened since our Information sessions this summer. At a meeting with the Mayor in September, we learnt that the By-Laws had changed and that we would need a Quebec Certified Architect to approve our plans, as well as an RBQ certified contractor and unionized labour for any commercial construction. In addition, we discovered that we could possibly get up to 80% funding from the Province if we were to be a 4-season Emergency Measures facility. We are working to ensure that we have all the right information and costing in place, prior to making a decision on how best to proceed. We will have more information in the Spring. Further details are below. Background information and options presented this summer can be found on the DCC Website at:

<http://www.dunanycountryclub.com/clubhouse-renovation>

**Detailed Update** - We held three (3) **DCC Information Sessions on July 25, 27 and September 4**, the last of which gathered the most attendance. Thank you to everyone that participated. At the sessions we asked people to fill out a Feedback Form to rate and get comments on the different options presented, based on the data available at the time. A summary of the comments was done and presented to the Board for the Board meeting on September 30. The results were as follows:

### DCC Information Sessions – July 25, 27 and Sept 4, 2017

#### Summary Table

Options/Rating	1 – 4 Low	5-6 Mid	7 – 10 High	Total Number	% rated highly
1	6	6	7	19	36.8%
2	4	6	11	21	52.4%

<b>3</b>	4	2	15	21	71.4%
<b>4</b>	4	2	16	22	72.7%

- Over 60 members attended the sessions and 24 Feedback forms were received; not all checked all the boxes; 3 people wrote separate letters or emails
- Seems to be a **higher preference for options 3 & 4** (72.7% prefer option 4)
- Those that preferred 4 noted the better aesthetic, that it solved a lot of our problems and was forward thinking
- Those that preferred 1 & 2 question the need for something bigger and voiced concern about what a more elaborate renovation would do to the culture of ‘volunteerism’
- Need to be sensitive to the fact that not all people can contribute to the same extent
- Some suggestions will be looked at in the future:
  - The balcony closest to the BBQ area may not be ideal
  - Access to loading things in and out of kitchen is lessened
  - Some people interested in getting involved in final kitchen design
  - There may be benefit to becoming a 4-season ‘Emergency Measures’ facility
- A design was subsequently submitted which puts forward an option of not investing in the existing facility, but to build a totally new one if we want to have something 4-season. This has been referred to the Architect (see below) for consideration.

Another suggestion from the Information Sessions was to develop a larger “**Survey**” of Membership to get broader feedback. Andrea Minty and I did quite a lot of work in September to have a draft Survey available for the Board to review. However, as new information has come to light (see below), we have put the Survey on hold until we have all the pieces together for feedback and decision making.

Stan Roy, Rod Armstrong, from our Building Committee, Michael Fehr, DCC, VP and I met with Jason Morrison, Wentworth Mayor and Nathalie Black, General Manager on **September 25**. We learnt that there may be an opportunity for different levels of funding through a program entitled FDT – **Fonds aux Développement du Territoire** and that new criteria would be coming out in the December/January timeframe. Through these funds we could possibly get up to 80% of the costs of the renovation if we were to look at becoming a 4-season “**Emergency Measures Facility**”. Being a “Emergency Measures Facility” involves being a 4-season building, having a shower and a generator. We would need to be able to accommodate around 50 people from the community in the event of a disaster. They recommended that we develop proposals so that we could be at the top of the list when the FDT opened.

We also learned that we **needed a Certified Quebec Architect** and that we would require a **Unionized RBQ contractor** and unionized employees. Our prior costing estimates were developed internally and based on a 3-season facility using a combination of union/non-union resources. At the Sept. 30 Board meeting, we decided to move forward to find an Architect asap.

