



Answers to our survey by Movement Montreal, for the upcoming municipal elections

What type of effective recourses does your party envisage for residents or municipal employees who feel their equality rights have been violated?

Once in office, Movement Montreal will immediately anonymize the process by which municipal employees must engage in order to file a formal rights violation complaint. Movement Montreal will likewise:

- Call on the SPVM to establish a hate crimes information campaign and collaborate with community organizations to make hate crimes reporting information more widely accessible;
- Invoke the Consultation on Systemic Racism and Discrimination's Recommendation #24 that asks that the SPVM improve its data collection on hate crimes and protect victims who report these incidents, and;
- Demand that the municipal government implement specialized training on cultural sensitivity and anti-racism for members of the SPVM's Hate Crimes Unit.

How does your party propose to make Montreal feel more welcoming to people with precarious status and to ensure full access to municipal services in a secure way?

Movement Montreal is the only party that recognizes Montreal as a bilingual, multicultural, and global metropolis. It is also imperative that we see through part of the Action Plan to have part of the staff at the CLSC des Faubourgs speak Mandarin and Cantonese, so residents in Chinatown that require this can feel comfortable when receiving social or medical services.

What does your party propose, to ensure that small to medium enterprises run by racialized business people will be able to have equal access to government support and programs?

Movement Montreal has outlined a comprehensive plan to support small and medium-sized businesses, including and especially those run by racialized business people, by:

- Establishing a Business Centre to meet the needs of small and medium size businesses, including by streamlining the application process for business and terrace licenses;
- Reducing the time frames for the review of development applications for small and medium-sized businesses;
- Coordinating with the provincial government to create economic zones in low-income boroughs that provide tax incentives for small businesses;
- Reducing, by 2025, the industrial and commercial property tax ratio to 2.75x residential property tax rate.

How do you propose to help retain, promote and encourage legacy and small scale culturally appropriate businesses in Chinatown? What sort of incentives/programs will be enacted to encourage entrepreneurship and retention of legacy businesses in the neighbourhood?

Movement Montreal just and inclusive economic relaunch includes ways to help small businesses:

- Establish a Business Centre to meet the needs of small and medium size businesses, including by streamlining the application process for business and terrace licenses;
- Reduce the time frames for the review of development applications for small and medium-sized businesses;
- Support enhanced coordination between urban planning, construction companies, and small businesses;
- Proactively identify and support Montreal-based manufacturers seeking global product distribution to accelerate any necessary municipal approvals;
- Commit to reducing, by 2025, the industrial and commercial property tax ratio to 2.75x residential property tax rate;
- Establishing a Société de Développement Commercial to contribute to the economic development of Chinatown, and;
- Establishing an Infrastructure Stimulus plan to repair and maintain Chinatown's cultural heritage buildings.

In the face of lack of access to funding and lack of representation in the arts and culture by artists and cultural workers from minority backgrounds, how does your party propose to address the problem of systemic discrimination in arts and culture by the City of Montreal?

Movement Montreal has a robust arts and culture platform aimed specifically at addressing the problem of systemic discrimination in the sector. To do so, Movement Montreal has committed to:

- Establish a summer internship program in partnership with Montreal's major cultural institutions for youth aged 18-29;
- Provide financial tax incentives for cultural organizations that implement measures to include racialized and Indigenous persons in their programs, projects, and on their Boards of Directors;
- Establish partnerships with Montreal's French and English school boards to implement cultural outreach and art programming;
- Leverage the city's major events, such as the Grand Prix du Canada and Montreal Jazz Festival, to stimulate business alliances (including cultural relationships), develop and expand markets, and attract investments.

In other boroughs of Montreal, the city has taken interesting initiatives to provide lofts, offices and work space for artists and cultural workers. What is your plan to do the same for Asian artists in Chinatown?

Movement Montreal's Arts & Culture platform could help Asian artists in Chinatown, by:

- Providing financial tax incentives for cultural organizations that implement measures to include racialized and Indigenous persons in their programs, projects, and on their Boards of Directors;
- Leveraging the city's major events, such as the Grand Prix du Canada, Montreal Jazz Festival, and Chinatown Night Market to stimulate business alliances (including cultural relationships), develop and expand markets, and attract investments.

What will you do to actively encourage programming and cultural indicators of Chinatown that are executed in a way that builds capacity in the neighbourhood?

