

Rivière-des-Prairies and Pointe-aux-Trembles/ Montréal-Est

THE TERRITORY AND ITS POPULATION

While Rivière-des-Prairies and Pointe-aux-Trembles each have their own history and characteristics, they now form part of a single borough at the east end of the Island of Montreal, where a number of major highways, including Autoroute 40, pass through them. Although the Train de l'Est now makes getting downtown a lot easier, the neighbourhood has few local buses or other public transit options. The territory occupies a fairly large area, which means the population density here is lower than elsewhere on the island. The total population is 111,000 (Rivière-des-Prairies: 58,000 and Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est: 53,000). The neighbourhood saw a great deal of construction in the 1980s, but there is still a lot of industrial land waiting to be developed. While most of the waterfront along the St. Lawrence River and the Rivière des Prairies is private property, the municipality has created a number of public access points.

Although the borough has long been neglected by the different levels of government, various government or municipal development projects may become reality in the coming years: the metro's blue line extension and the Tramway de l'Est, investments in local industry, as well as cleaning up and improving access to the waterfront.

Family neighbourhoods with contrasting characteristics

The percentage of seniors living in the borough of Rivière-des-Prairies— Pointe-aux-Trembles (RDP—PAT) is similar to that of Montreal: 19% in Pointe-aux-Trembles and 17% in Rivière-des-Prairies (Montreal: 17%). However, the proportion of seniors living alone is significantly lower than it is on the island: 27% versus 36%. These numbers stand in contrast to the high proportion of adults over 35 and children, primarily due to the many families living in these neighbourhoods. Families move here because of the large areas of available land, which has led to a great many affordable residential housing units being built in recent years.

Rivière-des-Prairies (RDP)

This is the part of the borough with the highest number of families with children (over 11,000 families), and where the percentage of single-parent households has grown the most, i.e., 26% in 10 years. While the percentage of single-parent families is just below the Montreal average (31% compared to 33%), the neighbourhood still has over 3,500.

As in Pointe-aux-Trembles, the borough's industries have led to many manual labourers settling here and a high percentage of adults with low education (25%, compared to 17% in Montreal). The overall low-income rate is well below the Montreal average and, just as in Pointe-aux-Trembles, some ghettoized areas have particularly high poverty indicators.

As is the case in Montreal, one third of the population are immigrants, with most of them coming from Italy and Haiti, and three-quarters of them (75%) arriving before 2001. Between 2011 and 2016, the neighbourhood became a hub for Haitian immigrants, so that they now account for close to 60% of all newcomers. Today, the mother tongue of nearly one out of every two residents is neither English nor French and almost one in three

SNAPSHOT OF THE TERRITORY

One of the most populated neighbourhoods in the east end of Montreal

Neighbourhoods are relatively spread-out and sparsely populated, with public transit still an issue.

Demographic weight of young people and seniors similar to Montreal averages

In RDP and PAT, the age distribution is quite similar to that in Montreal: 15% of 0-14 year-olds in PAT, and 17% in RDP (Montreal: 16%); 17% of seniors in

Many families with children, many of whom are single-parent households

Over-representation of adults with low education

Issues affecting youth success

A significant proportion of young children start kindergarten without the basic school-readiness skills: 29% in RDP and 28% in PAT and Montréal-Est

Widespread poverty
Low-income rates in PAT and RDP are significantly

Rivière-des-Prairies and Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est

residents is a member of a visible minority group. However, in spite of these statistics, the area has one of the lowest rates of newcomers on the island.

Most households in RDP are homeowners: 69%, compared to 40% on the Island of Montreal. Although the area has fewer renters, in certain areas a large number of them spend more than 30% of their income on rent

Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est (PAT/ME)

Pointe-aux-Trembles has a significantly high percentage of single-parent families (39%, compared to 33% in Montreal). As in RDP, academic success indicators among teens and young children are similar to the Montreal averages. However, this is not the case in all areas. For example, the public French-language high school in the territory's west end has a high dropout rate: 20%, compared to 16% in Montreal.

