

NEWS & ANALYSIS

# New CSL building owner pledges cleanliness

By Joel Goldenberg  
The Suburban

The new owners of 5555 Westminster in Côte St. Luc, the shopping centre and office building at Westminster and Côte St. Luc Road, are pledging to improve the cleanliness and noise situation around the commercial building, which was a source of complaints by residents of a nearby condo.

As recently reported by *The Suburban*, Chateau Kingsley resident Attila Farkas had complained of graffiti, a dirty wall, "a lot of garbage" and leftover vegetables in the back of the building. Area councillor Steven Erdelyi said the city had a mixed response from the previous owners, who did receive several fines over time.

Two days after *The Suburban's* original article was published, Olymbec, one of the largest private real estate companies in Quebec, took possession of the building. Olymbec director of operations Ralph Frank says the new owners are pledging to improve the situation. Frank explained that the building had



JOEL GOLDENBERG / THE SUBURBAN

been left in a "state of total disrepair."

"Starting from the ground up, we're redoing 80 percent of the plumbing and the electricity," he added. "We've been in contact with Gaz Met and Hydro Quebec to replace some of the aged transformers. As far as the lane in the back, which has been a recurring problem in terms of dirt and noise, this is being corrected as we speak. We're going to be removing the garbage containers completely from the entire lane, and we'll place one big dumpster

at the end."

Frank said there will also be a permanent person at the building in charge of cleaning, "not a part time guy. This person will be responsible on a daily basis. He's going to make sure there's no garbage left in the laneway and, in the spring, we'll remove all the graffiti markings, which are disgusting. We also had an electrician make all the illumination work around the building and facing the parking lot across the street."

Frank said conditions in that

parking lot were "absolutely disgusting. We will police that area better to make sure there's no riff-raff."

Frank said there will be a major cleanup in the building.

"For the people who live in the condos behind the building, I'm going to try and make their life a little easier, to try and eliminate the smell and the noise."

He also said the tenants on the ground floor of the building will be pressed "to try and

be more considerate of their surroundings. I don't want any garbage left in the laneway under any circumstances.

"We'll try to be good corporate citizens.... No one wants a slum in the middle of their area."

Frank also invited those living near the area to provide feedback if they have suggestions or feel the new owners are not doing their job.

"We're more than willing to listen." ■

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