

## About half of Taschereau respondents get involved in voluntary associations

The survey on the New Rural Economy carried out in the summer of 2001 was interested in the voluntary activities of the residents of twenty Canadian municipalities. The results showed that 43% of respondents from Taschereau give of their time in at least one association, which is slightly higher than the rate of participation observed in the other Québec communities (41%) and definitely lower than that of the other Canadian sites (59%). Voluntary participation refers to the act of being member of a social club, a trade union, a religious or professional organization, etc.



### Places where voluntary work is carried out

According to the data collected, the residents of Taschereau get involved mainly in their community (41%) rather than outside (4%). The situation differs somewhat in the other Québec (11%) and Canadian (15%) sites, where the respondents mentioned that they do somewhat more voluntary work outside their community.

### Voluntary participation according to gender and age group

Among Taschereau respondents, 44% of the men and 44% of the women were members of a voluntary organization. If one looks more closely at the involvement levels according to age, one notes that people aged 50 and more have the highest

rate of participation of all the respondents (52% of those 50 to 64 and 50% of those 65 and older), followed by those 35 to 49 (41%) and then those 18 to 34 (36%). The results are appreciably the same as elsewhere in Québec but differ in the remainder of Canada where the participation rate is higher in each age group. In the 20 consulted sites, the rate of voluntary participation is 45% for residents 18 to 34, 55% for those 35 to 49, 64% for those 50 to 64 and 66% for those 65 years and older.

Lastly, Taschereau residents participate in associations or volunteer groups involved in social causes (20%), education (8%), art and culture (7%) as well as sports and recreation (7%).

Judy-Ann Connely  
and Patrice LeBlanc



Contact the NRE2 project by email at [nre@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:nre@vax2.concordia.ca) or on the Web at [nre.concordia.ca](http://nre.concordia.ca)