

# Montréal, a Welcoming Home for Sustainable Development Organizations

2024



Aerial view of Mont-Royal and downtown Montréal



# About Montréal International



Funded by the **Government of Canada**, the **Government of Québec**, the **Montréal Metropolitan Community** as well as the private sector, Montréal International (MI) is **Montréal's investment promotion agency**



MI's mission is to **contribute to Montréal's economic development and international status** by attracting international organizations, qualified international workers and foreign direct investment





# Content



01

A Thriving  
International City

02

A Strong Commitment  
to Sustainable  
Development Projects

03

A Booming Sustainable  
Development Ecosystem

04

A Large Pool of Highly  
Qualified Talent

05

Montréal International:  
Free, Personalized and  
Confidential Services

# 01

## A Thriving International City



Montréal  
International





# Montréal, a major international organization (IO) hub

- **3<sup>rd</sup> main IO hub in the Americas** along with Washington, D.C. and New York
- **68 international organizations**, including six UN agencies
- **2,100 jobs**
- **\$450M in economic spin-offs** per year
- **World capital of civil aviation**
- **Focus on sustainable development** (e.g. environment, education, human rights)



# Many international organizations in key sectors

## ▲ Aerospace and civil aviation



## ▲ Life sciences and health



## ▲ Environment



## ▲ Data and artificial intelligence



## ▲ Education



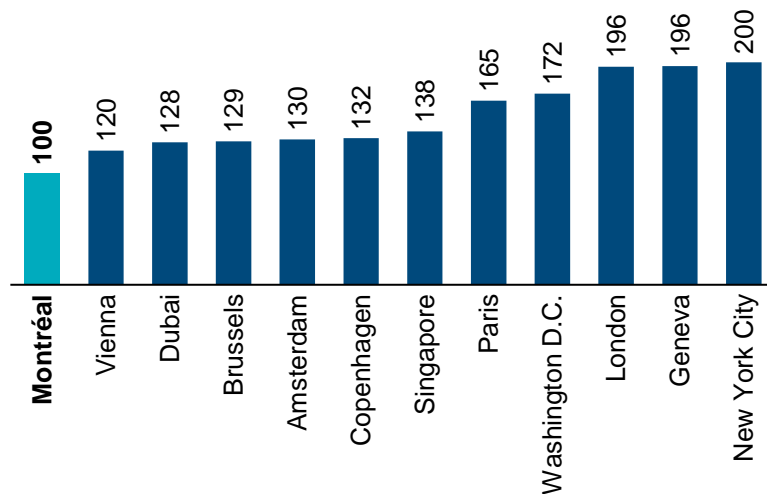
## ▲ Human rights



-And many more!

