

**2022 Mtl
Climate
Summit Proceedings**

First
Edition

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2022 Edition

About the Montréal Climate Partnership

The Partnership is an independent initiative that brings together economic, community, philanthropic and institutional organizations. Its mission is to mobilize key players in the Montréal community, with assistance from a diverse steering committee, to help reduce GHG emissions by 55% by 2030, strengthen the city's climate resilience and put it on the path to reaching carbon neutrality by 2050.

The Montréal Climate Partnership follows in the footsteps of the strong collaborative work begun in 2018-2019 by a group of philanthropic foundations with the City of Montréal and the C40 Cities organization for the development of the City's Climate Plan. The Partnership is inspired by leading international engagement models, such as the Green Ribbon Commission in Boston and the London Business Climate Leaders. The initiative places Montréal at the forefront of the globe as a leading city in the C40 by making the ecological transition foundational to its prosperity and appeal.



To learn more:
www.climatmontreal.com

About the Montréal Climate Summit

This is a decisive decade for climate action—time is of the essence and we need to move fast.

The City of Montréal established a Climate Plan in 2020, setting several bold objectives for adaptation and GHG-emission reductions. Montréal plans to reduce emissions by 55% from 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

This first annual meeting of the Montréal Climate Summit took stock of the work done so far and brought together stakeholders from all spheres of civil society. Representatives from the business community, governments, institutions, and community and environmental organizations, along with engaged individuals, led a lively discussion on how to take real action for the climate and fast-track the measures that are already underway. Future versions of this event will take this even further, with more emphasis on networking for members of the ecosystem in order to accelerate the implementation of meaningful measures. There will also be a greater focus on providing space for stakeholders to announce climate initiatives that shape the future of the city.

The program for this Summit was developed in close collaboration between the Montréal Climate Partnership, its partners and the City of Montréal. The focus was on priorities for climate action and adaptation, as well the issues and the essential social contexts that must be considered to ensure the transition's positive impacts are felt all over the city.

To see the 2022 program:
www.sommetclimatmtl.com

Message from the Executive Director



Our first Summit focused on the theme “How Montréal is tackling the climate crisis.” Over five hundred representatives from civil society with a shared interest in our city’s climate transition came together to discuss the issues and come up with tangible, effective ways to do more for the climate in less time. Thank you to all of our attendees, including leaders from major institutions, businesses and foundations, community representatives and elected officials, as well as the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault, Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change Benoit Charette, and Montréal mayor Valérie Plante. Just by showing up, you’re helping to make a difference.

As Executive Director of the Montréal Climate Partnership and organizer of this new annual flagship event, it’s so heartening to see civil society take a sincere interest in this issue and get more involved. We are forging a new era of innovative collaboration—something that is absolutely vital if our communities are to remain strong and if we are to improve our social, economic and ecological resilience. This was our goal for the Summit: ensuring that we maintain the collective momentum to achieve our climate goals and unite everyone behind a shared vision for the city. These Summit Proceedings are a collective roadmap

that can help us reach our intended destination and focus on the challenges facing us and how can work together to overcome them.

Our commitment to the climate also strengthens Montréal’s national and international standing as a leader of the ecological transition alongside other major cities such as Paris, London, Barcelona, Toronto and New York. Hopefully, this will drive us to push as hard as we can to stay ahead of the pack.

By next spring, several other key milestones for climate action in the city will be in the rearview mirror: [the public consultation for the 2050 City Vision](#), the COP15 on biodiversity, the COP27 on climate change and all of the other events within the Montréal ecosystem related to the climate crisis. The conclusions drawn from these events will serve as fodder for the next Summit. The bar has officially been raised, and we’ve taken on the task for 2023 of developing even more diverse programming that is accessible to more people, strengthening the networking opportunities for stakeholders from different sectors and responding in depth to Montréal’s various cross-cutting issues.

“We’ll see you there on May 9 and 10, 2023!”

Mélanie Le Berre
Executive Director

Message from the Mayor



The 2022 Montréal Climate Summit has enabled us to demonstrate that the ecological transition is well on its way in Montréal. The magnitude of the issues we face, as well as the fact that society as a whole is already impacted by climate change, have driven us to speed up our pace in the right direction. This is exactly what we are doing, collectively.

Thanks to the commitment of all our partners, the 2022 Montréal Climate Summit has been a resolute success. Major announcements were made during this significant gathering, namely with respect to building standards, and fundamental topics were addressed in an effort to seek common solutions.

Exchanges have contributed to an in-depth look into key issues, such as the concept of a zero-emission zone, building decarbonation, environmental taxation and accelerated implementation of adaptability measures across our territory.

Montréal applies all the ideas shared in an effort to develop public policies aiming to accelerate the ecological transition.

As Vice Chair of the C40 network, I am fully committed, along with my colleagues from across the globe, to tackle the ecological transition issues arising

“Now is the time to save the planet. Now is the time for us to do what we must. Together, we have the expertise and the ability to do more, faster.”

as part of our fight against climate change. One of Montréal’s greatest assets is the outstanding mobilization of stakeholders from all walks of life, who are dedicated to a successful transition.

The Climate Montréal Partnership, the numerous organizations involved, along with the city’s commitment to supporting the ecological transition are key to the emergence of a plethora of diverse viewpoints that will yield the creation of a greener and more resilient society for all.

In preparation for the 2nd Montréal Climate Summit, Montréal intends to announce concrete advancements with respect to mobility and urban planning.

We will take clear action to strengthen our leadership position with respect to the ecological transition and to build a positive and appealing future for generations to come.

Valérie Plante
Mayor of Montréal

Program

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Arrival and networking

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.

Opening remarks

Introduction and overview of the day's events

9:45 – 11:30 a.m.

Round table

How Montréal is tackling the climate crisis

Moderator

Karel Mayrand
President and CEO, Foundation
of Greater Montréal and Co-Chair,
Montréal Climate Partnership

Panellists

Dr. Mylène Drouin
Regional Director of Public Health for Montréal

Geneviève Fournier
Vice President Marketing and Customer
Experience, Hydro-Québec

Marie-Andrée Mauger •
Verdun borough mayor, Member of the Executive
Committee responsible for the ecological transition
and the environment, City of Montréal

Geneviève Morin
Chief Executive Officer, Fondation

Stéphane Paquet
President and CEO, Montréal International

Valérie Plante
Mayor of Montréal

Élise Proulx
Head of Quebec Economic Development,
Ivanhoé Cambridge

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Block A

Choice of:
Workshop 1, Workshop 2 or Panel 1

2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Break

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Block B

Choice of:
Workshop 3, Workshop 4 or Panel 2

4:30 p.m.

Closing remarks

Presented by Fondation
Stéphan Morency
Vice President and Chief Investment Officer,
Fondation

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Gala du CRE-Montréal

Environmental and ecological transition
Awards and Cocktail.

