MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN IN ACTION AND BY THE NUMBERS

2006-2012 Report





COVER: BIBLIOTHÈQUE DU BOISÉ, ARRONDISSEMENT DE SAINT-LAURENT DESIGNER: CARDINAL HARDY/LABONTÉ MARCIL/ÉRIC PELLETIER ARCHITECTES EN CONSORTIUM/SDK ET ASSOCIÉS INC./LEROUX BEAUDOIN HURENS ET ASSOCIÉS INC. PHOTO: YIEN CHAO MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN IN ACTION AND BY THE NUMBERS \mathcal{O}

COPRODUCER MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN INITIATIVE



A City of Design has to walk the talk!

A City of Design is first – and perhaps even foremost – an evolving city, a city of projects, a city that expresses a constant concern for quality and innovation in design in everything it offers up to be experienced and seen: buildings, streets, parks, traffic signals, signage, urban furniture, museums, schools, public transit, businesses...

As such, the Montréal, UNESCO City of Design initiative, borne of an exemplary partnership between the Ville de Montréal, the Québec Government and the Conférence régionale des élus de Montréal, took shape primarily to encourage design efforts all over Montréal and to make public procurement projects more accessible to a greater number of designers. From this municipal procurement process emerged many projects that will transform the Montréal cityscape over the coming years.

Today, this initiative led by our Bureau du design in partnership with the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design at Université de Montréal, has already succeeded in strengthening Montréal's leadership on the international stage. Its projects are often cited as examples today, and they even serve as sources of inspiration for a number of cities.

So ... onward to 2017!

Laurent Blanchard, Mayor of the Ville de Montréal

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In 2006, the UNESCO acknowledged that Montréal is a city of designers and that, by leveraging the creative potential of close to 25,000 talented practitioners, the metropolis can stimulate sustainable growth and raise the quality of its living environment while strengthening its identity—and, consequently, enhance its attractiveness.

As such, we are delighted with the 102 mandates entrusted to designers and architects who, since 2008, have lent their singular energies to more than 30 projects throughout 12 of Montréal's 19 boroughs. This colossal work, and the accompanying creative impetus, hold much promise indeed.

The initiative that we are proudly reporting on today was launched that very year, 2008, to mobilize all stakeholders in Montréal's development around a unifying objective: "to 'make' [design, build] a better city thanks to the input of [more] designers." That is our goal: to progress in the space of 10 years from an undeniable status as a city of designers (2006) to one toward which Montrealers can collectively aspire: a true City of Design (2017). This stock-taking, conducted at the halfway point, tells us that we will succeed, together.

Élaine Ayotte, Member of the Executive Comittee, responsible for Culture, Heritage and Design of the Ville de Montréal

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When the Université de Montréal (UdeM) succeeds, all of Montréal succeeds. The success of our urban metropolis likewise opens doors for UdeM students, graduates and researchers. So we are more than proud of our association with the Ville de Montreal through our UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design.

For the past 10 years, the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design has supported local communities and governments around the world in exploring design solutions to their urban planning issues. This advisory role has also been used with our own city as well. Having played an instrumental role in Montréal's designation as a UNESCO City of Design, the Chair was ideally positioned to launch this major design initiative in cooperation with the Bureau du design de la Ville de Montréal.

The positive outcomes of the Montréal, UNESCO city of design initiative clearly demonstrate the potential of the partnership between Montréal and its largest university. Here's to even more success in sharing our talents in every possible field.

Guy Breton, Rector of the Université de Montréal

MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN IN ACTION AND BY THE NUMBERS 2006-2012 REPORT

PARTNERS MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN INITIATIVE





The Government of Québec has been a partner from the very beginning in the municipal action that led to Montréal's designation as a UNESCO City of Design. Ever since this international recognition was obtained, the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and the Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine have tangibly supported the projects that are giving life to this initiative.

Due to the quality and diversity of its creative genius, our metropolis is the only North American city to have earned the prestigious title of UNESCO City of Design, and we take great pride in this distinction. Better integration of designers and architects upstream from projects positively influences the quality of life of Montrealers, which ultimately will guarantee Montréal's brand image in the avant-garde of international trends.

A unique joint endeavour of the research community and the City, the Review of the Montréal, UNESCO City of Design Initiative illustrates the benefits of concerted action promoted by experienced and engaged developers. The leverage of our initial investments, which are presented in this review, motivates us to stay the course for the years ahead.



Maka Kotto, Minister, Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec, Government of Québec

Jean-François Lisée, Minister, Ministère des Relations internationales, de la Francophonie et du Commerce extérieur and Minister responsible for the Montréal region, Government of Québec

PARTNERS MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN INITIATIVE



By playing an active role in the Montréal, UNESCO City of Design initiative, the Conférence régionale des élus (CRÉ) de Montréal has confirmed the strategic nature of this undertaking.

It has helped to launch many projects that showcase Montréal's creative potential which will enhance the quality of our living environment. Public discussion forums between the community, designers and elected representatives as well as promotional activities have contributed to increase public awareness and that of elected officials about the importance of quality in design, development and architecture. This collective undertaking illustrates the exemplary collaboration and ongoing action of the people involved.

We are delighted with this first report presenting the tangible benefits for our region, actions carried forward by all stakeholders who are working every day to revitalize Montréal. We wish to congratulate the leaders of this vast concerted effort—the Bureau du design de la Ville de Montréal and the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design at Université de Montréal.

Manon Barbe

Manon Barbe, President of the Conférence régionale des élus de Montréal



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- 1 FOUNDATION
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CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION

Montréal was appointed a UNESCO City of Design in June 2006.

