

Bibliothèque nationale du Québec
Open House April 30 and May 1

Harmonie

your Grande Bibliothèque



Come



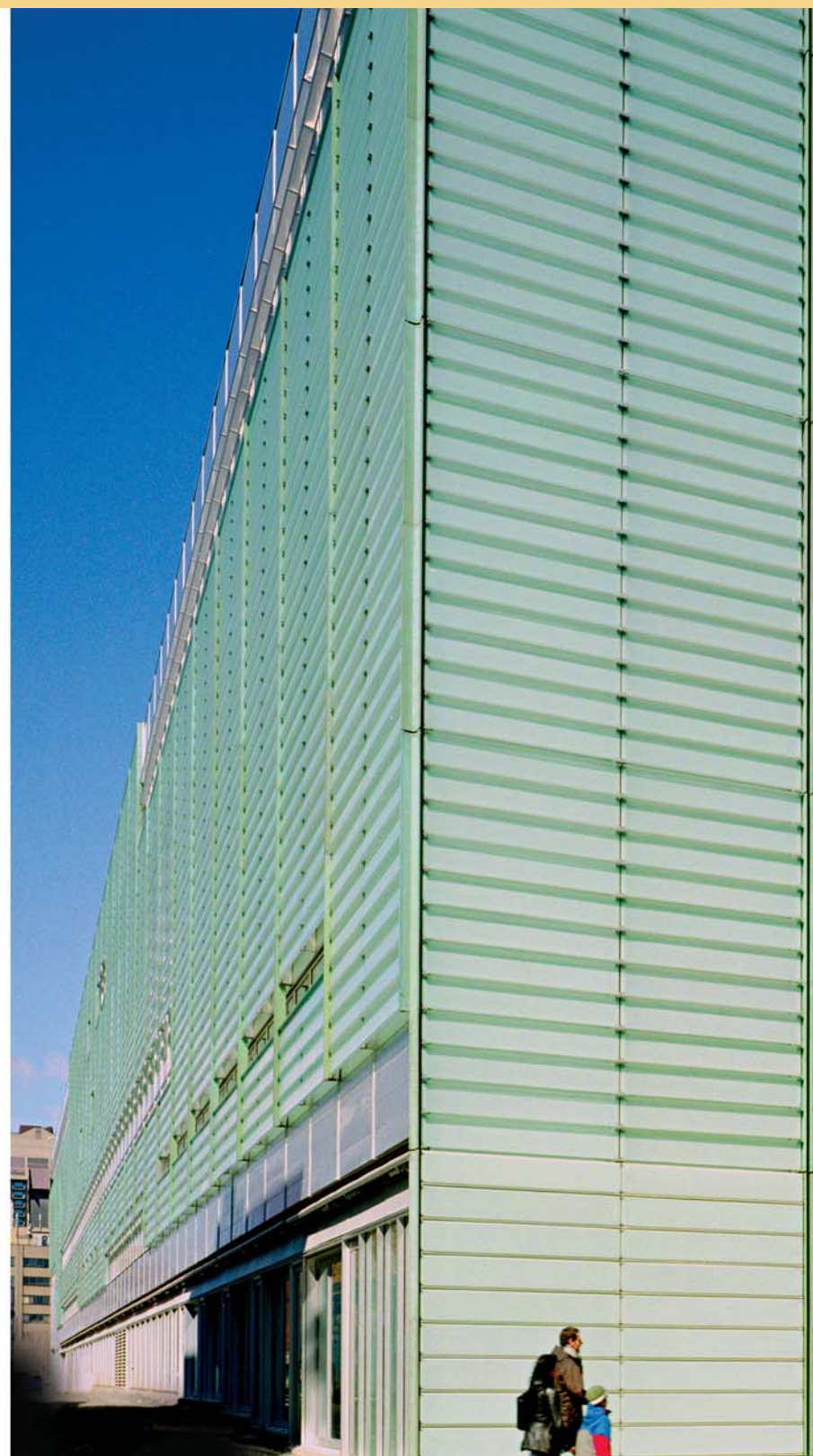
Free services for all Quebecers

On April 30, 2005, the Grande Bibliothèque opens its doors to offer you unprecedented free access to the riches of your national library. The new library will be devoted to the dissemination of culture and knowledge. It will also be a hub of information, offering activities for all Quebecers.

In preparation for welcoming you here today, many steps were taken over the past few years: selection of the most appropriate site, in the very heart of Montréal's Latin Quarter; an international architectural competition; a furniture design competition; the construction of a six-level, 33,000-square-metre building that features reading and work areas, a number of exhibition areas, an auditorium, a conference centre, a section reserved for children up to the age of 13, a software library and a language laboratory; and the implementation of advanced electronic architecture to provide resources and services to people throughout Québec.

Open, bright and inviting, the Grande Bibliothèque will welcome thousands of visitors every day. The building can be entered from Berri Street, Ontario Street, Savoie Avenue or De Maisonneuve Boulevard, directly from the Berri-UQAM metro station or from the underground parking lot. The library will also serve the needs of users beyond its walls, by offering remote access to a true virtual library.

Whether you live in Montréal, Québec City, Rouyn-Noranda, Matane or anywhere else, the Grande Bibliothèque belongs to you!



This is your new library

Follow the guide...

So much to do!

The Grande Bibliothèque is a place to make discoveries, study, borrow a book, film or disc, read newspapers and magazines, watch a video or listen to a sound recording. You can also visit an exhibition, meet writers, attend a debate, surf the Internet, learn a new language, prepare a job search, try out software and even compose and record your own creations in an electronic music room.



The Grande Bibliothèque brings together TWO OUTSTANDING COLLECTIONS under one roof

The national collection contains everything published in Québec, everything published about Québec elsewhere in the world and all publications whose production involves at least one Quebecer, from the days of New France to the present. For the first time, this exceptionally rich heritage, which includes books, journals, magazines, music scores, maps, posters, prints, postcards, sound recordings and electronic documents, is offered in its entirety for public consultation, in ideal conditions.

With its universal lending and reference collection, the Grande Bibliothèque joins the ranks of the best equipped public libraries recently opened in Europe and the United States: users will find hundreds of thousands of volumes, sound recordings and videos to borrow, whether they are looking for "classics," new releases or specialized information. They are free to browse the stacks and make their choice, after consulting the library catalogue at a computer station or asking a librarian for advice.



A word from the Premier

Created in 1967, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec has constantly evolved and re-invented itself down through the years by replenishing its shelves with new acquisitions. Today, it brings together its collections with those of the Bibliothèque centrale de Montréal under the same roof—the Grande Bibliothèque.

