



蒙 特 利 爾 華 商 會

LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE CHINOISE DE MONTRÉAL

MONTREAL CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A-1070 Rue Anderson,
Montréal, Québec,
H2Z 1L9 Canada

Dear Commissioners of the OCPM,

My name is **Marc Zhang** and I am writing on behalf of La Chambre de Commerce Chinoise de Montréal (**MCCC**)

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

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce was officially registered in 1985, We have about 150+ members, and we was supported and praised by the three-tier government in Canada, which aroused the admiration, respect and imitation of other ethnic communities.

When it comes to the MCCC, Chinatown comes to mind. The two Chinese style arches in the north and south were originally established by the Canadian government, the Shanghai Municipal Government and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce spares no effort to preside over and participate in such things as the renovation of Chinatown, the renovation of Sun Yat-sen Park, and the completion of the bronze statue of Mr. Sun Yat-sen standing in Sun Yat-sen Park together with the Sun Yat-sen Park Foundation. Sun Yat-sen Park is the landmark of Chinatown, which is also a continuation of our Chinese culture.

For the prosperity of Chinatown, the MCCC has continuously contacted the government and actively cooperated with the city government to renovate the street into a spacious, bright, clean and tidy appearance.

It ensures the safety of businesses and social stability. The MCCC spared no effort to ensure the security of Chinatown. After a year of hard work, we finally successfully applied to the police station to install 24-hour cameras in Chinatown. Since then, the number of homeless people in Chinatown has decreased, the environment has improved, and law and order has become better.

No homeless shelter can be provided around Chinatown, and Chinatown cannot be a messy gathering place. This will greatly destroy the business development of this community.

The construction of Vancouver's Chinatown is a case of failure, because they built a lot of cheap housing for the homeless around them, which is fatal and directly ruined the reputation of the



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entire Chinatown which makes it no less attractive. Centuries of cultural heritage were destroyed in one fell swoop.

And Montreal Chinatown, fortunately, is still the best Chinatown in North America so far, and we need to keep it up.

In order to attract more tourists to Chinatown, we apply for four annual Chinatown summer open-air sales promotions to promote business. Not only is it convenient for tourists and businesses, but it also shows other ethnic groups with Chinese cultural products. Tourists flock to it every year.

We ask the City of Montréal to 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. We also ask the City of Montréal to affirm their proposal to lower the height and density allowances. THIS preservation and promotion of community and cultural life, and local economic growth in the neighbourhood, it can have the better vision of Chinatown.

We recommend that municipalities carefully consider the following:

- **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**



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- 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, we 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.

We hope 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.

We hope you will take this recommendation seriously to develop a holistic plan that values the unique character of Montréal's Chinatown. We Chinese Chamber of Commerce MCCC will support the work of the municipal government very much and are willing to serve you.

Best Regards,

Président Marc Zhang 张仕根

Secrétaire général Noraa Liang 梁寶文

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