

Toponymy standards

Role

- Allow fast and secure identification
- Express aspects of culture, identity and values
- Remember and pay tribute
- Respect the site

Pertinent criteria defined by the Commission de toponymie du Québec¹

- Uniqueness of the place name (only one official name)
- Generic element in French (*centre, carrefour, etc.*)
- Language of the specific element must reflect established local usage, if applicable
- Presence and uniqueness of the generic term
- Compliant use of an existing official name
- Use of the Latin alphabet for the official name

Not permitted

- Names of people who are living or who died less than one year ago
- Designations that are pejorative, crude, or controversial
- Banal or frequently used names
- Names associated with advertising

Other criteria for choice of names, established by Ville de Montréal

- Help publicize the history and geography of Montréal
- Inspired by the immediate environment of the place to be named
- Mark the presence of underrepresented groups in the toponymy, such as Aboriginal peoples and cultural communities
- In 2016, the City launched the Toponym'Elles campaign to increase the number of place names that highlight the contribution of women to the history of Montréal.

Criterion specific to the future Peter-McGill Centre

- In conjunction with the Toponym'Elles campaign, the administration has expressed the desire that if the centre is named after an individual, that person should ideally and preferentially be a woman.

Consult the database ville.montreal.qc.ca/toponymie

¹ For more information, consult the website: toponymie.gouv.qc.ca. Writing rules stipulated by the Office de la langue française must also be followed.