



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, June 9th 2010

Downtown Moncton Centre-ville Inc. holds 33rd Annual General Meeting

MONCTON –Downtown Moncton Centre-ville Inc. held its 33rd Annual General Meeting yesterday at the Delta Hotel in downtown Moncton.

During his speech, DMCI Interim Executive Director Lawrence Forbes thanked the numerous business partners who continue to contribute to our downtown's success and development. M. Forbes' speech focused on DMCI's three roundtables held earlier this spring. DMCI hired Diane Pomeroy of Hatch Mott MacDonald to put together a report stemming from these roundtables. Five major recommendations were then brought forward, they are: Parking, Main street, Downtown Appearance & Atmosphere, Retail Opportunities and Downtown Residential Opportunities. These are the top five doable actions or quick fixes to address the issues raised through the roundtable exercise. A copy of this report will soon be given to the mayor's office.

DMCI interim President Maura MacKinnon gave a heartfelt message that focused on the many positive attributes to be found in our downtown. She then reiterated DMCI's great interest in having a Metro Centre in our core, she said: «We, at DMCI, strongly believe that a downtown metro centre would serve as a multi-use entertainment facility to further position Metro Moncton as the entertainment hub of Atlantic Canada. We are also convinced that this project could serve as a catalyst for further downtown development. DMCI believes that in order to support the interests of its members, we need a Multi-Use facility for meetings, conferences, activities that bring residents downtown more frequently, attract Atlantic Canadians to our downtown and create a vibrant daytime facility. Without a doubt, this facility will be both a catalyst and a stimulus for growth. A Metro Centre in our downtown will create even more economic activity».

Guest Speaker was M. Jan Carinci; CFL player from 1981 to 1990 and freelance events consultant. During his speech, M. Carinci asked the crowd to create a vision in their minds, a vision that would include developing initiatives to foster a positive and dynamic environment for working, shopping, relaxing, living and investing in downtown Moncton. M. Carinci then created a scenario that took us all the way to 2020 when Moncton would host the Grey Cup Down east. He continued by telling us how beneficial, on all levels, such a dream would be, if it were to come true. He then asked the question: is Moncton ready to accept the challenge of creating an environment where the game, the league and eventually a team can not just survive but thrive?

DMCI thanked outgoing board member and City liaison Paul Pellerin for his services and welcomed a new City Liaison; councillor Catherine Barnes.

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For more information:
Lawrence Forbes
DMCI interim Executive Director
857-2991
lforbes@downtownmoncton.com