

January 16th, 2005

Madame Claudette Journault
Présidente de la commission

I think that the Mont Orford development project should go through to ensure the survival and growth of the economy of the Magog-Orford region.

Most people do not realize that running a ski hill alone is not a profitable business. There are many invisible overhead costs that the client does not see and does not consider. The truth of the matter is that in most cases, the costs outweigh the revenues. A vast majority of ski hills depend on the revenues of real estate to compensate for the high costs of operating a ski hill. To name a few: Owl's Head, Mont Sutton, Ski Bromont, Tremblant... etc, etc. Without the possibility of real estate sales, Mont Orford will never be a profitable business, and therefore, will never grow.

It is important to note that the economy of Magog is directly related to the success of Mont Orford. If the mountain is full of skiers and riders during the day than in the afternoon you can be sure to see the restaurants, bars, and boutiques full of people. I find it odd that some businesses oppose the development project. It is as if they are asking to go bankrupt...

If the project does not go through, Mont Orford will either close or stop investing in new equipment and drastically cut the payroll. The market will recognize this lack of investment in equipment and personnel. The current reputation that we have worked so hard to attain will dwindle and the skier visits will drop. The town of Magog will feel this drop and slowly but surely the businesses will close.

I do not want to see this region suffer. I want there to be a future for my friends and co-workers in our economy. Most importantly, I want to show my kids how to ski on the slopes of my favourite mountain.

Please govern yourself accordingly.

Sincerely yours

Marc Beaudoin
Sales
Mont Orford