



Resolution or
Notation No.

**Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of
Blanc-Sablon**

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON**

Minutes of the regular municipal council sitting of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon held on March 17th 2026, at the municipal hall in Blanc-Sablon at 7:00 p.m. under the chairmanship of the Mayor, Colin Shattler, and also present to form quorum:

The councillors: Dany Gaudreault
 Laurette Willcott
 Johanne V. Beaudoin

Karine Benoit, Director General of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon, was also present.

OPENING OF THE SITTING

The president of the assembly verified the quorum and declared the sitting opened at 7:01 p.m. after a minute of silence.

2026-041

READING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

WHEREAS the Mayor invited the Director General to read the proposed agenda;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Johanne V. Beaudoin**, seconded by **Laurette Willcott** and unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda as read.

AGENDA

1. **OPENING OF THE SITTING**
2. **READING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
3. **ADOPTION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON FEBRUARY 17TH 2026**
4. **DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE CHEQUES ISSUED AND THE NON-REDUCIBLE EXPENSES PAID DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026**
5. **DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE PAYABLES FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026**
6. **DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGETARY REPORTS, TRANSFERS, AND CREDIT COMMITMENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2026**
7. **DEPOSIT OF THE TAX ARREARS REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 28TH 2026**
8. **ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL FIRE SAFETY SERVICE**
9. **ADOPTION OF PROJECT BY-LAW NUMBER 2026-R-002 ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCTS OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS**
10. **ADOPTION OF PROJECT BY-LAW NUMBER 2026-R-003 ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCTS OF THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES**
11. **NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE PROJECT BY-LAW 2026-R-004 ESTABLISHING RULES FOR BUDGET CONTROL AND MONITORING**
12. **ADOPTION OF PROJECT BY-LAW 2026-R-004 ESTABLISHING RULES FOR BUDGET CONTROL AND MONITORING**
13. **OPPOSITION TO PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERAL ASSAULT-STYLE FIREARMS BUYBACK PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF GRACEFIELD**



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14. MODIFICATION OF BLANC-SABLON MUNICIPAL OFFICE OPENING HOURS
15. RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LAND-BASED PROTECTED AREAS WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON AND REAFFIRMING ITS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
16. NEW AFFAIRS
17. QUESTION PERIOD
18. CLOSING OF THE SITTING

2026-042

ADOPTION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON FEBRUARY 17TH 2026

It is proposed by **Johanne V. Beaudoin**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved to adopt the minutes of the sittings held on February 17th 2026 with exemption of reading.

2026-043

DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE CHEQUES ISSUED AND THE NON-REDUCIBLE EXPENSES PAID DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026

It is proposed by **Laurette Willcott**, seconded by **Johanne V. Beaudoin** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the list of cheques issued and the non-reducible expenses paid during the month of February 2026 in the respective amount of \$ 167 762.14 for general administration and \$ 31 415.54 for the payroll.

2026-044

DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE PAYABLE ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026

It is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Laurette Willcott** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the payable accounts for the month of February 2026 in the amount of \$ 10 211.52.

2025-045

DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGETARY REPORTS, TRANSFERS, AND CREDIT COMMITMENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2026

It is proposed by **Laurette Willcott**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the budgetary reports, transfers, and credit commitments for the months of February and March 2026 in the respective amounts of \$ 192 839.92 and \$ 183 185.00.

DEPOSIT OF THE TAX ARREARS REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 28TH 2026

The Director General deposited and commented on the tax arrears report as of February 28th 2026 as \$ 1 346 377.70.

2026-046

ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL FIRE SAFETY SERVICE

WHEREAS the MRC fire safety cover plan was certified on November 30th, 2005 and revised in March 2007;

WHEREAS Article 35 of the law on fire safety stipulates that the local authority in charge of the application of the measures forecasted in a fire safety plan must adopt by resolution and transmit to the Minister a report of activity on fire security;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Johanne V. Beaudoin**, seconded by **Laurette Willcott** and resolved unanimously;

THAT the Council accept the 2023-2024-2025 annual report of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon.



