

2009 Montréal Profile

MONTRÉAL FACTS AND FIGURES

Island of Montréal

16 Municipalities

500 Square Kilometres

Population

- City: 1,659,962 inhabitants
- Island of Montréal: 1,898,206 inhabitants
- Greater Montréal: 3,636,000 inhabitants
- Metropolis ranking as the 16th most heavily populated region in North America.
- Metropolis with the 11th highest population growth of any North American region

Road and Pedestrian Infrastructure

- 5,600 km of roadways on the Island of Montréal
- 450 km of bike paths
- 17 bridges and tunnels provide access to the island
- 33 km of underground pedestrian corridors
- 700 municipally managed structures

Water System

- 1 waste water treatment station
- 7 drinking water production plants, including one in Dorval and another in Pointe-Claire
- Daily production of 2.8 million cubic metres of drinking water
- Daily treatment of 2.5 million cubic metres of waste water
- 12,000 km of primary and secondary water mains and sewage lines

Transit System

- 4 subway lines, with a total 71 km of tracks, serving 68 stations
- 192 bus lines, including 20 night lines
- 11 bus lanes covering 45.5 km

Environment

- Air quality: Montréal uses its network of 16 sampling stations to monitor air quality
- Six ecocentres
- Some 1,160 local parks
- 18 large parks
- Five major natural environments or nature parks

Health

- 90 healthcare institutions, including:
- 16 hospital centres
- 12 healthcare and social service centres
- 14 rehabilitation centres
- 41 residential and long-term care centres

Education

- Two French-language universities
- Two English-language universities
- Some 41,132 university graduates in 2007
- 6,585 master's and 1,012 doctoral degree recipients in 2007
- Numerous affiliated institutions, including: HEC Montréal, École polytechnique, École de technologie supérieure and École nationale d'administration publique

Tourism

- 14.5 million visitors
- 7.6 million tourists
- \$2.6 billion in economic benefits
- 292 conferences and corporate meetings
- 289,654 conference participants

Culture

- 40 international events and festivals
- Presence of the Grande Bibliothèque (largest collection of documents in Québec)
- A network of 44 public libraries
- 34 museums
- More than 150 entertainment facilities

International Organisations

- 57 organizations
- 106 financial centres

Key Economic Sectors

Aerospace Industry

- Sales: \$12 billion
- 235 businesses
- 42,400 jobs

Information Technologies

- Exports: \$3.5 billion
- 5,000 businesses
- 130,000 jobs

Port of Montréal

- 26 million tonnes of freight
- Leader of the North American container market

Life Sciences

- Sales: \$4 billion
- 480 businesses
- 150 research centres
- 41,000 jobs

Film and Television Industries

- Sales: \$1.2 billion
- 500 production and distribution companies
- 35,000 jobs

Montréal-Trudeau Airport

- 12.4 million passengers
- 156,947 tonnes of freight
- 243,250 flights

Montréal: An Appealing City Famous for its Quality of Life

According to the study *Attractiveness Indicators 2008*, produced by *Montréal International*, Montréal ranks at the top of the list of major North American metropolises for its knowledge-based sector, beauty and quality of life.

Montréal ranks:

Number 1 for:

Per capita number of students, ahead of Denver and Boston

Competiveness of R&D firm operating costs

Resident safety (lowest homicide rate)

Number 2 for:

Quality of life

Health and hygiene

Number of international conferences

Number 3 for:

Hi-tech job growth

Number 4 for:

Overall growth of employment

Also according to *Attractiveness Indicators 2008*, Montréal is number one, among all major Canadian cities, for:

