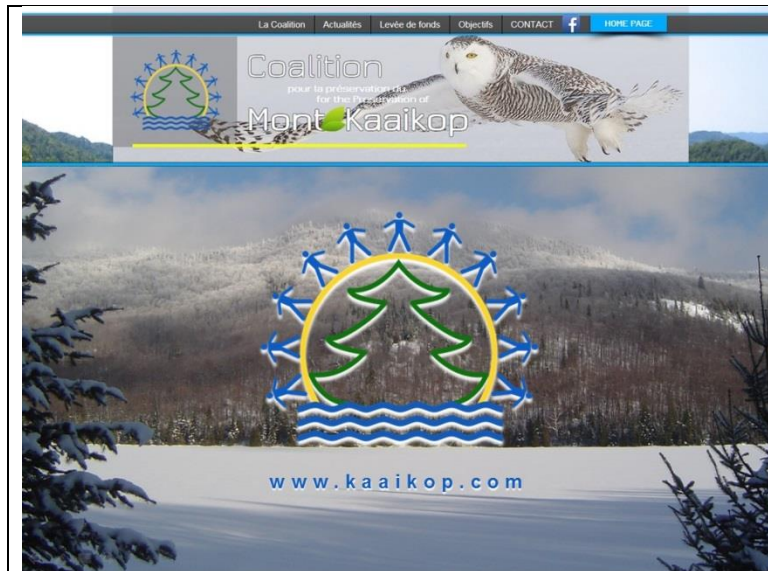


The Coalition for the Preservation of Mont-Kaaikop



1 : Opening

Good evening, I would like to thank the City Council of Sainte-Lucie-des-Laurentides to welcome us to the town hall to discuss the future of Mont-Kaaikop. I am Claude Alexandre Carpentier, one of the spokespersons of the Coalition for the Preservation of Mont-Kaaikop.

Among the Coalition members in this room, there is Mayor Serge Chénier, Councilor Manon Bissonnette, who is also Vice-President of the Board of the Coalition, Robert Gravel, President of the Board, Claude Samson, Treasurer, and Brigitte Voss, Protected Area Advisor.

The Coalition has been around for 3 years and all relevant documentation concerning our battle, project and goals can be found on our website at www.kaaikop.com. The header of this page and the following pages is a reproduction of our website header.

This presentation is to inform you of the latest developments at Kaaikop and current status of the preservation project of this exceptional site.



2 : An Unexpected Turn

The MFFP announced last December the withdrawal of the Legault forest management plans. This change is a direct result of the hard work of the Coalition for 3 years.

The MFFP implicitly acknowledged in a letter to the Coalition that the arguments we put forward are sounded and that their initial logging plans did not enjoy social acceptability required for this type of intervention on state land.

Also, the logging withdrawal public announcement indicates that a new forest management plan will be made public and that consultations will be made in accordance with the Sustainable Forest Development Act.

The MFFP takes care to specify in its announcement that it promotes economic development in its operations.

The official logging plan halt is a temporary situation. It is also a tour de force that originated in the steps leading up to the turnaround...



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Coalition pour la préservation du Mont-Kaaikop

Les multiples interventions légales...

- Le Mont-Kaaikop est un site d'exception
- Notre mémoire recueille les preuves que:
 - Les consultations publiques ne joignent pratiquement personne
 - Les consultations publiques ne sont que des réunions d'information
 - Aucun mécanisme n'est prévu quand on s'oppose aux plans prévus
- Tout le mécanisme est biaisé
- Les décisions sont usuellement irréversibles

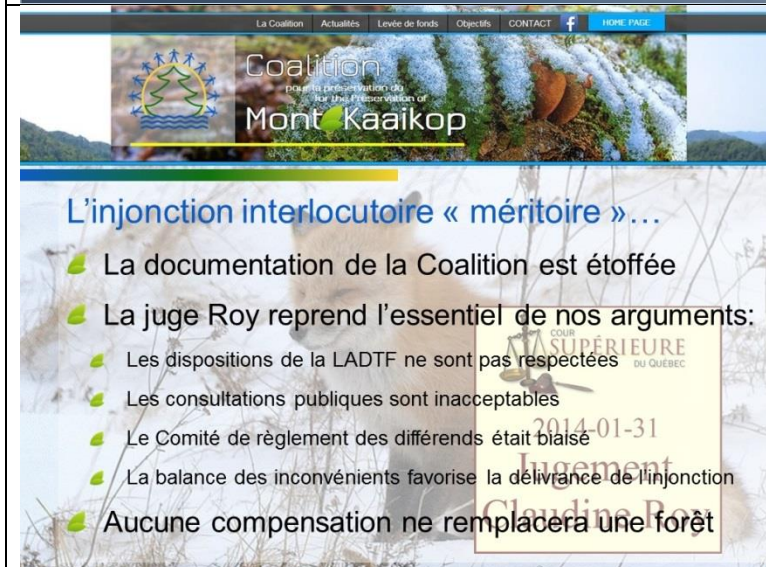
3 : The Multiple Legal Steps...