For more information:
[Gala du CRE-Montréal](#)

Address by Valérie Plante
Mayor of Montréal

Block A

Workshop 1
Working together to make Montréal more resilient
Hosted by CRE-Montréal

Moderator
Emmanuel Rondia
Executive Director, Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal

Panellists
Malin Anagrus
Director, SOVERDI
Robert Beaudry •
City Councillor and Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for urban planning, citizen participation and democracy, City of Montréal
Mélanie Glorieux
Project Manager and Partner, Rousseau-Lefebvre
Dr. David Kaiser
Head of urban environmental and public health, Montréal's public health unit
Thierry Sénécal
Planning Advisor, Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve borough, City of Montréal

Elected of the City of Montréal •

Workshop 2
Decarbonizing Montréal's buildings
Hosted by Vivre en ville

Moderator
Christian Savard
Director General, Vivre en ville

Panellists
Annik Desmarteau
Vice-President, Office, Québec, Ivanhoé Cambridge
Vince Di Domenico
Chief Operating Officer, Groupe MACH
Jean-Philippe Hardy
Managing Consultant, Dunsky
Marie-Andrée Mauger •
Verdun borough mayor, Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for the ecological transition and the environment, City of Montréal
Cathy Pasion
Climate Policy Manager, Sustainability Group, Planning, Urban Design & Sustainability, City of Vancouver
Marc-Antoine Renaud
Board Administrator, SOFIAC
Jonathan Théorêt
Division Manager – Transportation, Energy and Buildings, Bureau de la transition écologique et de la résilience (BTER), City of Montréal

Panel 1
Not just a fad: The next generation of eco-minded entrepreneurs
Hosted by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Montréal

Moderator
Hélène Olland
Director, Startups, Strategy and Marketing Division, Business and Institutional Services, Desjardins and Board Administrator, Junior Chamber of commerce of Montréal

Panellists
Annie Cyr
Co-founder and CEO, Tengiva
Habi Gerba
President and spokesperson, Junior Chamber of commerce of Montréal
Alexandru Iordan
Co-Founder, SAF+ and Co-Founder, Quebec Net Positive
Siamak Kashi
Director of Engineering and Co-Founder, Edgehog
Luc Rabouin •
Plateau-Mont-Royal borough mayor, Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for economic business development and design, City of Montréal
Geneviève Tanguay
CEO, Anges Québec and President of JCCM's Council of Mentors
Emmanuelle Tavernier
Chief Executive Officer and Impact Catalyst, OXIA Initiative

Block B

Workshop 3
Green taxation for climate: Where to begin?
Hosted by l'Institut du Québec

Moderator
Luc Belzile
Senior economist, Institut du Québec

Panellists
Michel Leblanc
President and CEO, Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montréal
Jean-Philippe Meloche
Professor of urban economics and local public finance, Université de Montréal
Dominique Ollivier •
City of Montréal Executive Committee Chair Responsible for finances, human resources, government relations and City Councillor, Rosemont borough
Marc-André Viau
Director of government relations, Équiterre and Member of the SWITCH Alliance

Elected of the City of Montréal •

Workshop 4
Electrification of downtown mobility
Hosted by Propulsion Québec

Moderator
Victor Poudelet
Director, Cité for Sustainable Mobility Project at Propulsion Québec

Panellists
Aline Berthe,
Director, Centres de gestion des déplacements métropolitains, MOBA et Voyagez futé
Sophie Mauzerolle •
City Councillor, Ville-Marie borough, Executive Committee Member Responsible for transportation and mobility, and Agglomeration Council Member, City of Montréal
Edwin Richard
Co-founder of Courant+
Françoise Schaetzel
Vice President in charge of Operational Urban Planning, Quality of Life Policy, Air Quality and Environmental Health, Strasbourg – City and Eurométropole

Panel 2
Getting started on transition: Concrete examples from Montréal organizations
Hosted by the Trottier Family Foundation

Moderator
Jean-Patrick Toussaint
Senior Director of the Trottier Family Foundation's Climate Program

Panellists
Marie-Claude Bourgie
Executive Director of the Greater Montréal Climate Fund
Hélène V. Gagnon
Chief Sustainability Officer and Senior Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement, CAE
Manuela Goya
Vice President, Destination development and Public affairs, Tourisme Montréal
Louise Hénault-Éthier
Director of the Centre Eau Terre Environnement and associate-professor at Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS)
Dr. Stephan Williams
Anesthesiologist and medical co-manager for carbon neutrality and sustainable development, CHUM

“Openness and dialogue are key to innovating for the common good and making collective progress.

I am convinced that we will see new types of local and regional partnerships to help us take action and implement real solutions.”

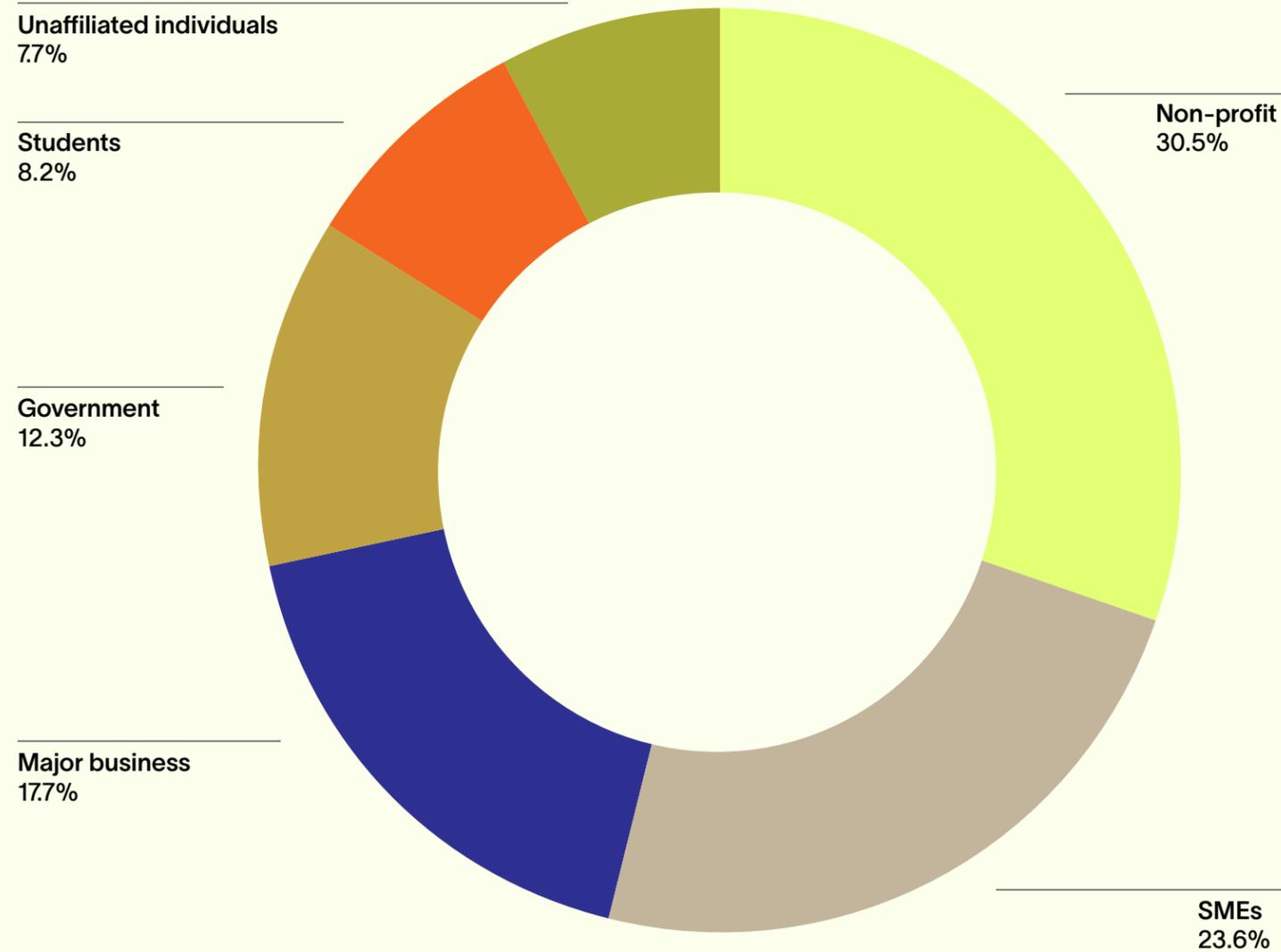
Geneviève Morin
Chief Executive Officer,
Fondaction



