



NEWS RELEASE

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TRANSFER OF SAINT ANNE'S HOSPITAL

SAINTE-ANNE-DE-BELLEVUE'S LEADERSHIP RESULTS IN A FAIR AGREEMENT

SAINTE-ANNE-DE-BELLEVUE, May 31, 2017—The City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached between the Ville de Montréal and related cities on the matter of calculating the Montreal Agglomeration's share.

This announcement follows the efforts initiated mainly by the City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue to ensure an equitable division of the shares arising from the transfer of Saint Anne's Hospital by the federal government to the Quebec government.

In the wake of the announced transfer, the City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue's share of the funding of the Montreal Agglomeration's expenses could have risen from \$9,846,000 to \$10,562,000, an annual increase of \$716,000. This increase, which the City found unacceptable, was attributed to a simple combination of the artificial and theoretical growth of the City's tax potential (commercial land wealth) and the formula in use since 2008 to calculate the size of the shares for the cities on the Island of Montreal.

To spare Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue residents the burden of a substantial increase in its share, the City approached Pierre Moreau, then minister of Municipal Affairs and Land Occupancy, in March 2015 to make him aware of the inequity in this method of calculation and how it would impact the City's share. The discussions continued with Minister Martin Coiteux following Mr. Moreau's departure.

In the spring of 2016, the City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue also held discussions with the Ville de Montréal on the adverse effect of the formula used to calculate the share. As a result of these discussions, the Ville de Montréal proposed a more realistic formula that complied with the definition of tax potential when the 2017-2019 assessment roll was tabled. Under this new formula, the City will save \$3.44 million annually as of 2019. It is important to note that in 2017 and 2018, the City will save \$1.148 million and \$2.296 million respectively.

"I'm proud of the leadership we have shown in persuading the Quebec government, the Ville de Montréal and our partner cities to work together toward a fairer solution to the thorny problem of share calculation. The transfer of Saint Anne's Hospital made the Ville de Montréal and related cities aware that the share calculation formula adopted in 2008 no longer applied in 2017.

Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue's determination was the catalyst that led to negotiations with all the cities in the Montreal Agglomeration to rectify a serious problem that had existed for close to a decade. I'm also pleased to see that, to date, the Quebec government has respected its

commitments to the City de Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue under the agreement for the transfer of Saint Anne’s Hospital,” said Paola Hawa, mayor of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue.

The agreement with the Quebec government dated July 27, 2016, also allows for the transfer of the Hospital’s surplus land, which is under the jurisdiction of the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de service sociaux de l’Ouest-de-l’Île-de-Montréal (CIUSSS), to the municipality.

“We are currently working with the CIUSSS de l’Ouest-de-l’Île to finalize the transfer of the surplus land. This is the last phase in the negotiations with the Quebec government for the Hospital’s transfer. We will continue to be vigilant as we work toward finalizing the transfer of the land in the near future,” concluded Ms. Hawa.

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