# Montréal enjoys a 33% operating cost advantage over comparable world cities

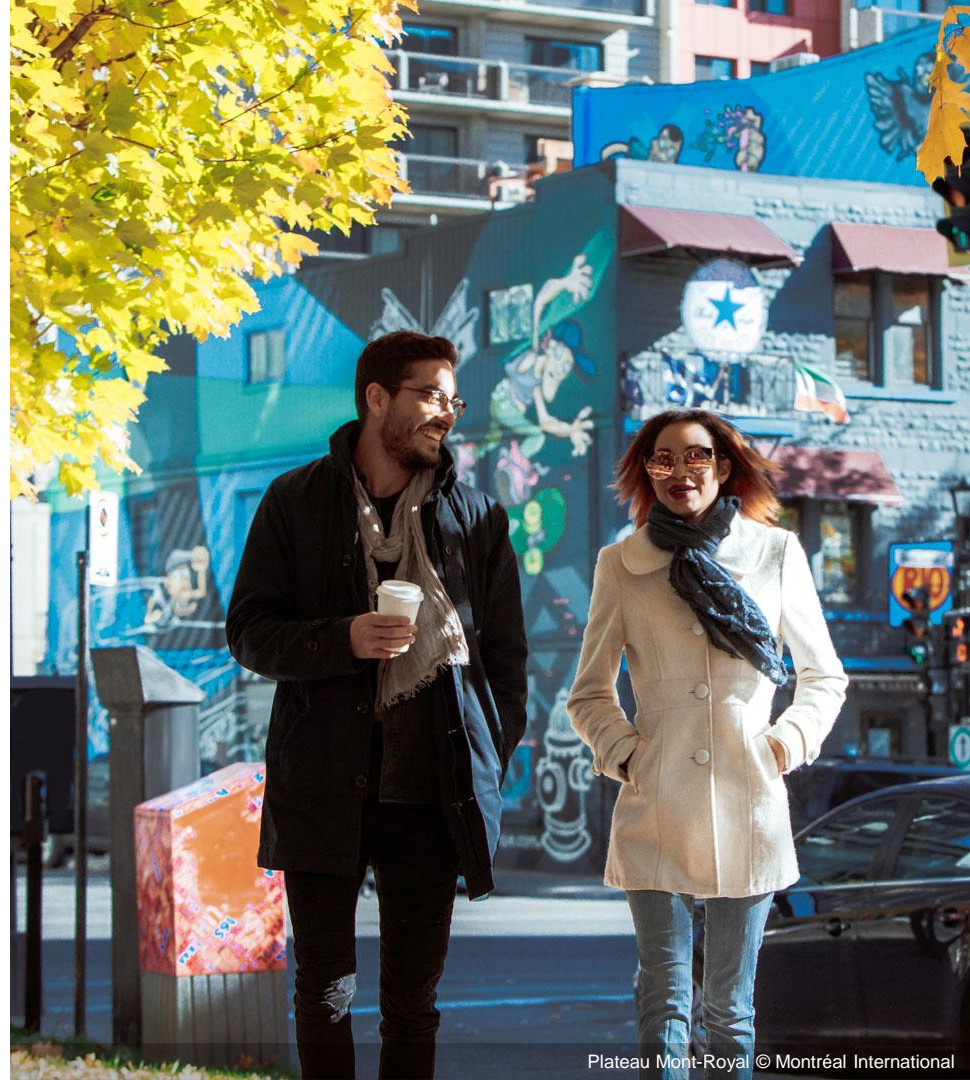
Operating cost index\* for regional offices  
Selection of 12 cities worldwide, 2024



\*Index Montréal = 100.

Note: Includes labour, property and utility costs.

