

**Mtl  
Climate  
Summit**



**Montréal,  
Climate  
Metropolis**

**2026**

**UPDATE ON**

**COMMITMENTS**

**2026 EDITION**

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# 2026 Update on Commitments

For five years now, the Montréal Climate Summit has been the catalyst for major climate commitments in the city. Spanning numerous sectors, they form the pillars of Montréal's decarbonization efforts and climate change resilience.

But such commitments mean nothing without results. To promote a long-term strategic vision, we've made it our mission to revisit each commitment at their one, three and five-year marks, diligently and transparently documenting progress, challenges overcome and next steps.

## The 2026 Update on Commitments includes:

- **Progress report:** An exclusive review of the progress made by organizations who participated in the 2023 and 2025 Montréal Climate Summits.
- **Strategic recommendations:** This new section suggests strategies grounded in real-world experience. These practical recommendations are intended to equip and motivate organizations wanting to get involved by sharing the keys to success and tips for overcoming the operational challenges associated with climate transition.

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**2023**  
**COMMITMENTS**

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## Commitment

Implement the plan for zero-emission buildings by 2040.

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## Action 1 - Launch Montréal's first pedestrian priority zone

### Progress

The first steps have been taken to implement the pedestrian priority zone (PPZ) intended to calm traffic and increase pedestrian comfort in the high-traffic area around Place d'Armes and Notre-Dame Basilica:

- Roadway between Notre-Dame Basilica and Place d'Armes has been pedestrianized.
  - Road space has been reallocated and traffic calming implemented along Côte-de-la-Place-d'Armes / Saint-Sulpice.
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### Challenges

- While the project's pilot phase was primarily focused on shifting road use to improve mobility, boosting the area's appeal and visitor experience would have better engaged stakeholders and yielded greater benefits.
- Due to limited market availability and major design and procurement delays, the installed street furniture did not meet the quality expectations for this heritage district, reducing the area's visual appeal.
- Work was delayed by construction on Rue Saint-Paul in Old Montréal, where significant archaeological finds needed to be excavated.

- Communications with area residents and businesses about the work was haphazard and on very short notice, limiting their understanding and support.
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### Next steps

A dedicated action plan for Old Montréal in 2026–2030 is being developed as part of the [2050 Land Use and Mobility Plan](#) (released June 2025).

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### Community benefits

- Slowing traffic to pedestrian pace will give visitors the chance to admire the architecture and iconic sights of the heritage site where Montréal was founded.
- Increased foot traffic, appeal of public spaces and terraces, and overall vitality of the neighbourhood.
- Improved quality of life for the area's residents, workers and visitors.

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## Action 2 - Create a sustainable mobility corridor along Henri-Bourassa

### Progress

The first two phases of a sustainable transportation corridor on Henri-Bourassa Blvd are being finalized. By the end of the year, seven of the project's 18 total kilometres have been completed.

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### Challenges

Concerns over lane reductions and loss of parking triggered numerous complaints. The impact of the project's initial phase is currently under review.

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### Next steps

- The City and its partners (STM, the Agence de mobilité durable) are currently conducting a before-after study to document the user impact of the multi-use boulevard.
- The third phase, launched in February 2026, will complete the sustainable transportation corridor between Rue Marcelin-Wilson and Rue Des Récollets.
- Future phases are currently being planned.

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### Community benefits

The promotion and protection of active transportation in neighbourhoods outside of the downtown core.

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## Action 3 - Develop Montréal's first zero-carbon urban logistics strategy

### Progress

Developed the first [2025-2027 urban logistics action plan \(French only\)](#) (released June 2025) presenting the City's long-term (2050) vision for urban logistics and proposing 20 actions for the last kilometre of a delivery's journey.

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### Challenges

- Due to the scope and complexity of urban logistics, the action plan focussed solely on the first and last kilometre.
- The lack of available data about goods transportation and logistics makes it harder to develop solutions tailored to the Montréal context.
- Widespread unfamiliarity with urban logistics poses a communications challenge that calls for clear messaging and education.

