



Chambre de commerce
du Montréal métropolitain

Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal

July 21, 2004

The Honourable John Ferguson Godfrey
Minister of State (Infrastructure and Cities)
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Minister:

On behalf of the 7,000 members of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal and myself, I would like to congratulate you on your re-election as MP for Don Valley West and on your appointment as Minister of State (Infrastructure and Cities), and to extend our best wishes for your success.

The Board of Trade's primary mission is the economic development of metropolitan Montreal. Through its representations and many specialized services offered to the greater business community, the Board of Trade aims to help make companies more competitive, primarily through innovation and improved productivity.

The Board of Trade is thus deeply interested in the new dynamic of urban centres, the economic role played by major cities, and the measures needed to increase the prosperity and competitiveness of metropolitan Montreal. More than ever, the Board of Trade is aware of the close link between a city's quality of life and quality of place, and its potential for economic development. In this regard, we are pleased to enclose a copy of the Policy statement for the development of the City of Montreal issued by the Board of Trade in March 2002, as well as a major comparative study – the *Montreal Health Report* – comparing Montreal's performance to that of eleven other Canadian and U.S. cities via a series of indicators.

In pursuing the objective of increasing the prosperity and competitiveness of metropolitan Montreal and its companies, the Board of Trade would like to assure you of its full and entire cooperation as a contributing and responsible player. In this regard, we would like to request a meeting with you to explore ways we could increase the scope of our actions in support of Montreal and other Canadian urban centres.

Once again, Mr. Minister, please accept our warmest congratulations.

With highest regards,

Benoit Labonté
President and CEO

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