

Les Écoles Azrieli Schools Herzliah

4840 St. Kevin, Montreal, Qc

H3W 1P2

Tel.: (514) 739-2294

Email: herzliah@azrieli-tth.ca

Web: www.azrieli-tth.ca

The Herzliah **ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB**

OFFICE DE CONSULTATION PUBLIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

BRIEF:

Keep All of Pierrefonds's

Green for Future

Generations

THURSDAY, APRIL 27TH, 2017

(1) Who Are We?

Comprised of over twenty students, the Herzliah Environmental Club was founded in 2006. The initial goal behind its foundation, to instill a recycling service, has grown exponentially, and now consists of encouraging and promoting environmental values both in school as well as in the community. This group of change-seeking individuals has partnered with many different organizations over the course of its existence, such as the Jewish National Fund and SOS Meadowbrook.

(2) Overview:

After having read the article published by John Meagher in the Montreal Gazette, “The Battle to Preserve Wildlife in Anse-à-l’Orme Begins Again”, we felt not only the urge, but also the fervent obligation to do whatever was in our power to stop Grilli Development and its partners’ project.¹ Once we heard that the OCPM is holding hearings regarding this company’s “Camp Nature Project”, we saw a window of opportunity that would permit us to defend our beliefs and stand by our values. We vehemently believe that the “Camp Nature Project” should be rejected, because going through with it would be harmful to the environment, destructive to the beautiful elements that compose our nature landscape, create financial damage to taxpayers, and destroy one of Montreal’s touristic attractions.

(3) Details:

- University researchers conducted a study, discovering that over 270 different species of fauna and flora are occupying the Anse-à-l’Orme region.² Destroying all of this life could entail very negative repercussions to our ecosystem and our environment.
- Another study, by l’Institut des Sciences et de la Forêt tempérée, has revealed that the loss of this habitat to all that reside in it could risk severe damage to the ecological biodiversity of the Anse-à-l’Orme area.³
- Building this new infrastructure will cost the city lots of money. The expensive project will result in the bilking of money from taxpayers in the Pierrefonds-Roxboro area.⁴
- Preserving Montreal’s touristic attractions is essential to maintaining our economy as well as our popularity. According to www.tourisme-montreal.org, “this linear park is a favourite of windsurfers and boaters, who come for the prevailing west winds”.⁵

¹ Meagher, John. “The battle to preserve wildlife in l’Anse-à-l’Orme begins again.” *Global News*. 07 Jul. 2017. Web. 24 Apr. 2017.

² Roy, Marie-Eve; Gravel, Patrick; Durpas, Jérôme. “Évaluation écologique de l’ouest du territoire de Pierrefonds-Roxboro.” Feb. 2016. Web. 24 Apr. 2017.

³ Dumitru, Maria; Bronwyn, Rayfield; Durpas, Jérôme; Gonzalez, Andrew; Jaeger, Jochen; Roy, Marie-Ève. “The impacts of the Cap Nature real estate project (Pierrefonds-West) on ecological connectivity.” *Institut des Science et de la Forêt tempérée; Centre de la Science et de la Biodiversité du Québec*. Feb. 2016. Web. 24 Apr. 2017.

⁴ Henriquez, Gloria. “It’s a big mistake:’ Montrealers get their say on l’Anse-à-l’Orme development.” *Global News*. 05 Apr. 2017. Web. 25 Apr. 2017.

⁵ Morand, Line. “Parc Nature de l’Anse-à-l’Orme.” www.Tourisme-Montréal.org. n.d. Web. 24 Apr. 2017.

(4) Mission and Vision:

The mission that motivated the Herzliah Environmental Club to compose this brief is as follows:

- Stop the “Camp Nature Project” from establishing in the green Anse-à-l’Orme region

The visions that motivated Herzliah Environmental Club to compose this brief are as follows:

- Preserve the well-being of Montreal’s nature and environment
- Save wildlife
- Provide a safe and healthy environment for future generations

(5) Recommendations and Proposed Solutions:

As true environmentalists seeking change, we do not believe in the notion of saying without doing. Therefore, it is a fundamental value of ours, when there is an issue, instead of merely complaining, to propose a solution along with our request. Here is what we recommend:

- Have Grilli Development and its partners establish their residential complex elsewhere; instead of establishing it on green land, the project should be conducted on brown land
- The Conseil régional de l’environnement de Montréal has proposed many different alternative sites on which the complex can be built

(6) Hopes for the Future:

In the future, we wish to see some nature left, if not for ourselves, for our children. As new technologies are emerging, nature is neglected, and its relevance, dismissed. More and more people are being accommodated, at the expense of the beauty that the world has given us for free! We wish for our currently safe, clean, healthy environment to remain that way for generations to come.

(7) Conclusion:

The motto of our school is “Educating the Leaders of Tomorrow”. If we even want a “tomorrow” to exist, we understand that it is imperative for us to preserve this beautiful, natural region of Anse-à-l’Orme. We know that if we are true leaders, the Herzliah Environmental Club must stand up for the world we live in as well as our values and beliefs. We understand that it is our job to make the world a better place by intervening with people, communities, and the environments in which we reside. We implore you to please find a solution that preserves Anse-à-l’Orme.