



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

## **Inauguration of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue's bike path**

**Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, October 28, 2008** – Mr. André Lavallée, Head of public transportation and urban planning of the City of Montréal's Executive Committee, Mr. Chandra A. Madramootoo, Dean of McGill University as well as Mr. Bill Tierney, Mayor of the Town of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue are pleased to officially inaugurate the Town's new bike path. The new 1.5-kilometre circuit will from now on allow cyclists to bike safely from Boulevard des Anciens Combattants to Chemin des Pins through McGill University and ICAM Technologies lands. Prior to building the path, it was difficult, even dangerous, to cross the Town by using Highway 40. The two-way bike path, located away from highways and streets, is a safe and pleasant way to move around the Town.

The cost of \$1.2 million to build the path was absorbed by the Montréal Conglomeration and through a subsidy from the Quebec government. The project is part of the Transportation Plan which projects doubling bike paths over the next six years. "Montréal is investing to create one of the largest bike path networks in North America. This year, we hope to create 100 km of new paths and to double the length of our network over the next six years. In this regard, the development of Chemin Ste-Marie is part of our strategy to encourage travelling by bike and other active transportation methods while reducing our dependence on cars. With this \$1.2 million investment, we are adding a new bike traffic dimension in the western sector of the island which will improve the quality of life for residents," said André Lavallée, Head of public transportation and urban planning of the City of Montréal's Executive Committee.

The involvement by McGill University in the project has definitely contributed to its achievement. In fact, without the participation of McGill, which gave permission for the bike path to run through its land, the bike path would not have seen the light of day. The negotiations with Mr. Chandra A. Madramootoo therefore allowed us to specifically define the expectations and needs of everyone, while respecting properties and the objectives of the bike path. Furthermore, Mr. Madramootoo affirmed that "McGill University was delighted to have taken part in the project which facilitates travelling by bicycle in the municipality. The environment is currently an increasingly important subject, and it is always a pleasure to be involved in this type of project. Biking certainly contributes in improving highway safety and remains above all an effective and unbeatable way of travelling."

In addition, ICAM Technologies Corporation, a private Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue business, helped implement the bike path by allocating part of its land. According to Mr. Nassr, ICAM owner, "the new path, which skirts the ICAM woods and McGill lands, is not only beneficial for the local community, but is also advantageous for employees in the technology park and students who wish to go for bike rides, walk or run. The path could not have been situated in a better place than it is!"

The cooperation between all parties and the Town of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue has shown how separate and distinct sectors of our society, namely the public sector, the Educational sector and a private industry have all worked together to develop a common and beneficial project for the population.

Furthermore, the bike path is the first phase in a series of 3. In fact, the Montréal Conglomeration as well as the Town of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue intend continuing the project with two other additional phases. The second phase will run from Chemin des Pins to Rue Meloche, and the third, will run from Rue Meloche to join the Town of Kirkland's bike path. These three path segments will lead to one large circuit in the West Island network. According to Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Mayor Bill Tierney, "achieving this project is excellent news for our residents and for all cyclists in the area; even more so as the new path links the southern part of the municipality and the northern sector, which had not been connected by Chemin Ste-Marie before. Everyone can now take advantage of this path to carry out their outdoor activities and to travel safely from one end of the Town to the other."

**The bike path will officially be accessible as of November 8, 2008.**

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**SOURCE :**

**Chantal Bourdon**

Communications Coordinator  
Ville de Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue  
109, rue Sainte-Anne  
Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue (Qc)  
H9X 1M2  
514-457-6808

**Information**

André Lazure  
Communications and Citizen Relations  
Media Relations Division  
514-868-1125