

**Report confirms internal crisis at the *Office Municipal d'Habitation de Longueuil***

Longueuil, February 4, 2021 – “Lack of transparency”, “mistrust”, “conflicts”, “presumptions of harassment”, “very worrying lack of personnel in several services”, an organization at “war”; the organizational diagnostic report submitted by the SCE Group to the board of directors of the Office Municipal d'Habitation de Longueuil (OMHL) is categorical: since the new General Director took office a year and a half ago, the deterioration of the working climate, the services offered and the governance of the board of directors are such that the status quo would force the Office to be placed under tutelage in order to ensure the proper functioning of the organization.

"The status quo, however, is exactly what defends the Chairman of the Board, Monique Bastien, since last fall at the City Council", reacted, scandalized, the Councillor Michel Lanctôt, who has been putting pressure on the city councillor of Longueuil since last fall regarding the situation at the OMHL.

The latter is outraged by the revelations of the report and the responsibility of his colleague, Ms. Bastien. “For months, she has knowingly sought to minimize the seriousness of the situation in her public interventions and she has taken refuge behind her obligation of confidentiality to avoid answering legitimate questions, when the public interest required her to act with transparency.

The SCE Group report reveals a very gloomy record for Ms. Bastien: a decision-making process centralized around the President and the General Management, difficulties for directors to obtain the information necessary for their functions, the absence of trust, a flagrant lack of civility and a very limited capacity to endorse decisions.

In this context, the report recommends "urgently, the establishment of a process to support the board (including its chairmanship)". However, following the report, two stormy board meetings appear to have confirmed the paralysis of the board and the inability of the chairman to take the necessary measures to straighten up the governance of the Office.

“Ms. Bastien no longer has the moral authority to be chairman. She must realize that she is more part of the problem than the solution, and immediately quit the board of directors of the Office on her own. Otherwise, the Mayor must act. She can no longer plead ignorance in the face of the OMHL crisis and the role played by Ms. Bastien. She must intervene quickly to avoid the humiliation of being placed under tutelage by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The Mayor must realize that it is under her mandate, already filled with controversies, that the Office, once an example cited throughout Quebec, has become a dysfunctional organization”, concluded Mr. Lanctôt.

Let us recall that Ms. Monique Bastien is not only Chairman of the Board of the OMHL, but also Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the City of Longueuil.