

Without natural habitat there is no life! This is as important to us humans as it is to the birds, animals, trees and flowers. L'Anse a L'Orme is one of the last remaining undeveloped natural habitats in our region on the Island of Montreal.

We recently viewed development in the Technoparc and it is clear that this natural treasure for over 100 species of birds is under severe risk.

At its base is the structure of our taxation system which places major incentive for municipalities to undertake development as their main source of income, property taxes. Natural preserves though essential to our human well being and to the environmental sustainability of our planet, are not revenue producing in this way.

Yes, the promise is that only part of the preserve will be developed leaving part in its natural state. But we know only too well that this is the thin edge of the wedge, as with the Technoparc. And, incursion even for a part will alter if not upset the delicate balance of the natural world there now.

So it is time to take a principled stand and to leave this natural treasure as it is.

Frederick Sheffer