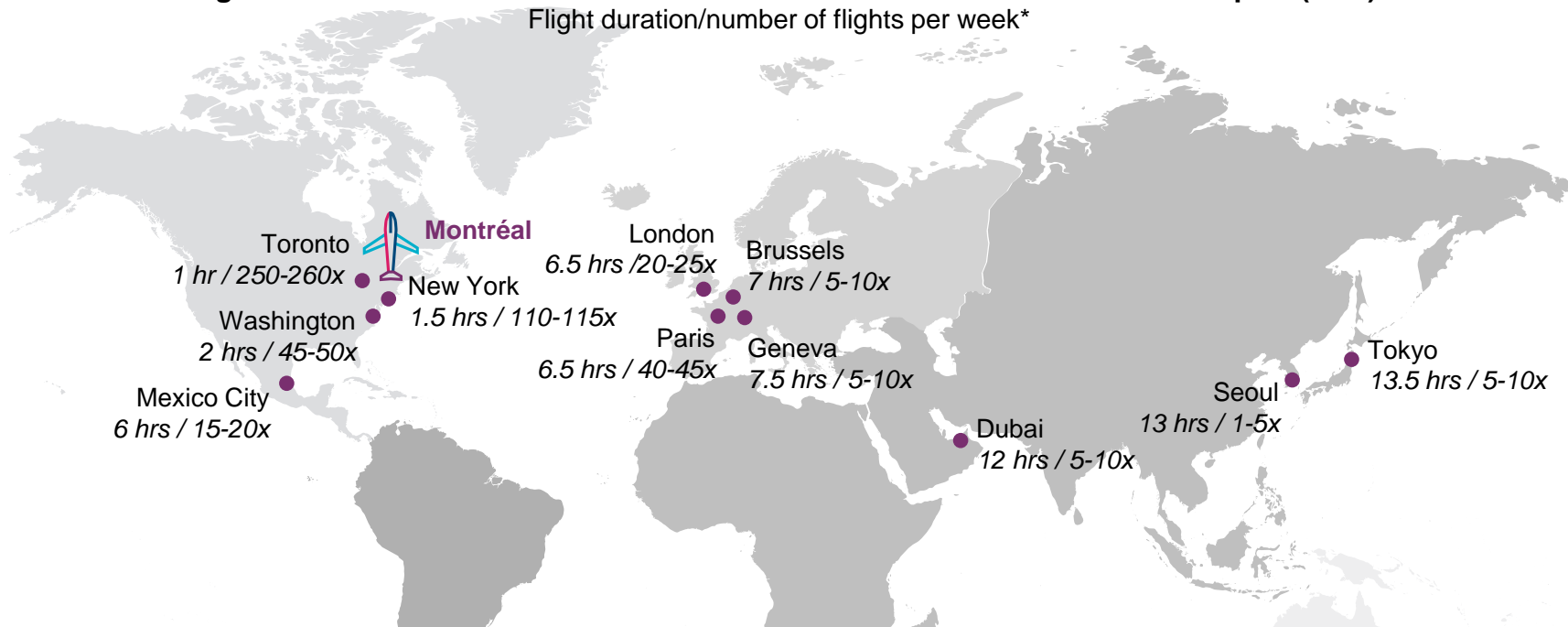
Source: fDi Benchmark, May 2024; Montréal International analysis.



# An easy access to and from world cities

## Flight time and number of connexions to Montréal-Trudeau International Airport (YUL)

Flight duration/number of flights per week\*



**With 2 international airports, Montréal offers direct flights to 150+ destinations, including most major European and American cities**

\*All local airports combined.

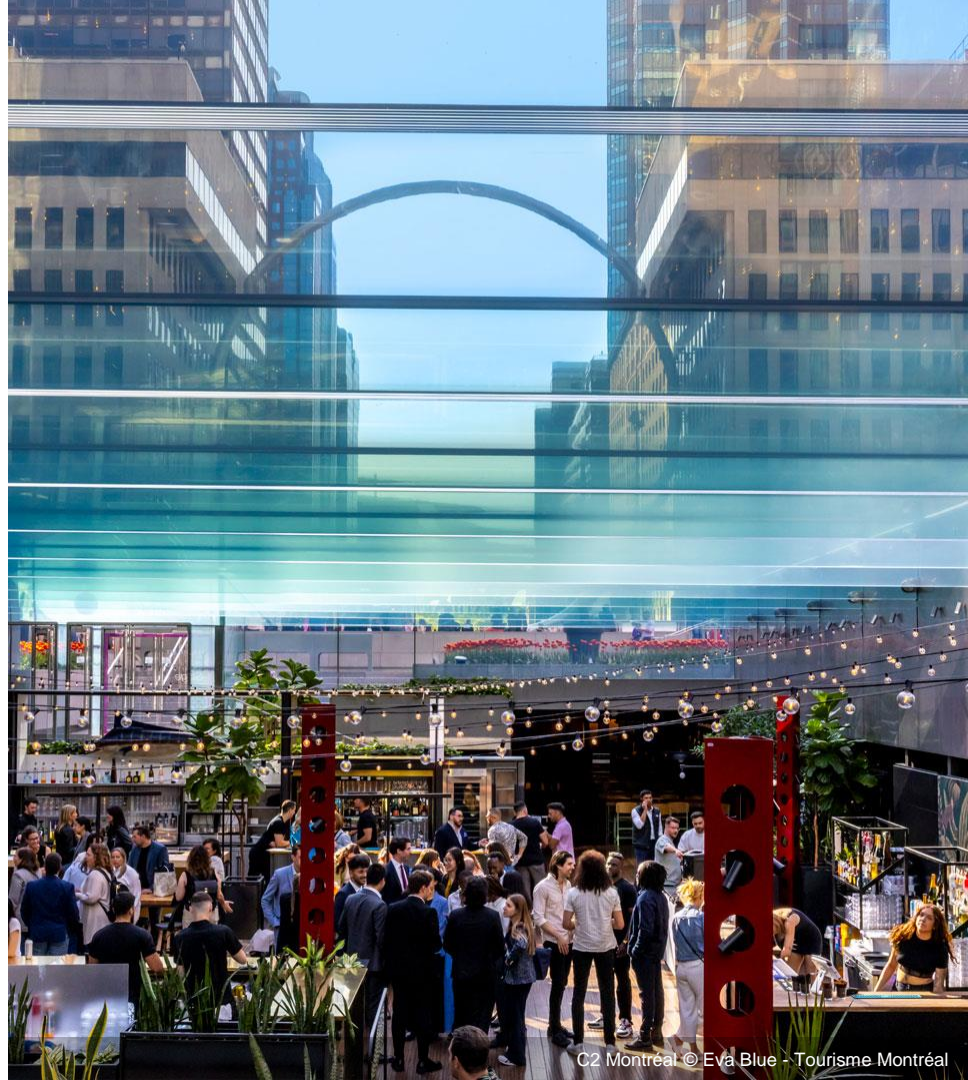
Source: Aéroports de Montréal, 2024; Tourisme Montréal, 2024; Montréal International compilation.



