

Mouvement 87%

October 26, 2017

Dear Candidate:

Upon releasing its recent report on the proposed development of the Pierrefonds West sector, the OCPM noted that 87% of the 272 participants at the hearings stated that they wanted *all* the L'Anse-à-L'Orme corridor located in Pierrefonds to be preserved from development. We are inspired by this commitment to nature expressed by such an overwhelming majority.

We are therefore writing to ask you, as a candidate in the municipal elections, to tell this 87% about your position on the following environmental issues of importance to your electorate. Since the environment and *Grand Parcs* are an agglomeration responsibility, this request is being made to all municipal candidates on the Island of Montreal. Answers will be collated and published widely.

Please return this completed survey as soon as possible by email: sialis8183@yahoo.com or by fax: 514 284 1961. If you have any questions on any of the issues addressed in this survey, please contact Alison Hackney at 514 457 3606 or Campbell Stuart at 514 927 7802. Thank you!

1. The current administration of Montreal promised to preserve 10 % of the Island as natural space. Currently less than 6 % is preserved. Each percentage point represents about 500 hectares.

- a. Do you believe it is important to preserve at least 10% of the land on the Island? Yes!
- b. If so, what will you do to achieve this goal?
Make an inventory of remaining green spaces. Start by preserving the large spaces such as L'anse-à-l'orme. Identify parts of the island better suited to development or re-development.

2. The only remaining unprotected large natural space is in Pierrefonds West, about 245 ha, and it is owned by developers who propose to build 5,500 residences on it. No infrastructure currently serves the area.

- a. Will you oppose any development of these 245 hectares? Have done and will continue to do.
- b. Will you support the creation of a regional park encompassing all 245 hectares? I'm not certain that a "regional park" is the best solution. I am willing to work with different levels of government to identify the best means of protecting this area.
- c. If you support the development of this area, what measures would you support to mitigate the traffic congestion resulting from 10,000 more cars (Congestion is already notoriously heavy on the main arteries of the West Island and the local norm is for of 2 cars per residence.)?
As far as traffic mitigation is concerned, this must be resolved regardless of whether or not there is any additional development. Areas such as Héritage-sur-le-lac are currently built and

inhabited, and residents of the entire western sector of Pierrefonds are currently stuck as a result of inadequate and unfinished road infrastructure. So putting in that 4th link to the A-40 is a necessary step to complete alleviate congestion. Clearly, more needs to be done to encourage active transportation (this is a recurring theme among residents) by adding sidewalks, bike lanes and adequate street lighting, as well as improving access to the train stations and optimizing bus routes.

3. The 245 hectares in Pierrefonds West is part of the *Corridor écoforestier de la Rivière à l'Orme* (as defined by Montreal's *Politique de protection et mise en valeur des milieux naturels*) a green belt which includes Cap St-Jacques to the north, through the North Sector of Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue to Angell Woods in the south. Scientific studies show that preserving the integrity of the whole Corridor significantly enhances biodiversity in each of its parts.

- a. Do you support protecting all the *Corridor écoforestier* from development? Yes
- b. Do you support protecting all Ste-Anne-de Bellevue's North Sector from development? Paola Hawa is doing a fantastic job in managing development and conservation in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, achieving a reasonable compromise.
- c. Do you support protecting the entire Angell Woods from development? yes

4. Les Amis du Parc Meadowbrook fought for over 25 years to prevent the development of Meadowbrook. Their mission is to create a park open and accessible to all Montrealers.

- a. Do you support the creation of Meadowbrook Park? yes
- b. If so, what would you do to ensure the creation of the park, including measures to provide universal access to it for all Montrealers?
Not make it a provincial park, for starters.

This should be part of the Grands Parcs network of the City of Montréal and could be designed with pathways to encourage residents to enjoy this area.

5. The Falaise St-Jacques is one of Montreal's ecoterritories. Despite all promises from the City of Montreal and the Ministry of Transport, the current reconstruction of the Turcot interchange has already destroyed significant portions of the Falaise.

- a. Do you support the protection of the whole of the Falaise St-Jacques? yes
- b. If so, what would you do to ensure its protection?
Not in my district; however I would support the work of the locally elected officials in that direction.
- c. The Turcot interchange and Autoroute 20 constitute an impenetrable north-south barrier to pedestrians and cyclists alike. The City of Montreal and the Ministry of transport undertook to incorporate a north-south link to remedy this, the "Dalle Parc", but they are renegeing on this undertaking. Do you support the creation of the Dalle Parc and, if so, how do you propose to ensure it is built?

The dalle-parc is a great idea. I support the creation of the dalle-parc. Again, I would be willing to support the work of the locally elected officials in that direction.

6. Do you believe that Montreal should act to reduce carbon emissions and, if so, what do you propose to achieve this objective?

I tabled a memoire with the OCPM during their consultation on reducing our dependency on fossil fuels in which I detail a number of recommendations, mostly in relation to mobility and urban sprawl. In summary: we need to stop creating urban sprawl, densify around transportation hubs and get more people out of their cars and into public transportation! Expanding the metro to any great distance outside of the city-centre would be costly; surface trains such as the REM project are an excellent addition to and enhancement of the transit network. (Link to our memoire):

<http://vraichangementmtl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/M%C3%A9moire-pour-IOCPM-r%C3%A9duction-dependance-%C3%A9nergies-fossiles.pdf>

7. The City of Montreal and the borough of St-Laurent are promoting the construction of the “Eco-Campus Hubert Reeves” in the Technoparc area. The Technoparc wetlands are home to over 182 bird species, including the endangered Least Bittern and many other migratory species, and has the second greatest diversity of birds in the whole of Quebec. Notwithstanding this, destruction of these precious wetlands is ongoing despite popular and scientific opposition.

a. Do you support the protection of the whole of the Technoparc wetlands? no

b. If so, what would you do to ensure its protection?

While I support the protection of biodiversity on the island and off, I believe the Technoparc project can be carried out in a sustainable way and that it represents an interesting project for the greater Montreal area, as opposed to developing technoparcs further and further away from the city centre or off-island. This land is sandwiched between the A-13, the A-40 and the airport, which makes sense as a location for a technoparc. However, I absolutely believe that the underground and above-ground waterways need to be protected and restored (Ruisseau Bertrand).

8. Do you support the adoption of the status of *Paysage humanisé* for l'Île-Bizard and the protection of all the remaining natural spaces on l'Île-Bizard? Certainly! Fantastic project.

Thank you very much for participating in this survey! My pleasure, thank you for putting these issues forward with your candidates.

Sincerely,

MOUVEMENT 87%

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