



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION No.: **421-02723**

BY: **MR. MILLER (VILLE-MARIE—LE SUD-OUEST—ÎLE-DES-SOEURS)**

DATE: **OCTOBER 5, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **STEVEN MACKINNON**

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Response by the Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**Commercial development of land**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

Canada Lands Company's (CLC) objective is to present a balanced final plan that will provide many green spaces throughout the territory and better access to the river, while meeting the expectations of visitors who want a variety of activities on the site.

There is no question of privatizing the Clock Tower Pier; it is an integral part of the Old Port of Montreal, whose purpose is as a recreational/tourist site accessible to the public 365 days a year. More than 90% of the Clock Tower Pier is open to the public and the Clock Tower is its focal point. CLC takes its role of protecting and promoting heritage infrastructure very seriously. Work is currently underway to refurbish Clock Tower Pier in line with heritage requirements. The preliminary master plan for the Old Port of Montreal proposes the creation of a family-oriented recreational and tourism centre at the Clock Tower Pier, a proposal that received the support of 67% of the 1,700 respondents at a public consultation. The plan is also supported by an Advisory Committee, composed of prominent Montreal residents from various backgrounds, who participated in the overall discussion. The plan proposes that the current large parking lot at the Clock Tower Pier be replaced primarily by green and public spaces. New public buildings could be built, including a cultural facility and the transformation of old Hangar 16 into a recreational and tourism building. The plan and final design are being prepared with sustainable development in mind, including the reduction of heat islands and rainwater harvesting aspects. The preliminary plan maintained the same vegetated area of the Clock Tower Pier, i.e. 24% of the total area; the final plan proposes a significant increase to this area.

Noting that immediate neighbours had raised concerns about certain proposals, the Old Port of Montreal initiated five meetings with representatives of the neighbouring condominiums that formed a Good Neighbourhood Committee. The mandate of the committee included reviewing issues related to the views of condominiums facing the river, vehicular access, on-site parking, the proposed commercial activities, the noise and pollution associated with on-site activities, safety, and any other issues related to the redevelopment.

Based on the results of the public consultations, as well as comments received by the Advisory Committee, the municipal administration and the neighbourhood committee, amendments have been made to improve the preliminary master plan and CLC is working closely with the municipal public administration on these matters.