

# "We have to stop clear cutting" - Mayor St-Amour

**FRANCIS RACINE**

francis.racine@eap.on.ca

**It seems to be happening throughout Eastern Ontario and The Nation municipality is no exception.**

A delegation from the South Nation Conservation recently presented worrisome

Nation Conservation. "But now, six years later, we've seen a decrease of 4.5 per cent. That's a lot."

Following a presentation, The Nation's mayor and councillors voiced their concerns over the matter plaguing the township. "In 10 years, there simply won't be any more trees," expressed councillor Marcel Legault.

matter, councillor Francis Brière expressed some concerns over the plan. "We should be careful," he explained. "We are talking about private property."

"We don't want to create rumours," replied mayor François St-Amour. "We don't want people to panic. We have several ideas in mind and we'll only adopt one after we thoroughly analyzed them."

Brizard was also quick to point that 65 per cent of the clear cutting cases took place on agricultural lands. "Several municipalities are worried about clear cutting," said

St-Amour. "We therefore have to make the local farmers aware of the problem."

Although councillor Marc Lafèche favored the adoption of some sort of bylaw that would protect trees, he warned that council should tread carefully. "Most of our economy is based off farming," said Lafèche. "We therefore can't go off to war against farmers."

The South Nation Conservation, based in Finch, offers a program that contributed to the planting of 16,000 new trees last year and 8,000 new ones this year.



Following a presentation by the South Nation Conservation La Nation mayor and councillors voiced their concerns over the matter plaguing the township.

statistics to township council concerning the clear cutting of trees in the municipality.

"In 2008, 30 per cent of your area was covered with trees," explained Josée Brizard, team lead in forest resources for the South

"We have to act now."

Council is therefore considering implementing a bylaw that would prevent people from cutting down their trees. But before the mayor and his colleagues could discuss the

**Thank You to Our Outstanding Community!**

Together, \$41,705 was raised via our October Matching Gift Program!

We are so grateful for the generosity, kindness and support you have shown.

Thank you to everyone who gave, including our anonymous matching gift donor.