197 Attending Organizations

Advisory Committee on Climate Change	l'Université de Montréal	communautaire	Épisode	Krome Services	Northex Environnement Inc.	RVE	of Outremont
Aéroports de Montréal	Centre québécois du droit de l'environnement	Courant Plus CREDDO	Esplanade Québec	Krome Services, FNX-Innov Lachine Eco-District – GRAME	Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal	Société du parc Jean-Drapeau	Ville de Montréal, borough of Saint-Laurent
Agence de mobilité durable Allo Simonne inc.	CGD métropolitains	David Suzuki Foundation	Fondation	La Transformerie	Office of MNA	Société de transport de Montréal	Ville de Montréal, borough of Ville-Marie
Alstom	Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal	Direction régionale de santé publique de Montréal	Fondation Espace pour la vie	Le Chic Resto Pop	Alexandre Leduc	Solon	Ville de Montréal, Bureau de la transition écologique et de la résilience
Alterum	City of Vancouver	Dunsky Energy + Climate	Fonds Écoleader	Lemay	Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec	SOVERDI	Ville de Montréal, Centre de sécurité civile, Stratégie intégrée de gestion des eaux en temps de pluie
Association des professionnels de la construction et de l'habitation du Québec	CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	Éco-quartier de Sainte-Marie – SEM	Fonds immobilier de solidarité FTQ	Les Amis du village historique du Sault-au-Récollet	OURANOS	Synergie Santé Environnement	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Association des sociétés de développement commercial de Montréal	Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation	Éco-quartier de Saint-Jacques – ASCCS	Foundation of Greater Montréal	Lucie and André Chagnon Foundation	Palais des congrès de Montréal	Talsom	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Association industrielle de l'Est de Montréal	Climate Action Network Canada	Éco-quartier Peter-McGill – SAESEM	Futur Simple	Maison de l'innovation sociale	Percolab Coop	Taxelco	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Astus	Climate Solutions Prize by JNF	Éco-quartier Sud-Ouest – YMCA Québec	Gestion Humano	Matrox	Plaza REIT	TOHU	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Bâtiment durable Québec	COESIO	Éco-quartier Sud-Ouest – YMCA Québec	Gestion immobilière Quo Vadis inc.	McConnell Foundation	PME MTL Est-de-l'île Polytechnique Montréal	Tourisme Montréal	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Biologie et environnement	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Ecohome	Greater Montréal	Métrocom	Pomerleau	Transport Actif Québec	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Biosphère, Space for life	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	École de technologie supérieure	Climate Fund	Mila	Power Sustainable	Trottier Family Foundation	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Botanical Garden, Espace pour la vie	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Ecometrica	Groupe MACH	Mini-Cycle	Prével	TSI Heritage	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Blue Vision Capital	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Econoler	HEC Montréal	Ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation du Québec	Priori-T Capital	Uber	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
BrainBox AI	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	ECOSPHERE fair	Hilo Énergie	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Propulsion Québec	Université de Montréal	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Brio – Management boutique	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Écotech Québec	Hydro-Québec	Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec	Provencher Roy	Université de Sherbrooke	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Ellio	Innocap	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Architectes	Université du Québec à Montréal	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Campus de la transition écologique	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Energere	InnovÉÉ	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Rachel Julien	McGill University	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
CargoM	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Énergir	Innovitech	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton	Université Science	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
CCG	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Énergir chaleur et climatisation urbaine	Institut national de la recherche scientifique	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	RECYC-QUÉBEC	PO Toulouse, stage international à SSE	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Centre for Sustainable Development Centre-Sud	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	ENGIE Services	INRS, Eau Terre	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement des éco-quartiers	Vélo Transit	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Centraide of Greater Montreal	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Environment Research Centre	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Republik	Vidéotron	Ville de Montréal, Service des finances Ville de Québec
Centre d'écologie urbaine de Montréal	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Environment and Climate Change Canada	Institut de l'énergie Trottier	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Réseau d'entraide	Ville de Candiac	Ville de Montréal, borough of Ahuntsic-Cartierville
Centre hospitalier de	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Écotech Québec	International Institute for Sustainable Development	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Covid-19 Help Hub, Climate Cell	Ville de Laval	Ville de Montréal, borough of Ahuntsic-Cartierville
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Épisode	Ivanhoé Cambridge inc.	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement national des conseils régionaux de l'environnement du Québec	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Esplanade Québec	IVÉO	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement des éco-quartiers	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Evol	Jalon	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement des éco-quartiers	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Excellence industrielle Saint-Laurent (Moba)	JLL	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement des éco-quartiers	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Exo	Junior Chamber of Commerce of Montreal	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement des éco-quartiers	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	Exponentiel Conseil	KABANE	Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Regroupement des éco-quartiers	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord
	Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal	EY		Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec	Rousseau Lefebvre	Ville de Montréal, borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve	Ville de Montréal, borough of Montréal-Nord

Attendee profile



Major business sectors

Teaching \ research	17.9%
Energy	10.3%
Transportation	12.8%
Finance	12.8%
Construction	12.8%
Network representatives	7.7%
Consultants	12.8%
Technology	5.1%
Food	2.6%
Culture	12.8%

SME sectors

Consultants	17.6%
Environmental services	13.7%
Construction	13.7%
Energy	13.7%
Transportation	11.8%
Network representatives	7.8%
Culture	5.9%
Finance	5.9%
Teaching \ Research	3.9%
Food	2%
Technology	2%
Retail	2%

Non-profit sectors

Environmental services	41.8%
Philanthropy	13.4%
Culture	9%
Finance	7.5%
Construction	4.5%
Consultants	4.5%
Transportation	4.5%
Network representatives	4.5%
Food	3%
Technology	3%

Mission: Accelerating climate action

The first Montréal Climate Summit on May 3, 2022, led to a number of major climate commitments from the City of Montréal and well-established community stakeholders. The hundreds of attendees and speakers shared their unique perspectives and ideas for accelerating the transition.

Summary of the opening round table: How Montréal is tackling climate change

The challenge before us is a sizeable one: doing in 8 years what we previously did in 30, while simultaneously transforming a major urban centre into a low-carbon, resilient city. The IPCC is unequivocal in its language: now is the time for decisive, concrete action. If we want to pick up the pace on climate action in Montréal, engaging everyone and harnessing collaboration is more essential than ever.

The fight against climate change and the accompanying ecological transition are becoming increasingly central to Montréal's identity on the world stage, as demonstrated by the city's hosting of an International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) office. This reputation is dependent on the actions that we are taking right here in Montréal.

The round table was an opportunity for Mayor Valérie Plante and her fellow panellists to review and discuss the progress the city has made on the climate front, and the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead:

Moderator

Karel Mayrand
President and CEO,
Foundation of Greater Montréal
and Co-Chair, Montréal Climate Partnership

Panellists

Dr. Mylène Drouin
Regional Director of Public Health for Montréal

Geneviève Fournier
Vice President Marketing and Customer Experience, Hydro-Québec

Marie-Andrée Mauger •
Verdun borough Mayor, Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for the ecological transition and the environment, City of Montréal

Geneviève Morin
Chief Executive Officer, Fondation

Stéphane Paquet
President and CEO, Montréal International

Valérie Plante
Mayor of Montréal

Elise Proulx
Head of Quebec Economic Development,
Ivanhoé Cambridge

The round table also led to several major announcements, detailed below, that will help blaze a path to a greener, healthier future in Montréal.

