

## Announcement



2020-19

### **Subject: Cancellation of the 2021 edition of Rallye Perce Neige**

### **Issue Date: November 16, 2020**

The Rallye Perce Neige de Maniwaki was hoping to present its 56<sup>th</sup> running on February 5 and 6, 2021 in the Upper Ottawa Valley. The organizing committee has decided to cancel the upcoming edition, due to Covid19 restrictions. The following is what the event coordinator Luc Martel had to say in an interview.

“Rallye Perce-Neige has turned out to be a major event for Maniwaki and its region over the years”, states Mr. Martel. “Beyond the sporting event, already part of the Canadian championship, Perce-Neige has also become a popular and cultural event for the whole community over the last decade: closing ceremony with a rock show, closed speed section in the city limits, volunteer’s involvement and participation of local agencies and businesses.”

“Still the oldest rally in America, Perce-Neige has set certain standards over time and remains a model for other Canadian events”, mentions the coordinator. “Considering the uncertainty around the health situation, we did not want to risk setting up an event (even a reduced one) that is so important for our community and so many visitors, only to have to cancel in the end because of the health situation.”

#### Returning Stronger in 2022:

The organisation committee had already started planning for next year, but will now concentrate on the 56<sup>th</sup> running February 4 and 5, 2022, hoping the situation will be appropriate. “We want to thank our volunteers and the sponsors who have helped Perce-Neige become a better and bigger event”, concludes Martel. “We will be back in 2022 with a program that will feature innovations for the spectators, our supporters and the competitors.”

Presented for the first time in 1965 by the Club Autos Sport La Licorne in Montreal, Rallye Perce-Neige moved to Maniwaki and the upper Ottawa Valley in 1977. The event is part of the Canadian, Eastern Canadian, Quebec, Ontario and North-American rally championships.

The Rallye PerceNeige de Maniwaki was supported in 2020 by the City of Maniwaki, the Kitigan Zibi community, the municipalities of the MRC de la Vallée de la Gatineau, the Resto-Pub Le Rabaska and Auberge le Draveur, Vallée de ka Gatineau High school, the BMR Group, Nokian and Pirelli Tires and many more.