

Co-operation agreement on urban planning and design announced
Ville de Montréal, Université de Montréal
partners for the future of Montréal's land-use planning

Montréal, October 13, 2009 — The Mayor of Montréal, Gérald Tremblay, and the Rector of Université de Montréal, Luc Vinet, are pleased to announce a research partnership between the Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design of Université de Montréal and the Ville de Montréal's *Service de la mise en valeur du territoire et du patrimoine*.

"Montréal's universities abound with impassioned architecture, land-use planning and urban planning professionals yearning to lend their creativity and talent to the task of making Montréal a modern city, and an exemplary one when it comes to these disciplines," Mayor Tremblay said. "With this agreement, the Ville and Montréal and Université de Montréal are giving formal structure to existing collaborative efforts to enhance the quality of Montrealers' living environment, for example as part of the *Building Montréal, UNESCO City of Design* project."

Under the three-year partnership between the two institutions, the Ville de Montréal will contribute a total of \$75,000, in instalments of \$25,000 per year. The partnership is in keeping with the City's desire to consolidate its collaborative projects with Montréal's universities so as to better draw upon their expertise in the field of urban planning and design.

"This co-operation with the Ville de Montréal is especially important given the fact that Université de Montréal has a stake in the planning and environmental challenges that we face as a society. So I am proud that the unique expertise developed by the university's Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design is playing a direct role in Montréal's land development," Rector Vinet emphasized.

The agreement will lend support to the Ville de Montréal's *Service de la mise en valeur du territoire et du patrimoine* in conducting its various land-use requalification and development projects with different government players. The research work envisioned will touch on such aspects as the redesigning of road and highway accesses to Montréal, acknowledgement of the river landscape and the attractions of the city's urban landscape, management of Montréal's historic and heritage urban landscapes, and the landscaping of its bicycle path networks.

"Created in 1996 by the Université de Montréal's Faculty of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning, the Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design is an applied-research group dedicated to management of Québec's landscapes, including the preservation and development of cityscapes," said the Chair's Director, Philippe Poullaouec-Gonidec. "It is only natural that the Ville de Montréal should benefit from this expertise, which is universally recognized, in part through the fact that the group is affiliated with the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design."

With this agreement, the Ville de Montréal joins the ranks of the Chair's other government partners, the Ministère des Transports du Québec, the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine, as well as the project partners, which include the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire, Hydro-Québec, and the Conférence régionale des élus de Montréal.

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