In September 2008, the Bureau du design de la Ville de Montréal and the UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design at Université de Montréal launched the Building Montréal, UNESCO City of Design initiative, renamed simply Montréal, UNESCO City of Design in 2011. This initiative garnered the support of four major financial partners:

- Ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec
- · Ville de Montréal
- Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire du Québec
- · Conférence régionale des élus (CRÉ) de Montréal

This document succinctly describes the activities deployed to implement the appointment of Montréal as a UNESCO City of Design. It focuses on the core principle of:

"mobiliz[ing] the different stakeholders of urban development around the project of making [designing, building] a better city with [more] designers."

What were the concrete results of this rallying statement? Here are the first collected results after four years of activities and six years of involvement in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network.

This report draws conclusions on the achievements and provides an up-to-date status on the Montréal, UNESCO City of Design initiative. On the following pages you will find detailed information on such aspects as:

- the impact of the initiative on the emergence of a culture of design and architecture competitions in Montréal
- the engagement of various audiences
- the opening of new markets for the design community

FOUNDATION

"Neither label nor a form of recognition, the appointment of Montréal as UNESCO City of Design is an invitation to develop Montréal around its creative forces in design."

When the initiative partners spoke these words at the launch of Montréal, UNESCO City of Design in 2008, they set in motion a process built around the recognition of the creative potential of Montreal and its people in using design tools to positively influence the city.

Networking, **creativity** and **dialogue** are the touchstones of the structure-enhancing approach of the Montréal, UNESCO City of Design initiative. They also inspire initiatives led by the Bureau du design de la Ville de Montréal office, whose mission is, among others, to enhance the design quality of buildings, public spaces and objects through a better integration of designers and architects right from the initial stages of public projects.

The initiative intends to "…mobilize the different stakeholders of urban development around the project of making [designing, building] a better city with [more] designers." That objective implies three key strategies:

- Enhancing creativity through design and architecture competitions for development projects with a public scope
- Boosting the local and international visibility of Montréal design through a website, www.mtlunescodesign.com
- Fostering dialogue among citizens, designers and elected officials through public forums and awareness activities

FUNDING

-7-

The initiative was launched with \$1.2 million in investments from the four major partners, in equal shares:

- \$600,000 under the Entente sur le développement culturel de Montréal from 2008 to 2011, including:
 - \$300,000 from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications
 - \$ 300,000 from the Ville de Montréal
- \$300,000 from the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire
- \$300,000 from the Conférence régionale des élus (CRÉ) de Montréal

The Québec government, through the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire du Québec, contributed a further \$600,000 for the holding of design and architecture competitions under the Entente sur l'aide financière of \$140 million to support the strategy Imaginer • Réaliser Montréal 2025.

Total investment in the initiative from 2008 to 2012: \$1.8 million.

> PLACE DE L'ACADIE DESIGNER: NIPPAYSAGES PHOTO: UNESCO CHAIR IN LANDSCAPE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL





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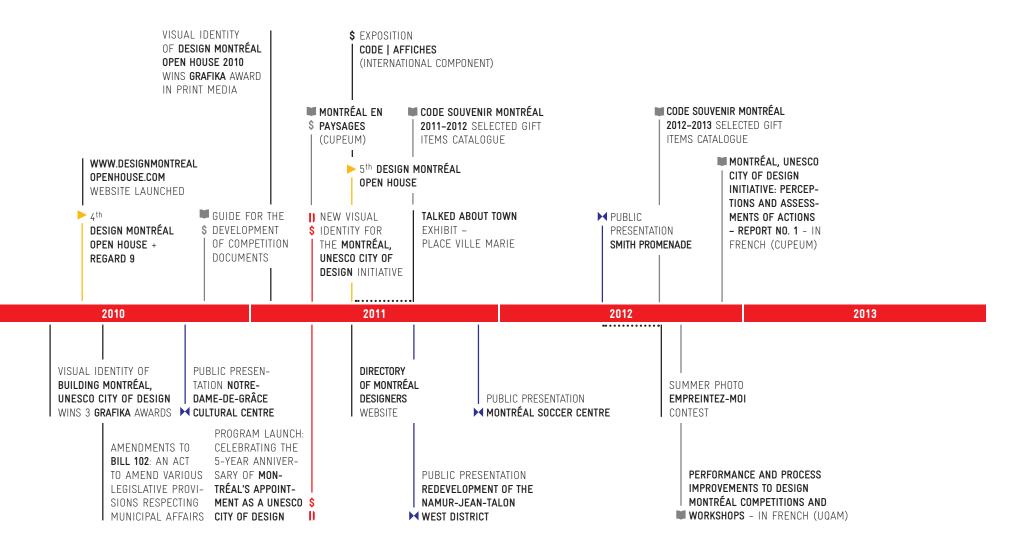
PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

