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## Municipal Council adopts Loan by-law for the construction of De Lotbinière fire station

**Vaudreuil-Dorion**, **July 6**, **2021** – At the public session held on July 5th, the Vaudreuil-Dorion Municipal Council adopted Loan By-law No. 1773-01 for the purpose of increasing the expenditure and the loan by an additional amount of \$8,475,000 towards the construction of the new De Lotbinière fire station. The total sum being \$14,875,000, this loan will cover construction costs in the amount of \$11.5 million, professional fees, rental fees for a temporary station, demolition of the existing station, as well as other related costs and contingency reserves. The City is expected to receive up to \$4.5 million in financial assistance for this project.

The opening of bids for the construction of a fire station on lot 1 545 809 took place on June 28th, 2021. The three bids received confirmed that the estimated cost at the time of the adoption of By-law 1773 does not reflect the actual cost of the work. "The De Lotbinière fire station has not responded to the needs of the Fire Department for quite some time now. Our firefighters are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, in addition to providing First Responder services. This continuous presence allows us to benefit from an adequate response time and makes all the difference when incidents occur. As you all know, for most building construction projects, the cost of materials has risen dramatically in recent months. However, the Council has chosen to move forward with this project despite the increase in costs because it involves an infrastructure that allows us to ensure the safety of our citizens. In order to mitigate the fiscal impact on our citizens, the City Council has agreed to extend the repayment period of the loan to 30 years," said Mayor Guy Pilon.

The existing fire station located on the Route de Lotbinière will be demolished in the coming weeks. Construction is scheduled to begin at the end of the summer once the Loan By-law has been approved by the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation and the contract has been awarded.

## About the De Lotbinière Fire Station

Built in 1966, the building serving as a fire station in the Dorion sector was originally used by a private company for the distribution of beer. Few improvements were made following its acquisition by the city of Dorion in 1990. Problems surrounding the bulding envelope began to be noticed by the late 90s. In 2018, experts evaluated all options including those of renovating and expanding the existing station or building a new one. The first option was rejected due to the building's configuration and degree of flammability.

The De Lotbinière fire station will become the second main station to cover the urban territory of Vaudreuil-Dorion. The new building will meet the latest design standards and will accommodate firefighters on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Its location will also be ideal to serve the Municipality of Pointe-des-Cascades, with whom an agreement was finalized in 2020.