



**News Release
for immediate release
Montreal - May 20, 2006**

**Projet Montréal leader, Richard Bergeron, is the special guest of Green Coalition for
Springtime Tours of Doney Spur and Rivière à l'Orme Ecoterritory**

Saturday, May 20 – Rain or Shine! – The public is invited

11:00 a.m. - Doney Spur Tour:

The Projet Montréal team will join Green Coalition members and other guests to “Walk the Line” of the old rail right-of-way. Green Coalition is promoting light-rail-transit (LRT) on the Doney Spur to be fully integrated with the Metro. This is the keystone piece of the coalition’s strategies to reduce dependence on personal vehicles, to reduce traffic congestion and to prevent new road building through green spaces. (First proposed by Green Coalition back in 1989) Doney Spur runs west-to-east alongside the Trans-Canada Highway through the heart of West Island, then curves north and eastward on its own track parallel the Two Mountains Line to Bois-Franc Station. The new “surface metro” on Doney Spur will signal an unprecedented economic bonanza along the transit corridor and create a veritable satellite “downtown” for central West Island. A gold-mine and a tool for better transit!

Richard Bergeron, distinguished mass transit advocate, says, "The New Tramway is the key to the next revolution in public transit on the entire Island of Montreal, particularly at its two extremities."

Rendez-vous: Parking lot of Terrarium Shopping Centre, 189 Hymus Boulevard, just east of St-Jean Boulevard (south of Trans-Canada Highway). Meet outside *Zellers*, 11 a.m. STM buses # 203, 204

1:30 p.m. - Rivière à l'Orme Tour:

Participants will discover the beauties of Angell Woods, Anse-à-l'Orme Forest, the marshlands of the rivière and majestic vistas of Lake of Two Mountains. This public-awareness event is part of Green Coalition's efforts to save this exceptional natural green space. Debate on the future of the eco-zone is vigorous, with development pressures pitted against conservation. But, a concensus of West Island mayors has just decided that plans for major arterial roads to criss-cross the ecoterritory will be abandoned. And plans for more than 6,000 housing units in western Pierrefonds are being scaled back to protect the ecoterritory. Green Coalition continues to press for the creation of Lake of Two Mountains National Park to protect the shoreline milieux of the Lake and its tributaries, including Montreal's only inland river ecosystem, the Rivière à l'Orme. It is urgent, the Green Coalition insists, to extend national

park status to all the ecologically valuable land, forests, wetlands, floodplains and natural corridors, in the entire Montreal Archipelago. The Archipelago includes the Islands of Montreal and Laval, as well as dozens of other islands around them.

Rendez-vous: Parking lot of Riocan Shopping Centre (near Le Colisée), 3140 Jean-Yves Street, off Sainte-Marie Road (Exit 49 Trans-Canada Highway). Meet outside *Tim Hortons*, 1:30 p.m. STM bus # 217

NEWS FLASH!

More Springtime Attractions:

Sunday, May 21
11am to 2pm

Angell Woods 4th Annual Picnic and Appreciation Day
Corner of Elm and Woodland, Beaconsfield

Saturday, June 3

Comité pour la protection des espaces verts des Rapides-du-Cheval-Blanc, supported by Green Coalition and Front Vert, rallies citizens to tour the rare and endangered **Rapides-du-Cheval-Blanc** shoreline ecoterritory. An excursion for families to enjoy the springtime magic of the riverside! Details soon.

Contacts :

Projet Montréal

Émilie Thuillier, political attaché, (514) 390-0792

Green Coalition

David Fletcher (514) 683-7864 or (514) 502-5341 (cell)

Avrom Shtern (514) 482-4882

Sylvia Oljemark (514) 332-9146