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## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

### **What We Can Do Together, Right Here**



Over the years, the environment has become a constant concern for residents. No longer does a day go by without a discussion on this topic in the media—and also in our homes and at work. Something has happened, we might say—awareness has been raised, indeed a “little revolution” has taken place... Today, on seeing us walk out of the supermarket with reusable bags, I tell myself that it is not so long ago that we were loaded down with a dozen plastic bags instead. Yes, something has really and truly happened!

Keeping this in mind, I want to encourage you to go even further, together. I believe that we have the power to change things and to disprove—at least on our own scale—the most pessimistic predictions of all. And what's more, we can become trailblazers and leaders in the field, as was the case in 1986, when LaSalle became the very first municipality on the island of Montréal to introduce a door-to-door curbside collection of recyclables and its residents adopted it in large numbers.

There are about 75,000 of us living in LaSalle, spread out over approximately 16 km<sup>2</sup>. Some of us were born here, while others have moved here from as far away as the other end of this planet to settle on our territory. It's here that we have built our houses and our businesses, that we pursue our studies, shop and engage in leisure activities. In short, every day, we take advantage of the space and resources that this living environment offers us. This privilege nevertheless comes at a price. As LaSalle residents, we are responsible for this little part of the planet. It is our duty to make sure that LaSalle will be just as viable and attractive to our children and grandchildren as it was for the generations before them.

Today, my team and I are offering you a deal—a pact—to make in favour of the environment and sustainable development. A “green pact” binding the Borough, its employees and LaSalle residents as a whole. It is up to you to adhere to it a bit, a lot or all the way, as some of the little actions to take can be carried out only by you. As for the Borough, I can assure you that we will be doing our utmost to ensure the implementation and success of this pact, but we won't meet with success without your help.

There is something special here that serves as our driving force; perhaps it's LaSalle's privileged location, its close contact with nature and the river. We want to become an eco-responsible community and be recognized as such. It is in the sum of our actions—both big and small—that we will quickly see—all together—what we are capable of doing, and it is my firm conviction that we will succeed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Manon Barbe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Manon Barbe  
Mayor of LaSalle



## CONTEXT

### TOGETHER FOR A SUSTAINABLE CITY

LaSalle's Green Pact comes within the Montréal Community Sustainable Development Plan 2010–2015 (hereinafter called “the 2010–2015 Plan”). With this Plan, Montréal is confirming its commitment to make sustainable development the foundation on which the City must be built. The outcome of a collective effort, this Plan is the follow-up of the process initiated by the First Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development, 2005–2009, and is the complement of Montréal's Corporate Sustainable Development Plan 2010–2015 (hereinafter called “the Corporate Plan”).

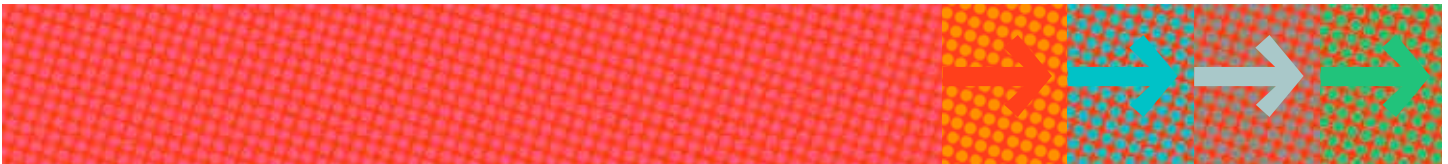
These documents prepare an itinerary leading to a dynamic, equitable, ecological city. They aim at enabling the progress of Montréal—both its administrative and political entity as well as its organizations and residents—toward more sustainable development. *Together for a sustainable city* is the slogan that conveys this remarkable approach that prompts mobilization of the community and an increase in sustainable development actions and initiatives, where everything becomes more than the sum of the component parts.

The 2010–2015 Plan is mobilizing Montréal as well as local administrations and partners around particular orientations, objectives and actions. The City is committed to carrying out, together, the various actions set forth in the 2010–2015 Plan, while the local administrations and organizations are committed to the actions that they want to advance.

