

## **Highlights from the General Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 7, 2011**

### **Contract business**

Council authorized the issue of various calls for tenders, including one for repairs to the waterworks and sewer system on Cardinal, Barré and de la Sorbonne streets, conditional to Ville de Montréal allocating an adequate budget.

Council also awarded various contracts, including one valued at \$77,172.80 to Neveu & Neveu ltée to replace the heating system in the stands of Skating Rink B at Arena Raymond-Bourque, and \$556,645.52 to Aménagements Sud-Ouest for the development and renovation of Parc Gold.

Furthermore, Council contracted Le Meilleur Ramoneur inc. to sweep chimneys on Borough territory in 2011. Residents will benefit from a special rate when they use this firm until October 1.

### **Subsidies and financial assistance**

Among other things, Council awarded the following subsidies and financial assistance:

- \$5,000 to the Maison des jeunes de Saint-Laurent for 2011
- \$300 to École Cardinal-Léger for the Programme sportif school project in 2011
- \$300 to the Peter-Hall School Foundation for its 2011 fundraising campaign
- \$500 to the Royal Canadian Legion in Saint-Laurent for 2011
- \$2,000 to Ressources Jeunesse de Saint-Laurent for its 25th Anniversary activities
- \$3,500 to Montréal Harvest to pay to for its connection to the waterworks system
- \$300 to the G.U.E.P.E. organization for its 20th Anniversary activities
- \$453 to three Saint-Laurent residents for their participation in the Canadian Ringette Championships in Cambridge, Ontario, in March and April 2011
- \$1,000 to the Saint-Laurent team for its participation in the 20th Tournoi intermunicipal de balle donnée des cols bleus du Québec, held in Saint-Jérôme in June 2011
- \$6,000 to Humanochat for its capture, transport, sterilization, vaccination, and tatooing of feral cats in 2011
- \$500 to the Urban Nature Information Service at McGill University to support its urban nature information service (514 398-7882)

Council also authorized, for the Comité des organismes sociaux de Saint-Laurent (COSSL), a payment of \$14,733 in accordance with the three-year agreement of the Initiative montréalaise de soutien au développement local, and another for \$65,000 for the Integrated Urban Revitalization of the Hodge-Place Benoit area in 2011.

A donation totalling one million dollars was also given to cégep de Saint-Laurent for the renovation of Salle Émile-Legault. Among other things, this amount will be used to cover several improvements relating to universal accessibility.

### *Universal accessibility*

Saint-Laurent officially signed up for the new Municipal Universal Accessibility Policy on the day it was introduced by the Mayor of Montréal, Gérald Tremblay. By being the first Borough to announce its adherence to the policy, Saint-Laurent thereby confirmed its willingness to continue to make improvements on its territory with respect to universal accessibility. Since 2006, Saint-Laurent has invested a little more than one and one half million dollars under the terms of several universal accessibility action plans.

### *Waste management*

Council approved its Waste Management Action Plan for 2010-2014. This plan is further to the development, by the Montréal agglomeration of its Waste Management Master Plan 2010-2014 (PDGMR), which was adopted by the Agglomeration Council in August 2009. According to this plan, every local administration must present an action plan that is in line with the orientations of the PDGMR within 24 months.

### **Bylaws**

Council approved an architectural implementation and integration plan for the construction of the Maison de l'enfance at 1159, avenue Sainte-Croix. The facility will include a daycare centre, a social pediatrics centre and the Maison de la famille. Since it contains several energy efficiency components and a green roof, the building is applying for LEED certification.

We also want to underscore the fact that a large number of points in this section related to the approval of projects put forth by merchants in districts targeted by the **Programme réussir@Montréal** (PR@M-Commerce) on Boulevard Décarie and Rue Poirier. This attests to the merchants' level of interest in this subsidy program that relates to signage, commercial terraces, and exterior displays.

### **New business**

At the end of the meeting, the Mayor of Saint-Laurent, Alan DeSousa, took a few minutes to speak about water, and more particularly about its use and the risks associated with periods of heavy rain. He urged residents to use the resource wisely, and reminded them that bylaws prohibit the use of watering hoses outside any building between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. even when it is raining, or at any time that exceeds two consecutive hours.

Mr. DeSousa then spoke about the July adoption of a draft bylaw on the **protection of buildings against sewer back-up and floods**, while specifying that it indicates the use of back flow valves to prevent back flow, and sump pumps with an exterior outlet to prevent flooding. He concluded, saying that he was confident that the new proposed measures and the collaboration of the population in this respect will have a positive impact on the back flow and flooding problem.