

PARC JEAN-DRAPEAU CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Montréal, February 9 2024 – It's with great enthusiasm that Parc Jean-Drapeau celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. On February 9, 1874, the Canadian government granted the City of Montreal the right to convert part of Île Ste-Hélène into public space, making it the city's first major public park. Since then, this unique site in the heart of the Saint-Lawrence River has held a special place in the hearts of Montrealers, creating vibrant and enriching experiences for visitors from near and far.

To mark this landmark year in the history of Montreal's largest island park, the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau (SPJD) is offering a festive and diversified program, developed in collaboration with key partners. At various times throughout the year, large-scale, original events will be staged, inviting visitors to experience the full potential of this unique site. These festivities are in addition to the Park's regular offerings, including winter activities running until March 10.

The **Eclipse of the Century** is the first highlight of this special program, to be held on April 8 in partnership with the Espace pour la vie's Planetarium. A musical ambience, educational activities and renowned artists and guests await participants to accompany the observation of this grandiose astronomical phenomenon, which will be particularly spectacular from Parc Jean-Drapeau thanks to the many clear vantage points and a breathtaking view of the river and the city.

"It was under the sign of boldness that Montreal's first major public park was developed. Today, this historic celebration is part of an ambitious transformation of our spaces and facilities, as several works and major development projects will be deployed as part of the 150th anniversary, including the rehabilitation of Place des Nations. By enhancing its rich cultural, natural and built heritage, we are building the Parc Jean-Drapeau of tomorrow, making it a leading destination and a source of great pride for Montrealers," declared Véronique Doucet, General Director of the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau.

"With its large-scale events and world-class facilities, the Park invites visitors to experience thrilling emotions and surpass themselves; but it's also a green refuge in the heart of the Saint-Lawrence River with a breathtaking view of the metropolis, offering moments of tranquility and exploration of urban nature. The 150th anniversary of Parc Jean-Drapeau represents a unique opportunity for visitors to discover the many facets of this iconic Montreal park, and to make its spaces their own forever," added Karel Mayrand, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau.



Parc
Jean-Drapeau

To find out more about the Park's 150th anniversary and to stay in the know of the festivities, visit parcjeandrapeau.com.

About the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau

The mission of the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau is to preserve, build, promote and develop this great urban park, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. In marking this milestone, a festive and diversified program is being planned all year long, while many renovations and redevelopment programs will be rolled out as part of the park's transformation. Providing an unprecedented experience for its visitors, along with a wide array of landscapes and facilities, this bold initiative will enable the site to achieve its full potential, making Parc Jean-Drapeau one of the most emblematic parks, worldwide.

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