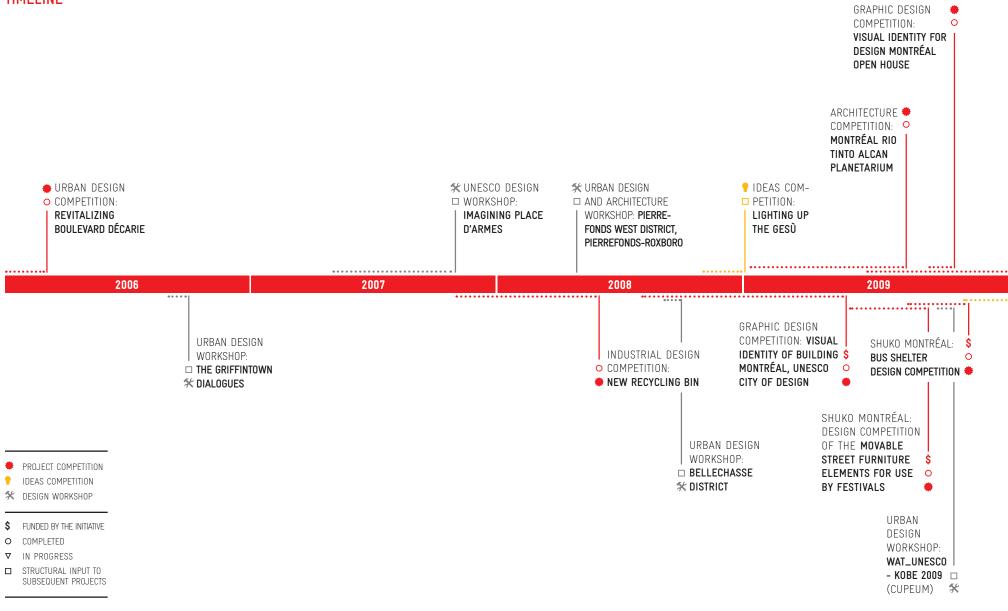
This summary was compiled based on a survey of promotional and publicity campaigns, international networking and outreach actions as well as competitions and workshops. The survey covered activities conducted between 2006 and 2012, whether funded by the initiative or not.

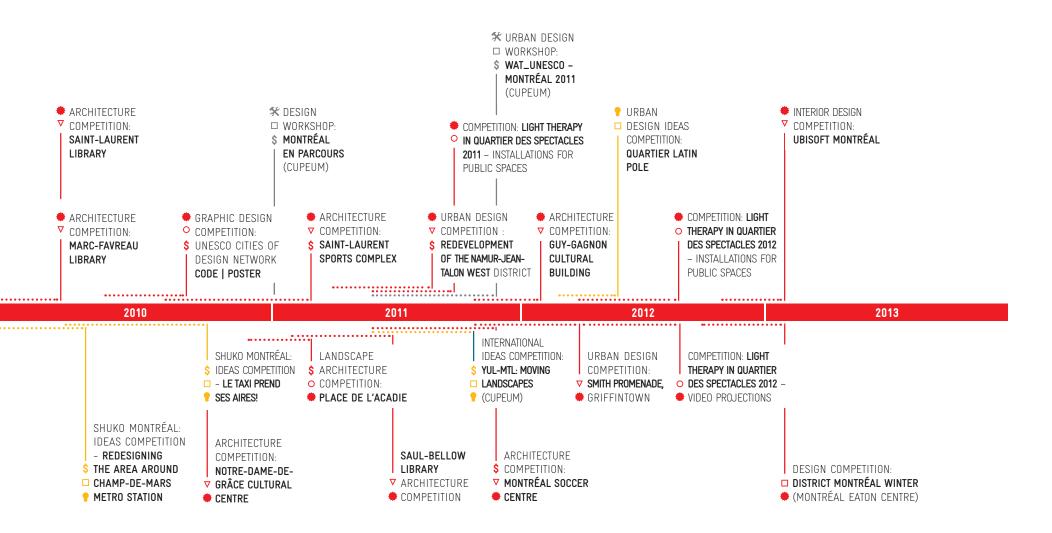
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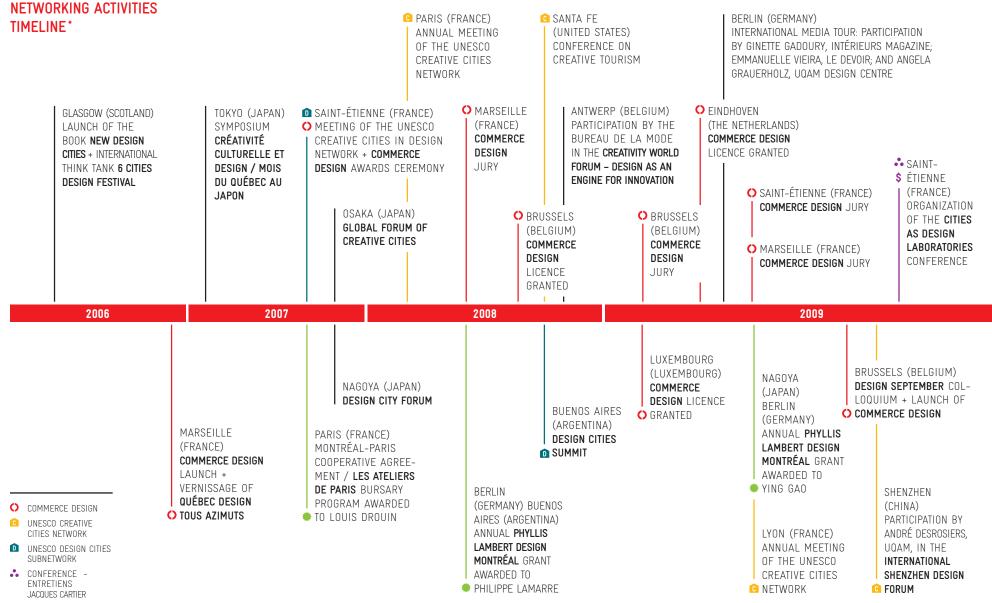
- DESIGN MONTREAL OPEN HOUSE
- BUILDING MONTRÉAL INITIATIVE
- MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN INITIATIVE

\$ FUNDED BY THE INITIATIVE









GRANT

\$ FUNDED BY THE INITIATIVE

* Unless otherwise indicated, participation is by members of the Ville de Montréal.

MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN IN ACTION AND BY THE NUMBERS 2006-2012 REPORT

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The Montréal, UNESCO City of Design initiative has instigated deployment of numerous competitions for development and infrastructure projects.