The number of university students

The number of foreign university students

The number of master's and doctoral degree recipients

Bi- and tri-lingualism rates

The number of research centres

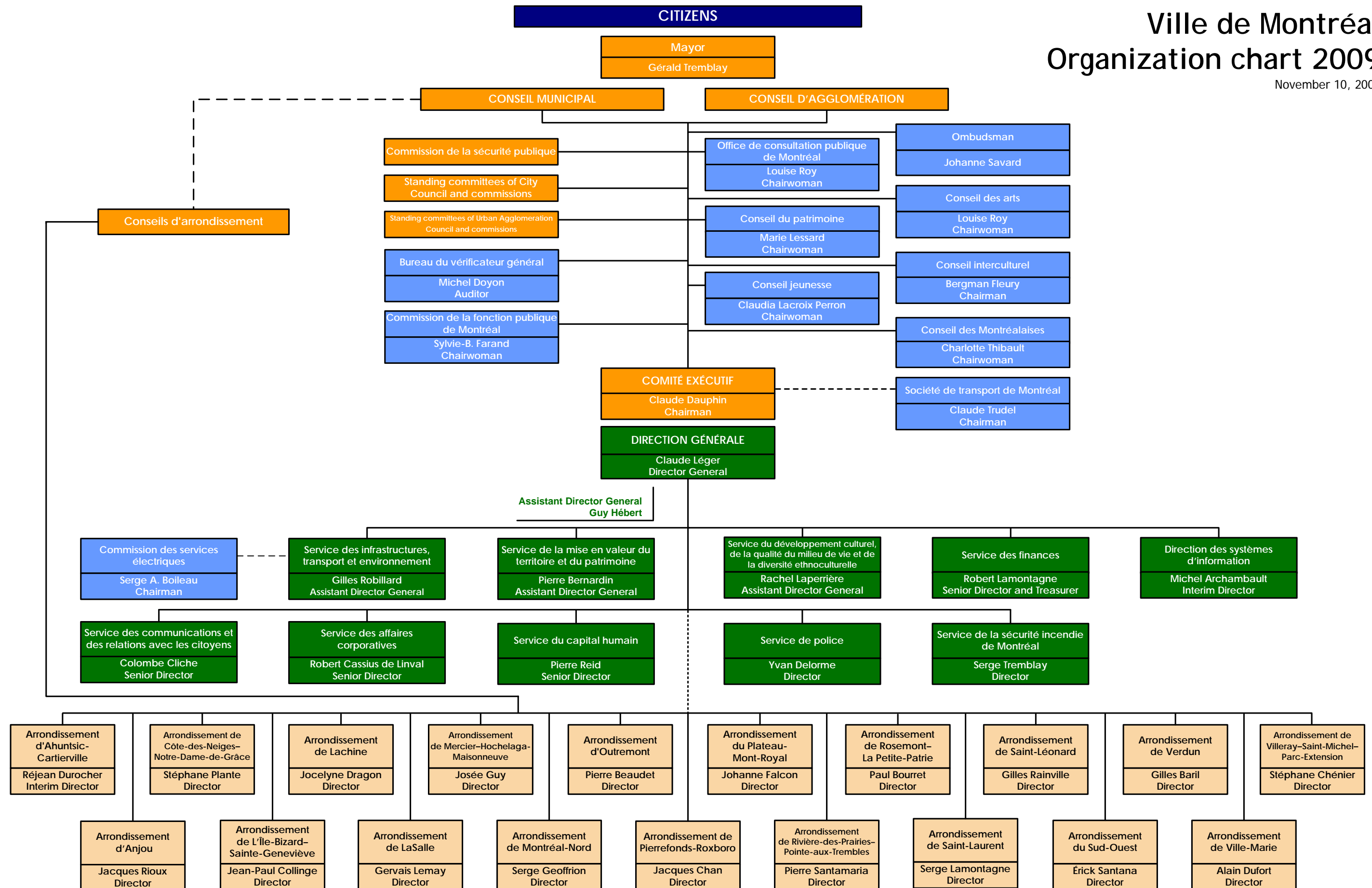
Funding earmarked for academic research and the number of university researchers

