

**HSBC Canada donates 100 000 \$ to the Montréal Nature Museums
 Foundation for Environmental Education Program**

Montréal, November 25, 2009 – The Montréal Nature Museums Foundation will be offering a new environmental education program entitled *Green solutions to urban challenges*, thanks to a \$100,000 grant from HSBC Bank Canada. Students from Marguerite-De Lajemmerais are the first who will experience this program for high-school students at the Botanical Garden, one of Montréal's Nature Museums.

Green Solutions to Urban Challenges aims to help young people understand how plant science and technology contribute to building sustainable communities. Program topics include the water cycle, related issues in cities and the role of plants in maintaining the urban ecosystem.

"The Montréal Nature Museums Foundation is very pleased to collaborate with the HSBC Bank Canada on creating a program that will give many young people the opportunity to satisfy their scientific curiosity and perhaps even discover a future passion or career," said Pierre B. Meunier, President of the Foundation.

"HSBC Bank Canada is happy to support the Montreal Nature Museums Foundation and the great educational programming it facilitates," said Miguel Barrieras, HSBC Bank Canada Senior Vice President, Business Banking and Head of Quebec. "We are especially pleased that our donation is fostering youth's knowledge and interest in the environment."

HSBC Bank Canada, a subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, has more than 260 offices, including over 140 bank branches, and is the leading international bank in Canada. With around 8,500 offices in 86 countries and territories and assets of US\$2,422 billion at 30 June 2009, the HSBC Group is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organizations. In 2005, the HSBC Group was the first major bank to become carbon neutral.

The mission of the Montréal Nature Museums Foundation is to support the education, conservation and research activities of the Biodôme, Insectarium, Botanical Garden and Planetarium, Canada's largest natural science museum complex, by raising funds allowing them to carry out their priority development projects. In this way the Foundation contributes to advancing the natural sciences and scientific literacy and encouraging public interest in the environment, sustainable development and biodiversity preservation.

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Information

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Photo and caption available on request.