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in Montréal



Volume 2
Number 4
December 2005

Montréal en tête

Info on the city of Montréal

ville.montreal.qc.ca

Montréal,
a city
of solidarity

Montréal 

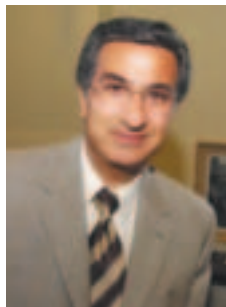
I noticed that city employees sometimes leave the engines of their minivans running unnecessarily. What is the city doing to counter this?

**Pauline Vaillancourt
Ahuntsic-Cartierville**

In fact, idling engines pollute doubly. On top of being a nuisance to people nearby, they emit greenhouse gases... and waste fuel.

The city of Montréal and the Syndicat des Cols bleus regroupés de Montréal have launched a campaign in the 27 boroughs, aimed at drivers, operators and supervisors, to raise awareness of the importance of turning off vehicle engines when they are not driving. Already, close to 4,000 municipal employees have participated in a three-hour information session that explains the impact of unnecessary idling on climate change.

A poster campaign on buses, with the theme of *Vous ne roulez pas? Coupez le contact!* (If you're not driving, don't leave it running!) will convey the same message to the general public. The city's executive committee has also proposed a by-law for adoption by the boroughs limiting idling to three minutes. Thanks for spreading the word: turn off your engine whenever possible and minimize the use of remote car starters this winter!



If I tell you that I love Montréal, you might answer that I have no other choice, and that my words are trite, trivial or simple. I can assure you that in my case, this view stems from a passion, a love affair that has lasted some 35 years.

Over the years, I have truly come to appreciate Montréal's neighbourhoods and residents, its cultural and linguistic diversity, in districts

known today as boroughs, whose dynamism and vitality have shaped this metropolis, and made it the envy of many large cities.

We have a duty to safeguard the continuity of our city, by promoting through modern, responsible management, sensible development that puts the needs of the population at centre stage. But as the saying goes, Rome wasn't built in a day: the growth of Montréal must also abide by the imperatives of the time and means at our disposal.

I am confident, however, that with the help of our employees, known for their skills and

sense of responsibility, we will invest in attaining realistic objectives such as cleanliness, infrastructure maintenance, sound management and accessible personnel in all sectors, for the well-being of Montrealers.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and productive New Year.

Robert Abdallah
Director General

Montréal's unsung heroes

Meet three Montrealers whose solidarity knows no bounds. They contributed their time and knowledge to help others beyond our borders.



"I did an internship in Togo. The non-governmental organization I worked with explained to women their rights and the importance of standing up for them. I learned it is possible to do great things through small actions. It all starts with local initiatives. When successfully carried out, they often have a leverage effect that may even reach the international level. Here too, I think we improve things one step at a time and one day at a time."

Noémie Pomerleau-Cloutier

Participant in the *Québec sans frontières!* Development and Peace program



"I was assigned by the American Red Cross to distribute emergency food aid in New Orleans. At first, we went from street to street with hot meals and water. In one retirement home, people hadn't eaten in three days! We gradually earned the trust of the authorities and the local volunteers, which helped us all operate more efficiently. I work in the field of civil security in Québec, and I now better understand the reality and challenges faced by volunteers and the different organizations that work in the field. It is vital to enlist everyone's cooperation."

Nicolas Chebroux

Red Cross volunteer in the wake of hurricane Katrina in Louisiana



"I went to Burkina Faso to provide academic and administrative help at a school (I worked in education for 35 years). But when I arrived, reality caught up with me. The main concern of the teachers there was to make sure students were eating right. I then found myself working with the villagers on a community garden project that will supply the school canteen! I was very impressed by the social organization in this village in the bush, without electricity or running water. I admire their solidarity."

Marie-Camille Latulippe

Participant in the *Éducateurs sans frontières* program, Paul Gérin-Lajoie Foundation

Montréal en tête

The information magazine of the city of Montréal

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Montréal, a city of solidarity

At this time of the year, I would like to wish all Montrealers a joyous holiday season, filled with peace and harmony. I invite you to participate in the many activities Montréal has to offer, and I especially hope you will share the festivities with friends and family.

We all know that Montréal is a wonderful place to live, but even so, too many of our fellow citizens are struggling under difficult conditions. In keeping with its values of open-mindedness and solidarity, the city is working with several partners to help underprivileged residents in several ways, throughout the year.

For one, Montréal is taking major steps towards improving housing. The *Solidarité 5 000 logements* campaign, launched in spring 2002, resulted, at term, in the construction of 5,122 social and community housing units and the improvement of the quality of life of many households, families, people with low income and homeless. We will continue the operation and we have set a new objective of 15,000 affordable dwellings, including 5,000 social and community housing units.

On another front, the city is taking steps to combat hunger. A member of the Metropolitan Montréal round table on hunger and social development, Montréal is constantly seeking to better understand the underlying causes of this problem. As part of its quest to develop solutions that preserve the dignity of the people concerned, the city is focusing on initiatives that go beyond simple food banks. These include collective kitchens, community restaurants and the Magasins-Partage.