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### Next steps

Implement the urban logistics action plan, starting with data collection and testing different solutions.

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### Community benefits

- Publicly releasing the action plan allows the City to communicate its positions and objectives, facilitating public discussion and logistics innovation.
- Over time, the strategy should improve the efficiency of goods transportation, reduce its environmental impact, and bolster neighbourhood quality of life by reducing its negative side effects.



# Montreal Port Authority

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## Commitment

Achieve carbon neutrality by 2035.

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## Progress

The Montreal Port Authority (MPA) continues to disclose its Scope 1 and 2 carbon footprints in its annual sustainable development report.

- Scope 1 and 2 emissions have dropped by 37% since 2007.
- The MPA has published an [energy transition roadmap](#) (in French).
- The MPA presented its decarbonization plan as part of the Net-Zero Canada Challenge and was awarded the silver tier.
- The Grand Quay now runs 100% on renewable natural gas.
- 3,410 trees were planted on MPA land ahead of our one-year goal.
- The 2025 report will be released in spring 2026.

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## Challenges

- Political uncertainty; the delay of the International Maritime Organization's Net-Zero Framework for maritime shipping to Fall 2026.
- Québec's temporary target of 37.5% was pushed from 2030 to 2035.

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## Next steps

- Implement an energy management system.
- Develop a capital plan.

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## Community benefits

- Improved air quality (NOx, SOx, PM, etc.) and noise exposure.
- Stronger reputation and increased trust in Port operations.
- Show of Port leadership.

# Greater Montreal Climate Fund and Efficiency Capital

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## Commitment

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## Progress

Following a pilot phase, the program and registration form were officially launched at a June 2025 [press conference](#):

- A resource was hired specifically to develop the program.
- A marketing and communications strategy was developed.
- Partnerships were forged to align the program with other energy efficiency projects and education programs.

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## Challenges

- Recruiting a program lead caused delays in rolling out the marketing plan.
- Finding building owners and landlords outside the social or affordable housing sphere who are not seeking to renovate was a challenge.
- The tendering requirement for public owners—particularly for the program’s renovation component, and not its financing considerations—introduced delays into the overall process

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## Next steps

- Finalize agreements with initial applicants.
- Launch the full marketing and communications strategy and continue to promote the program to all eligible building owners.

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## Community benefits

The MultiRés program fast tracks custom and fully-funded energy efficiency renovations for multiresidential buildings in Greater Montréal. What’s more, it’s a concrete turnkey solution with personalized support for multiresidential building owners facing financial and technical hurdles to achieving their decarbonization goals.

# Trottier Family Foundation

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## Commitment

The Trottier Family Foundation has allocated \$10 million to decarbonize hospitals and make Québec's healthcare system more resilient.

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## Progress

Projects supported by the Trottier Family Foundation have made good progress over the last year:

- The Island of Montréal health and social services system's regional table on environmental health and sustainable development has continued work on its action plan.
- Synergie Santé Environnement has maintained its collaboration with a dozen healthcare institutions (CIUSSS) in the Greater Montréal area, performing GHG accounting for most participating organizations.
- In December 2025, the Association Pour la Santé Publique du Québec (ASPQ) officially launched its "Santé-Climat" campaign.
  - Working at the nexus of healthcare and climate, the ASPQ has partnered with Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors to help the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) prepare its first decarbonization roadmap, made possible through a grant from the City of Montréal.
- The Réseau d'action pour la santé durable du Québec (RASDQ) has created the Prix Élan to recognize and promote sustainable development and climate action best practices within the Québec health and social services system (RSSS).

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## Challenges

- Employee turnover in participating organizations is the biggest hurdle for most healthcare decarbonization initiatives. As a result, some timelines have had to be extended.
- Financial resources—generally quite limited—also remain a barrier to achieving the healthcare system's decarbonization goals.

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## Next steps

Continue partnership efforts and multi-stakeholder engagement to accelerate the decarbonization of Québec's healthcare network, drawing on the lessons and successes of the last three years (e.g., GHG accounting, regional coordination, decarbonization roadmaps).

