

**Initially, this newsletter was meant to be sent in March, but at that moment the COVID-19 crisis forced us to put everything on standby. We made the decision to postpone it.**

**At this time, we finally have news about the ARTM's plans and about the revamping of the fare system for public transport, so we completed the newsletter with these news.**

## **LATEST NEWS ABOUT THE ARTM CONSULTATION**

### **The social fare for low-income people is still being considered!**

This past June 18, the ARTM held its only public session. The general population was invited to attend virtually to hear the activities report for 2019 and participate in a question period.

That same morning, we learned from an article in La Presse that the board of directors would adopt that same day an initial project about the revamping of the fare system. This project would then be up for online consultation in September and October, to be finally adopted in December. The new ARTM tariff grid, simplified and integrated, could then be implemented on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

Here's the article (in French) : [Le manque à gagner de l'ARTM pourrait atteindre 500 millions en 2020](#)

Let us remember that the project of harmonisation of tariffs exists within the context of the plan of strategic development (PSD, in French). This plan included public consultations with a call to deposit briefs as well as public hearings, which we have been awaiting for 3 years. In the article, we learned that:

“The public consultations regarding this PSD project will take place between October and December. The precise way in which the consultations will take place is still to be confirmed because of the uncertainties around the pandemic. However, according to the information available, the consultations would include a call to the public and the organizations interested as well as public hearings of briefs that could go until December, by videoconference or in another way.”

The MTPA was present at the public session of the ARTM and submitted a question to know the next steps of the consultation regarding the social fare specifically. Their response was that **the social fare was still being studied, but in parallel to the revamping of the fare system project. A scenario with different admissibility criteria is being considered and the results will be presented to the CCM and to the government (for the financing)**. We also had confirmation, as announced in the La Presse article, that a project regarding the revamping of the fare system would be the subject of consultations this fall, but without any more details.

This information was included in another La Presse article (in French) : [Transports collectifs : la consultation publique sur la refonte tarifaire ira de l'avant](#)

At this time, we are trying to get more clarity regarding the specifics of the consultation format, its stages and elements. We also would like to know more about this famous scenario regarding fares based on revenue.

Hoping that the consultation process will allow us to move forward with the action plan discussed at our assembly this past February 13 (see pages 6 and 7).

We will keep you updated!