In the same vein, through "integrated urban revitalization projects," the city is attacking poverty in some of the most fragile areas.

These projects notably bring together many people or groups with a shared interest in local issues, and enable them to get actively involved in revitalizing their neighbourhood. In cooperation with the Québec government, the city provides financial support and expertise to foster the implementation of highly diversified projects that are vital for community development. For instance, planting trees in a neighbourhood can make it more hospitable while improving the quality of life for residents. A concrete project may consist of construction of a cultural and community centre that will become a service hub for the population.

Montréal reaches out to disadvantaged people around the world

Did you know that Montréal is the city with the largest number of organizations, institutions and firms involved in development aid and international solidarity in Canada?

Montréal is one of the 300 cities and national city associations that have ratified the Local Government Millennium Declaration in favour of the Millennium Objectives. The millennium objectives established in 2000 by the United Nations include eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, reducing infant mortality, fighting AIDS and other endemic diseases and ensuring the sustainability of environmental resources by 2015. We have thus made commitments on the international level.

In September, the Mayor of Quito, Mr. Paco Moncayo, and I presented a copy of this Declaration to United Nations Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan. To help attain the Millennium Objectives, the city is first ensur-

ing that these objectives are reached within its own territory. In fact, Montrealers have developed expertise that can be useful to the populations of several countries, particularly in the field of water management and access to drinking water.

Show you care this holiday season

Montrealers shine when it comes to showing their generosity and sense of solidarity. The city abounds with organizations that help the needy. There are so many ways to promote the well-being of others. The important thing is to give.

I wish you and yours all the best for the New Year!

Gérald Tremblay
Mayor

Democratic life



Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities

The new Montréal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities will take effect on January 1, 2006. This municipal by-law recognizes the values shared by Montréal and its residents, such as human dignity and integrity, tolerance, respect, justice and equity. The Charter is a guide for citizens, elected officials and civil servants that facilitates the harmonious development of our city.

The Charter foresees the concrete commitment of the city and of all its employees to constantly improve public services that affect life in the city. In return, the Charter recognizes that citizens have both rights and responsibilities which they share with the city. These responsibilities include responsible water consumption, adoption

of preventive and security-minded behaviors and keeping the city clean. They foster respect for living environments and nature, public by-laws and the rights of others!

The application of the Charter is our collective responsibility. However, if you believe that any of your rights provided for under this charter have been violated, you can file a complaint with the Montréal ombudsman. The ombudsman can then conduct an investigation, offer solutions and make recommendations (see under).

? A copy of the Charter, in French and English, is available at Accès Montréal offices, borough offices or at ville.montreal.qc.ca/charterofrights

Montréal residents have the following rights:

- **democratic** (e.g. access to useful information, stated in clear language, participation in city affairs)
- **economic and social** (e.g. sufficient quantity of quality drinking water)
- **cultural** (e.g. protection of heritage sites, development of libraries)
- **recreational, physical activities and sports** (e.g. access to community activities and facilities)
- **environment and sustainable development** (e.g. reduction, reuse and recycling, public transit, protection of natural environments)
- **security** (e.g. security integrated in urban planning, women's safety)
- **municipal services** (e.g. cleanliness of public spaces, universal accessibility of buildings and services)

The Montréal ombudsman: a service in touch with citizens

Were you denied a construction permit, or had a grant application rejected? Do you have a complaint about poorly maintained streets and parks, noise pollution or violation of zoning by-laws or of any of your rights? Is the problem unresolved even after you have contacted the municipal department concerned or your borough? The Montréal ombudsman may be able to help.

The ombudsman makes sure that you are treated fairly and respectfully by city representatives. She offers a listening ear and evaluates your situation impartially. Apolitical and independent of the municipal administration, the ombudsman can help you solve your problem. Her services are free and confidential.

Note that the ombudsman is a service of last resort. Before you submit a request to the ombudsman, first contact the director of the department or borough concerned. If you are still dissatisfied, the Montréal ombudsman is there to help!

? Ombudsman: 514 872-8999
or ombudsman@ville.montreal.qc.ca.
ville.montreal.qc.ca and type "ombudsman" in the search engine.

Winner of the 2005 Thérèse-Daviau award Olga Hrycak: an outstanding Montrealer



Photo: Andrew Dobrowolskyj

Ms. Olga Hrycak, a Montrealer who has dedicated over 35 years to community and sports development, is the winner of the 2005 Thérèse-Daviau award.

The first woman in North America to coach a university men's basketball team, "Coach Hrycak," head coach of the UQÀM Citadins, has dedicated her life to young people, encouraging them to make their dreams come true and stay in school. She has contributed to several causes in her native parish in the Rosemont-La Petite-Patrie borough. A leading basketball expert in Québec and Canada, she has acted as a mentor for several community basket-

ball clubs. She also sits on the Elite Development Committee and the board of the Quebec Basketball Federation.

Each year, the Thérèse-Daviau award honours a person for his or her remarkable commitment and outstanding contribution to the community.



A new face for the city of Montréal in the new year!

The year 2006 will mark the start of a new configuration of the territory of Montréal. The island will now comprise 16 municipalities, including the city of Montréal.

