

Dear Sirs,

I would like to submit a written brief to add my voice to the chorus trying to save the St Jacques escarpment (La Falaise St Jacques) from any development.

It is my understanding that La Falaise was supposed to be part of the future Turcot grand parc. Many community organizations have been working to protect this ecoterritory as we want the rich biodiversity to be available for future generations to enjoy. It is our recommendation that important decisions regarding the future of La Falaise be made with input from the public and that La Falaise St. Jacques be part of the grand park.

Further, we recommend that no trees be cut in the falaise and that La Falaise be used only as an educational resource.

It is well established that introducing children growing up in our overwhelmingly concrete cities, particularly those who have limited access to green space, benefit tremendously from their presence in a forest. (eg Forests, Trees and Human Health and Well-being: Introduction by Kjell Nilsson in Forest, Trees, and Human Health). La Falaise is available and accessible and a wonderful place for our teachers to take their students to learn on "field trips". Why should only those families who can afford to take their children out of Montreal have this experience? La Falaise is a natural, un-manicured green space. I think we have been lucky it has not been "developed" to date. Our children and their children will be denied the opportunity of experiencing this particular natural resource if La Falaise is permitted to be "groomed". Further, it is of a good size as it is and this allows people to appreciate what Montreal was like before it became Montreal.

For this and all the other reasons that have been presented, I submit that La Falaise St Jacques should be considered as a grand parc and should not be touched.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.\

Yours truly,

Michael Tessler