The Coalition has always believed and still believes that Mont-Kaaikop is an exceptional site. To prove this, the Coalition has acquired over the years a fine knowledge of laws and regulations and sound practices in forestry.

In our 113 page brief filed in the Settlement of Disputes Committee (SDC) of the Commission for Natural Resources and Territory of the Laurentians, the Coalition highlighted the numerous breaches of the Ministry in planning its logging work:

1. Public consultations are made to minimum standard and do not reach the people, groups and various stakeholders;
2. Public consultations are in fact only information meetings; and
3. MFFP did not plan for and still doesn't provide a real mechanism for settling disputes.

The SDC is a biased mechanism and the decision to log was made long ago. We were a large grain in the gears...



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Coalition pour la préservation du Mont-Kaaikop

L'injonction interlocutoire « méritoire »...

- La documentation de la Coalition est étoffée
- La juge Roy reprend l'essentiel de nos arguments:
 - Les dispositions de la LADTF ne sont pas respectées
 - Les consultations publiques sont inacceptables
 - Le Comité de règlement des différends était biaisé
 - La balance des inconvénients favorise la délivrance de l'injonction
- Aucune compensation ne remplacera une forêt

4 : The « Well-Deserved » Interlocutory Injunction:

The Coalition brought these same arguments to the Superior Court of Québec to support the initiative of the Municipality of Sainte-Lucie-des-Laurentides to stop logging plans.

It is through our research, our comprehensive documentation and our detailed brief that Justice Claudine Roy ruled the injunction against the government and sawmills, to which logging rights on the Kaaikop were given.

The main reasons that led to the issuance of the interlocutory injunction encompasses the bulk of our arguments, namely that:

1. The provisions of the Sustainable Forest Development Act are not met;
2. The public consultation was carried out unacceptably;
3. The operation of the Dispute Settlement Committee was biased;
4. The balance of convenience favors the granting of the interlocutory injunction: replacing a singular forest as Kaaikop cannot be compensated in money.



La Coalition propose des solutions...

- **Lettre au directeur général régional du MFFP:**
 - Que le Mont-Kaaikop soit déclaré écosystème forestier exceptionnel
 - Qu'un rayon de 3 km autour des belvédères soit protégé (RADF)
 - Que la Municipalité de Sainte-Lucie et la Coalition prennent une part active à la planification et aux suivis des aménagements forestiers
 - Que le corridor de biodiversité entre le Kaaikop et Tioweroton soit préservé

Les risques écologiques doivent être bien évalués


5 : The Coalition Offers Solutions...

The Coalition has repeatedly tried to reach a settlement with the government. Last October, we wrote to Mr. Pierre Ménard, General Manager of MFFP for the Laurentians, to propose an amiable solution to the conflict.

Among essential elements, we proposed:

1. That Kaaikop be declared an Exceptional Forest Ecosystem;
2. That a 3 km radius around the viewpoints be preserved intact under the provisions of the proposed Regulation on the Sustainable Management of Forests in the domain of the State (RADF in French);
3. That the Municipality and/or the Coalition can participate in the planning and monitoring of forest management on public lands;
4. And, in the event of forest management, that the biodiversity corridor between Kaaikop and Tioweroton be preserved to ensure connectivity of wild territories.

This whole process is designed to properly assess and supervise foreseeable environmental risks of any potential intervention on public land.



La réponse du MFFP...

