

310 Oui, il faut... l'idée d'avoir un parc-nature, c'est d'avoir un parc-nature. Les patinoires ont en a plein la ville et on a déjà du mal à les entretenir. Le ski de fond, c'est bon pour tout le monde. Tout le monde peut en faire et la raquette, bien ça fait partie du patrimoine. C'est quand même quelque chose qu'on fait ici souvent au Québec. Et j'aime beaucoup l'idée du grimpage, parce que pour les jeunes surtout, c'est quelque chose qu'ils aiment faire et de la manière que ça été présenté hier soir, moi, je vois pas d'objection à ce que ça existe.

315 Alors, mais vraiment, ce qui me touche, c'est qu'il faudrait vraiment avoir des consultations et qu'on commence pas à attendre encore une autre administration pour faire des consultations et commencer le travail sur la Falaise Saint-Jacques. C'est vraiment un territoire qui a besoin, qui devrait être développé. En plus, qu'on va avoir encore plus d'émissions avant qu'on arrive à pouvoir conduire sans huile, sans pétrole et donc, il va y avoir pas mal d'émissions  
320 qui vont continuer, on va élargir le passage Turcot, donc on compte sur le grand parc pour absorber, mais la falaise aussi est importante à ce niveau-là.

**LE PRÉSIDENT :**

325 On vous remercie beaucoup d'être venue ce soir. J'inviterais madame Louise Chenevert, s'il vous plaît à venir.

**MME LOUISE CHENEVERT :**

330 Bonsoir. Michel Séguin, Danielle et Marie-Claude. Bonjour. So, je suis bilingue. Vous pouvez me demander les questions en français, mais j'ai fait mon, ma présentation en English.

335 So, I am going to speak on behalf of the Ballade de la rivière St Pierre River Ride is a project I stated in 2017 to showcase de river. To teach people what it is, where it is and we go from Côte-Saint-Luc down through into Lachine to the Old Lachine where the fur museum is and la Maison Le Ber-Le Moyne et we go along Riviere Saint-Pierre, the lac Saint-Pierre into Verdun and to Pointe-aux-Callières where Champlain choose the site for the future mission where de Maisonneuve and Jeanne-Mance founded the city. During the ride, we talk about history, by

340 looking at the different sites. We look at the Native Culture and we talk about hydrology and the  
geography by going on a bicycle you actually feel the geography throughout the day. You get the  
idea of the slope and the breath of the space that this river actually occupied. The purpose also is  
to daylighted where possible, but even, to play on words, to bring it to the surface of the  
conscious, collective conscious of people who live here and to care for it and bring it back in our  
history. Cause I don't learn it in my history when I grow up.

345 This is the photograph I took of the river on Meadowbrook. A lot of people have been  
talking about in the last two days and nobody brought a photograph. So I did. You don't see  
anything over there...

350 O.K. So here is a map of about 45 rives that were probably canoed possible and about  
10-12 lakes that were originally on the island of Montréal. So, the (inaudible) cases is the  
hydrology of this, of the island and for me, it's not just lines, rivers outlined on a map. They are  
three-dimensional and I will get back to that in a minute.

355 Here's another map of was put in the Gazette this summer. The blue lines are rivers that  
are either been daylighted or have never been altered, the yellow ones are underground. And  
number one is Meadowbrook Golf Course, Saint-Pierre and the watershed from the mountains  
through Côte-Saint-Luc and number 2, is Lac Saint-Pierre, 3, is the Glenn and 4, Burnside and 5,  
is William Collector which is the, where the river was first put underground in the 1800s. So this is  
360 the whole watershed we are talking about.

365 So this Parc Écologique de l'Archipel de Montréal is a project that the Green Coalition  
started about a decade ago and it's, this zone here of Québec that we are speaking of and this is  
the Saint-Lawrence Valley. And the reason why is so important is because all the islands that's  
around this area, the rivers, the lakes and all the marshes around and this is also, if you look at  
the map here, here is actually where the most lost of biodiversity has occurred because of the  
urbanization of the island. So, it's a great concern and the reason why there are so much  
biodiversity, like I was saying, is the amount of water that is present in this area or was.

