

ICLEI WORLD CONGRESS 2018

OUR VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN ACTION



Congrès mondial ICLEI
ICLEI World Congress 2018

19 au 22 juin • 19 - 22 June • Montréal, Canada

·I·C·L·E·I
Local
Governments
for Sustainability

Montréal 

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At the ICLEI World Congress 2018 in Montréal, Canada, Members of the ICLEI network made a commitment to create deep, systemic change in urban areas. This was captured in the ICLEI Montréal Commitment and Strategic Vision, which lays out how ICLEI will drive and scale up sustainable urban development in our rapidly urbanizing world.

Five interconnected development pathways form the backbone of how ICLEI creates systemic change at the urban scale. These pathways, towards low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development, guide holistic thinking and the development of integrated solutions that balance the patterns of human life and the built and natural environments. They are a basis for sustainable urban development that considers the complexity and dynamism of urban systems.

Our efforts to build a sustainable urban world are informed by a collection of policy approaches laid out in the ICLEI Montréal Commitment. These approaches, ranging from open, inclusive government administrations to evidence-based, science-driven policy-making, reflect principles ICLEI believes are fundamental to sustainable urban development.

The ICLEI World Congress 2018 was the starting point for bringing this commitment forward. Hosted by the Ville de Montréal, the World Congress was a forum for local and regional political leaders, municipal staff and representatives of the private sector, scientific community, global organizations and intergovernmental bodies to develop a holistic picture of sustainable urban development. In Montréal, they saw how to design and apply integrated solutions that bring together the five development pathways, as well as the core principles embodied in the ICLEI Montréal Commitment.

The World Congress was a lived experience of our new strategic vision, designed to build awareness around its core concepts and facilitate early adoption by local and regional governments and their partners. The event featured projects, partnerships and initiatives consistent with the integrated thinking and policy approaches informing our efforts to build a more just and sustainable world.

Ashok Sridharan, President of ICLEI and Mayor of Bonn, Germany

"Montréal shares your ambition for a more sustainable future, and is proud to be a leader in the ICLEI network. We apply a sustainability lens to all development policy, projects and initiatives across our city, working closely with our partners and the Montréal community to shape and realize our goals. It is our intent to make our approach to sustainability as inclusive as it is transformative, representing our diverse community."

Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montréal and host of the ICLEI World Congress 2018



ICLEI MONTRÉAL COMMITMENT AND STRATEGIC VISION 2018-2024

5 INTERCONNECTED PATHWAYS



ICLEI COMMITS TO:

SCALE UP
AND EXPAND
SUSTAINABLE
CITIES AND REGIONS

MAKE **SUSTAINABILITY** A
FUNDAMENTAL
PART OF ALL LOCAL AND
GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

UNDERTAKE A
COLLECTIVE
EFFORT

FOR GLOBAL CHANGE ACROSS ALL
SECTORS AND LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

TACKLE THE MOST
PRESSING ISSUES OF
OUR TIME TO PROTECT THE
LONG-TERM INTERESTS
OF CITIZENS

OUR ACTIONS

130 CONCRETE
ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES
AS OF JUNE 2018

3,572 CITIES
AND REGIONS
INVOLVED

OPENING PLENARY: THE WORLD WE LIVE IN, THE FUTURE WE STRIVE FOR

"Over centuries, we have built urban environments and today they accommodate half of humanity. For decades we experimented, pioneered and made efforts to create sustainable cities and neighboring regions. In many cases we have been successful. Now, we must accelerate and scale up these experiences to create an entire urban world that is sustainable."

The ICLEI Montréal Commitment and Strategic Vision

At the Opening Plenary, global sustainable development leaders took a hard look at the drivers and impacts of rapid global change. They challenged World Congress participants to respond with a fundamental and rapid shift towards sustainable development, driven by deep, systemic change in how we govern and develop our cities.



"The world we live" - Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility (GEF)



"The future we strive for" - Severn Cullis-Suzuki, environmental activist, speaker, television host and author



António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

ICLEI's newly-elected leadership for the 2018-2021 term (the Regional Executive Committees and Global Executive Committee) convened for the first time in Montréal to represent ICLEI's new vision and pathways towards sustainable urban development.