Like the other municipalities on the Island, the city of Montréal will supply local services within the city limits. It will also supply services, called “agglomeration services,” to the entire population of the Island of Montréal, for which all residents of the island will pay an “agglomeration tax.”

As of January 1, 2006, the city of Montréal will be run by four decision-making bodies:

- agglomeration council
- city council
- executive committee
- borough councils

Agglomeration council

The agglomeration council, headed by the Mayor of Montréal, will consist of 31 elected officials representing all the municipalities on the island territory, specifically:

- The Mayor of Montréal and 15 elected members of the Montréal city council, chosen by the Mayor
- 14 mayors of reconstituted municipalities (L'Île-Dorval and Dorval have one representative)
- An additional representative of Dollard-Des Ormeaux (because of the size of the population), selected by the Mayor of this municipality

The representatives of the city of Montréal will hold 87.3% of the voting rights on the agglomeration council, whereas represen-

tatives of the 15 reconstituted municipalities will collectively have 12.7% of the votes. These percentages are proportionate with the respective demographic weight of each of the municipalities on the Island of Montréal.

The main areas of jurisdiction of the agglomeration council are:

- realty assessment
- security services, notably police, fire protection and 9-1-1
- municipal court
- social housing
- help for the homeless
- waste management plan, including disposal and reclamation of waste materials and hazardous waste management
- water supply and sewage treatment, except for local network
- public transit
- management of streets and the major arteries
- economic promotion, including tourism, outside of the territory of a linked municipality
- nature parks

City council

The city council will be made up of 65 representatives, namely:

- The Mayor of Montréal, elected by universal suffrage by the entire population of the city
- 19 borough mayors, elected by universal

suffrage by the population of their respective boroughs

- 45 city councillors elected in their electoral districts

The city council has jurisdiction over all areas that are not attributed by law to the agglomeration council or the borough councils. For example, it:

- adopts the budget and the Three-year Capital Works Program for the city of Montréal territory
- has the power to regulate areas such as building construction, pesticide management and some subsidy programs
- Adopts the guidelines that will be discussed at the agglomeration council

In addition, organizations such as the Office de consultation publique, the Conseil interculturel, the Conseil du patri-moine and the Commission des services électriques report to the city council.

The city council meets:

When? Once a month, at 7 p.m. (calendar and agenda available on the Web at ville.montreal.qc.ca, City Hall tab).

Where? Council room of City Hall, 275 Notre-Dame Street East, Montréal.

Meetings open to the public? Yes, and there is also a question period.

Executive committee

The executive committee of the city of Montréal will oversee certain responsibilities of both the city council and the

agglomeration council. For instance, the executive committee is in charge of preparing the budget and the Three-year Capital Works Program, of drafting regulations, negotiating collective agreements with city employees and can award contracts for expenditures under \$100,000.

Borough councils

The city of Montréal will now consist of 19 boroughs, which will continue to provide local services and has authority over local matters, notably related to:

- regulation of urban planning, including conversion of buildings into condominiums
- local economic, community, cultural and social development
- culture, recreation and borough parks
- local roads

Borough councils meet:

When? Once a month, according to a variable schedule, in each borough (calendar and agenda available on the Web at ville.montreal.qc.ca, City Hall tab).

Where? Borough office or other borough premises.

Meetings open to the public? Yes.



Daring artists!

Le Cirque du Soleil, Melvin Charney, Yann Martel, Denys Arcand, Michel Tremblay, Oscar Peterson, Margie Gillis, Wajdi Mouawad, Dany Laferrière, La La La Human Steps, Rufus Wainwright... These companies and artists, whether they are native or adopted Montrealers, have earned acclaim from Paris to Las Vegas, from London to Tokyo. Montréal, an open-minded and always effervescent city, also attracts many artists from around the world, such as Kent Nagano, the new Music Director designate of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal. Here, creation is fuelled by audacity, a quality distinctly Montréal which spawns popular successes such as the Jazz Festival, and also makes the city a major reference in circus arts, contemporary dance, youth literature, film animation and electro-acoustic music.

Montréal, one of North America's most creative regions

According to American researcher Richard Florida, author of the best seller *The Rise of the Creative Class*, Montréal ranks second in North America based on relative proportion of people making up the "supercreative core", defined as jobs directly linked to technology, arts and culture, education and training.

Source: Montréal's Capacity for Creative Connectivity: Outlook & Opportunities, Catalytix, January 2005.



Photo : Dominique Desbiens, illustrateur © Visna Chau

Montréal is home to five of the 10 most creative neighbourhoods in Canada

Does your postal code begin with H2W? Your neighbour is probably an artist! A recent study shows that Montréal hosts five of the 10 neighbourhoods with the largest concentration of artists in Canada.

Source: Statistical insights on the arts, Vol. 4 No. 2 © Hill Strategies Research Inc., October 2005

Did you know? Montréal is home to:

- Over 200 theatre troupes
- Close to 50 dance troupes
- Two symphony orchestras
- 32 museums, 28 exhibition centres and 19 interpretation centres
- 700 artists' studios
- 55 public libraries
- 93 recording and show production companies
- 98 film and television production companies
- The largest scientific museum complex in Canada
- 90 festivals, and much more!

