

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Écoprojets Community Fund: The City of Vaudreuil-Dorion awards four grants for environmental projects

Vaudreuil-Dorion, April 18, 2023 – During the public session held on April 17th, City Council awarded a grant to four organizations within the framework of the *Écoprojets* Community Fund. Projects eligible for funding include *Le Jardin des pollinisateurs* by L'Atelier paysan (\$5,000), *Mon campus, mon boisé* by La Fondation de l'école de la Cité-des-Jeunes (\$5,000), *La Forêt nourricière des Petits mousses* by CPE Les Petits Mousses (\$5,000) and *Le Jardin communautaire* by École Brind'Amour (\$4,692).

These four projects were selected among the 13 applications received following the City's invitation at the beginning of the year aimed at citizens, non-profit organizations and public institutions wishing to carry out an environmental project on the territory of Vaudreuil-Dorion. Following an admissibility analysis, the projects were assessed by a committee composed of Oriana Farina - Head of the Environment section, Pascale Lauzon - Head of the Social Development and Diversity section, France Lavoie - Director of Communications, and Olivier Prigent - Project Manager for the Engineering and Environment Department. These projects are expected to be implemented by the end of 2023.

"This is the second edition of the *Écoprojets* Community Fund, which aims to encourage organizations to carry out initiatives that contribute to the protection of the environment in their community. We are thrilled to see how the Fund is generating interest in the community, as evidenced by the projects of interest that are being submitted," said Mayor Guy Pilon.

Oriana Farina is delighted with the community's participation: "The applications we have received are of high quality. We can truly sense that environmental protection is important to organizations. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2023 edition of the *Écoprojets* Community Fund."

Projects selected for 2023

L'Atelier paysan plans on resuming its beehive activities and enhancing them by adding a **pollinator garden** and an observation point. The garden will feature the presence of plants that are favourable to beneficial insects as well as an area where visitors can safely observe the work of bees and other insects.

With ***Mon campus, mon boisé***, La Fondation de la Cité-des-Jeunes, through an existing extracurricular activity at the high school, plans to oversee two activities in the wooded area surrounding the school: a clean-up drive as well as a series of actions to halt the spread of Phragmites (common reed), an invasive plant found in two areas close to the woodland.

Under the supervision of a landscaper, the management and staff of CPE Les Petits Moussees, in collaboration with the children and their families, will plant fruit trees and shrubs during a day set aside for this purpose. **La forêt nourricière**, a food forest, will make it possible to harvest fresh fruit, produced without pesticides, which will provide healthy food for the children, staff and eventually residents of La Coopérative de solidarité la Seigneurie de Vaudreuil, located close to the daycare centre.

The community gardens located at Brind'Amour Elementary school were damaged following recent pavement repairs. The **Jardin communautaire** project aims to rebuild the gardening bins, replace soil and compost and plant greenery. The grant will also be used to purchase materials to enable students to garden and participate in the maintenance of the spaces.

About the *Écoprojets* Community Fund

The *Écoprojets* Community Fund is part of the Strategic Planning 2020 > 2025 entitled *Habité par ma ville*, which promotes citizen participation. The fund serves to encourage initiatives aimed at enhancing the environment and its protection in association with the target areas outlined in the City of Vaudreuil-Dorion's Environmental Policy, namely the protection of water resources, urban agriculture, residual materials, adaptation to climate change, as well as biodiversity and natural environments.