The borough of LaSalle shares the same concern for ensuring optimal, harmonious and sustainable development of its territory and intends to take action within the scope of the Montréal Community Sustainable Development Plan, whose guiding principles are as follows:

- working for sustainable development as a community
- fostering a better quality of life
- increasing efforts to protect the environment
- building the economy in a sustainable manner

It is on the heels of the adoption of this Plan that LaSalle has introduced various measures over the past few years, in the interest of the environment and sustainable development. Today, it is within this same scope that our borough is implementing its own plan—its Green Pact—aimed at developing an eco-responsible community.



## LASALLE, A LIVING ENVIRONMENT

Although the borough of LaSalle is concerned about working together with its residents, businesses and institutions, toward the sustainable development of its territory, it already stands out for its quality living environment.

### LaSalle is:

- an outstanding living environment, with its large green spaces, the Lachine rapids, a wooded area, the islands of the St. Lawrence River and a sanctuary for migratory birds
- a desirable quality of life, full municipal services as well as educational and health care institutions for families
- innovative practices, in consultation with the community, to increase the use of active transportation and public transit, including the implementation of four transit-oriented developments (TOD)
- a community largely committed to—and involved in—leisure activities, education, support organizations, foundations, etc.
- a large cultural diversity, the presence of all socio-economic levels and a strong sense of belonging

### Montréal's vision

To make sustainable development the foundation on which the City must be built, and consequently adopt the Montréal Community Sustainable Development Plan 2010–2015, and from there, prepare an itinerary leading to a dynamic, equitable, ecological city, with environmental performance indicators.

To develop a new style of governance, by obtaining the support of the Montréal community and thereby ensuring the community's participation as well as empowerment by residents, businesses, institutions, etc.

### The borough of LaSalle's vision

To support this plan locally, by adapting it to the Borough's reality, as confirmed by its residents and partners.

The borough of LaSalle's environmental leadership must be recognized, both for its practices and for the presence of regional facilities playing a key role in the quality of the environment, as exemplified by the largest ecocentre in the Greater Montréal area and the installation of a biomethanizer.



# DEFINITIONS

## What is sustainable development?

Sustainable development is an internationally-recognized concept. Montréal subscribes to the definition in the Brundtland Commission report (the World Commission on Environment and Development) published in 1987 and entitled *Our Common Future*. Sustainable development is defined therein as:

“development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two key concepts:

- the concept of ‘needs’, in particular the essential needs of the world’s poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and
- the idea of limitations, imposed by the state of technology and social organization, on the environment’s ability to meet present and future needs.”

Sustainable development presupposes development that is economically efficient, socially equitable and ecologically sustainable on a new form of governance that encourages the mobilization and participation of all members of society in the decision-making process.

## What is eco-responsibility?

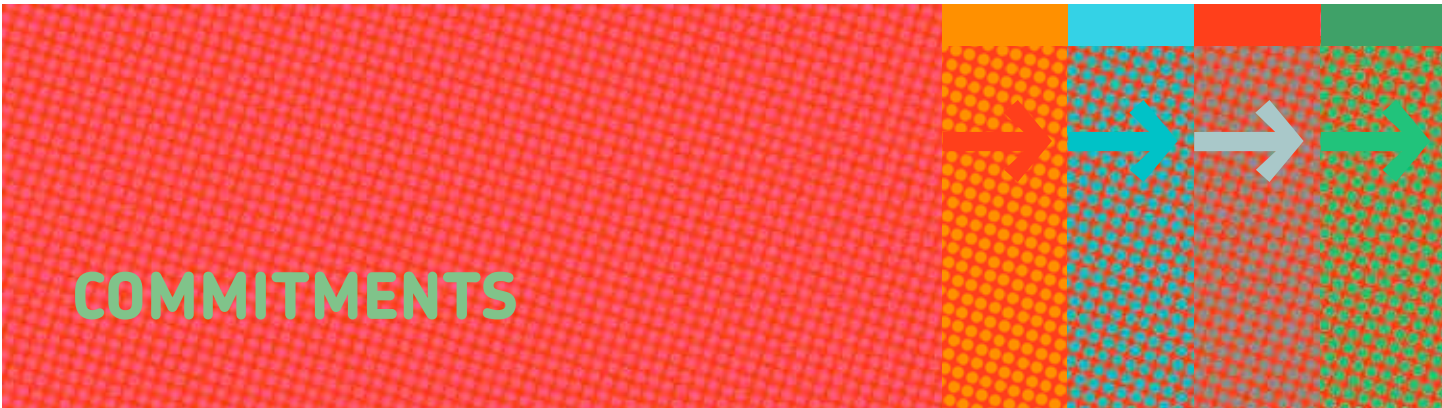
In simple terms, eco-responsibility is taking the environment into consideration in each decision made. Within the scope of the intent of the Green Pact, residents are encouraged to become eco-responsible.