Source: A Cultural Development Policy for Ville de Montréal.

A cultural development policy for Montréal

From festivals to local libraries, cultural facilities, shows, heritage, public art, exhibitions, museums, film sets, design and urban planning, architecture, cultural recreation and artists' studios, Montréal tries to ensure that all Montrealers can participate in culture at their own pace, and that each artist can find an audience in Montréal.

Culture is at the heart of Montréal's identity, history, and social cohesion. In keeping with its status as a world-class cultural metropolis, Montréal has tabled its first cultural development policy, in which it outlines 38 commitments to artists and the population. This policy affirms that culture is a driving force

behind the city's development, dynamic economy and its current and future prosperity.

The cultural policy rests on three major challenges:

- Increase access to culture for all Montrealers.
- Support the arts and culture, with an eye to the new generation of creators and audacious initiatives that stand out.
- Integrate culture in the daily lives of Montrealers through design, architecture and public art.

The cultural policy is available at ville.montreal.qc.ca/culture





Montréal, cultural

metropolis

The economics of Montréal's cultural scene: over \$5 billion and close to 90,000 jobs.

Source: Études d'impact économique des activités culturelles de la région de Montréal (06) pour l'année 1992-1993, Bureau de la statistique du Québec (BSQ).

Photo : Mutek 2004 © Caroline Hayeur



Montréal, a laboratory for arts and culture

Besides its large cultural institutions, Montréal stages a broad spectrum of events that showcase creativity and risk taking, such as the Festival de théâtre des Amériques, POP Montréal, le Mois de la photo, Blue Metropolis, the International Festival of Films on Art (FIFA) and the Biennale de Montréal.

Montréal can also boast that it is one of the world capitals of cyber-culture. A substantial portion of the world's production of animation software and special effects are produced by companies headquartered or firmly established in Montréal. Also, events such as MUTEK, the MEG Montréal Festival or ELEKTRA and places like the Société des arts technologiques (SAT) are where local and international artists and researchers team up to push the boundaries of the union of art and new technologies.

The public library network: culture within reach

For many Montréal residents, city libraries are a gateway, a first introduction to culture in all its forms. With roughly 700,000 subscribers, 6 million visitors and 12 million loans per year, the Montréal public library network is a vital part of the city, and is instrumental to the city's effort to increase access to culture for all Montrealers. Look for a special feature on libraries in an upcoming issue of *Montréal en tête*.

The Quartier des spectacles is:

- 94.3 hectares bounded by Sherbrooke Street, René-Lévesque Boulevard, Berri and City Councillors streets, that host several international festivals
- A partnership made up of 26 members of the cultural, real estate, education and business sectors along with local residents, Montréal, the Ville-Marie borough, and the government of Québec, which breathe new life into the area through a plethora of projects
- A focal point for cultural creation, innovation, production and presentation in Montréal
- 28 halls with more than 28,000 seats, including the Gesù, the oldest performance hall in Montréal
- 8,500 jobs linked to culture, stemming from 264 cultural institutions



Bird's eye view of the Quartier des spectacles

In 2004, Montréal awarded nearly \$2 million to 127 cultural organizations through its various support programs. Artists from the visual and applied arts also receive help through reimbursement of the business tax. Roughly 800 artists share an annual budget of \$235,000. In addition, through its Conseil des arts, Montréal gave nearly \$8 million to 255 organizations.

© Nomade Architecture



Montréal shows solidarity with its neediest residents

Montrealers are renowned for their huge hearts and their solidarity. You are probably among the people who feel moved to provide some comfort to isolated people and underprivileged families at this time of year!



Too many Montrealers are still grappling with problems caused by poverty, or are living in isolation and uncertainty. The hardest hit groups include single-parent families, the elderly, the homeless, young people and new immigrants.

In response to these problems, hundreds of community organizations in Montréal, in collaboration with other institutional partners, are waging a constant struggle to provide help to the city's more disadvantaged residents. Montréal is working in tandem with organizations, that are

well positioned to identify the solutions best adapted to local needs. The Magasins-Partage are a prime example of this cooperation (see below).

Investments of over \$20 million by Montréal and the Québec government between 2002 and 2005 have enabled over 200 Montréal organizations to carry out 350 projects in disadvantaged areas of the city, as part of the *Government Plan to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion*.

The Magasins-Partage: bringing holiday cheer to many Montréal families

Collective kitchens, restaurants and community gardens... Montréal provides financial and other support for initiatives that offer alternative solutions to traditional food banks. By the way, have you heard about the Magasins-Partage?

The first Magasin-Partage store was opened in Patro le Prévost in the Villeray district, in December 1986. From the 35 families served that year, the Regroupement des Magasins-Partage and its members now support 7,000 households in Montréal. That's close to 18,000 people who, each year, can stock up on groceries at Christmastime and at the start of the school year.

How does a Magasin-Partage work? Instead of receiving a pre-filled basket or bag, participants can choose whatever they need, in keeping with their tastes and culture, directly from shelves stocked with goods. A voluntary contribution of 10% of the real cost of the groceries is requested. Thus people receive but also give something in return, as these funds are reinvested in the Magasin-Partage. This approach fosters dignity, empowerment and solidarity.

