

# THE INFORMER

Montreal West Viewpaper

March 2018, Vol. 46, No. 2

by Maurice Krystal

She was waiting for me by the piano, seated beside a stained glass window. In the dark room the last beams of light from the west were illuminating the stained glass window and Jesus' face was shining on **Mary Jane Puïu's** head like a spotlight. None of this religious symbolism was particularly surprising as the meeting was being held at the MoWest United Church. In fact, it was because Mary Jane conducts the *Women Making Music* choir at this church that I was here to interview her.

She said her name is Romanian and it's pronounced Pooh, as in Winnie the Pooh, and it means 'baby chick'. She struck me as a brash and feisty lady – with a loud, penetrating voice. She smiles and she says she isn't like other conductors. She is very blunt and does not hesitate to use "salty" language when needed. Baby chick indeed! I had 40 minutes to get her life story and take photos before her choir members showed up.

Her musical career started early when she was discovered to have a rare contralto voice. She sang with *The Montreal Symphony Orchestra Chorus* for 15 years, the *Tudor Singers* under **Wayne Riddell** and the *A Cappella Singers* on *CBC Radio*.

When she was 18, the car she was in got rear-ended and she suffered whiplash. She could not attend her university classes and instead took private singing lessons. That same year her conducting career began when she was hired by St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox to lead their choir. She held the post for 53 years. She was enrolled in the McGill Licentiate musical program, but quickly realized she hated it and dropped out, but she couldn't tell her parents that she went each day downtown selling magazine subscriptions over the phone.

## Mary Jane Puïu: music makes her come alive

Music didn't pay all the bills so she got a job at *John Lovell & Son* in the public relations department. At the age of 25, she returned to McGill in the Faculty of Music. Her musical teaching career has taken her to the Douglas Hospital, Riverdale, McGill, U of M, Concordia and FACE where she headed the voice department for 22 years.

### Another dramatic turn

Fifteen years ago her life took another dramatic turn. Bitten by a mosquito, her leg suddenly swelled up and became infected. That is when she discovered she had Lymphedema. The illness is most commonly caused by the removal of or damage to your lymph nodes as a part of cancer treatment, though Mary Jane is sure her situation was inherited. With a compromised immune system she is always a high risk for in-



fection. There is presently no cure for lymphedema. Her legs are swollen and she walks with a cane. She conducts sitting rather than standing. Though her case is severe and treatment is expensive, the Quebec government refuses to contribute to her costs. After many years of

battle she finally has given up fighting their decision. Though she had to retire from FACE due to her illness, her work with the *McGill Choral Society* and *Women Making Music* has kept her connected to her passion for music.

*continued on page 9*



Are *Informer* readers becoming younger? **Jayme Belle Kaufman**, daughter of **Katie Fagen** and **Tim Kaufman**, was "snapped" perusing the February issue.

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# THE INFORMER

10 Westminister North  
Montreal West, Quebec  
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The *Informer's* role is to provide MoWesters with information about their Town and its citizens in order to foster the small-town, close-knit atmosphere that makes Montreal West a special place in which to live.

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## NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

March 14



## Hometown opportunity

In a small community, we get used to kids leaving for university and staying away to work downtown or to pursue career opportunities in another city. It is less common to see someone return to work right where they started in Montreal West – but that is what **Catherine Treherne** has decided to do.

After several years away at Bishop's University completing her applied psychology degree, her love of our town and a local work opportunity have led her back home!

Catherine was born and raised on Easton Avenue and when it came time to decide where to kick off her career she started looking right here in MoWest.

"I love when I am out for only a couple of minutes on Westminister and I inevitably pass by a couple of people that I know!" she says. It is this sense of community that had her consider coming back – as well as the chance to work with local youngsters.

