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Mayor's message

Dear families,

On behalf of the elected officials, partners and personnel of the Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce (CDN-NDG) Borough, I am pleased to present our Family Action Plan.

For a borough such as ours, which brings together citizens from the cultural communities of the world, the family constitutes the most significant common point. It is the key rallying point of our community, and in reading the plan

of action, you will realize that, more than ever, our borough has made its families the focus of the actions it takes on a daily basis.

I would like to thank the borough's families and community organizations, which contributed to the development of this Action Plan. Your presence at last fall's brainstorming sessions as well as the many suggestions you mailed and emailed to us, yielded some 700 proposed measures for our families. These were analyzed, grouped, and sometimes merged, allowing us to establish axes of intervention, objectives and measures. The culmination of this work is the Action Plan presented herein. It puts forth no fewer than 50 concrete measures to be implemented over the short and medium term.

This Family Action Plan is, for us, an unprecedented commitment, which lays out the work to be carried out on behalf of our borough's families. It calls into play all resources at our disposal, since it deals with housing, security, transportation, sports, recreation and culture. Furthermore, a follow-up committee headed by Councillor Marcel Tremblay will ensure that the plan's objectives are met.

Allowing families to grow in a stimulating living environment is one of our administration's fundamental objectives. With this Action Plan, we demonstrate quite clearly that we are taking all available means to ensure that we succeed.

Enjoy the read,

Michael Applebaum Borough Mayor

Messages from the Borough Councillors



Marcel Tremblay

Councillor
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
district
Head of the
sub-committee
following up on the
Family Action Plan

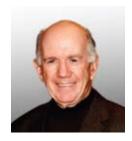
"I am convinced that the development of our borough is rooted in the wellbeing of our families, in which tomorrow's citizens are being raised and values of sharing, mutual assistance and solidarity are being transmitted. You can rest assured that, as the councillor responsible for the sub-committee following up on the Family Action Plan, I will work daily to ensure that our Family Plan is carried out."



Marvin Rotrand

Councillor Snowdon district

"Developing services adapted to the needs of our families, in order to build a highly stimulating living environment is one of our borough's fundamental objectives, and requires everyone's involvement."



Warren Allmand

Councillor Loyola district

"If we were able to develop this Action Plan, it is thanks to the work of the citizens and organizations, which participated in the consultation sessions. The measures we are proposing prove that we heard what you had to say."



Francine Senécal

Councillor Côte-des-Neiges district

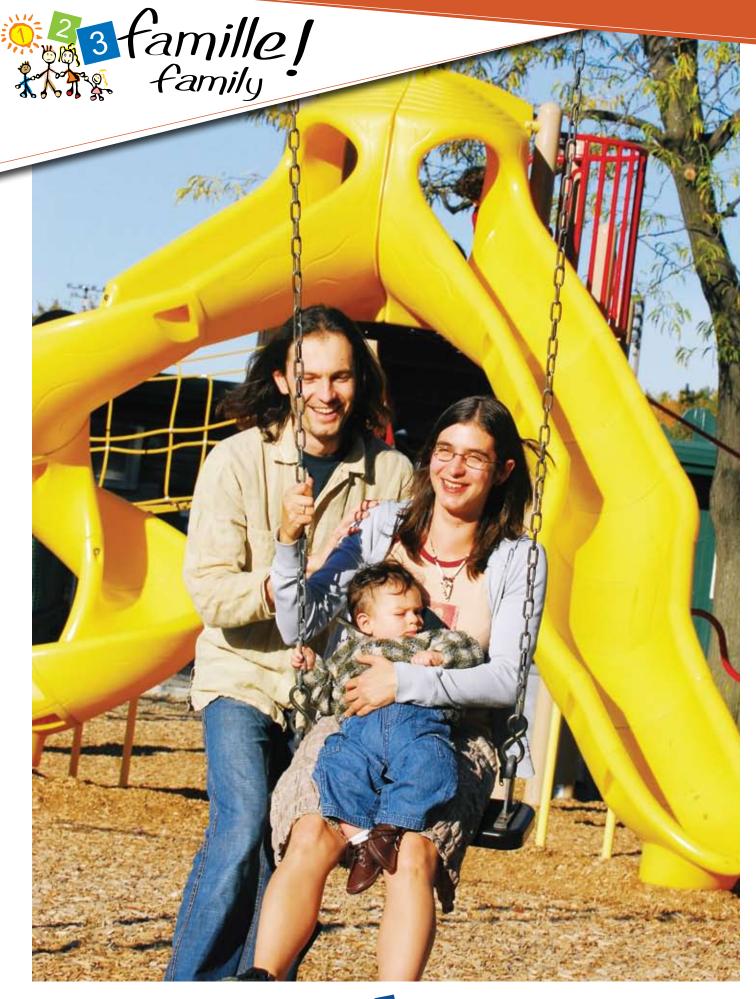
"The measures and actions put forth in this document represent a dynamic contribution to the implementation of the City of Montréal's family policy, since our borough is more committed than ever to its families."



