



SDC District Central

District Central's La Grande Fabrique Manifesto

Protect Montréal's production heartland.
Strengthen its resilience. Shape the future.

La Grande Fabrique Manifesto

Local producers... employers... bringing life to District Central...

A metropolitan innovation zone and the City's fourth-largest employment hub, District Central is the **heart of production of Montréal**. Heir to a vibrant industrial culture, the territory boasts three growing hubs: design, urban manufacturing, and technology. Its workshops, offices, and studios give life to ideas, create jobs, and foster collaboration. Its vitality springs from diversity of use, strong networks, and the commitment of its stakeholders. District Central merits the recognition, protection, and governance its true value deserves.

Today, the district is at a crossroads in its evolution. Faced with economic upheaval, logistical disruptions, and the need to preserve local autonomy and know-how, the conditions for its vitality, its attractiveness, and its productive capacity require support.

Consultations among area stakeholders, have revealed a truth: what leaves District Central vulnerable is not merely the accumulation of economic, climate, or real estate pressures, but rather the absence of collective tools to anticipate them and deliver a coordinated response. Too often, its resilience relies on resourcefulness—the ability of its stakeholders to cope, come what may.

La Grande Fabrique Manifesto calls for a paradigm shift: from reactive resilience to planned resilience, grounded in shared governance, full recognition for the territory's role as a producer, enhanced mobility, and protecting the productive uses that make District Central a strategic asset for Montréal.

More than a declaration of intent, it lays the foundation for a genuine contract among territory stakeholders: a Resilience Plan that anticipates changes, strengthens the territory's capacity to adapt, and ensures its long-term prosperity.

This Manifesto marks a clear line: from this moment forward, every decision must protect the neighbourhood as the heart of production, bolster its resilience, and honour commitments.

Commitments

- ❑ **Elected municipal officials** commit to establishing favourable conditions for retaining, investing in, and recruiting businesses by removing obstacles to their operations, improving local urban logistics, ensuring District Central's upkeep and safety in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, simplifying administrative processes at the borough level, and recognizing District Central as a strategic heart of production.
- ❑ **Property owners** commit to acting as genuine agents of territory resilience by supporting the stability of uses, business retention, functional diversity, and building quality and modernization.
- ❑ **Entrepreneurs** commit to actively contributing to collective resilience by putting down lasting roots in the neighbourhood, participating in the life of the territory, fostering cooperation, and adopting responsible practices.
- ❑ **SDC District Central** commits to fully playing its role as a strategic interface by organizing dialogue, supporting businesses, structuring information, driving cooperation, and monitoring commitments, while effectively communicating to raise District Central's profile beyond its borders.