Deployment of **35** design and architecture competitions and work-shops, including:

- · **23** project competitions
- **5** ideas competitions
- **7** design workshops

These **35** competitions and workshops encouraged entries from multidisciplinary teams and promoted various fields of expertise:

- **8** architecture competitions
- **7** competitions and **7** workshops in urban design
- 4 industrial design competitions
- 4 video-projection / lighting design competitions
- **3** graphic design competitions
- landscape architecture competition
- · 1 interior design competition

COMPETITION

HIGHLIGHTS

Of these **35** design and architecture competitions and workshops:

- **12** projects have been completed
- . **10** projects are in progress
- **13** activities served as structural inputs to subsequent projects and in urban planning

The design and architecture competitions resulted in significant economic benefits.

Following **23** project competitions:

• **102** mandates have been granted to designers and architects

• \$17 MILLION¹ in fees has been paid to design and architecture professionals for projects totalling

\$225 MILLION²

¹ Amount based on available data, that is 80% of all professional fees for design (finalists, winners, professional advisors, judges and technical committees).

² Amount based on available data, that is 80 % of all announced budgets for projects.

"...MOBILIZ[ING] THE DIFFERENT **STAKEHOLDERS OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE** PROJECT OF MAKING [DESIGNING, **BUILDING] A BETTER CITY WITH** [MORE] DESIGNERS."

> ICEBERG DESIGNER: ATOMIC3 + APPAREIL ARCHITECTURE PHOTO: MARTINE DOYON, PARTENARIAT DU QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES



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ACTIVITIES AND NUMBERS

5.1 "... MOBILIZ[ING] THE VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT"

MOBILIZATION AWARENESS DIALOGUE EDUCATION COLLABORATION

The design and architecture competitions and workshops have mobilized numerous professionals.

700+ professional and student teams have responded to the various calls for creation launched under the initiative:

- **300**+ local and international firms/agencies, including
 - **75**+ firms/agencies that participated twice or more
 - **40**+ firms/agencies that participated three or more times
 - several that participated up to **7** times
- **40**+ municipal professionals who were solicited as members of juries and panels of experts + several others involved in competition and workshop steering committees

20+ elected officials directly involved in the activities

MOBILIZATION AWARENESS DIALOGUE EDUCATION COLLABORATION

The design and architecture competitions have initiated dialogue and exchanges among members of the public, elected officials as well as municipal and urban planning professionals.

- 4 competitions increased citizen participation through public presentation of the finalists (jury selection):
 - Architecture competition: Notre-Dame-de-Grâce
 Cultural Centre (October 2010)—50 participants
 - Urban design competition: Redevelopment of the Namur-Jean-Talon West district— (September 2011)—174 participants
 - Architecture competition: Montréal Soccer Centre (SMEC) (December 2011)—154 participants
 - Urban design competition: Smith Promenade (April 2012)—274 participants

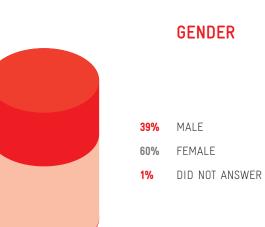
- **7** design workshops brought together designers, experts and municipal professionals around specific opportunities for development and land use planning. These activities involved over:
- **35** design agencies
- . **100**+ students
- **35** experts and municipal professionals

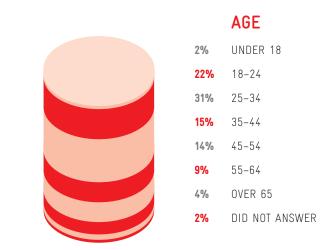
MOBILIZATION AWARENESS DIALOGUE EDUCATION COLLABORATION

DESIGN MONTRÉAL OPEN HOUSE VISITOR PROFILE³

Other outreach activities raised awareness of various audiences and established dialogue between designers, municipal stakeholders and citizens.

The Design Montréal Open House event has attracted diversified audiences through its five editions (2007-2011).





HOUSEHOLD REVENUE

22%
21%
15%
9%
8%
4%
20%

UNDER \$25,000	
\$25,000-\$49,999	
\$50,000-\$74,999	
\$75,000-\$99,999	
\$100,000-\$149,999	
\$150,000 AND MORE	
DID NOT ANSWER	

OCCUPATION

34%	WORKER RELATED TO DESIGN
32%	WORKER NON RELATED TO DESIGN
10%	STUDENT IN A FIELD RELATED TO DESIGN
13%	OTHER STUDENT OR FIELD UNSPECIFIED
1%	UNEMPLOYED / AT HOME
4%	RETIRED
7%	DID NOT ANSWER

3 Source: Respondent profile, SCOR Recherche-Marketing, Design Montréal Open House 2010

5.2 "MAKING [DESIGNING, BUILDING] A BETTER CITY"

TRAINING TOOLS SUPPORT QUALITATIVE BREAKTHROUGH

The initiative has helped raise the standards of quality in design:

- through implementation of competitions for projects where design quality is not normally a focus:
 - · Industrial design competition for new recycling bin
 - Design competition for the movable street furniture elements for use by festivals
 - · Bus shelter design competition
 - Architecture competition for the construction of Montréal's Soccer Centre
 - Architecture competition for the construction of a sports complex in Saint-Laurent

- through the production of $\mathbf{3}$ support tools:
 - Imaginer, réaliser la ville du 21e siècle—Handbooks of Best Practices in Urban Design⁴
 - Guide to development of competition documents⁵
 - Montréal en paysages (CUPEUM)⁶
- through training/development opportunities for design professionals in competitions:
 - **180**+ professionals as jurors