The lowest real estate prices and apartment rental costs

Venture capital investments

Ville de Montréal Organization chart 2009

November 10, 2008



Political bodies
 Organizations
 Municipal departments
 Boroughs

MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Gérald Tremblay, Mayor

- **Allmand, Warren**
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
- **Applebaum, Michael**
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
- **Barbe, Manon**
LaSalle
- **Beaudoin, Marie-Andrée**
Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- **Bélanger, Richard**
L'Île-Bizard–Sainte-Geneviève
- **Bélisle, André**
Rivière-des-Prairies–
Pointe-aux-Trembles
- **Belleli, Hasmig**
Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- **Bergeron, Richard**
Le Plateau-Mont-Royal
- **Bernier-Genest, Carle**
Rosemont–
La Petite-Patrie
- **Bissonnet, Michel**
Saint-Léonard
- **Bissonnet, Yvette**
Saint-Léonard
- **Bittar, Patricia**
Saint-Laurent
- **Blanchard, Laurent**
Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonneuve
- **Campbell, Jocelyn Ann**
Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- **Cartier, Jean-Yves**
Le Sud-Ouest
- **Cinq-Mars, Marie**
Outremont
- **Cowell-Postras, Jane**
Lachine
- **Dauphin, Claude**
Lachine
- **Demers, Laval**
Saint-Laurent
- **Deros, Mary**
Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension
- **Deschamps, Richard**
LaSalle
- **DeSousa, Alan**
Saint-Laurent
- **Dompierre, Richer**
Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonneuve
- **Du Sault, Carole**
Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- **Dubois, Christian G.**
Pierrefonds-Roxboro
- **Eloyan, Noushig**
Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- **Farinacci, Alvaro**
LaSalle
- **Forcillo, Sammy**
Ville-Marie
- **Fotopulos, Helen**
Le Plateau-Mont-Royal
- **Gibeau, Jean-Marc**
Montréal-Nord
- **Grondin, Gilles**
Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- **Hamel, Line**
Le Sud-Ouest
- **Hénault, Andrée**
Anjou
- **Infantino, James V.**
Montréal-Nord
- **Labonté, Benoit**
Ville-Marie
- **Labrecque, Michel**
Le Plateau-Mont-Royal
- **Lachance, Sylvain**
Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension
- **Lavallée, André**
Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- **Maciocia, Cosmo**
Rivière-des-Prairies–
Pointe-aux-Trembles
- **Magri, Joe**
Rivière-des-Prairies–
Pointe-aux-Trembles
- **Marotte, Ginette**
Verdun
- **Martinez, Soraya**
Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension
- **Miranda, Luis**
Anjou
- **Montmorency, Nicolas**
Rivière-des-Prairies–
Pointe-aux-Trembles
- **Montpetit, Jacqueline**
Le Sud-Ouest
- **Parent, Marcel**
Montréal-Nord
- **Perri, Dominic**
Saint-Léonard
- **Prescott, Michel**
Le Plateau-Mont-Royal
- **Primeau, Gaëtan**
Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonneuve
- **Purcell, François**
Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- **Rotrand, Marvin**
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

- **Saint-Arnaud, Claire**
Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonneuve
- **Samson, Anie**
Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension
- **Senécal, Francine**
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
- **Sévigny, Catherine**
Ville-Marie
- **St-Onge, Jean-François**
Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- **Tassé, Alain**
Verdun
- **Thériault, Lyn**
Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonneuve
- **Tremblay, Marcel**
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
- **Trudel, Claude**
Verdun
- **Venneri, Frank**
Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension
- **Ward, Bertrand A.**
Pierrefonds-Roxboro
- **Worth, Monique**
Pierrefonds-Roxboro
- **Zajdel, Saulie**
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

MEMBERS OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION COUNCIL

Mayor **Gérald Tremblay** has appointed the following elected officials to represent Montréal on the Urban Agglomeration Council:

- **Applebaum, Michael**
Borough mayor
Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
- **Barbe, Manon**
Borough mayor
LaSalle
- **Beaudoin, Marie-Andrée**
Borough mayor
Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- **Dauphin, Claude**
Borough mayor
Lachine
- **DeSousa, Alan**
Borough mayor
Saint-Laurent
- **Forcillo, Sammy**
City councillor
Ville-Marie
- **Fotopulos, Helen**
Borough mayor
Le Plateau-Mont-Royal
- **Lavallée, André**
Borough mayor
Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- **Maciocia, Cosmo**
Borough mayor
Rivière-des-Prairies–Pointe-
aux-Trembles
- **Miranda, Luis**
Borough mayor
Anjou
- **Montpetit, Jacqueline**
Borough mayor
Le Sud-Ouest
- **Samson, Anie**
Borough mayor
Villeray–Saint-Michel–
Parc-Extension
- **Thériault, Lyn**
Borough mayor
Mercier–Hochelaga-
Maisonneuve
- **Trudel, Claude**
Borough mayor
Verdun
- **Worth, Monique**
Borough mayor
Pierrefonds-Roxboro

The mayors of the reconstituted municipalities also sit on the Urban Agglomeration Council. Dollard-des-Ormeaux has an additional representative who is appointed by its mayor.

- **Benedetti, Bob**
Mayor of Beaconsfield
- **Danyluk, Vera**
Mayor of Mont-Royal
- **Housefather, Anthony**
Mayor of Côte Saint-Luc
- **Janiszewski, Edward**
Mayor of Dollard-des-
Ormeaux
- **Labrosse, Yvon**
Mayor of Montréal-Est
- **Marks, Karin**
Mayor of Westmount
- **McLeish, George**
Mayor of Senneville
- **McMurchie, Bill**
Mayor of Pointe-Claire
- **Meaney, John W.**
Mayor of Kirkland
- **Rouleau, Edgar**
Mayor of Dorval*
- **Steinberg, William**
Mayor of Hampstead
- **Stuart, Campbell**
Mayor of Montréal-Ouest
- **Tierney, Bill**
Mayor of Sainte-Anne-de-
Bellevue
- **Tutino, Maria**
Mayor of Baie d'Urfé
- Representative of
Dollard-des-Ormeaux :
- **Brownstein, Herbert**
January 1 to May 31, 2009
- **Bottausci, Alex**
June 1 to November 30,
2009

* The Mayor of Dorval also represents Île-Dorval.

