

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Infrastructure renewal: Insurance Bureau of Canada welcomes the City of Montreal's investment**

**Montreal, April 7, 2016** – Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC) welcomed the announcement made by the City of Montreal regarding repairs to its underground infrastructure and improvements to water and road infrastructure.

“The P&C insurance industry is pleased about the City of Montreal's actions, which will certainly help reduce the number of claims and improve its citizens' quality of life”, noted Johanne Lamanque, Vice-President, Quebec, at IBC. In fact, water damage has been the leading cause of claims in home insurance for the past 10 years. In Quebec alone, more than \$500 million is paid out every year in water damage claims.

The greater frequency of extreme weather events, such as the torrential rains that have hit Quebec in recent years, has exposed the many weaknesses of our ageing infrastructure. Breaks in municipal water and sewer networks are, in fact, responsible for 60% of the water damage. The remaining 40% is due, in part, to water seepage or broken pipes or sanitary installations inside homes.

IBC organizes many prevention campaigns addressed to consumers, more specifically on water damage related risks. It also stresses the importance of maintaining and repairing aging infrastructure, specifically those which handle rainwater, by raising awareness at all levels of government.

As the snow cover melts, IBC reminds policyholders this is a good time to review their insurance policies to make sure they have the right coverage. They can also go to [infoinsurance.ca](http://infoinsurance.ca) for more information about the coverage available and prevention tips.

### **About Insurance Bureau of Canada**

Insurance Bureau of Canada, which groups the majority of Canada's P&C insurers, offers various services to consumers in order to inform and assist them when purchasing car or home insurance, or making a claim.

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