



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Le Windsor celebrates its 125th anniversary

Montréal, September 24, 2003 — Mr. Michel Bédard, Vice-President, Real Estate Investments, Opvest, Mr. Jean-Louis Dubé, Senior Vice-President, Asset Management, SITQ and Mr. Gary E. Polachek, President, Weloga Corporation and Chief Executive Officer, Magil Laurentienne, have unveiled today the calendar of events for the 125th anniversary celebrations of Le Windsor, one of the most prestigious historic landmarks of Montreal's urban heritage, housing prestigious office space, two magnificent ballrooms, Peacock Alley and a most distinctive Atrium.

The Windsor Hotel has been host to international guests, celebrities, dignitaries and monarchs for more than a century—Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, John A. Macdonald, Sarah Bernhardt, Mark Twain, Stephen Leacock, Winston Churchill, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, Charles de Gaulle, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Phillip, John F. Kennedy, Jean Lesage, Bruce Willis and Ben Affleck—to name a few.

“Major associations and corporations have been founded at the Windsor Hotel such as the Montreal Canadiens in 1909, the National Hockey League (NHL) in 1917 and the Provisory International Civil Aviation Organization (PICAO) in 1945,” emphasized Mr. Michel Bédard. Mr. Bédard also pointed out the Windsor's one hundred year association with the St. Andrew's Society, for it was the St. Andrew's Society ball that highlighted the opening ceremonies in 1878.

“The development and preservation of our historic landmarks are part of our responsibilities as owners of real estate portfolios,” explained Mr. Jean-Louis Dubé, “even more when it concerns buildings with such great historic value as Le Windsor.” Mr. Jean-Louis Dubé has unveiled the calendar of events for the 125th anniversary celebrations and invited all Montrealers to explore the presentation *Le Windsor, 125 years of history* and visit the magnificent ballrooms, Peacock Alley and Atrium during the Open Door which will take place on September 25. A historic retrospective, in co-operation with the McCord Museum, La Presse and The Gazette, will also take place, in

Montreal, at Place Victoria, from September 29 to October 24, and then in Québec City, at Complexe St-Amable, from October 27 to November 21.

Both the co-owners and property manager are proud to count on the co-operation of the McCord Museum to give the opportunity to all to explore the rich history of Canada’s first grand hotel built in 1878, “which has inspired artists who took advantage of the magnificent views of this location,” indicated Mrs. Victoria Dickenson, Executive Director, McCord Museum. Mrs. Dickenson also emphasized the extensive collection of the Notman Photographic Archives: “As you peruse these treasures, you can almost hear the footfalls of past generations still ringing through Peacock Alley.”

Through the years, Le Windsor remained a prestigious address offering a prime location at the heart of downtown Montreal. Le Windsor is also a unique venue for business meetings as well as corporate events, press conferences, product launches, receptions and weddings. “Le Windsor has always been part of Montreal’s social life. Montreal’s heart has pulsed to the rhythm of the Windsor, with countless events in its magnificent ballrooms during its 125 years of history,” indicated Mr. Gary E. Polachek.

Le Windsor is co-owned by Desjardins Financial Security, SITQ and Weloga Corporation, and is managed by Magil Laurentian. These major corporations manage important real estate portfolios. Both the co-owners and property manager are proud to celebrate the 125th anniversary of this prestigious landmark of Montreal’s urban heritage.

For further information on the 125th anniversary celebrations of Le Windsor, please visit www.lewindsor.com

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