MEMBERS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCILS

Gérald Tremblay, Mayor

Boroughs

Ahuntsic-Cartierville

- **Beaudoin, Marie-Andrée**
Borough mayor
- **Belleli, Hasmig**
City councillor
District of Ahuntsic
- **Campbell, Jocelyn Ann**
City councillor
District of Saint-Sulpice
- **Eloyan, Noushig**
City councillor
District of Bordeaux-Cartierville
- **St-Onge, Jean-François**
City councillor
District of Sault-au-Récollet

Anjou

- **Miranda, Luis**
Borough mayor
- **Beaudry, Gilles**
Borough councillor
District of l'Ouest
- **Hénault, Andrée**
City councillor
- **Tondreau, Rémy**
Borough councillor District of l'Est
- **Zammit, Michelle**
Borough councillor
District of Centre

Côte-des-Neiges–
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce

- **Applebaum, Michael**
Borough mayor

- **Allmand, Warren**
City councillor
District of Loyola
- **Rotrand, Marvin**
City councillor
District of Snowdon
- **Senécal, Francine**
City councillor
District of Côte-des-Neiges
- **Tremblay, Marcel**
City councillor
District of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
- **Zajdel, Saulie**
City councillor
District of Darlington

Lachine

- **Dauphin, Claude**
Borough mayor
- **Blanchet, Bernard**
Borough councillor
District of J.-Éméry-Provost
- **Cloutier, Jean-François**
Borough councillor
District of Fort-Rolland
- **Cowell-Poitras, Jane**
City councillor
- **Verge, Elizabeth**
Borough councillor
District of Canal

LaSalle

- **Barbe, Manon**
Borough mayor
- **Blackhurst, Ross**
Borough councillor (seat 1)
District of Sault-Saint-Louis

- **Cesari, Vincenzo**
Borough councillor (seat 1)
District of Cecil-P.-Newman
- **Deschamps, Richard**
City councillor
District of Sault-Saint-Louis
- **Farinacci, Alvaro**
City councillor
District of Cecil-P.-Newman
- **Palestini, Laura**
Borough councillor
(seat 2)
District of Sault-Saint-Louis
- **Vacant**
Borough councillor
(seat 2)
District of Cecil-P.-Newman

Le Plateau-Mont-Royal

- **Fotopulos, Helen**
Borough mayor
- **Bergeron, Richard**
City councillor
District of DeLorimier
- **Dos Santos, Isabel**
Borough councillor
District of Jeanne-Mance
- **Duplessis, Josée**
Borough councillor
District of DeLorimier
- **Fakotakis-Kolaitis, Eleni**
Borough councillor
District of Mile End
- **Labrecque, Michel**
City councillor
District of Mile End
- **Prescott, Michel**
City councillor
District of Jeanne-Mance

- Le Sud-Ouest
- **Montpetit, Jacqueline**
Borough mayor
 - **Bossy, Ronald**
Borough councillor
District of Saint-Paul–Émard
 - **Cartier, Jean-Yves**
City councillor
District of Saint-Paul–Émard
 - **Fréchette, Pierre E.**
Borough councillor
District of Saint-Henri–Petite-Bourgogne–Pointe-Saint-Charles
 - **Hamel, Line**
City councillor
District of Saint-Henri–Petite-Bourgogne–Pointe-Saint-Charles
- L'Île-Bizard–Sainte-Geneviève
- **Bélanger, Richard**
Borough mayor
 - **Gibb, Diane**
Borough councillor
District of Pierre-Forêtier
 - **Little, Christopher**
Borough councillor
District of Denis-Benjamin-Viger
 - **Robert, François**
Borough councillor
District of Jacques-Bizard
 - **Voisard, Philippe**
Borough councillor
District of Sainte-Geneviève
- Mercier–Hochelaga-Maisonneuve
- **Thériault, Lyn**
Borough mayor
 - **Blanchard, Laurent**
City councillor
District of Hochelaga
 - **Dompierre, Richer**
City councillor
District of Louis-Riel
- **Primeau, Gaëtan**
City councillor
District of Tétéreaultville
 - **Saint-Arnaud, Claire**
City councillor
District of Maisonneuve–Longue-Pointe
- Montréal-Nord
- **Parent, Marcel**
Borough mayor
 - **Fortin, Normand**
Borough councillor
District of Ovide-Clermont
 - **Gibeau, Jean-Marc**
City councillor
District of Ovide-Clermont
 - **Infantino, James V.**
City councillor
District of Marie-Clarac
 - **Teti-Tomassi, Clementina**
Borough councillor
District of Marie-Clarac
- Outremont
- **Cinq-Mars, Marie**
Borough mayor
 - **Moffatt, Louis**
Borough councillor
District of Claude-Ryan
 - **Nunes, Ana**
Borough councillor
District of Jeanne-Sauvé
 - **Piquette, Claude B.**
Borough councillor
District of Joseph-Beaubien
 - **Potvin, Marie**
Borough councillor
District of Robert-Bourassa
- Pierrefonds-Roxboro
- **Worth, Monique**
Borough mayor
 - **Clément-Talbot, Catherine**
Borough councillor
District of l'Ouest
- **Dubois, Christian G.**
City councillor
District of l'Est
 - **Trottier, Roger**
Borough councillor
District of l'Est
 - **Ward, Bertrand A.**
City councillor
District of l'Ouest
- Rivière-des-Prairies–Pointe-aux-Trembles
- **Maciocia, Cosmo**
Borough mayor
 - **Bélisle, André**
City councillor
District of Pointe-aux-Trembles
 - **Calderone, Maria**
Borough councillor
District of Rivière-des-Prairies
 - **Décarie, Suzanne**
Borough councillor
District of Pointe-aux-Trembles
 - **Di Pietro, Joseph**
Borough councillor
District of La Pointe-aux-Prairies
 - **Magri, Joe**
City councillor
District of Rivière-des-Prairies
 - **Montmorency, Nicolas**
City councillor
District of La Pointe-aux-Prairies
- Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie
- **Lavallée, André**
Borough mayor
 - **Bernier-Genest, Carle**
City councillor
District of Marie-Victorin
 - **Du Sault, Carole**
City councillor
District of Étienne-Desmarreau

