

COM10A

For **IMMEDIATE** release

## **National day of remembrance for victims of COVID- 19 Flags at half-mast in Châteauguay**

**Châteauguay, March 10, 2021** – On the occasion of the first national Day of remembrance for victims of COVID-19, flags will fly at half-mast in Ville de Châteauguay from the beginning of the morning on **Thursday, March 11**, to honour the memory of the many victims of COVID- 19.

Several weeks ago, the provincial government announced that the date of March 11 had been chosen to pay tribute to the victims of COVID-19, one year after the beginning of the sanitary crisis. The purpose of this day is to take some time to think about the people who have lost their lives, but also to reaffirm our support to all people directly or indirectly impacted by the virus (friends and relatives of victims, health workers, workers, merchants, etc.).

In addition to flying flags at half-mast on all municipal buildings, Châteauguay asks residents to observe a minute of silence at **1.00 p.m.** in memory of the victims, an initiative launched across the province. At 1.02 p.m., this moment of contemplation will be followed by the ringing of the bells at Saint-Joachim Church and Sainte-Marguerite-d’Youville Church. During the day, Châteauguay will also display messages of support on its electronic display panels, at the intersection between route 138 and boulevard Saint-Francis, and in front of the fire station.

For Châteauguay Mayor Pierre-Paul Routhier, it is important to take part in this collective commemoration by demonstrating our support not only for victims from Châteauguay, but also for the whole population of Québec: “COVID-19 is a reality which is not limited to the borders of a municipality. The virus has hit the whole world, with no exceptions. In Châteauguay, we have provided special assistance to victims and have freed up resources for this purpose. I would like to salute the bravery, patience and perseverance of our residents, who have greatly cooperated by complying with the measures introduced by the government. With the mass vaccination clinic that will open in Châteauguay in a few days, we hope to see better days. The worst is now behind us,” concluded Mayor Routhier.

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