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## Community benefits

These initiatives supported by the Trottier Family Foundation will, over time, enable Québec's healthcare system stakeholders to more effectively incorporate decarbonization efforts into their day-to-day operations.

They have also helped create a formal and informal network of organizations and institutions that are better positioned to work together over the coming years to improve resilience and reduce carbon footprints across the healthcare system.

# McConnell Foundation & Trottier Family Foundation

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## Commitment

Major philanthropic support for Low Carbon Cities Canada (LC3): \$12 million to fund the decarbonization of major Canadian cities.

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## Progress

- \$8.44M committed to local community grants
  - \$2.1M committed to key strategic projects at the local level (mostly focused on building retrofits and EV infrastructure development)
  - \$18.45M committed to impact investing in urban low carbon actions for example EV charging capacity in multiresidential buildings, and support for building retrofits for low-income populations
  - Created a portfolio of 29 community initiatives integrating climate action with equity, diversity and inclusion as well as Indigenous Reconciliation principles.
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## Challenges

- Building retrofits require a variety of supports such as incentives and financing options, technical assessments, implementation oversight, and system optimization – we need to assemble these elements into an adaptable « concierge service » to assist building owners with this process.
- Electrification of transportation faces a variety of challenges in different regions of

Canada including availability and pricing of vehicles and the need to significantly expand charging infrastructure.

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## Next steps

The LC3 Network will continue to strengthen its approaches at the local level including community grant-making, program design and delivery, impact investing, and sharing lessons to accelerate promising actions across the country.

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## Community benefits

- Establishing practices that seek out and address the co-benefits or co-harms of climate actions in light of a commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion and Indigenous Reconciliation
- Capturing and sharing lessons about how to deliver climate action at scale to ensure deepest carbon reduction results
- Supporting community leaders who are advancing climate action through grants and investments.

# Transition en Commun

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## Commitment

Build a broad alliance for socio-ecological transition in Montréal with three main objectives:

- 1) Promote a shared vision of transition
- 2) Identify and assemble new drivers
- 3) Mobilize

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## Progress

- In less than three years, implemented and consolidated a collective cross-sectoral alliance dedicated to Montréal's socio-ecological transition. 150 members (including institutional, community, citizen, academic, and philanthropic players) have been united around common goals.
- Organized and facilitated some ten thematic working groups (e.g., transportation and demotorization, democracy, housing, transition funding, and environmental justice) which have become respected spaces for dialogue, co-construction, and proposal development.
- Regularly brought together various players at key events (forums, summer camps, neighbourhood visits, workshops, public debates, etc.), fostering strategic alignment and collective action.
- Implemented a regional, citizen-based approach to climate transition anchored in neighbourhoods' realities and supported by local organizations and communities.
- Observed the first clear impacts on public policy and institutional practices, driven by the steady adoption of jointly-developed proposals and by shifts in how partners collaborate within the Montréal ecosystem.

- Mobilized Transition en Commun in Montréal and across the province. Recognition has grown for the organization's capacity to bring people together, encourage strategic dialogue, and work collaboratively with other networks.
- Organized the Montréal forum on democracy, which sparked proposals for renewing democracy at the municipal level (participation, governance, role of civil society, collaborative practices).
- Co-constructed and released a framework for creating car-optional neighbourhoods to spur reflection and action to improve transportation, urban planning and quality of life.

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## Challenges

- Supporting the alliance's rapid growth without compromising democratic governance, strategic unity, and strong collaboration.
- Sustainably linking citizen, regional, and cross-sector dynamics with institutional and economic frameworks to accelerate large-scale implementation.
- Supporting collective ambitions in the context of complex interdependent systemic transformations.

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## Next steps

- Continue to expand and diversify the alliance to include strategic institutional, economic, and philanthropic players, as well as civil society.
- Boost the impact of working groups by

# Transition en Commun

supporting key scaling proposals that align with public policies and municipal priorities.

