



PLANETAIR GREATER MONTREAL PORTFOLIO



Location: Greater Montreal and various countries

Portfolio Type: Mixed Portfolio - Gold Standard projects and Greater Montreal projects

Our Planetair Greater Montreal Portfolio is a two-pronged approach designed to bolster your climate commitment with robust integrity and credibility.

The first component of our portfolio allows you to offset all your greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through Gold Standard-certified climate projects. The Gold Standard is globally recognized for its stringent criteria and effectiveness in reducing GHG emissions, thereby ensuring the high quality of the projects. Each tonne of GHG offset by these projects is traceable through a unique certificate, proving an assurance of the integrity, reliability, efficiency, and credibility of the offset.

The second component of the portfolio allows you to also contribute to the implementation of climate-beneficial projects in the Greater Montreal area through our partner, the Nature Conservancy of Canada - Quebec Region (NCC). NCC projects



promote the protection of the habitat of numerous animal and plant species in precarious situations. Many of these natural environments are accessible to the public, encouraging the discovery and understanding of nature. Over 1,700 hectares in the Greater Montreal territory are protected this way.

Thus, your contribution enables Planetair to support both Gold Standard-certified projects and local projects in the Greater Montreal area.

In recognition of your commitment to combatting climate change, Planetair will send you a carbon offset certificate. The certificate will detail the number of tonnes of CO₂e that your contribution has helped to reduce.

The two components of the portfolio are further described below.

COMPONENT 1 - GOLD STANDARD-CERTIFIED PROJECTS

By contributing to the first component of our portfolio, you offset 100% of your GHG emissions by supporting Gold Standard certified climate projects. This internationally renowned certification guarantees real, measured, transparent, additional, and verified neutralization of GHG emissions. It stands as the benchmark in voluntary GHG offsetting.

We select innovative projects such as solar and wind energy generation, improved domestic stoves, and optimized waste management. These projects are highly effective carbon offsetting mechanisms, as they prevent GHG emissions at the source. For instance, harnessing solar or wind energy to generate electricity reduces our reliance on fossil fuels like coal and oil, important sources of GHG emissions. Furthermore, advanced waste management techniques, such as the recovery and reuse of organic waste to generate energy, contribute to the reduction of methane emissions, a notably potent greenhouse gas.

Unlike tree planting projects that require time to sequester carbon, the Gold Standard projects we select yield an immediate positive impact on the climate, making them a more appropriate response to the urgency of the climate crisis.

Furthermore, Gold Standard certification requires projects to contribute to at least three UN Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 13: Climate Action.



For an overview of recent Gold Standard projects supported by Planetair, please refer to the table located at the end of this brochure.

COMPONENT 2 - PROJECTS IN THE GREATER MONTREAL AREA

The second component of the portfolio finances nature protection projects in the Greater Montreal area. Your contribution supports projects for the conservation and restoration of sensitive natural habitats in the region. Our partner, the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), has been working to protect our most precious natural environments and the species they shelter since 1962. We donate 25% of your contribution to NCC, whose activities promote CO₂ capture and mitigate the impact of climate change on fauna and flora.



NCC protects more than 1,700 hectares in the Greater Montreal area, spread over islands, at the foot of the Montérégiennes, in the peat bogs of the Haut-Saint-Laurent and on agricultural lands. To respond to the loss of biodiversity in the region, NCC



intends to increase its efforts over the next few years and contribute to the achievement of international protection targets.

Here are some of NCC projects in Greater Montreal:

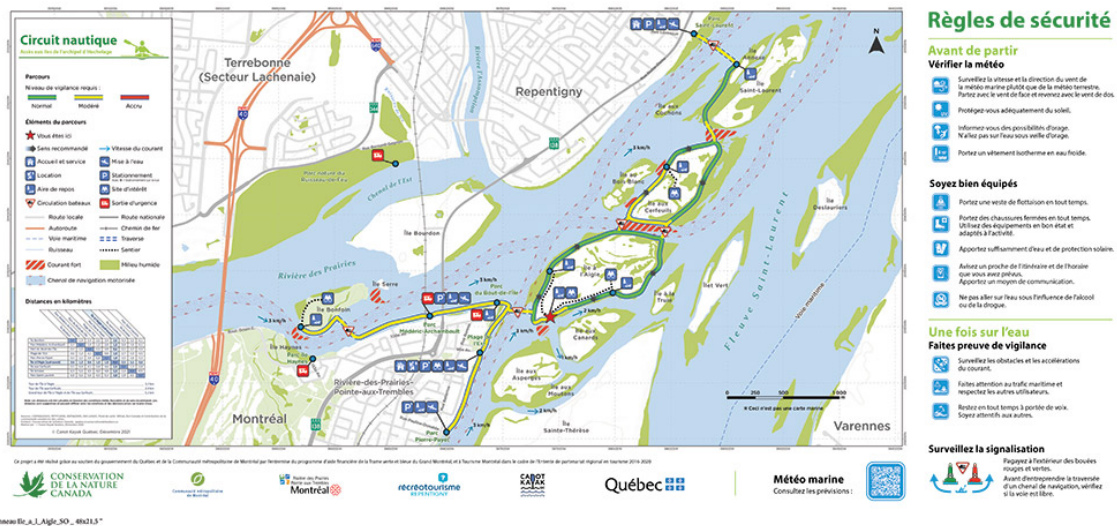
Montreal's green belt - Remarkable biodiversity

