



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For immediate release**

**The New Planetarium: A Project in Line  
with the Mission of the Montréal Nature Museums Foundation**

*Montréal, December 10, 2007.* The Montréal Nature Museums Foundation is tremendously pleased to announce that an agreement with a private-sector partner, the city of Montréal and the federal and provincial governments will now make it possible to relocate the Planetarium near Montréal's other Nature Museums, which make up Canada's largest natural science museum complex.

The city of Montréal began making plans for a new planetarium in the early 2000s. At the joint announcement today, Pierre B. Meunier, President of the Montréal Nature Museums Foundation, explained how "after a few meetings and discussions with the municipal administration, the Board members began dreaming. We were so enthusiastic that we managed to interest an initial business partner, Alcan. By June 2003, the company had confirmed that it would invest about \$4 million in this promising project."

"I am convinced that bringing together Montréal's Nature Museums in this way will improve our drawing power for visitors and help us attract more funding from donors," he concluded.

The Montréal Nature Museums Foundation is a charitable organization whose mission is to support the education, conservation and research activities of the Montréal Biodôme, Insectarium, Botanical Garden and Planetarium. It does so by raising funds to allow the Nature Museums to carry out their priority development plans. In this way the Foundation contributes to advancing the natural sciences and scientific literacy and encouraging public interest in the environment, sustainable development and the preservation of biodiversity.

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