



Press Release

June 9 to 11, 2004
National Forum on the Economic Growth of Big Cities

**The mayors of the 22 big Canadian cities
gathered in Montréal to discuss a new comprehensive partnership
agreement with the governments**

(Montréal, Tuesday, June 2, 2004 / CNW) – From June 9 to 11, the mayors of the 22 big Canadian cities will gather in Montréal to talk about establishing a new comprehensive partnership agreement with the federal government and their respective provincial government.

Jointly organized by the Montréal Metropolitan Community (MMC), on the initiative of its president, Mr Gerald Tremblay, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Forum will bring together the mayors of the 22 largest cities in Canada as well as representatives from civil society organizations interested in urban matters.

The aim of the Forum is to implement a new partnership with the federal government and the provincial governments which would recognize the changing roles and responsibilities of municipalities and the leading contribution of city regions in Canadian and provincial economies so as to accelerate economic growth, improve municipal infrastructure and resident's quality of life.

You will find included herewith the program of the Forum and the list of civil society participants. You can also consult the website of the Montreal Metropolitan Community at www.cmm.qc.ca/gv22/.

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**National Forum on the Economic Growth of Big Cities in Canada :
Participating Civil Society Associations**

Montréal, Hyatt Regency Hotel, June 9-10-11, 2004

- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada**
Mr. Lawrence Aronovitch, Director, Government Relations and Public Affairs
- Canadian Conference of Arts**
Mr. Jean Malavoy, Director general
- Canadian Council of Chief Executives**
Mr. David Stewart-Patterson, Vice President Director
- Canadian Federation of Independent Business**
Mr. Richard Fahey, Vice President, Québec
- Canadian Housing and Renewal Association**
Mr. John Metson, President
- Canadian Institute of Planners**
Mr. Chris Leach, Vice President
- Canadian Society for Civil Engineering**
Mr. Glen Carlin, President, Quebec section
- Canada 25**
Mr. Andrew Medd, Executive Director
- Canadian Union of Public Employees, local 500**
Mr. Paul Moist, National President
- Canadian Urban Institute**
Mr. Glenn Miller, vice-président, Education and Research
- Canadian Urban Transit Association**
Mr. Robert Olivier, First Vice President
- Centraide - United Way**
Mrs Michelle Thibodeau-Deguire, President and Executive Director, Centraide of Greater Montreal
- Community Foundations of Canada**
Mrs Betsy Martin, Director of programs
- National Association of Friendship Centres**
Mr. Eric Ravenelle, Secretary
- National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy**
Mr. Harvey Mead, President
- TD Financial Group**
Mr. Derek Burleton, Senior Economist