Collective action to help the climate and protect vulnerable populations

The climate transition will only be successful if it is to include all of our communities, especially the most vulnerable. Health and education networks will play a key role in this process and in our efforts to adapt and reduce our GHG emissions, along with community stakeholders, who will need more resources to get the job done. The transition will also require us to mobilize researchers, philanthropists and youth.

To help Montréal go carbon neutral, all sectors of society will need to be mobilized to make progress on the major facets of the transition: greening spaces, establishing the zero-emission zone downtown, getting major organizations like SMEs involved and sharing experiences between the different sectors and stakeholders.

Collaboration emerged as a prerequisite for winning the fight against climate change. Organizations at the round table zeroed in on a number of issues that will require cooperation in the years to come if we are to accelerate the transition, including collaboration with the private sector:

- Generating widespread buy-in, a prerequisite for creating a ripple effect to influence business culture and draw attention to the challenges before us
- Stimulating investment from the private sector for promising projects in Montréal, in particular expanding the hub of international organizations working on biodiversity and sustainable development issues
- Reducing GHG emissions from Montréal buildings
- Making sustainability one of the standard criteria in calls for tenders
- Extensively electrifying Montréal by establishing more sustainable systems, such as heat recovery
- Being kind to one another and sharing effective, successful initiatives

The Q&A period also made it clear that the success of the climate transition in Montréal has a number of other necessary conditions, such as the need to:

- Have social and environmental issues go hand in hand with diversity and inclusion, giving space for marginalized communities to speak, integrating them in the climate transition
- Establish equity between neighbourhoods, for example through greening of public space and the incorporation, and through community resilience
- Increase the number of projects based on the “15-minute cities” philosophy
- Develop low-emission vehicle delivery solutions, without compromising the vitality of our neighbourhood shopping districts

The Climate Summit has turned into a unique opportunity for Montréal’s business, institutional, philanthropic, political, community and environmental leaders, as well as students and urban residents, to work together to find solutions to climate issues, in addition to sharing inspiring initiatives and mobilizing the Montréal community.

“We have a major challenge before us. It is also an opportunity for us to think about what kind of city we want to build and how to make it carbon neutral and resilient”

Karel Mayrand
President and CEO,
Foundation of Greater Montréal

Collectively tackling climate change

A bold tone was laid down from the start of the Summit, with commitments from key stakeholders in the city:

- The roadmap toward zero-emission buildings in Montréal by 2040 for the [City of Montréal](#), including a zero-emission performance threshold for new construction permit applications—starting in 2024 for those under 2,000 square metres, and in 2025 for larger surfaces
- Collaboration between [Hydro-Québec](#) and the City of Montréal to find and implement energy-efficiency and peak demand management solutions
- The new target for [Ivanhoé Cambridge](#) properties of decarbonizing buildings and reducing carbon intensity by 55% by 2030
- The [CHUM](#) carbon neutrality strategy
- Collaboration between the [Direction de santé publique de Montréal](#) and the City to take action on resilience and adaptability in the face of climate change
- [Tourisme Montréal](#)'s Harmonious Destination strategy

Workshop 1

Working together to make Montréal more resilient Hosted by CRE-Montréal



Between flooding and extreme heat waves, the effects of climate change are already being felt in Montréal. The IPCC's latest report has made it clear: we need to drastically step up our adaptation efforts, and we need to do it now. Efforts to adapt neighbourhoods to the new climate reality are too often overlooked in favour of strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but adaptation has steadily become a pressing need over the years.

Effective adaptation also requires us to empower communities to take charge of their health and well-being.

The workshop was an opportunity to hear several panellists share their contributions on how to build more resilient communities in Montréal.



Moderator

Emmanuel Rondia
Executive Director, Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal

Panellists

Malin Anagrius
Director, Société de verdissement du Montréal métropolitain – SOVERDI

Robert Beaudry •
City Councillor and Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for urban planning, citizen participation and democracy, City of Montréal

Mélanie Glorieux
Project Manager and Partner, Rousseau-Lefebvre

Dr. David Kaiser
Head of environmental health, Montréal's public health unit

Thierry Sénécal
Planning Advisor, Mercier-Hochelaga- Maisonneuve borough

Overview

Collaboration is an essential component of adaptation: people affected by climate-related hazards need to be involved in the development and implementation of adaptation strategies, along with public bodies and private organizations, who have a major role to play in adaptation.

For any organization (private business, institution, etc.), adaptation means taking action to deal with vulnerabilities to climate-related hazards (infrastructure and building resilience, supply chain shocks, etc.), and to provide benefits to the entire community (planning and design that support stormwater retention, funding of greening projects, volunteering with neighbourhood residents, etc.).

Ground, roof and wall greening is a very important measure, as it helps address multiple vulnerabilities (urban heat islands, biodiversity, stormwater management, etc.) in addition to providing economic, social and physical and mental health benefits to residents and users. The City of Montréal plans to plant 500,000 trees by 2030 and protect 10% of its land (Climate Plan 2020–2030).

The City of Montréal's climate test should provide consistency by evaluating municipal projects to ensure that they help accelerate the ecological transition and strengthen the city's resilience.

The City of Montréal will allot between 10 and 15% of the Ten-Year Capital Expenditures Program budget to adapting to climate change to encourage the implementation of innovative green infrastructure.

Inspiring initiatives

L'Alliance Forêt urbaine

- Launched in 2012 by Soverdi, brings together 50 partner organizations, as well as a committee of leaders (including TD Bank Group, Lafarge, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, Canadian National)
- Mobilizes the private and institutional sectors, which holds 66% of Montréal's land (goal of planting 200,000 trees on private and institutional property by 2030)

SITES Rating System

- Planning tool used for multiple purposes: biodiversity protection and rehabilitation, innovative design and construction practices, improved well-being
- Approach that focuses on rethinking things at the source rather than offsetting
- Bonaventure project: first certified project in Montréal

The ecological transition process for the borough of Mercier–Hochelaga-Maisonneuve (MHM)

The borough of MHM will be developing a 2022– 2030 Climate Plan. The local community will be involved in the plan's drafting and implementation. Several actions have already been taken, including:

- Creating an internal committee on the ecological transition
- Training blue collar workers on sustainable gardening of green spaces
- Implementing a MHM network for the climate (bringing together local community, institutional and economic stakeholders)
- Planning discussion and networking activities to inspire projects
- Setting up a consultation committee to follow up on the Climate Plan

Goals for 2023 Montréal Climate Summit

Commit to start collaborative regional initiatives involving public administration and civil society organizations (businesses, institutions, non-profits, individuals).

Start a project to develop tax incentives, for example through the municipal taxation initiative the City is launching in Fall 2022.

Developing shared indicators to evaluate the impacts of actions on living environment resilience.

Summary of recommendations

Develop new collective narratives: involve culture and arts stakeholders to help our people understand, visualize and feel inspired.

Act to reduce regional inequality: some sectors and populations in Montréal are more vulnerable than others.

Share best practices and data to help scale change and move beyond just pilot projects.

Adopt regulatory adaptation measures in borough and city by-laws (greening roofs, grounds, parking planning).

Don't shy away from complexity, and work together.

“Not everyone faces climate change equally. [...] We need to focus on the most vulnerable populations in our communities and implement measures that will have a real impact for those who need it most. We need to focus our actions on bringing living environments to vulnerable neighbourhoods.”

