



**Chambre de commerce
du Montréal métropolitain
Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal**

December 9, 2004

Ms. Michèle Thibodeau-Deguire
President and executive director
Centraide of Greater Montreal
493 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec H3A 1B6

Dear Ms. Thibodeau-Deguire:

On behalf of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal, our some 7,000 members, and myself, I am pleased to extend our warmest congratulations on the remarkable results and exceptional growth of the 2004 fundraising campaign of Centraide of Greater Montreal: \$45.4 million – up \$2.3 million from last year – quite an accomplishment!

We feel it is important to stress your vital contribution to this impressive collective effort on behalf of a cause we all support: the fight against poverty and exclusion. It is thanks to your commitment and determination that, once again this year, Centraide will be able to carry out its mission by assisting the most destitute members of the Greater Montreal community. The Board of Trade is convinced that long-term economic development depends on social cohesion, and you have succeeded in weaving strong, long-lasting ties between community and business circles.

As a member of the 2004 Centraide Campaign Cabinet, I saw first-hand your leadership and commitment and the spirit of social solidarity that inspired the various Montreal stakeholders throughout this campaign. I would therefore also like to acknowledge the involvement and generosity of the business community, which, by combining its efforts with those of all the donors and volunteers, was able to create the synergy leading to these highly satisfactory results.

With best regards,

Benoit Labonté
President and CEO