



Seeking the hidden agenda
behind the Technoparc

Description

Why are authorities inflexible on an issue that can be easily resolved to everyone's benefit?

By **Georges Dupras**

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I was always told to choose my fights, and avoid the many occasions when frivolous battles would simply exhaust my limited energy, and keep me from more important issues. In other words, avoid fighting windmills.

That said, I can't understand why our **Federal Government** is investing so much energy in support of the proposed **Medicom mask production facility**, earmarked for an area referred to as the **Technoparc**, and located just west of the Trudeau International Airport. This initiative, proposed by **Meltech Innovation Canada Inc.**, is to be located in what is **the last unprotected marshland on the island of Montréal**.

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Despite much opposition from naturalists and environmentalists, Federal officials refuse to accept that the land in contention is rich in biodiversity and is a highly sensitive feeding area for the **Monarch butterfly** – a vulnerable species at risk. It is also an important source of survival for many other species.

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, the Federal Minister of the Environment and for Climate Change, does not feel that the habitat, owned in large part by the Federal Government and managed by **Aéroport de Montréal (ADM)**, merits a special designation. We are still waiting for the Minister to make available an **independent scientific inventory of the area's biodiversity**. Considering the number of suitable and empty buildings that are available in the immediate area of the Technoparc, one is compelled to ask why the Government is so obsessed with this particular, and unique, wetland?

In the wake of Prime Minister Trudeau's insistence on open government, the aftermath of **Cop-26**, droughts,



flooding, mudslides and forest fires in British Columbia, recurring pandemics and ongoing climate disturbances, one is compelled to ask; is there a hidden agenda here? What is the fascination with these few acres? Why are authorities inflexible on an issue that can be easily resolved to everyone's benefit?

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There is little hope in any success coming from Cope-26 when we can't even resolve an issue as obvious as this one. It is time that our elected leaders come clean and tell us of the hidden agenda behind this folly.

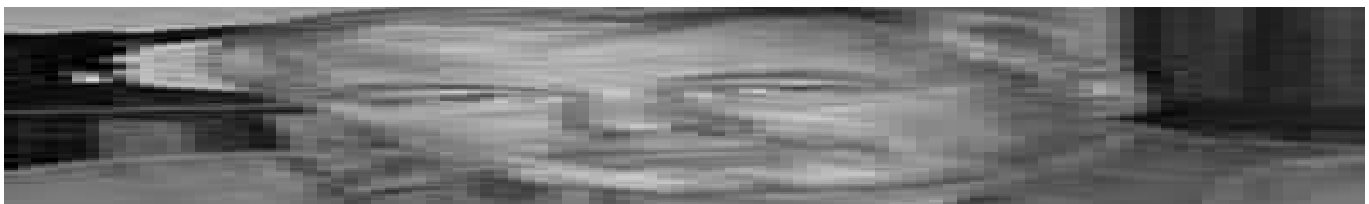
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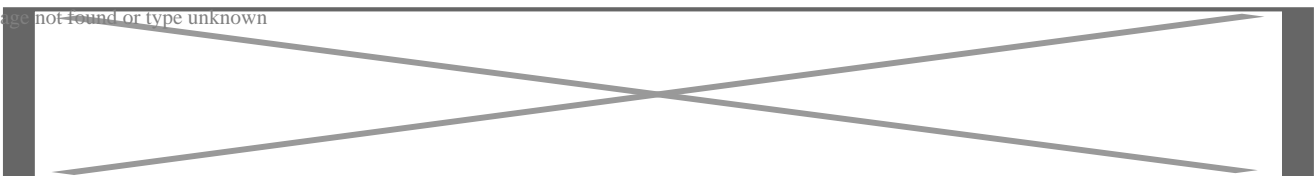
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Georges R. Dupras has advocated for animals for over fifty years. A member of the International Association for Bear Research and Management (IBA), a Director of the Animal Alliance of Canada (AAC), Quebec Representative of Zoocheck Canada and past Board member of the Canadian SPCA, he worked on the original Save the Seal campaign in 1966 that culminated in the founding of the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) in 1969. Georges Dupras has published two books, *Values in Conflict* and the eBook *Ethics, a Human Condition*, and currently lives in Montreal, Canada.

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