370 And water is life and is a source of all life, everything starts in a marsh, and the whole  
food chain starts from the small elements, there in the water. So, when I see, think of  
ecosystems, I think of them as circle rivers are not just lines on a map, it's the life, all the fish, all  
the amphibians, all the aquatic plants, it's not 2-dimensional, it's 3 dimensional. So, this is the  
same shirt I am wearing here.

375 So, this is a map of the island and the green spaces of Montreal and there is 4% and yes,  
there is a promise for 10% which I think is wonderful, but it's in service area, which is 2D, like I  
said ecosystems are in 3D, therefore our lost are 90% plus and time square. So, for me, it's the  
whole magnitude of that is really a 3-dimensional awareness.

380 Just because I do trees as well, I want to talk about the environmental benefits of trees as  
they grow and I just took one example of the sugar maple, acer saccharum, diameter and inches  
from 2 to 48 inches, I just took different numbers and did the math with this website  
[treebenefits.com](http://treebenefits.com) which is American, so that's why it's in pounds, gallons and so, tree from 2  
385 inches would have 27, would sequester 27 pounds of CO2 and when they ajust to 48 inches, 4  
feet, would be 1 400 pounds of CO2. Stormwater in gallons would be from 7 400 to 7 600 gallons  
of water and kilowatt hours for 213. So it's exponential, it's not linear. So, I just wanted to  
showcase that.

390 I am now going to a different topic, the original territories of the Native People on Turtle  
Island on North America and here are the reduced to 17 reserves in Québec. Doesn't make  
sense what I said. This is North America, Québec, there is 17 reserves in Québec and I am going  
to zoom in on the first map. So, the original Iroquois trade routes were 1 000 kilometres in radius,  
west to the Great Lakes, north to James Bay, east the Maritimes and down to the Carolinas. And  
395 the centre of this trade was the Saint-Pierre River at the core in the centre of the Saint-Lawrence  
Valley. Ville Marie and Lachine, usually cities grow from the centre out, here it was rather  
different. Ville Marie and Lachine expanded outwards as two different poles and the centre of that  
was again the Saint-Pierre. The heart of that, which also became the, the regime français for  
trade industrial period of Lachine, all of them, the centre of those was the Saint-Pierre, the Lac-à-  
400 la-Loutre. That was the core of historically.

So now, I am going to have you watch a little film.

- **PRÉSENTATION D'UNE VIDÉO** -

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So that is short and sweet, but it gives you an idea of the size of the river. So, it was present in all the ancient maps that I have dug up during my history research. So, the Saint-Pierre was in the conscious and awareness of the people of the time. So, I am bringing back to this map again. And this is where the watershed of the river and flood zones. And, it's a bit exaggerated, but it just gives you an idea. And we're in a city that have perpetual flooding and such of a collective amnesia and we sort of forgotten. Little joke...

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Beginning with the Ville Marie in 1643, Gouverneur de Maisonneuve kept his promise to erect a cross on the mountain basically if the water would subside and they did. And then, here I have got a few examples. Maison Saint-Gabriel, there was a flood in 1818, in Old Montreal, 1869, this is rue Saint-Paul, Place Royale and les Douanes in Old Montreal again, and here les inundations in 1865 to 1888, this is insurance in 1965, the insurance company. This is Pointe-à-Callières now and this is all of the rotten foundations. It had to be rebuilt.

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**LE PRÉSIDENT:**

Madame Chenevert, there would be about a minute left.