One of three kids, Catherine follows in the footsteps of her father and mother – a pediatrician and retired pediatric nurse. With an affinity for working with children, she spent her summers as a preschool camp counselor and, more recently, has joined the teaching team at a local preschool – *Le Jardin d'Enfants Curzon Creative Preschool*. Not only is this where her academic life began many years ago when she and her siblings attended the nursery school, but it is also where she has found a start on her chosen career path.

"I came back to work in Montreal West in a place that not only supports but reflects the best of our town. The teachers and families work together as part of the co-operative nature of the school. This really helps foster the sense of community I love so much in Montreal West. I'm excited to be home."

from Tracey Ades



**McGill**  
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## We need your brain...

to help us understand how it processes information.

Are you between 45 and 75 years old? The Sharp Lab at the *Montreal Neurological Institute* studies cognition in Parkinson's disease and is looking for both healthy control participants and people with Parkinson's disease to participate in a research study.

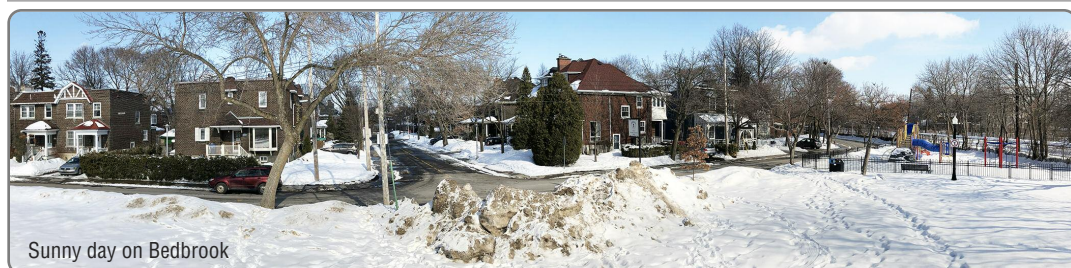
Participation entails two short, non-invasive research visits. Reimbursement for time. If interested, please email us: labo.sharp@gmail.com.

## West End Quilters

It is now 2018 and the *West End Quilters* are celebrating 30 years of quilting in MoWest. The guild, started by **Diane Shink** in 1988 is still going strong.

One way to celebrate is to have a quilt show, so on May 5 and 6, bright colourful quilts will be on display at St. Ignatius church hall. All the members are working hard to finish their prize-winning quilts. Money raised will go to two women's charities: *Artistri Sud*, empowering women around the world through entrepreneurship, and *Women on the Rise* that helps local mothers to help themselves.

For more information, please contact **Mary** at wequilters@gmail.com.



Sunny day on Bedbrook

## Are there treasures on your walls?

**Katherine Meredith**, a resident of MoWest from 1988 to 2011 (and daughter of **Ellen** and **John Meredith** of Percival Avenue), currently works for the auction house *Consignor Canadian Fine Art* in Toronto. She will be hosting a free art appraisal event in Montreal on March 5 and 6 at the Atwater Club. If you own any artworks and would like to find out how much they are worth, please contact Katherine at [katherine@consignor.ca](mailto:katherine@consignor.ca) or **416-479-9703** to set an appointment. She is also happy to visit you at your home for free valuations during the week of March 5 to 9.



## Mosaïculture International de Montreal

Mosaïculture is the art of 3-D sculpture made of plants. The idea of developing an international mosaïculture competition in Montreal came to **Lise Cormier**, Director of the City of Montreal's parks, gardens and green spaces from 1994 to 2003, while on a visit to Harbin, China where she viewed the spectacular horticultural art form. Mme Cormier subsequently established the international competition in Montreal in 2000, 2001, 2003 and 2013.

This past summer *MosaïCanada 150* came to life in Gatineau under Mme Cormier's direction. Thirty-three incredible mosaïculture sculptures were on display to showcase the history of Canada and the First Nations. Now Executive Vice-President and Director General of *Mosaïculture International de Montréal*, Mme Cormier has received honours and awards too numerous to mention.

The *Horticultural Society* is pleased to have Mme Cormier as the guest speaker on Monday, March 19 at the Town Hall at 7:30 pm. Everyone welcome. Non-members, \$5; 2018 membership, \$20.