Dr. Mylène Drouin
Regional Director of Public Health
for Montréal

Workshop 2

Decarbonizing Montréal's buildings Hosted by Vivre en Ville



The second largest source—nearly 30%—of Montréal's greenhouse gas emissions is a result of heating residential, commercial, and institutional buildings.¹ As 80% of existing buildings will still be around in 2050, efforts to convert heating appliances mostly concern the existing buildings stock, in addition to developing new practices for new developments. Decarbonizing operational energy, along with making improvements in terms of energy sobriety and efficiency, is a priority for reducing GHG emissions and mitigating the effects of and adapting buildings to climate change.

This workshop brought together energy transition experts from the construction industry and a number of private sector stakeholders—especially in the commercial sector—and was a great opportunity to discuss the best avenues for decarbonizing operational energy in buildings in line with the City of Montréal's objectives and its 2020–2030 Climate Plan.

Moderator

Christian Savard
Director General, Vivre en Ville

Panellists

Annik Desmarteau,
Vice-President, Office, Quebec,
Ivanhoé Cambridge
Vince Domenico,
Chief Operating Officer, Groupe MACH
Jean-Philippe Hardy
Managing Consultant, Dunsky
Marie-Andrée Mauger •
Verdun borough Mayor, Member of the Executive
Committee Responsible for the ecological transition
and the environment, City of Montréal
Cathy Pasion
Climate Policy Manager,
City of Vancouver (remote)
Marc-Antoine Renaud
Board Administrator, SOFIAC
Jonathan Théorêt
Division Manager - Transportation, Energy
and Buildings, Bureau de la transition écologique
et de la résilience (BTER)

Overview

The construction industry is one of the easiest sectors to decarbonize, as there are a number of already well-known and mature technical solutions.² Based on the pathways to decarbonizing residential, commercial and institutional buildings completed by Dunsky for the City of Montréal,³ technical and economic forecasts focus on:

- Largescale building electrification
- Energy efficiency and replacement of electrical resistance heating (especially in residential buildings) with heat pumps
- Reducing natural gas use by half and completely phasing out heating oil in our buildings by 2030

As announced at the Summit, less than a year after its new By-law concerning GHG emission disclosures and ratings of large buildings (adopted in September 2021), the City of Montreal has established an ambitious roadmap for reaching zero emissions in Montréal buildings by 2040, starting with new dwellings (under 2,000 square metres starting in 2024).

Several of the stakeholders from the private sector invited are already aligned with the City of Montréal's goals. They promoted several essential conditions for success they experienced in their own organizations:

- A strong commitment from upper management
- Integrated vision of energy issues in business activities (organizational culture) with a concern focused on the comfort and health of building occupants
- Prioritization of best practices (1. energy sobriety and efficiency, 2. waste heat recovery, 3. offsetting residual emissions)
- A desire for continuous improvement by setting numerical targets with timeline indicators

2. Challenges, levers and obstacles to the decarbonization of commercial and institutional buildings in Quebec (IET, January 2022)
3. Building pathways to decarbonization (Dunsky, January 2022)



Inspiring initiatives

The City of Vancouver also established a zero-emissions plan for and set two reduction goals for buildings:

- Reduce operational energy (heating and hot water) emissions for buildings by half by 2030 compared to 2007 levels, with the goal of zero emissions for new small buildings starting in 2022 and for all new buildings starting in 2030
- Reduce grey energy and embodied carbon (materials and construction practices) emissions by 40% by 2030 compared to 2018 levels

To do so, the City of Vancouver has:

- Streamlined regulations and set embodied carbon caps for new dwellings and GHG emission caps for the operation of new and existing buildings
- Improved access to use of low-carbon materials in new buildings and access to renewable energy
- Supported project owners and built the capacities of the construction industry

Other considerations were raised during the Q&A, such as:

- Tenants' limited influence in improving the energy performance and comfort of buildings
- The importance of a strategy to reduce embodied carbon in buildings
- The fact that local and/or sustainable materials are not readily available or accessible on the market
- The capacity and resilience of Hydro-Québec's power grid, which should reach its production limit by 2025 and uses fossil fuels to manage peak load in winter

Goals for 2023 Montréal Climate Summit

Map out a strategy, find ways to achieve targets (for example, by having an annual inventory of sector and community GHG emissions within up to one year), report annually on each sector's progress in applying climate change mitigation and adaptation by-laws.

Clarify the position on fossil natural gas to turn down any new equipment that is unaligned with a carbon-neutrality objective.

Translate roadmaps into GHG-reduction and energy-consumption-reduction objectives for each of the building categories considered, based on type of use (residential, commercial, etc.).

Better support the sector and compensate trailblazers, for example by establishing incentives indexed to building performance and the equivalent of SOFIAC for smaller buildings owned by individual landlords.

“We are committed to reducing GHGs by 55% for our real estate assets in Montréal by 2030. [...] For each we will establish a roadmap to reduce GHGs. [...] We will make sustainability synonymous with profitability.”

Elise Proulx
Head of Quebec Economic
Development, Ivanhoé Cambridge

Summary of recommendations

Harmonize and streamline regulations and offer financial and technical support to accelerate the sector's transformation.

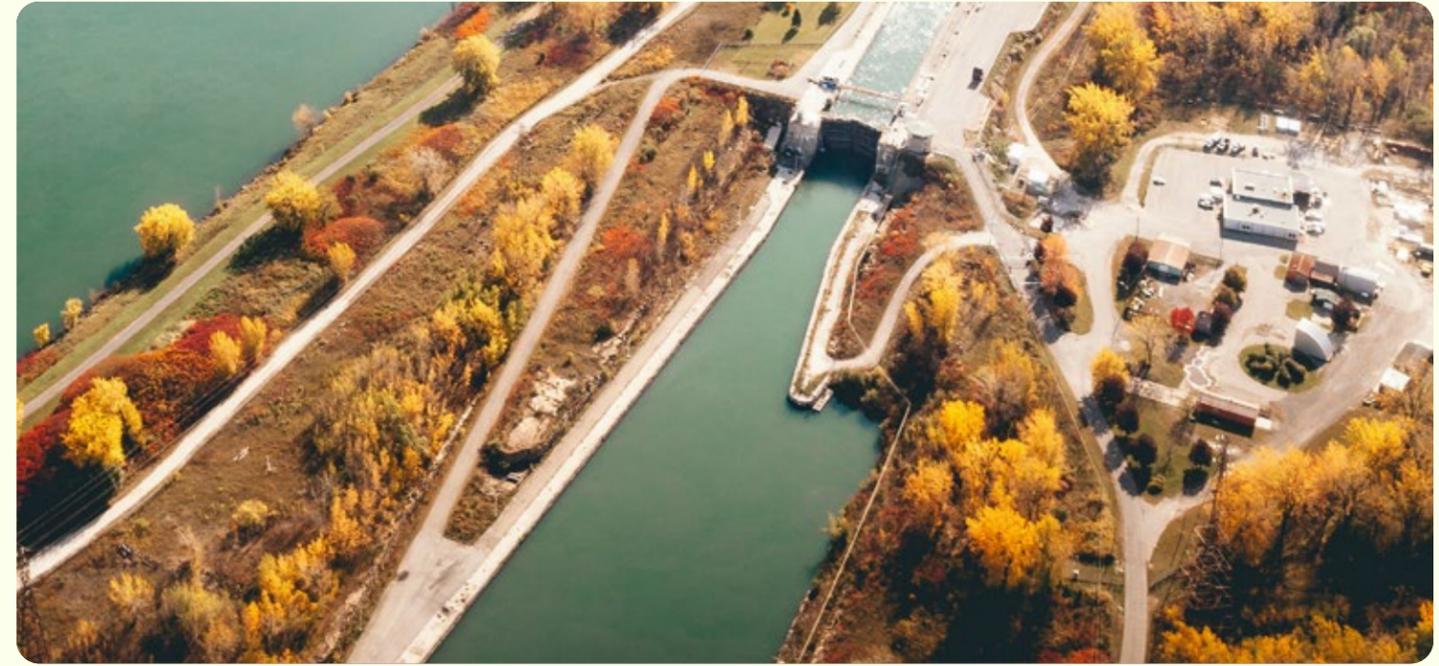
Systematically pair energy sobriety and efficiency with conversion without abandoning other measures (e.g., low-carbon materials, adapting buildings to climate-related hazards).