ICLEI's newly elected leadership and Valérie Plante

Mayor **Ashok Sridharan** of Bonn was announced as the new President of ICLEI, alongside newly elected First Vice President Councillor **Cathy Oke** of Melbourne (Australia), Vice President Mayor **Stephany Tan** of Catbalogan (Philippines) and Vice President Mayor **Frank Cownie** of Des Moines (USA). Former ICLEI President, Mayor Park Won Soon of Seoul, passed the torch to the new ICLEI leadership.

During the opener, Valérie Plante, Mayor of Ville de Montréal and Isabelle Melançon, Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change of Québec National Assembly, Canada outlined their visions for sustainable development in Montréal and across Canada.



Valérie Plante, Mayor, Ville de Montréal, Canada

Isabelle Melançon, Minister of Sustainable Development, the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change, Québec National Assembly, Canada

"At the ICLEI World Congress in Montréal, the ICLEI network set a joint path to build the sustainable urban future we envision for all citizens of this world. It is now up to us to carry forward this vision and to spark transformation across our urban world. As President of ICLEI, I am committed to leading collective action across our network and to representing our efforts to deliver on the global sustainable development agenda."

Ashok Sridharan, President of ICLEI and Mayor of Bonn, Germany

ICLEI WORLD CONGRESS 2018: POLICY APPROACHES FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY ACROSS GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIONS AND COMMUNITIES

"Diversity in race, color, religion, creed, gender, age, physical and mental capabilities and sexual orientation are a source of strength, innovation and new ideas."

The ICLEI Montréal Commitment and Strategic Vision

Plenary: Fostering women's leadership in the implementation of sustainable development solutions

Valérie Plante, the first woman to serve as Mayor of Montréal in its 375-year history, is a strong proponent of gender equity in the governmental and community spheres. Montréal has gender-balanced municipal council comprising 52 women and 51 men, and a gender equality committee that examines programs, projects and policies through a gender lens. They carry out a full, multi-perspective analysis when the city plans anything from new bike lanes to public space renovations.

At the World Congress, Mayor Valérie Plante of Montréal joined Mayor Célestine Ketcha épouse Courtès of the Bangangté Municipal Council in Cameroon, Nadia Petrolito, Vice-President of Legal Affairs at L'Oréal Canada and Judith Portier, Founder and Creative Director of the Montréal-based company Design by Judith Portier to explore gender equity and mainstreaming as a transformational aspect of city and regional sustainable development.



Plenary 4 with Mayor Valérie Plante of Montréal and Mayor Célestine Ketcha épouse Courtès



From top left to bottom right: pre-plenary show from the Buffalo Hat Singers, plenary 5 on reconciliation, main plenary room, plenary 6 on collaborative governance

Plenary: Reconciliation and cooperation toward our sustainable urban future

For Montréal and a number of cities across Canada, reconciliation and relations with Indigenous Peoples is a major priority. Mayor Plante and Marie-Ève Lachapelle-Bordeleu, Commissioner of Indigenous Relations, Montréal, brought reconciliation into focus as part of a plenary discussion with Ghislain Picard, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations of Québec and Labrador, Christina Clark, Executive Director of Songhees Nation, Lisa Helps, Mayor of Victoria and Madelein Redfern, Mayor of the City of Iqaluit at one of the main plenary discussions.

Montréal: Home to more than 17,000 Indigenous Peoples, Montréal celebrates the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and, in 2017, redesigned its flag to include the white pine tree, an Iroquois symbol for peace selected by a committee of Mohawk, Anishnabe and Innu representatives.

Victoria: On the opposite side of the country, in the City of Victoria and the Lekwungen People have cultivated a relationship that fits indigenous culture and forms of governance. Instead of setting up a classic task force for indigenous issues, they take a familial approach to relationship building, forgoing meeting agendas to focus instead on sharing food, exchanging stories.

