

Speaking Notes for André Langevin, mayor of  
Coaticook  
Press Conference October 13, 2005  
Parc Découverte nature de Baldwin Welcome Centre

READING OF A NICE STORY

*Le parc Découverte nature de Baldwin* provides us with the opportunity to tell a nice story.

Once upon a time there were some thinkers wondering what would be the best way to put en exploit the potential of a region with such exceptional nature. These thinkers, which were from the ministry responsible for the fauna and of the parks as well as representatives of the town of Coaticook, were moved by a strong desire to allow access to all of the hidden treasures in the Baldwin area.

The members of the ministry of fauna took the initiative and subsidized a study aiming at finding the most the harmonious development of this beautiful corner of the country. A few months later, a report recommending the creation of exciting and unique projects was tabled.

- Construct a welcome centre to inform visitors of the variety of activities that are offered (town's responsibility)
- Develop a fishing course comprised of ponds and a salmon river that will allow the young to perhaps catch their first trout and allow adults to demonstrate their skills at catching salmon (responsibility of the *Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune*)
- Build an observation tower in the marsh to discover the active life of this environment (responsibility of Ducks Unlimited Canada)
- Invite the tourists to hike on the Mills trails and of Mount Pinnacle to feel the exciting nature at their feet
- Finally, to discover the lakes Lyster and Baldwin, the beach, the golf course and the exceptional viewpoints that can be found everywhere.

The initiation of these projects required the collaboration of many people and agencies. Let's first mention the close and effective cooperation between the town and the *Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune*.

Next, there were sponsors, who were excited with the initiative, and who did not hesitate to join in:

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| - Tourisme Cantons-de-l'Est                       | 100 000 \$ |
| - Conférence régionale des élu(e)s (CRÉ)          | 100 000 \$ |
| - Pacte rural de la MRC de Coaticook              | 50 000 \$  |
| - Fonds de diversification économique de l'Estrie | 50 000 \$  |

- Fonds de l'économie sociale (CLD)	33 000 \$
- Volet II (Développement forestier)	43 000 \$

In summary, this first phase of the development of the Parc Découverte nature de Baldwin will require investments reaching \$ 1 800 000. At the official opening of the Park, we will announce further sponsors, among which the Town of Coaticook and the Ministry of Ressources naturelles et de la Faune.

This inauguration will be held on May 2006. This will enhance this important event since the trails and trees will be green and we shall have some flowers in bloom. In other words, the scenery should be beautiful by then.

Later on, you will be invited to see the huge amount of effort required by these projects, as we will tour some of the sites where work is in progress. No doubt that this short tour will have some of you dreaming of catching one of those lovely trout during the Summer of 2006. You will also realize that the parc Découverte nature will offer a unique concept in Quebec that will make the visitors fall in love with nature and will attract you to the sport of fishing. Representatives of the Ministry des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune as well as from the agency Ducks Unlimited Canada will be available to answer your questions at their respective project sites.

Le parc Découverte nature de Baldwin is a beautiful corner of the country and the name Baldwin is part of the history of Coaticook since an ancestor of the Baldwin Family founded the Town of Coaticook.

#### NAME OF THE WELCOME CENTER

Speaking of nice stories, the Conseil d'administration of the parc Découverte nature de Baldwin recalled the role of Mr. Louis-Rock Séguin who was the manager of the Baldwin fish farm starting from 1947.

Funny coincidence OR What a coincidence! Shortly after Mr. Séguin was assigned to this function, he was asked if the fish farm activity was worth it and if it should continue its operations. Fortunately, Mr. Séguin fell in love with the farm and its surrounding areas, and as oppose to cease its operation, he persisted in further developing the site, even opening it to tourists and visitors.

Many families of the area remember their visit at the farm, even bringing along picnic boxes. Mr. Séguin even opened a little zoo, which featured animals from the local forests.

Mr. Séguin continues to live in Baldwin. He did a lot to develop the fish farm and attract the people of the region to visit it.

For this reason, the conseil d'administration of the parc Découverte nature de Baldwin and of the Town of Coaticook recommended that the Welcome Centre be named "Le pavillon Louis-Rock-Séguin". This gesture is to acknowledge his great contribution in promoting the Baldwin area.

André Langevin,