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**MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

So, here we have, there are some more photographs. So, here are the areas where the shorelines were landfilled, and we lost biodiversity. So, here is, something I want to share, this view of the Turcot is deceiving, because 30 hectares. I just want to show that municipal parks, René-Lévesque, these are comparisons that you gave us in the documentation and I did some math and the grand parcs are also from 159 to 316 hectares. Urban parks are 2D, nature park are 3D and these are some measurements of parks in the surrounding areas. René-Lévesque,

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435 14 hectares. Meadowbrook, 57, 30 hectares for the Turcot and Angrignon is 97. So, it's about a third of the Angrignon that we are offered to do this park. So, I am going here, so this is the Turcot, so scale was René-Lévesque Park, Angrignon Lake, if you put those two together, that's the amount of space we have, so about 10 hectares per the tree zones for aquatics and wild flower, so we have 75%, if we move it up to the 43 for the full 100%, we have the bike paths and so on, which is equivalent of these park areas.

440 And this is my vision of proposed park design. This is the green space, I would like to see scale replica of the original Otter Lake in it and then, the north end would be the dense forest, hardwood forest in the north to serve as a windbreak and buffers from the CP and the 20. The south would be the wildflower fields and the river would go, the water, the marsh, here would be food forest representing the First Nation diet, cherries, black walnuts, bitter hickories, bitter nut hickories and for, two present collective amnesia of flood and water, a rainwater management education area that I would propose in this area, over here.

**LE PRÉSIDENT:**

450 Thank you very much. We have some questions.

**MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

455 So, I diverted a bit from my brief, because Sophie spoke a lot about the rivers, Lisa yesterday, a lot of people already spoke, so I want to focus more on the math of the space and the dimensions and...

**MME DANIELLE LANDRY:**

460 Je vous remercie. Bon, évidemment, mes questions sont basées sur le mémoire. Alors on va revenir à ce contenu-là. Deux questions. La première concerne votre, ce que vous avez appris en fait du processus de participation au programme d'intendance sur le Mont-Royal. Vous en parlez dans votre mémoire et c'est, il me semble que c'est un modèle qui permet aux citoyens

de participer à la gestion d'un milieu naturel. C'est ce qui effectivement est le cas. Pouvez-vous nous parler un peu de ce que vous avez appris quant à la manière pour les citoyens de  
465 contribuer et qui pourrait être utile dans le cas du grand parc ici, donc la manière de contribuer, comment elle pourrait se faire et quelles autres leçons ont pourrait tirer du programme d'intendance et la place qu'il laisse aux citoyens dans la gestion du Mont-Royal?

**MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

470 Que je vois, il y a même une personne dans la salle, qui est ici, qui est partenaire avec moi. Les gens s'engagent. There is a personal engagement and it's personal commitment. In the last day, there was a PowerPoint like this, it explained the numbers over the years of participation and more people are coming more often and committing on a weekly basis to do the work. So,  
475 people have, then they go back and over the season say: "Hey, I planted that oak, I planted that spruce" and they go check on their trees and see how they are doing. So, it becomes a love of the mountain. So, people become "les amis". Everybody becomes friends, because the work is so important. Because they put the energy in and then they see things change and they start committing to that work.

480 And, so, this past season, people, one of the object was to closing up paths that people improvised and to put, densify the tree cover there in three layers. So you have more of the ground cover, some bushes and some bigger trees, so to have different levels of canopies for the habit, "les habitats" for the wildlife and to discourage people from keeping on improvising trails  
485 and when people have done that work, they are not going to go out somewhere else and create other trails, they will respect the work and stay on the trails and they will tell other people to respect the area as well. So, I know that came up yesterday with some of the questions and I think that people are starting having, understanding of the impacts each and everyone have in an environment like that and that when you step on a small plant, you risk damaging or killing it and,  
490 so people have more of a connection.

So, I even was thinking after yesterday, in order to plant this whole area, it could be done by groups and have a team work, not just a landscaper just drop it in there and build it. That

495 maybe we could have teams of schools and colleges, universities, kids from elementary schools  
come in during the week, during the weekend and there would be a program and people would  
just start doing it by stages and work on it, work together and people would start having a love for  
it and a connection to it and then, they are not going to go off trail just because they planted all  
these rich species you know.

500 **MME DANIELLE LANDRY:**

Thank you.