○ **Grondin, Gilles**
City councillor
District of Vieux-Rosemont

○ **Purcell, François**
City councillor
District of Saint-Édouard

Saint-Laurent

○ **DeSousa, Alan**
Borough mayor

○ **Biron, Michèle D.**
Borough councillor
District of Norman-McLaren

○ **Bittar, Patricia**
City councillor
District of Norman-McLaren

○ **Cohen, Maurice**
Borough councillor
District of Côte-de-Liesse

○ **Demers, Laval**
City councillor
District of Côte-de-Liesse

Saint-Léonard

○ **Bissonnet, Michel**
Borough mayor

○ **Battista, Mario**
Borough councillor
District of Saint-Léonard-Ouest

○ **Bissonnet, Yvette**
City councillor
District of Saint-Léonard-Est

○ **Perri, Dominic**
City councillor
District of Saint-Léonard-Ouest

○ **Zambito, Robert L.**
Borough councillor
District of Saint-Léonard-Est

Verdun

○ **Trudel, Claude**
Borough mayor

○ **Beaupré, Paul**
Borough councillor (seat 1)
District of Champlain-L'Île-
des-Soeurs

○ **Lavigneur Thériault, Josée**
Borough councillor (seat 1)
District of Desmarchais-
Crawford

○ **Marotte, Ginette**
City councillor
District of Champlain-L'Île-
des-Soeurs

○ **Savard, André**
Borough councillor (seat 2)
District of Desmarchais-
Crawford

○ **Tassé, Alain**
City councillor
District of Desmarchais-
Crawford

○ **Touchette, Marc**
Borough councillor (seat 2)
District of Champlain-L'Île-
des-Soeurs

Ville-Marie

○ **Labonté, Benoit**
Borough mayor

○ **Boulos, Karim**
Borough councillor
District of Peter-McGill

○ **Forcillo, Sammy**
City councillor
District of Sainte-Marie-Saint-
Jacques

○ **Mainville, Pierre**
Borough councillor
District of Sainte-Marie-Saint-
Jacques

○ **Sévigny, Catherine**
City councillor
District of Peter-McGill

Villeray-
Saint-Michel-
Parc-Extension

○ **Samson, Anie**
Borough mayor

○ **Deros, Mary**
City councillor
District of Parc-Extension

○ **Lachance, Sylvain**
City councillor
District of Villeray

○ **Martinez, Soraya**
City councillor
District of Saint-Michel

○ **Venneri, Frank**
City councillor
District of François-Perrault

In conformity with the act on the exercise of certain municipal powers, some boroughs are divided into electoral districts. In these cases, the district name is indicated below that of the councillor.

City councillors sit on the city council as well as on a borough council. Borough councillors only sit on a borough council.