- **Le MFFP veut recommencer le processus:**
 - Les positions du MFFP et de la Coalition seraient trop opposées
 - Aucune intervention au Kaaikop sans de nouvelles consultations
 - La Municipalité et la Coalition seront invitées aux consultations
 - La Municipalité de Sainte-Lucie et la Coalition pourront prendre part à la planification et aux suivis des aménagements forestiers
- **Le MFFP priorise l'apport économique**

6 : MFFP's Response...

The MFFP has done its homework. They understood that the legal route was no way out for them. They decided to comply with the Roy judgment and took note of the Coalition's claims.

In its letter to the Coalition, the MFFP says its position and that of the Coalition are too far apart to allow for settlement.



The MFFP decided to make a clean sweep and start the whole process anew.

Until there is no new development plans filed and further public consultations made in due form – that is to say according to the provisions of the LADTF – there will be no intervention at Kaaikop.

The Municipality and the Coalition will be invited to the consultations and to take part in the planning and monitoring process.

In his letter to the Coalition, the MFFP informed us that its position would be made official in a public notice in the media.

The MFFP also states that its vision promotes the economic contribution of regions.

 <p>Retour à la case... départ?</p> <p>La Coalition a acquis une grande expertise...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Le Mont-Kaaikop est défini:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Le massif, les terres environnantes et le corridor de biodiversitéUne caractérisation partielle est faite:<ul style="list-style-type: none">La Coalition a mandaté une firme professionnelle indépendanteCertains écosystèmes forestiers exceptionnels sont identifiésUn projet de préservation doit être peaufiné:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Une vaste implication citoyenne est envisagée	<p>7 : Back to Square One?</p> <p>Back to square one? Not at all!</p> <p>For 3 years, the Coalition has accumulated countless hours of work and research and worked with the best experts and national organizations that militate for the safeguard the environment.</p> <p>This expertise and experience helped to define the territory that we want to protect.</p> <p>The term "Mont-Kaaikop" means the massif of the Kaaikop, surrounding public lands and a biodiversity corridor between the Kaaikop and Tioweroton.</p> <p>The Coalition has paid an independent professional firm to partly characterize the Kaaikop. Present exceptional forest ecosystems or in their initial stages have been identified.</p> <p>The Kaaikop conservation project must take into account this exceptional natural wealth and must include the will of access of thousands of outdoor enthusiasts who cherish the mountain and its unique environment.</p>
 <p>Le projet de conservation...</p> <p>Un site complexe, aimé de milliers d'utilisateurs...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Le projet de préservation du Mont-Kaaikop doit:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Considérer une multitude d'opinions et le désir d'accès à la montagne et aux terres publiques environnantes.Accueillir des milliers de randonneurs du Québec et d'ailleursMaintenir une piste de motoneige enregistrée et exploitéePrendre en compte et protéger la fragilité et la complexité des écosystèmes présents, dont certains sont exceptionnels <p>Le projet de préservation dépasse le cadre régional</p>	<p>8 : A Complex Site, Loved by Thousands of Users...</p> <p>The preservation project at Mont-Kaaikop must take into account the wide variety of opinions, the desire of access to the mountain, the complexity and fragility of the ecosystems.</p> <p>For example, Mont-Kaaikop is home to a pristine nature which wilderness conceals ancient forests, many centuries old, growing in altitude, on very thin soils, on strong slopes which are sometimes very steep.</p> <p>The network of surface and underground waters is very complex, with five headwater lakes.</p> <p>The mountain is visited by thousands of hikers each year, who come to the region from across Québec and abroad.</p> <p>A snowmobile trail is authorized, listed and must be maintained.</p> <p>A very large portion of Kaaikop's base, its northern and eastern slopes, is on public lands in Lanaudière, in Saint-Donat and Notre-Dame-de-la-Merci.</p> <p>This project goes far beyond the regional framework.</p>

Quel avenir au Kaaikop?

Quel type de statut légal protégé assurera...

- Le suivi du plan de conservation pour une aire protégée déposé par Sainte-Lucie en avril 2013?
- La connectivité vitale des territoires naturels?
- La préservation des écosystèmes variés et la bonification des terres publiques environnantes

Une acceptabilité et une adhésion sociales fortes !

9 : What Should We Do to Protect the Kaaikop?

What legal status will allow us to follow the conservation plan for a protected area introduced by the Sainte-Lucie Planning Department in April 2013?

We must place the conservation project in a logic of preserving the connectivity of natural territories, to ensure wealth and organic growth of resident plant and animal species.