- Consolidate regional approaches in order to strengthen citizen ownership and unify transition actions at the neighbourhood level.
- Launch a joint advocacy and lobbying strategy, taking into account upcoming political time horizons at various levels of government.
- Continue building Transition en Commun into a lasting movement serving Montréal institutions and civil society.
- Network with similar initiatives and players across Québec to boost our influence and pool resources.

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## Community benefits

- A credible and strategic collective action initiative for Montréal's socio-ecological transition.
- Stronger collaboration between institutions, civil society, economic bodies, and local communities.
- A more democratic, localized, and socially just climate transition.
- Support for evolving practices, policies, and economic models for sustainability, inclusivity, and democracy.

# The Foundation of Greater Montréal and Vivre en Ville

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## Commitment

Coordinate research and preparation of the [Foundation of Greater Montréal's Vital Signs of Greater Montreal report on territorial inequities](#).

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## Progress

Produced the [Vital Signs of Greater Montreal Territorial Inequities report](#) in collaboration with Vivre en Ville:

- Formed a steering committee with members from Centraide of Greater Montreal, the Coalition montréalaise des Tables de quartier, the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, the Direction régionale de la santé publique, the Trottier Family Foundation, and the City of Montréal.
- Held the official launch on November 5, 2024 at the Centre Saint-Pierre with 224 registered attendees.
- Received media coverage including an open letter in La Presse from former FGM CEO Karel Mayrand and news stories produced by Le Devoir, Radio Canada, Courrier Laval, Est Média, Pivot Media and CIBL.

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## Challenges

- The complex and intersectional nature of the topic.
- Territorial diversity.
- Comparative analysis complicated by incomplete or non-existent data.

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## Next steps

The FGM has used the report's data to steer the work of the Collective Fund for Climate and Ecological Transition and to guide project selection.

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## Community benefits

The report sheds light on numerous aspects of territorial inequity, including:

- The intersectional nature of the issues: how they overlap and affect each other, and their impact on the citizens of Greater Montréal.
- The relationships between the players involved.
- The complexity of land use and the uneven availability of public services.

# Institut de la résilience et de l'innovation urbaine

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## Commitment

Establish a federated climate data hub for Greater Montréal.

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## Progress

- In a major step forward, the project was integrated into the Institut de la résilience et de l'innovation urbaine (IRIU) under the name Pôle de données fédérées (Federated Data Hub).
- Announced at the 2025 Montréal Climate Summit, this integration is part of a drive to institutionalize the project, with a view to continuity and scaling.
- The Pôle has become a central component of VILLE\_IA, which aims to strengthen cities' climate resilience, help reduce GHG emissions, and use AI tools to assist local decisionmakers in managing climate hazards.
- In 2026, our work is focused on VILLE\_IA use cases to link data more directly to cities' actual needs. This scaling is being done in collaboration with a dozen Québec municipalities.
- We are collaborating with Hydro-Québec and the City of Montréal to support a use case related to buildings, energy, and resilience. Montréal continues to play a leading role and has since the project's inception.
- The Pôle is also becoming a hub where partners can share data. Participants have clear responsibilities and must abide by confidentiality and data usage rules.

- OVHcloud is helping to develop our hosting capabilities and creating a more stable basis for future endeavours.
- The project can now count on the support of an expanded network of municipal, academic, institutional, and community partners, including Polytechnique Montréal, IVADO, and OBVIA, strengthening its scope and capacity for action.
- The Ministère de la Cybersécurité et du Numérique and the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation now also support the IRIU.

As a refresher:

- This project was initially designed with Concordia University in collaboration with the Montréal Climate Partnership and Open North.
- During this experimental phase, we tested our strategy, identified partners' needs, and demonstrated how a shared hub can help identify, organize, and mobilize climate, adaptation, and resilience data.
- A demonstration was held at the 2025 Montréal Climate Summit.