The Government of Québec is proud to be associated with this public corporation that is a citizen of the 21st century, a repository of the past and an invaluable custodian of culture and knowledge with a window on the world. Universal access to books, to free thought and to knowledge, and sharing and transmitting these riches from generation to generation—this is what is important in developing our society.

I hope that the Grande Bibliothèque will be a singular setting for those special encounters between books and readers. Let's make them a habit.

Jean Charest



A word from the Minister of Culture and Communications

Since its creation, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec has always kept the vibrant spirit that makes it the flagship institution it is today. Throughout its existence, Québec's Ministère de la Culture et des Communications has been an important stakeholder in the institution's modernization, culminating today in a new home to house its collection of four million documents.

Until now, the government has contributed close to \$100 million to the design and construction of this ultramodern new building, which will serve and enrich our public library network. Its vast collection of printed, audiovisual and electronic documents will soon be available free throughout Québec.

I invite all Quebecers to explore time and again this library dedicated to universal knowledge and our collective memory, either in person or through enriching visits online.

Line Beauchamp



A message from the Chair and Chief Executive Officer

Now that construction of the Grande Bibliothèque has been completed, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec team is savouring a beautiful and fleeting moment of satisfaction, a mixture of pride, pleasure—and even a slight feeling of euphoria—in the wake of their efforts.

For both those who spearheaded the initial efforts and the most recent recruits, this satisfaction is richly deserved. We will experience it with an intensity equalled only by its brevity. For, as soon as the first, eagerly anticipated visitors cross the real or virtual threshold of the library, the covenant of the last six years will be profoundly transformed. The Grande Bibliothèque is a gift, a marriage of concrete and paper, a loving embrace of culture, which we have nurtured with immense care. Now, we must make good on our promise and become an institution steadfastly dedicated to making reading accessible to all and thereby opening the door to the limitless riches that the act of reading procures. "All these books are for you!" So says our opening exhibition, fittingly summing up what has been the dream of libraries for more than a millennium. We know that the path from our resources to the millions of people who will use them is founded on a commitment to seek and foster the equality of opportunity and to do more for those who have less.

A library, regardless of its size, symbolizes intellectual freedom and fundamental resistance—to censorship in the past and to the conditioning that weighs heavily on our lives today. Québec's National Assembly understood this when, in 1998, it agreed unanimously to build the Grande Bibliothèque. Arising out of this common desire, this new public institution could not have come into being under better auspices.

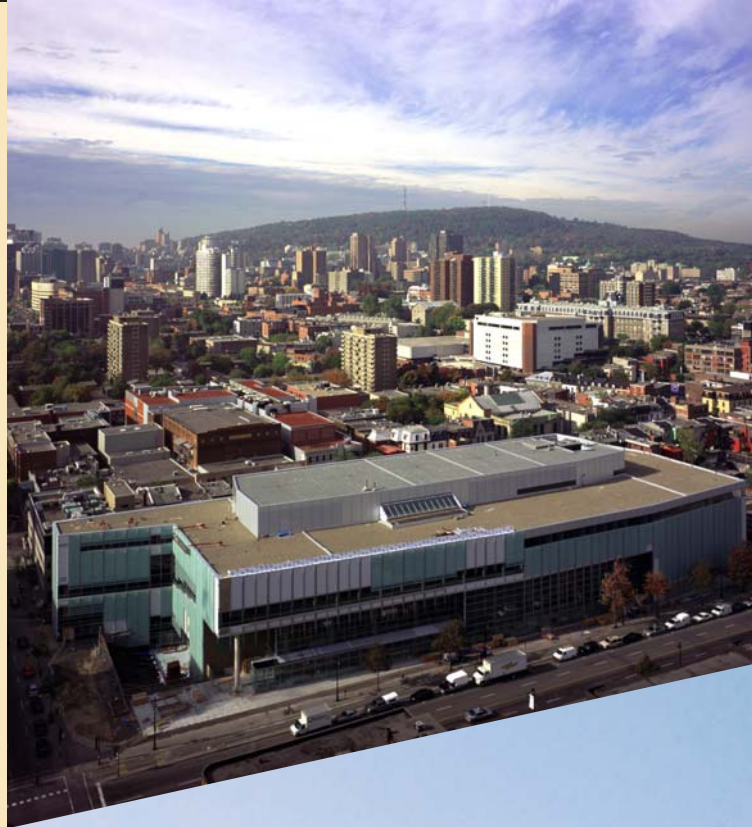
Lise Bissonnette

A monumental



Construction history of the Grande Bibliothèque

1998	Choice of the Palais du Commerce site, De Maisonneuve Blvd. East in Montréal
June 2000	Contract awarded to the architectural team of Patkau/Croft-Pelletier/Gilles Guité of Vancouver and Québec City, winner of the international architectural competition
July-September 2001	Demolition and site preparation
October 2001	Excavation and foundations
October 2002 to November 2004	Construction of building
November 2004 to April 2005	Fitting out of the interior, shelving of collections and arrival of staff
April 30, 2005	Official opening



- > About 250 workers and over 100 suppliers were involved in building the Grande Bibliothèque over the past four years.
- > It took more than 20,000 hours to shelve the documents in the Grande Bibliothèque.
- > To bring the virtual library to life, about 100 people worked on setting up the Internet portal of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, including 54 writers, 22 content coordinators and 30 or so technical experts.

work

POMERLEAU

People and Challenges • www.pomerleau.ca

Just like a writer, the Pomerleau-Beaubois team applies its skills and expertise to creating masterpieces.

Openness, transparency and light

The Patkau/Croft-Pelletier/Gilles Guité group of Vancouver and Québec City was the grand winner of the Grande Bibliothèque architecture competition launched in January 2000. It won out over 36 other architectural firms from 11 countries, by presenting a design as elegant as it is functional, combining natural light and superb materials.

In October 2001, Menkès Shoener Dagenais Architectes joined the team to serve as project manager and to ensure the exceptional quality of the drawings and the execution of the project. The construction work was entrusted to Hervé Pomerleau Inc., in October 2002.

Light and airy, the exterior building envelope consists of some 6,000 plates of frosted, tempered glass with a glacier-green ceramic coating evoking landscapes of the Far North. It is the first time that this type of exterior finish, produced entirely in Québec, has been used in North America.

Inside, the architects created two spectacular rooms, in which wood plays a prominent role, filtering light and sound without closing off the areas. They were inspired by the famous novel *Les Chambres de bois* (*The Silent Rooms*) by Québec writer Anne Hébert, published in 1958. These rooms are home to the national collection and the universal lending and reference collection. The wood used, yellow birch, with its soft, warm tones, is one of Québec's three official emblems.

