



# Developing a Resilience Strategy for Montréal



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## Following the 1998 Ice Storm :

- **Adoption of the first province-wide Civil Protection Act in Québec**

This law directed municipalities to develop a better knowledge of the hazards and vulnerabilities to which they are exposed, improve prevention programs, and establish forecasting and advance warning systems

- **Creation of Montréal's Civil Security Centre**

The CSC's mission is to prevent major disasters, to ensure the best state of preparation of the city's boroughs and central departments in relation to major risks and to provide strategic support in coordinating emergency responders during disasters and recovery.



## Shocks and Risks in Montréal

**With the Lac Megantic Disaster, Montréal recognizes the need to better cope with disaster that are more intense, more frequent and more complex**

Environmental / Technological /  
Socio-economic / Demographic factors



2013 Lac Megantic Disaster which occurred 250 km from Montréal



- **2014** : Civil Security Centre, acting on behalf of the Ville de Montréal, applied to join the 100 Resilient Cities Network
- **January 2016** : Agenda-Setting Workshop / 100 stakeholders
- **May 2016** : **Montréal's Office of Resilience is created**

## **Mandate :**

- ✓ Better prepare Montrealers and the City to cope with disturbances and disasters.
- ✓ Integrate resilience thinking horizontally in Montréal's administration

## SHOCKS

### Natural

- Floods
- Extreme Weather Events
- Earthquake

### Technological :

- Industrial Risks
- Transportation of Hazardous Materials Accident
- Critical Infrastructures disturbances/failure

### Biological :

- Virus
- Pandemic

### Social :

- Terrorism
- Social unrest

## STRESSES

Aging infrastructure

Road Congestion

Poverty / Homelessness

Inequality / Integration of immigrants

Lack of access to clean and affordable housing

Climate Change

Aging Population

Slowdown in the health care system





## Approach / 100 Resilient Cities process and tools

- **June and Septembre 2016** : Workshops with 4 Stakeholder Committees

*Diversity and Social Equity / Urban Infrastructure and Public Utilities / Prosperity and Innovation / Quality of Living Environments*

- **Summer 2016** : Public and Stakeholder Perception Survey

1600 Participants in the public survey

- **Septembre 2016 / July 2017** : Validation of work by the Steering Committee (Preliminary Resilience Strategy/ PRA and Strategy)

- **Summer / Fall 2017** : Strategy Development / Action Plan

**During the strategy development / Spring 2017 - Floods**



MONTRÉAL

# Spring 2017 : Floods in Montréal's North-West Sector of the Island

- More than 1100 Montrealers impacted
- More than 430 résidences flooded
- Many critical infrastructures and services impacted (roads, bridges, hospitals, elderly residences, schools).

DEBRIEFING / JUNE 2017

RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT / FALL 2017

## RESILIENCE – A GUIDING PRINCIPLE PREVENTION AND RECOVERY





## Lessons Learned :

- CAPACITY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPORTUNITIES
- LARGE AND INCLUSIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
- HORIZONTAL AND TRANSVERSAL COLLABORATION
- STRENGHT OF THE 100 RC NETWORK





## **Main Challenges and Opportunities along the way :**

- **Office of resilience and Director of Civil Security, Business Continuity and Emergency Management**

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS IN RISK PREVENTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR 20 YEARS IN MONTRÉAL

NEW COMPLEMENTARY MANDATE : BUSINESS CONTINUITY = OPPORTUNITY

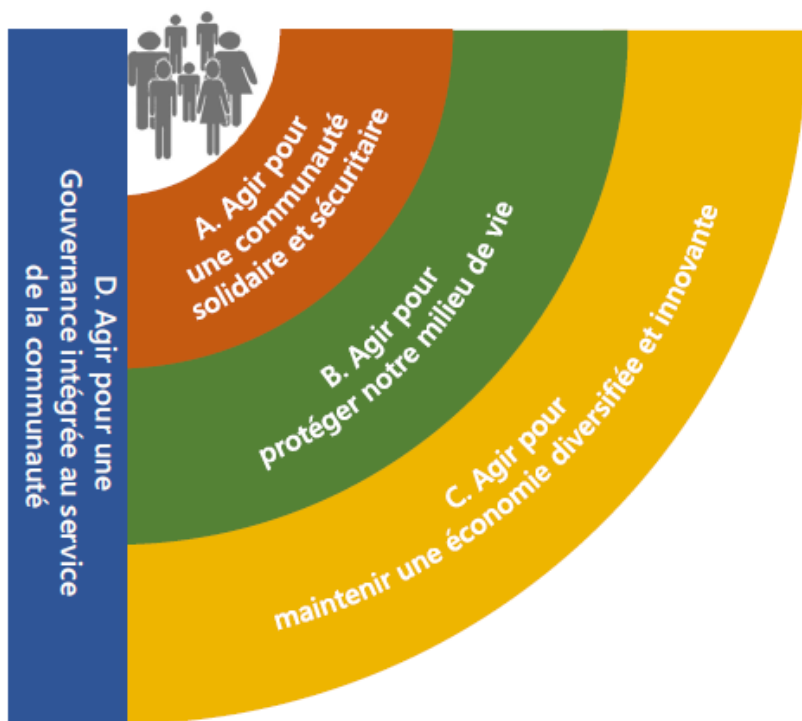
- **Explaining resilience thinking and its added value to city's ongoing plans/policies/strategies**

FINDING A COMMON GROUND TO WORK ON

IDENTIFYING INTERNAL ALLIES AND OPPONENTS

INTEGRATION THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY / SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE

## Stratégie montréalaise pour une ville résiliente Anticiper – Affronter – S'adapter



- (A1) Renforcer la capacité d'anticipation et de réaction de la communauté pour faire face aux risques naturels et anthropiques
- (A2) Offrir un environnement qui répond aux besoins essentiels des Montréalais
- (A3) Développer des mécanismes d'entraide et d'inclusion pour favoriser la solidarité entre les citoyens et réduire les vulnérabilités



- (B1) Assurer une meilleure prise en compte des risques dans la planification du territoire et des infrastructures
- (B2) Préserver l'environnement et anticiper les nouvelles menaces à la santé publique et aux écosystèmes
- (B3) Développer et pérenniser les infrastructures pour assurer le maintien des services et des systèmes essentiels



- (C1) Favoriser le bon état de préparation des entreprises pour faire face aux perturbations
- (C2) Assurer le déplacement efficace et sécuritaire des personnes et des biens
- (C3) Anticiper les défis socioéconomiques et capitaliser sur les atouts de savoir et de créativité



- (D1) Assurer le bon état de préparation de la Ville pour faire face aux risques naturels et anthropiques
- (D2) Collaborer et partager les expertises afin de favoriser une prise de décision transversale et éclairée
- (D3) Instaurer une communication interactive entre les autorités et la population pour diffuser de l'information au quotidien et alerter les citoyens en cas d'urgence

- Action Plan in development and the Strategy is at a validation phase
- Launch of the Strategy is planned for the end of 2017
- Implementation Phase



May 2017 floods

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