Strengthen awareness and training of sector stakeholders (professionals and individuals).

Rely on innovative funding methods, such as SOFIAC, to overcome obstacles and accelerate the decarbonization of Montréal's real estate.

Workshop 3

Green taxation for climate: Where to begin? Hosted by Institut du Québec



Green taxation is an essential tool for funding the climate transition and encouraging climate-friendly behaviour. It also helps municipalities in two important ways: in diversifying their tax base and reducing dependence on property taxes. However, Montréal currently makes little use of green taxation. There are significant implementation and operational costs, and green tax measures are often hindered by limited social and political buy-in.

The workshop was an opportunity to discuss the conditions needed to best implement green taxation measures for the City of Montréal to support the transition and help the City achieve its climate targets.

Moderator

Luc Belzile
Senior economist, Institut du Québec

Panellists

Michel Leblanc
President and CEO, Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal
Jean-Philippe Meloche
Professor of urban economics and local public finance, Université de Montréal
Dominique Ollivier •
City of Montréal Executive Committee Chair
Marc-André Viau
Director of government relations, Équiterre and Member of the SWITCH Alliance

Overview

Discussions emphasized the primary impacts of green taxation measures (curbing behaviours that cause negative externalities like pollution), as well as obstacles to their implementation, such as administrative costs (e.g., road tolls) and social acceptability.

Green taxation can also have a positive impact on businesses by driving investment, training and innovation. Yet, such taxation will need to be highly predictable.

As a reminder, here are several green taxation measures in place in Québec. They cover:

- Water (distribution, sanitation, waterways)
- Waste management
- Mobility (roads and parking)
- Land

Examples of green taxation measures in effect in Montréal:

- Tax on downtown parking lots used to fund a part of the City's contribution to public transportation

- Tax on major water consumers and major polluters for their wastewater
- Tax on passenger vehicles registered in the greater Montréal area

In Montréal's future:

Starting in 2023, the City of Montréal will expand the tax on parking lots, in addition to establishing volumetric pricing for water use in non-residential buildings.

A municipal taxation process begun by the City will be an opportunity to evaluate the most relevant green taxation measures. Three major steps have been planned: pre-budget consultations this Spring, a forum in the Fall and a summit in Winter 2023.

During the Q&A, other benefits and considerations for green taxation measures were raised, such as:

- Reduced dependence on property taxes
- Control of urban sprawl and urban exodus related to the impacts of the pandemic
- Opportunities to leverage adaptation, for example with regressive taxes based on the ecological value of an area

Goals for 2023 Montréal Climate Summit

Establish methods, including as part of the municipal taxation project, set priorities regarding the acquisition of new knowledge and completion of studies related to:

- The impact of green taxation on business competitiveness
- Residents' consent regarding the implementation of new green taxation measures

Summary of recommendations

Set specific targets and indicators for green taxation.

Take a gradual and predictable approach to help businesses adapt and avoid the risk of having to relocate.

Consider markets where competing businesses are not subject to the same rules.

Work with different levels of government, as each one has a different jurisdiction and there must be consistency.

Take inspiration from cities such as Brussels (smart kilometre pricing) and London (Ultra Low Emission Zone downtown)

Key green taxation measures identified:

- Implementation of road tolls and dynamic distance fares for greater Montréal to limit urban sprawl
- Waste incentive rates (e.g., City of Beaconsfield)
- Lower property taxes for buildings in TOD zones⁴

4. TOD (transit-oriented development): an urban planning concept for residential or commercial zones intended to encourage the use of public transportation.

“One thing I’ve learned working with the ISSB is that the private sector is there for international sustainable development organizations.”

Stéphane Paquet
President and CEO,
Montréal International

Workshop 4

Electrification of downtown mobility Hosted by Propulsion Québec



Road transportation is currently Montréal's largest source of GHG emissions, coming in at around 30% of the city's total emissions.⁵ The City of Montréal's efforts to decrease these emissions include electrifying transportation, setting up a zero-emission zone (ZEZ) downtown by 2030 and rolling out a pilot project for a low-emission zone (LEZ) in the short term.

The workshop was a chance to take stock of what other cities are doing and identify the conditions of success and important benchmarks for the successful implementation of a metropolitan zero emission zone without compromising residents' quality of life or Montréal's cultural and economic vibrancy.



5. Greenhouse gas emissions from Montréal – 2018 Inventory (montreal.ca)

Moderator

Victor Poudelet
Director, Cité for Sustainable Mobility Project at Propulsion Québec

Panellists

Aline Berthe
Director, Centres de gestion des déplacements métropolitains MOBA et Voyagez futé

Sophie Mauzerolle •
City Councillor, Ville-Marie borough, Executive Committee Member Responsible for transportation and mobility, and Agglomeration Council Member, City of Montréal

Edwin Richard
Co-founder of Courant+

Françoise Schaezel
Vice President in charge of Operational Urban Planning, Quality of Life Policy, Air Quality and Environmental Health, Strasbourg - City and Eurométropole

Overview

For the City of Montréal, the transportation sector presents the greatest opportunities for cutting GHG emissions by 2030. The City of Montréal current objective is that 47% of the vehicles on its roads to be electric by 2030 (currently around 2%).⁶

Transportation decarbonization requires an approach based on the Reduce – Transfer – Improve strategy, adopted by the Gouvernement du Québec in its Sustainable Mobility Policy 2030.⁷

Implementing a low-emission zone and a zero-emission zone is a way for the City to achieve its climate objectives while providing the people of Montréal⁸ with the safe, pedestrian-friendly streets and the attractive, innovative business environment they want.

6. Climate Plan accountability statement – 2021

7. Sustainable Mobility Policy – 2030 (gouv.qc.ca)

8. The City Vision: Imagining the Montréal of 2050 | Ville de Montréal (montreal.ca)

Downtown Montréal features a number of attractive features for testing out an LEZ: worker density, a robust public transportation network and lots of potential to improve infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists.

An LEZ should be considered as a pilot project for finding which initiatives can help us achieve our goals. This means working with all stakeholders and taking the time to understand their different needs.



Inspiring initiatives

The City of Strasbourg established a low-emissions mobility zone in January 2022. A number of different initiatives have since been implemented:

- \$550 million for developing public transportation
- 100 additional kilometres of bike lanes added to the 700 kilometres currently in the city's network
- A mobility board to analyze the needs of vehicle owners and help them transition toward sustainable mobility
- Financial assistance for buying cleaner vehicles

Goals for 2023 Montréal Climate Summit

Set up a pilot committee led by the City, bringing together key stakeholders

Identify the primary issues and obstacles to implementing an LEZ and ZEZ in downtown Montréal

Identify two pilot projects to test for the future implementation of the zero-emissions zone.

