

LE PRÉSIDENT :

Merci beaucoup de ce complément d'information. Merci. La commission appelle monsieur Pinto. Mister Pinto.

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M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :

Yes.

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LE PRÉSIDENT :

Hi, Mister?

M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :

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Hi. My name is Pinto. Bonjour. My name is Nalawattagee Pinto and Côte-des-Neiges has been my home for 28 years. In that time, I had many troubles in housing.

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When I first came to Canada, we did not know how much a three and half cost. Landlord ask: « how long in Canada ?, I say last week and they say: welcome to Canada! », and give me a really high rent.

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I had no other options, so I was forced to accept this situation. Since then, it has only gotten worse. You can't ask anything from landlord. If you say something, ask for repairs, say no rent increase, they try to kick you out as soon as possible.

If you leave this apartment, forget it, your rent will be much higher than before. You are lucky if you find an apartment or you are homeless.

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Homeless people are just like you and me before.

In the time we have been fighting for Blue Bonnets, rent for three and a half has gone from 300 to 900 dollars. Three times more.

1285 A lot of people are suffering to find good apartment in Côte-des-Neiges. 2 436 families are waiting for low cost housing, waiting on average five years.

Blue Bonnets can be a solution to this. Right now, the poor in Côte-des-Neiges are being pushed out. Low cost housing will answer the needs for many people.

1290 This is our first and last chance. No more big land in Montréal.

We must fight now. Côte-des-Neiges is speaking up and we need the City to listen. We need the social housing. Housing are rights.

1295 We are glad you are doing this consultation, but we need more. The City has to act, not go to sleep and after listening to all of us. Otherwise when they wake up, it is too late, it is all condos. We do not need a condominium city in Montréal. Thank you very much.

LE COMMISSAIRE :

1300 Are you part of the Genesis Group?

M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :

1305 Yes.

LA COMMISSAIRE :

1310 Sir, I have a question. What would make this neighbourhood attractive to you, would you be ready to move there and what would it take to make you want to go there?

M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :

I am scared to move, because the housing rent is so expansive.

1315 **LA COMMISSAIRE :**

And if there would be kind of an insurance that it would be low cost housing, would be willing to go there?

1320 **M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :**

Low cost, like I think they say all is affordable housing, this is just like words. I don't...

1325 **LA COMMISSAIRE :**

You don't trust it...

M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :

1330 ... trust this politician word. Sometimes people are talking about middle class, poor and rich, no middle class in this country. Even I know, there are no houses for, low income houses in this country. It was in HLM, now HLM is dead.

1335 **LA COMMISSAIRE :**

And you think there are many people like you who wouldn't trust anymore of the system to offer good conditions for living?

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M. NALAWATTAGEE PINTO :

1345 No, because I think it's Montréal they try to do private housing to, for more people to live a good in a good apartment, but it is like a business. We don't hope. This business is for just (inaudible), you know. Not we think about the low cost housing, HLM is the best for security and clean and management. They look at our income and they give you 25 % of rent. If you increase the income, they increase the rent too.

LA COMMISSAIRE :

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Thank you.

LE PRÉSIDENT :

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Thank you very much, Sir. Alors, la commission va prendre une pause de 15 minutes. Alors, on va reprendre à 8 h 25.

Les représentants qui seront appelés ça sera le représentant de Côte-Saint-Luc.

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PAUSE ET REPRISE

LE PRÉSIDENT :

1365 La commission va reprendre ses activités. Alors, nous entendons madame Dida Berku de Ville de Côte-Saint-Luc qui est accompagnée de?

Mme DIDA BERKU :

1370 Du maire de Côte-Saint-Luc.