## What is an eco-responsible citizen?

Also called an eco-citizen, an eco-responsible citizen lives his life while performing his duties as a citizen, abiding by laws and regulations, with his very own sensitivities. In this document, many suggestions will be made to help you become an eco-responsible citizen.

## The 4R principle

At the very heart of the Québec Residual Materials Management Policy lies the 4R principle—the actions to be prioritized for sound residual materials management and no less than “guides”. The first “R” stands for “reducing at source”; the second one, for “reuse” (giving a second use or life to goods); the third one, for “recycling”; and the fourth, for “reclamation”, which is applicable when these same materials can be “used” for new purposes, such as in composting.



## LaSalle's commitments

Within the Green Pact and despite often limited means and budgets, the borough of LaSalle intends to make three commitments:

### **Commitment 1: To assume its leadership**

To begin with, LaSalle wants to evaluate the entire regulatory framework relating directly or indirectly to the environment. This mainly involves seeing whether the various regulations adequately respond to the new problems and whether new complementary measures could be taken to make them more effective and efficient. The Borough wants to launch a vast reflection process and assume its leadership on an ongoing basis.

### **Commitment 2: To set an example**

Because it plays a major role in the local economy, has a large number of employees and wants to encourage residents to be eco-responsible, the Borough is going to set an example.

### **Commitment 3: To inform and increase awareness**

Having privileged relations with all its residents, LaSalle is able to communicate with them and to play a major role in creating an eco-responsible community. It intends to make the most of the means available to it in order to inform them and increase their awareness.

## LaSalle residents' commitments

### **Residents**

LaSalle residents can truly make a difference by increasing their awareness, but mainly by putting the principles of eco-responsibility into practice in many of their big and small everyday actions. Residents are going to take action and the Borough will recognize their efforts.

### **ICIs (industrial, commercial and institutional establishments)**

LaSalle businesses can also play a major role in sustainable development. Many have already set objectives to reach within their own activities or operations. Corporate citizens will take action and the Borough will recognize their efforts.

# The Green Pact

## Sustainable Development Action Plan

The purpose of a sustainable development plan is to mobilize the municipal Administration and its partner organizations around orientations, objectives and particular actions. Just like the Montréal Community Sustainable Development Plan, LaSalle's Green Pact is built around the five major orientations of the first Plan in 2005-2009.

- 1. Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**
- 2. Ensure the quality of residential environments**
- 3. Practise responsible resource management**
- 4. Adopt good sustainable development practices in industrial, commercial and institutional establishments**
- 5. Improve the protection of biodiversity, natural environments and green spaces**

Related objectives and related actions stem from these orientations. For each action, the Green Pact provides what the Borough's contributions will be, and also what the contributions of LaSalle residents or local partners (para-public organizations, community organizations, associations, etc.) could be as well.

And lastly, a social component completes the five major orientations.