Some ecosystems at Kaaikop are exceptional, hence rare.

Other public lands around the Kaaikop, namely in TPI 68, have experienced significant changes (such as a landfill that the MRC said it is not listed) and have to recover their original qualities.

This TPI 68 is in the heart of the biodiversity corridor that we also claim for linking the mountain to the territory of Tioweroton.

In any case, the project must receive strong support from the community and should reflect the aspirations of the people.

Quelles sont les options?

Un parc régional de type parc nature?

- Un territoire principalement à vocation récréative
- La MRC est le seul maître d'œuvre du projet
- Les autorités régionales planifient les aménagements des espaces récréatifs en considérant l'exploitation de toutes les ressources
- Un plan d'affaires détaillé avec investissements est requis
- L'aménagement et la gestion sont assumés et financés localement

L'exploitation des ressources est voulue et permise

10 : What Are the Options? A Regional Park...

Last September, the Coalition met with the MRC des Laurentides to explore the possibility of creating a regional park at Mont-Kaaikop. The MRC has been open to this prospect.

A regional park is primarily a defined territory where the main purpose is recreational.

Regional authorities (here the MRC des Laurentides) are the only organizations that can lead the project with the Government of Québec. Should the MRC decides to support the project it must obtain the support of the majority of municipalities in its jurisdiction to proceed.

A very detailed business plan, with investments, financing, sources of income, infrastructure and others, must be supported and approved.

The type of development, financing and management are the responsibility of the MRC, who may delegate these to a third party such as an NPO.

Natural resource development is permitted. One can operate a quarry, a mine or log the forests, like at the Ouareau Forest.



Quelles sont les options?

Une aire protégée – réserve de biodiversité?

- 23 désignations réparties en 6 catégories
- La catégorie I (les réserves écologiques) sont quasi inaccessibles
- La catégorie II est réservée aux parcs nationaux
- La catégorie III (réserve de biodiversité) est celle qui a été proposée par le service d'urbanisme de Sainte-Lucie en avril 2013
- La catégorie IV vise une aire de confinement d'une espèce
- La catégorie V vise un paysage récréatif modifié par l'humain
- La catégorie VI vise l'utilisation durable des écosystèmes naturels.



11 : What Are the Options? A Protected Area...

The Natural Heritage Conservation Act of Québec (NHCA) defines a protected area as "a geographically defined expanse of land or water established under a legal and administrative framework designed specifically to ensure the protection and maintenance of biological diversity and of related natural and cultural resources", a Cut-and-Paste of the 2008 resolution of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

A protected area is first to conserve species and their genetic variability and maintenance of natural processes and ecosystems that sustain life and its various expressions.

All activities carried out within their perimeter or a portion there of must leave the basic biological characteristics of protected areas intact

In case of conflict, the conservation of nature supersedes all considerations.

Of the 23 nominations divided into 6 categories, category III for a biodiversity protected area seems the best option. It is that which was presented by the Sainte-Lucie Planning Department in April 2013.



Une protection permanente...

Une aire protégée de catégorie III...

- Est administrée dans le but de préserver des éléments naturels et culturels spécifiques
- Le Mont-Kaaikop exceptionnel et représentatif:
 - Une nature presque intacte avec des écosystèmes exceptionnels, de très vieilles forêts, poussant en altitude et sur pentes abruptes
 - Un réseau d'eaux souterraines et de surface qui n'origine pas de cours d'eau mais bien de 5 lacs de tête alimentés que par les précipitations
 - Une utilisation historique et à venir du site en harmonie avec sa nature.

Une protection et un accès permanents légiférés !




12 : A Category III Protected Area

Obtaining a protected area status seems the legislative way that allows both to ensure the permanent protection at Kaaikop and to maintain access to non-intrusive and nature friendly recreation.

Category III is a protected area whose goal is to preserve special natural and cultural features of outstanding or unique value, worthy of protection because of their rarity, their representativeness, their aesthetic quality or cultural importance.

Mont-Kaaikop meets all these criteria, with an almost intact natural environment, exceptional ecosystems, very old forests growing in altitude, on steep slopes and whose underground and surface water network does not originate from water courses but from five headwater lakes, which collect rainfall running down ultimately in the St. Lawrence River.