15+ professionals as professional advisors

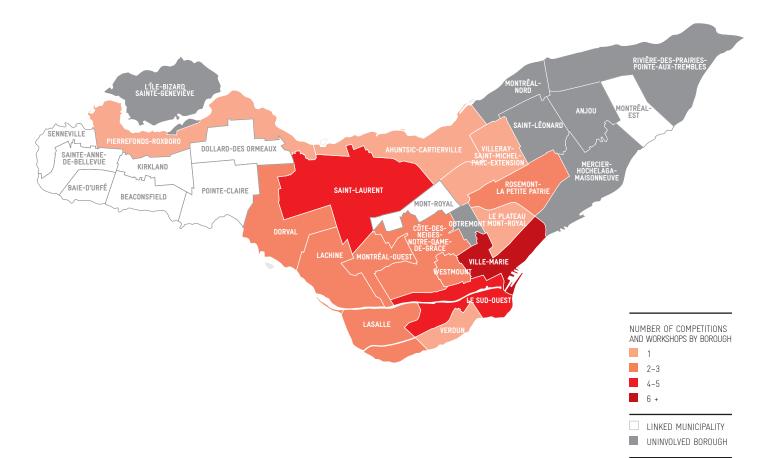
- 4 Lemieux, D. and Brodeur, M. (dir.), 2008. Imaginer, réaliser la ville du 21e siècle: Cahiers des bonnes pratiques en design [developed by Design Montréal]. Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine, Ville de Montréal.
- 5 White, J. and Rioux, V. (dir.), 2010. *Guide d'élaboration des documents de concours* [produced by Design Montréal], Ville de Montréal.
- 6 Poullaouec-Gonidec, Philippe and Sylvain Paquette (2011). *Montréal en paysages*, Montréal: Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 260 p.

ISSUES OPPORTUNITIES TERRITORY TRANSFORMATION

The initiative has engaged the transformation of spaces and sites in several Montréal boroughs.

- 12 of 19 boroughs have been involved in design and architecture competitions and workshops
- 3 linked municipalities and
 5 boroughs were involved in the international ideas competition YUL-MTL: Moving landscapes and the WAT_UNESCO-Montréal workshop

MONTRÉAL BOROUGHS AND LINKED MUNICIPALITIES INVOLVED IN DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS AND WORKSHOPS



ISSUES OPPORTUNITIES TERRITORY TRANSFORMATION

The initiative addresses key issues of Montréal's new development plan: Montréal for Tomorrow.

These key issues are:

Living And Growing in the City

Consolidate and improve existing neighbourhoods

Ensure residential growth

Working and Studying in Montréal

Strengthen economic hubs and mobility in public transport

Implement integrated management of freight

Acting on the City

Reinforce the identity of Montréal

Promote quality development and architecture

MONTRÉAL BOROUGHS AND LINKED MUNICIPALITIES WHERE DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS AND WORK-SHOPS HAVE INVESTIGATED ISSUES FROM MONTRÉAL'S NEW DEVELOPMENT PLAN: MONTRÉAL FOR TOMORROW