## Annual Musical Thursday

The Annual Musical Thursday will be held on April 5 at 1 pm in the MW United Church. A \$20 ticket includes an intimate one-hour concert, a string quartet and a piano quintet with **Lauretta Altman**, piano; **Richard Roberts**, violin; **Kuriko Yokoyama**, violin; **Douglas McNabney**, viola and **Geneviève Guimond**, violoncello followed by refreshments. The venue is wheelchair accessible.

Proceeds will support the volunteer-based *Extra Miles* senior visiting program. Although billed as a fundraiser, we thank the program sponsors. Tickets and/or transportation are provided to elderly people in our community who could not otherwise attend such an event.

## About Extra Miles

Established in 1998 by MoWest United, *Extra Miles* senior visiting program offers volunteer-based weekly friendly visiting to frail, isolated seniors within the MoWest, Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and Côte Saint-Luc community, who are in general housebound. The seniors are referred to the program by a nurse or a social worker at the *CIUSSS CLSC Benny Farm/CSSS Cavendish*.

For information or assistance, please contact **Tracie Swim** at **482-3210** or at [extramiles.senior@gmail.com](mailto:extramiles.senior@gmail.com).

## Children's Library

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**484-7194**



Avec la fin de l'hiver qui approche, le parc Strathearn revient peu à peu à la vie. Lorsque vous y serez pour admirer l'éveil de la nature et écouter le chant du cardinal, n'oubliez pas de venir nous visiter!

## Un lieu de détente privilégié

Durant la semaine de relâche, prévoyez une visite à la bibliothèque et offrez-vous le plaisir de découvrir nos belles collections. Vous trouverez des livres pour tous les goûts et pour tous les niveaux de lecture.

Nous les enrichissons régulièrement par l'acquisition de nouveaux livres en anglais, en français et bilingues. Ces derniers sont rédigés en langue française et dans une autre langue comme l'anglais, le japonais, le coréen, l'italien, l'espagnol et même dans certaines langues autochtones.

En plus de savourer de beaux moments avec vos enfants dans notre coin de lecture accueillant et confortable, vous pourrez, si le cœur vous en dit, vous amuser avec les jeux de société et les casse-tête- à votre disposition ou créer de beaux dessins.

## Venez célébrer le Saint-Patrick !

**Nadia** nous revient avec un bricolage sur cette thématique le samedi 17 mars à 11 h. Vous pouvez inscrire votre enfant en personne, par courriel ou par téléphone. Réservez tôt, car le nombre de places est limité!

## Des romans historiques passionnants pour lecteurs avancés

La nouvelle série *Héros de légende* est maintenant disponible sur nos rayons. Chaque livre de cette série est consacré à un personnage historique qui s'est illustré à son époque et a marqué l'imaginaire des générations qui suivirent. Ces livres, rédigés avec rigueur par l'historien **Claude Merle**, sont une combinaison de documentaire et de roman, les faits historiques étant intégrés aux aventures palpitantes des protagonistes. Quelques-uns des *Héros de légendes* que nous avons acquis jusqu'ici sont : Jules César, d'Artagnan, Perceval, Richard Cœur de lion, Hercule, Merlin l'enchanteur, Jeanne d'Arc, Jason, Cléopâtre, Achille, Le Roi Arthur. Hâtez-vous de découvrir cette nouvelle série, aussi instructive que captivante!



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## Rotary

# Supporting students and science



MoWest Rotary President **Ron D'Souza** introduced **Jennifer Pevac** who has taken over from **Ann Mackay** at Royal West and is running her third science fair. Jennifer thanked Ron and our club for our financial support.

She asked us, "How many types of bacteria are found in our home?" She then added that we would have to come to the science fair to find out.

Jennifer invited the club to come and take a peek at the projects. The fair is huge and has 170 judges. It's been running for 29 years. All grade 11 students in the science program have to submit a project. Students in grades 8 to 10 have to present at least one science fair project over those three years.