From the great hall, with its tall concrete columns, there are two main ways to get around the library. One focuses on efficiency, rising vertically via stairways and three panoramic elevators. The other, a promenade that leads to the reading areas, winds around the room that houses the universal lending and reference collection, affording many views of the interior as well as glimpses of the city.

Grande Bibliothèque: facts and figures

- > Construction budget (including facilities and land): \$97.6 million
- > Computer architecture: \$12.7 million
- > Acquisitions of new documents: \$17.2 million
- > Document processing and cataloguing: \$14.1 million

Purchase of the collections of the Bibliothèque centrale de Montréal, in accordance with an agreement between the Québec government and the city of Montréal: \$35 million

Total floor space: 33,000 square metres on six levels

Employees: nearly 400, with more than 250 serving the public

Collections:

- > 4 million documents
 - > 1.2 million books
 - > 1.2 million other documents (journals, magazines, newspapers, music CDs and cassettes, DVDs, videocassettes, reference works, software, etc.)
 - > 1.6 million microforms



A forum for culture, knowledge and exchange



The spacious layout of the Grande Bibliothèque meets the most varied of needs. There are meeting and activity areas, such as the auditorium, exhibition hall and children's section, as well as quiet areas for undisturbed reading. There are also a number of study rooms located throughout the building, available upon request to users looking for a quiet place to read or work.

The Grande Bibliothèque has 2,520 seats, including 1,300 armchairs for reading, 350 computer stations, 44 stations for listening to discs and cassettes, 50 stations for viewing films, four lecture rooms, four training rooms, and 21 meeting and research rooms. High-induction air conditioning and heating systems ensure users' comfort, while saving energy. The electrical and computer cables are built into the floor, which facilitates technical maintenance and preserves the appearance of the concrete finish on the ceilings.



L'architecture est le grand livre de l'humanité

**Architecture is the Great Book
of Humanity**

Victor Hugo

Architects

> PATKAU CROFT PELLETIER
MENKÈS SHOONER DAGENAI
Architectes

Mechanical and Electrical Engineers

> BOUTHILLETTE PARIZEAU
ET ASSOCIÉS / GROUPE HBA
EXPERTS-CONSEILS

Structural Engineers

> NICOLET CHARTRAND KNOLL /
LES CONSULTANTS GÉNIPLUS

Landscape Architects

> SCHÈME

*are proud partners in the realization
of the Grande Bibliothèque.*



Furnishings by Dallaire

To create a comfortable setting for library users, 500 reading surfaces, 850 chairs and 500 lamps were manufactured based on designs by Michel Dallaire Design Industriel, winner of the furniture design competition launched in fall 2001. The beauty as well as the functional and ergonomic qualities of these creations are apparent in the inclined work surface, the footrest and the ingenious camouflage of cables. Michel Dallaire Design Industriel also designed the computer and microform stations, the multimedia listening modules, the conference tables and the original, colourful furniture for the children's section (Espace Jeunes).

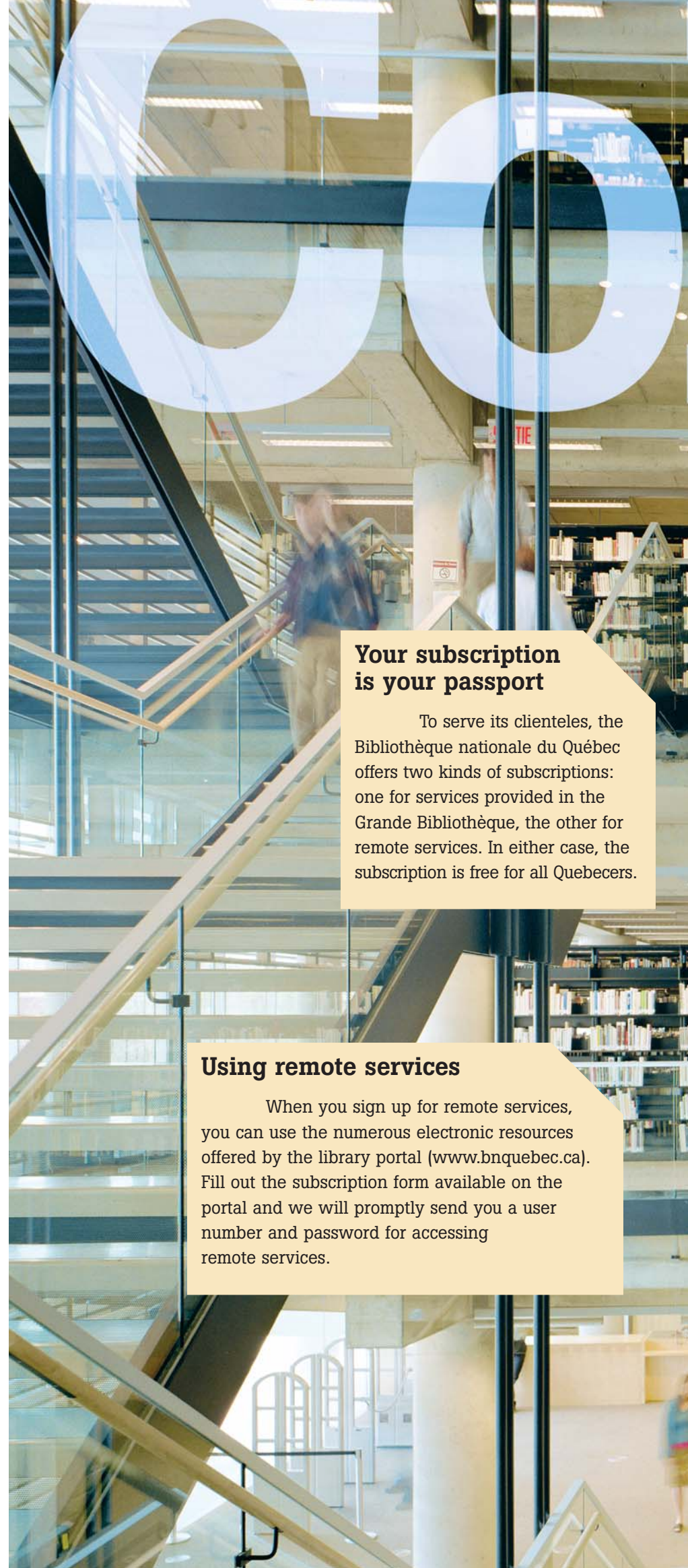
Light up your mind ... at the library

The Grande Bibliothèque required 70,000 hours of electrical work, more than 5,000 light fixtures and 6,150 metres of track lighting. To tackle the complex challenges involved in this project, Électrique Britton invested heavily in training its professionals. We worked hard to make sure that a trip to the library is always an enlightening experience.

