



Moncton, April 13th, 2012



Dear Mayor LeBlanc,
Dear Mister Léger ,

On April 12, four architects shared their vision for the future of Moncton center, the proposed Downtown Events Centre. The Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce would like to thank you, on behalf of our Board of Directors and our members, for this amazing showcase. The fact that interested citizens packed the city council chamber is proof of the Greater Moncton's interest and support to this project.

Downtown Moncton Centre-Ville Incorporated and the City of Moncton have given the community an idea of how the city's future will look and feel like. Together with earlier public hearings and feedback sessions, this involvement and participation of Monctonians is a crucial part of the story.

Since the Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce is the voice of the business community we realize and support the importance to revitalize the downtown area and continuously look for ways to improve our city center. This is good not only for businesses but also for the community at large, as our members are a full and integral part of the community in which they live. We all shop, play, travel and relax.

We are thrilled by the multifunctional and all-purpose approach of the presenting architects. A well balanced combination of retail opportunities, office space, sport facilities, entertainment and residential areas is the key to success. The fact that the new centre will serve as a multi-modal transportation hub completes its goal. Where are the days when the Highfield and Main intersection was the beating heart of our city? It is good to see that the tabled plans reconnect with this history.

The Chamber realizes that funding for this project (\$100 million) is far from secured and there are no guarantees that the federal government will come through with financial support. However, we feel that a city needs projects. Citizens need projects, and a new downtown community centre is what Moncton needs. Moncton needs to and knows how to "IMAGINE". Keeping the plans in the spotlight and getting public support will get us there.

We always hear how the Greater Moncton area is a great place to live and do business in and numerous studies confirm it. It has become our trademark in many ways. This future development will secure our spot in these rankings. Thank you for keeping the dream alive and we are looking forward to work with you on making it a reality.

Nancy Whipp
CEO, Greater Moncton Chamber of Commerce (GMCC)
Bernie Belliveau
Chair, Board of Directors GMCC