Montréal in common

A pool of innovative projects
Message from the elected official

All large municipalities are faced with the major challenges posed by mobility, inclusion and environmental issues.

Over the past few years, it has become evident that Montrealers wish to create harmonious living environments that are adapted to everyone’s needs. Through Montréal in common, the Montréal component of the Smart Cities Challenge, our city fosters the emergence of innovative solutions that address these issues, and are adapted to all living environments.

In fact, these innovations are the fruit of Montrealers’ efforts and ideas. By voicing their opinions and working with our teams, citizens help us implement creative and innovative solutions tailored to suit their reality. Whether in terms of mobility, food or data management, Montréal in common generates services and tools that enable all citizens to have a greater quality of life in their metropolis.

In order for these innovations to be realized for the benefit of all citizens, both technical and social projects must be carried out under efficient governance. Under the Montréal in common team, the city ensures that the rules and collective processes are followed, and that responsibilities are shared for the greater good.

We are proud to present Montréal in common’s initiatives taken jointly with the city, in an effort to improve living conditions through effective collaborative work.

Magda Popeanu
City councillor
Executive committee member responsible for organizational performance
Urban agglomeration council member
Montréal in common (MeC) is a community made up of organizations and individuals who converge towards the common goal to experiment and develop solutions to address two issues: urban mobility and access to healthy food.

The community co-constructs projects in collaboration with residents and local stakeholders, in order to improve Montrealers’ quality of life. These innovative solutions are developed collectively in order to build a greener, healthier city.

Thanks to a more human approach to data and new technologies, Montréal in common proposes innovative solutions that accelerate the ecological transition and the social inclusion process for our metropolis.

**Supporting experimentation, and sharing knowledge**

**Objectives**
Montréal in common supports 13 projects implemented in the City, as part of which users are invited to test and co-develop iteratively and with agile solutions pertaining to transportation and access to food.

In addition to helping us develop high-potential projects aimed at accelerating the ecological transition, this approach also enables us to generate knowledge that is brought to scale and broadcast in order to encourage other Montreal stakeholders to spring into action, both within the municipal administration and in the civil society.

**A vision shared by all partners**

Montréal in common applies innovation and technology in collaboration with communities in a human and inclusive way, in order to develop innovative solutions that improve quality of life for all Montrealers, while accelerating the ecological transition.

MeC brings together all partners around 7 major strategic axes:
- Experimentation
- Agility
- Collaboration
- Pooling
- Sharing knowledge
- Citizen participation
- Data sharing and valuation
2 major fields of action

**Mobility**

Develop greener, more accessible mobility for Montréal:
- Less pollution from transportation
- More sustainable mobility options
- Simplified access to services
- Less local single-driver trips
- Enhances comfort and project planning
- Enhanced sustainability and efficiency

**Partners:**
- ARTM
- Solon
- Fabmob
- Ivado
- CIRRELT

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**Neighborhood mobility**

Main partner in charge:
Solon

This project solicits citizens participation in order to find alternatives to single-driver travels in order to improve neighborhood life and reduce the need for polluting modes of transportation: car sharing, bike trailers, etc.

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**Integrated mobility**

Main partner in charge:
ARTM

The objective is to simplify access to sustainable mobility services for metropolitan area users through a single access point where clients can find public transit, taxis, car sharing, parking, etc.

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**Mobility data**

Main partner in charge:
Fabrique des mobilités Québec, Jalon

The mobility data hub aims to combine and carry out the valorization of data pertaining to transportation and the occupancy of public space, with the main objective being to improve our understanding of transportation needs and habits in Montréal, so as to adequately measure the impact of actions on mobility.
Food

Mutualizing efforts, resources and initiatives in order to offer more healthy, local food to vulnerable populations.

- Enhanced sharing of local resources
- Improved operational efficiency for community organizations in the field of food distribution
- Increased distribution of fresh, local products to vulnerable populations
- Reduced loss and waste in the food distribution chain

Partners:
- Récolte
- Laboratoire sur l’agriculture urbaine (AU/LAB)
- La Cantine pour tous
- Carrefour alimentaire Centre-Sud
- Chaire de transition écologique UQAM
- Innovagro
- Coop Carbone

Local integrated food system

Main partner in charge: Récolte

This project’s mission is to strengthen the supply chain providing fresh, healthy, local foods to community organizations, while improving market access for food producers. The Local integrated food system supports the implementation of physical and digital infrastructure aiming to facilitate farm-to-table supply in Montréal. These infrastructures meet space and storage needs, along with primary transformation, refrigeration and distribution requirements for food suppliers such as community organizations.

Mutualization of equipment

Main partner in charge: La Cantine pour tous

The MutuAli platform facilitates the sharing of professional food industry equipment in Montréal. It bridges the gap between the needs of local community organizations and the resources available across the city. Mutualization makes equipment available (professional kitchens, delivery trucks and storage facilities) at a lesser cost, in addition to creating value for assets that are often underused.
Valorization of resource waste for food production purposes

Main partner in charge: Laboratoire sur l’agriculture urbaine

The project titled Valorisons Mtl aims to keep record of the hindrances and driving forces, as well as to broadcast information about the potential links between unused or underused city resources and urban agriculture projects. Special emphasis is placed on urban greenhouses, including heat recovery systems for greenhouse use, the use of residual materials to create new agricultural substrates, urine-based fertilization, etc.

Carte Proximité fermière et solidaire

Main partner in charge: Carrefour solidaire

The Carte Proximité is a prepaid card that can be used in various markets to support produce suppliers that are a part of the local supply chain. It is provided free of charge by community organizations to households that are experiencing food insecurity. This project funds local economy, while also directly reaching out to underprivileged populations.

