



Montreal, Quebec  
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Office de consultation publique de Montréal  
AVENIR DU SECTEUR PIERREFONDS-OUEST

Bird Protection Quebec (BPQ) is the oldest bird-related conservation charity in Canada with a 100-year history of protecting birds and habitats. We are science-based organization, made up of volunteers and closely allied to Nature Conservancy Canada.

We are writing to urge you to consider the fragile nature of the unique and valuable green space known as the Kestrel fields and the L'Anse à L'Orme corridor that are being considered for development. We are concerned for the birds that use this area for a significant part of each year.

We draw your attention to a comprehensive report that was prepared by Dr. Richard Gregson in June 2015. This report can be downloaded from the following link: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B\\_IHucT5MtXzcmppb0ITmR5V0E/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_IHucT5MtXzcmppb0ITmR5V0E/view)

In particular, we would like to underline the following points in this report:

160 bird species have been reported in the Kestrel Fields and the immediately adjacent habitats of Anse-à-l'Orme and Cap-St-Jacques. These birds include forest, grassland and "edge" habitat species, wetland species and migratory birds that rely on this area as a stopover for essential feeding and rest. The following species are of particular note:

- 13 species of national concern (vulnerable or threatened)
- At least 3 additional species that are locally rare or vulnerable
- All 10 of the Owl species that occur in this region. One of which is a species of national concern.
- Breeding American Kestrel and Northern Harrier

In addition, this is one of few sites in the region where the vulnerable the Bobolink is able to nest and raise young. This species is entirely dependent upon grassland habitat such as this and will not be able to find alternative breeding habitat if this area becomes unavailable to it. Indeed, the precipitous decline in the population of Bobolinks throughout the continent is directly related to constant habitat loss due to agriculture and building developments.

We are concerned that if this habitat is lost to construction, it may never be restored or replaced.

Sincerely,

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