Mobile workshop in Montréal: Urban beaches of Verdun and Kahnawake

The Verdun District of Montréal is undertaking an urban beach restoration project to reestablish access to the Saint Laurent River. The project is carried out in close dialogue with the Kahnawake community of the Kahnawake Mohawk Territory, a First Nations reserve on the south shore of the river, as they plan their own urban beach restoration. Through this collaboration, the Verdun District and Kahnawake people have reinforced their relationship.

STRONG COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

"Delivering on the global sustainable development goals requires coordinated action across national, regional and local governments, multilateral organizations, international agencies, research and development institutions, as well as civil society."

The ICLEI Montréal Commitment and Strategic Vision

Our events are designed to be platforms for forging and deepening strategic connections and partnerships. The ICLEI World Congress 2018 facilitated networking among a cross-section of actors through roundtable discussions, formal and informal dinners, the exhibition area and cities exchange space, where ICLEI facilitated more than 50 formal bilateral meetings between cities and private sector actors.

Canadian Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue

Through the Canadian Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogue, ICLEI Canada and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) convened municipal, provincial and federal government representatives and non-governmental stakeholders to advance dialogues on multilevel, multi-stakeholder climate action in Canada.

Participants looked at climate action from a global perspective, before focusing on the Canadian context, with stories and perspectives conveyed by speakers from UN Climate Change, Environment and Climate Change Canada Pan-Canadian Framework Office, the Province of Québec and the cities of Quito, Montréal and Edmonton.

When looking at the Canadian climate context, the discussion on the three main Talanoa Dialogue questions: Where are we? Where do we want to go? How do we get there? These three questions provided the framework for participants to take stock of and develop strategies for strengthening the National Determined Contributions (NDCs), the Canadian national climate plan submitted under the Paris Agreement, through an inclusive multi-stakeholder process.

About the Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues

ICLEI is facilitating the Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues, with the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM) and UN-Habitat as special partners. Through these dialogues, local and regional governments and their networks have convened all levels of government through 60 events in 40 countries to drive forward multilevel climate action worldwide.

The initiative is part of a wider, global exercise called the Talanoa Dialogue on national climate action, an outcome of COP23, the 23rd United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2017. It is designed to engage climate stakeholders in taking stock of and shaping national climate plans through in-country consultations beginning in 2018.

**10+ NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT
REPRESENTATIVES**

**10+ NON-GOVERNMENTAL
STAKEHOLDERS**

**25+ LOCAL
AND REGIONAL
GOVERNMENTS**



**CITIES & REGIONS
TALANOA DIALOGUES**



Martin Frick, Senior Director of Policy and Programme Coordination at UN Climate Change



Talanoa Dialogue participants in action

ICLEI and Circle Economy, a social enterprise, are partnering to develop circular economies in cities and regions.

FCM and GCoM signed an MoU to initiate GCoM in Canada, in order to facilitate municipal climate action country-wide.

Through a new partnership, ICLEI and AUTONOMY are sharing innovative urban mobility strategies and connecting cities and private companies to facilitate knowledge exchange.

Exhibition area

Representatives of local governments, private sector consultancies, research and academia, global organizations and local nonprofits were all part of the World Congress exhibition space, which allowed for cross-sector interaction.

Exhibitors

- Aligo Innovation
- Bellwether Collaboratory
- City of Kyoto
- Concordia University
- DC PRO Engineering
- École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS)
- Écotech Québec
- Espace de concertation sur les pratiques d'achat responsable
- Future Earth
- ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
- International Development Research Centre
- McGill University
- Montréal – Métropole en santé
- Motivo Promotions Group
- Office of Sustainable Development, Ville de Montréal
- Ottawa Public Health
- Polytechnique Montréal
- Service du développement économique, Ville de Montréal
- Sustainability Solutions Group Workers Cooperative
- The Climate Reality Project Canada
- The Nature Conservancy
- Univalor
- WSP USA

EVIDENCE-DRIVEN, SCIENCE-BASED POLICY

"Scientific evidence and practitioner expertise are the foundations of sound policy. We will improve the collection, creation and dissemination of scientifically sound knowledge and accurate information and enhance transparency and accountability in the process."