The executive committee



Gérald Tremblay
Mayor



Claude Dauphin
Chairman



Sammy Forcillo, FCA
Vice-Chairman



Marie-Andrée Beaudoin
Member of the executive
committee



Alan DeSousa, FCA
Member of the executive
committee



Helen Fotopulos
Member of the executive
committee



André Lavallée
Member of the executive
committee



Cosmo Maciocia
Member of the executive
committee



Marcel Tremblay
Member of the executive
committee

Councillors and Associate Councillors

Manon Barbe
Richard Bélanger
Carle Bernier-Genest
Jane Cowell-Poitras
Mary Deros
Richard Deschamps
Catherine Sévigny
Frank Venneri

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

COMMISSION DE LA PRÉSIDENCE DU CONSEIL

Chair

Marcel Parent

Vice Chairs

Marvin Rotrand
Claire Saint-Arnaud

Members

Warren Allmand
Jocelyn Ann Campbell
Anie Samson
Marcel Tremblay
Claude Trudel

COMMISSION SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT CULTUREL ET LA QUALITÉ DU MILIEU DE VIE

Chair

Marie Cinq-Mars

Vice Chair

Michèle D. Biron

Members

Karim Boulos
Vincenzo Cesari
Isabel Dos Santos
Carole Du Sault
Eleni Fakotakis-Kolaitis
Catherine Sévigny

COMMISSION SUR LES FINANCES, LES SERVICES ADMINISTRATIFS ET LE CAPITAL HUMAIN

Chair

Bertrand A. Ward

Vice Chair

Claude B. Piquette

Members

Laval Demers
Josée Duplessis
Jean-Marc Gibeau
Line Hamel
François Purcell
Alain Tassé

COMMISSION SUR LA MISE EN VALEUR DU TERRITOIRE, L'AMÉNAGEMENT URBAIN ET LE TRANSPORT COLLECTIF

Chair

Manon Barbe

Vice Chair

Noushig Eloyan

Members

Richard Bergeron
Christian G. Dubois
Pierre Mainville
Ginette Marotte
Marie Potvin
Robert L. Zambito

COMMISSION SUR LE TRANSPORT, LA GESTION DES INFRASTRUCTURES ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT

Chair

Dominic Perri

Vice Chair

Josée Duplessis

Members

Joseph Di Pietro
Pierre E. Fréchette
Soraya Martinez
Gaëtan Primeau
André Savard
Marc Touchette

COMMISSION SUR LES SERVICES AUX CITOYENS

Chair

Jean-François St-Onge

Vice Chair

François Purcell

Members

Ross Blackhurst
Maurice Cohen
Suzanne Décarie
Sylvain Lachance
Clementina Teti-Tomassi
Frank Venneri

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION COUNCIL

**COMMISSION SUR LES FINANCES ET
L'ADMINISTRATION**

Chair

Alan DeSousa

Vice Chair

Edward Janiszewski

Members

Noushig Eloyan
James V. Infantino
Luis Miranda
Maria Tutino
Bertrand A. Ward

**COMMISSION SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
LE TRANSPORT ET LES
INFRASTRUCTURES**

Chair

Michael Applebaum

Vice Chair

Edgar Rouleau

Members

Jean-François Cloutier
Sylvain Lachance
Ginette Marotte
Campbell Stuart
Lyn Thériault

**COMMISSION SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT
ÉCONOMIQUE**

Chair

Richard Deschamps

Vice Chair

Bill Tierney

Members

Laurent Blanchard
Gilles Grondin
George McLeish
Alain Tassé
Frank Venneri

**COMMISSION SUR LES GRANDS
ÉQUIPEMENTS ET LES ACTIVITÉS
D'INTÉRÊT D'AGGLOMÉRATION**

Chair

Mary Deros

Vice Chair

Bob Benedetti

Members

Jocelyn Ann Campbell
Jean-Yves Cartier
Alvaro Farinacci
Bonnie Feugenbaum
Sammy Forcillo

**COMMISSION DE LA SÉCURITÉ
PUBLIQUE**

Chair

Claude Dauphin

Vice Chair

Vera Danyluk
Claire Saint-Arnaud

Members

Patricia Bittar
Jean-Marc Gibeau
Gilles Grondin
Anthony Housefather
Marc Touchette
Samir Rizkalla (representative of the Québec
government)