Saulie Zajdel

Councillor Darlington district

"Our Action Plan goes well beyond statements of principle. The table has been set. It is now up to us to deliver the goods and take concrete action on behalf of our families!"



The borough's Family Action Plan

Presentation

Work on the issue of families in the CDN–NDG was initiated in February 2007. Then in July, the first working document, the Cadre d'intervention famille (Family Intervention Framework) was developed by la Direction de la culture, des sports, des loisirs et du développement social in collaboration with all of the borough's departments.

Once the Family Intervention Framework document was tabled, a sub-committee on the family was established to launch the work, which led to the adoption of an Action Plan. This sub-committee is headed by the borough's elected official responsible for the file, Councillor Marcel Tremblay.

The borough's Family Action Plan addresses the following themes: "housing", "security", "traffic and transportation", "the living environment", and "sports, recreation and culture". Thus, the themes suggested by the secretariat of the Montreal Summit in its document "Cible et plan local d'action famille – guide dédié aux arrondissements" (Target and local family action plan — guide for boroughs) were retained.

In October, four brainstorming sessions were held, with the borough's community organizations and parents called to take part. All participants were invited to contribute to the round table discussions on each of the intervention axes retained, and to formulate measures for the Family Action Plan. Ads in local papers and on the borough's website also invited citizens to send us their comments.

We went through all of the submissions. Some were deemed to be unfeasible given their scope and cost, or because they exceeded the borough's field of competence, did not fall within the parameters of a family action plan, or were either too general or too vague in nature. However, all of these ideas were kept for later analysis. The ideas retained were then submitted to the borough's departments involved. From these ideas and the short and medium-term work plan of each of the departments, orientations and measures were identified for each intervention axis. These now constitute the Family Action Plan.

A complete version of the Action Plan, including a statistical profile of families in CDN–NDG, as well as the City of Montreal's *Cadre de reference famille* (Family Reference Framework) is available on the borough's website at: ville.montreal.qc.ca/cdn-ndg.



Intervention axes, objectives, measures and schedule

The borough's Family Action Plan addresses the following themes: "housing", "security", "traffic and transportation", "living environment" and "sports, recreation and culture". Consequently, we are retaining most of the themes suggested by the secretariat of the Montreal Summit in the document "Cible et plan local d'action famille – guide dédié aux arrondissements".



AXIS 1

HOUSING

Objectives

- Improve universal access to buildings
- Improve and increase the number of large housing units
- Foster families' access to homeownership and affordable quality housing
- Promote and favour intergenerational occupancy
- Favour the appropriation of public areas by the family (rethink the use of alleys and integrate parks to housing)
- Ensure an equitable distribution throughout CDN—NDG of public, cooperative or co-owned housing
- Intervene in the issue of unsanitary housing

2008-2009 measures

- Implement a concerted program for the inspection of unsanitary housing
- Review zoning parameter in an effort to favour a built environment sensitive to the needs of families, particularly those with a low income

Medium-term measures

 Agree, with Montreal's central housing directorate, on the development of public, cooperative and co-owned housing projects in targeted areas

AXIS 2

SECURITY

Objectives

- Stem the proliferation of graffiti on public as well as private property
- Favour measures allowing safe access to parks, alleys and other public areas
- Favour safe travel throughout the borough
- Ensure a safe urban environment in the planning of any development
- Ensure a safe urban environment in established neighbourhoods and participate in the area's various partnership activities designed to increase the feeling of security of families

2008-2009 measures

- Update the borough's Emergency Measures Plan
- Establish a sub-committee or commission on urban security, whose priorities will include contributing to the work of the sub-committee on the family
- Establish a sub-committee on street gangs, to develop a concerted plan of action for dealing with this phenomenon
- Replace or add lamp posts in some of the borough's parks
- Conduct repair work on paths in MacKenzie-King Park
- Conduct repair work on paths in Kent Park
- Modify the lighting network on a section of Monkland Avenue, to improve the efficiency of several streetlights

Medium-term measures

- Complete repair work on paths in all of the borough's parks
- Complete lighting replacement work in all of the borough's parks
- Ensure a safe urban environment in St-Jacques/Upper-Lachine and Namur/Jean-Talon Special Planning Program requalification projects

AXIS 3

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

Objectives

- Maintain and improve road signs to ensure families enjoy greater safety
- Maintain the safe development and adequate maintenance of the road network under the borough's responsibility
- Make it easier for pedestrians to get around in school areas
- Pay particular attention to measures relating to reserved on-street parking with an impact on families
- Reduce the presence of automobiles and convert parking lots into green spaces
- Develop green corridors and cycling links favouring the use of active means of transportation