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## Challenges

- Converting proof of concept into a tool that numerous partners actually use requires a great deal of coordination.
- Not all organizations are equally prepared to share, document, or update their data.
- Trust must be built so partners feel secure sharing data that cannot be made public.

# Institut de la résilience et de l'innovation urbaine

- The project relies on strong mobilization to avoid overlapping efforts, align with stakeholders' respective interests, and engage the right partners at the right time.
- Identifying the best incentives to encourage data sharing and partner participation remains a challenge.
- Scaling up to a more operational level also requires significant financial, human, and organizational capacity.
- The project must comply with regulations and requirements governing data sharing in Québec.

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## Next steps

- Establish the Pôle as a sustainable resource for municipalities and their partners.
- Continue deploying VILLE\_IA use cases to demonstrate the tool's concrete value for cities.
- Expand our collaboration with Hydro-Québec and the City of Montréal around a use case related to buildings, energy, and resilience.
- Continue to structure data sharing around specific needs and common use cases, rather than pursuing a dispersed approach.
- Provide partners with more tools to facilitate greater participation, data documentation, and contribution to shared projects.
- Continue scaling efforts with existing partner municipalities and territorial collaborations across Québec.
- Strengthen the Pôle's stability, durability, and sustainability to support its long-term development.

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## Community benefits

- A better collective capacity to **identify, organize, and mobilize data** instrumental to climate action, including climate adaptation and the resilience of vulnerable populations.
- Enhanced support for municipalities to better identify vulnerabilities, strategically target interventions, and plan actions more effectively.
- Stronger alignment between research and experimentation activities and the real-world operational needs on the ground.
- Improved collaboration between municipalities and partners through the use of shared tools. VILLE\_IA, for example, is being collaboratively implemented across a dozen Québec municipalities.
- Stronger digital sovereignty, territorial autonomy, and ability to react to climate crises.
- Better conditions for reducing GHG emissions and making more informed decisions about urban resilience in the long term.



**2025**  
**COMMITMENTS**

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## Commitment

- 1** Create a strategic working group with the property and casualty insurance industry to speed up changes required to meet the growing impact of extreme weather events.

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## Progress

- The mandate, measures, framework, and deadlines have been defined.
- CRE-Montréal was tasked with coordinating the working group and developing a stakeholder mobilization strategy.

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## Challenges

Establishing action pathways that align with stakeholder objectives while maximizing benefits for vulnerable citizens.

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## Next steps

### Communications – Spring 2026 deadline

- Raise awareness among citizens and policyholders about the risks of water damage, the importance of insurance coverage, prevention methods, and ways to build resilience.

### Incentives and financing – Fall 2026 deadline

- Identify the best ways to inspire action through awareness, regulation, training, and other tools and incentives, depending on the situation and target audience.

### Pooling expertise and resources – Fall 2026 deadline

- Identify and prioritize the adaptation and resilience measures most likely to have a concrete and lasting impact on existing buildings and new construction (build and rebuild better).

### Optimize measures – June 1, 2027 deadline

- Identify opportunities to pool or enhance some existing initiatives and resources.

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## Community benefits

The initiatives that emerge from this initial work and the collaborative efforts spearheaded by the working group will help communities become more resilient to flooding.

# City of Montréal

## Commitment

**2** Reach 11,000 public electric vehicle charging stations in the urban agglomeration of Montréal by 2030.

## Progress

- According to Québec government data and [Roulez vert program](#) statistics, 311 public charging stations were installed in the urban agglomeration of Montréal between January 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026, including 174 by the City of Montréal.
- Businesses have installed 951 additional charging stations that are accessible to visitors and customers.