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION ¹

- According to the Conference Board of Canada's forecasts in September 2008, Greater Montréal's economy should grow 1.7% in 2008. This performance is 0.7% lower than the Board's 2.4% prediction in early 2007. New forecasts awaited in late November 2008 should also confirm a decline in indicators due to the international financial crisis.
- Certain labour market indicators should post record results in 2008. The number of jobs should reach historic highs, based on results for the first eight months of the year. A total of 955,600 jobs were recorded in August, or 5,600 more than in 2007. If the trend continues, this would be the 12th year in a row marked by job gains. The employment rate also hit an unprecedented peak of 60%, a sign that Montréal's economy is holding up well.
- Capital investments surged 7.6% in 2007. With expenditures of some \$12 billion, 2007 was the second biggest year for capital investment since the start of the decade, with investors taking particular advantage of a strong dollar to replace equipment. Of that amount, \$3.6 billion came from the public sector, up 17% over 2006. The private sector, for its part, injected more than \$8.4 billion, a 4% increase over 2006.
- Building permit performance in 2008 could be better than the past decade's average. Somewhat more than \$2 billion in permits may be issued for all types of construction. The residential and commercial sectors should particularly support this good performance.
- The vacancy rate remained relatively flat in 2007, posting 3.1% in the fall at the time of the CMHC survey, compared with 3.0% in 2006. However, this is the sixth consecutive rise since 2001, when the tight housing situation had reached a critical point.
- The urban agglomeration's population was estimated at 1.9 million inhabitants in 2007, down 0.1% from 2006. The number of island residents has remained stable for the past five years. There was a sharp rise, however, in the number of births for 2007. A total of 21,800 children were born on the Island of Montréal, the largest number since 1997.
- The Port of Montréal posted the best performance in its history in 2007, when it handled 3.6% more merchandise than in the previous year. Such momentum should continue in 2008, since the quantity of goods handled in the first six months of the year was 7% higher than during the same period in 2007.
- Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau International Airport enjoyed its fourth record year in a row, handling 12.4 million passengers, up 8.8% over 2006. With passenger traffic, from January to July, 2% higher than results for the same period in 2007, 2008 may represent another record period.
- Montréal's tourist industry has maintained its stride, posting its fifth year of growth in a row. Tourisme Montréal estimates that some 7.8 million tourists visited Montréal in 2007, or 1.7% more than in 2006. These visitors spent \$2.4 billion, up 1.8% from 2006. Hotels rented more than 3.7 million rooms, or 2% more than the previous year and the best result on record since 2000.

¹ This review of the economic situation is based on the latest data available at the time this document was produced (September 25, 2008). This report only provides a summary of the Montréal urban agglomeration's economic situation. The full document appears in the *Cahier d'information complémentaire 2008*, which readers may download at ville.montréal.qc.ca/finances.

Table 1
Key Indicators for the Montréal Urban Agglomeration

	2007	2006	Variation 2006 - 2007 ¹	2008 Trends
Economy				
Gross domestic product at base price (in millions of 2002 dollars) ²	123,187	120,207	2.5	↗
Gross domestic product per inhabitant (in \$) ²	33,330	32,763	1.7	↗
Labour market				
Jobs per sector (in thousands)	950.0	940.2	1.0	↗
Full-time employment (in thousands)	759.2	753.2	0.8	↗
Part-time employment (in thousands)	190.8	186.9	2.1	↘
Number of establishments	61,020	59,897	1.9	↗
Employment rate (percentage)	59.7	59.4	+0.3% point	↗
Activity rate (percentage)	65.2	66.0	-0.8% point	↗
Unemployment rate (percentage)	8.5	10.1	-1.6% point	—
Welfare recipients (number)	58,449	60,448	-3.3	↘
Capital expenditure				
Capital expenditure investments (in billions of dollars)	12,083	11,234	7.6	n/a
Private sector investments	8,440	8,119	4.0	n/a
Public sector investments	3,643	3,115	17.0	n/a
Building permit value - non-residential (in billions of dollars)	1,176	1,056	11.4	↘
Commercial	602	589	2.2	↗
Industrial	163	140	16.4	↘
Institutional	411	326	26.1	↘
Vacancy rate of industrial premises - center sector (percentage)	7.7	5.2	+2.5% point	↗
Vacancy rate of office premises downtown (percentage)	6.9	10.1	-3.2% point	↘
Housing				
Housing starts (number)	6,898	6,955	-0.8	↗
Building permit values - residential sector (in billions of dollars)	1,025	1,095	-6.4	↗
Home sales (number)	16,984	15,012	13.1	↘
Average selling price of a condominium (in dollars)	241,000	228,773	5.3	↗
Vacancy rate - residential (percentage)	3.1	3.0	+0.1% point	n/a
Capital expenditures in the housing sector (in billions of dollars)	2,437	2,421	0.7	n/a
Knowledge				
Patents (number)*	561	586	-4.3	n/a
University research (grants in millions of dollars)**	971,963	967,418	0.5	n/a
University students (number)*	165,976	165,955	0.0	n/a
University diplomas (number)*	40,844	41,433	-1.4	n/a
Demographics				
Population (number of persons)	1,872,000	1,874,000	-0.1	n/a
Migration balance (number of persons)	-5,371	-3,057	—	n/a
international immigration (number of new immigrants)	32,596	30,344	7.4	n/a
Transportation and tourism				
Freight traffic at the Port de Montréal (millions of tonnes)	26.0	25.1	3.6	↗
Cruise companies hosted by the Port de Montréal (number)	34,809	40,565	-14.2	n/a
Passengers travelling through Montréal's airports (in millions)	12.4	11.4	8.8	↗
Tourists (in thousands)	7,757	7,631	1.7	↘
Tourist spendings for a stay of at least 24 hours (in billions of dollars)	2,425	2,382	1.8	↗
Hotel occupancy rate (percentage)	67.4	68.0	-0.6% point	n/a
Hotel room occupancy (number of rooms in thousands)	3,730	3,657	2.0	n/a