# A major international congress and convention city

- **Top host city in North America for international association events**, according to the Union of International Associations
- **The Palais des Congrès, a world-class convention centre located downtown:** more than 550,000 sq. ft. of event space, including 110+ rooms and meeting places, 3 ballrooms and 4 terraces
- **Dozens of additional venues** to hold international events and meetings
- **An affordable business destination with a 24% cost advantage on hotel rooms** compared to New York City and Washington, D.C

Source: Union of International Associations, 2023; International Congress and Convention Association, 2022; Tourisme Montréal, 2022, 2023; Montréal International compilation.



# 02

## A Strong Commitment to Sustainable Development



# Strong government support for clean technologies and the ecological transition

**\$13.6B** for the implantation of the 2030 Plan for a Green Economy  
*Since 2021*



**\$3B** in funding to Natural Resources Canada from 2023 to 2035 to support clean energy and electrification projects  
*Canada's 2023 Budget*



**\$500M** in the Strategic Innovation Fund over 10 years to support the development and application of clean technologies\*  
*Canada's 2023 Budget*



**\$30M** to support companies to develop and commercialize clean technologies from 2023 to 2026  
*Québec's 2023-2024 budget*



\*The Strategic Innovation Fund will also dedicate up to \$1.5B of its existing resources to projects in areas such as clean technologies, critical minerals and industrial transformation

Source: Budget of Québec 2023-2024, 2024-2025; Budget of Canada 2023; Montréal International compilation.







# Québec, a key player in the fight against climate change

- **The lowest GHG emissions per capita** in North America
- **Aims to be carbon neutral by 2050 and reduce GHG emissions by 37.5%** through the Québec government's 2030 Plan for a Green Economy\*
- **Part of the Québec-California carbon market** (cap-and-trade system)
- Member of **several international groups** for reducing GHG, such as:

 **CLIMATE GROUP**



 **Regions4**  
Sustainable Development



**BOGA** BEYOND  
OIL & GAS  
ALLIANCE

\*Compared to 1990.

Source: Hydro-Québec, 2023; Government of Québec, 2030 Plan for a green economy; Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs; Montréal International compilation.

