

## **OPINIONS ON THE PRESENT (2021) MIL. PROPOSALS (M.McCutcheon, 23/10/21)**

In general, I find that the aim of regenerating the whole district including the boroughs surrounding the MIL campus has not yet been met. I had hoped some innovative ideas would emerge. Instead we are having to adjust to increased traffic, influx of students competing for housing with our immigrant population and threats to some hopes raised during the development period (“jardins éphémères”, traffic at the Atlantic bottleneck, campus employment opportunities, Beaumont Ave. redevelopment)

### **SCHOOL USE OF LAND**

I think the land should be reserved for STUDENT/FACULTY HOUSING, so the university would house its own population many of whom are here temporarily and bring their own families. Another priority is to increase the city’s stock of lower-cost houses and accommodate the presently homeless and those displaced from “first nation” settlements who want to try living in our cities. Outremont has a number of parochial and private school/religious buildings that could be repurposed and traded around. It has a duty to help relieve city problems.

**UdeM INNOVATION FACILITY** Why not.

### **ATLANTIC SECTOR**

I think Outremont could handle this as long as it remains flexible. An advisory group of users could be set up. This has long been an area of mixed industrial employment situated near working class neighbourhoods at the geographic center of the island. It will probably be able to retain this role, due to its hub location for regional goods transformation and transportation.

Parc des gorilles: The CYCLING corridor potential should be developed, joining east and west (continuing a cycle path west to Cote St. Luc along the RR line) over a widened Beaumont Ave. runnel bridge. This is part of an “Ouvrir la voie” network once studied, to include Marconi-Alexandra and Jarry Park-de Castelneau.

### **OTHER OPINIONS**

(1) As a Park Extension resident I find the location of the new Outremont CITY SHOPS is unfortunate. It has blocked future possible development of that corner to link with VSP borough, and blocked our view of the mountain. (2) It is essential that the “jardins éphémères” fields be retained as a green “ilot” to mitigate heat and overdevelopment in the Atlantic block. It has proved to popular and well used, fostering urban agri-development and diversity. It has played a social role in bringing a variety of young people and students together. It is important to restore this historic passageway between de l’Épée and Atlantic Ave. (while avoiding trains).

### **GEOGRAPHIC & HERITAGE IMPORTANCE**

The MIL is linked to its surrounding territories. It must not ignore them.

Where is an artifact from the old “écurie municipale” to remember that era? What happens to the only surviving CP structure, the terminals building, on Beaubien just east of Park Ave., now a shed for Joly Radiator covered in graffiti? (a district plague to be solved). -//-