By conserving land in Montreal and Laval, in the south of Lanaudière and the Laurentians, as well as in the north of the Montérégie, NCC plays, together with its partners, a key role in the implementation of a Green Belt in Greater Montreal, an essential response to climate change. This Green Belt concept encapsulates protected natural environments linked together by ecological corridors that allow the fauna to move and the flora to disperse, while slowing down urban sprawl.

Greater Montreal's green belt is made up of an urban zone – the most populous in Quebec –, as well as peri-urban and agricultural zones. Despite its predominantly urban character, the metropolitan area harbors a multitude of natural environments: forests, lakes, islands, riparian areas, and wetlands. The territory, of which 17% is covered by forests, is home to exceptional ecosystems. It has many sites of high ecological value in the St. Lawrence Lowlands – proof of the richness of its flora and fauna. Due to the geographical location and the favorable climate, it is on this territory that more than half of the animal and plant species in precarious situation of the province live.

By creating and protecting a large green belt in the Montreal agglomeration, NCC seeks to preserve precious natural environments for future generations. This is precisely what the Montreal Metropolitan Community is proposing through its Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan: create a green and blue network to better combine natural and urbanized sectors. NCC now wishes to increase the surface area of protected land in Montreal's Green Belt and continues to support the conservation actions of its partners in the territory. Combining awareness-raising work with lasting partnerships will benefit the conservation of the natural area.

In the Green Belt, inhabited areas and natural environments coexist harmoniously. Not only does this symbiosis preserve biodiversity, but it also allows citizens to enjoy nature, in addition to improving air and water quality, and preventing floods and droughts. It also allows municipalities to better plan their territory. Knowing that habitats need to be connected to each other to preserve the diversity of species living there, a green network is essential.



The islands

Since 1978, the Nature Conservancy of Canada has protected several islands along the Ottawa River and the St. Lawrence River. To date, of the fifty islands preserved on the river, NCC owns 17 of them, along a 90 km stretch between Lac des Deux Montagnes and Lake Saint-Pierre, near Trois-Rivières. NCC protects more than 245 hectares of essential habitats on its islands, four of which are now accessible to the public to respond to the growing recreational tourism interest surrounding the St. Lawrence, while protecting the archipelago through its conservation activities.

Bonfoin Island

Île Bonfoin, located in the borough of Rivière-des-Prairies-Pointe-aux-Trembles on the island of Montreal, is jointly managed by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the City of Montreal. It is dedicated to preservation in perpetuity. This acquisition made it possible to consolidate and increase Montreal's green and blue heritage and contributes to the City of Montreal's policy for the protection and enhancement of natural environments.

Round Island

The recent acquisition of Île Ronde, located between Montreal and Laval on the Rivière des Prairies, increases the protected territories of the sector, which will improve the habitats of the many plant and animal species found there. The habitat of the shag hickory, a tree species likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable in Quebec, will be protected by this acquisition. There is also a wetland conducive to the reproduction of fish and amphibians. The map turtle, a species of federal concern and designated vulnerable in Quebec, frequently uses the shores of this island, which offers

it a resting place sheltered from disturbances. These sites are becoming increasingly rare for this species, which frequents the most densely populated region of Quebec.

Several species of waterfowl such as Canada geese, wood ducks, gadwall, American black ducks, American wigeon ducks and common mergansers are also frequently seen in this sector. Several fish use the waters of the Rivière des Prairies, including burbot, northern pike, yellow perch, bowfish, largemouth bass and black crappie. The preservation of intact banks, in general, benefits the quality of the water they need.

