



Société du Havre de Montréal

Press Release – For Immediate Publication

Deconstruction of the Bonaventure Expressway and creation of the *Quartier Bonaventure* THE SOCIÉTÉ DU HAVRE DE MONTRÉAL TO FINALIZE ITS PROJECT

MONTREAL, March 31st, 2010 – The Société du Havre de Montréal will finalize its project involving the deconstruction of the Bonaventure Expressway and the creation of the *Quartier Bonaventure*, drawing on numerous studies carried out by experts in recent years, and taking into account the many submissions to the *Office de consultation publique de Montréal (OCPM)*.

"The public consultations held by the OCPM were another important step in making our project happen and we thank the commissioners for having enhanced the discussions," said Ms. Isabelle Hudon and Mr. Jacques Coté, respectively Chair of the Board of Directors and CEO, of the Société du Havre de Montréal (SHM).

Ms. Hudon and Mr. Coté were very pleased with the positive response by the City of Montreal to the SHM proposals dealing with the deconstruction of the Bonaventure Expressway and the establishment of a prestigious gateway into the city. "We welcome Mr. Richard Bergeron's suggestion that the central city blocks be used as parks until such time as the real estate development planned for them over the next twenty year period takes place", they said.

They noted that public transportation had been the subject of numerous studies over the last ten years, leading the SHM to recommend the Dalhousie Corridor scenario, so as to avoid the significantly negative impact on traffic that would have occurred were bus corridors to be created as part of the proposed Bonaventure Boulevard.

The SHM therefore welcomes the mandate it has received to conduct, jointly with the City of Montreal, a detailed analysis of the OCPM recommendations. One challenge will be to identify with the major carriers, including the *Agence métropolitaine de transport (AMT)*, a range of varied solutions, including different frequencies and volumes of use of Dalhousie Street by public transportation

In concluding, they said: "The SHM is confident that, working together, we will successfully implement a project to create a prestigious city gateway that will settle, once and for all, the urban dismemberment problem caused by the no mans land of the Bonaventure Expressway and the rail viaduct".

- 30 -

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