

## 077 Montreal (Canada)

3.5 million inhabitants according to the UN's *Urban Agglomerations 2003*.

### 1. Territorial Levels, Population and Area

Name	Population	% of total	Area, km <sup>2</sup>	Density, people/km <sup>2</sup>
Montreal	*1,812,723	6.0%	500	3,625
Metropolitan Community of Montreal	*3,426,350	11.4%	4,047	85.5
Province of Quebec	*7,237,480	24.1%	1,542,056	4.7
	**7,542,760	23.3%		4.9
Canada	*30,007,094	100%	9,984,670	3.0
	**31,946,316			3.2

\* Data from 2001 census by *Statistics Canada*.

\*\* Estimation by *Statistics Canada* for July 2004.

## 2. Administrative Designation and Number of Municipalities

Name	Designation	Number of Municipalities
<b>Montreal</b>	City of Montreal <i>Ville de Montréal</i>	1 Municipality ( <i>Municipalité</i> ) 27 Boroughs ( <i>Arrondissements</i> )
<b>Metropolitan Community of Montreal</b>	<i>Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal</i> Greater Montreal Area	5 Administrative regions of the Province: Montreal, Laval, Laurentides, Lanaudiere and Montérégie 64 Municipalities ( <i>Municipalités</i> )
<b>Province of Quebec</b>	<i>Province de Québec</i>	1 Province 17 Administrative Regions 96 Regional County Municipalities 3 Urban Communities 1.398 Municipalities ( <i>Municipalités</i> ) 31 Indian reserves
<b>Canada</b>	Canada	Federal structure composed by: 10 Provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador 3 Territories: Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut

## 3. Institutional framework and political powers

### Montreal

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#### General Aspects

In 2002, Montreal began a reorganization process for the municipalities that made up the Montreal Urban Community (MUC) and the City of Montreal was established in its place. The new institution was given a unified administrative structure for the whole island, decentralized into borough administrations with wide-ranging powers. This restructuring process is still in development. City of Montreal currently has authority in over public roads, solid waste management, water supply, traffic, sewerage, fire prevention, ambulances, police, refuges, daycare centers, housing, parks and recreation, culture, economic development, tourism and heritage domains.

#### Mayor, *Maire*

The mayor has municipal executive power. Supervises, manages and controls all of the City administration. The Mayor is elected by direct universal suffrage in a majority system. The Mayor's four-year mandate coincides with that of the City Council.

#### Executive Committee, *Comité Exécutif*

Is an organ that depends on the City Council and which has its own decision-making powers. Is responsible for preparing different documents, such as budgets, contracts, subsidies, financial resources management, regulations, etc., subject to the approval of the City Council. This Council may delegate other powers to the Executive Committee. The Executive Council has currently ten members and eight associated councillors, all appointed by the Mayor.

#### City Council, *Conseil de la Ville*

Is the main organisational body of the City of Montreal. It establishes the political lines of the City's government and approves regulations of municipal application. The main decisions in areas like public security, intergovernmental relations, urban regeneration, environment and urban planning should be approved by the Council. The 73 councillors are elected by direct universal suffrage in a majority system and have a mandate of four years.

#### Borough Councils, *Conseils d'Arrondissements*

Borough-based organisations that assume part of the following authorities in their own territorial spheres: urban planning, solid waste collection, culture, social and community development, parks, cleaning, housing, human resources, fire prevention and financial management. Each of the 27 Borough Councils is made up of a mayor and a varying number of borough councillors (between three and six) determined by law. The members of the City Council elected in each borough are on the Borough Council, along with a variable number of specifically elected councillors. The 27 borough mayors and the 105 councillors are elected on a four year basis by a direct majority system. Elections are held at the same time as those of the mayor and city council.

#### Public Companies

##### STM, *Société de Transport de Montréal*

This public company is dedicated to providing public transportation services and operates the bus, tram and subway systems in the City of Montreal.

## **SDHM, Société d'habitation et de Développement de Montréal**

This non-profit organization was established by the City in 1988. It aims to put the City's housing and urban development policies into practice.

## **Montreal Metropolitan Community (MMC)**

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### **General Aspects**

The MMC is a planning, coordinating and financing organ in the following areas of authority: territorial organization, economic development, housing, infrastructure, services and activities of metropolitan nature, public transportation, solid waste and sewerage. The administrative structure is made of a 28-members Council which makes political decisions in the spheres of authority of the MMC and an Executive Committee, with eight members, in which the effective administration of the policies decided upon by the Council is entrusted. There are also organizations such as the Council Committees that study important issues for formulate recommendations to the Council.