	January 1, 2025	January 1, 2026
Public charging stations (Level 2)	3 026	3 298
Public fast charging stations	175	214
Total public charging stations	3 201	3 512
Workplace charging stations	2 466	3 417
Total including workplace charging stations	5 667	6 929

## Challenges

- In 2025, electric light-duty vehicle sales growth slowed in Québec and in North America as a whole, which may have dampened the enthusiasm of organizations rolling out charging infrastructure.
  - Climate policies have been scaled back: Québec has lowered its zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) targets and lifted the 2035 ban on the sale of gas-powered vehicles. The United States has also relaxed certain measures.
  - The high cost of electric vehicles, trade tensions, the downsizing of Québec's Roulez vert program, and the suspension of the federal Electric Vehicle Affordability Program all contributed to the uncertainty.
- In Montréal, funding, technical challenges, and (to a lesser extent) governance have slowed the installation of public charging stations. The complexity of liaising across multiple jurisdictions (including the City, boroughs, and reconstituted municipalities); challenging coordination between players; the availability of suitable locations for charging stations; limited municipal budgets; different priorities across territories; and the technical obstacles inherent to a dense urban environment all may have contributed to lower rollout.

## Next steps

In its renewed transport electrification action plan for 2025–2027, the City of Montréal has announced 22 actions, including several aimed at increasing the number of charging stations.

# City of Montréal

The City intends to continue implementing this plan to achieve the target set in its [Climate Plan](#) for 2030. This involves:

- Stepping up efforts to create market conditions that encourage private partners to accelerate their participation in building an effective public charging network tailored to the specific needs of certain areas.
- Securing the funding the City of Montréal needs to continue directly deploying a portion of the public charging infrastructure.

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## Community benefits

Public charging stations are essential to enabling the mass electrification of Montréal's light-duty vehicle fleet, particularly in a dense urban environment where access to home charging is frequently constrained. Public charging stations also help achieve other priorities in Montréal's 2030 strategic plan, including:

- Priority 1: Reduce GHG emissions to at least 55% below 1990 levels by 2030 and become carbon neutral by 2050.
- Priority 3: Grow and diversify available transportation options by providing integrated, affordable, and sustainable transportation options that are active, shared, collective, low-carbon, and accessible to all.



# City of Montréal

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## Commitment

### 3 Implement zero net artificialization by 2030.

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## Progress

Since May 2025, the City's Geomatics Division has been working on repeating the 2016 detailed analysis of plant and mineral surfaces for the year 2022.

- This massive project, concluding in Spring 2026, will shed light on how vegetation and mineralization rates are evolving in the City and in Greater Montréal.

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## Challenges

Geomatic analysis involves gathering data on plant and mineral surface layers, which is a labour-intensive and time-consuming process. An extra full-time employee was required for a full year to complete the work. It took some effort to source funding for that salary.

- This issue will recur each time the analysis is conducted, which would ideally be every 3–4 years.

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## Next steps

In 2026, the City will:

- Conduct a neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood analysis of changes in vegetation and mineralization rates between 2016 and 2022 to assess recent mineralization trends.
- Identify the areas that have improved or worsened the most and what land-use or development patterns caused these changes

in order to pinpoint the effort required to operationalize the principle of zero net artificialization.

- Develop a five-year plan to curb land artificialization and accelerate demineralization (such as through urban planning, regulations, or financing).

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## Community benefits

This commitment strives to preserve the ecological benefits of green spaces (such as cooling, stormwater management, resident health, and biodiversity) and to limit the harmful effects of land artificialization (including an increase in heat islands, soil sealing, and habitat fragmentation).

# Government of Québec

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## Commitment

Provide more than \$25,000,000 in financial support to 12 municipal organizations for greening projects and green infrastructure.

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## Progress

All agreements have been entered into and signed by the participating parties.

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## Challenges

No challenges encountered.

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## Next steps

In accordance with agreed-on terms, the program team will follow up with each municipal organization as projects are implemented.

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## Community benefits

Offer financial support to help municipal organizations and Indigenous communities plan and implement greening projects aimed at enhancing climate change adaptation.



# Concordia University, Énergir Development, Hydro-Québec

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## Commitment

Enter into a strategic collaboration agreement to explore and implement sustainable energy solutions at Concordia University's Loyola campus.

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## Progress

The project's first phase, a high-level feasibility study, is currently underway. Led by Énergir Development, this analysis will help determine the best solutions to maximize the performance of the campus's energy network. The study is slated for completion by late spring 2026.

