

Montreal, February 27th, 2007

Mrs. Estelle Beaudry and the commission  
Office de consultation publique de Montréal  
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**Submitting a Mémoire**

***Subject: File with borough CDN-NDG since 2004 on the problematic situation of speeding cars, increased volume of traffic and pedestrian safety on our small residential street that will be amplified with the modernization project at the Centre hospitalier universitaire Sainte-Justine!***

Dear members of the Office de consultation publique de Montréal,

We, as residents of Brighton Avenue, have seen a very high increase in traffic and speeding on our small residential street over the past years from residents outside our neighborhood. This increase in traffic and speeding on our street is a direct result of employees and visitors of Hopital Sainte-Justine, students and employees of HEC and parents driving their children to College Jean de Brébeuf. During peak hours in the morning between 7h00-8h30 and then again between 15h00 and 20h00, we as residents, both young and old, find ourselves unsafe walking and crossing our own street. Our once small quiet residential street has become an alternate route for Linton Street leaving employees free at speeding and quick and easy access to reach the parking area at the north side of the hospital. We can see this with cars heading west on Brighton Street from Darlington, not obeying speed limits/stop signs and ignoring the safety of our children and elderly on our small street. Brighton Street has become an alternate route to Linton Avenue for employees, parents, and students of the above-mentioned institutions, by avoiding the traffic light at the corner of Hudson and Linton!

My file with the city of Montreal is ongoing since 2004. I have warned the city that the SAFETY issue of our children and adults is our big concern. We are playing pink pong with city officials at this present time. Our file is being passed around. The city promised a committee to study the problematic of traffic in our area (maybe they should have thought of that several years back) but that will be too late since construction of the Sainte-Justine project is set to start very soon. I warned my council that one day when someone is struck on our streets by one of these cars then that will be too late and that I will make this file public through the media. Unfortunately this day came on Monday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at approximately 11h15. I can honestly confirm the time because I happened to be one of the first people to arrive on site. I was driving east on Van-Horne when I saw a van stopped on Darlington and Van Horne facing south on Darlington between Van Horne and Brighton street just a block away from my home and a lady lying unconscious in front of that van in a pool of blood. I immediately got out of my car and identified myself as a CPR/First Aid. I helped cleared traffic and control the area since

there was a nurse that took over the care of the lady. The ambulance took close to 15min to arrive at the scene with still no police presence yet. Once the ambulance arrived the lady had lost so much blood that she started to go into shock. It was a very awful and very sad scene! From my assessment, I don't think that 70-year-old lady was going to make it. I made a 911 call and was furious at the fact that there wasn't any police presence yet. They immediately sent their people and closed off Darlington Street between Van Horne and Brighton for the rest of the afternoon. This was a case of a speeding van that was turning left onto Darlington south from Van Horne east and struck the poor old lady crossing.

The Office de consultation publique de Montréal as well as officials from the committee of the modernization project at the Centre hospitalier universitaire Sainte-Justine along with city of Montreal officials need to take measures in order to make our streets on the north side of the hospital safe! I have made several propositions for traffic calming to the city since 2004 and one of these was a CUL DE SAC at the corner of Hudson and Brighton as well as changing the direction of Brighton Street from east-west to west-east. There is no reason to have both Soisson Avenue and Brighton Avenue traveling east west!

This situation will be amplified starting September 2007 with transport trucks and the increase of cars looking for parking on the north side streets.

I am very very disappointed at the committee of the Sainte-Justine expansion project that only made this project public only a few months ago to the north side residents.

I am also very disappointed that we as residents were not consulted and were not considered important for their expansion.

Furthermore I do not agree the fact that the Sainte-Justine project is putting such a big emphasis on parking spaces (around 60% increase) and not on improving the life of our children staying at the hospital and that by creating a state of the art entertainment, fitness or rehabilitation center for these kids! Can the 60% increase in parking availability be a means of generating more income for the hospital by renting out spaces to the surrounding institutions such as University of Montreal, College Brebeuf, and The Jewish General Hospital?

I am also a landlord of a building at 5985 Souart between Ellendale and Linton also on the north side of the Hospital. I rent 8 parking spaces to employees of Sainte-Justine hospital for \$65 dollars per month. These employees work on an average yearly salary of about \$35,000 to \$40,000 dollars. Now these same employees complain to me that if I ever raise the monthly cost to \$70 then they will not be able to afford it! So how will the majority of hospital employees be able to afford parking in and around the Sainte-Justine Hospital?

The Hospital has created a slogan "*Grandir en santé*" but lets not forget the residents around the project whom they never consulted also want to "*Grandir en santé*" We the residents will have to endure with the problems that will be amplified as a direct result of

this expansion project that is putting too much of an emphasis on PARKING and not making the lives of these sick children more environment friendly!

Hoping we will be able to collaborate and make daily living around the north side of the hospital secure and healthy for our children and elderly!

Cordially,

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