



Port de Montréal  
Port of Montreal

Notes for a  
Speech by the President and Chief Executive Officer  
of the Montreal Port Authority  
Mister Patrice M. Pelletier

Green Award  
Presentation Ceremony

January 29, 2009

*(Seule la version prononcée fait foi)*

Mijnheer Fransen

Mevrouw Struijk

Membres du Conseil d'Administration...

Colleagues, Partners, Friends,

It is with tremendous pride that I accept the Green Award plaque on behalf of the Montreal Port Authority.

Indeed! It exemplifies the Port of Montreal's commitment to protect the environment, and it actualizes our commitment to help improve environmental performance in the marine industry as a whole.

*Nous sommes très fiers de souligner ainsi notre engagement en faveur de l'amélioration de la performance environnementale de l'industrie maritime.*

With 70% of all business trade carried out through marine transportation, the marine industry is one of the logistics chain's main components, and as such, must assume its responsibility toward the environment.

Ship transport in itself has huge ecological advantages. To move the same mass of cargo, a ship consumes almost ten times less energy than a truck,

and 2.2 times less energy than a train. Nonetheless, marine activities generate greenhouse gas emissions.

When it comes to the environment, We can always do better... And the Port of Montreal not only wants to do its part, it wants above all, to demonstrate leadership... **because our environment and the well being of our children will be the result of our choices.**

If our membership in the Green Award program reflects well on the choices we have made, it only marks the start of our commitment.

In point of fact, our sweeping Vision 2020 strategic plan, which aims to triple the Port of Montreal's capacity by 2020, will be carried out according to the principles of sustainable development... that is, by respecting a balance between the Port's economic, social and environmental aspects.

Our mission does not target economic development alone. It aims to improve the quality of life for communities. This makes our mission as ecological and social as it is financial.

It is a holistic development vision that we must now put forward, as **it costs less to preserve than to restore.**

The Green Award, by motivating ships to respect strict standards for safety and against polluting emissions, gives us the opportunity to display our commitment to preservation and our determination to motivate the entire marine industry to chart the same course.

As a matter of fact, we estimate that our role in the environmental issue extends beyond our own facilities and our individual steps: We want to cooperate with the industry as a whole to reduce our ecological footprint.

Even though marine transport is the greenest, we cannot rest on our laurels.

We want to show our willingness to raise our own ecological standards.

Over the past few months, we have already showed such leadership on the environmental front.

The Montreal Port Authority is a founding member of Green Marine, which brings together key marine industry players in Canada and the United States. This alliance, built on a model very similar to Green Award, is in the process of writing the North American marine industry's environmental policy by mobilizing around six major environmental issues.

They are:

- Aquatic invasive species
- Pollutant air emissions such as sulphur oxides and nitrogen oxides
- Greenhouse gases
- Cargo residues
- Oily water, and
- Conflicts of use in port and terminals

And Green Marine participants walk the talk. They are now evaluating their performance related to these six issues according to measurable criteria. The first results will be known next April. They will serve as a springboard to further improvements.

The Montreal Port Authority, which is the hub of Canada's Atlantic and Continental gateway, has a duty to chart the course for its partners.

**And that's just what we're doing!**

In the last year, we have made dozens of decisions in favour of the environment.

I won't cite all of them, but allow me to outline a couple of them.

- We tested the latest multiple generating set locomotives, which consume far less energy. Within a few months, you will see the first on the Port's railway tracks.
- We continue our projects on the Boucherville Islands, where we will invest \$600,000 to restore the environment and reintroduce threatened species.
- We are completing our inventory of atmospheric emissions related to port activities in order to set measurable reduction goals for these emissions.
- So that all these actions are taken in a coherent and efficient manner, we are almost through implementing an environmental management plan, something that exists in only 11% of ports around the world.
- And finally, our first hybrid vehicles are already ordered.

All these actions will be integrated into a broader policy of sustainable development that we are in the process of implementing.

But we are not the only ones at the Port who have become aware of their responsibilities. Our partners are also making strides to manage their activities more ecologically.

