

MAISON SAINT-GABRIEL

Museum and Historic Site

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

NEW FRANCE BURSTS INTO BLOOM IN THE FARMHOUSE GARDEN

Montreal, April 15, 2010 – Seventeenth-century New France bursts into bloom every year at **Maison Saint-Gabriel**. The **Farmhouse garden**, its vegetable patch and the glade fill with scents and colour with numerous vegetables, herbs and flowers, and some of the species date back over 300 years.

A leap into history

Within this enchanting historical context, craftspeople, performers and musicians share the site with scented, aromatic and medicinal plants. This alchemy plunges each visitor, with all their senses, into the time of Marguerite Bourgeoys and the King's Wards. Rural life of the 17th century in the heart of a large modern city!

The colours and scents amplify the marvel of strolling through greenery and time. For ardent fans, lectures and guided tours are offered every Sunday of the summer. Moreover, on July 3 and 17 and August 7 and 21, from 12 :00 noon to 5 :00 p.m., apothecary Ubert Sanspré dit Beloeil will be in the garden to talk to you about the pharmacopeia of New France with his usual enthusiasm.

A well-filled basket

Turnips, rutabaga, cabbage, Jerusalem artichoke, salsify, carrots, beets, beans, onions and leeks grow in orderly beds decorated with nasturtiums, roses and other colourful flowers. This garden is a pleasure for the eyes and the nose, as visitors stroll through the scent of thyme and lavender.

Never before has a museum brought history, the daily life of the past and living and nourishing nature together so accurately. This oasis of tastes and serenity is a member of the Association des Jardins du Québec and the VIA Rail Garden Route. Maison Saint-Gabriel is the ideal place to cultivate the land and knowledge.

Maison Saint-Gabriel is located at 2146 Place Dublin, in Point St. Charles, near Marguerite-Bourgeoys park (Wellington St.), less than five minutes by bus from Vieux-Montréal and close to the Charlevoix metro station (Bus 57 East). Guided tours in French and English are offered Tuesday through Sunday, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., until June 19, 2010 as well as from September 7 to December 19, 2010, and from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., from June 20 to September 5, 2010. The museum is closed on Monday

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