Between now and Christmas, you can make donations to the Magasins-Partage. To find out more about stores in your district, visit <http://www.cam.org/~rmpim/>

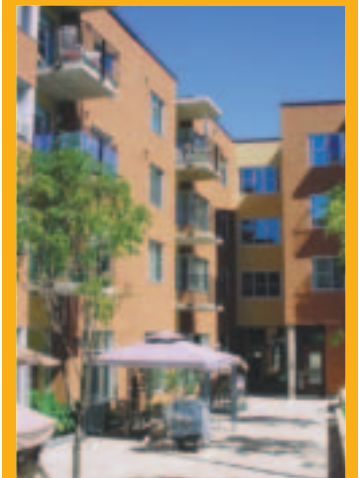
Source: Regroupement des Magasins-Partage Web site



Photo : Regroupement des Magasins-Partage

Winter warmth for the homeless

Winter is a particularly unforgiving time for the homeless of Montréal. That is why the city and its community and institutional partners have put in place measures to allow homeless people to sleep indoors. A special bus service can help them find a place in the main shelters, a team of health care workers is on alert to orient people that could not find a shelter, and shelter occupancy is monitored daily.



Solidarité 5 000 logements
Whatever the season, the city of Montréal is actively seeking sustainable solutions to the problem of homelessness. The Solidarité 5 000 logements campaign, which foresaw 500 units for the homeless and people at risk of being homeless, has surpassed its objective! Over 750 permanent and temporary dwellings were produced, and homeless shelters are already feeling the positive impact.



Heat waves, smog, floods, hurricanes... Have greenhouse gases got you fuming?

Montrealers are increasingly concerned with greenhouse gases and climate change. To limit their effects, each action counts.



What are greenhouse gases anyway?

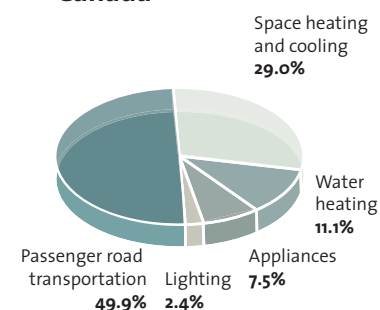
The greenhouse effect is a natural, even beneficial phenomenon. Gases in the Earth's atmosphere, including water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, are known as "greenhouse gases" (GHG). These gases act like a greenhouse and retain the sun's heat, making our planet livable. Without this natural insulation, the Earth's surface would be much colder than it is now. In fact, the average temperature on Earth would be -18° Celsius, too cold to support the diversity of life that now exists.

So why do we need to reduce GHG?

Human activities have produced increasing quantities of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The result: the greenhouse effect is on the rise and is quickly heating the planet. Prolonged heat waves, flooding, hurricanes and other natural disasters then become more probable. The burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas to heat our homes, drive our vehicles and power our industries are also adding to the concentrations of greenhouse gases¹ in our atmosphere. Deforestation, urban sprawl, and landfilling are also contributing to the problem.

¹ Government of Canada. www.climatechange.gc.ca

Personal GHG emissions in Canada



Source : *Your guide to the one tonne challenge.*
Published by the Government of Canada.

One study suggests that an increase in temperature of 1.8° to 2° C between 1990 and 2050 could lead to the extinction of a quarter of the species that exist today.

Source : Fondation Nicolas Hulot pour la nature et l'homme



Photo : Jean Lemire

Montréal supports the Kyoto Protocol and is taking measures to reduce greenhouse gases generated by municipal activities. Here are a few measures, included in Montréal's first strategic plan for sustainable development:

Replacement of 500 fleet vehicles with fuel-efficient automobiles:

- Savings of 65,000 litres of fuel per year, equal to 1,857 fill-ups
- Reduction of 155 tonnes of CO₂ per year, or the energy consumption necessary for a compact car to travel 17 times around the Earth

Harnessing and production of electricity from biogases at the Saint-Michel environmental complex:

- Reduction of 900,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year, equal to 83% of GHG emissions generated by city departments

Selective collection and sorting of waste materials in 27 boroughs:

- Recovery of 109,000 tonnes of recyclable materials
- Preservation of natural resources
- Energy efficiency

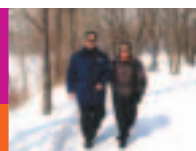
The city also encourages its employees and residents to use sustainable transport, which includes carpooling, public transit, bicycling or walking. It is extending the bike paths towards downtown and will implement the Allégo program of the Agence métropolitaine de transport at its new administrative centre in the Cité du multimédia to encourage the roughly 1,400 employees who will work there to turn to alternative modes of transportation.



Recycling your Christmas tree

Once the holidays are over, some 40,000 natural Christmas trees are reduced to chips at the Saint-Michel environmental complex. Rather than being buried, the recycled trees are used to produce electricity, pressed wood panels or ornamental mulch.

After all the trimmings are removed, you can bring your tree to a drop-off site in your borough, to the nearest Écocentre or just leave it alongside the sidewalk—on the collection days designated by your borough—if your borough collects trees.