LIVING AND GROWING IN THE CITY

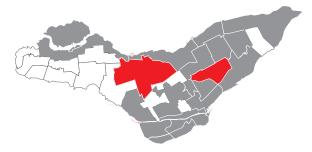
CONSOLIDATE AND IMPROVE EXISTING NEIGHBOURHOODS - HOUSING

- BUILT ENVIRONMENT



- NEARBY SERVICES

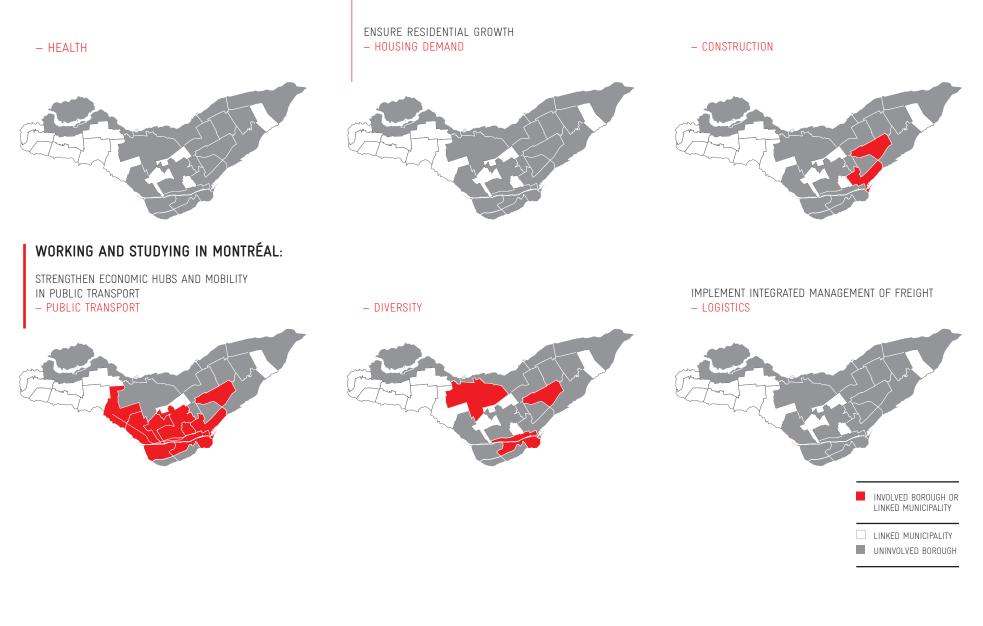
- ÉQUIPEMENTS



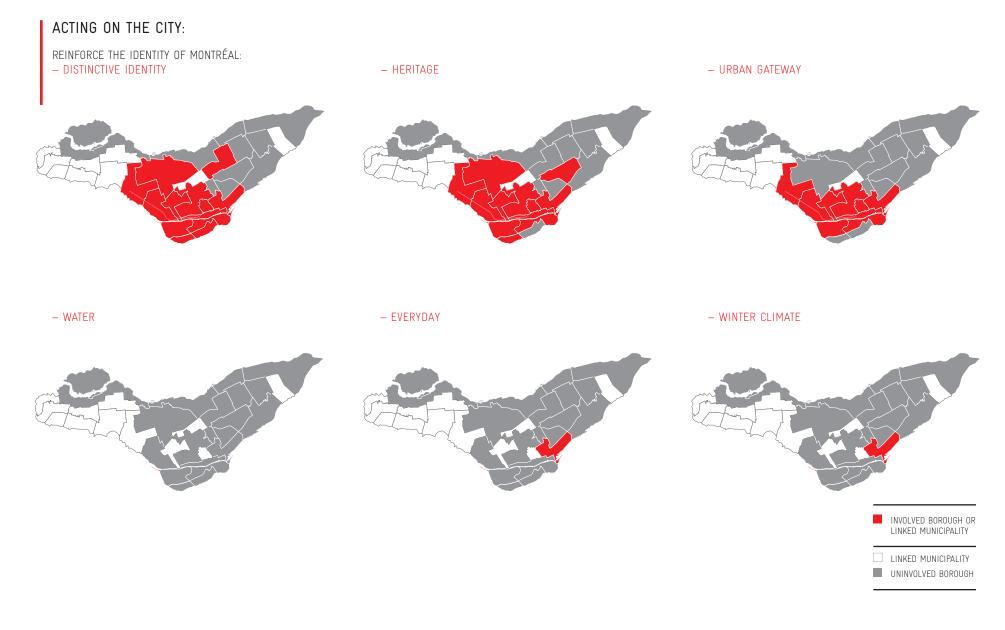
INVOLVED BOROUGH OR LINKED MUNICIPALITY

LINKED MUNICIPALITYUNINVOLVED BOROUGH

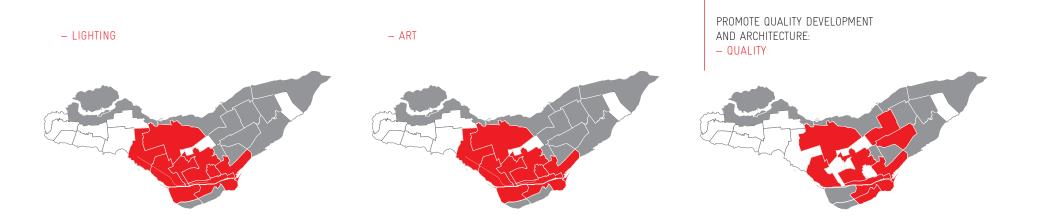
MONTRÉAL BOROUGHS AND LINKED MUNICIPALITIES WHERE DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS AND WORK-SHOPS HAVE INVESTIGATED ISSUES FROM MONTRÉAL'S NEW DEVELOPMENT PLAN: MONTRÉAL FOR TOMORROW



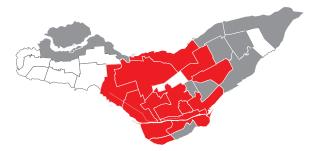
MONTRÉAL BOROUGHS AND LINKED MUNICIPALITIES WHERE DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS AND WORK-SHOPS HAVE INVESTIGATED ISSUES FROM MONTRÉAL'S NEW DEVELOPMENT PLAN: MONTRÉAL FOR TOMORROW



MONTRÉAL BOROUGHS AND LINKED MUNICIPALITIES WHERE DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS AND WORK-SHOPS HAVE INVESTIGATED ISSUES FROM MONTRÉAL'S NEW DEVELOPMENT PLAN: MONTRÉAL FOR TOMORROW



- ENVIRONMENT



INVOLVED BOROUGH OR LINKED MUNICIPALITY

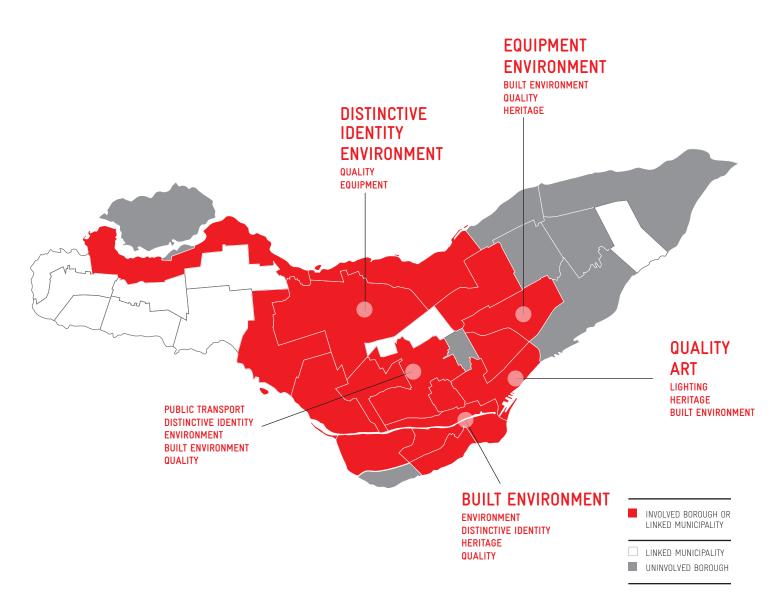
LINKED MUNICIPALITYUNINVOLVED BOROUGH

MONTRÉAL UNESCO CITY OF DESIGN IN ACTION AND BY THE NUMBERS 2006-2012 REPORT

ISSUES OPPORTUNITIES TERRITORY TRANSFORMATION

The initiative addresses key issues of Montréal's new development plan: Montréal for Tomorrow

LOCATION OF MAIN KEY ISSUES INVESTIGATED BY DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE COMPETITIONS AND WORKSHOPS





The initiative along with the design and architecture competitions have provided information on concerns, values and development criteria for Montréal.⁷



⁷ List compiled from analysis of raw data used to produce the Report, Montréal UNESCO City of Design initiative: perceptions and evaluations of actions.

