

# AN OPEN PIT MINE IN GRENVILLE-SUR-LA-ROUGE?? POSITIONS OF THE LOCAL ELECTORAL CANDIDATES

As part of the current election campaign, the citizen group of Grenville-sur-la-Rouge, SOS GSLR, who are opposed to the graphite quarry and open pit mining project in their municipality, decided to participate in the debate. At the invitation of SOS GSLR, the following candidates came to meet with representatives of the group to discuss and make known their positions on the proposed mine project.

SOS GSLR was created as the majority of citizens in our municipality are opposed to the open pit and quarry mine project and, with a large majority, these same people elected a city council who are openly opposed to this project.

#### **INDEPENDENT - YVES ST-DENIS**

Mr. St-Denis supports the citizens against this mining project. As an independent, he no longer has a party directive to satisfy and he is ready to defend us in our struggle. Before saying no, we must see all the steps behind the project, but with the \$96 million prosecution, which he considers totally abusive, Canada Carbon has lost all its credibility and the confidence of our citizens.

Regarding social acceptability, Mr. St-Denis believes it is a decision that belongs to the local population.



# QUÉBEC SOLIDAIRE – CÉLINE LACHAPELLE

Ms. Lachapelle supports the citizens against this mining project. She cites the absurd royalties, the privileges given to the mining companies, the "claims" sold at ridiculous prices and the cost of restoration once the mine closes. QS wants a correction to make more equitable generated revenues that should return to the community. Regarding social acceptability, Ms. Lachapelle believes the citizens must be in agreement with this type of development and it is the local population that must provide this acceptance, it is in the DNA of Québec Solidaire.



Mr. Côté does not support the mine project. The \$96 million lawsuit discredits the mining company. He remains open to an assessment of the economic and environmental impacts, he believes we must find a happy medium. This project must go through the BAPE.

Regarding social acceptability, Mr. Cote believes the municipality and the MRC must be the first consulted. The PQ feels that everything should be discussed at the local level before going back to the authorities of the party.



## **COALITION AVENIR QUÉBEC – AGNÈS GRONDIN**

Ms. Grondin does not support the mine project. In her view, this project does not represent the win / win aspect between the company and the community. She wants to convince her party leader of the importance of a more measured intervention in this mine file. Her goal is to improve risk management between the economy and the environment. Regarding social acceptability, Ms. Grondin believes it must be accepted locally first before going to higher levels.



### LIBERAL PARTY OF QUÉBEC - BERNARD BIGRAS - DENIS

Canada Carbon's project is subject to the Mining Act and is still in the preliminary stages; several works must be done before considering a possible exploitation subject to authorizations.

Regarding social acceptability, Mr. Bigras-Denis believes that social acceptability of this project is essential. The public consultation report preceding the obtaining of the mining lease must demonstrate that Canada Carbon has taken into account the concerns expressed and has presented justification measures to put in place to lessen the impacts.