Holiday fun!

Fun and games in the Old Port this winter!

Telus Fireworks on Ice

December 10, 17 and 24, 7:30 p.m.

Marvel at a pyromusical fireworks display launched from the Jacques Cartier pier. A dazzling multicoloured show will shimmer over sky and snow.

Igloofest

January 21 - Family activities during the day and amusement for adults in the evening.

Igloos range from rustic to disco, romantic and more! This igloo village is hosting a grand winter fiesta, pulsating to an electronic beat. The soapbox race is a must-see!

Winter Cup

February 4

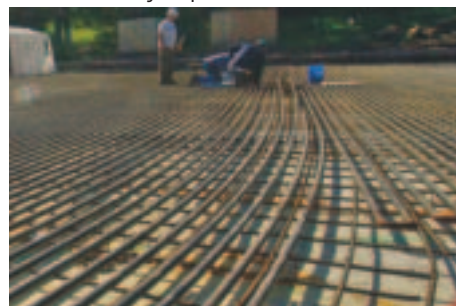
The best bike couriers from across Canada, the United States and even overseas go head to head! Organized by the Association des messagers à bicyclette de Montréal.

? vieuxportdemontreal.com
514 496-PORT

New! Refrigerated skating rink on Mount Royal

As of January, lace up your skates and check out the new refrigerated skating rink on Mount Royal. With an area of 2,500 m², this brand new skating rink rests atop 30 km of nonpolluting cooling pipes that produce safe, high quality ice. You will never have to miss a single day on the ice all winter long. If it gets a little too chilly, warm up at the nearby Beaver Lake pavilion, renovated for the occasion. Free admission.

? Information, equipment rental and special activities: Les Amis de la montagne and the Centre de la montagne at 514 843-8240 or lemontroyal.qc.ca



Construction of the new skating rink with 30 km of cooling pipes!

Have a ball with l'Auguste Théâtre



The Auguste Théâtre Christmas show is a travelling celebration in the heart of the city. Fabulous sets, musicians, singers, jugglers and acrobats invade Lahaie Park (corner Saint-Joseph and Saint-Laurent boulevards), and for the first time this year, des Faubourgs Park (corner De Lorimier Avenue and Ontario and Dorion streets).

Until December 31, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

? noeldansleparc.com

You won't want to miss...

Christmas fairies of Old Montréal

In December

? lesfeeriesdenoel.info
1 877 266-5687

La fête des Neiges de Montréal in Jean-Drapeau Park

January 28 to February 12

? fetedesneiges.com
514 872-6120



Photo : Simon Bujold

Montréal High Lights Festival

February 16 to 26

? Info-Lumière
montrealenlumiere.com
514 288-9955 ou 1 888 477-9955



No need to leave Montréal to practice your favourite winter sport! Montréal's major parks offer a slew of activities, including:

- Over 120 kilometres of walking trails
- Over 180 kilometres of cross-country skiing trails
- Slides, snowshoeing, skating

Parc-nature du Cap-Saint-Jacques • Parc-nature du Bois-de-l'Île-Bizard • Parc-nature du Bois-de-Liesse • Parc-nature de l'Île-de-la-Visitation • Parc-nature de la Pointe-aux-Prairies • Parc du Mont-Royal • Parc Jean-Drapeau • Complexe environnemental de Saint-Michel • Parc René-Lévesque • Parc Angrignon • Parc Maisonneuve • Parc La Fontaine • Parc Jarry • Promenade Bellerive • Parc du Ruisseau-De Montigny • Parc des Rapides

1001 winter wonders in Montréal's major parks

- Walks under the stars
- Sleigh rides
- Bird watching
- Nature interpretation activities, visit to an ecological farm
- And much more...

You don't own the equipment you need to practice your activity of choice? Ask park staff. Many parks rent skates, cross-country skis, snowshoes, air tubes, etc.

To learn more:

? ville.montreal.qc.ca/grandsparcs
ville.montreal.qc.ca/parcs-nature
parcs-nature : 514 280-PARC

Come out of the cold at our indoor attractions

Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal museum of archaeology and history



"Jules Verne, writing the sea" exhibition

In honour of the 100th anniversary of the death of Jules Verne, author of 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, the Pointe-à-Callière, Montréal museum of archaeology and history is staging an exhibition that illustrates the writer's ties to history, science and the sea. Manuscripts, travel logs and close to 150 relics, including submarines, diving suits and navigation instruments, will immerse you in this visionary's fascinating universe.

Until April 20

pacmusee.qc.ca
514 872-9150

Museum hours: Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed December 25 and 26 and January 1 and 2)



Guided tour "Who is the real Santa Claus?"

From St. Nicholas, who rewards good girls and boys, to Pierre le Noir, who punishes little rascals, and even grandma Babushka, youngsters will gleefully discover a gamut of Christmas traditions from around the world. Duration of guided tour: about 45 minutes.

Tours offered December 10-11 and 17-18, and December 24, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Montréal Biodôme Antarctica Mission live!