The ICLEI Montréal Commitment and Strategic Vision

Researchers' Symposium

This half-day event deepened dialogue among local and regional practitioners, political leaders and scientists, looking at how to effectively leverage science in the design of sustainable urban development policies.



Researchers' Symposium

Attended by 130 participants from 38 countries, the event was an opportunity to build awareness of and engagement in the global research agenda on cities and climate change launched at the March 2018 CitiesIPCC Conference in Edmonton, Canada, as well as Edmonton Declaration, which connects the cities and climate change research and innovation agendas.

At the event, influential proponents of science-based policy, including **Cathy Oke**, Councillor of Melbourne, Australia and First Vice President of ICLEI, **Ben Henderson**, Councilor of Edmonton, Canada and **Debra Roberts**, Co-chair of IPCC Working Group II looked at how to bridge the efforts of global city and research networks, strengthen local science and research capacities and scale up effective models of municipal-research partnerships.

ICLEI leadership endorses the Edmonton Declaration

The Edmonton Declaration, a key outcome of the CitiesIPCC Conference, is a bold call-to-action for cities of all sizes to seriously consider the role of scientific research and data in building ambitious climate action plans. The declaration, first presented in March 2018 in Edmonton, Canada, and further developed throughout 2018, brings together policymakers, scientists, businesses and city networks to create a critical new dialogue between these groups of climate change stakeholders.

Cathy Oke signed the Edmonton Declaration on behalf of ICLEI, representing our commitment to using evidence-driven, science-based policies to achieve sustainability goals.



Signing the Edmonton Declaration

CREATING SPACE FOR OPEN INNOVATION

"Participatory planning and development has entered a new age of co-design and co-creation. We will set up partnerships with institutions and communities to generate ideas, test solutions and evaluate the potential impacts of new policies based on real-life scenarios."

The ICLEI Montréal Commitment and Strategic Vision

Mobile workshop in Montréal: Transitional urbanism and innovation in the southwest of Montréal

The Ville de Montréal is experimenting transitional urbanism to put vacant spaces around the city to good use. They are running a pilot project called the Young Project that opens a municipal industrial building up to temporary occupation, creating a new collaborative space.

This project, located in the Griffintown District, is the result of a partnership between Montréal, the nonprofit Entremise, the Maison de l'innovation and the Cities for People program run by the McConnel Foundation.



Mobile Workshops in Montréal

"Every individual has the right to participate in and guide the course of sustainable urban development. As city leaders, it is up to us make sure the diversity across our communities and administrations is a source of strength and innovation that shapes every step we take."

Cathy Oke, Councilor of Melbourne, Australia and First Vice President of ICLEI

ICLEI WORLD CONGRESS 2018: INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The ICLEI World Congress 2018 event program was designed to align with the ICLEI Montréal Commitment. Through workshops, panel discussions, roundables, networking events and site visits throughout Montréal, participants looked at sustainable urban development through a holistic lens, and saw integrated thinking in action.

The 5th Urban Nature Forum

Nature-based development is vital in an urbanizing world. It provides essential services and new economic opportunities, and it protect and enhance the ecosystems that make this possible. Nature-based development, one of ICLEI's five interconnect pathways, has a number of cross-cutting benefits, and can advance more equitable, circular, resilient and low emission development. At the 5th Urban Nature Forum, the ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center (CBC), scientists, urban planners, policymakers, conservationists, and other key stakeholders explored nature as a key tool for more sustainable urbanization.

The five development pathways captured in the ICLEI Montréal Commitment encourage holistic thinking. They are a framework for designing integrated solutions that balance the patterns of human life and the built and natural environments. For instance, ICLEI considers how nature-based development contributes to resilience, or how to bring equity into low emission development.



