

MONTRÉAL CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Whereas



- Whereas** a consensus was reached at the Montréal Summit (2002) in favour of a *Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities* that would highlight values serving to unite and engage citizens, as well as define their rights within the city;
- Whereas** citizens are, together with Montréal, responsible for upholding civic values that foster safety, neighbourliness, respect for the social environment and respect for and preservation of the natural environment;
- Whereas** citizens enjoy the rights and freedoms proclaimed and guaranteed by the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* of December 10, 1948 and under international and inter-American human rights conventions ratified by Canada and to which Québec has declared itself a party;
- Whereas** all basic rights are indivisible, interdependent and interrelated under the *Vienna Declaration* issued by the *World Conference on Human Rights* (1993);
- Whereas** citizens enjoy the basic rights under the *Québec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms* (1975) and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (1982);
- In view** of the *Montréal Declaration Against Racial Discrimination* (1989) and the *Proclamation of March 21 as “International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination”* (2002);
- In view** of the *Montréal Declaration on Cultural Diversity and Inclusion* (2004);
- In view** of Montréal signing the *Worldwide Declaration on Women in Local Government* of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) (2002);
- In view** of Montréal’s declaration (2005) in honor of International Women’s Day;
- In view** of the *Policy Statement by the Montréal Community Regarding Sustainable Development* (2003);

Dignity

Tolerance

Equality

Respect

Justice

Whereas Montréal recognizes that it may, through its actions and authority, help promote the rights and responsibilities of citizens;

Whereas Montréal intends to engage its elected officials, employees, paramunicipal agencies and city-controlled corporations in an effort aimed at promoting and protecting inclusive citizenship;

Whereas every citizen has the duty to refrain from any behaviour that would infringe on the full exercise by others of their rights, and thereby undermining the dignity and the quality of life of all;

Whereas each citizen is responsible for observing laws, by-laws and the public good;

Whereas the *Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities* is an original instrument that has been provided to citizens as a source of inspiration in their daily lives and in the exercise of their rights and responsibilities, and which they may also invoke to the ombudsman if they feel that they have been wronged by a decision, an action or an omission of Montréal, of a paramunicipal agency, of a city-controlled corporation, of a civil servant, of an employee or of any other party performing work on behalf of the city;

Montréal hereby proclaims through this *Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities* its commitment to work with its citizens in building on these rights and responsibilities and in ensuring their application.