Civic and Regulatory Innovation Laboratory (LICER)

Main partner in charge: Maison de l’innovation sociale (MIS) en collaboration avec le Cité-ID LivingLab et Dark Matter Labs.

The Civic and Regulatory Innovation Laboratory (LICER) works in collaboration with city departments and with Montrealers to take advantage of opportunities to change municipal by-laws in order to facilitate the implementation of innovative citizen initiatives in response to the socio-ecological transition.
Data to help our communities

Montréal in common promotes the ethical and responsible use of data, in order to gain a better understanding of the community’s needs and to meet them more effectively. Along with its partners, IMeC takes on mobility, food supply and social development challenges.

**Indigenous data hub**
Main partners in charge:
Montreal Indigenous Community NETWORK

NETWORK develops and coordinates a data collection project aiming to promote the sovereignty of Indigenous data, namely with regard to their ownership, control and accessibility. The social data collected by and for Indigenous people enables the indigenous community to better understand their reality and needs, to determine their priorities, and to convey them to all stakeholders.

**Social data hub**
Main partners in charge:
CRIEM, Centraide, Conseil du Système alimentaire montréalais, Service de la diversité et de l’inclusion sociale, Direction régionale de la santé publique

Organizations and universities jointly develop a secure data sharing platform meant to clarify the issues faced by Montréal’s communities. Through the experimentation of a data governance model aiming to meet the needs and obligations of Montréal in common’s partners, the hub aims to generate innovative and pertinent solutions to address the issues identified, namely with respect to food supply.

**Data governance**
Main partners in charge:
Open North

Open North enables the innovation community to establish a data governance framework that is centered on human rights in a digital era, while maintaining the emphasis on the general interest and greater good. This framework reflects the main principles of Montréal’s Digital Data Charter through concrete action that supports responsible, efficient and collaborative data valuation.
Why promote experimentation?

The experimental approach that we promote fosters human-scale solutions, by placing the citizen at the heart of the design process. Projects are developed through repeated, low-cost trial cycles, by testing various prototypes (pilot projects) in order to confirm their scope, or to modify them.

Experimentation thus allows for improved risk and cost management as it relates to the development of a project or solution.
Working in collaboration and sharing knowledge

Montréal in common mainly relies on team collaboration and on-site experimentation. In order to succeed, we believe that projects must be centred on humans, but also that knowledge and data must be shared. The city must also adapt to new ideas, which is why we also care about the evolution of urban regulatory frameworks.

MeC, an innovation and collaboration support platform

- **Broadcasting knowledge and scaling up**
  Conferences, public or targeted webinars, data broadcasting platforms, etc. Making our solutions durable through their visibility in Montréal and abroad.

- **Supporting innovation and experimentation**
  Agile management, collaboration, experimentation, co-design, citizen participation, data valuation, etc.

- **Investing our knowledge in programs and projects**
  Program and project evaluation to guide the orientations of a governing committee and support team, improved project support, improved program, enhanced impact.

- **Harvesting and pooling of knowledge**
  Platforms and other opportunities for exchange among partners (meetings, webinars, workshops, etc.)
The city and its partners apply for the Smart Cities Challenge

2018

Montréal wins! Project development

Project launches

2020

Consolidation

Midterm review

2021

Sustainability

2022

Legacy, knowledge transfer

2023

2024
A community of humans forming a united front

More than 100 members are part of Montréal in common. Here is an overview of what drives them.

“Montréal in common gives us the opportunity to innovate in order to implement and test an approach that we believe to be promising: improving access to healthy food for people who experience food insecurity, bringing suppliers and consumers closer together and strengthening Québec’s economy.”

- Marie-Claude Morin-Ouellet, Carte-Proximité, Carrefour alimentaire Centre-Sud

“Montréal in common enables us to work with a variety of stakeholders in order to enhance sustainable mobility, particularly with the city. This is a great opportunity for us to accelerate the sharing and use of our knowledge!”

- Raouf Sadeddine, mobility data hub, Coop Carbone et Fabrique des mobilités Québec

« Montréal in common motivates me because it fosters the emergence of concrete, innovative projects for Montrealers. The project for the mutualization of equipment is one that I am passionate about, as it can not only have a social and economic impact, but also a strong environmental one where we will be implementing it. It also reflects a vision that can be transposed to numerous fields.”

- Mai Lan Nguyen, Mutualization of food supply equipment, La Cantine pour tous
“Agreeing on high-level principles regarding digital data, such as inclusion or the common good, and transposing such principles into concrete action cannot be done without substance. Best practices are achieved by people willing to spring into action. Montréal in common provides the perfect framework for such action, through the diversity of its projects, the support provided for experimentation and its vision for data use that is centered around humans.”

- Lauriane Gorce,
  Data governance,
  Open North

“Creating concrete change at a neighborhood scale by empowering citizens, whether through joint neighborhood creative or civic activities, is a way to generate collective solutions and to implement them. To participate in Montréal in common is to realize major projects with the potential to affect the future.”

- Pascal Priori,
  Neighborhood mobility,
  Solon

“Optimizing the supply of fresh local products in an effort to enable the most underprivileged Montrealers to have access to healthy nutrition is a true source of motivation for us. We are equally enthusiastic about reaching our goals, by forming partnerships on site, understanding their needs and proposing efficient and effective tools and solutions on all levels.”

- Local and integrated food system,
  Récolte
Stay tuned with
Montréal in common

Montréal in common is the Montréal component of the Smart Cities Challenge, a competition launched by the Canadian government in an effort to encourage communities to adopt a smart cities approach in order to improve their population’s quality of life through innovation, data and connected technology. The projects envisioned by the city and its partners at the time of the application will be carried out thanks to the $50 M prize awarded to Montréal.

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