

## Forgotten by the bus

The first goal of Les oubliés de l'autobus, a non lucrative association, is promoting the organization of public transit for residents of the MRC of Memphremagog. They aim for a complete public transportation network within the area as well as links with neighboring regions. The rural part of this network can be a taxi bus system, as exists elsewhere in the province of Quebec. This solution is explained in a video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/7qsClbhfsr4> (English subtitles available) and in a short vidéo-clip: <https://youtu.be/VxTDUjk2R0M> .

About 8,000 adults of the Memphremagog MRC are isolated, without a personal vehicle. At the edge of society, they almost become invisible. These citizens cannot easily travel to strategic locations like health care institutions and for other kind of services. It is very difficult for them to look for and keep a job. Young folks suffer from a great lack of autonomy; the same thing applies to spouses who become stuck at home.

Students must travel to get to their classes: for technical and post-secondary studies, one must go to Sherbrooke. Many elderly people are forced to leave their homes because they lose their driver's licence and are unable to drive around and maintain a normal life, as they used to. Immigrants do not settle in the region, the main reason for this being that they do not have a driver's permit and public transportation is not available.

We need a transportation system also for those who now own a vehicle and prefer not use it to protect the environment: effectively, transportation emits more than 40 % of the GHG and many air pollutants. Memphremagog is one of the last MRC in Quebec without a system of efficient public transportation for the population who cannot or will not drive for all kinds of reasons.

The association Les oubliés de l'autobus promotes the rights of transit users, with the purpose to accommodate the greatest number, in the best conditions. Mobility is essential to quality of life. One must be mobile even without a personal car - not only to go to work, follow a course of studies, get medical treatments, but also for entertainment, to bring the children to daycare, shop, participate in meetings and events, visit loved ones, volunteer, live fully and respectfully of the environment, while meeting nice people during trips.

The association held a debate on the environment on October 3rd with the candidates in Brome-Missisquoi for federal elections: <https://youtu.be/5bkXpne2ggY> .

In January 2020, the MRC decided to go forward with a integrated system\*. But with the actual pandemia everything is pending.

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<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/9s0xq6imnaz739877au9c/Description-des-fonctionnalit-s.docx?dl=0&rlkey=8hdsimm19igpsizoiw7srofc3>

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/0qar9wmf4ibmu97y6ccy1/CADRE-FINANCIER-PR-VISIONS-BUDG-TAIRES-d-c.-2019.docx?dl=0&rlkey=fkm0zloahrbp4oq3l2xzwfvvn>