# Québec, a circular economy pioneer in North America

- **A solid expertise and collaborative networks, including:**



- **Réseau de recherche en économie circulaire du Québec (RRECQ)**, a network bringing together 110 researchers from 16 universities and 6 colleges
- A **circularity index** developed for the Québec economy in 2021 along with 7 societal goals
- **Key high-potential sectors:** agri-food, energy, construction, and metals





# Montréal stands out for its commitment to the environment

- **A commitment to reduce GHG emissions by at least 55% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050**
- **Host of NATO Climate Change and Security Centre of Excellence** and the second part of the **UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15)** in 2022
- **Home of many international organizations fighting climate change**
- **Mayor of Montréal, ICLEI's Global Ambassador for Local Biodiversity\***
- **Montréal, most sustainable city in the world according to Compare the market, 2023**
- **Montréal is actively involved in sustainable development networks across the world:**



\*Local Governments for Sustainability.

Source: Ville de Montréal, 2022; Montréal International compilation.



# A public transportation network adopting sustainable technologies



Goal of a **zero-emission vehicle fleet** by 2040



North American car-sharing pioneer with **20% of its fleet comprised of electric cars**



**Largest fleet of electric bikes** in North America



**One of the longest fully automated, 100% electric light metro networks in the world** upon completion





## Among the greenest metropolitan areas

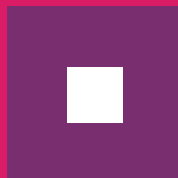
- One of the **world's most tree-filled cities**
- Presence of **thousands of urban parks**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> best public transit systems in North America:** 68 metro stations, 220+ bus lines, 5 commuter train lines, and one of the longest, fully automated and 100% electric light metro networks in the world upon completion
- **Best cycling city in North America with** 3,450+ km of bike paths, including 700+ km accessible year round and a public bike share system

Source: City of Montréal, 2023; Time Out, 2024; STM, 2024; EXO, 2024; Copenhagenize Index, 2022; Vélo Québec, 2024; Montréal International compilation.



# 03

## A Booming Sustainable Development Ecosystem





# A strategic hub for international sustainable development organizations



An organization that supports the objectives of the convention on **biological diversity**



A UN organization dedicated to **reversing the deterioration of the ozone layer**



A multi-hub organization that accelerates transformations towards **global sustainability** through research and innovation



A centre that promotes legal **education on sustainable societies** and the **protection of ecosystems**



A global network for **protecting the land and forest rights of indigenous peoples and local communities**



An international secretariat that promotes **environmental impact assessments** in the French-speaking world



An intergovernmental organization for North American cooperation to promote the **conservation, protection and improvement of the environment**



An international secretariat that mobilizes advocates for **universal access to water and sanitation**, while taking a long-term approach to preserving natural resources



A UN program to **promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities**



An organization that will set **sustainability disclosure standards** for companies around the world



A global biodiversity observation network that contributes to **effective management policies for the world's biodiversity and ecosystem services**



CCASCOE

NATO Climate Change and Security Centre of Excellence gathers military actors and civilians to **develop, enhance and share knowledge on climate change and security effects**, and develop the best practices to respond to these challenges

# A collaborative ecosystem

## Cluster organizations



## Accelerators and venture capital



## Innovation and research centres



## International organizations



- And many more!