2008-2009 measures

- Carry out repairs on some of the borough's damaged sidewalks
- Build sidewalk ramps at the intersection of several Côte-des-Neiges cross-streets, from Jean-Talon to Queen-Mary Road
- Implement traffic calming measures on a number of the borough's residential streets (to be determined)
- Present the borough's cycling master plan

Medium-term measures

- Include parking spaces for families with young children when planning new developments
- Pursue repairs to the borough's damaged sidewalks
- Pursue the implementation of traffic calming measures on the borough's residential streets
- Implement the cycling plan in compliance with interventions called for by the City's transportation plan

AXIS 4

THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Objectives

- Turn neighbourhoods in transition into complete living environments meeting the needs of families (multiple functions, easy access to active modes of transportation and public transit, presence of green or natural spaces)
- Favour the construction of different types of housing in sectors under development, to avoid the concentration of social strata
- Favour complementary forms of occupancy (ex.: presence of employment and institutional sectors close to housing)
- Plan land allotments that favour the emergence of new companies headed by young entrepreneurs from the borough's institutional sector
- Install multipurpose equipment adapted to the various targeted age groups (baby changing tables, picnic tables, umbrellas around the pools, bicycle stands, rain shelters, etc.)
- Develop green spaces and playgrounds accessible to the borough's families
- Showcase the borough's image through the beauty of its green spaces and by increasing space for vegetation around new installations
- Promote the preservation of trees
- Support initiatives that foster the implementation of activities to welcome and integrate new families
- Favour actions that help break the isolation of persons, families, or geographic sectors
- Support the work of volunteers and recognize their activities
- Support accessibility to food resources
- Foster a feeling of belonging to the borough by developing incentives for the borough's young people to become involved and work in their borough

2008-2009 measures

- Develop and implement an environmental policy for the borough
- Support an annual cleanliness campaign in the borough
- Install water games at Kent Park
- Install water games at Jean-Brillant Park
- Refurbish Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Park
- Refurbish the rest area at Jean-Brillant Park
- Refurbish Roméo-Charrette Park
- Install or replace urban furnishings in the borough's various parks
- Finalize borough regulations to incorporate concerns included in the Tree Policy

Medium-term measures

- Complete the refurbishing of all of the borough's parks
- Upgrade wading pools and chalets in the borough's parks
- Implement the Namur/Jean-Talon Special Planning Program
- Develop employment sectors making it possible to welcome young entrepreneurs



AXIS 5

SPORTS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Objectives

- Favour projects that call for the construction or renovation of community buildings or sports facilities that promote closer ties between generations, and whose planning takes into account the needs of families and children
- Make family leisure activities more accessible, taking into account cost, scheduling, programming, location and diversity
- Favour a special family rate for municipal sports and recreation activities
- Favour the installation of sports and community facilities adapted to the needs of families
- Solicit the participation of public and private partners, to facilitate access to recreation, sports and community activities
- · Build up existing events that bring citizens together and develop a festive borough-specific concept that favours the participation of families
- Establish partnerships between community, socio-economic and educational organizations and the libraries
- Develop, promote and finance mediation activities in libraries
- Strengthen cultural mediation projects and develop others that target the needs of families
- Increase the percentage of shows for young people
- Integrate, in the program, theme exhibitions involving the family
- Adjust business hours to make cultural centres more accessible to families
- Develop family activities of a cultural and heritage nature (such as cultural tours) allowing residents to discover their neighbourhood from a cultural perspective
- Increase cultural events in summer park programs
- Develop a cultural event specifically for the borough's families
- Improve maintenance of the borough's parks and green spaces

2008-2009 measures

- Refurbish the pool, swimmers' pavilion, track and field, basketball and tennis facilities at Kent Park
- Replace lighting at Loyola Park's No. 1 baseball field
- Develop and implement a maintenance plan for the borough's sports fields
- Develop and table an orientation plan for the borough's sports and community facilities as well as its sports fields
- Lead the advisory committee on the Benny Sports and Community Centre
- Implement the first phase of a public community and cultural event identified with the borough
- · Repaint the boards, players' benches and seats at the Doug-Harvey Arena
- Evaluate and present a portrait of the cultural offering in the borough and establish a "Cultural Consultation Table"

Medium-term measures

- Develop a project for the construction of a new library in the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce sector
- Implement an orientation plan for the borough's sports and community facilities as well as its sports fields
- Implement the second phase of a public community and cultural event that reflects the identity of the borough
- Produce a report on possible sports and recreation activities during statutory holidays
- · Produce a report on rates for activities in the borough, particularly for families