

Statement of Management's Responsibility for Financial Information

The management of Bank of Montreal (the "Bank") is responsible for preparation and presentation of the annual consolidated financial statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") and all other information in the Annual Report.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in the United States, as applicable. The financial statements also comply with the provisions of the *Bank Act* and related regulations, including interpretations of GAAP by our regulator, the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada.

The MD&A has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of securities regulators, including National Instrument 51-102 of the Canadian Securities Administrators ("CSA") as well as Item 303 of Regulation S-K of the *Securities Exchange Act*, and their related published requirements.

The consolidated financial statements and information in the MD&A necessarily include amounts based on informed judgments and estimates of the expected effects of current events and transactions with appropriate consideration to materiality. In addition, in preparing the financial information we must interpret the requirements described above, make determinations as to the relevancy of information to be included, and make estimates and assumptions that affect reported information. The MD&A also includes information regarding the impact of current transactions and events, sources of liquidity and capital resources, operating trends, risks and uncertainties. Actual results in the future may differ materially from our present assessment of this information because future events and circumstances may not occur as expected.

The financial information presented elsewhere in the Annual Report is consistent with that in the consolidated financial statements.

In meeting our responsibility for the reliability and timeliness of financial information, we maintain and rely on a comprehensive system of internal controls and internal audit, including organizational and procedural controls, disclosure controls and procedures, and internal control over financial reporting. Our system of internal controls includes written communication of our policies and procedures governing corporate conduct and risk management; comprehensive business

planning; effective segregation of duties; delegation of authority and personal accountability; escalation of relevant information for decisions regarding public disclosure; careful selection and training of personnel; and accounting policies that we regularly update. This structure ensures appropriate internal controls over transactions, assets and records. We also regularly audit internal controls. These controls and audits are designed to provide us with reasonable assurance that the financial records are reliable for preparing financial statements and other financial information, assets are safeguarded against unauthorized use or disposition, liabilities are recognized, and we are in compliance with all regulatory requirements.

As at October 31, 2008 we, as Bank of Montreal's Chief Executive Officer and Interim Chief Financial Officer, have determined that the Bank's internal control over financial reporting is effective. We have certified Bank of Montreal's annual filings with the CSA and the SEC as required in Canada by National Instrument 52-109 (Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings) and in the United States by the *Securities Exchange Act of 1934*.

In order to provide their opinions on our consolidated financial statements and on Bank of Montreal's internal control over financial reporting, the Shareholders' Auditors review our system of internal controls and conduct work to the extent that they consider appropriate.

The Board of Directors, based on recommendations from its Audit Committee, reviews and approves the financial information contained in the Annual Report, including the MD&A. The Board of Directors and its relevant Committees oversee management's responsibilities for the preparation and presentation of financial information, maintenance of appropriate internal controls, compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, management and control of major risk areas, and assessment of significant and related party transactions.

The Audit Committee, which is comprised entirely of independent directors, is also responsible for selecting the Shareholders' Auditors and reviewing the qualifications, independence and performance of both the Shareholders' Auditors and internal audit. The Shareholders' Auditors and the Bank's Chief Auditor have full and free access to the Board of Directors and its Audit and other relevant Committees to discuss audit, financial reporting and related matters.



William A. Downe
President and Chief Executive Officer



Russel C. Robertson
Interim Chief Financial Officer

Canada
November 25, 2008