## ORIENTATION 1

IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AND  
REDUCE GREENHOUSE  
GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



## OBJECTIVE 1

TO REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS RELATED TO THE  
BOROUGH'S ACTIVITIES, ITS BUSINESSES AND  
ITS RESIDENTS

### Action

## Promote public transit and active transportation

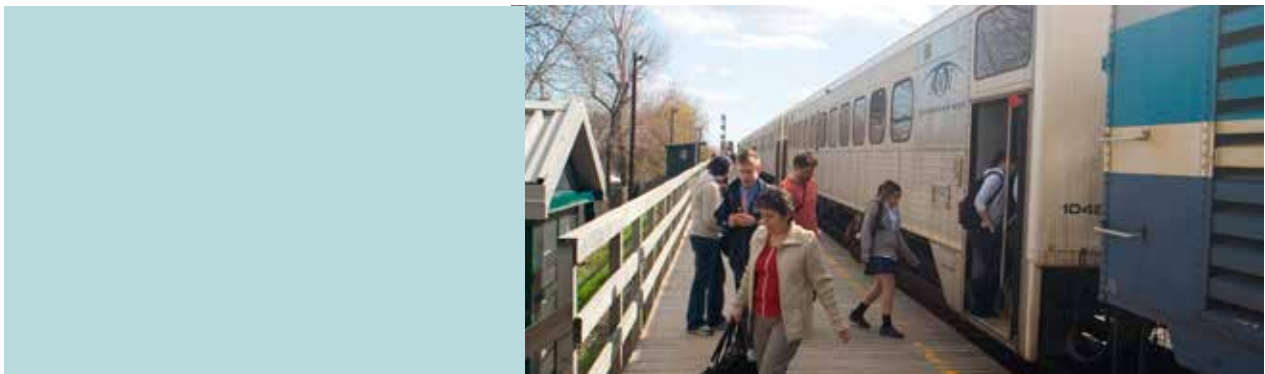
### LaSalle is committed to:

- working with the Société de transport de Montréal (STM) and the Agence métropolitaine de transport (AMT) to improve the supply of public transit and increase the modal share of public transit as well, including the inter-borough service to Lachine and Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce \*
- reducing the place occupied by private passenger vehicles in urban space, for example, by limiting the number of traffic lanes to the advantage of reserved lanes for public transit, bicycle paths and wider sidewalks
- making sure that it is considered to be a destination along the line of the future Montréal tramway, from the very start of the planning phases, and requesting an extension of the metro's green line \*
- prompting the members of its personnel to make more use of sustainable transportation
- supporting Montréal in improving the bicycle paths along the Borough's north-south roads and in developing inter-borough bicycle paths to Côte-des-Neiges—Notre-Dame-de-Grâce \*
- pursuing the implementation of road safety campaigns (speed, 30 km/hr zone, pedestrians, etc.)
- collaborating with the Montréal community as a whole in developing a strategy to make cycling a top-priority means of transportation within the next 25 years \*
- reserving more parking space for car-sharing services and bicycle racks
- providing cyclists with secure bicycle parking facilities at major public events

\* Actions suggested by residents within public consultations

### LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:

- reduce their dependence on motor vehicles, by making greater use of public and active transportation



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## Action

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### **Improve the environmental efficiency of municipal buildings and facilities as well as the fleet of conventional vehicles**

#### **LaSalle is committed to:**

- obtaining LEED certification for the extension of L'Octogone library and the new building welcoming visitors to parc des Rapides
- replacing existing traffic lights with LEDs (light-emitting diodes)
- continuing to replace municipal building roofs with more eco-efficient ones
- adopting a lighting strategy to maintain its role as a model in urban lighting management and to increase residents' sense of safety and security without increasing the energy expenditure and light pollution
- pursuing the use of trenchless underground pipe replacement—the technique for replacing water supply and sewage pipes without excavation
- promoting recourse to road stabilization rather than replacing road surfaces
- purchasing fuel-efficient vehicles (4-cylinder engines or non-rechargeable hybrids) and electric or rechargeable hybrids
- pursuing rigorous maintenance of the Borough's vehicles

