

Memories of life growing up in Baie-D'Urfé – A Four Season Wonderland

Susie Yovik Hoeller

Editor's note: Susan Yovik Hoeller and Martin Sills grew up in Baie-D'Urfé in the 1960s. Susan lives in Tampa, Florida, and Martin lives in Williams Lake, B.C. They have great memories of Baie-D'Urfé and offered to share their stories in News & Views.

Of course, the winter was the longest season and my favorite. My mom called me “Nanook of the North.” Hockey at the Coop. Sleds speeding down Allan’s Hill. Building snow forts. Wearing mukluks. Martin Sills and I skiing at Rigaud and pretending we were part of the Ski Patrol.

When spring finally arrived with tulips emerging amid snow flurries, we took off our skates and played road hockey.

The summers, with their late sunsets, were perfect as we learned to sail at the BDYC Junior Squadron. We had swim lessons at the Coop. We were the first kids to enjoy newly invented skateboards.

During the fall, we raked up leaves, jumped in the huge piles and savoured the sweet smell of leaves burning.

Four decades have passed since our family moved from Baie-D'Urfé. Fate took me to the American South, a place without the delights of winter. But in my mind, I can still hear skates biting the outdoor ice and pucks hitting the boards.

Martin and I have been dear friends since high school. Today, we live 5,339 kilometers apart in B.C. and Florida. But our hearts have never left Baie-D'Urfé and never will.

Martin will be providing his perspective of life in our hometown in the April issue.



Photo taken in 1969

Valentines Cards for Seniors

Gillian Bennett reports that “our valentines for seniors project was a great success and people just loved the cards. The cards were made by local children and students at the AvH German International school. We had 125 seniors included. I hope the children know how much it meant to the recipients. We gave them all away.”