The woodlands

NCC is also working to protect wooded areas of great ecological value in urban areas.

Boisé-Papineau Nature Reserve

This is particularly the case of Boisé Papineau, located in Laval, which includes a bicentennial beech forest with sugar maple trees designated as an exceptional forest ecosystem by the Quebec Ministry of Forests, Wildlife and Parks. The property contains mixed forests that provide refuge for ruffed grouse and other forest birds, as well as a prairie formerly used for agriculture. There is also a forest made up of different species, including butternut, an endangered tree in Canada, and there are also wetlands, including a cattail swamp, two phragmites swamps and a silver maple swamp.

These habitats play a vital role in the productivity and ecological diversity of the entire region. They also represent a feeding site for several predators, such as snakes and raccoons, from neighboring ecosystems, and nesting habitats for dragonflies, frogs, and salamanders.



Carillon Wooded Area

This unique and ecologically rich territory is home to the exceptional forest ecosystem of Carillon, where we find the most intact occurrences of black maple and cork elm in the province. More than 202 hectares in the municipality of Saint-André-d'Argenteuil, located west of Montreal's green belt, are protected by NCC. This site protects 40% of a 500-hectare forest considered to be a priority according to the Atlas of territories of interest for conservation in the St. Lawrence Lowlands.

In addition to an expanse of forest, there are approximately 55 hectares of wetlands, streams, and riparian areas, including 1.6 kilometers of shoreline on the Rivière du Nord, which empties into the Ottawa River. The crucial next step of this project will be to develop a management plan to reduce the impact of human activities on these essential natural habitats. Project funding will support the stewardship of 15 species considered to be at risk, provincially or federally, including the Northern Map Turtle, Eastern Wood-pewee, and Snapping Turtle.

Turtles

Nine species of turtles live in Quebec, and they are all in a precarious situation. The loss of nesting and basking sites, habitats critical to the survival of turtles, is the main threat they face. They are also victims of injuries, sometimes fatal, caused by boat propellers or collisions with cars. Artificially bred populations of turtle nest predators in urban and peri-urban settings are also suspected to limit their reproduction and threaten the maintenance of long-term populations.



The Montreal region includes around a hundred islands and islets, as well as several waterways. In this aquatic environment, in the heart of the greater metropolitan area, live many species, including the map turtle, an important link in the life of our waterways



and designated vulnerable under the Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species of Quebec. The protection of its habitat also contributes directly to the conservation of natural riparian environments, to the maintenance of water quality and even to limit the risk of flooding. To come to its aid, CNC has set up numerous actions to raise awareness and restore the environment.

Several measures for the protection of turtles have been put in place at strategic locations identified through the carapace.ca website. Anyone who sees a turtle on their property or in the street is invited to report their presence on the Carapace project site. These reports allow conservation organizations, such as NCC, to take the right actions in the right places. Since the launch of Carapace.ca in 2017, the number of turtle reports has been steadily increasing each year. By summer 2021, nearly 2,000 turtles had been reported there, bringing the total number of reports to 8,000 since the start of the project.



ABOUT PLANETAIR

Planetair is a climate protection initiative initiated by the Unisfera International Centre, a non-profit organization founded in 2002. We are committed to promoting sustainable development and contributing to the fight against climate change. Our operations are funded by the grants and contributions we receive in support of our activities and, to a limited extent, by the advisory services we offer.



Each year, our commitments to you are verified by certified public accountants (CPA). The most recent audit report is always available for consultation on our website: planetair.ca.


We are proud to mention that Planetair is the only organization active in greenhouse gas offsetting recommended by Protégez-Vous (*Protect Yourself*), the reference magazine for consumer protection. You can find the link to the analysis conducted by Protégez-Vous also on our homepage.



ProtégezVous.



For any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at: info@planetair.ca.



Your support is vital to our mission, and we sincerely thank you for your commitment to act with us!

