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Snowborne taxa characterization and Impact on Ice nucleation.

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Little is known about snow-atmosphere chemical interactions, despite their potential implications in climate change [Domin and Shepson, 2002]. Snow samples were taken at several sites of an urban setting of Montreal, Canada during winter 2005 and 2006. We will present our results on the identified bacteria and fungi microorganisms, and their abundance. We have also performed complementary microphysics experiments on their importance as ice nuclei. We will discuss potential importance of our results and existing uncertainties on snow-atmosphere interactions.