



Photo: G. Gagné

## Railway retaining wall is progressing in Port Daniel

**GILLES GAGNÉ**

PORT DANIEL – On April 28, the progress on the construction of the railway retaining wall just west of the Port Daniel railway tunnel was apparent.

Despite it being the weekend, heavy equipment was on-site, as well as the Couillard Construction team.

Valued at \$23,682,014, the contract also includes widening the tunnel. The contractor has committed to completing both elements by November, as stipulated by the agreement signed with Quebec's Department of Transport.

The retaining wall and work on the tunnel are key elements that will ensure the resumption of rail traffic between New Richmond and Port Daniel's cement plant.

The federal government contributed \$10 million to the contract awarded to Couillard Construction, a sum announced on July 4, 2023.

Serving the cement plant directly will likely increase overall freight traffic managed by the Société du chemin de fer de la Gaspésie and it will increase its competitiveness. A railway car can accommodate the cargo equivalent to two-and-a-half truck trailers.