Movement will develop signage, in consultation with local community organizations and stakeholders, to build capacity in the neighbourhood.

How will your party implement the Action Plan on Chinatown Development within the timeline and what will be your priorities?

Movement Montreal will assign a member of its Executive Committee to a “Chinatown Portfolio” in order to ensure that the action plan is carried out in a timely manner. Movement Montreal will also work to release all funding set aside for Chinatown cultural heritage and programming immediately, so that community organizations may benefit from financial support immediately.

Given that there are vulnerable populations who share Chinatown space such as people without homes and certain Indigenous residents, how will you ensure the need for safety and security in Chinatown without resorting to authoritarian policing that may be perceived as a threat to vulnerable people?

Movement Montreal has committed to reallocating funding away from the SPVM towards housing and social programming. In doing so, Movement Montreal will develop alternative community policing guidelines, including implementing and supporting a citizen-led task force to ensure safety and security in the community.

How will you ensure that the plan for the REM and its accompanying station does not further marginalize and isolate Chinatown from the rest of the downtown district?

Movement Montreal will ensure that all community organizations, stakeholders, residents, and small business owners are consulted throughout the development process. In its Healthy Democracy Plan, Movement Montreal has also outlined its commitment to:

- Legislate a by-law requiring online referendums on all major municipal projects and decisions, and;
- Require that Borough Mayors host monthly community engagement meetings and report on the outcomes of these meetings to City Council.

Given unabated real-estate speculation and gentrification – what safeguard measures will you put in place to ensure the development of Chinatown does not erase its cultural footprint nor displace its low-income and senior residents?

Movement Montreal is extremely concerned about gentrification and rising housing costs across the island, including and especially in Chinatown. To address these issues, Movement Montreal will:

- Establish a registry for Chinatown's small businesses in order to offer rent and wage subsidies for small business owners and renters in the area;
- Strengthen zoning laws to prevent gentrification, and;
- Institute mandatory consultation with business and residential stakeholders on all development projects.

In the past ten years, the numbers of Chinatown residents have been reduced by half. What is your plan to bring back residents who would like to live in Chinatown, especially those who are vulnerable and are dependent on Chinatown for culturally- accessible goods and services?

Movement Montreal has pledged to:

- Steadily increase the City's housing budget by 2% each year between 2021 and 2025 from 2.9% to 11.9%;
- Approve the creation of 30,000 new affordable rental homes next to major transportation hubs and metro stations: 20% of which will be "supportive homes" for vulnerable persons including people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and 25% of which will be dedicated to female-led households;
- Legislate a by-law expanding the eligibility for social housing to include families and applicants who are not yet Canadian citizens or permanent residents;
- Establish a rental registry to control and stabilize rental prices in the city;
- Repair and maintain the 31,200 residential units in Montreal found to contain unsanitary risks.

What are your solutions to fighting gentrification in Chinatown?

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How will you bring back greenspace to Chinatown?

Movement Montreal will:

- Invest and create green spaces (parks, community gardens) across the City;
- Increase funding for local food programming and community gardens;
- Establish partnerships with Forestry departments in Montreal's major universities to establish an ecological monitoring program.

How will you ensure that economic development and real estate development, whether in Chinatown or anywhere else in Montreal, respect the objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40-45% below 2005 levels by 2020 as declared by the Federal government?

Movement Montreal will:

- Establish an Independent Advisory Council on Climate Justice to advise the Mayor's cabinet on economic development, public-private partnerships and other investments, as well as implementation of the city's climate plan;
- Create a section in the annual report on the Montreal Climate Plan 2020-2030 addressing the specific vulnerabilities of low-income and cultural neighbourhoods, with emphasis on their susceptibility to the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect.

Measures for an ecological transition such as legal restrictions and fines were raised during the campaign. What concrete measures will you put in place for an ecological transition considering resource inequalities?

Accelerate climate action and equity by supporting the robust collection of qualitative and quantitative data on energy poverty, green space access, mobility poverty and climate risk vulnerability.

Create a robust plan of action to target over-consumption and massive generation of waste, including by banning more single use plastics and styrofoam food packaging, and expanding compost collection to buildings with more than nine units.

About CWG

About CWG: Formed in 2019, we are a community group working to protect, promote, and preserve the history and evergreen culture of Montreal's historical Chinatown and its diverse communities.

**Email us
for more info!**

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