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THAT the report be forwarded to the Ministry of Public Security in accordance with Article 35 of the Fire Safety Act.

2026-047

ADOPTION OF PROJECT BY-LAW NUMBER 2026-R-002 ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCTS OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS

WHEREAS on February 15, 2022, the Municipal Council adopted Bylaw No. 2022-R-001 enacting a Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Elected Officials;

WHEREAS pursuant to section 13 of the Act respecting ethics and professional conduct in municipal matters, RLRQ c. E-15.1.0.1 (hereinafter the "LEDMM"), every municipality must, before May 1 following any general election, adopt a revised code of ethics and professional conduct to replace the one in force, with or without amendments;

WHEREAS a general election was held on November 2, 2025, and it is therefore necessary to adopt a revised code of ethics and professional conduct for elected officials;

WHEREAS the formalities provided for in the LEDMM for the adoption of such a revised code have been complied with;

WHEREAS the Director General states that the purpose of this bylaw is to set out the Municipality's core values in terms of ethics and the rules of professional conduct that must guide the conduct of a person as a member of the Municipal Council, a committee or a commission of the Municipality or, in their capacity as a member of the Municipal Council, of another body;

WHEREAS these by-laws are adopted pursuant to section 13 of the Act respecting ethics and professional conduct in municipal matters, CQLR, c. E-15.1.0.1;

WHEREAS the notice of motion was given by Councillor **Jeremy Griffin** at the regular meeting of January 20, 2026;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Johanne V. Beaudoin** and unanimously resolved:

THAT the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon adopt draft bylaw number 2026-R-002 concerning the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Elected Officials, which, as an appendix, forms an integral part of this resolution as if it were reproduced here in full.

2026-048

ADOPTION OF PROJECT BY-LAW NUMBER 2026-R-003 ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCTS OF THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS on February 15, 2022, the Municipal Council adopted Bylaw No. 2022-R-002 enacting a Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for municipal employees;

Formules Municipales No 5614-MYST



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WHEREAS pursuant to section 13 of the Act respecting ethics and professional conduct in municipal matters, RLRQ c. E-15.1.0.1 (hereinafter the "LEDMM"), every municipality must, before May 1 following any general election, adopt a revised code of ethics and professional conduct to replace the one in force, with or without amendments;

WHEREAS a general election was held on November 2, 2025, and it is therefore necessary to adopt a revised code of ethics and professional conduct for municipal employees;

WHEREAS the formalities provided for in the LEDMM for the adoption of such a revised code have been complied with;

WHEREAS the Director General states that the purpose of this bylaw is to set out the Municipality's core values in terms of ethics and the rules of professional conduct that must guide the conduct of a person as a municipal employee, a committee or a commission of the Municipality, or of another body;

WHEREAS these by-laws are adopted pursuant to section 13 of the Act respecting ethics and professional conduct in municipal matters, CQLR, c. E-15.1.0.1;

WHEREAS the notice of motion was given by Councillor **Alexis Beaudoin** at the regular meeting of January 20, 2026;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Johanne V. Beaudoin**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved:

THAT the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon adopt draft bylaw number 2026-R-003 concerning the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for municipal employees, which, as an appendix, forms an integral part of this resolution as if it were reproduced here in full.

2026-049

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE PROJECT BY-LAW 2026-R-004 ESTABLISHING RULES FOR BUDGET CONTROL AND MONITORING

A notice of motion is hereby given by Councillor **Laurette Willcott** that, at this meeting, a draft bylaw will be presented for the adoption of the draft bylaw decreeing the rules for budgetary control and monitoring, and a waiver of reading is requested, as a copy of the bylaw has been provided to all members of the Council.

