

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
BROME-MISSISQUOI MRC
TOWN OF BROME LAKE

BY-LAW 2026-09

REGARDING PUBLIC TRAILS WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE TOWN OF BROME LAKE

- WHEREAS** the Town owns approximately twenty kilometres of public trails within its territory;
- WHEREAS** the safety of users and the prevention of accidents remain priorities for the Town;
- WHEREAS** certain uses of the trails may create conflicts or inconveniences among different categories of users (pedestrians, cyclists, cross-country skiers, etc.);
- WHEREAS** The Council wishes to adopt a by-law to regulate the use of public trails according to the various uses of users;
- WHEREAS** at the regular meeting of April 7, 2026, Mayor Lee Patterson gave notice of a motion announcing this by-law;

THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL ENACTS THE FOLLOWING:

ARTICLE 1: APPLICATION OF THE BY-LAW

This by-law applies to all trails located on town-owned land.

This by-law does not apply to trails or paths located on a public road or on private property.

ARTICLE 2: PERMITTED USES ON PUBLIC TRAILS

The following uses are permitted on public trails, subject to the conditions and limitations described below:

Authorized modes of transportation

- Conventional bicycles: all types of pedal-powered bicycles;
- Electric-assist bicycles;
- Active mobility equipment: inline skates, skateboards, non-motorized scooters, cross-country skis, snowshoes;
- Personal motorized transport devices (PMTs) with a maximum rated motor power of 500 W or less and a mass of 36 kg or less, including the battery (e.g., electric scooters, gyroscopic vehicles, and scooter-like vehicles with a seat or three wheels).

Accessibility for All

- Wheelchairs (manual or electric);
- Quadricycles for people with reduced mobility;
- Pedestrians: walkers, runners, hikers, etc.;
- Dogs: must be kept on a leash no longer than 1.85 m at all times; retractable leashes are prohibited.

ARTICLE 3: PROHIBITED USES ON PUBLIC TRAILS

The following activities are prohibited on public trails, subject to the conditions and restrictions described below:

Prohibited Vehicles

- Motorized vehicles: cars, trucks, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs, side-by-sides), motorcycles of all categories, scooters, and golf carts;
- Personal motorized transport devices (PMTs) with an engine power exceeding 500 W;

- Horse-drawn transportation: horses and horse-drawn carriages

Exception: Municipal vehicles are permitted on the trail to ensure regular maintenance, and emergency vehicles.

ARTICLE 4: MAXIMUM SPEED AND REDUCED-SPEED ZONES

General maximum speed

Unless otherwise indicated by official signage, the maximum speed limit is set at 20 km/h on the trails covered by this by-law.

Reduced-speed zones

- The urban section of the public trail located between Victoria Street and Lakeside Street, on the segments identified by signage;
- Near parks, on the trail segments identified by signage;
- During activities (public events, gatherings, construction, municipal or community activities), within the areas identified by signage or by the presence of control devices (cones, barriers, temporary markings);

ARTICLE 5: COURTESY

Courtesy is required at all times. All users must behave prudently and respectfully, including:

- a) yielding the right of way when necessary and facilitating coexistence among users;
- b) adjusting speed to traffic volume and conditions;
- c) avoid any sudden or dangerous maneuvers;
- d) Do not block the passage unnecessarily, travel in a line one behind the other, and leave space for passing.

ARTICLE 6: OVERTAKING, DANGEROUS AND CROSSING BRIDGES

Overtaking and Signaling

All passing must be done safely and courteously. Before overtaking, the rider must:

- a) Always pass on the left;
- b) clearly signal their intention to pass, either verbally (e.g., "Look to your

- left!" or by using a bell, as appropriate;
- b) ensure there is sufficient space and that they do not endanger other road users; pass while maintaining a safe distance and reducing speed.

Prohibition of Dangerous Behaviour

It is prohibited to intimidate, honk excessively, weave, force your way through, or to pass when conditions do not permit it.

Bridge crossings – Trestle Cove – Pedestrians have the right of way

Upon arrival at and when approaching any bridge, pedestrians have the right of way at all.

When a pedestrian is on the bridge, all cyclists must:

- a) stop when necessary;
- b) get off your bike before entering the bridge;
- c) cross the bridge on foot, walking your bike alongside you;
- d) resume cycling only after crossing the bridge and when it is safe to do so.

Recommendation to cross on foot (narrow bridge)

Due to the narrowness of the bridges and the difficulty of maneuvering, all cyclists are advised, even in the absence of pedestrians, to dismount and cross the bridge on foot, particularly when visibility, traffic, or surface conditions reduce safety.

ARTICLE 7: NOTICES OF VIOLATION, FINES, AND ENFORCEMENT

This by-law is enforced by any person authorized by the municipality, including a peace officer, a municipal inspector, a patrol officer, a designated official, or any other person duly designated by resolution. These persons are authorized to issue notices of violation.

ARTICLE 8 – VIOLATION

It is an offence to contravene any provision of this by-law, including:

- a) making prohibited use;
- b) exceeding the maximum speed limit;
- c) failing to report an overrun when required;

- d) engaging in behaviour that endangers others or failing to exercise courtesy as defined by the by-law;
- e) failing to yield the right of way to pedestrians;
- e) crossing a bridge by bicycle when a pedestrian is on the bridge, contrary to the requirement to dismount and cross on foot.

ARTICLE 9 – PENALTIES

Possible penalties for a violation of the by-law are:

- i) A verbal warning
- ii) Temporary suspension from the network
- iii) A citation and a fine ranging from \$50 for a first offence up to \$300 for subsequent offences.

ARTICLE 10: ENTRY INTO FORCE

These by-laws take effect in accordance with the Act.

Lee Patterson
Mayor

Owen Falquero.
Clerk

Notice of Motion : April 7, 2026
Adoption : May 4, 2026
Publication : May 20, 2026
Effective date : May 26, 2026