



Montreal  
Port Authority  
*At the heart of trade*

***Press Release  
For immediate publication***

**MICHEL M. LESSARD ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE MONTREAL PORT AUTHORITY**

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**Montreal, May 15, 2009** – The Board of Directors of the Montreal Port Authority elected its new Chairman on Thursday, in the person of MICHEL M. LESSARD. He succeeds Marc Bruneau, whose term ended on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bruneau joined the Board in 2005 and became its Chairman in 2007.

A Quebec City native, Michel M. Lessard holds a Master of Commerce from Université Laval and a Harvard MBA. He is also a Member, Trust Institute. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Montreal Port Authority since June 27, 2007, where he presided over the Audit Committee.

Mr. Lessard has extensive experience in senior and financial management, acquired both as an executive, notably as President and Chief Executive Officer of Crédit Foncier, where he worked for 17 years, and as an advisor and director of national and international companies.

After his election the new Chairman of the Board stated, “I accept the mandate entrusted to me by my fellow directors with great enthusiasm. With them, I will continue to support the MPA management teams in its mission to strengthen the Port of Montreal’s role as a key economic driver to advance the development of its clients’ shipping and logistics activities, to promote trade and to contribute to the prosperity of Greater Montreal and Canada.”



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### **About the Montreal Port Authority**

The Montreal Port Authority (MPA) operates the world's largest inland port. It is a leader among container ports, handling 26 million tonnes of cargo annually. In 2008, the Port of Montreal handled more than 1,473,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units). The Port of Montreal operates its own rail network, providing direct access to berths, and is linked to two major railways and a highway system. It also operates a grain terminal and a marine passenger terminal. All other terminals are operated by private stevedoring firms. Through its activities, the Port of Montreal generates 18,200 jobs and \$1.5 billion in economic spin-offs every year.



Mr. Michel M. Lessard, new Chairman of the Board of the Montreal Port Authority.

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