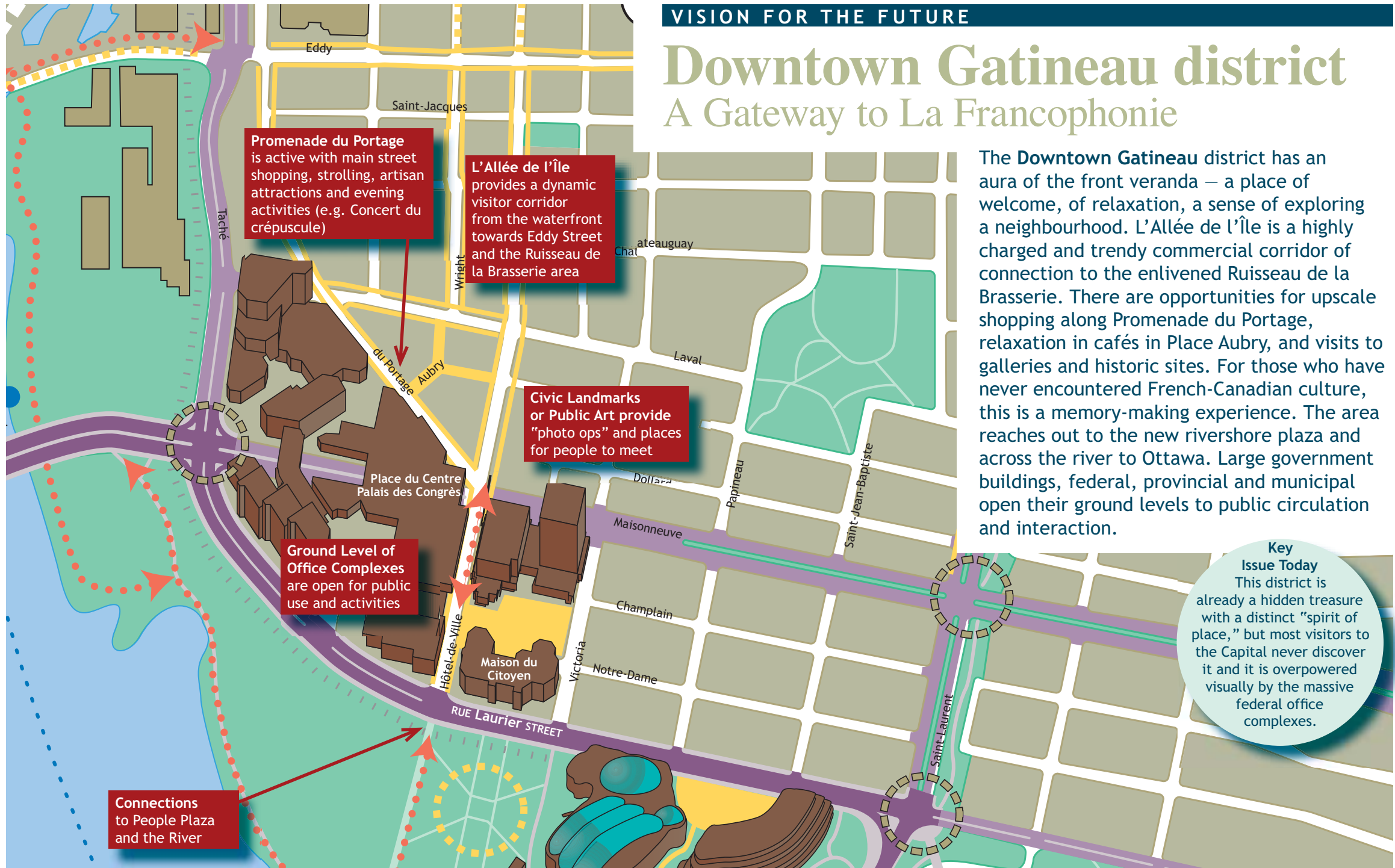


VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Downtown Gatineau district

A Gateway to La Francophonie

The **Downtown Gatineau** district has an aura of the front veranda – a place of welcome, of relaxation, a sense of exploring a neighbourhood. L'Allée de l'Île is a highly charged and trendy commercial corridor of connection to the enlivened Ruisseau de la Brasserie. There are opportunities for upscale shopping along Promenade du Portage, relaxation in cafés in Place Aubry, and visits to galleries and historic sites. For those who have never encountered French-Canadian culture, this is a memory-making experience. The area reaches out to the new rivershore plaza and across the river to Ottawa. Large government buildings, federal, provincial and municipal open their ground levels to public circulation and interaction.



Promenade du Portage is active with main street shopping, strolling, artisan attractions and evening activities (e.g. Concert du crépuscule)

L'Allée de l'Île provides a dynamic visitor corridor from the waterfront towards Eddy Street and the Ruisseau de la Brasserie area

Civic Landmarks or Public Art provide "photo ops" and places for people to meet

Ground Level of Office Complexes are open for public use and activities

Connections to People Plaza and the River

Key Issue Today
This district is already a hidden treasure with a distinct "spirit of place," but most visitors to the Capital never discover it and it is overpowered visually by the massive federal office complexes.



Artist's concept of a downtown street

Future Programming for the Downtown Gatineau district

- Small stages featuring the arts and Francophonie culture encourage visitors to linger, and to wander farther afield.
- The work of artists and artisans is featured in public spaces.
- Accessible signage interprets the area, and encourages visitors to explore it on foot.
- Walking routes are developed around heritage features, public art, and interpretation.

*The veranda,
the patio, and
the promenade
— places for
conviviality.*