

**Inaugural address by Ms. Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montreal and Chair of the Montreal Metropolitan Community (MMC)**

MONTREAL, February 23, 2018 - CargoM, the Logistics and Transportation Metropolitan Cluster of Montreal, welcomes the directions outlined by Montreal Mayor and Chair of the MMC Valérie Plante in her inaugural address.

During her address, Ms. Plante reiterated the four pillars of her action plan: mobility, housing, economic development and the environment. She underlined the contribution of metropolitan clusters to the prosperity, outreach and innovative ecosystem of the metropolitan area.

For economic development, the MMC Chair highlighted the supervision of construction works under the metropolitan economic development plan (PMDE) and the need to focus on metropolitan clusters and the creative economy to consolidate our position in major metropolitan economies. She underlined the creation of a tenth cluster on electric and smart vehicles.

Ms. Plante gave her support to the Contrecœur container terminal project. She reaffirmed the central role played by the Montreal Port Authority in economic development and as a cornerstone for the performance of the logistics chain in the greater metropolitan area.

Mr. Martin Damphousse, Mayor of Varennes and responsible for the South Shore at the MMC, said: "The Port of Montreal expansion project, with the Contrecœur terminal, is a tremendous opportunity for the development and outreach of the industrial port zone we put in place under the Maritime Strategy. Already, Costco's arrival in our city sends a strong signal on the quality of our ecosystem, and we are convinced that when the terminal arrives, other companies will choose our region, creating good jobs and contributing to our economic prosperity."

For Mathieu Charbonneau, Executive Director of CargoM: "The MCC's metropolitan clusters are Greater Montreal's tools for economic development, innovation and outreach. The cluster strategy underlined by Ms. Plante sends a unifying and positive message to help strengthen the vitality, innovation and competitiveness of our metropolitan area."

**About CargoM**

*Created in 2012, CargoM CargoM ([www.cargo-montreal.ca](http://www.cargo-montreal.ca) - [@CargoMtl](https://twitter.com/CargoMtl)) brings together the players in Greater Montreal's logistics and freight transport industry, educational institutions, research centres, sector associations and unions around shared objectives in order to increase cohesiveness, competitiveness, growth and reach. The logistics and transportation industry in the greater metropolitan area represents 122,000 jobs in transportation and warehousing, 6,300 institutions and over \$4.3 billion in economic benefits for Greater Montreal.*

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