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Your subscription is your passport

To serve its clientele, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec offers two kinds of subscriptions: one for services provided in the Grande Bibliothèque, the other for remote services. In either case, the subscription is free for all Quebecers.

Using remote services

When you sign up for remote services, you can use the numerous electronic resources offered by the library portal (www.bnquebec.ca). Fill out the subscription form available on the portal and we will promptly send you a user number and password for accessing remote services.

collections

Treasures to discover

Using services at the Grande Bibliothèque

With this subscription, users can reserve, borrow and renew documents, consult closed-stack collections, reserve rooms and use viewing stations, among other things.

To sign up for services in the library, simply fill out the form on the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec Web portal or stop by the circulation desk at the Grande Bibliothèque. In either case, you must present valid identification and proof of residence to obtain a subscriber's card. The card also lets you take advantage of all services offered on the library's portal.

Document Loans

Maximum of 15 documents at a time:
up to five comic books, three computer programs, two films and 10 of any other kind of document

Loan period: 21 days
Vacation loans: 42 days
Excluding films and multimedia documents for adults, which can be signed out for seven days.

Renewals, requests and holds: in person or by phone or Internet

When you visit the Grande Bibliothèque, you have access to more than four million documents published in a variety of formats, primarily in French but also in English and a dozen other languages. They are divided into two impressive collections: the first is the **universal lending and reference collection**, entirely for lending purposes, except for newspapers, journals, magazines, reference works, and rare and valuable works. **The second is the national collection, which you may consult in the library only.**

Grouped into seven major thematic categories, the three million print or audiovisual documents in the universal lending and reference collection consist of the collections of the Bibliothèque centrale de Montréal (including those of the Phonothèque), the sound recordings and Braille books of the Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille and the Magnétothèque, and 475,000 new acquisitions. The Bibliothèque nationale du Québec plans to continue developing this collection at a rate of 65,000 new books and 20,000 new audiovisual and electronic documents per year.

The national collection, which counts close to a million books, journals, magazines, newspapers, government publications, maps, posters, prints and microforms, brings together nearly everything published in Québec, created by Quebecers or published elsewhere about Québec since 1760. This unique heritage was constituted through legal deposit, gifts and acquisitions.

M (metro) level

The metro level is devoted primarily to the world of childhood, with Espace Jeunes and the Centre québécois de ressources en littérature pour la jeunesse. On the same level are the exhibition hall, the programming room, four rooms for professional meetings and conferences, and the sorting area for returned documents.



Espace Jeunes (children's section)

With its original furniture and variety of brightly coloured elements, Espace Jeunes is a welcoming, friendly place where children up to the age of 13 can choose from more than 70,000 documents to borrow. There is a vast selection of board books, picture books, first storybooks, comic books and novels, stories for all ages and all levels of reading, non-fiction on all subjects, a DVD collection, videocassettes, music CDs and audio books, software and Internet resources just a click away and a wide variety of magazines for boys and girls alike.

Young visitors also have access to encyclopedias, atlases and dictionaries to help them with their schoolwork, a collection of games and toys, and many activities all year long. Espace Jeunes includes play and activity areas, a creative workshop, the Inimagimô tiered theatre, 18 computer stations, 16 listening stations, 15 viewing stations for films and other audiovisual documents, and a self-serve borrowing station.

Centre québécois de ressources en littérature pour la jeunesse (Québec centre for children's literature resources)

A unique place devoted exclusively to the preservation and dissemination of French-language children's literature in North America, this centre is an invaluable resource for anyone interested in this field.

R (ground-floor) level

Located on the ground floor are the reception desk, the circulation desks (for loans and subscriptions), two self-serve borrowing stations and the book-return conveyor. Also on this level: the news and new releases section (section *Actualités et nouveautés*), services for people with disabilities, the adapted book service (*Service québécois du livre adapté*) and job boards that complement the services available at the job and career centre (*Centre emploi-carrière*) on the second level. In addition, there is a 300-seat auditorium for shows, concerts, lectures, conferences and a wide variety of other cultural events.

The ground floor provides access to the Berri-UQAM metro station and the underground parking lot, with 400 spaces, accessible from Berri Street.

Section Actualités et nouveautés (news and new releases section)

This area is open seven days a week. Here, you can borrow a book or a film for the weekend, leaf through the major dailies or surf the Internet. The news and new releases section has more than 60,000 recent titles, including novels and recently published documents on all subjects, as well as the collection for all (including large-print books and easy-to-read books) and a collection of classics that are always in demand. It includes about 50,000 books, about 100 magazines and newspapers, 5,000 music CDs and 5,000 films on DVD.

11

"Library" will never again be synonymous with "dusty."

In keeping with the clean, open architecture of the Grande Bibliothèque, FD Maintenance is committed to making this outstanding cultural centre a clean and welcoming place for everyone at all times. Because quality housekeeping is important.



An ingenious project calls for ingenious applications

Gestisoft is proud to supply the Grande Bibliothèque with **PIVOTAL**, its customer relations management solution. This solution includes applications especially designed for libraries, such as membership applications, requests for reference services and information, users' comments, room bookings and more. And the user-friendly environment makes it a pleasure to use.

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Revue et journaux (journals, magazines and newspapers)

Here, for consultation, is a vast collection of 150 newspapers and 1,600 journals and magazines from Québec, Canada and abroad, as well as numerous additional titles in electronic format.

Services aux personnes handicapées (services for people with disabilities)

These services are for all Quebecers with a disability that affects their mobility, agility, hearing, speech, sight or intellectual capacity. Disabled users can obtain help using equipment, getting around the library and locating, handling and borrowing documents. They can also use a variety of remote services by telephone, fax, mail and Internet.

Service québécois du livre adapté (SQLA) (adapted book service)

Providing one-stop service for visually impaired users, the SQLA has an extensive collection of adapted books in French. The documentary holdings, primarily from the Magnétothèque and the Institut Nazareth et Louis-Braille, include more than 50,000 documents, including 11,000 titles in braille, 11,000 on cassette and 300 on compact disc. The Bibliothèque nationale du Québec has added about 1,000 titles to the initial collection and will develop it on an ongoing basis. Carrels with a braille printer and multimedia stations equipped with touchpads or specialized software are also available.

