



FORUM
NATURE
MONTREAL

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF MONTREAL'S GREEN SPACES AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS

WHEREAS worldwide studies and experience indicate that our living environment is being degraded;

WHEREAS green spaces and natural environments on the Island of Montréal are part of our common heritage;

WHEREAS urban sprawl has harmful ecological impacts;

WHEREAS urban sprawl also has harmful social and collective impacts, including segregation, marginalization, prohibitive infrastructure costs and a decline in natural spaces;

WHEREAS natural environments and green spaces have a direct impact on the quality of life and health of the city and its population;

WHEREAS Montréal has unconditionally committed itself to the right to a healthy environment and to combatting climate change, and was the host city to the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity;

WHEREAS we, members of the scientific community and the civilian population, unanimously demand a decisive change in traditional development policies to immediately prioritize our shared environmental heritage;

It is resolved that the Montreal Agglomeration:



Put an immediate stop to all urban sprawl on the Island of Montréal by declaring a permanent moratorium on all infrastructure and development projects targeting green spaces and natural environments on its territory;



Protect the biodiversity, the uniqueness of ecosystems and the integrity of habitats on 100% of its territory;



Plan development of its territory in a manner that reduces individual automobile use and expands the public transit network in order to end social exclusion;



Provide access to green spaces on its territory to the entire population, particularly children and disadvantaged and marginalized groups including people with reduced mobility.

ADOPTED IN MONTREAL ON APRIL 16, 2016.

Alison Hackney, M.Sc. Biology, President Forum Nature Montréal 2016