

March 2nd, 2004

Mr. Kent Nagano Music Director Montreal Symphony Orchestra 250 Blvd. Maisonneuve West, 2nd floor Montreal, Quebec H2X 1Y9

Dear Mr. Nagano:

On behalf of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal, our some 7,000 members, and myself, I would like to extend our warmest congratulations on your appointment as music director of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, effective in 2006.

The Board of Trade is delighted to know that Montreal will benefit in the coming years from your energy, your experience, and – above all – your talent to enhance the already excellent reputation enjoyed by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra on the world stage.

For the Board of Trade, creativity and cultural vitality are crucial elements of the quality of life and appeal of major cities, and we are therefore pleased that we will soon be able to count on an artist of your calibre to increase the cultural reputation of our metropolis around the world.

With highest regards,

Benoit Labonté President