#### **LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *routinely comply with the ban on engine idling*
- *maintain their motor vehicles in perfect condition in order to keep pollutant emissions to a minimum*
- *limit light pollution sources on their property*

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## Action

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### **Take part in climate change awareness campaigns**

#### **LaSalle is committed to:**

- promoting Climate Challenge awareness campaigns among employees and increasing their awareness of resource-saving practices

#### **LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *take part in Climate Challenge awareness campaigns in their work environment and initiate them, if need be*

## ORIENTATION 1

IMPROVE AIR QUALITY  
AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE  
GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS



## OBJECTIVE 2

TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY AND REDUCE THE  
CONCENTRATION OF FINE PARTICLES IN THE  
OUTDOOR AIR BY 2020

### Action

#### **Eliminate the problem of odour nuisances from the sewage system**

##### **LaSalle is committed to:**

- collaborating with engineers in the Service de l'eau in order to pursue the implementation of three more odour treatment units (OTUs) along the southern sewer main as well as the installation of air movement barriers (valves) to reduce and control odour nuisances
- installing odour traps in damaged catch basins to reduce odours

### Action

#### **Eradicate ragweed**

##### **LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *remove ragweed from their property and from public rights of way near their home*

### Action

#### **Cut down on the use of wood and the impact of fossil fuels**

##### **LaSalle is committed to:**

- informing residents with regard to the health hazards of wood heating
- ensuring compliance with the ban on installing new wood-burning heaters on LaSalle territory
- completing the process that has enabled the replacement of heating oil with gas as a fuel in all of the Borough's buildings
- carrying out tests to use geothermal energy in heating and air conditioning municipal buildings

##### **LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *limit or avoid the use of their wood-burning heater (and completely avoid it during periods of smog)*
- *carry out optimal maintenance of their wood-burning heater in order to limit particle emissions*
- *take advantage of the end of the useful life of their oil heating equipment to convert to another form of energy, such as electricity or geothermal energy*

## ORIENTATION 2

ENSURE THE  
QUALITY OF RESIDENTIAL  
ENVIRONMENTS

## → OBJECTIVE

- BY 2015, TO REDUCE THE NET MIGRATION BETWEEN
- MONTRÉAL AND THE SUBURBS BY 25%, THROUGH FO-
- CUSING PRIMARILY ON 25-44-YEAR-OLD MONTREALERS
- WHO MOVE OUT OF THE CITY EACH YEAR

### Action

#### **Support affordable, healthy, eco-friendly and safe residential development adapted to the needs of families**

##### **LaSalle is committed to:**

- developing neighbourhoods geared toward public transit (*Transit Oriented Developments*), as in Quartier Angrignon
- prompting private, public and community builders to develop residential products meeting families' expectations
- pursuing the efforts already undertaken in the Airlie-Bayne Integrated Urban Revitalization (IUR), which stands out for its use of LEED-ND (*Neighbourhood Development*) methodology and an innovative governance process (public participation in the urban planning process)
- supporting the work of the *Table d'action et de concertation en sécurité urbaine* and pursuing anti-graffiti efforts
- promoting the linking of social housing and community projects with efforts that contribute toward the overall improvement of the various neighbourhoods (greening, outdoor redevelopment, new services and community premises, etc.)
- improving proximity cultural life by increasing actions and projects, and particularly at L'Octogone library, at Théâtre du Grand Sault, at Galerie Les Trois C and in parks and public spaces in the Borough

##### **LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *give priority to buying a home in LaSalle when looking for a new place to live*
- *go to the Borough's cultural venues more often*
- *increase their youngsters' awareness of the financial and urban consequences of graffiti*
- *actively take part in their neighbourhood life*



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## Action

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### Contribute toward greening and reducing heat islands

