

**“The Mayor’s Inaction Is Damaging to Social Housing in Longueuil” —
Michel Lanctôt**

Longueuil, February 8, 2021 — Following the tutelage of the Office municipal d'habitation de Longueuil (OMHL), Longueuil Citoyen Councillor Michel Lanctôt asked the Mayor, who also acts as President of the Agglomeration, to assume her responsibilities by removing the Chairman of the Board, Ms. Monique Bastien who no longer has the necessary credibility to preside over the recovery of the organization and social housing in Longueuil.

“The events that led the Minister of Municipal Affairs to put the OMHL under tutelage are now widely known and widely documented. The SCE Group report speaks of a continued deterioration in the work environment, tenant services and governance issues within the organization over an 18-month period. A year and a half during which the Mayor has stood idly by and still persists in her inaction, thus forcing the Minister place the organization under tutelage. The Mayor sends the message that she is not interested in social housing.”

Concerns about social housing

While being worried about the loss of expertise within the OMHL with the departure of many employees over the past 18 months, Antoinette-Robidoux District Councillor is also concerned about the future of social housing in Longueuil.

"To think that putting the OMHL under tutelage will not have an impact on the City's ability to obtain additional funding for the construction of social housing is to live on another planet. Already Longueuil looks bad in terms of social housing among the 5 largest cities in Quebec, my fear is that new housing construction projects will not see the light of day in the coming months precisely because of this crisis ", concluded Michel Lanctôt.

It should be noted that in addition of being the Vice-President of the Executive Committee and Chairman of the OMHL's board of directors, Monique Bastien is the person in charge of housing within the Executive Committee and is the subject of the SCE Group report, which led the Minister of Municipal Affairs to put the OMHL under tutelage.