¹ Unless otherwise indicated

² Montréal CMA

* 2006 vs 2005; **2005 vs 2004

Outlook for the Metropolitan Region: A Turbulent Period in Sight

The Conference Board's outlook remains positive, clearly attesting to the vitality of Montréal's economy. We must be realistic, however, because the shockwaves generated by the international financial crisis, as well as its duration and its depth, will also have an impact on Montréal. The Board's updated forecast scheduled for late November 2008 will shed more light on the matter.

Table 2
Key Indicators: Conference Board of Canada Forecast, Montréal CMA, 2008 to 2012

Keys indicators: Projections ¹ by the Conference Board, 2008 to 2012					
Montréal CMA					
	Projected growth rate (%)				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
GDP	↗ 1.7	↗ 2.4	↗ 2.9	↗ 2.9	↗ 2.8
Population	↗ 0.7	↗ 0.8	↗ 0.9	↗ 0.9	↗ 0.9
GDP per inhabitant	↗ 0.9	↗ 1.6	↗ 2.0	↗ 2.0	↗ 1.9
Number of jobs	↗ 0.1	↗ 0.8	↗ 1.0	↗ 1.3	↗ 1.5
Unemployment rate	↗ 7.5	↘ 7.3	↘ 7.1	↔ 7.1	↘ 7.0
Disposable income per inhabitant	↗ 3.9	↗ 2.2	↗ 3.1	↗ 3.4	↗ 3.6
Construction starts	↗ 4.7	↘ -18.1	↘ -8.0	↘ -4.9	↘ -4.0
Retail sales	↗ 4.7	↗ 5.3	↗ 5.3	↗ 5.3	↗ 5.2

¹ September 2008 Forecast

Key Conference Board of Canada Predictions

- The somewhat disappointing results of the just completed first two quarters suggest there will be 1.7% growth in the economy for 2008 as a whole, in contrast with the 2.4% that had been expected based on the Conference Board's February forecasts. An expected decline in the Canadian dollar could, however, help stimulate the economy in 2009.
- The Conference Board forecasted that Greater Montréal's population would be 3,723,000 in 2008, up 0.7% over 2007. This assumption is based on a 1.9% drop in immigration and higher losses in interprovincial and interregional migration in 2008. The Board also predicted a decline in annual births. The situation should remain relatively stable throughout the 2009-2012 period.
- The per capita GDP grew 0.9%. Weak population growth tends to dampen development of this indicator.
- The job market will feel the after-effects of 2008's economic turbulence. Barely 2,000 new jobs may be created, or a very slight 0.1% increase. We should recall that 46,000 jobs were created in the Montréal metropolitan region in 2007. A gradual recovery is, however, expected in 2009. It should continue until 2012, but at a slower pace than that recorded in 2007.
- The turndown in the job market could cause the unemployment rate to jump to 7.5% in 2008. Better economic conditions in 2009 should, however, restore the rate to levels comparable to those recorded in 2007.
- At a time in which the economy's performance is less than had been expected, the Conference Board's specialists predicted that the disposable income of Montréal residents should still climb 3.9% in 2008. The Board said that lost manufacturing jobs are often replaced by better paid employment. Application of the *Pay Equity Act* (which will continue through the end of 2008) will also help push up income.
- Residential construction continues to fool the experts. At the time of early forecasts issued in February 2008, the Conference Board estimated there would be 19,500 housing starts in 2008, or about 16% down from the year before. However, these predictions have been revised based on the sector's strength in the first two quarters. The year could thus end up with 24,300 new units, or 4.7% more than the 23,200 built in 2007.
- The economic turbulence does not seem to have had a marked impact on consumption. The Conference Board predicted that retail sales would be 4.7% higher in 2007. Price hikes for different consumer products, such as food and fuels, will have contributed to maintaining this growth.