

Great news -

Héritage Montréal welcomes the rebirth of

Le 9e, a legendary Montreal landmark!

A quarter of a century after the closure of the Eaton's chain of stores, the restaurant in its Sainte-Catherine Street department store, inspired by the dining rooms of the ocean liners of the interwar period, is coming back to life after too long a hibernation. And that's great news for heritage, for downtown and for the city as a whole!

In 1999, Héritage Montréal urgently intervened with the authorities to ensure that this site, threatened with bankruptcy, would be adequately protected. The Minister of Culture, Agnès Maltais, responded by classifying the entire 9th floor of the department store, both for its architecture and for its place in community life. This classification covered the dining room, its décor and furnishings, including period cutlery, and the spectacular original kitchens, now gone to make way for the immense atrium of the Les Ailes complex.

Over the years, Héritage Montréal has reiterated its confidence in this protected status and the vigilance of the ministry's professionals. However, we expressed our growing concern to the owner, Ivanhoé Cambridge, and publicly designated it as a priority site on our Memento platform, as time passed without any plans to reopen the building.

"Our eagerness was justified, but patience will have paid off here. The 9th has been carefully restored and is coming back to life thanks to the commitment of competent partners and professionals," says Dinu Bumbaru, spokesperson for Héritage Montréal. "We sincerely hope that this reopening will also be an opportunity for the general public, new generations and tourists alike to (re)discover the 9th, this exceptional yet popular place that is coming back to life."

Héritage Montréal will be there to help, and will shortly be unveiling a program of discovery activities.

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About Héritage Montréal

Héritage Montréal works to protect and promote the architectural, historical, natural and cultural heritage of the Greater Montreal area. Acting at the core of a vast network of partners, Héritage Montréal, a private non-profit organization, acts through education, representation and consultation to promote, enhance and enrich the identity and specificities of the Greater Montreal area, the demographic and economic heart of Quebec and home to the largest collection of heritage assets in the country.

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