

## **RAPPORT SIÈGE 3 / REPORT FROM SEAT 3: NICHOLAS TASSÉ**

**2026-06-29**

Good evening everyone , bonsoir tout le monde,

Earlier this month, I had the privilege of attending the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference in Edmonton along with the mayor. The conference brought together municipal elected officials, administrators, and industry professionals from across Canada to discuss the opportunities and challenges facing municipalities of every size.

Throughout this conference, I attended sessions on infrastructure renewal, housing, and economic development. I also took part in a walking tour of Edmonton's downtown redevelopment projects, where we saw how investments in public spaces, transportation infrastructure, and commercial districts have helped transform key areas of the city. I returned with some interesting ideas that I hope will contribute to our ongoing work to improve our community.

Back on the home front, Public Works crews and contractors continue to make steady progress on a number of important projects throughout town.

Some of you may have noticed several sinkholes in town, they have been prioritized for repair and work has started on the most severe ones in recent weeks. We understand These repairs can temporarily affect traffic and pedestrian circulation, but this is essential work as that helps to avoid more significant infrastructure failures.

Work also continues on the Courtney Drive reconstruction project. This major investment includes the complete replacement of aging water and sewer infrastructure, as well as the reconstruction of the roadway and sidewalks.

Projects of this scale inevitably create inconvenience for nearby residents. Road closures, detours, construction noise, and temporary disruptions to parking are never enjoyable. But much of the infrastructure beneath our streets has reached the point where renewal is no longer optional.

Municipal officials and workers are often criticized when infrastructure fails. But at the same time, the work required to prevent those failures can also be unpopular as they cause inconveniences to our daily routines. The reality is that the choice is rarely between construction and no construction. It is between planned renewal today or emergency repairs tomorrow. By making these investments now, we are reducing the likelihood of costly failures in the future. We are also providing residents with reliable underground services, safer roads, and improved public infrastructure that will serve our community for decades to come. I sincerely thank residents for their patience and understanding as this important work continues.

Patience will also be needed by all residents as we work with the builders of the Easton project as they put the final layer of asphalt in the area of Westminster and Avon in the coming weeks. As summer progresses, even more patience will be needed as we work towards finalizing plans and receiving tenders for the pavement of Ainslie as well as the removal of the aging play structure at Roy D Locke Park that was recently closed for safety reasons. It is always disappointing to lose a familiar community asset, but public safety remains our priority. Council will continue discussing future opportunities for the site as we look ahead to the next chapter for the park.

The Westminster Revitalization Committee held its inaugural meeting on May 26. Committee members had the opportunity to meet one another and begin preliminary discussions on the future of our commercial district. Conversations ranged from infrastructure and bylaws to attracting new businesses, beautification initiatives, community events, and ideas to further strengthen Westminster as the commercial heart of Montreal West.

I am excited to see what ideas emerge over the coming months as we work together to build an even stronger business community.

On a more reflective note, I would like to recognize the closing of Budning Pharmacy after more than seventy years of service to our community. For generations, the Budning family provided not only professional pharmacy services, but also the kind of personal, neighbourly care that has become synonymous with Montreal West. Their longstanding commitment to residents reminds us of the important role local independent businesses play in preserving the character of our town.

On behalf of Council, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Budning family and their staff for their many decades of dedicated service to our community. We wish them nothing but success and happiness in the next chapter of their journey.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Canada Day celebrations this Wednesday.

Thank you, enjoy your summer