2026-050

ADOPTION OF PROJECT BY-LAW 2026-R-004 ESTABLISHING RULES FOR BUDGET CONTROL AND MONITORING

WHEREAS pursuant to the second paragraph of section 960.1 of the Municipal Code of Québec, the council must adopt a bylaw concerning budgetary control and monitoring;

WHEREAS this bylaw must provide, in particular, for the means used to ensure the availability of funds prior to any decision authorizing an expenditure, which means may vary depending on the authority granting the expenditure authorization or the type of expenditure planned;

WHEREAS under the second paragraph of section 165.1 of the Municipal Code of Québec, an employee commitment is effective only if, in accordance with the bylaw adopted under the second paragraph of section 960.1, appropriations are available for that purpose;



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WHEREAS under section 961 of the Municipal Code of Québec, a bylaw or resolution of the council authorizing an expenditure is effective only if, in accordance with the bylaw adopted under the second paragraph of section 960.1, appropriations are available for the purposes for which the expenditure is proposed;

WHEREAS under the fourth paragraph of section 961.1 of the Municipal Code of Québec, an authorization of expenditure granted under a delegation has effect only if, in accordance with the bylaw adopted under the second paragraph of section 960.1, appropriations are available for that purpose;

WHEREAS Section 176.4 of the Municipal Code of Québec and the fifth paragraph of Section 961.1 set out the terms and conditions for reporting to the council for the purposes of budgetary control and monitoring;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Laurette Willcott**, and unanimously resolved:

THAT the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon adopt draft bylaw number 2026-R-004 concerning the rules for budget control and monitoring, which, as an appendix, forms an integral part of this resolution as if it were reproduced here in full.

2026-051

OPPOSITION TO PARTICIPATION IN THE FEDERAL ASSAULT-STYLE FIREARMS BUYBACK PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF GRACEFIELD

WHEREAS the Government of Canada announced the implementation of a federal firearms buyback program targeting certain weapons previously legally owned by citizens on January 17, 2026;

WHEREAS several Quebec municipalities, including Gracefield and Beauceville, have already adopted or considered resolutions expressing their concerns about this program;

WHEREAS police resources are already limited in many regions and their mobilization for the implementation of such a program could reduce their availability for other public safety priorities;

WHEREAS municipalities are local governments responsible for the well-being and safety of their populations;

WHEREAS available data indicate that the weapons used in violent crimes come mainly from the black market and not from the legal market;

WHEREAS this system does not take into account the territorial, social, economic, and cultural realities specific to municipalities;

WHEREAS many rural, agricultural, and regional communities use firearms legitimately for hunting, agriculture, and certain traditional activities;



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WHEREAS legal firearm owners are already subject to a strict regime of licensing, training, registration, background checks, secure storage, and compliance with the law;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Laurette Willcott**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved:

THAT the municipal council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon express its concerns regarding the federal government's firearms buyback program;

THAT the municipal council ask the Government of Canada to cancel this program because of its impacts, particularly with regard to the use of police resources and public safety priorities;

THAT the municipal council emphasize that the fight against illegal firearms trafficking, smuggling, and organized crime should remain a central priority;

THAT the municipal council express its support for law-abiding citizens who use firearms in a legitimate and regulated manner;

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to: the federal Minister of Public Safety of the Government of Canada, the Premier of Quebec, the Quebec Minister of Public Safety, the relevant provincial and federal members of parliament, the Quebec Federation of Municipalities (FQM), and the Union of Quebec Municipalities (UMQ).

2026-052

MODIFICATION OF BLANC-SABLON MUNICIPAL OFFICE OPENING HOURS

WHEREAS the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon wishes to improve the quality of services offered to the population by adapting the opening hours of the municipal office to better meet the needs of citizens;

WHEREAS the current opening hours of the municipal office are as follows: Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.;

WHEREAS the Municipality's commitment to improving its employees' working conditions in light of the challenges associated with travel by air and sea;

WHEREAS the Municipal Council has examined the situation and deems it advisable to modify the opening hours of the municipal office in order to optimize accessibility to municipal services as well as improving its employees' working conditions;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Johanne V. Beaudoin**, seconded by **Laurette Willcott** and unanimously resolved:

THAT the municipal council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon adopt the modification of the municipal office hours as follows:

New business hours:

- Monday to Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.
- Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

THAT these new opening hours come into effect on **March 23rd 2026**;

THAT the Director General be mandated to inform the population of this change through the Municipality's usual means of communication.



