

Montreal, July 02, 2013

Subject : Project construction of a primary school on Ile des Sœurs

Please allow me to convey my disenchantment with the project described above.

We have been living on Ile des Soeurs for over 20 years. We chose this location because of its convenience, easy commute to downtown but even more so because of its environment with an abundance of parks, green spaces and the residential touch which was maintained despite the sprawling construction on the island.

To our dismay we now learn that a green space bordering the Parc de la Fontaine, the triangle, has been destined to become a school ground, in other words, the little bit of green space we have left in this part of the island will be converted into a built up area with concrete. To make matters worse, a school where small children will walk to and from daily located next to a round-about with heavy commuter traffic.

Could this be for real? The security and safety of our children (my grandchildren) are at stake. The choice of location could not have been worse even more so with the upcoming construction on the Champlain Bridge one can imagine snarled traffic a daily occurrence. There is ample space on the island that would suit the needs for a school. Of course our politicians have a different view but then again they have been in the limelight recently and it is easy to find out what their **real motives** are for not allowing the school to be built on other suggested sites such as Parc Archambault etc.

There is also an issue with parking spaces. According to the School Board teachers and staff will park their cars on the Parc de La Fontaine parking lot or on rue Berlioz or other streets. You cannot consider this as acceptable and is not commensurate with today's standards of urban planning in a residential neighbourhood.

The city of Verdun and the School Board is "barking up the wrong tree" by choosing this location. We ask you therefore to reconsider and have common sense prevail.

We hope to have made a contribution by conveying our views on this important issue which if not properly addressed may have negative consequences for generations to come

Yours truly,

Mrs. Annie Benko