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## Challenges

No particular challenges to report, beyond the significant complexity inherent in the project. The project is on schedule.

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## Next steps

The next steps will be determined after the high-level feasibility study has been completed.

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## Community benefits

The project's expected benefits include:

- Successful integration of renewable energy sources into Concordia University's Loyola campus energy grid, with minimal impact on peak demand. This project could serve as an effective decarbonization model that could be replicated on a larger scale (cities, universities, corporate campuses).
- Collaboration between researchers, students, and energy-sector stakeholders, which will support the creation of a centre for applied research and skills development in renewable energy networks to help accelerate Québec's energy transition.

# Communauto

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## Commitment

Establish a social utility trust to ensure the company's business model and social, urban, and environmental mission is sustainable.

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## Progress

- Formed a scientific committee to identify research needs and produce data to inform future directors' decisions.
- Outlined the trust's governance structure.
- Created the trust's incorporating documents (e.g., corporate charter).

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## Challenges

- The legal and structural complexity of setting up a social utility trust (SUT).
- The time required for reflection and dialogue to align all stakeholders.
- Adapting governance structures to a long-term, perpetual mission.
- Striking a balance between social mission and financial viability.

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## Next steps

- Legally incorporate the trust and transfer part of the ownership from the entity currently controlling the company.
- Establish the Governance and Finance Committees.

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## Community benefits

Transforming Communauto into an SUT allows the company to:

- Establish a long-term mission, ensuring its decisions will continue to serve the collective interest.
- Support a sustainable transportation model that helps reduce vehicle traffic, GHG emissions, and demands on urban space.
- Make transportation more accessible and strengthen partners' trust through a governance model rooted in social utility.
- Protect and amplify the environmental, social, and community benefits of Communauto, now and in the future.

# Culture Montréal and the Montréal Climate Partnership

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## Commitment

Prepare a report on the current state of knowledge and practices in climate change adaptation among Montréal's outdoor cultural festivals and events.

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## Progress

- Established a steering committee comprised of climate transition experts and people working in the cultural sector, including a member of Culture Montréal's standing committee on culture and ecological transformation.
- Launched a survey on the current state of knowledge and practices in climate change adaptation among Montréal's outdoor cultural festivals and events.
- Mobilized other cultural organizations, including the City of Montréal's Bureau des festivals et événements, the Quartier des Spectacles Partnership, the Major International Events Network, the Regroupement des festivals régionaux artistiques indépendants (Refrain), Événements Attractions Québec, and Tourisme Montréal.
- Held targeted consultations and a focus group with some twenty cultural organizations.
- Analyzed findings and identified possible solutions with input from Ouranos.

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## Challenges

Identifying the relevant cultural organizations given the absence of a centralized database or standardized compilation of all the outdoor cultural events in Greater Montréal.

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## Next steps

The report is currently being drafted and validated. Official publication is scheduled for Spring 2026.

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## Community benefits

- Gaining a better understanding of the realities, needs, and challenges of the cultural sector in order to identify shared priorities.
- Better equipping organizations and the cultural sector to adapt to climate change.
- Helping cultural organizations and public decisionmakers pinpoint the actions they need to take.

# Regroupement des éco-quartiers

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## Commitment

Develop a new version of the [Éco-quartier program](#) to help better meet Montréal's ambitious goals for socio-ecological transition in its boroughs.

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## Progress

Numerous City and community partners are still reviewing the program.

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## Challenges

As the official launch has not yet taken place, no challenges can be shared at this time.

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## Next steps

This project is slated for completion by the end of 2026.

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## Community benefits

We hope to strengthen the eco-quartiers by improving the services offered to residents and maximizing the impact of environmental initiatives carried out by and for Montréalers.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Converting climate change commitments into action takes more than just political will—it requires a rigorous approach and a unified vision. This section compiles advice and lessons from organizations with experience implementing transformative climate commitments.