Touch base with the members of the SEDNA sailing team, live from Antarctica! The team will demystify the characteristics of the ecosystem and fauna of this far-flung corner of the world, and share their latest findings on signs of climate change. Video images transmitted from the sailboat will put you in the front row, and for a real cool experience, ask a crew member a question!

From February 11 to November 12

biodome.qc.ca
514 868-3000

Montréal Planetarium

New show!

Draco, the celestial dragon

While playing with his friend the Great Bear, Draco the celestial dragon realizes that he has lost his treasure! Helped along by young audience members, the fearless dragon sets off to the far reaches of the Milky Way. This captivating multimedia saga will educate and delight children ages 4 to 7.



Until December 24:
Saturday and Sunday, 11:30 a.m.

From December 26 to January 8:
daily, 11:30 a.m.
Closed December 25 and January 1.

planetarium.montreal.qc.ca
514 872-4530

Botanical Garden Christmas at the Garden



Giant firs and snowmen await you at the main exhibition greenhouse. As part of Christmas at the Garden, admire the beauty of the outdoor gardens with their cold-defying berries and majestic conifers that create a lovely setting for strolling or cross-country skiing. For an even more festive holiday ambience, catch the joyous carols of the Chœur Laurentien, directed by Alain Major.

Until January 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday to Sunday (December 31, from noon to 5 p.m.; closed December 24 and 25 and January 1)

Chœur Laurentien: December 4, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and December 11 and 18, at 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.

ville.montreal.qc.ca/jardin
514 872-1400



Until April 23, 2006, the
Montréal book scene is
really going places!

Montréal à livre ouvert

A literary tour presented by the Collectif d'animation urbaine L'autre Montréal will regale you with Montréal's rich heritage of printing plants, publishing houses, bookshops, libraries and schools. Learn about the history of books and reading on a guided tour of Montréal sites and neighbourhoods connected to authors and poets.

mcml.canoe.com
514 521-7802

Author's voices resonate through the city

Listen to Monique Proulx, Serge Lamothe, Michel Van Schendel or Hélène Monette. Their latest literary work straight from the author's mouth!

Des voix d'écrivains dans la ville is a literary voyage on the leading edge. Until April, listening stations will be installed in popular locations around town, such as Jean-Talon Market, l'Usine C, Pierre-Elleot-Trudeau Montréal International Airport and the maisons de la culture Plateau-Mont-Royal, Frontenac and Pointe-aux-Trembles. Just put on the headphones and get swept away!

mcml.canoe.com

Montréal... my muse!

Michel Tremblay, Leonard Cohen, Francine Noël, Abba Faroukh... Montréal's lively neighbourhoods, streets and atmosphere has inspired many an author. Click on lisezmontreal.ca and start criss-crossing the city. The site features a selection of 200 works of Québec fiction, poetry collections and plays evoking Montréal, brought to you by the Union des écrivaines et écrivains québécois (UNEQ) and the Quebec Writers' Federation.

lisezmontreal.ca

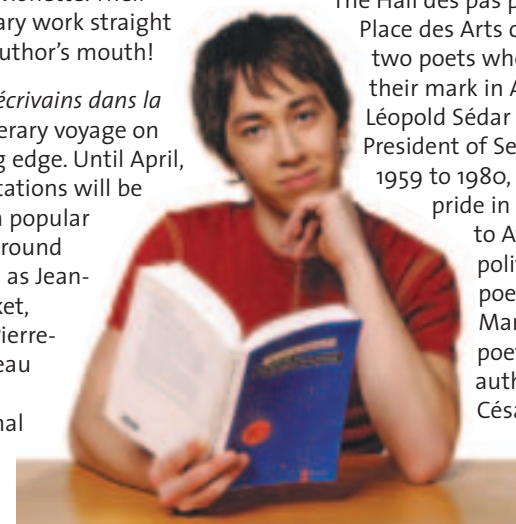
Senghor et Césaire

From January 31 to February 15

The Hall des pas perdus in Place des Arts celebrates two poets who made their mark in Africa: Léopold Sédar Senghor, President of Senegal from 1959 to 1980, showed his pride in belonging to Africa, both politically and poetically. Martinican poet and author Aimé Césaire, who rediscovered his heritage thanks to

his mentor Senghor, has been militating since his youth for the revival of Black values and culture.

mcml.canoe.com



How to contact us



City Hall

275 Notre-Dame Street East
Montréal, Québec H2Y 1C6
Accès Montréal office
Main floor

Accès Montréal Telephone line

General information

514 872-1111

Emergency – Public works (24 hours)

514 872-3434

Automated messages (24 hours)

514 87-ACCÈS
(514 872-2237)

Property taxes

514 872-2305

TDD Line

(Line for persons with a
telephone device for the deaf)
514 872-0679

Office of the ombudsman

275 Notre-Dame Street
Suite R-100
Montréal, Québec H2Y 1C6
514 872-8999

To contact your borough

**Ahuntsic-Cartierville
borough**
Borough administration
10794 Lajeunesse Street
Montréal, Québec H3L 2E8
514 868-3940

Accès Ahuntsic-Cartierville office
545 Fleury Street East
Montréal, Québec H3L 1G6
514 872-6742

