

RESO INFO

**Newsletter of the Corporation for the Economic and Social
Revitalization of the Southwest (RESO)**

JUNE 2006

ENGLISH SUMMARY

Canada Post Sells Site The Southwest Population Appeals the Federal Government

Canada Post remains opposed to the public interest project aimed at redeveloping its site located along the Lachine Canal—this despite an overwhelming consensus among the Southwest community to go forward with the project. This strategic site has officially been put up for sale on the private market. About one hundred Southwest area citizens came out to support the Canada Post site project—put forth by the RESO, Bâtir son quartier and the Coalition de la Petite-Bourgogne/Quartier en santé—during a picnic held on May 12th. The supporters put pressure on the federal government to allow the property to be transferred to the Canada Lands Company (CLC), a key step towards carrying out this public interest project backed by the three organizations. Having already earned the support of Southwest elected officials, the mayor of Montréal and numerous partners, this project meets the community's needs in terms of housing, employment and quality of life. "This project enjoys support at every level—from the Southwest population, community organizations, business people, elected officials, etc. It would be absurd for the federal government to prevent this project from being carried out when there is such a strong consensus within the Southwest area to see it through," stated RESO President Pierre Sylvestre. This site redevelopment project would result in the creation of 1,000 to 1,300 jobs, 625 adorable housing units—including a large proportion of cooperative and community apartments—as well as a recreational/tourist area alongside the Lachine Canal and extensive green spaces.

The Canada Post site is located alongside the Lachine Canal in the neighbourhood of Little Burgundy near the Saint-Gabriel Locks, the Peel Basin and the Atwater market.

Changes at the RESO: Pierre Morrissette Becomes New Director General and Pierre Richard, New Vice-President

Community Development and Social Economy Department Director since 2001, Pierre Morrissette has moved towards the Director General of RESO last June, while Pierre Richard became the Vice President of Strategic Development. Pierre Richard had been the head of the executive committee since 1999, after acting as Communications and Consultation Director—a position he held when joining the RESO team in 1993. Pierre Morrissette, for his part, came to the RESO in 1997 after several years of working in the Southwest community. In addition to managing a department within the RESO, Mr. Morrissette handled several joint action and development mandates. The President of the RESO Board of Directors, Mr. Pierre Sylvestre thanked Mr. Richard for his work with the RESO over the last seven years. Mr. Sylvestre also expressed his confidence in Mr. Morrissette's ability to carry out his new duties with skill and devotion. In closing, Mr. Sylvestre thanked and recognized Nancy Neamtan for acting as Vice-President of Strategic Development, a position she occupied since 1999.

CJEs Want to Keep Serving Youth—Without Imposing Restrictions

Carrefours Jeunesse Emplois (CJEs), including the Southwest Montréal branch, want to continue to be able to welcome young adults without imposing any restrictions upon them; however, a new requirement put forth by the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité Sociale has made this more difficult. The Ministère asks that CJEs now request the social insurance numbers of the young people who use their services. This could seriously hamper the CJEs' ability to develop services adapted to the needs and realities of young adults. Not only is it an invasion of privacy, it also jeopardizes the independence of CJEs and prevents them from freely welcoming young people (between the ages of 16 and 35 looking to re-establish themselves in the workforce) without imposing restrictions upon them. More than 160 local, regional and national partners have sent letters to the Ministère de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité Sociale, in support of CJEs.

"Défis Sud-Ouest 2010" - Debate and Joint Action on Southwest Development

In an effort to come up with a new development plan for the Southwest area, the RESO plans to invite Southwest citizens and socio-economic players, to reflect upon and debate the development guidelines outlined for the next few years. This joint effort will be carried out through sector meetings with businesses, organizations and institutions from the Southwest area throughout June and September and will culminate in a large-scale forum at the end of September. "The Southwest area is continuing to thrive and grow at an accelerated pace. We must continue to develop the economy and employment while putting the community's population first. Our main challenge is to ensure that no one is excluded—this makes the challenge one that is integration and inclusion-focused", stated the RESO's newly appointed Director General, Pierre Morrissette. Many issues will be discussed as part of this joint effort, including the development of major sites, business and employment development, the Lachine Canal and tourist recreation, training and access to jobs, culture, social economy, housing, and promotion of the Southwest area.

Information Meeting on Health-Related Careers

RESO Employment Counsellors recently held an information session on careers in the health sector—particularly, areas which offer excellent career opportunities. The session provided information on jobs that require high-school-level training and presented the profile of workers in these positions. Ten of the students who undertook training to become Nurse's Aides, earned their Diploma of Vocational Studies (DVS) last month. Five of them found a job one week after completing their studies. For information: 931-5737, extension 254.

The Southwest Honours 110 Persons in Training

The *Apprendre ça se fête* event highlighted the perseverance, determination and courage of adults who have undertaken steps to receive training or to return to the job market. This particular activity—held during the *Semaine québécoise des adultes en formation*—gave some of the participants a chance to share their personal and heartfelt testimonials. One hundred and ten people were awarded a certificate, attesting to their successful training. The RESO

would like to thank all the organizations that helped organize the event.

Théorème Innovation Wins the Montreal Entrepreneur of the Year Award

Théorème Innovation, has just been awarded the Montréal Entrepreneur of the Year Award during the contest's regional finals, after taking home 1st prize in the Technological and Technical Innovations Category, during the local edition. The award-winning company has another chance to shine during the contest finals on June 20th. The other local edition winners, also from the Southwest are: Groupe Affaires d'art, 1st prize, Social Economy Category; Ateliers Nemesis 1st prize, Exploitation, Transformation and Production Category; Écotherma, 2nd prize, Technological and Technical Innovations Category; Anomalic, Judge's Favourite Award, Technological and Technical Innovations Category and Butler's Club (Jean-Hugues Coudry), 1st prize, Services Category.

RESO Web Site Revamped

The RESO's new Web site has been up and running since early May. The new and improved site is easy to surf and as always, includes a slew of information on the RESO, the activities and services offered to businesses, job seekers, community organizations and social economy businesses. Visit www.resomtl.com and see what the RESO has to offer!

Marie-Claire Nadeau New Head of FormaPlus

FormaPlus' Board of Directors has just named Marie-Claire Nadeau as Director General of the training mutual. Previous to this, Ms. Nadeau held the position of Coordinator for the last three years. With the RESO since 1990, Ms. Nadeau has successively occupied the positions of Employment Counsellor, Community Development Agent and Business Department Training Counsellor.

32 Social Economy Businesses to Enjoy Management-Consulting Services

Launched last March as part of a joint initiative by a group of six CDECs (including the RESO) and the Réseau d'investissement social du Québec (RISQ), the Social Economy Management-Consulting Service provides assistance to 32 companies. Funded by Canada Economic Development, this project meets the very specific needs of these types of businesses. The four Counsellors guide the promoters in their undertakings through "coaching" and the transfer

of knowledge. For more information: Thierry Thomas at 931-5737.

Note : The RESO Info Newsletter is published three times a year and is sent to RESO's individual and associate members. A complete French version of the English summary is available. To become a member or for any other information, our address is : RESO, 1751 Richardson St., Suite 6509, Montreal, H3K 1G6. Telephone : 931-5737.