Summary of recommendations from the panellists

Consider public-private partnerships: don't be afraid of collaborating and testing solutions, iterating.

Establish transshipment centres near the future low-emission and zero-emission zones.

Implement solutions that leave no one behind (just and inclusive transition).

Continue providing support, answering questions and offering potential solutions, both as individuals and organizations, including once the LEZ is implemented.

The workshop allowed attendees in the room to weigh in on several issues through the Mentimeter interface. The organizations mainly came from the government (31%), private (27%) and community (21%) sectors.

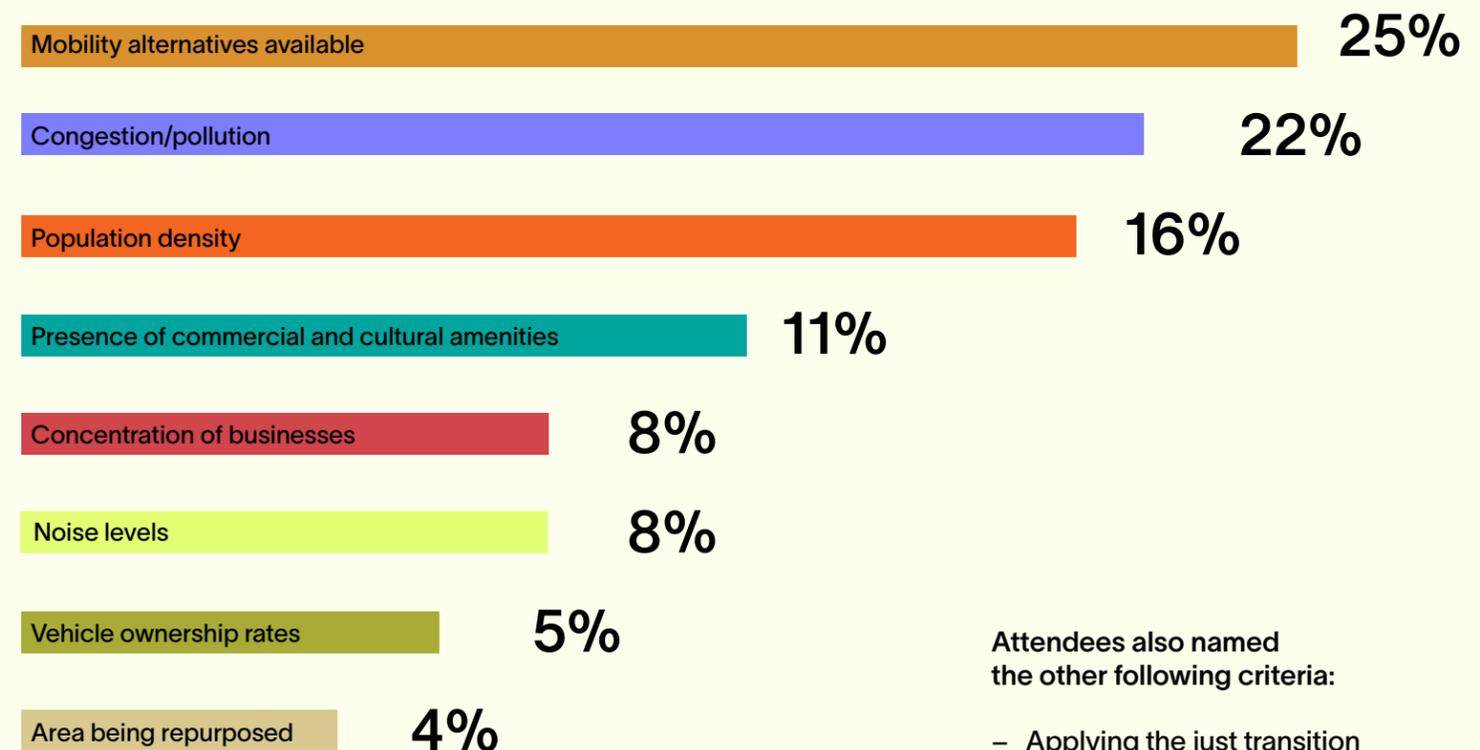
Which pilot projects could be planned ahead of time to facilitate the implementation of the ZEZ?

- Prioritizing streets: (Barcelona's Superblock model): keeping car traffic in certain areas while limiting access to just residents and local businesses in others
- Pedestrianizing streets
- Experimenting during specific times or in favorable areas
- Consolidating sustainable delivery approaches (micromobility, shared delivery services, etc.), especially for the last kilometre

- Quantitative: air quality, number of accidents, number of trips
- Quantitative: air quality, number of accidents, number of trips on foot and by bicycle, business traffic, vehicle ownership rates
- Qualitative: wellness levels, user satisfaction, promotion and appeal

Which indicators should be used to measure the success or the impact of establishing an LEZ?

Which criteria should be used to choose the area or areas covered by an LEZ/ZEZ?



Attendees also named the other following criteria:

- Applying the just transition principle and prioritizing the neighbourhoods that are the most vulnerable and impacted by air pollution
- High-accident area
- Tourism and heritage appeal

How to accelerate decarbonization of downtown deliveries?

- Develop new green taxation measures (fees for carbon-emitting deliveries and discounts for sustainable deliveries)
- Rely on collaboration and sharing between businesses
- Prioritize action on last-kilometre deliveries

How to accelerate the shift from single-occupancy car trips to lower-emission transportation options?

- Review and harmonize parking off-street and on-street pricing to free up public space from private automobiles and encourage other uses (e.g., carbon-neutral deliveries)
- Enhance and improve public transportation and cycling systems
- Encourage private businesses to institute active mobility incentives for their employees (showers and locker rooms, internal policies on parking, cycling allowances per kilometre, etc.)



Panel 1

Not just a fad: The next generation of eco-minded entrepreneurs

Hosted by the Junior Chamber of commerce of Montréal

The climate transition will require profound social and economic change. New business leaders are one great source of innovation to help propel us through this transition and find solutions, from developing clean technology to tackling the technical challenges needed to reimagine our economy and its environmental impact.

This panel's goal was to inspire others by showcasing businesses with deep roots in the climate transition's values, the central role they play in Montréal's green shift and how we can catalyze their efforts.

Moderator

Hélène Olland

Director, Startups, Strategy and Marketing Division, Business and Institutional Services, Desjardins and Board Administrator, Junior Chamber of commerce of Montréal

Panellists

Annie Cyr

Co-Founder and CEO, Tengiva

Alexandru Iordan

Co-Founder, SAF+ and Co-Founder, Quebec Net Positive

Siamak Kashi

Director of Engineering and Co-Founder, Edgehog

Luc Rabouin

Plateau-Mont-Royal borough mayor, Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for economic business development and design, City of Montréal

Geneviève Tanguay

CEO, Anges Québec and President of JCCM's Council of Mentors

Emmanuelle Tavernier

Chief Executive Officer and Impact Catalyst, OXIA Initiative

Profiles

Tengiva is a digital platform supporting the circular economy for excess textiles. The fashion industry has a major environmental impact, 90% of which comes from use and waste of raw materials. Tengiva launched its platform to help solve this problem by enabling adaptive supply chains (buying the right amount) that are more reactive (buying only when needed).

SAF+ is a consortium that aims to get to market by 2025–2026 a synthetic kerosene with an 80% lower carbon footprint compared to fossil fuel-based kerosene. The basic approach draws on the principle of the circular economy by converting carbon dioxide emissions into clean fuel.