Some of the Gold Standard projects to which Planetair has contributed

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="354 383 709 412">Efficient Cooking Ovens Project</p> <p data-bbox="478 420 585 449">Nepal/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 383 1885 488">Problem: Nepal is a mountainous country with difficult topographical and socio-economic conditions. A quarter of its population lives below the poverty line. Besides economic poverty, this population lacks modern energy services for cooking and depends on inefficient and unhealthy open fire stoves.</p> <p data-bbox="884 534 1885 680">Solution: This home energy efficiency project distributes modern and improved stoves to socially marginalized groups in southeastern Nepal in the districts of Rautahat, Sarlahi and Mahottari. The stoves provide a clean cooking solution for households in these communities, improving health, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving local forests, and promoting gender equality.</p> <p data-bbox="884 725 1885 907">Thus, in addition to reducing emissions, the stoves allow complete combustion of the fuel, minimizing air pollution, for healthier cooking that protects the health of the inhabitants. More efficient, the stoves also require up to 50% less wood fuel, alleviating deforestation pressures on nearby ecosystems and reducing the time needed to collect wood. The project also creates jobs for local men and women, who are trained by the project promoter in the installation and construction of the stoves.</p>

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="384 305 682 334">Cururos Wind Park Project</p> <p data-bbox="432 342 634 371">Chile/South America</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 305 1885 375">Problem: In Chile, some of the country's electricity is generated from fossil fuels, which produce significant amounts of greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p data-bbox="884 418 1885 639">Solution: The Cururos project encompasses two wind farms located in the Coquimbo region of Chile with a total installed capacity of 109.6 MW and an average annual output of 290 GWh. The wind farms are connected to the Central Interconnected System (SIC). By displacing fossil fuel-based electricity in the grid, it has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 173,819 tonnes of CO₂e per year, which equates to 1,390,550 tonnes of CO₂e over the 7-year renewable accreditation period.</p>
<p data-bbox="264 833 802 862">Efficient Cookstoves and Drinking Water Project</p> <p data-bbox="359 870 707 899">Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda/Africa</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 833 1885 979">Problem: In rural areas of Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda, a large portion of the population lacks access to clean water and relies on wood and charcoal for cooking and water purification. This leads to environmental (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), health (indoor air quality), and economic (cost of wood and time required for wood collection) challenges.</p> <p data-bbox="884 1023 1885 1203">Solution: To address these issues, the projects subsidize the production and distribution of efficient stoves for low-income families. These efficient stoves help to reduce firewood consumption by approximately 50%. Some of the projects also support the rehabilitation of water boreholes to provide clean water to communities and the installation of water treatment systems at communal water sources, which saves families from having to boil water.</p>

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="415 305 646 329">Solar Energy Projects</p> <p data-bbox="369 342 693 367">India and Turkey/Europe and Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 305 1879 407">Problem: In India and Turkey, a significant portion of electricity is generated from fossil fuels that emit large amounts of greenhouse gases. This method of producing electricity remains the cheapest in these countries.</p> <p data-bbox="884 456 1879 524">Solution: Solar park projects allow for the substitution of fossil fuels by solar energy, thereby reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity production in these populous countries.</p>
<p data-bbox="415 719 646 743">Wind Energy Projects</p> <p data-bbox="369 756 693 781">India and Turkey/Europe and Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 719 1879 821">Problem: In India and Turkey, a significant portion of electricity is generated from fossil fuels that emit large amounts of greenhouse gases. This method of producing electricity remains the cheapest in these countries.</p> <p data-bbox="884 870 1879 938">Solution: Wind park projects allow for the substitution of fossil fuels by wind energy, thereby reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity production in these populous countries.</p>

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="367 305 699 332">Landfill Gas to Energy Project</p> <p data-bbox="436 342 627 370">Turkey/Europe/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 305 1850 370">Problem: Organic matter (i.e. food, paper, etc.) in landfills decompose and release methane gas (a very potent greenhouse gas) into the atmosphere contributing to climate change.</p> <p data-bbox="884 418 1877 638">Solution: The project aims at avoiding greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from an existing landfill by collecting biogas to generate electricity. In addition to the direct avoidance of GHG emissions, further indirect emission reductions are achieved through the CO₂-neutral replacement of fossil fuels used for power generation. The activity includes the installation of a landfill gas extraction system, an enclosed flare as well as a biogas driven genset for electricity production. The biogas power project is built near the Molu village of Koca in the province of Kayseri in Turkey.</p>
<p data-bbox="363 776 703 803">Wastewater Treatment Project</p> <p data-bbox="464 813 600 841">Thailand/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 776 1881 841">Problem: The wastewater treatment facility uses fossil fuels to operate. The former operation of the plant also led to unpleasant smells, impacting people in the surrounding communities.</p> <p data-bbox="884 889 1881 1027">Solution: Thanks to the project, methane generated by the process is now captured, preventing it from contributing to climate change. In addition, it is used to generate energy and thus limits the need to resort to additional fossil fuels. Moreover, the project generates jobs for the local population, and it supports social and educational activities in the community.</p>