The 5th Urban Nature Forum

Urban Transitions Forum

Industrial legacy cities from Europe, China and the U.S. convened at the Urban Transitions Forum to take a deeper look at how integrated sustainable urban development informs their urban transitions strategies. These cities are members of the Urban Transitions Alliance, a network focused on transnational collaboration and knowledge exchange on sustainable urban transitions, led by ICLEI with support from Stiftung Mercator. Participating cities are facing critical environmental, social and economic challenges due to their industrial heritage, but are also using this identity in their ambitious transition visions. Looking at Alliance focus areas (infrastructure, energy, social transitions and mobility), the Urban Transitions Forum promoted a holistic view of the fundamental transformations industrial legacy cities are experiencing across the globe.

Integrated infrastructure transitions: Sister cities Buffalo, U.S. and Dortmund, Germany have turned brownfields and industrial areas into opportunities for neighborhood revitalization, green economy development, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation.



Buffalo, U.S.



Dortmund, Germany

Integrated energy transitions: Science Park in Gelsenkirchen, Germany, is leading an energy transition driving not only economic opportunities in solar manufacturing but also quality of life for citizens.



Gelsenkirchen, Germany



Mobile workshop: Mount Royal Park, Montréal

Mount Royal Park covers 190 hectares near the center of Montréal. As a dedicated heritage site designated by the Government of Québec, Mount Royal Park has rich natural, historical, and visual assets that the Ville de Montréal preserves through integrated management strategies.

Montréal leads a multi-stakeholder, multi-borough collaboration to manage Mount Royal Park.

The Bureau du Mont-Royal coordinates relations with all municipal services, four city boroughs, the City of Westmount and the Ministry of Culture and Communications, while La Table de concertation du Mont-Royal acts as an advisory body focused on collaborative, consensus-based park management. La Table de concertation du Mont-Royal convenes a diverse group of stakeholders, including local residents, daily visitors and representatives of cemeteries, hospitals, universities and places of worship in and around Mount Royal.

Together, these stakeholders design and apply integrated solutions to address natural ecosystem degradation, road traffic and real estate development, emerald ash borer and other pests, erosion caused by surface water runoff and climate change impacts such as native species loss and proliferation of invasive species.



Lake in Mount Royal, Montréal

Know-how in sustainable procurement: Giving meaning and value to our actions

Sustainable public procurement is used by local and regional governments to ensure their purchasing decisions reflect broader goals tied to resource efficiency, social responsibility, economic resilience, among other areas. This ICLEI World Congress 2018 pre-event drew on ICLEI's long-standing work on procurement, looking at tools and concrete strategies for responsible purchasing.

Mobile workshop: Saint-Michel Environmental Complex and Frédéric-Back Park, Montréal

Covering 80 percent of Saint-Michel Environmental Complex, a 192-hectare area, Frédéric-Back Park is the largest environmental rehabilitation project in urban North America. The park is former limestone quarry and landfill undergoing a transformation to become the second largest urban park in greater Montréal by 2023.

The Frédéric-Back Park transformation process is significant for its scale and an integrated sustainable development strategy. This site is becoming a people-centered cultural and recreational center designed with low emission energy solutions and nature-based solutions that preserve and enhance the natural ecology.

Frédéric-Back Park comprises a recycling sorting center, several LEED-certified buildings and power plant that converts on-site biogas into electricity, with the capacity to supply electricity to up to 15,000 homes.

The redevelopment process also requires ongoing biogas and leachate management, reuse of residual materials, surface runoff management, use of native plants to reduce construction and operation costs and a biodiversity corridor.

Cultural and recreational infrastructure are also major attractions for visitors and Montréalers. Walkers, runners and cyclists are active on the loop, a 5.5-kilometer, multipurpose road surrounding the park.