Jennifer has brought a few of the winners over for lunch in the past and promises to do the same later this year. President Ron presented Jennifer with a cheque and she said the money will go towards awards for the best projects and thanked the *Rotary Club* as the biggest supporter of the science fair.



- March 15: **Brenda Rowe**, John Abbott College
- Saturday, May 12: **Lobsterfest**

## Coming speakers and events of note

- Friday March 2: Wine and Cheese in honour of Black History Month with **Egbert Gaye**, Editor of *Community Contact* and heard on *CJAD*. There will also be other special guests. 7:30 pm, Town Hall, \$25. For the benefit of the *Council for Black Aging Community of Montreal*.
- March 8: **Lori Marcille** diabetes nurse, Herzl Family Practice Centre of the Jewish General Hospital

## Come join us for lunch

The Rotary Club of Montreal Westward meets Thursdays at the Town Hall. Luncheon buffet is served at 12:30 pm with a speaker at around 1 pm. Cost for a guest is \$20. Your attendance brings good speakers and good fellowship. If you know a local business person, please ask him or her to attend a meeting and to be a speaker.

For information please contact **Doug Yeats** at [doug@westendpiano.com](mailto:doug@westendpiano.com).

from Doug Yeats

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## Elizabeth Ballantyne School



### Planetarium and jungle gym bring fun to school!



#### Jungle Sport at EBS

*Jungle Sport Inc.*, an in-school adventure program, set up their climbing frame and ropes course structure in the gym in February. Students from kindergarten to grade 6 participated in three days of fun and challenging activities such as rock climbing, ropes courses and adventure quests.

It was an excellent activity for students, promoting movement, coordination, self-confidence and awareness of their bodies.

**Islay**, a grade 6 student, commented, "I loved the *Jungle Sport* activity! It was amazing that they were able to change the activities every time we went, so it was always different. My favorite was the rock climbing wall. I also liked the ropes courses and the staff members were super nice!"

*Jungle Sport* is just one of many activities that we bring in for our students – so they can have fun while they are learning!

#### Aster Company shows the beauty of the universe

Imagine looking up into the sky and taking a journey through the universe in your own school gymnasium!

Students from all grade levels recently had the opportunity to do just that. *Aster* (Organisme d'Interpretation Scientifique), set up an inflatable planetarium, projecting images to explain our beautiful universe, in real time and motion. **Shirley Mae**, a grade 6 student, thought it was "cool and interesting" and added, "It felt like I was actually there. Everything the animator explained was interesting and easy to understand. I loved it!"

This program was designed to develop students' interest and skills in astronomy, science and technology.



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## Edinburgh School



## Edinburgh's leadership group

This year, Edinburgh introduced a Student Leadership Committee under the guidance of grade 5 teacher, Ms. **Helen Botsas** and Spiritual Animator, **Jag Trehin**. The Committee is composed of ten grade 5 and grade 6 students. The students have so far assisted with various fundraising campaigns for Toy Tea and even the Heart to Heart Huggies Project. The experience is always pleasurable and rewarding.

The Student Leadership Committee has also assisted in the 50+ Club luncheons held at the Community Centre. The most recent event was a Scottish celebration, which was absolute-

ly fun and we also learned so much. We not only helped prepare and serve the lunch, we also had the wonderful opportunity to have interesting conversations with the members. Everyone had a lot to tell us about when they were our age and we found that to be very interesting. We also discovered that many of their family members attended our great school, too!

Having the opportunity to meet with the 50+ Club has been so much fun and we can't wait until the next luncheon in March.

*from Clara Bordo and  
Keira Donato*



## Calling all VOLUNTEERS!

The Community Centre is looking for a volunteer to take over the organising of the Canada Day BBQ. In an article last year, it was mentioned that **Joan Foster** has stepped down after many years of service and we are now in need of a replacement.