**On October 10**, Stan Roy, John Vanstone (our in-house resident volunteer architect) and I met with Todd Richards from Grenier & Richards Architecture, one of the Architects that was recommended by Jason Morrison. He is familiar with the area and actively involved in the Lake

Marois community as President and was involved in their Social Center. He has also done work at Louisa. Todd submitted his proposal on October 16 which was approved by the Executive Committee and the Board. By the end of January, the architect is to deliver:

- An “**Advanced Preliminary Design**” – for both a 3-season and a 4-season facility which would build on John’s plans and would consider any Code issues
- A **Preliminary Budget** for both a 3-season and 4-season facility reflecting unionized costing and ensuring we meet building code requirements

Rod Armstrong has subsequently looked into the requirements for **the Septic System**. He has worked with Michel Menard of Imausar Environnement from Saint-Jérôme. At this very initial stage, it would appear that aside from our base Option 1, the Provincial government would require multiple engineering studies (soil tests, flora survey, and some other evaluations) in order to approve a septic system. Rod received two proposals from Imausar on **November 3**. This work needs to proceed in the Spring. At a preliminary level, it looks like the \$25,000 that we had in the budget for a new septic tank, may be underestimated.

**Over the next few months**, we will be working on **funding proposals** that we can submit to the Municipality, to the MRC and subsequently to the Province in order to assess the feasibility of obtaining funding for our project. Louis and Jim Finch have volunteered to assist in this endeavour.

Ingrid Gratz our DCC Treasurer advises that these types of **costs can be capitalized** if we proceed with some form of construction. As such, the architect investment would not affect our Operating Statement for 2017.

From a **DCC Fundraising perspective**, our fundraising committee (Bob Percy, Rick Joyce, Cindy Aikman and I) has been working on getting the word out on this project. The universal feedback we have received from potential donors is that they want it to “be done right”. The fact that we will have raised money from the Community and invested in the project ourselves is looked at favourably when the various levels of government assess our proposals. As of the end of September, we **had over \$140,000 committed** from the community to making this happen.

Thanks to all those who have stepped forward to try to make this a reality.

**We are committed to keeping everyone advised of our progress as we move forward.**

Lynn Palmer  
Past President, DCC

## **Membership:**

Please join me in welcoming our newest members, welcome to Dunany Country Club!

Regular:

John Roach

Gail Robinson  
Caroline Melia

Introductory A:

Will Ovenden  
Michael McAlpine

Introductory B:

Frederick Castonguay  
Jean MacGibbon  
Shannon McNamara  
James Parris

Intermediate Sponsorship Program:

Ryan Watson

We have openings available for new members – if you know of anyone that might be interested in joining our community, please ask them to reach out to me (my contact information is below).

I'd also like to remind you about our sponsorship program which is an opportunity for members to sponsor (a limited number of) children of non-members (grandchild/niece/nephew/lake neighbour etc.) who are interested in making a commitment to the junior golf program. The program hopes to develop young golfers from the community who would make excellent future members. There's a program for ages under 16 and an intermediate level sponsorship for under 25 years old. Contact Trudy Dundas-Adams if you know of anyone that is interested.

## **Environment:**

We have a significant amount of forest on our property. Paul Wilson, our Environment Director has met with an independent forestry cooperative, Terra Bois (based out of Lachute) regarding the long-term health of the forest. Next year we will have our forest audited by a consultant team from Terra-Bois to develop an environmental plan for our forest. Paul will be providing an update once this has been completed.

## **Winter Activities:**

Cross-Country Skiing - As we did last year, we have an arrangement with the Municipality of Wentworth to keep our parking lot clear for those who want to cross-country ski on the course.

I would like to thank our Board Members for your efforts this year, it was a pleasure working with all of you. Many thanks to Diana Minty and our starters, Jessica Adams and Annalies Smith for all that you do to keep the Club running smoothly.

Your Board appreciates your suggestions and feedback is always welcome! Board member names are on the DCC website to address and arising questions you may have. The password

for the member login area on our web site is DCC1922 , a reminder that our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is only a few years away!

Lastly, thank you to all the volunteers for your tremendous efforts in making 2017 a success. Hope you have a prosperous winter, and I wish you and your families a Happy Holiday Season. See you when the snow melts!

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