Frédéric-Back Park, Montréal © Ville de Montréal, Frédérique Ménard-Aubin

WHO WE REACHED: WORLD CONGRESS PARTICIPATION

50 MAYORS

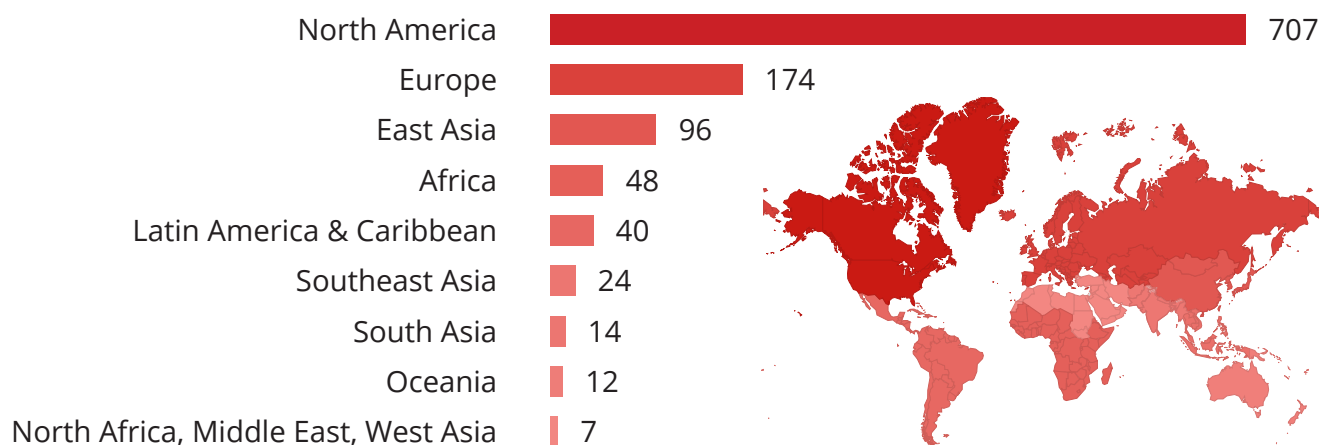
60 SESSIONS

1,122 ATTENDEES

**434 LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS
REPRESENTATIVES FROM 177 CITIES AND REGIONS**

**67 COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED**

Number of participants by region



ICLEI World Congress 2018 - Opening Gala

VILLE DE MONTRÉAL: LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Through presentations and mobile workshops, the Ville de Montréal, host of the ICLEI World Congress 2018, showed how its integrated approach to sustainable urban development has transformed various civic spaces throughout the city, advancing low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

Since the ICLEI World Congress 2018, Montréal has reaffirmed its commitment to become carbon neutral by 2050, set a zero waste target, promoted innovative urban practices and enacted regulations requiring operation of carbon-neutral buildings by 2030. The city will extend this measure to all of its buildings by 2050.

Montréal became the first Canadian city to adopt a resilience strategy 18 June 2018, just a day before the World Congress. To track developments in Montréal, consult the Montréal Sustainable Report online. This report presents 51 indicators grouped under 13 themes that will be updated regularly.

Read the report at
rapportdd.ville.montreal.qc.ca



WORLD CONGRESS ECO-RESPONSIBILITY

The ICLEI 2018 World Congress was an eco-responsible event, designed to minimize its environmental impacts and leverage potential economic and social benefits. Montréal aligned the event with standards for responsible event management standard from the Quebec Bureau of Standardization.

This framework involves third-party certification and requires eco-responsible management of suppliers, residual materials, water, energy transport and equipment.

The event achieved level three of the standard – a strong performance for an event of this magnitude.

The Palais des congrès was selected as the event location due to its existing environmental certifications, including BOMA BEST, a standard for the energy and environmental performance of existing buildings and ASTM-APEX Green Meetings Standards, a North American standard setting performance criteria for sustainable practices and responsible management systems for the convention sector.

The event was also fully vegetarian, promoting the use of local, seasonal, organic and fair trade products wherever possible. Comprehensive carbon offsetting and establishment of a systematic waste management system (including upstream planning to reduce waste production) helped reduce the event's carbon footprint.

POST-MONTRÉAL

The ICLEI World Congress 2018 was the kick-off point for the holistic approach to sustainable urban development captured in the ICLEI Montréal Commitment. Now, ICLEI is engaging in concerted efforts to take the pathways framework, and examples highlighted by Montréal and the wider ICLEI network, to mainstream and scale up systemic change in urban areas worldwide.



Top: CitiesWithNature initiative debuts at ICLEI World Congress 2018

Bottom: Networking event







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