

**News from your federation :
A different snowmobiling season in 2020-2021**

Terrebonne, November 3rd, 2020 – Like virtually all areas of our lives these days, the practice of snowmobiling will be different for the 2020-2021 season. As the events of the last few months have clearly shown us, pandemic management means that we live in an ever-changing world, especially in terms of our access to services. When the snowmobile season begins, the practice will have to be adapted to the prevailing conditions and it will be up to each snowmobiler to ensure that his or her itinerary is safe. Concretely, this will require a careful and proactive approach when the time comes to plan and execute your outings. It is recommended that you plan your stops and confirm that the establishments you wish to visit will be open. While some tourist businesses are closed, others will be open. One possible course of action, for example, would be to take advantage of the latter and use them as a base from which to plan loops. It's a pragmatic solution and perfect compromise for the snowmobile tourist who wants to discover new places without being encumbered by the vagaries of closures.

The FCMQ is aware that the restrictions in place can affect the practice of snowmobiling as we have known it for several years. Like everywhere else, food and lodging businesses, including restaurants and other services that welcome snowmobilers, must comply with public health guidelines. For its part, the FCMQ will take all means at its disposal to keep the community informed about the evolution of the trail network. In the particular case of warm-up shelters and clubhouses under club management, information will be sent to the FCMQ via the clubs, and the former will update the information on its various platforms. Every player in the community has his role to play and the FCMQ, its clubs and volunteers invite all stakeholders to stay abreast of the operational status of the various businesses in their regions and to inform snowmobilers of developments. The frequent dissemination of information on commercial developments will be a safety factor for snowmobilers, who will be able to properly plan their trips and thus avoid encountering unpleasant surprises during the outings.

Finally, the link between the number of COVID-19 cases in our respective communities and the freedoms we have is clear and direct: the more cases, the more severe the restrictions. It follows that each of us must adhere to public health guidelines in order to reduce infections and, ultimately, allow us to recover a certain normality and regain a greater latitude of activity.

About the FCMQ

The Fédération des clubs de motoneigistes du Québec, a sectorial tourism association, is a not-for-profit organisation that has been serving its members for more than 45 years. It is dedicated to the development and promotion of safe snowmobiling throughout Quebec. The FCMQ defends the interests of its 198 member clubs and their 100,000 individual members. More than 4,500 volunteers contribute in excess of 800,000 hours annually towards the maintenance of the provincial snowmobile trail network.