

THE 13TH EDITION OF THE EUREKA! FESTIVAL BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Nearly 142 000 visitors gathered in the Old Port of Montréal for the big science celebration!

MONTRÉAL, June 11, 2019 – L'île du savoir is very pleased to announce the overwhelming success of the 13th edition of the Eureka! Festival, which was held in the Old Port of Montréal on June 7, 8 and 9. **Nearly 142 000 science enthusiasts**, young and old, attended the Festival, which represents a 34 % increase over 2018. Festivalgoers enjoyed more than a hundred free interactive activities, stimulating encounters and original demonstrations on the theme of mobility and transportation of the future.

Featuring innovative, sustainable means of transportation, space rovers, exoskeletons, the hyperloop, solar reactors and wooden bicycles, the Eureka! Festival transported science enthusiasts to a land of discovery and innovation. Festivalgoers of all ages had fun exploring **mobility** and getting a glimpse at the future of **transportation**.

"More than ever before, the Eureka! Festival has succeeded in combining the latest in science with fun and play. We are proud to contribute to the sharing of knowledge, which is a universal treasure, and to enlighten and inspire the next generation. Between you and me, this is not the end! Ideas are already buzzing around for the next edition, and our dream of a year-round science festival may soon become a reality."

Yves Mauffette, President, L'île du savoir

"With thirteen years of sustained effort and a love of science and technology, Eureka! has carved out a unique place in Montréal's festival circuit. The festival allows everyday people to meet real-life experts and to explore the major scientific and social issues of our time while having fun. That's the DNA of the Eureka! Festival."

Richard Deschamps, Vice-President, L'île du savoir

"In its role as implementing partner, the Montréal Science Centre is delighted with the success of the festival's 13th edition. In keeping with the summer tradition, for over a decade now, the Old Port of Montréal heartily welcomed an impressive crowd of festivalgoers over the weekend. With its enchanting location and experienced team at the helm, the festival can now set its sights even higher for the 2020 edition!"

Isabel Dansereau, Senior Director, Old Port of Montréal Corporation

"A lot of scientific ideas and projects have emerged from this new edition of Eureka!, which I hope will spark the development and implementation of innovative, sustainable initiatives aimed at making active and collective travel in our city safer and more pleasant. I thank the Eureka! team for choosing a theme that is one of the priorities of the Municipal Administration."

Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montréal

Key Numbers:

- 141 506 visitors, including more than 4 000 students

- 45 collaborators
- 23 hands-on workshops for creating and experimenting
- 24 presentations and interactive shows presented by researchers and experts from the science and technology community
- 700 spectators at the exclusive live presentation of Télé-Québec's Quiz show *Génial!*, hosted by Stéphane Bellavance and Martin Carli
- 11 strolling street performances
- 6 themed zones: **Ingenuity, Nature, Mobility, Techno, Human** and **Air and Space**

The organization would like to thank the volunteers who greatly contributed to the success of this 13th edition, as well as all the festivalgoers who joined the celebration.

L'île du savoir produces this event in close collaboration with its long-term partner, the **Montréal Science Centre**. The Festival also benefits from the invaluable financial support from several main sponsors: **Rio Tinto**, the main collaborator of the 13th edition and sponsor of the Ingenuity Zone; **Ubisoft**, partner of the Techno Zone by way of their Ubisoft Education program; **Desjardins**, partner of the Nature Zone; the **Réseau express métropolitain (REM)**, partner of the Mobility Zone and sponsor of the *REM: Just Imagine* contest; the **Fonds de recherche du Québec**, partner of the Human Zone and sponsor of the *Science Goes to School* contest; **Télé-Québec**, media partner of the Festival; and **IVADO**, sponsor of the Main Stage.

Eureka! is made possible through the invaluable support of the **City of Montréal**, and Québec's **Ministry of Economy and Innovation, Ministry of Transport, Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur**, and **Ministry of Tourism**. Thanks to their support, L'île du savoir has been able to keep this important science event going, keep it free and maintain its quality, while offering a unique showcase to local institutions, companies and organizations in the scientific community.

Eureka! would also like to thank its many associate sponsors: **Tourisme Montréal, CAE, Concertation Montréal, École de technologie supérieure, Institut national de recherche scientifique, Polytechnique Montréal, McGill University, Concordia University, Université de Montréal, Université du Québec, Université du Québec à Montréal, Université Laval, Université de Sherbrooke, Autorité régionale de transport métropolitain (ARTM), GIRO**, and **Éco Tours Montréal**. Finally, this project is carried out with the financial support of **Merck Canada Inc.**, the **Trottier Family Foundation**, and the **Ernest Solvay Fund**, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium).

Buoyed by its success, the **Eureka! Festival** will see you at the 14th edition next June in the Old Port of Montréal