#### LaSalle is committed to:

- participating in the implementation of the greening and biodiversity strategy
- adapting regulatory tools and landscaping criteria so as to maximize greening and the fight against heat islands
- implementing greening actions as well as actions to reduce heat islands (planting and landscaping on roofs and walls as well as in lanes and parking lots)
- during road repairs, systematically analysing the landscaping in order to integrate greening measures there
- creating green spaces, and particularly within new real estate projects

#### LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:

- *plant wide-spreading trees on their grounds and take care of the tree planted by the City within the right of way in front of their home*

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## Action

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### Inform residents about sustainable development issues

#### LaSalle is committed to:

- setting up environment awareness activities, in cooperation with its partners, including Héritage Laurentien and the Comité d'embellissement LaSalle
- organizing, supporting and publicizing events that promote a healthy lifestyle, and in particular, Green Day, *Ornithofête*, *La Nature en famille*, etc.
- pursuing the development of green programming (scientific, cultural and ecological) at L'Octogone library, in cooperation with partner organizations



PRACTISE RESPONSIBLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

• BY 2015, TO CUT DOWN ON DRINKING WATER PRODUCTION BY 15%, COMPARED TO 2000

**Action**

**Improve efficiency of drinking water consumption**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- maintaining the basic water rate and billing excess water consumption to all households (owners and tenants)
- maintaining the bylaw that provides for the installation of water meters in all new buildings
- optimizing water consumption in public buildings
- including the specifications for efficient appliances in calls for tender and technical specifications
- prompting residential, commercial and institutional real estate developers to install water-saving systems and devices
- increasing the use of mulch in landscaping in order to cut down on the need for watering

**LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *save drinking water in everything they do on a daily basis*
- *make sure that the flapper and overflow aren't leaking in their toilet(s)*
- *choose low-flow features when it comes time to replace a tap or toilet*





PRACTISE RESPONSIBLE  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF RUNOFF WATER  
THAT FLOWS INTO WATERCOURSES

**Action**

**Promote rainwater catchment, retention and infiltration at the source**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- incorporating green catchment, retention and infiltration infrastructures into its own development projects (including wetlands)
- employing water retention techniques when reconfiguring boulevards
- increasing residents' awareness of ecological rainwater management (for example, the use of rain barrels)
- maintaining the regulatory obligation that provides that all new buildings (1,000 m<sup>2</sup> and over) must include a rainwater catchment and retention infrastructure

**LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:**

- *equip their gutters with rain barrels or flexible pipes that redirect the water toward flower beds or the lawn*



## ORIENTATION 3

PRACTISE RESPONSIBLE  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



## OBJECTIVE 3

- TO RECOVER 80% OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS,  
• ORGANIC WASTE, HHW, CRD DEBRIS  
• AND BULKY REFUSE
- HHW: hazardous household waste
- CRD: construction, renovation and demolition debris

### Action

#### Implement at-source reduction, recovery and reclamation measures

##### LaSalle is committed to:

- pursuing the promotion of curbside recycling, the monthly collection of bulky refuse, the collection of CRD debris and the services of the LaSalle ecocentre
- maintaining one single garbage collection per week (except in the summer)
- accommodating a biomethanization plant in LaSalle, which will transform tons of organic household waste into energy
- examining the possibility of offering residents an organic waste collection (buildings with eight units or less)
- promoting green waste collections, grasscycling and fall shredding of leaves
- setting up paper-saving programs and programming two-sided printing as the default setting

##### LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:

- *divert maximum materials and objects from landfill sites, by using the services offered by LaSalle's ecocentre*
- *make an additional recycling effort when living in a building with nine units or more*



ADOPT GOOD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES IN INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS

TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD MAKING MONTRÉAL A NORTH AMERICAN LEADER IN THE CLEAN TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR

**Action**

**Promote sustainable development among ICI (industrial, commercial and institutional) establishments and support the development of the clean technology sector**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- prompting major businesses to play a leadership role in sustainable development among all ICIs in LaSalle.
- recognizing and disseminating environmental initiatives of ICIs in LaSalle
- encouraging the creation of environmental businesses and supporting them

**LaSalle's industrial, commercial and institutional establishments can make a commitment to:**

- *resolutely adopt methods and procedures for greening their operations*

**Action**

**Stimulate the demand for green technologies, products and services**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- adopting a responsible, sustainable procurement policy
- examining the possible adoption of a bylaw to promote the harmonious integration of green energy production facilities into the urban environment (solar panels, wind-powered systems, etc.)