# A booming cleantech industry

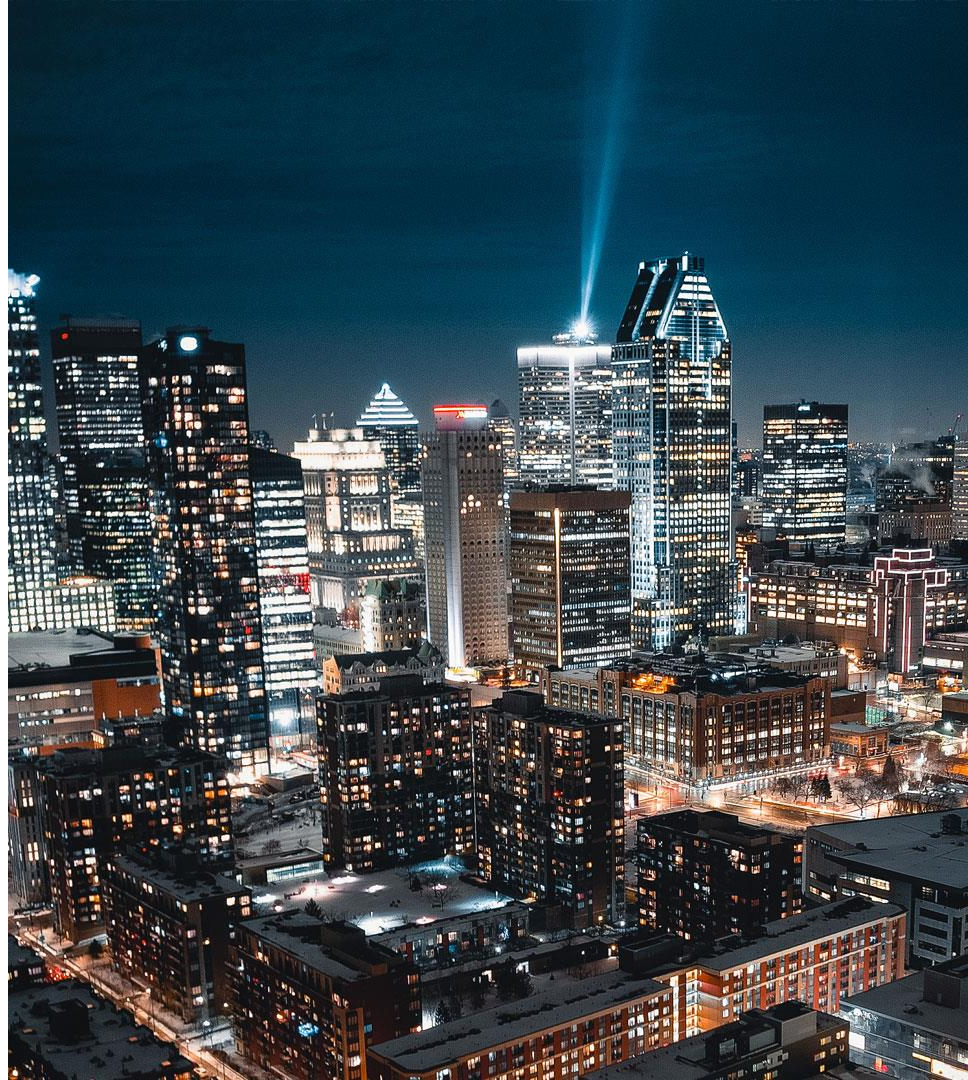
## Canada, a favorable business environment

- **#2 most attractive country in the world for cleantech in 2023** according to Global Cleantech Innovation Index

## Québec, a thriving cleantech hub

- **400+** innovative companies
- **80,000+** jobs
- **\$20B** of GDP
- **\$8.5B** in total annual revenue

Source: Government of Canada, Dashboard of cleantech companies, 2022; Institut de la Statistique du Québec, Tableau de bord pour la mesure de l'économie verte au Québec [in French only], 2023; Montréal International compilation.







# Montréal, a sustainable finance centre with an early adopter mindset

- **In the top 10 in North America for green finance** according to the Global Green Finance Index 2024
- **A world-leading proportion of sustainable investment assets:** 68% in Québec and 62% in Canada overall
- **Many major Montréal-based institutions have adopted decarbonization** targets toward achieving a carbon-neutral portfolio by 2050 such as CDPQ, Desjardins, Fonds de Solidarité FTQ, etc.
- **The City of Montréal is part of the UN-convened International Network of Financial Centres for Sustainability (FC4S)**
- The IFRS Foundation chose Montréal to establish its **International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB)**

# Mila, the world's largest academic AI research lab with many initiatives in cleantech

- **A collaborative research ecosystem with 1,400+ members**, as well as startups and major companies
- Many projects with industry and academic partners including the **carbon footprint of AI** and the **reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** in the energy sector, such as:



An open-source software that helps track the carbon footprint of algorithms and code, from the collaboration between BCG's GAMMA, Comet and Haverford College