If you are interested, please contact the Community Centre for additional information:

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## Royal West Academy



## 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Science Fair

Almost 400 students from Grades 8-11 participated in the 29<sup>th</sup> annual RWA Science Fair on February 15. Again this year, all the projects were housed in the new gym where almost 170 judges from both the academic and professional worlds evaluated the students' work during the morning. And in the early afternoon and evening, the Science Fair opened up to visitors and 175 students from four nearby elementary schools. The day ended with the awards ceremony. A full listing of those awards can be found on the RWA website.





## École des Amis-du-Monde



### L'éducation physique en raquette

L'été dernier, des membres du personnel de la compagnie *Parmalat* ont participé à une activité de collecte de fonds cycliste.

Cette équipe a choisi de remettre les fonds à notre école par le biais de la *Fondation du Grand défi Pierre Lavoie*. Nous avons utilisé ce don pour l'achat de raquettes et d'un module qui sera installé dans notre gymnase.

La nature a été clémentine avec nous. **Madame Valentina** a planifié ses cours d'éducation physique à l'extérieur. La coopération, l'entraide et surtout le plaisir de jouer dans la neige étaient au rendez-vous.

### Les 5 doigts de la politesse

À l'école des Amis-du-Monde on travaille le respect! Nous amorçons la nou-

velle année en mobilisant l'ensemble des élèves de l'école sous le thème du respect. Nous retrouvons cette valeur dans notre constellation des valeurs qui nous a permis d'élaborer notre code de vie.

Plusieurs petites activités ont été mises de l'avant en janvier. Tout d'abord, chaque élève a reçu un dessin d'une main où chaque doigt représente un aspect de la politesse. Les parents ont été invités à discuter à la maison des cinq doigts de la politesse. Nous aurons un élément vedette chaque semaine. Les membres du Conseil des élèves feront la promotion dans les classes.

En début de février, il y aura un concours de dessin. Les élèves seront invités à représenter une situation où le respect est à l'honneur, en dessin ou par un slogan. Par la suite, les productions seront affichées dans divers endroits de l'école.



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Novice B Knights team

### The Knights are shining!

As we approach the end of the season, the MWH Knights are shining at all levels.

On February 4, we hosted the Eastern Hockey League All Star game for the Novice level. Top players from all over the league participated in a skills competition for speed and accuracy, then played a 20-minute match. Congratulations to everyone who participated.

The Atom B & C and Pee-wee B & C team were selected to participate in the 2018 *Best Buy Cup* which welcomed over

2000 players to the Laval Nature Centre to play in the Quebec's largest outdoor hockey tournament. The event was a huge success and our teams are anxious to return next year for some more fun.

### Mini outdoor soccer

Starts Saturday, May 5.  
Little Strikers: born 2014 (4 years old), 1 x week. Early bird: \$75 (R) \$95 (NR); April 1: \$90 (R) \$110 (NR)  
Micro soccer: Born 2013 and 2012 (5-6 years old), 1x week. Early bird: \$75 (R) \$95 (NR); April 1: \$90 (R) \$110 (NR)

### Boys and girls regular outdoor soccer

Starts on fields Saturday, May 5.  
Born 2011+. Ages 7+, 2 x week.  
Early bird: \$110 (R) \$130 (NR); April 1: \$135 (R) \$150 (NR)

#### Registration closes April 12.

Mandatory soccer evaluations at *Soccerplexe Catalogna*: 9 am-1 pm. Boys: April 14, girls: April 15. Check CRA website for details.

### Women's outdoor soccer

Women 18+, coached by **Greg Macgregor**; 1 x week for 6 weeks: \$90 (R) \$110 (NR)

### Rugby Ages 6-13

Players learn basic rugby knowledge and skills from coach **Susy Binstock**. This program is non-contact for under 10 years old. Practice 1 x week and 3 jamborees.