Level 1

On the first level is the entrance to the national collection. This collection occupies three levels, including two mezzanines that overlook the magnificent reading room. More than 250,000 books, as well as journals, magazines and newspapers published in or relating to Québec, are available in open stacks for in-library consultation. The third level has publications by the governments of Québec and Canada.

Also on the first level is the arts and literature section of the universal lending and reference collection, featuring books of all kinds, from all countries and all eras. Novels are organized by genre: historical, romance, mystery and science fiction. There is also a comfortable reading area with a huge selection of comic books, located next to the teen fiction section.

Level 2 houses the science and technology collection, the economics and business collection, as well as maps, plans and a number of specialized services.

Centre emploi-carrière (job/career centre)

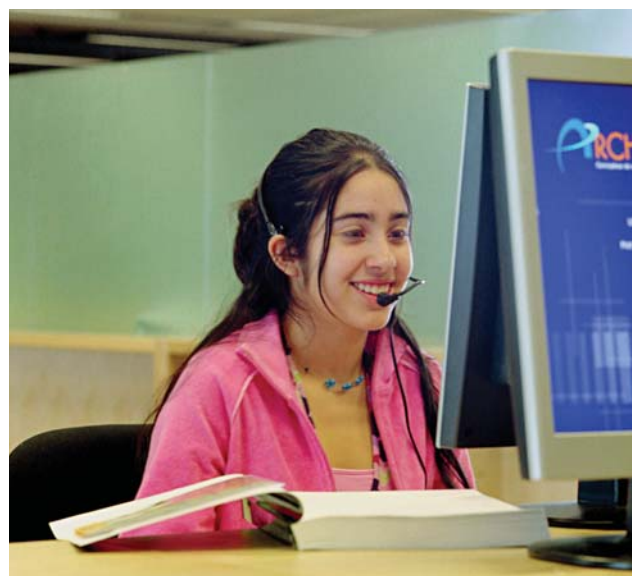
If you are looking for a job, a career change or information about trends in the labour market, the Centre emploi-carrière, in association with Emploi-Québec, offers you numerous resources: practical guides, Canadian and international business directories, newspapers and job postings from around the world, specialized databases and more. Our knowledgeable staff can help you use these resources and offer numerous training sessions on job searching and the labour market. There are also job boards in the news and new releases (Actualités et nouveautés) section on the ground floor.

Carrefour Affaires (business connection centre)

To find out about economic activity in a region or country, track market changes or obtain a company or industry profile, contact Carrefour Affaires. This new, user-pay search service, specializing in business and management, provides quick access to strategic information. Depending on the complexity of the search, the specialized librarians will provide you with the information requested in 24 to 72 hours. You can make your request at the library or by telephone, fax, e-mail or postal mail. You also have access to the economics and business collection, which, like a specialized documentation centre, brings business-related works together in one area.

Collections pour les nouveaux arrivants (collections for newcomers to Québec)

These collections, offered in collaboration with the Ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles, help newcomers integrate into Québec society. They provide practical information on Québec and Canada, institutions and public services, training and employment, the business community, geography, history and everything else related to the new environment.



Collection multilingue (multilingual collection)

This collection, which will be continually expanded, offers 20,000 documents in the 10 most common foreign languages in Québec: Arabic, Spanish, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Romanian, Italian, German, Greek, Portuguese and Russian. It comprises classic and popular works of world literature, reference works, non-fiction and journals, magazines and newspapers from all over the world. Apart from these print documents, numerous electronic resources are accessible on the library's portal. Note that the children's section (Espace Jeunes) boasts a collection of 4,000 documents in foreign languages.

Laboratoire de langues (language laboratory)

The language laboratory is equipped with 20 work stations. Here, you can learn—at your own pace—not only French and English, but also German, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Spanish, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian and Russian. Access is free, but you must reserve a station. The library also offers a number of print and electronic reference works: dictionaries, grammar books and conversation manuals. You can even borrow language methods for all levels on CD-ROM, DVD, audio CD, audiocassette or videocassette. In this case, you have even more languages to choose from.

Logithèque (software library)

Interested in discovering a new computer program or trying it out before you buy it? The software library has a collection of application software (word processors, spreadsheets, graphics applications, etc.), non-fiction and educational works (history, science, travel, etc.) and works of fiction (novels, poetry, drama, etc.). It has 16 multimedia stations, available free of charge by reservation. On the same level, more than 500 computer software applications and a collection of specialized computer works are available for loan.

Level 3

Level 3 has 200,000 works devoted to history, geography, humanities and social sciences, including 25,000 biographies. The 78,000 non-Québec titles of the Saint-Sulpice collection, often rare or unique copies, are also housed here, on mobile compact stacks: access is provided upon request and presentation of your subscriber's card.

Saint-Sulpice collection

This historical and heritage collection, constituted by Montréal's Sulpician priests beginning in 1844, originally contained mostly literary works. Between 1912 and 1931, the keeper of the collection, Égidius Fauteux, added academic and general works to the collection, and his successors followed suit. Over the years, the collection was enriched with books from the private libraries of various well-known figures, including Louis-Joseph Papineau and Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine. From 1920, the collection belonged successively to the Université de Montréal and the Québec government. It was transferred to the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec in 1967.

Level 4

Level 4 houses the music and film section, with more than 10,000 print documents and audio books, and 5,000 music scores; the video library (vidéothèque), equipped with 22 viewing stations and a film viewing room; the CD library (phonothèque), equipped with 20 listening stations and a music listening room; two rooms for composing electronic music and a self-serve borrowing station. There is also an area devoted to the national music collection, which comprises sound recordings (compact discs, cassettes, vinyl discs, audio books, etc.) and music scores by Québec composers and arrangers. This level also houses the administrative services.



Vidéothèque (video library)

The video library offers more than 16,000 films of all kinds, on VHS or DVD: comedies, dramas, crime films, musicals, taped performances, TV series and practical guides, for loan or in-library viewing. A collection of 1,000 films is available for consultation only. The Bibliothèque nationale du Québec plans to offer digital video files on its Internet portal at a later date.

Phonothèque (CD library)

Music fans will be overjoyed by the vast collection of sound recordings, including some 70,000 music CDs for all tastes: classical and contemporary, pop and rock, world music, folk music from here and elsewhere, jazz and blues, film soundtracks and theatre music. Similarly, the print collection offers music lovers and amateur musicians scores from all eras and in all musical styles. The documents in the phonothèque are available for loan or can be listened to or consulted in the library.

Electronic music rooms

Each of these two rooms is equipped with specialized software and a digital keyboard, which can be connected to your laptop and used with or without earphones. Musicians can use the rooms to compose or to play pieces from the library's collections.