For that matter, I must make the most of their presence to thank them for their cooperation, which is to everyone's benefit.

These are the Montreal Port Authority's partners who make the Port such a success.

Without them, the shipping lines would not unload more than 27 million tonnes of cargo every year at our Port, here in the very heart of North America.

Without them, the Port could not contribute to the collective well-being by generating more than \$1.5 billion in added value each year.

Without them, the Port could not support 18,000 jobs, to the benefit of the Greater Montreal Region, Quebec and all of Canada.

With their cooperation and a new way of thinking about the ecology, we want to harmonize our growth –so essential to Canada’s economic well-being – with that of the communities that surround us.

**I would like now to share with you** the Port’s final results for 2008, which we have known for a couple of days. Three weeks ago, I had the opportunity during the presentation of the Gold-Headed Cane to present the preliminary results.

The final figures confirm our satisfaction with the past year and even exceed our projections.

**I am proud to officially announce to you that the Port of Montreal achieved a total growth of 3.9 per cent in 2008, for a total of 27,021,342 tonnes.**

Container traffic alone, the spearhead of our future growth, increased by 8.1 %, for a total of 1,473,914 TEUs.

So the start of the recession did not stop us from beating our average growth rate over the last five years, which was 6.4 per cent.

*Je tiens à remercier sincèrement tout le personnel et nos partenaires du port de Montréal qui ont contribué à atteindre ces résultats exceptionnels.*

This confirms to us that the efforts we've been making for months now to improve the environment and move towards sustainable development are far from having a negative effect on our results.

On the contrary. Parallel to our efforts on the environment, our community outreach efforts have made it possible to foster ongoing relations with these communities and with the opinion leaders and political authorities who have grasped where we are heading and what we contribute to the

region and the country. This mutual understanding will definitely help us achieve our growth plans. In the long term, our presence in the public forum inspires us to respect our commitments in every aspect of sustainable development and to constantly improve our efficiency... which will have beneficial effects on our results.

It is worth noting that the Montreal Port Authority's mandate is to help local, regional and national communities achieve their socio-economic goals.

We have a role to play on the economic front and the social front alike.

This is why, despite the recession, we decided to move forward with our infrastructure projects intended to grow the Port's capacity and efficiency. This is how we are protecting jobs, and getting ready for the economic upswing that always follows recessions.

In parallel, we decided to reduce our expenditures wherever possible.

The Port of Montreal is the strategic link between the Europe and the North American continent. It offers the shortest transit times between European markets and Chicago, the gateway to North America's industrial heartland.

We want to see to it that this Montreal-Chicago link, which is so important to our continent's supply chain, is transformed into a veritable pipeline, with all the infrastructure and systems necessary for maximal cargo transportation flow.

This vision requires cooperation not only between Montreal, Quebec, Ontario and the Government of Canada, but with our partners in the United States, and the public and private sectors on both banks of the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair.

The federal government proposed to invest 2.1 billion dollars in the Continental Gateway and Trade Corridor to the Atlantic, which naturally includes the St. Lawrence/Great Lakes corridor. This investment would

make it possible to offer better conditions for marine, rail and highway transport, and by doing so, to promote our country's international trade, providing better flow and more efficiency to a traffic that will produce fewer atmospheric emissions and less pollution.

What's more, it is one of the pillars of our Vision 2020 project that will insure a tripling of the Port's capacity in improved ecological conditions.

As I said right here three weeks ago: the year 2009 will not be a year like the others. It will be a very rigorous year. But it will also be a different year, as it started with the presentation of the Green Award plaque, the witness of our commitment to work with the entire marine community towards a healthier future for the generations to come.

Just before closing I would like to thank Lyne Martin, our Director Environment, for her pro-active role not only within our organisation but also outside our organization in demonstrating "real" leadership by example with various groups and organisations. I would also like to thank Jean-Paul

Lejeune, our Director Communications, and his staff at for organising this important ceremony.

Thank you for joining us today to mark our participation in the Green Award program.

Merci de votre attention et bonne fin de journée.