

7 June 2022

Dear Commissioners of the OCPM,

My name is Kelly McKinney and I am a climate activist and CEGEP professor, working on several fronts to ensure a just and sustainable present and future for all Quebeckers.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed new height and density permissions of buildings situated in Chinatown. I strongly **support** the City of Montréal's proposal to lower the height and density allowances.

I ask that the City of Montréal affirm the heritage designation of Montréal's historic Chinatown from René-Levesque to the North to Viger to the South, and Rue de Bleury to the West and Sainte-Elizabeth to the East. I also ask the City of Montréal to affirm their proposal to lower the height and density allowances to protect the area from real estate speculation and white gentrification, and to

- Ensure that the physical historical buildings are protected and preserved which is vital for ensuring that the histories of the neighbourhood are not erased and remain a part of the Canadian and Québec narrative
- Keep commercial development right-sized for the neighbourhood and maintain local small and medium business ownership in Chinatown instead of internationally owned big box stores moving into the neighbourhood
- Provide more opportunities to create green space and outdoor leisure space

- Allows residents, especially seniors, to remain in affordable housing and age in place and dignity
- Maintain and encourage social service delivery in the neighbourhood
- Create opportunities for continued intercultural and intergenerational exchange, which is vital for ensuring that the histories of the neighbourhood are not erased and remain a part of the Canadian and Québec narrative
- Maintain a more scaled neighbourhood aesthetic by limiting the height and size of buildings
- Chinatown continues to be a gathering place embedded with memory and history, alive with arts and culture, that generations of Asians in Montréal identify with.]

Beyond affirming the heritage designation of Chinatown and the height and density limits, I join our fellow neighbours and community members in their concerns that the current measures alone will not sufficiently bring about the desired results mentioned above. I hope with the adoption of the proposed changes to the Plan d'Urbanisme, the City of Montréal and the Borough of Ville-Marie will further consider creating a more holistic development plan for Montréal's historic Chinatown that aims to protect, preserve, and promote the history and culture of its historical populations. This should also include considerations for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

I hope you will take this recommendation seriously and continue to use the feedback of residents and community members to develop a holistic plan that values the unique character of Montréal's Chinatown.

Regards,

Kelly McKinney, MA, PhD