Lise Thériault
Minister of Immigration
and Cultural Communities



Discover the World Learn About Our World

Such is the vision of Québec and its Grande Bibliothèque in order for Quebecers of all origins to discover and share the richness of ethnocultural diversity.

The Ministère de l'Immigration et des Communautés culturelles is a proud partner of the Grande Bibliothèque.

Long life to the Grande Bibliothèque!

Québec 



Discovery

Getting to know the Grande Bibliothèque better

Training sessions and guided tours

If you would like to be more independent in your research and better master some of the tools available in the library or via remote access, training sessions and guided tours can teach you more about the collections and services offered by the Grande Bibliothèque. Leaflets and floor plans of the library are also available at the reception desk on the ground floor.

Training sessions last from 60 to 90 minutes and are given during the library's opening hours. Basic training for the general public covers the Iris catalogue, the Internet portal, the children's portal and document research. You can also take advantage of specific training that focuses on particular services or collections, the Internet portal for the adapted book service (Service québécois du livre adapté [SQLA]) or the use of specialized software.

Guided tours give you an opportunity not only to familiarize yourself with the collections, the variety of available services and the way the library operates, but also to learn about the library's history and mission, and to admire the beauty of the building and the artworks integrated into the architecture. Hour-long general tours are conducted at specific times. Group tours (general, specialized or for schools) are available by reservation.

On the Internet portal of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, you can take a virtual tour of the Grande Bibliothèque, in addition to accessing activities and training.



Exhibitions for everyone

In the 425-square-metre hall at the metro level and in several other areas, numerous exhibitions enliven the Grande Bibliothèque. They showcase the riches of the library's collections and of the world of Québec documents from here and abroad. Virtual exhibitions are also available on the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec Internet portal.

Tous ces livres sont à toi! (All these books are for you!)

Salle d'exposition (exhibition hall), metro level
April 30, 2005 to January 31, 2006

This exhibition presents a historical and sociological view of the struggle to encourage reading in Québec. It presents an itinerary illustrated by more than 350 artifacts and artworks, chosen from among the treasures of major libraries and museums of national and international scope, including the Bibliothèque nationale de France. Five particularly original installations illustrate intimate reading areas: *Dans la chambre* [in the bedroom], *Sous l'arbre* [beneath the tree], *Près de la lampe* [by the lamp], *Sur la table* [on the table] and *Derrière les portes* [behind the doors]. Curator: Nicole Lemay; artistic director: Michel Marc Bouchard; exhibition designer: Raymond Marius Boucher.





3M

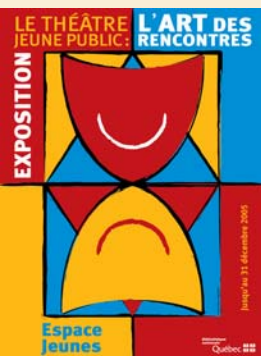
3M's Selfcheck™ stations make life easier for users of the Grande Bibliothèque. Employees no longer need to handle many of the check-out procedures, which facilitates circulation management and reduces line-ups. We're helping the Grande Bibliothèque take better care of you.

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**Le théâtre jeune public :
l'art des rencontres (Theatre
for a young audience:
the art of the encounter)**

Espace Jeunes (children's section),
metro level

April 30 to December 31, 2005

The exhibition entitled *Le théâtre
jeune public : l'art des rencontres*

creates a new space for play and exploration, where
puppets, masks, costumes, models, posters and books
are seen against a backdrop of music, voices and words.
The exhibition is a collaborative effort by numerous
professional theatre companies from here and
elsewhere. Curator: Hélène Beauchamp.

**Quatre siècles de livres minuscules
(Four centuries of miniature books)**

Hubert Silvain collection
National collection areas

April 30 to August 28, 2005

Presented by the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec in
collaboration with the Musée de la miniature de Montélimar
and the Consulate General of France, the exhibition
Quatre siècles de livres minuscules brings together

540 miniature books, the oldest of which were published
between 1625 and 1641. Curator: Christian Courbère,
curator of the Musée de la miniature de Montélimar.

**Hommage à Jacques Ferron
(A tribute to Jacques Ferron)**

National collection areas

April 30 to August 28, 2005

To mark the 20th anniversary of the death of
Jacques Ferron, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec
is displaying a portion of the documents from the
writer's archival fonds, in three showcases of the
national collection.

Don Quichotte (Don Quixote)

National collection areas

Mid-October to the end of December 2005

In collaboration with the Consulate General of
Spain and Université Laval, the Bibliothèque nationale
du Québec presents close to 60 editions of *Don Quixote*,
the celebrated novel by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra,
published between 1768 and 1969 in 30 different
languages. This exhibition marks the 400th anniversary
of the first publication of *Don Quixote*.

**L'Atelier Circulaire célèbre deux décennies
(The Atelier Circulaire celebrates
two decades)**

Areas of the Arts and literature section, Level 1
April 30 to June 6, 2005

The Atelier Circulaire, an artists' workshop,
presents an exhibition that celebrates its
20th anniversary, featuring about 40 prints by
renowned artists or created by the workshop's
up-and-coming talents.

**Livres d'artistes : images écrites
des Premières Nations
(Artists' books: written images of
the First Nations)**

Areas of the Arts and literature section, Level 1
June 13 to August 31, 2005

In collaboration with Terres en vue, a dozen
artists of the First Nations of Québec present
original works inspired by their culture.

Accessible



Consult from afar!

Wherever you are in Québec, the Grande Bibliothèque is close at hand, either through the new Internet portal of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, the remote reference service or loans from your usual library.

The remote reference service, a state-of-the-art centre of information about Québec, puts you in touch with knowledgeable staff and the library's collections. Our librarians answer your questions when you cannot find the answers at your local library and help you use the bank of questions on the library's portal. They also offer assistance so that you can navigate on line with ease. You can reach us by phone, Internet, postal mail or fax (see *To reach us* on the back page).



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PORTRONIK



- Prestigious entrances
- Revolving doors and security turnstiles
- Automatic sliding and swing doors
- Bank access systems with card readers



Opening doors to knowledge

When you enter the Grande Bibliothèque and many other well-known buildings in Montreal, you'll walk through our revolving or sliding doors. Our expertise in custom-made doors, turnstiles and security access systems has made us an uncontested leader in the field. For your large-scale projects, come knock on our door.

