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Assises annuelles 2009: Workshop for English-speaking officials covers topics of current and future interest

This year's special workshop for English-speaking officials at the 2009 UMQ Assises annuelles (annual session) will follow a new formula. Chaired by Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue Mayor Bill Tierney, the workshop will cover two key topics: crime prevention and energy.

First, a panel of experts on public security will present the latest approaches to crime prevention and methods for linked municipalities on the Island of Montréal. Claude Vézina, an expert on urban security and crime prevention, will start by listing the principles and advantages of a leadership role for elected municipal councillors on this issue. He will be followed by Pierre Brochet, Assistant director of West Island Community Services for the Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM). He will talk about the opportunities for establishing and implementing the Round Table proposed by the recent Montréal *Politique pour un environnement paisible et sécuritaire*.

Next, Bill Tierney will lead the second panel of his own about the new energy situation in Québec and its foreseeable repercussions on urban planning and the environment. Guests include architect Daniel Pearl, well known for his leading-edge ideas on energy, and Martin Imbleau, Gaz Métro, Vice-president for Operations and Major projects. The resulting discussions are sure to be stimulating and fruitful.

"I'm sure this new workshop formula will be very attractive for municipal officials attending the

session," Tierney said. Members from all caucuses are cordially invited to attend.

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