

An effective workforce for the times

Technical training partnership

A work-study programme in heavy road vehicles adapted for buses and minibuses, in which the STCUM is a partner, enables the company to recruit candidates who will have received made-to-measure training. Thanks to internships in the workplace, these students will have the opportunity to take advantage of their knowledge in the area of diesel mechanics. As of next year, the STCUM will welcome twelve students who will be assigned to “coach-mechanics” who will supervise them and give them the advantage of their experience.

Suicide prevention / Fondation québécoise des maladies mentales

The suicide prevention committee formed in 1999 put forward an action plan in 2000. Its primary objective was to educate employees on suicide prevention. The first phase was aimed at demystifying the subject of suicide in the métro. A letter was sent to all employees with their pay, and an article in the in-house newsletter was designed to change certain perceptions.

In the fall, communications efforts were undertaken to make employees aware of the importance of suicide prevention, and a folder was also handed out to employees. In addition, meetings were organized with métro employees directly affected by this subject. This approach has brought results.

In 2000, employees identified more than 350 individuals who seemed to be in distress. Of these, 179 resulted in direct intervention with suicidal individuals by surveillance agents. Finally, it should be mentioned that suicide attempts in the Montréal métro have decreased, from 29 in 1999 to 21 in 2000.

The STCUM also took part in a suicide prevention campaign entitled *La dépression, c'est une maladie et ça se soigne* organized by the Fondation québécoise des maladies mentales. This campaign, consisting of posters and customer information stands, ran in the métro from September 11 to October 20.

Really popular jobs!

The STCUM sent out 7,100 job request forms last March 27 and 28 during a recruitment blitz for bus drivers, 2,900 more than the previous year. Thanks to this operation, the STCUM renewed its bank of candidates with a view to hiring in the area of 150 drivers over the next two years.

