



PRESS RELEASE  
For immediate release



## EURÊKA! FESTIVAL: THE BIG SCIENCE CELEBRATION POSTPONED

**Montreal, April 2, 2020** – In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, **L'île du savoir** regrets to inform you that the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the Eurêka! Festival, which was to be held June 12, 13 and 14 2020 at the Old Port of Montreal, will be postponed to June 2021.

Since its inception in 2007, the Eurêka! Festival has supported and promoted the scientific community's extraordinary effort to ensure a safe environment and better future for all. Our mission has always been to raise awareness of key scientific and technological issues, and to mobilize the public around them. In these tumultuous times, it therefore appears vital to us to maintain the dialogue between the scientific community and the general public by acting in a responsible and preventative fashion.

### **A difficult but necessary decision**

As you can well imagine, this was not an easy decision to make. With only 10 weeks to go before the event, our teams and partners had invested considerable time and energy in preparing what was going to be an exceptional 14<sup>th</sup> edition. This year's unifying WATER theme had sparked a keen interest within our community of scientific collaborators, eliciting a record number of registrations, and resonated with our loyal festivalgoers who follow us on social media. Virtually all Quebec universities had answered the call. The School Day had been fully booked since the fall and 5,200 schoolchildren were looking forward to their end-of-year outing.

### **A 14<sup>th</sup> edition in June 2021**

Let's call it a RAIN CHECK! The water-themed 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the Eurêka! Festival will proceed in 2021, as relevant as ever. Picking up where we will have left off, we will continue to prepare a fun-filled maritime edition for you, including all of the wonderful activities, shows and happenings that were under development. And thanks to our fabulous partners who will be maintaining their support of the Festival in 2021, we can ensure its continuity.

### **Key partners**

L'île du savoir is proud to produce the Eurêka! Festival with its long-term partner, the Montreal Science Centre. The 2020 edition benefited from the invaluable support of several sponsors: Rio Tinto, principal collaborator of the 14<sup>th</sup> edition and sponsor of the Ingenuity Zone; Ubisoft, partner of the Techno Zone with its Ubisoft Education Program; Desjardins, partner of the Nature Zone; the Fonds de recherche du Québec, partner of the Human Zone and presenter of the *Science Goes to School!* contest; Nautisme Québec, partner of the Water Zone; the Union des producteurs agricoles du Québec; the Port of Montreal; Télé-Québec, official media partner of the Festival and IVADO, sponsor of the central stage.

Eurêka! is made possible thanks to the collaboration of the City of Montreal, Quebec's Ministry of Economy and Innovation, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and Ministry of Tourism. With their support, L'île du savoir is able to keep this science celebration going, keep it free and maintain its quality, offering a unique showcase to our local scientific culture institutions, companies and organizations.

### **Associated Sponsors**

L'île du savoir would also like to thank the associated sponsors of the Eurêka! Festival: Tourisme Montréal, CAE, the Consortium for Research and Innovation in Aerospace in Québec (CRIAQ), Concertation Montréal, École de technologie supérieure, Éco Tours Montréal, Institut national de la recherche scientifique, Polytechnique Montréal, Québec Maritime Network (RQM), Concordia University, Bishop's University, McGill University, Université de Montréal, Université de Sherbrooke, Université du Québec à Montréal, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Université Laval and SOS Labyrinthe. This project also receives the financial support of the Trottier Family Foundation and the Ernest Solvay Fund, managed by the King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium).

Until we meet again in 2021, please join us in applauding the work of scientists around the world who are striving to find solutions to the COVID-19 crisis.

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### **About L'ÎLE DU SAVOIR**

L'île du savoir is a non-profit organization whose mission is to foster the emergence of a scientific culture and a dynamic younger generation in science and technology by bringing together partners from educational and research institutions, scientific culture organizations and the business community.

### **About EURÉKA!**

Eurêka! is Quebec's BIGGEST CELEBRATION OF SCIENCE, bringing together, each year, young and old who are passionate about science or simply curious. On the program: three days of fun and scientific discoveries and a host of FREE interactive activities. Since the beginning of this great adventure in 2007, more than 1,010,000 enthusiastic visitors, including 50,000 students, have joined the celebration.

Help support L'île du savoir and the Eurêka! Festival: <https://festivaleureka.ca/en/info-festival-en/make-a-donation/>