The neighbourhood has a high percentage of adults with low education (23%, compared to 17% in Montreal) and some ghettoized areas have particularly high poverty indicators. This is particularly true for the small municipality of Montreal-Est, which borders Pointe-aux-Trembles, and where a large proportion of the residents is made particularly vulnerable by a high concentration of poverty-related factors. The rate of single-parenthood, low education, and households that spend more than 30% of their income on rent are among the highest on the Island of Montreal – and the municipality has few resources with which to support these people. Residents are often obliged to travel to other neighborhoods to access services, thereby further increasing their sense of isolation.

PAT has the lowest percentage of immigrants (12%) of any Montreal community (34% in Montreal). However, the increase in the number of people from visible minority groups between 2006 and 2016 was about three times higher than it was for Montreal (111% compared to 37%).

Close to 60% of households in PAT/ME are homeowners, compared to 40% on the Island of Montreal. As in RDP, in some areas, a large percentage of renters spend more than 30% of their income on rent.

COMMUNITY DYNAMICS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Rivière-des-Prairies

In addition to about twenty community agencies, RDP has an active community round table led by the Corporation de développement communautaire de Rivière-des-Prairies (CDC-RDP) that brings together a large number of partners to better coordinate the neighbourhood's resources.

In the past few years, a number of collective projects have emerged from discussions between these partners, such as an urban agriculture education project (the Jardins Skawanoti community gardens) and active and community transportation initiatives (for example, the Ainés actifs à vélo program, to introduce seniors to active transport, and efforts to add a new bus line connecting RDP and PAT). Also, RDP has made significant progress strengthening its partnerships – particularly those involving multi-network collaboration. As a result, a collaborative framework was set up by the community's main partners, namely: the CDC-RDP, the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux (CIUSSS) de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal, the borough of Rivière-des-Prairies-Pointe-aux-Trembles and the Pointe-de-l'Île School Board. The framework defines the parameters, roles and responsibilities



Poverty is even more pronounced in Montréal-Est particularly among young people under 18 (29% compared to 23% in Montréal) and seniors (23% versus 21% in Montréal).

More immigrants in RDP

There are 19,245 immigrants in RDP, which is comparable to the Montreal rate (34%) and they come primarily from Haiti (32%) and Italy (31%).

However, the percentage of recent immigrants is much lower: 3% versus 7% in Montreal. 59% of recent immigrants (2011-2016) are from Haiti 68% of RDP residents were born outside the country or have at least one immigrant parent (Montreal: 59%).

The mother tongue of 44% of residents is neither English nor French (Montreal: 33%).

PAT and Montréal-Est: more homogeneous neighbourhoods

PAT and Montréal-Est have the lowest percentage of immigrants on the Island of Montreal (12% and 9% respectively compared to 34% in Montreal)

More ethno-cultural diversity in RDP, but growing in PAT The percentage of people from visible minority groups in RDP is similar to the Montreal average (33%). One in five residents belongs to the black community.

In PAT and Montréal-Est, 16% and 15% respectively are from visible minority groups. However, the increase in the number of people from visible minority groups between 2006 and 2016 was about three times higher than it was for Montreal (+111% in PAT, compared with +37% in Montreal)

High rate of homeownership in both neighbourhoods The majority of households are homeowners in RDP (69%) and in PAT (58%), with these rates being much higher than the Montreal average (40%). However, a significant percentage of renter

However, a significant percentage of renter households spend too much (30% or more) on ren 36% in RDP and 31% in PAT (Montreal: 37%).

Demographic and economic data: 2016 Census; Québec Survey of Child Development in Kindergarten (QSCDK 2017), Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur; Profil saux-Trembles (2018); Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal. 2019.



Rivière-des-Prairies and Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est

involved in implementing the objectives and actions related to RDP's social and community development. More specifically, the partnerships have been strengthened through efforts to develop policies and approaches for such aspects of community life as healthy lifestyles, culture, social development and participatory budgeting. Another important part of the community's work is Espace Rivière, a planned cultural and community hub with a strong focus on technology, sustainable development and innovative practices: a major borough project!

In 2017-18, over 300 citizens and community, institutional and political stakeholders took part in CDC-led strategic consultations held to determine the most important social development issues for the community's future, and to measure progress in three areas of action that require broader collaboration: transportation, food security, and community services and living together.

In 2019-2020, Centraide is making a total investment of \$311.320 to support four Rivière-des-Prairies agencies and projects, including the community round table. The agencies work primarily with families and women.

Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est (PAT/ME)

Assisted by the Corporation de développement communautaire (CDC) de la Pointe – Région Est de Montréal, this recently-established community is busy creating joint action and partnership ties. It has about thirty agencies, ably assisted by many active social actors and partners from different backgrounds: municipal, institutional, government, and civil society.

These ties foster communication and complementarity between all the actors involved. An important step in recent years was ensuring that Montréal-Est actors would be more involved in meetings, consultations and community projects. In the same vein, in May 2018, the community round table (the Table en développement social de Pointe-aux-Trembles/ Montréal-Est) adopted an integrated neighbourhood plan for 2018-2023 with four strategic priorities: being active in disadvantaged areas; providing services to welcome and retain families; improving the health of everyone in the community; and developing active and community transportation. The plan also includes two cross-cutting priorities: promoting citizen participation and implementing governance best practices. In the disadvantaged areas identified by the plan, sites with many partners and/or different projects, specifically those that are part of the Collective Impact Project (CIP), have been set up or consolidated. This strategic plan also enabled stakeholders to draw conclusions, decide what changes need to be made and take concrete action.

RDP-PAT must soon come up with a Social Development Action Plan for 2019-2023, so it will be interesting to see how resource-sharing initiatives will materialize.

In 2019-2020, Centraide is making a total investment of \$754,395 to support seven Pointe-aux-Trembles agencies and projects. The agencies and initiatives it supports work in the area of families, academic success, people with disabilities, food security, consensus-building and collective impact.

INVESTMENT

FROM CENTRAIDE OF GREATER MONTREAL 2019-2020

POINTE-AUX-TREMBLES

Community development

 Corporation de développement communautaire de la Pointe – Région Est de Montréal

Youth and families

- Carrefour familial Les Pitchou
- Club des familles de demain Domaine du Lac Bleu
- Je Réussis

Inclusion

 Association d'entraide des personnes handicapées physiques de Montréal (ALPHA)**

Living conditions

 Réseau alimentaire de l'Est de Montréal (Collective Impact Project - CIP)

Neighbourhood life

 Milieux de vie dévitalisés/Montréal-Est (Collective Impact Projet CIP)



Rivière-des-Prairies and Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est

ISSUES THAT ENGAGE CENTRAIDE

Rivière-des-Prairies

Provide access to services and create caring communities

Given the fact that the neighbourhood consists of a 14-km tract of land along the Rivière des Prairies, it is vital that the community break social isolation and foster a sense of belonging by creating community hubs and providing access to services for vulnerable people. Centraide will support agencies that take on a leadership role and collaborative initiatives that are committed to sharing expertise and resources.

Diversity and inclusion

Given the neighbourhood's significant ethno-cultural diversity, community stakeholders must find ways to appropriately address the challenges of integrating people from diverse backgrounds. Centraide will focus on intercultural and intergenerational actions and strategies that promote inclusion and social diversity.

Living conditions for vulnerable people

Centraide will focus on improving living conditions for vulnerable people and, more specifically, on empowering them through initiatives that strengthen the local food security system and ensure greater access to adequate, affordable housing options.

Pointe-aux-Trembles/Montréal-Est (PAT/ME)

Living conditions for vulnerable people and families

Although it is not always clear from the overall statistics, poverty and related issues exist in the ghettoized or underprivileged areas of PAT/ME. Centraide will focus on collaborative projects and actions that improve living conditions, promote academic success for young people, and welcome and retain families in these areas.

Social isolation

Although less widespread, a significant number of residents are still affected by such issues as isolation or low income (seniors, for instance), mental health issues and being a newcomer to the community. In the next few years, Centraide will document these issues and find collaborative projects or local resources that can support these vulnerable groups.

- Integrated strategic plan

The Collective Impact Project (CIP) and the neighbourhood integrated plan will provide many opportunities for relationship-building with the community's various partners. Centraide will look for opportunities to strengthen local initiatives and community abilities, create financial partnerships, and set up the most relevant support strategies.

RIVIÈRE-DES-PRAIRIES

Community development

 Corporation de développement communautaire de Rivière-des-Prairies (CDC-RDP)

Youth and families

Maison de la famille Cœur-à-Rivière

Neighbourhood life

- Centre de promotion communautaire Le Phare
- Centre des femmes de Rivière-des-Prairies.
- **Agency that provides services in one or more regions

