



**Collaborative Agreement between the SPVM and the Montreal Urban Aboriginal  
Community Strategy NETWORK  
June 2015**

The province of **Quebec** is made up of many **strong and vibrant Aboriginal communities**. These include First Nations, Métis and Inuit. While they have many similarities, each Aboriginal group has unique current and past realities. In this regard, in 2011, 10.1% of the Aboriginal population in Canada lived in Quebec and from 2001 to 2006, the Aboriginal population in Montreal grew 62% representing the **greatest demographic growth** rate of all Canadian cities. As of 2011, the Aboriginal population in Montreal was 26 285.<sup>5</sup>

The Montreal urban Aboriginal community is **strong** in its linguistic and cultural **diversity, resilience, and creativity**, and has highly proactive organizations and leaders. However, like other communities in Quebec and Canada, the Aboriginal community continues to face challenges. For example, **Inuit** represent 45% of the homeless Aboriginal population in Montreal even though they make up approximately 10% of the total Aboriginal population in the city.<sup>6</sup> Moreover, between 2003 and 2008, the number of Aboriginal people in provincial detentions or correctional facilities in Quebec rose 25%.<sup>7</sup> It must also be said that Aboriginal women are 2.6 times more likely to be victims of homicide as non-Aboriginal women.<sup>8</sup>

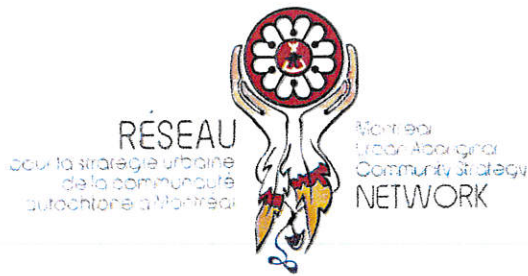
To deal with this issue and as the **urban** Aboriginal population continues to grow in Montreal, it is necessary to set up an agreement of collaboration between the SPVM and the Community.

<sup>5</sup> Statistics Canada (2014), *NHS Profile, Montréal, CMA, Quebec, 2011*.

<sup>6</sup> Société Makivik (2012) *Mémoire sur l'itinérance inuit à Montréal*; Kishigam (2012) *Living Conditions and Ways of Life of Inuit People in Montreal: a summary from research conducted in Montreal*.

<sup>7</sup> R. Brassard, L. Giroux et D. Lamothe-Gagnon (2011). *Profil correctionnel 2007-2008: Les Autochtones confiés aux Services correctionnels*, Québec, Services correctionnels, ministère de la sécurité publique.

<sup>8</sup> The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (2014), *Missing and murdered Aboriginal women: A national overview*.



## PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

To address the challenges that the Montreal Aboriginal population must face, this cooperative agreement is the result of a shared desire which aims to promote **preventative approaches, open communication, and understanding between** the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal and the Montreal Aboriginal community. Indeed, this innovative partnership agreement aims to:

### Goal 1: Normalize meaningful partnership

- Develop formalized relationships between willing Aboriginal community organizations and the SPVM.
- Implement an Aboriginal community advisory committee (Comité de vigie) representing the diversity of the community.
- Create an Aboriginal Liaison Officer position with strong ties to the community, appointed in consultation with the Aboriginal community advisory committee.

### Goal 2: Increase education and cultural awareness

- Ensure ongoing and regular information sessions about Aboriginal realities developed by the NETWORK (with special input from Makivik Corporation and other key organizations) to SPVM personnel.
- Collaborate with relevant community organizations and resources to create and provide new and updated educational material for officers and/or community members, such as, an Aboriginal resource guide, a welcome guide in Inuktitut, information on sex trafficking, etc.
- Provide the Aboriginal community with periodic information sessions about the role of police, and the SPVM.

### Goal 3: Develop and implement prevention programs for Aboriginal people

- Develop and implement prevention programs around themes that arise out of meetings with the Aboriginal advisory committee.
- Provide information about culturally appropriate services, such as Quebec Native Parajudicial Services.



#### Goal 4: Improve prevention and responses regarding missing Aboriginal women

- Develop and implement a protocol and procedure when an Aboriginal woman is reported missing. This protocol, developed with relevant community organizations, and members should include guidelines on ensuring good relationships with families.

  
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**Mrs Nakuset - Copresident**  
Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy NETWORK

Date: June 25, 2015

  
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**Mr Marc Parent - Chief**  
Service de police de la Ville de Montréal

Date: 25 juin 2015