

**TO:** *All qualified residents of the affected portion of the local service district (LSD) of the parish of Saint-Quentin*

**SUBJECT:** *Summary of the feasibility study and information related to the plebiscite for the proposed annexation of a portion of the LSD of the parish of Saint-Quentin with the town of Saint-Quentin*

In January 2019, a community round table (committee) was established to conduct a feasibility study for the proposed annexation of a portion of the LSD of the parish of Saint-Quentin to the town of Saint-Quentin. On January 29, 2020, the committee submitted the final feasibility study to the Minister of Environment and Local Government for consideration.

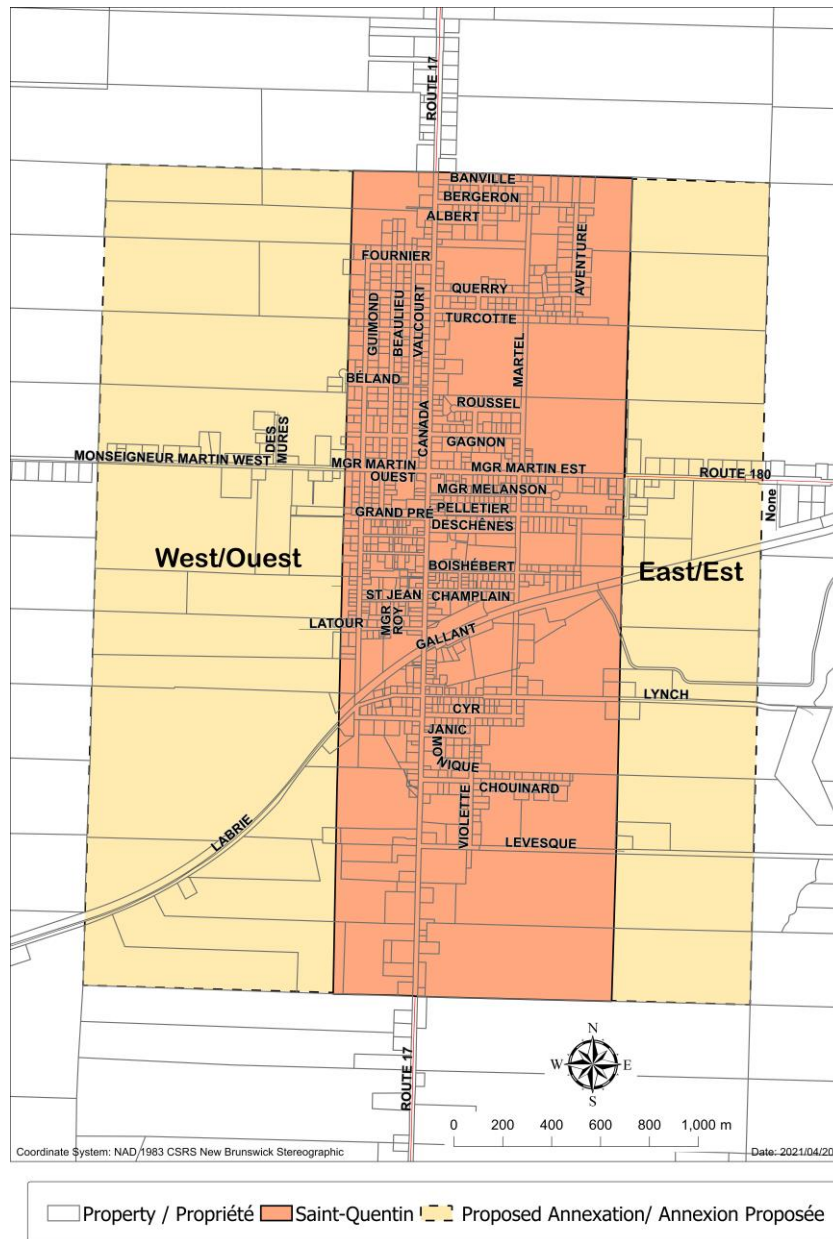
On February 24, 2020, the committee was informed that the Minister requested a plebiscite for the proposed project that would be conducted on May 11, 2020. Due to COVID-19, the election and plebiscite were postponed and have since been rescheduled for May 10, 2021. The plebiscite will be held in accordance with *Regulation 2005-96 – Municipal Incorporation and Restructuring Regulation – Municipalities Act*. A copy of the notice of plebiscite published by Elections New Brunswick (ENB) is enclosed.

All qualified residents of the affected portion of the LSD of the parish of Saint-Quentin will be asked to answer the following question: ***“Are you in favour of the annexation of a portion of the local service district of the parish of Saint-Quentin to the town of Saint-Quentin?”***

***Highlights from the Feasibility Study:***

- Doubling the size of the town of Saint-Quentin from 4.3 km<sup>2</sup> to 9.6km<sup>2</sup>, which would increase opportunities for the entire community.
- Recommending an increase of \$0.03 per year on the tax rate of the proposed annexed area until the tax rate is equal to that of the Town. *(For example, a residential property assessed at \$100,000 amounts to an increase of \$30 per year in taxes)*
- Increasing the population from 1532 to 1622.
- Increasing the tax base of the Town from approximately \$135 million to approximately \$160 million.
- Transfer of 3.2 kilometres of local roads from the LSD to the Town representing an estimated cost of \$190,000.
- Recommending allocating the surplus generated from the yearly tax increase in the proposed annexed area towards local development.
- Recommending that a representative be nominated to represent the residents of the proposed annexed area as an observer on the local government’s council. The representative would be remunerated at the same rate as a local government councillor and will make recommendations to council, however, will not have voting powers.
- Recommending that the municipal plan and zoning that would apply in the proposed annexed area be different and less restrictive than that of the Town.

## **Map of the town of Saint-Quentin and the proposed annexation**



A copy of the final feasibility study is available on the Department of Environment and Local Government's website at [www.gnb.ca](http://www.gnb.ca) (Department of Environment and Local Government). For more information, please contact, Denis Roussel, Consultant, Department of Environment and Local Government by phone at (506) 453-7164 or by email at [Denis.Roussel@gnb.ca](mailto:Denis.Roussel@gnb.ca).

### **Message from the Members of the Community Round Table**

After several months of analysis and discussion, the time has come to make a decision on local governance for the residents of the proposed annexation area. Services to the citizens, the importance of being heard and represented are all elements to consider in view of the plebiscite vote.