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**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LAND-BASED
PROTECTED AREAS WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE MUNICIPALITY
OF BLANC-SABLON AND REAFFIRMING ITS DEVELOPMENT NEEDS**

- WHEREAS** the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon is responsible for planning the development of its territory in the interest of its citizens and future generations, and is committed to its economic, social, and community development;
- WHEREAS** the municipal council has taken note of existing terrestrial protected areas and proposals for protected areas submitted by citizens or organizations within the territory of Blanc-Sablon;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality has identified pressing needs for residential development to accommodate population growth and ensure the availability of land for current and future residents;
- WHEREAS** the lands targeted by these proposed protected areas offer significant potential for the issuance of occupancy rights for recreational purposes, allowing residents to enjoy the local natural environment and support the regional tourism economy;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality must ensure the sustainability and security of the drinking water supply for its citizens, which requires maintaining access to lands capable of accommodating future facilities for the collection, treatment, and distribution of water for municipal purposes;
- WHEREAS** the development and maintenance of municipal infrastructure require access to locally available granular materials (sand, gravel) and the establishment of sand and gravel pits within the territory represents a major strategic and economic issue for the completion of current and future municipal projects;
- WHEREAS** the designation of protected areas on these lands would constitute a significant impediment to the Municipality's rights and ability to plan its development, manage its natural resources, and meet the essential needs of its population;
- WHEREAS** that the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon was not sufficiently consulted during the process of designating existing and proposed protected areas affecting its territory, and that any decision in this matter should be subject to prior consultation with municipal authorities;
- WHEREAS** the Act respecting municipal powers and the Act respecting land use planning and urban planning confer upon the municipality powers regarding land use planning and management, which must be respected in any environmental protection process;
- WHEREAS** the municipal council believes that environmental protection and the community's socioeconomic development are not mutually exclusive, and that alternative conservation measures, consistent with the Municipality's needs, should be explored and prioritized.



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CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Johanne V. Beaudoin**, and unanimously resolved:

THAT the municipal council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon formally opposes the creation, expansion, or maintenance of any existing or proposed terrestrial protected area within the Municipality's territory, to the extent that such areas compromise the community's rights and development projects;

THAT the Municipality demands the removal of all municipal lands designated for residential, recreational, drinking water supply, or aggregate extraction purposes from the boundaries of existing or proposed protected areas;

THAT the Municipality intends to preserve its full capacity to carry out residential development in the sectors identified in its land use plan and urban planning bylaws, in particular to meet the housing needs of its population;

THAT the Municipality intends to maintain the ability to grant rights of occupation for vacation purposes on lands located within its territory, in accordance with its recreational and tourism development guidelines;

THAT the Municipality reserves the right to identify, acquire, and develop the sites necessary for the future establishment of water collection, treatment, and distribution facilities for municipal purposes, without any restrictions related to a protected area limiting such access;

THAT the Municipality calls for the preservation of its full capacity to establish sand and gravel pits within its territory in order to secure the granular resources necessary for the construction and maintenance of its municipal infrastructure;

THAT the Municipal council mandate the Mayor and the Director General to forward this resolution to the Ministry of the Environment, Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks (MELCCFP), the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAMH), to the provincial Member of the National Assembly for Duplessis, as well as to any other relevant authority or organization;

THAT the Municipality demand to be formally consulted and to obtain its prior consent before any designation or modification of a protected area that may affect its territory;

THAT this resolution be recorded in the minutes of the meeting and forwarded to the relevant authorities as soon as possible.

NEW AFFAIRS

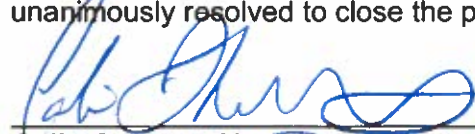
There were no new affairs.

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

CLOSING OF THE SITTING

It is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Laurette Willcott** and unanimously resolved to close the present sitting at 7:30 p.m.



Colin Shattler, Mayor



Karine Benoit, Director General

2026-054