5.3 " ... [MORE] DESIGNERS."

PROMOTE REVEAL

The initiative has helped promote the careers of many designers.

Activities and tools have been rolled out promoting Montréal designers.

- **5** editions of the Design Montréal Open House weekends
 - Participation of **160**+ design agencies
 - **70**+ agencies have participated at least twice
 - **30**+ agencies have participated at least 3 times
 - Nearly **20,000** visits per year⁸

- directory of Montreal designers that:
 - catalogues 181 design agencies in multiple disciplines that are past winners of design and architecture competitions and workshops as well as awards of excellence in:
 - architecture, landscape architecture, graphic design, industrial design, interior design, fashion design, urban design, interactive design, exhibition design, visual design, video projection and lighting, objects, and arts and crafts design, etc.
 - helps promote the recognition and emergence of new practices and expertise in design:
 - **86** of agencies listed are multidisciplinary agencies
 - **27** of agencies listed are emerging practices agencies
- **2** CODE SOUVENIR MONTRÉAL catalogues (2011—2012, 2012—2013) for institutional buyers featuring **86** objects by **34** designers
- **5** Phyllis Lambert Design Montréal grants rewarding the work of Montreal designers with 10 years or less professional practice and significant interest in the city

⁸ Average based on Design Montréal Open House 2009, 2010 and 2011.

- **75 000**+ visits in 2009–2010
- **65 000**+ visits in 2010–2011
- **100 000**+ visits in 2011–2012
- **70 000**+ visits in 2012–2013
- **1** monthly newsletter sent to nearly **4,000** subscribers
- **2** social networks: **8,150**+ Facebook friends and **5,000**+ Twitter followers (June 2012)
 - · June 2011: **3,777** Facebook, 1,871 Twitter
 - May 2010: **1,750** Facebook; Twitter account not yet created
- 4 partners disseminating news of the initiative's activities:
 - Index-Design
 - Kollectif
 - Mission Design
 - v2com

PROVIDING WORK ACCESSIBLE TENDERS

The competitions have provided creative opportunities to numerous designers.

- New design agencies—mainly in architecture, landscape architecture and urban design—accessed the municipal public tender process
- **23** competitions generated:
 - **102** service contracts for architects and designers, that is **77** finalists and **25** winners
 - **\$17 MILLION**⁹ in professional design fees
- In **23** competitions for projects, **7** architectural firms/design agencies secured their first municipal service contract

⁹ Amount based on available data, that is 80 % of all professional fees for design (finalists, winners, professional advisors, judges and technical committees).

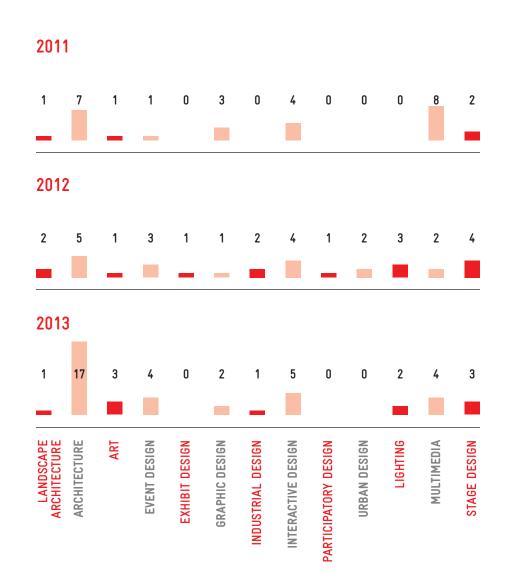
This creative initiative has attracted new agencies, young professionals and students.

- **2** competitions with student divisions + **3** workshops exclusive to students
- **12** design and architecture competitions with an initial anonymous selection of finalists (sketches rather than application files)
- The annual competition Light Therapy in Quartier des spectacles has seen:¹⁰
 - an increase in the number of participating professional agencies and teams participating between 2011 and 2013
 - **27** professional teams in 2011
 - **31** professional teams in 2012
 - **42** professional teams in 2013
- diversification of practices and disciplines between 2011 and 2012¹¹
 - an increase in the number of participating architecture firms and teams between 2012 and 2013

10 Analysis targeting the component "Installations for public spaces" only.

11 Per the discipline identified for the agency or, in the case of professional team, occupation of the main representative.

AGENCIES AND PROFESSIONAL TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN THE COMPETITION LIGHT THERAPY IN QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES, BY DISCIPLINE



-6-

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING

In recent years, the international profile of Made-in-Montréal design has greatly benefited from the growth of the network of Commerce Design franchise cities, the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, and other major platforms for international exchange such as the Entretiens Jacques-Cartier symposia, along with co-operative agreements with other cities and regions around the world.