OXIA Initiative helps decision makers measure carbon impacts and effectively steer capital toward low-emission solutions. The initiative's tool helps integrate carbon measurement into every step of the investment cycle by promoting synergy and collaboration for green funding or impact investing.

Edgehog specializes in antireflection and light management solutions and applies its discoveries to the field of solar energy to improve renewable energy production by optimizing photovoltaic performance.

The panel discussions shed light on people's desire to be part of the solution and meet the challenges of our time that major corporations are not focusing on enough at the moment (pollution from the textile sector, emissions from the aviation sector, etc.). Launching a start-up is one way to tackle environmental issues that is in alignment with a young entrepreneur's values.



Conditions for success

Educating the ecosystem (investors, clients and others) on climate change and on the development of clean technology that can solve certain environmental problems.

Sharing the risk between stakeholders so the burden doesn't fall solely on entrepreneurs.

Thinking beyond profitability and return on investment and integrating the climate emergency as a priority factor in funding decisions. This means revising accounting valuation models to make the right choices, for example by assessing the monetary value of environmental impacts when calculating a project's overall value.

Positioning Montréal as an innovation hub for clean technology (renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste, green chemistry, water, sustainable mobility, air, soil treatment, etc.)

Obstacles to consider

- Lack of alignment with investors to finance project scaling
- Risk adversity in Quebec

Panel 2

Getting started on transition: Concrete examples from Montréal organizations Hosted by the Trottier Family Foundation

All sectors of civil society will need to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and get us through the climate transition, but many people don't know where to start. To help us collectively achieve the City of Montréal's target of reducing GHGs by 55% by 2030, we need leaders who raise the bar for their own industries and create a ripple effect.

This panel's goal was to provide concrete examples of climate transition initiatives and identify prerequisites for taking action and ultimately mobilize new actors to take part in the climate transition.

Moderator

Jean-Patrick Toussaint
Senior Director of the Trottier Family Foundation's Climate Program



Panellists

Marie-Claude Bourgie
Executive Director of the Greater Montréal Climate Fund
Louise Hénault-Éthier
Director of the Centre Eau Terre Environnement and associate-professor at Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS)
Hélène V. Gagnon
Chief Sustainability Officer and Senior Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement, CAE
Manuela Goya
Vice President, Destination development and Public affairs, Tourisme Montréal
Dr. Stephan Williams
Anesthesiologist and medical co-manager for carbon neutrality and sustainable development, CHUM)

Profiles

CAE – The 2019 climate change march in Montréal was the trigger for the organization's ecological transition, and now CAE is finally carbon neutral. In the space of 3 years, they:

- Conducted an inventory of their GHG emissions (Scope 1 and 2; Scope 3 ongoing)
- Offset their emissions
- Established a decarbonization plan focusing on reducing their building emissions, upgrading simulators, developing electric aircraft and implementing a responsible sourcing policy

Tourisme Montréal – In 2019, the city's appeal with tourists put it in a situation of overtourism, where the negative effects of the industry risked outweighing the benefits. In response, Tourisme Montréal developed a responsible tourism strategy, including:

- A GHG offsetting tool for visitors to Montréal
- Adaptation of tourist organizations to climate change
- A charter for visitors to commit to minimizing their social and environmental impact
- The completion of Tourisme Montréal's carbon budget and development of a GHG reduction strategy
- Certification of Tourisme Montréal events and international business events

The Greater Montréal Climate Fund is a catalyst for low-carbon solutions offering flexible funding and support tailored to the challenges that SMEs encounter in their climate transition. It was created in 2019 to respond to funding issues for impact projects and focuses on areas where public authorities and traditional investors cannot take action, particularly in the transportation and construction industries.

In 2019, the students of the INRS pushed the organization to initiate an ecological transition. The research centre went from a neutral observer to an active participant by fully divesting from fossil fuels, establishing its own GHG budget and offsetting its professional travel emissions. Its commitment is also reflected in its research topics (a project to measure the carbon footprint of remote work is one such work underway).

The CHUM kicked off its climate transition in 2021 after becoming aware of the Canadian health sector's carbon footprint (5% of GHGs in Canada, more than the air transportation sector). The organization had to address the resulting contradiction that the care sector cannot harm the health of its users.

The CHUM took inspiration from Britain's National Health Service (NHS) and made it part of its mission to reach carbon neutrality by 2040 without compromising quality of care, taking the following actions:

- Creation of a strategic committee
- First institutional GHG budget (scope 1, 2, 3)
- Internal/external information/communication campaign
- First successful actions to reduce the CHUM's GHG emissions by moving away from fossil fuels for heating, transportation, etc.
- Identification and fixing of "carbon hotspots": anaesthetic gas, metered dose inhalers, food
- Moving from disposable single use materials to reusable ones
- Minimizing/recovering waste
- Integrating carbon neutrality into the CHUM's care improvement culture



“We want to go carbon neutral by 2050, but we’re moving that up 10 years for buildings because we have to take the bull by the horns. [...] There are 8 years left to achieve our intermediary target.”

Marie-Andrée Mauger

Verdun borough Mayor, Member of the Executive Committee Responsible for the ecological transition and the environment, City of Montréal

Advice for initiating and/or continuing a transition

Offsetting GHG emissions is not the same as reducing them, however financial offsets are a real incentive for managers to reduce GHG emissions (internalizing costs)

Start with easy wins, by focusing on your organization’s high emission

Start your climate transition as soon as possible. Don’t wait for major players to do it—as challenging as it may seem (for example in the aviation sector), you can be part of the solution now

Always look critically at your methods, preconceived ideas and contradictions of current practices (e.g., the carbon footprint of remote work, the pollution generated by the care you provide, etc.)

External factors to accelerate the transition

Offer adapted, flexible funding (public, bank, philanthropic funding) not just to start-ups and mature organizations, but also organizations in between

Offer organizations/businesses support to help them with their climate transition (carbon budget, divesting from fossil fuels, education)

Upgrade GHG emissions disclosures (like accounting norms)

Employee pressure and the labour shortage: commitment from a business to the climate transition can be an appeal in hiring

Gala du CRE-Montréal 16th edition

Since 2007, the Gala du CRE-Montréal has been a chance to take inspiration from and inspire others with regard to the latest and greatest in environmental work and the ecological transition on the island of Montréal. It is an opportunity to recognize the work of all the different organizations of different sizes that take bold, proactive strides to making Montréal a greener, more resilient and healthier city.

For more details:

www.gala.cremtl.org

Congratulations to the winners of the 16th edition of the Gala, presented at the end of the Montréal Climate Summit. They are, by category:

Public Agency

- ★ Ville de Montréal – Service des Grands parcs, du Mont-Royal et des Sports: Man-made landscape on Île-Bizard
- ★ Ville de Montréal – Service de l'urbanisme et de la mobilité: Réseau express vélo Berri-Lajeunesse-Saint-Denis

Institutional

- ★ Centre de recherche en santé publique: Levelling the playing field – Play streets and school streets pilot projects in Montréal

Non-profit, associations and cooperatives

- ★ Écoquartier de Saint-Léonard: Corridor vert et nourricier

Small business

- ★ Arrivage: Opération dernière chance

Citizen initiative

- ★ Mobilisation 6600 Parc-Nature MHM

Culture and ecological transition prize

- ★ Space for Life

The winners of the 2 Communauto grants, worth \$2,500 each, were:

- ★ La Roue Libre
- ★ La coopérative de solidarité Éconord

Financial partners

This document brought to you thanks to the support of the Fonds de solidarité FTQ.



Les CGD métropolitains:



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