### **AMT, Agence Métropolitaine de Transport**

The AMT is a public agency that combines resources from the three levels of government, i.e.: national, provincial and municipal. It aims to create and manage the metropolitan public transportation that covers the City of Montreal and the rest of the metropolitan area.

## **Province of Quebec**

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### **General Aspects**

The Province of Quebec is part of the federal structure of government in Canada. The province has a wide-ranging capacity for self-government, including authority over the collection and management of direct taxes in the province, natural resources, prisons, social welfare institutions, hospitals, the organization of municipal institutions, civil and patrimonial law, civil rights, the justice administration and education.

### **Premier**

The Premier has executive power in the Province of Quebec. The Premier is responsible for his or her actions before the Provincial Parliament. Although the Premier is proposed by the Lieutenant Governor, the Parliament must pass a majority vote on the appointment. The Premier's time in the post is linked to the discretion of the Quebec National Assembly and the life of the parliamentary session.

### **Lieutenant Governor**

Is the official representative of the Monarch in Quebec. Appointed by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Lieutenant Governor acts as the Head of State in the Province, mainly carrying out tasks of a symbolic nature. Political functions include asking the leader of the majority party to seek the support of the Legislative Assembly to become the Premier and form a government and opening the sessions of parliament.

### **Parliament**

Is an unicameral assembly with legislative power in the Province. As well as the legislative function, it ratifies, by majority vote, the appointment of the Premier proposed by the Lieutenant Governor and exercises control over the government. The chamber

consists of 125 members elected by a majority system in single-member districts. They serve a mandate of up to five years, so long as early elections are not called.

## Canada

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### **King or Queen**

The hereditary and lifelong Head of State. The Sovereign does not have many political powers and usually acts as an adviser to the Canadian Primer Minister.

### **Governor General**

Is the Monarchy representative in Canada. He or she is usually a retired Canadian politician or prominent figure in the country chosen by the Monarch to advise the Prime Minister of Canada. Formally, the Governor General gives the royal approval to laws, reads royal speeches before institutions, sanctions State documents and dissolves the sessions of Parliament upon the Prime Minister's request or at the end of each five-year term.

### **Prime Minister**

The Prime Minister has executive power in Canada. Under the PM's leadership, the government determines and leads the politics of the nation, addresses governmental action and is responsible for the execution of laws. The PM is politically responsible to the Parliament. Following elections to the House of Commons, the Governor General asks the leader of the party or coalition with the most support in the House of Commons to form a government and be the Prime Minister.

### **Parliament**

Parliament is made up of two Chambers (the Senate and the House of Commons). Both Chambers exercise control of the government as well as their legislative functions. The Senate has the same powers as the House of Commons except in financial matters, where the Commons has priority. The 308 members of the House of Commons are chosen by a simple majority system in single-member districts for five-year terms. The 105 senators are appointed by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. Their mandate is permanent and valid until the age of 75, or if they miss two consecutive sessions of parliament.

## 4. Relevant websites and online documents

Ville de Montréal: <http://www.ville.montreal.qc.ca/>

Metro de Montréal: <http://www.metrodemontreal.com>

Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal: <http://www.cmm.qc.ca/>

Comité de Transition de l'Agglomération de Montréal:

<http://www.montreal-transition.qc.ca/>

Province de Québec: <http://www.gouv.qc.ca/>

Assemblée National du Québec: <http://www.assnat.qc.ca/>

Ministère des Affaires Municipales, Sport et Loisir: <http://mamslnewdev.pmpv.ca/>

Directeur Général des Élections du Québec: <http://www.electionsquebec.qc.ca/>

Fédération Québécoise des Municipalités: <http://www.fqm.ca>

FCM – Federation of Canadian Municipalities: <http://www.fcm.ca/>

Government of Canada: <http://www.canada.gc.ca/>

Parliament of Canada: <http://www.parl.gc.ca/>

Statistics Canada – The National Statistic Agency: <http://www.statcan.ca/>

Elections Canada: <http://www.elections.ca/>

### Documents:

*Loi Électorale (Province du Québec)*, Chapitre E-33, Règlements électoraux. Le Directeur Général des élections du Québec.

*Muni-Express, Bulletin d'information du Ministère des affaires municipales et de la métropole*, Number 7, 10 August 2001.