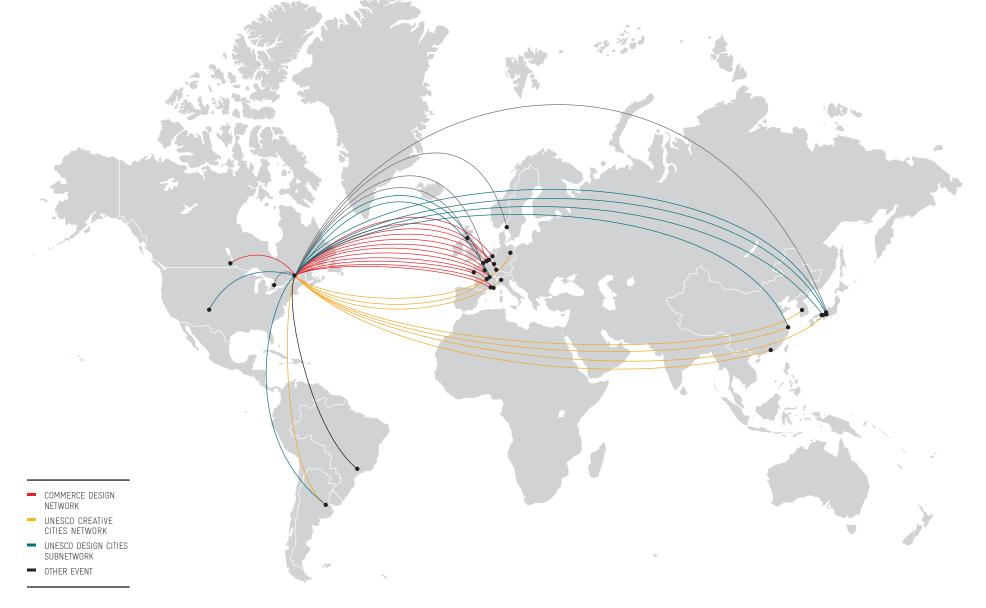
The worldwide reach of Montréal design has seen steady expansion since the appointment of Montréal as a UNESCO City of Design in 2006.

Since that year, Montréal has:

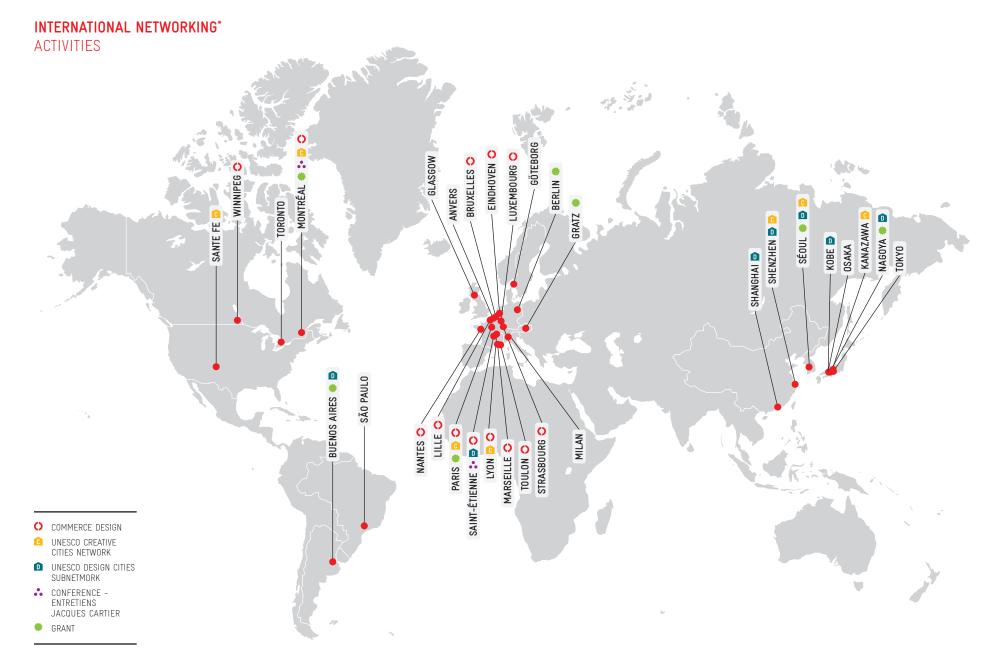
- granted **9** of the **13** Commerce Design licences awarded so far;
- awarded D Phyllis Lambert Design Montréal Grants of \$10,000 to Montréal designers for career development projects taking place within the UNESCO Creative Cities Network;
- organized **4** international symposia jointly with the city of Saint-Étienne, France, as part of the Entretiens Jacques-Cartier;
- participated with guest speakers in **20**+ forums, symposia and conferences;
- initiated and launched 2 design competitions aimed at practitioners from the design members of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network;
- conducted, as part of the initiative, 2 international urban design workshops (WAT UNESCO) involving students and professors from 10 countries.

Each of these events has provided special opportunities to explain and grow the reputation of the designation "Montréal, UNESCO City of Design," engage in exchanges with other cities about strategies implemented, showcase the talent and know-how of Montréal designers, and promote development of new markets.

INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING* COOPERATION



 \ast Refers only to activities listed on the networking timeline p. 22–23.



* Refers only to activities listed on the networking timeline p. 22–23.

CONCLUSION

This is the first report issued as part of a six-year municipal commitment to implementing the appointment of Montréal as a UNESCO City of Design. The results of activities "making [designing, building] a better city with [more] designers" are compelling. As the data demonstrate, the objectives have been met. The amount and diversity of achievements as well as their nature and scope illustrate the municipal will to mobilize all stakeholders in improving the quality of Montréal's urban landscape and living environments.

Over four years (2008—2012), the initiative has supported the development of a competition practice in design and architecture. But the true measure of its benefits will only be taken after completion of several development projects, particularly with regard to the fundamental objective of enhancing the role of "good design" in planning and building the Montréal of tomorrow.

The true impact of the activities on this objective will be measured upon project completion and through expert and user judgement. Undeniably, though, the great number of activities so far conducted is a reflection of public enthusiasm for "urban design" and the Montréal design community's vital role in lending tangible expression to the city's appointment as a UNESCO City of Design.

This activity report is first and foremost a reading tool that will:

- help measure the efficiency of activities for the years to come
- help delineate the terms of the Ville de Montréal's Design Action Plan for 2013—2017

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