



## BUREAU DU CINÉMA ET DE LA TÉLÉVISION DE MONTRÉAL

### Montréal: Briefly

#### Getting to know us

Montréal is the second largest city in Canada, a modern metropolis and a strategic business center on the grid of North America's economy. Furthermore, Montréal is, for over 60 years now, a major filmmaking center servicing both Canadian and foreign film production companies.

#### Montréal, modern metropolis and business center

Do you know Montréal? Here are a few interesting facts and figures:

#### Population

There are 3.6 million inhabitants in the Montréal area, accounting for 11% of Canada's population. Close to two thirds of them are active in the workplace and the median age is 38 years. Montréalers generally speak both English and French. In addition, immigrants belonging to 110 different ethnic groups live and work here making Montréal an important multilingual labour pool. This labour pool is highly qualified thanks to the 39 universities, colleges and affiliated schools that position Montréal in the international network of "Knowledge Cities".

#### Economy

Montréal's economy is diverse and unquestionably headed for the future. Indeed, the local labour market numbers 90,000 jobs in the cultural industry, 100,000 in information technology sector, 40,000 in the life sciences sector and 40,000 in the aerospace industry. Montréal is home to 300 public and private research centers accounting for a quarter of all the research done in Canada. R&D done in Montréal has produced remarkable developments in several areas. For instance, it was here that BiochemPharma developed its 3TC drug for AIDS patients and that Softimage and Discreet Logic revolutionized the digital animation and visual effects technology.

#### Culture and leisure

Montréal is a world class cultural center and its bilingualism makes it the ideal bridge between Europe and North America. Every year, Montréal is host to more than 40 international events. These include its renowned Jazz Festival which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2005, and the "Festival Juste pour Rire", with its Just for Laughs English version, in which famous comedians from all over Europe and the United States perform, while many others, from as far as Australia and China, come to it to be discovered. Montréal has a tradition of fostering creativity. The celebrated pop singer Céline Dion started her career in Montréal as did acclaimed jazz composer Oscar Peterson. It was also here that Guy Laliberté built up Cirque du Soleil and established its international headquarters. Finally, as an Olympic city, Montréal regularly hosts prestigious sporting events. In 2005 for instance, FINA, the international governing body of water sports held

its XIth World Championship in Montréal. Montréal is also a regular stop on the Formula 1 world circuit with its Grand Prix of Canada.

### **Lifestyle and work environment**

Montréal's have an enviable lifestyle and work environment thanks to the modern public transportation network, numerous parks and waterfront access. Furthermore, Montréal's nightlife is as exciting as in any other sophisticated metropolis and is combined with secure neighbourhoods and a cost of living that compares most favourably to European and North American cities. Its picturesque historical district, its diverse gastronomy and the friendliness of its inhabitants are among the many wonderful memories collected by the thousands of tourist visiting Montréal each year.

### **Montréal is worth looking into!**

You're closer to Montréal than you know. Barely a six hour flight from Paris and London, five hours from L.A. and one hour from New York. Upon your arrival, you'll have the choice between 350 hotels, 5,000 restaurants and 1,600 bars and nightclubs. In addition, the Montréal Film and TV Commission (MFTC) will be there to ensure that your filmmaking venture here is successful and to answer all your questions and assist you every step of the way.