ADOPT GOOD SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES IN INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS

TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATIONS OR MEMBERSHIPS IN VOLUNTARY ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS IN MONTRÉAL BY 2020

Action

Review municipal support programs in order to encourage certification

LaSalle is committed to:

- promoting the construction and renovation of greener buildings, according to recognized standards (LEED, BOMA BEST and others) on its territory

Action

Take part in training activities on certification and environmental programs

LaSalle is committed to:

- taking part in meetings of the *Réseau du Plan de développement durable de la collectivité montréalaise* on the topic of certification and environmental programs



## ORIENTATION 5



## OBJECTIVE

IMPROVE THE PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY, NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS AND GREEN SPACES

TO IMPROVE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURES IN MONTRÉAL, BY INCREASING THE CANOPY COVER FROM 20% TO 25% BY 2025, COMPARED TO 2007

### Action

#### Develop an urban forestry policy

##### LaSalle is committed to:

- further developing its tree heritage and protecting it by limiting cutting down trees
- increasing vegetation cover and biodiversity \*
- protecting wooded areas
- increasing the density of vegetation in all public spaces and replacing the use of annual flowers with perennial plants and shrubs
- ensuring compliance with bylaws on protecting trees on private property
- pursuing its tree planting program
- prompting industrial and commercial firms to green their property more
- setting up green infrastructures (planting and landscaping on roofs and walls as well as in lanes and parking lots)
- promoting the planting of wide-spreading trees \*
- limiting the surface area that businesses can use for outdoor storage, so as to make that space available for landscaping
- continuing the fight against emerald ash borers

\* Actions suggested by residents within public consultations

##### LaSalle residents can make a commitment to:

- *plant one or more trees on their property*
- *add flowers on their property and in their environment*
- *apply ecological lawn maintenance principles*
- *take care of the tree planted by the municipality in the front right of way of their property*



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## Action

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### **Ensure the protection and enhancement of territories having a wealth of biodiversity**

#### LaSalle is committed to:

- affirming and consolidating the “nature” function of parc des Rapides
- taking part in developing a cooperative structure to create, protect and enhance territories having a wealth of biodiversity
- ensuring the protection of rare plants \*
- prohibiting invasive, non-native species \*
- promoting the planting of native species in landscaping \*
- pursuing its efforts to naturalize riverfront areas
- putting into practice the principle of targeted management of lawns in municipal parks, depending on their use
- promoting the planting of urban orchards \*

*\* Actions suggested by residents within public consultations*

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## Action

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### **Disseminate information on biodiversity in order to increase public awareness and prompt the public to take actions to preserve it**

#### LaSalle is committed to:

- contributing toward the design and implementation of a common biodiversity information platform
- encouraging urban agriculture initiatives (community gardens, community urban orchards, etc.)
- adhering to the green-oriented *Déclaration de la collectivité de l'île de Montréal en faveur de la biodiversité et du verdissement*

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## Action

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### **Reinforce the ecological management of green spaces on LaSalle territory**

#### LaSalle is committed to:

- pursuing the adoption of ecological green space management practices



TO DEVELOP MORE SOLIDARITY WITHIN THE LASALLE COMMUNITY

**Action**

**To show solidarity**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- supporting social development projects
- encouraging the participation of the members of its personnel in international solidarity missions in the near future
- dealing with more social economy enterprises, such as RAMI, the social economy enterprise that carries out recycling collections

**Action**

**Demonstrate equity**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- adopting an action plan for job access and equal employment

**Action**

**Carry out succession planning**

**LaSalle is committed to:**

- developing a forward-looking labour management plan



