



**Heritage Montreal unveils its H-MTL® platform:
an online collaborative tool kit inspired by 40 years of actions**

Montreal, October 15, 2015 – To mark its 40th anniversary and the launch of its new website, Heritage Montreal is pleased and proud to unveil a brand-new online platform, H-MTL: A Heritage for the future. Made possible with financial support from the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications and from Standard Life, this collaborative mapping tool, the first of its kind dedicated to vulnerable and promising heritage sites, encourages community engagement, demystifying the challenges and mechanisms involved in the presentation and rehabilitation of the city's built heritage.

“This project brings the treasures of our heritage within our reach. It recognizes the value of our architectural, archival, immaterial and historical heritage by shining a spotlight on it in the digital space. Our government is proud to participate in this Heritage Montreal initiative which promotes the democratization of our heritage,” said the Minister of Culture and Communications and Minister responsible for the Protection and Promotion of the French Language, Hélène David.

LEARN. UNDERSTAND. COLLABORATE. ACT.

The H-MTL platform is a true online tool kit designed to help citizens take informed actions for the future of their urban environment. In line with the trend of providing digital tools to assist in citizen reappropriation of urban issues, Heritage Montreal's interactive map offers a totally new way of looking at and understanding our shared heritage, helping democratize the process of actions essential to its conservation, presentation and rehabilitation. Inspired by the actions taken by Heritage Montreal over the past 40 years, the Web portal gives Montrealers the opportunity to play an active role in the future of the city's built environment. Among other things, citizens will be able to use H-MTL platform to:

- discover Montreal's vulnerable and promising sites;
- demystify the challenges of presenting and rehabilitating those sites, and the tools that make it possible;
- express their concerns; and
- initiate actions.

MAPPING PRIORITY VULNERABLE SITES

For nearly 10 years, Heritage Montreal has drawn up an annual list of high-priority vulnerable sites to illustrate current heritage issues and encourage concrete revitalization actions. Now, with the H-MTL platform, that exercise is being taken to another level and given new life, with individual citizens front and centre: in addition to providing a directory of priority sites designated by Heritage Montreal, the new interactive map will also feature other sites submitted by users.

REAPPROPRIATING THE CITY TO CREATE THE MONTREAL OF TOMORROW

Safeguarding the city's heritage depends on creative, collaborative engagement by all Montrealers. To that end, Heritage Montreal invites citizens to speak out, collaborate and reappropriate their urban environment. Together, we can create the Montreal of tomorrow.

Which vulnerable site in Montreal might inspire you to take action? Join the movement and leave a heritage of possibilities: heritagemontreal.org/en/h-mtl-platform/

ABOUT HERITAGE MONTREAL

For 40 years, Heritage Montreal has worked to promote and to protect the architectural, historic, natural and cultural heritage of Greater Montreal, its neighbourhoods and communities. A private non-profit organization, Heritage Montreal is at the heart of an extensive network of partners, working through education and representation to celebrate, develop and preserve Montreal's identity and uniqueness.

For further information or to request an interview:

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