



Cities of the future  
need more green spaces

## Description

# Biodiversity must be integrated into the long-term vision of cities like Montreal

By Roger Joachym

December 5, 2022

With the **Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15)** being held in Montreal, a collective of eleven environmental groups from southwest Montreal\*, the **Collectif en connectivité du sud-ouest de Montréal**, is taking a stand on the place that nature should occupy in the city of tomorrow.

“We have some great green spaces and connectivity axes in the southwest of Montreal, but it is important to increase the amount of land devoted to nature and to better connect these spaces. In so doing, we will contribute to the survival of biodiversity and increase access to nature for citizens, both for their mental and physical health”, explains spokesperson **Roger Jochym** of **Sauvons la falaise**, a group which has been instrumental in the creation of the **Bande verte**, a multipurpose path along the Falaise Saint-Jacques, a geographic feature dating back to prehistoric Montreal.

In cities that are becoming increasingly dense to meet the need for population growth and to make better use of resources, municipal governments must put nature back at the heart of the city in order to improve the quality of life of citizens and to make our cities more resilient to extreme weather events, thanks to the many ecosystem services that nature provides.

Formed in the wake of consultations on the City of Montreal’s **Projet de ville 2050**, the Collectif en connectivité du sud-ouest de Montréal submitted a [brief](#) to the **Office de consultation publique de Montréal (OCPM)** last October. As part of this exercise, the Collectif conducted a survey whose responses confirm the importance of green and natural spaces for observation and contact with nature, as well as for the practice of activities such as walking, running and cycling. One of the recommendations is to create more flowering meadows, micro-forests and



ecological corridors through a greater presence of native trees and plants. Biodiversity must be integrated into the vision of cities like Montreal.

\* *Amis des parcs, Demain Verdun, Écoquartier Sud-Ouest, GRAME, Héritage Laurentien, Les amis du corridor vert d'Hydro Québec à Montréal-Ouest, Les amis du parc Angrignon, Les amis du parc Meadowbrook, Nature-action Québec, Sauvons la falaise, UrbaNature.*

### Contact

Roger Jochym, Sauvons la Falaise  
[Rjochym99@hotmail.com](mailto:Rjochym99@hotmail.com)  
514 935-4375

Feature image: [biodiversity corridor project in Saint-Laurent](#), civiliti, LAND Italia, Table Architecture, Biodiversité Conseil

Sign-up to our newsletter  
and get email notification  
of our most recent articles



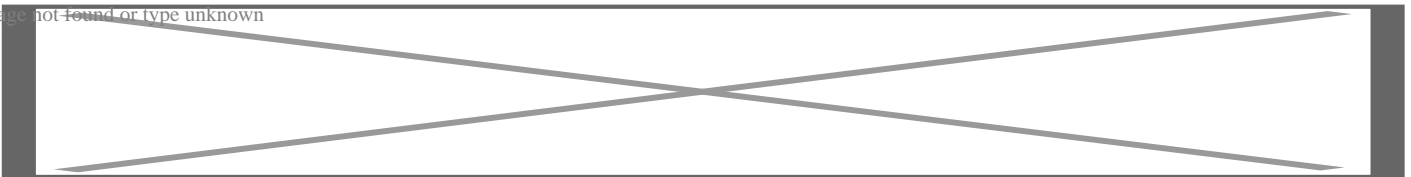
[Other articles on the environment](#)

### [Other recent articles](#)



**Roger Jochym** is a 25+ year resident of Westmount. He is the founder of the Ry Arp Studio, a firm dedicated to generating 21<sup>st</sup> century planning ideas that are engaged in regaining the city for the human scale, interlacing it with nature, and invigorating it by culture, the arts, and sciences. His background is that of architecture from McGill and many built projects, notably the trans-border and international wings of Pierre Elliott Trudeau airport.

Image not found or type unknown



### Category

- 1. Environment

### Tags

- 1. biodiversity
- 2. Collectif en connectivité du sud-ouest de Montréal
- 3. COP15



---

4. Roger Jochym

**Date Created**  
December 2022