

## **Forêt Hereford announces the official opening of the new Vieux Panache refuge**

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**East Hereford, November 20, 2019** – Although Winter came in with a vengeance in early November over the Hereford Community Forest, the brand-new Vieux Panache refuge<sup>1</sup> is now ready to welcome its first users and its first tenants!

The Vieux Panache Refuge was built in the fall of 2019 as a rustic cabin. It is located in the center of the Hereford Community Forest. Made completely out of wood, it was built with local materials, and by local companies. It is open, free of charge, to all non-motorized users as a day-use shelter (hikers, snowshoers, mountain skiers/bikers<sup>2</sup>, and hunters<sup>3</sup> during the hunting season). Its large covered gallery and common room offer a unique view of Mount Hereford and its summit. The facility is equipped with an environmentally friendly Enviroloo dry toilet.

The Vieux Panache Refuge is owned and maintained by the Hereford Community Forest, a charity. Its partner, Mount Hereford Experience, provides marketing and reservation services for the two bedrooms, each containing four (4) single beds, that the refuge offers. It is therefore possible to rent a bed, one bedroom or both bedrooms from Mont Expérience Hereford<sup>4</sup>.

The construction of this refuge (an expenditure close to \$ 100,000) forms part of a major three-year recreational tourism project that will be completed in December 2020. It involves investments of over \$ 632,000 in the Hereford Community Forest, including 20 kilometers of new recreational trails, the creation of a new parking lot for hikers in Saint-Herménégilde (on Centennial Drive), new interpretation panels and improvements to existing facilities. This project increases the offer of outdoor sports activities, improves accessibility to all clientele, develops partnerships with local schools and, above all, creates direct benefits for neighborhood communities. As a result, this undertaking is contributing to the economic advancement of several municipalities in the MRC of Coaticook. It was made possible thanks to significant benefactors on both sides of the border (see Appendix).

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<sup>1</sup> For additional information : <http://forethereford.org/en/relais-refuge-du-vieux-panache/index.php>.

<sup>2</sup> Entrance fees for these activities to be paid to Circuits Frontières for trail maintenance: <http://circuitsfrontieres.com/en/>.

<sup>3</sup> For members of the Hereford Hunting and Fishing Club : <http://forethereford.org/en/chasse-peche/index.php>.

<sup>4</sup> For information: <https://www.hebergementmonthereford.com/?lang=en>.

## **About Forêt Hereford**

Hereford Forest is responsible for the management of the Hereford Community Forest, a private area of nearly 5,600 ha owned in partnership with Nature Conservancy of Canada, and resulting from the largest real estate donation in Quebec's history. The territory is protected by a real and perpetual forest conservation easement allowing the creation of a protected natural environment in which high conservation values are maintained and in which the sustainable use of resources is strictly regulated. The sustainable development of all resources (ecological, forest, wildlife, recreational and landscape) is currently generating significant regional benefits for local communities. For more information, visit [http://forethereford.org/index\\_en.php](http://forethereford.org/index_en.php) .

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### **Information :**

Dany Senay  
General manager, Forêt Hereford inc.  
819-578-4605 | [dany.senay@forethereford.org](mailto:dany.senay@forethereford.org)

**THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VIEUX PANACHE REFUGE  
WAS MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING  
PATRONS:**



# VIEUX PANACHE REFUGE

(Photos : courtesy of Mont Expérience Hereford)

