



# 2013 TERRITORIAL ANALYSIS

## Ahuntsic

### THE TERRITORY AND ITS POPULATION

Ahuntsic is bordered to the east by Montréal-Nord and Saint-Michel, to the south by Villeray and Parc-Extension, to the west by Bordeaux-Cartierville, and to the north by Rivière des Prairies.

This territory has two bridges that serve as a gateway to the Island for the residents of Montreal's northern suburb. The territory also has three metro stations, including Henri-Bourassa, which is a major terminal and whose sector is an urban blend of residences, businesses and commuter routes. Bicycle paths that run east-west and north-south complete the neighbourhood's road infrastructure.

Despite an appearance of ease, Ahuntsic, which stretches along Rivière des Prairies, is home to hidden areas of poverty.

### COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL FABRIC

The Solidarité Ahuntsic neighbourhood round table provides leadership for well-organized community action. It plays a central role in the social development of the sector in collaboration with other territorial agencies and residents. In 2009, the round table created a strategic plan—following a social forum on the neighbourhood's priorities—that outlines a ten-year framework for Ahuntsic's social development.

This plan is currently undergoing a mid-term review. In this context, Centraide would like to help the neighbourhood and its community stakeholders find the tools, resources and strategies to reach their social development goals.

The social problems in the neighbouring areas of Bordeaux-Cartierville and Montréal-Nord have spilled over into some sectors of Ahuntsic, a neighbourhood nonetheless regarded as well-off. Although the number of low-income individuals is below the Montreal average, nearly 16,000 Ahuntsic residents, or 21% of the neighbourhood population, live below the low-income cutoff. These residents are found mostly in the sectors of Saint-Benoît, Saint-Sulpice, Saint-Simon and Sault-au-Récollet. Solidarité Ahuntsic implemented strategies to engage stakeholders in these sectors to ensure that their initiatives are as relevant as possible.

In 2013-2014, Centraide is supporting eight community agencies in the territory of Ahuntsic, including a community engagement process, for a total investment of \$881,724. Each of these agencies works in a different sector: new immigrants, housing, youth, women or food security.

### SNAPSHOT of the territory

**74,000 people in private households; 6th most populated territory on the Island of Montreal**

**Poverty that indeed exists, despite appearances**  
21% of the population, or 16,000 people, lives below the low-income cutoff compared to 23% for the Island of Montreal

**Aging of the population**  
17% people 65 years and older compared to 15% youth under the age of 15. In Montreal, seniors and youth account for 15% and 16% of the total population, respectively

**Percentage of single-parent families close to the Montreal average**  
34% compared to 33% for the Island of Montreal

**Number of renters close to the average**  
63% compared to 62% for the Island of Montreal  
One third of renter households (34%) dedicate a high percentage of income (30% or more) to rent (Island of Montreal: 39%)

**Number of people living alone higher than in Montreal, particularly among seniors**  
21% of the Ahuntsic population, or 16,000 people, lives alone compared to 18% for the Island of Montreal  
43% of seniors in the territory live alone (Island of Montreal: 31%)

**Number of immigrants slightly below the average**  
27% compared to 31% for the Island of Montreal  
Immigrant families in the territory are particularly affected by poverty: 41% live below the low-income cutoff (Island of Montreal: 36%)

**Percentage of recent immigrants equal to the average**  
8% new immigrants, or the same percentage as that for the Island of Montreal

More than one out of two recent immigrants (52%) live below the low-income cutoff (Island of Montreal: 50%)

**Number of people from visible minorities close to the Montreal average**  
23% compared to 25% for the Island of Montreal

Sociodemographic and economic data – 2006 Census



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## Ahuntsic

### ISSUES THAT ENGAGE CENTRAIDE

- **Action in target areas**

In the four sectors recognized as areas of underprivilege—Saint-Benoît, Saint-Sulpice, Saint-Simon and Sault-au-Récollet—, Centraide intends to support integrated initiatives to reinforce and diversify community action for people experiencing poverty and social exclusion and thereby to help revitalize these sectors.

- **Social mix and neighbourly relations**

Centraide will be attentive to the development of innovative strategies for young people living in HLMs, the promotion of social diversity, and the implementation of social facilitation approaches that aim to establish good relations among neighbours. Centraide will also help agencies reinforce their skills in evaluating their work.

- **Coordinated action**

Centraide would like to continue supporting the neighbourhood social development plan as a way to strengthen how community agencies work together on priority issues.

### INVESTMENT

from Centraide of Greater Montreal

#### Living conditions

- Comité logement Ahuntsic-Cartierville
- Service de nutrition et d'action communautaire (SNAC)

#### Community development

- Solidarité Ahuntsic

#### Inclusion, youth

- Rap Jeunesse (Rue-Action-Prévention), programme Éducateur de Rue

#### Inclusion, mental health

- Montreal Association for the Intellectually Handicapped (regional agency)

#### Inclusion, refugees and immigrants

- Carrefour d'aide aux nouveaux arrivants (CANA)

#### Youth and families

- Pause-Famille

#### Neighbourhood life

- Montreal Italian Women's Centre (Centro Donne)