The Internet portal is your gateway to:

- **a rapidly expanding digital library** that currently has some 50,000 digitized documents—essentially heritage and Québec works—including 1,500 books, 200 music scores, 1,500 posters, 13,000 illustrations, 5,000 prints, 2,000 maps, 2,000 sound recordings, 8,000 postcards and more than 4,000 Québec government publications. Within a few months, it will offer you several million documents, including three million pages of newspapers published before 1950.
- **the Iris catalogue:** This computerized catalogue the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec collections contains entries for more than a million titles and specifies where they are located in the library. A large number of links provided by Iris lead directly to Internet resources or to documents in the digital collection of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec.
- **encyclopedias, reference works, databases and other information resources in all disciplines.**
- **the children's portal:** This portal offers original content, online activities and exhibitions, games and crafts, reading suggestions, pre-recorded children's stories and information kits for the thematic activities at Espace Jeunes. It also includes a section for teachers and parents.
- **the portal of the Service québécois du livre adapté (SQLA):** This set of resources is designed specifically for visually impaired adults and young people. It provides access to the catalogue and to electronic resources.



Amazing stories over the phone or on the Internet

To listen to one of the library's numerous pre-recorded children's stories, click on a title selected on the children's portal. You may also call 24 hours a day: (514) 873-2670 if you are in the Montréal area or 1 866 235-1802 toll-free from anywhere else in Québec.

www.bnquebec.ca

A whole library at your fingertips

Thanks to advanced portal technology, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec offers you a true virtual library. The portal conforms to WAI (Web Accessibility Initiative) standards, which means it provides ready access to everyone, regardless of hardware or software, language, culture, geographic location, or physical or mental abilities.

At any time, you can reserve or renew a document in the Iris catalogue, consult lists of new acquisitions by subject area, request an interlibrary loan for documents not available in the collections of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, recommend acquisitions to the library and make comments. Your subscriber's record shows your current loans and reservations, interface profile and messages, in compliance with the highest standards for the protection of personal information.

- **BREF, a reference library** for all, lists on-line encyclopedias, dictionaries and guides and informs you about other resources, like search tools, portals and catalogues.
- **guides** to help Internet users with research, e.g. *Guide d'utilisation du catalogue Iris et des collections numériques de la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec* [user's guide to the Iris catalogue and the digital collections of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec].
- **romans@lire**: This fantastic tool lets you choose novels according to your tastes (search by theme, subject, hero, character, setting, historical period, etc.).
- **a list of Québec literary awards**, developed in collaboration with the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications.
- **the Bibliographie sur les relations France-Québec depuis 1760**: This bibliography is being developed by a group of researchers and professionals from Québec and France, under a recently expanded cooperation agreement with the Bibliothèque nationale de France. When complete, it will list tens of thousands of references on Franco-Québec relations from 1760 to the present.
- **directories of private archival fonds** of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, relating mainly to literature, the fine arts and music.

Experience hands-on knowledge



CGI is proud to be one of the IT partners of the Grande Bibliothèque and to participate in its official opening.

CGI is among the largest independent information technology (IT) and business process services firms in North America and employs 25,000 professionals. CGI provides end-to-end services and solutions to clients worldwide.

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For reliable management

Systematix was responsible for integrating and developing the Internet portal for the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and for implementing the integrated management software package to support the library's administrative functions, including finance, procurement, payroll and human resources. For this project, Systematix joined forces with M Plex Solutions, well known for its high-quality services and its VIRTUO software package, and Carver Technologies, which provided the human resources software.



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The preservation centre of the Bibliothèque nationale

Each year, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec acquires about 10,000 new titles by legal deposit. Two copies of each title are acquired: one for preservation purposes and

the other for circulation. Most of the circulating copies are kept in the Grande Bibliothèque; preservation copies and unique copies are kept in a controlled environment at the preservation centre, located at 2275 Holt Street in Montréal. Damaged documents are also restored or reproduced here.

The centre has a reading room for researchers and others who wish to consult the preservation collections, special collections or private archives on site. The reading room also has a photographic reproduction service, numerous inventories, bibliographies and directories that facilitate access to the collections and reference tools like the *Bibliographie du Québec*, which indexes all documents published in Québec each year. In addition, staff members provide help and information to Canadian French-language publishers and producers for the legal deposit of works, the allocation of ISBNs and the Cataloguing in Publication (CIP) program. For the centre's opening hours and contact information, see *To reach us* on the back page.

Special collections

Early books

Did you know that the first book published in Québec was *Catéchisme du diocèse de Sens*, printed in 1764? This catechism is among some 8,000 early books, including Québec's print production from 1764 to 1820, foreign works dealing with Québec published before 1821, titles printed in Europe before 1801 and 72 incunabula (books printed before 1500).

Artists' books and bibliophile books

This nearly exhaustive collection of works published in Québec comprises some 2,600 titles, including artists' books, book works, albums of prints and illustrated books of original works, as well as art bindings and limited print editions.

Prints

With more than 30,000 prints, this collection constitutes an outstanding anthology of styles, techniques and artistic movements in Québec printmaking. It includes engravings, lithographs and silk screens by artists such as Alfred Pelland, Jean-Paul Riopelle and Francine Simonin.

Printed music and sound recordings

This collection consists of about 100,000 scores and 22,000 titles in all musical genres and in all formats: LPs, 45s and 78s, cassettes and CDs. It also includes non-musical recordings.

A BIG LIBRARY FOR A BIG CULTURAL METROPOLIS



THE CITY OF MONTRÉAL IS PROUD TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF THE GRANDE BIBLIOTHÈQUE

In a year where Montréal was named the world's book capital by UNESCO and in which we are preparing to adopt our city's first policy for cultural development, I am particularly pleased to celebrate the opening of the Grande Bibliothèque.

Located in the heart of the city, this site has already become synonymous with one of our administration's main concerns—providing access to culture and knowledge. In fact, the Grande Bibliothèque represents a new tool that is of vital importance to the development of our society, particularly because it will operate in conjunction with the city of Montréal's public library network. As of today, my fellow residents and all Quebecers can access this exceptional research tool. The Grande Bibliothèque will further enhance Montréal's standing as a knowledge-based city and as a university centre.

Gérald Tremblay
Mayor



Art everywhere!

In accordance with the policy on integrating art into architecture developed by Québec's Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, the Grande Bibliothèque features, at the four main points of the compass, particularly inspiring creations by Québec artists, selected in a competition launched in January 2002.

A landscape artwork in the gardens

Inspired by Montréal's community gardens, this work is part of an evolving artistic project composed of 29 areas. Each year, an artist will be selected by competition to landscape a new area.