An organization with the goal of catalyzing impactful work at the intersection of climate change and machine learning





# 04

## A Large Pool of Highly Qualified Talent







## Canada's most bilingual and trilingual population

**2.4M** residents speak English,  
that's 4% more than in Vancouver

---

**56%** of the population is bilingual  
(French and English), compared to  
7% in Toronto and Vancouver

---

**24%** of the population is fluent in  
three or more languages,  
compared to 13% in Toronto and  
12% in Vancouver

# Montréal, best city in the world to study



## Canada's university capital:

**15**

University institutions with campuses

**90+**

Colleges

**50+**

Vocational training centres



## A large pool of students ready to join the workforce

**500,000+** post-secondary students, including 60% on Greater Montréal campuses



## Montréal, selected as the world's best city to study abroad

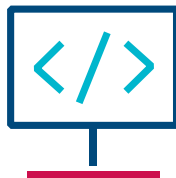
Helpful Professor, 2023



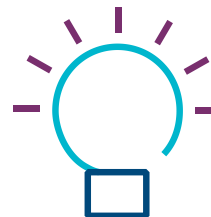
# A deep and growing pool of highly qualified talent



**Managerial &  
professional talent**  
**621,500 jobs**  
including marketing  
professionals, accountants,  
lawyers, executives, etc.



**STEM\* talent**  
**548,400 jobs**  
**33% of STEM professions**  
(e.g. chemists, engineers,  
mathematicians)  
**67% of STEM-related  
professions** (e.g. land  
surveyors, industrial  
designers)



**Creative talent**  
**166,800 jobs**  
including multimedia  
designers, video game  
producers, A/V technicians,  
etc.

\* STEM: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Note: Some professions may fall into more than one category.

Source: Statistics Canada, special compilation based on data from Labour Force Survey, 2023; Montréal International analysis.



# 05

## Montréal International: Free, Personalized and Confidential Services



# Montréal International offers a comprehensive support program for international organizations

We provide personalized support to international associations and organizations seeking to establish an office in Montréal



**Financial support** through a multi-year and flexible financial support available to through Montréal International's funding program



**Support for international mobility** with free and confidential advice for recruiting skilled foreign workers in Montréal



**Access Montréal International's network** and engage with key local institutional, academic and business stakeholders to make the most of your presence in Montréal



**Strategic and logistical advice** to support you in the process of setting up an office and growing your organization



# Targeted expertise to simplify immigration procedures

We simplify the immigration procedures for you



**Assistance in procedures for obtaining work permits**



**Expert immigration advice** on obtaining official documents related to the temporary stay of international workers and their families

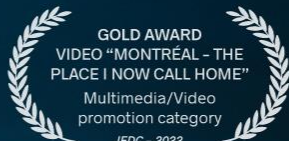


**Organization of information sessions on temporary and permanent immigration** procedures and employer compliance obligations (Labour Market Impact Study [LMIS], Québec acceptance certificate [CAQ])





# Montréal International, a world-leading economic development agency



...and many more!





## Contact us



Montréal  
International

**Montréal International**  
380 Saint-Antoine Street West  
Suite 6000  
Montréal, Québec H2Y 3X7

**t** +1 514-987-8191  
[www.montrealinternational.com](http://www.montrealinternational.com)

This document is the property of Montréal International. You are authorized to reproduce this document, in whole or in part, provided that its content is not modified and that Montréal International is clearly identified as the originator of this material. You shall not, in any circumstances, use the material in a manner that could create a false or misleading impression with respect to the source of the material, including but without limitation, by means of a mark or mention that does not refer to Montréal International.



**Arnaud Dion**  
Senior Director,  
International Organizations  
**e** [arnaud.dion@mtlintl.com](mailto:arnaud.dion@mtlintl.com)  
**t** +1 514 987 9372



**Siloe Yassa-Roy**  
Project Director,  
International Organizations  
**e** [siloe.yassa-roy@mtlintl.com](mailto:siloe.yassa-roy@mtlintl.com)  
**t** +1 514 968 7800

