

LttE: The Suburban

Re: ADM in denial

Aéroports de Montréal (ADM) is in denial (re: ADM: 'It's not our role to preserve city's greenspace' (West Island edition, Feb. 6). Airport officials, abetted by the federal Environment and Transport ministers, deny there are wetlands, streams and migratory birds worthy of protection on the Golf Dorval greenspace. Back in the late '80s, outraged citizens called for a cleanup of three polluted streams that have their source on airport territory. The airport was forced to spend more than \$10 million on catchment basins for chemicals used to de-ice aircraft, chemicals that had been running freely into the streams, preventing them from freezing in winter. Big bucks to invest on "non-existent" wetlands! Now ADM wants to seize Golf Dorval, not just the legitimate portion that it needs for airport facilities, but even more for greedy land speculation. ADM must give more than lip service to its "sustainable development" policy and back off its land grab at Golf Dorval. It is not the role of the airport authority to act as real-estate promoter. Instead, ADM can be a good corporate citizen; it can ensure that this greenspace and its wetlands, where the Boy Scouts have planted thousands of trees over the years, will be protected in perpetuity.

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