Anjou borough
7701 Louis-H.-La Fontaine Blvd.
Anjou, Québec H1K 4B9
514 493-8000

**Beaconsfield-
Baie d’Urfé borough**
303 Beaconsfield Blvd.
Beaconsfield, Québec H9W 4A7
514 428-4400

**Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
borough**
5160 Décarie Blvd.
Montréal, Québec H3X 2H9
6th floor

Accès Côte-des-Neiges office
5885 Côte-des-Neiges Road
Montréal, Québec H3S 2T2
514 872-6403

Accès Notre-Dame-de-Grâce office
5814 Sherbrooke Street West
Montréal, Québec H4A 1X3
514 872-6731

**Côte-Saint-Luc–Hampstead–
Montréal-Ouest borough**
5801 Cavendish Blvd.
Côte-Saint-Luc, Québec H4W 3C3
514 485-6800

**Dollard-Des Ormeaux–Roxboro
borough**
12001 De Salaberry Blvd.
Dollard-Des Ormeaux, Québec
H9B 2A7
514 684-1010

Dorval–L’Île-Dorval borough
60 Martin Avenue
Dorval, Québec H9S 3R4
514 633-4040

Kirkland borough
17200 Hymus Blvd.
Kirkland, Québec H9J 3Y8
514 694-4100

Lachine borough
1800 Saint-Joseph Blvd.
Lachine, Québec H8S 2N4
514 637-7587

LaSalle borough
55 Dupras Avenue
LaSalle, Québec H8R 4A8
514 367-1000

**L’Île-Bizard–Sainte
Geneviève–Sainte-Anne-de-
Bellevue borough**
Borough office
13 Chauret Street
Sainte-Geneviève, Québec H9H 2X2
514 620-6331

L’Île-Bizard point of service
350 montée de l’Église
Île-Bizard, Québec H9C 1G9
514 620-6331

**Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue point of
service**
109 Sainte-Anne Street
Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, Québec
H9X 1M2
514 457-5500
Emergency 24 hours:
514 684-4444

**Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonnette borough**
5600 Hochelaga Street
Montréal, Québec H1N 3L7
514 872-6716

Montréal-Nord borough
4243 Charlevoix Street
Montréal-Nord, Québec H1H 5R5
514 328-4038

Mont-Royal borough
90 Roosevelt Avenue
Mont-Royal, Québec H3R 1Z5
514 734-3026

Outremont borough
543 Côte-Sainte-Catherine Road
Outremont, Québec H2V 4R2
514 495-6200

**Pierrefonds-Senneville
borough**
Borough office
13665 Pierrefonds Blvd.
Pierrefonds, Québec H9A 2Z4
514 624-1124

Senneville point of service
35 Senneville Road
Senneville, Québec H9X 1B8
514 457-6020

**Emergency public works
(Outside of normal business hours)**
514 630-1234

**Plateau-Mont-Royal
borough**
201 Laurier Avenue East
5th floor
Montréal, Québec H2T 3E6
514 872-6752

Pointe-Claire borough
451 Saint-Jean Blvd.
Pointe-Claire, Québec H9R 3J3
514 630-1200

**Rivière-des-Prairies–Pointe-aux-
Trembles–Montréal-Est borough**
Accès Montréal-Est office
11370 Notre-Dame Street East
Montréal-Est, Québec H1B 2W6
514 868-4300

Accès Pointe-aux-Trembles office
3445 Robert-Chevalier Street
Montréal, Québec H1A 3R7
514 872-6618

Accès Rivière-des-Prairies office
8910 Maurice-Duplessis Blvd.
Montréal, Québec H1E 6X5
514 872-6755

Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie borough
Accès Montréal Office
5650 D’Iberville Street
2nd floor
Montréal, Québec H2G 2B3
514 872-6386

Saint-Laurent borough
777 Marcel-Laurin Blvd.
Saint-Laurent, Québec H4M 2M7
514 855-6000

Saint-Léonard borough
8400 Lacordaire Blvd.
Saint-Léonard, Québec H1R 3B1
514 328-8400

Sud-Ouest borough
Borough administration
6045 Monk Blvd.
Montréal, Québec H4E 3H5

Accès Montréal office
6255 Monk Blvd.
Montréal, Québec H4E 3H8
514 872-6458

Verdun borough
Accès Verdun office
4555 Verdun Street
Verdun, Québec H4G 1M4
514 765-7000

Ville-Marie borough
888 De Maisonneuve Blvd. East,
5th floor
Montréal, Québec H2L 4S8
514 868-3543

**Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension borough**
Borough administration
529 Jarry Street East, 3rd floor
Montréal, Québec H2P 1V4

Accès Villeray office
529 Jarry Street East, 3rd floor
Montréal, Québec H2P 1V4
514 872-6381

Accès Saint-Michel office
7511 François-Perrault Street
Montréal, Québec H2A 1M1
514 872-6375

Westmount borough
4333 Sherbrooke Street West
Westmount, Québec H3Z 1E2
514 989-5251

La version française de *Montréal en tête*
est disponible dans tous les bureaux Accès et dans les
autres points de service.

ville.montreal.qc.ca