We've organized these recommendations around six fundamental pillars to help you navigate the complexities of transition. Apply these strategies to transform your ambitions into sustainable, measurable actions by establishing solid governance, mobilizing your stakeholders, and removing operational obstacles.

## 1. Governance, Partnerships, and Environment

- Setting up a dedicated working committee made up of internal members and influential external industry players can cultivate diverse perspectives and help build a solid governance model aligned with the organization's mission.
- Transition doesn't occur in a vacuum! Set up a multidisciplinary environment from the outset by surrounding yourself with specialized experts in law, taxation, finance, governance, and stakeholder mobilization.
- Work closely with local organizations, specialized partners, and government bodies that are engaged in similar efforts to strengthen your initiative and generate buy-in for your project.
- Invest in relational and organizational infrastructure to create sustainable knowledge-sharing environments for citizens, institutions, and economic players. This knowledge-sharing is essential for supporting medium- and long-term collective action.
- Encourage close collaboration among all stakeholders and build partnerships to maximize the impact of your initiatives.

## 2. Strategic Vision and Systemic Approaches

- Approach transition as a collective, democratic and cross-sectoral process, not as the sum of individual commitments. Look beyond mere technical solutions—generate shared co-benefits and design initiatives that are ready for large-scale deployment to optimize their impact.
- Commit time and thought to your project, developing a clear vision of its desired impact. This is essential for long-term success. Consistency, mobilization, and influence create as much value as immediate results.
- Ground the project's design and communications in local stakeholders' needs and the sector's strategic orientations. This will ensure your initiative remains relevant and aligned with on-the-ground realities.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## 3. Planning, Timing, and Agility

- Design a unified intervention plan that outlines the progressive steps to be taken year by year. Think about scaling from the outset, but work in phases to minimize risk, meet deadlines, and inspire trust among investors.
- Create a timetable that takes into account the complexity of the process, the uniqueness of each project, and the time it takes contributors to own their roles. Set aside enough time for new concepts to be defined by all stakeholders.
- Communicate the purpose of the initiative and the action plan to ensure the project's priorities are clear and provide stakeholders with greater predictability. Use this clarity and predictability to identify the paths forward.
- Outline the precise scope of the initial research and monitor how closely proposed measures were adhered to during implementation. Adjust scenarios and plans as needed and focus on achieving the broader targets.

## 4. Diagnostics, Data, and Impact Monitoring

- Develop knowledge before applying strategy by amassing data and tools, and consolidating in-house expertise. A clear picture of the current landscape and existing initiatives is essential to fully grasp the issues at stake, identify unmet needs, and strengthen the foundational efforts already under way.
- Run analysis as necessary throughout the implementation process to ensure objectives are being met and the desired impact is being achieved. This analytical rigour should make it possible to demonstrate results following implementation and, where necessary, adjust subsequent planning or actions.
- Systematically evaluate results and areas for improvement to show the relevance of the initiative and to spark ideas for the project's future iterations.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## 5. Communication, Mobilization, and Commitment

- Ensuring effective communication by developing a plan that precisely identifies target audiences and the information channels best suited to them. The goal is to make the project's purpose explicit and accessible by presenting its strategic aims and concrete benefits for the local community.
- Consult widely among relevant stakeholders and industry players to collect a range of viewpoints from organizations of all sizes. Establishing direct relationships can help you better understand needs and operational issues and encourage partners to support or promote your initiatives.
- Ensure effective collaboration between stakeholders and work teams from day one. This teamwork must be grounded in shared objectives, trust, and reciprocity to ensure all members' skills, knowledge, and ideas are fully leveraged.

## 6. Operational Support and Resources

- Secure funding and bolster support from merchants and businesses that align with the project's objectives. This pool of resources is essential to ensuring the transition's goals are financially backed.
- Remove barriers to action by centralizing information and simplifying administrative processes that are often seen as complex. Make up for contributors' lack of time or expertise by offering them direct access to the financial support and knowledge they need to take action.

# Thank you to the partners of the 2026 Montréal Climate Summit

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