The first two works were created by Roger Gaudreau for the inauguration of the Grande Bibliothèque.

The first area, entitled *Jardin punk* [Punk garden], uses piercing as the pretext for a composition formed by three rocks, decorated with a variety of rings and studs, laid in a pathway lined with grasses suggestive of colourful hairdos.

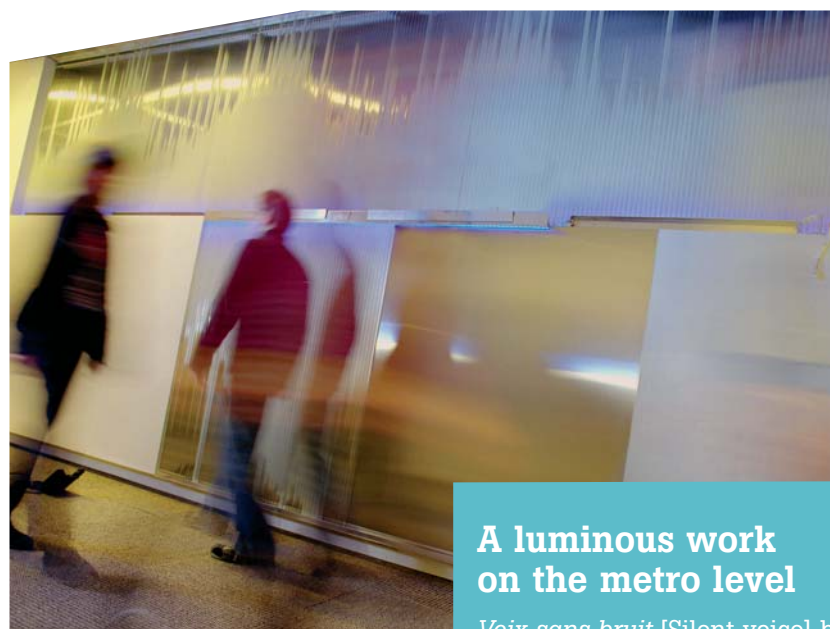
The second area, *Jardin de la forêt urbaine* [A garden in the urban forest], reproduces a geometrical forest emerging from a bed of juniper. It evokes humankind's domination of nature, the foliage on the ground and the square trunks symbolizing the city, with its skyscrapers and other buildings.

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A sculptural work at the main entrance

Espace Fractal [Fractal space] by Jean-Pierre Morin

Rising from the metro level to a height of seven metres at the main entrance of the building, this monumental work composed of flying sparks of aluminum and a quadruple pedestal of Corten steel symbolizes both the tree of knowledge and the link between the underground city and its counterpart above ground.



A luminous work on the metro level

Voix sans bruit [Silent voice] by Louise Viger

This imposing work, more than 27 metres long, creates an appropriate sensory ambience that guides visitors to the riches of the Grande Bibliothèque. Composed of glass, metal and, above all, light, it graces the passageway from the exhibition hall to the conference centre, on the metro level.

An artistic façade on Savoie Avenue

Vous êtes ici [You are here] by Dominique Blain

Around this simple, universally recognized phrase, the artist underscores the link between a place—the library—and elsewhere. Symbolically repeated on a wall/curtain is the motif of walking silhouettes that evoke openness to multiple cultural, ethnic, spatial and temporal horizons.





Montréal World Book Capital 2005



2006

Montréal has reason to celebrate: UNESCO has named it World Book Capital for 2005.

The prestigious title, bestowed since 2001,

is intended as an extension of World Book and Copyright Day celebrations, which take place each year on April 23. Montréal succeeds Madrid (2001), Alexandria (2002), New Delhi (2003) and Antwerp (2004). For more information, see the Web site: www.montrealcapitaledulivre.com.

Until April 22, 2006, there will be numerous activities to celebrate and promote books, share the pleasure of reading and provide a national and international showcase for literature and writers from Montréal, Québec and Canada.

The Bibliothèque nationale du Québec is joining in this year's celebrations by organizing a two-day open house at the Grande Bibliothèque, on April 30 and May 1, 2005.



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Supporting culture

The Fondation de la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec

With the opening of the Grande Bibliothèque, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec is experiencing a phase of major expansion, as it becomes an institution of national stature.

To foster its development and support it in its efforts to preserve and disseminate its extensive Québec-related and universal collections, the library has just set up the Fondation de la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec, a foundation with a mission to support the development of collections, programs and activities.

This project, which promotes the cultural development of all Québec communities, is based on participation by the general public, the establishment of sustainable relations with private foundations and fruitful partnerships with the business community. The foundation provides the entire Québec community with a new, exceptionally promising means of encouraging the development and the sharing of culture and knowledge.

For more information, contact us at (514) 873-1100, ext. 3799.

Les Amis de la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec

The creation of Les Amis de la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec coincides with the opening of the Grande Bibliothèque. The mission of the "friends of the library" association is to promote and support the library's activities by making them better known among all Quebecers.

For further details, contact us at (514) 873-9901.

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A new institution in 2005

In 2005, the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and the Archives nationales du Québec will be merged into a single new institution called Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BANQ), under a law passed in December 2004. With nine regional centres, the future BANQ will be able to further develop its activities throughout Québec.



Come and visit your Grande Bibliothèque

Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. • **Sunday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

To celebrate its opening, the Grande Bibliothèque is inviting you to attend its open house on April 30 and May 1. During these two days, visitors can take the discovery circuit and explore the building from top to bottom: from the Espace Jeunes to the magnificent rooms that house the collections, as well as the many specialized services, works of art and fascinating exhibitions. There will also be numerous activities offered throughout the library, and Radio-Canada's Première Chaîne will be broadcasting some of its shows live on site. Please note that it will be possible to borrow books and other materials effective Tuesday, May 3.

If you can't be there in person, you can always take a virtual tour at www.bnquebec.ca. Wherever you are, take part in the official opening of Québec's largest cultural project in recent decades.

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*Sales service for institutions :
1-800-667-3628

The Bibliothèque nationale du Québec would like to thank its 500 employees and all of its partners in both the private and the public sector for their contribution to the Grande Bibliothèque project.

Partners contributing to this special supplement

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To reach us

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Useful information

Grande Bibliothèque

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 Berri-UQAM metro station

 Indoor pay parking
(entrance on rue Berri)

Opening hours

Tuesday through Friday	10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday	closed

News and new releases section	
Every day	10 a.m. to midnight

Preservation centre

2275, rue Holt
Montréal (Québec) H2G 3H1

 Free parking

Reading room opening hours

Tuesday through Friday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday and Monday	closed

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