505 **MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

Sorry, I went off.

**MME DANIELLE LANDRY:**

510 Second question. In your brief, you wrote that you envision a living presence of the First  
Nation in the project. So, how do you see this happening and how does it look like? A project like  
this one?

515 **MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

520 Like I said, I have a concept which I won't share at this moment, but I think we often talk  
about First Nations, we go to all the history places in Montreal which is, you know, Maison Lebois  
Robert Lemoyne, Nivard-Dizier (sic) in Verdun and there's information and plaques, you know,  
artifacts and they talk about 5 000, 10 000 years ago. Some people I think they think of the Native  
People as prehistoric. But there is 25, I looked at the data and I am confused about the data, but  
there's thousands upon thousands of people who actually live on the island of Montreal of my  
nations, you know, the Iroquois, the Anishnabe, Micmacs, I mean I know many different nations  
and they should be involved and like I was suggesting, a food forest which is urban agriculture in  
a premier culture king of ideas. Some people are talking about urban agriculture and they don't

525 really see it if it's a wildlife area, but this could work in harmony with the First Nations and go back  
into their diet and they could teach about how to harvest, when to harvest, what they do with the  
harvest, how do they, if they are drying it or if they... how they cook with it, you know, different  
things like that. So they could be directly involved with the concept, the planting, the teaching,  
things like that.

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**MME DANIELLE LANDRY:**

Thank you.

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**LE PRÉSIDENT:**

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One last question. I was about, you brought us the illustration about the water component  
of the new park. In your brief you said that it should be centralized, entirely natural, no concrete  
container or fountains to decorate. Do you think that it's important to also control the access to  
this water? Like, should it be only viewed or approached only through wooden walkways? How  
do you see that being managed?

**MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

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Like Park Angrignon, there is a lake and I don't, actually yesterday, a few people worked  
there. If it's natural or manmade but, if it's manmade, it's renaturalized. There is living beings in  
there. I know there is fish in there. There's herons that are fishing in there, so, it's alive and  
nobody ever, there is no paddle boats, there's no canoeing, there's no swimming, there's, and  
nobody, I have never seen anybody waiting in it or swimming in it. It's respected as a wild kind of  
area and I see it like that. And it's respected in Angrignon and it could be respected here and  
people could appreciate it, sit beside it, have a bench and appreciate, watch the birds, because  
birds will definitely come if there is fish and other organisms. It's not for a sport activity or anything  
like that, I don't see that. It's not big enough. If it the size of Angrignon, it's not going to be...

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**LE PRÉSIDENT:**



Thank you very much for your contribution.

**MME LOUISE CHENEVERT:**

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Thank you very much. Good night.

**LE PRÉSIDENT:**

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J'inviterais maintenant monsieur Irwin Rapoport, s'il vous plaît.

**M. IRWIN RAPOPORT :**

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Merci. Bonsoir, good evening. On behalf of Les amis du parc Meadowbrook, a group that wants to convert the 57 hectare golf course in Meadowbrook into a nature park, we want to thank you for having these hearings and we want to support this park and we also see this park as being twinned with Meadowbrook as two large nature parks in the area, which will, as people mentioned, help preserve biodiversity and provide green space.

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I would like to quote two people. Quote: *Omnia rerum principia parva sunt* wrote Marcus Tullius Cicero, quote: "The beginning of all things are small", and quote: "When given the resources and opportunity, tradition oriented Cherokee people would help each other out and take on project for the larger community good." We are seeing this with all the briefs being summited and the people presenting them. People a raising excellent point of biodiversity and the need for green space. And we have the City of Montréal, the Plante administration bringing forward various projects for the West Island, for the L'Anse-à-l'Orme Park, the Anjou gold course and, of course, this park.

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Of course, what we want is the Falaise be part of this park. Originally, it was presented has the Falaise Saint-Jacques – Turcot Park. We'd like that restored because it's just natural to have this large forest as part of it. So, now, just a few days ago, there was an article saying that