Hiking, skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling activities already present at Kaaikop will be maintained and improved.



La Coalition Actualités Levée de fonds Objectifs CONTACT f HOME PAGE

Coalition
pour la préservation du
Mont Kaaikop

Un solution définitive... une fois pour toutes !

- La Coalition a fait ses preuves et ses devoirs...
- Les experts et les instances consultés favorisent une aire protégée
- La direction d'une MRC peut changer les orientations d'un parc
- Des rencontres prévues avec le MFFP, le MERN et le MDDELCC
- Des consultations publiques prévues à Sainte-Lucie, en région et ailleurs pour générer une forte acceptabilité sociale du projet

L'acceptabilité sociale sera garante de notre succès

13 : A Final Solution... Once and for All !

In this presentation, we have outlined the progress and what is left to do for Mont-Kaaikop to become a permanently protected site.

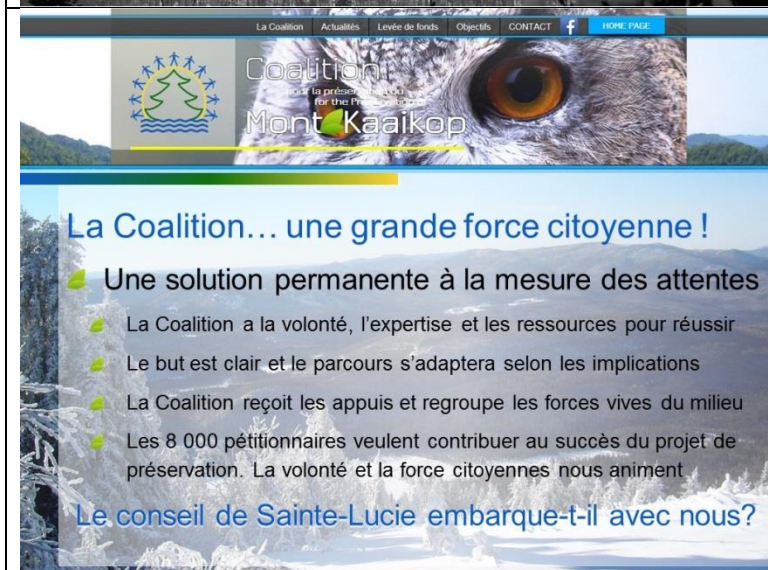
For nearly three years, the Coalition has developed know-how from the consultation of experts in forestry, law and environmental activism.

Today we conclude that the protected area status is the desired solution at Mont-Kaaikop.

The option of a regional park is attractive at first sight. But the MRC decides alone guidance of such a park and may, according to changes in its management, promote resource development, like that planned by the MFFP, stopped by the injunction, and then finally abandoned for now.

We do not want that anymore!

Meetings are planned with three ministries (Forestry, Natural Resources and Environment) and public consultations will be carried out so that people are well informed and involved in the preservation project at Kaaikop.



La Coalition Actualités Levée de fonds Objectifs CONTACT f HOME PAGE

Coalition
pour la préservation du
Mont Kaaikop

La Coalition... une grande force citoyenne !

- Une solution permanente à la mesure des attentes
- La Coalition a la volonté, l'expertise et les ressources pour réussir
- Le but est clair et le parcours s'adaptera selon les implications
- La Coalition reçoit les appuis et regroupe les forces vives du milieu
- Les 8 000 pétitionnaires veulent contribuer au succès du projet de préservation. La volonté et la force citoyennes nous animent

Le conseil de Sainte-Lucie embarque-t-il avec nous?

14 : The Strength of the Coalition...

The preservation project at Mont-Kaaikop involves finding a permanent solution to the purpose and usages of the mountain, surrounding public lands and biodiversity corridor to Tioweroton.

The Coalition supported the Municipality technically and scientifically in the legal process and in thinking about the future of this magnificent site.

We know where we are and we know where we are going. The road to get there will adapt depending on the involvement of all stakeholders and all parties.

The Coalition was able to rally the support of your Municipality, many surrounding others, the support of the Mohawks, of L'Interval and of several local and national recreation and environmental associations.

The 8,000 petitioners follow us on Facebook and from our website. They are eager to know the details of the conservation project and want to participate. This is citizens' will, power and popular force!

So, is the City Council of Sainte-Lucie embarking with us in this exciting and mobilizing project?