### Intercommunity baseball

The intercommunity baseball league features home and away games against other local communities. Players receive full uniforms and qualified coaches teach players all aspects of the game. Children must attend try-outs, beginning April 3 indoors at Royal West Academy, that will be run by Concordia baseball coaches and players. Home and away games on various days  
Open to MoWest residents only  
\$175. Ages 9+

### T-Ball

Introduction to the game of baseball through games and fun drills coached by *Sportball* instructors. Ages 3-4 and 5-6; 6 weeks, 1 x week; \$125 (R) \$145 (NR)

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## SPRING REGISTRATION opens March 1

[mwcrasports.ca](http://mwcrasports.ca) or 485-8598

### Sportball

Spring session: April 10, Tuesdays, 8-week session, Elizabeth Ballantyne Gym. 2-3½ years (parent participation), 5:45-6:30; 3½-5 years old, 6:30-7:30; 6-10 years old, 6:30-7:30. \$165 (R) \$185 (NR).

### Gymnastics

Spring session starts April 12-May 31, Thursdays, Elizabeth Ballantyne Gym. 3½-5 years old, 5:45-6:30; 6-10 years old, 6:30-7:30; \$110 (R) \$130 (NR)

### Important dates:

- **End of year skating show:** March 18, 2:30 pm, Legion Rink
- **Baseball coaches' clinic:** Saturday, March 24, 1 pm, Concordia Stinger Dome
- **Baseball players' spring training and evaluations:** starts April 3 (must be registered)
- **Judo end of year demonstration:** Elizabeth Ballantyne School

## Mary Jane Pui

*continued from page 1*

*Women Making Music* has practised for the past three years in the United Church in MoWest. The choir was formed under the auspices of the *Montreal Council of Women* in 1996. The group ranges anywhere from 25-35 female singers, depending on the season, and performs popular pieces, jazz and sacred works. For the past dozen years the group has also joined the *McGill Choral Society* for performances and taken part in major works.

The choir women arrive early. There are grandchildren photos to show on cell phones, catching up on the latest gossip and the hugging of members who were away for a while. One of the last things Mary Jane says to me is that when she is conducting, she temporarily forgets her aches and pains and she comes alive.

The group's next concert is on March 25 at 3 pm at the Saint-Enfant-Jesus Church, corner of St. Dominique and St. Joseph.

*Women Making Music* always welcomes new members. If you are interested or would like information on future concerts, please contact **Laura Bryan** at [lbryan999@gmail.com](mailto:lbryan999@gmail.com).



## MW Public Library

### Theme of the month

Your library is now working with themes for each month. February focused on health: defining it, keeping it, regaining it and exploring not only human but animal health and the interaction between the two.

March will be focused on politics. With books available such as *Fire and Fury* by **Michael Wolff**, *Trumpocracy* by **David Frum** and *The Unquotable Trump* by **R. Sikoryak**, author and illustrator, there is no shortage of reading material.

481-7441

**Reservations/requests:**  
[mwlib.requests@gmail.com](mailto:mwlib.requests@gmail.com)

**Head Librarian:**  
[mwlib@videotron.ca](mailto:mwlib@videotron.ca)

### OPENING HOURS

We are reviewing our opening hours, let us know what you think!

Monday / Tuesday  
10 am-6 pm; 7-9 pm  
Wednesday / Thursday  
10 am-4 pm; 7-9 pm  
Saturday: Noon-4 pm

### Coming events

- **Tea and books** – March 14 at 2 pm – come to chat about books you've read – recently or not so – with other members, over a hot cuppa, in the main room downstairs. This opportunity will be available every second Wednesday of the month. All are welcome.
- **Terry Mosher** (Aislin) visits our library – March 15 at 7 pm.
- **Annual general meeting** – March 20 at 7 pm – is open to all library members. We are also looking for board members. If interested, please email [mwlib@videotron.ca](mailto:mwlib@videotron.ca) for more information.

### New acquisitions

*Canada Reads* shortlist is now available at your library:

Sharon Bala, *The Boat People*  
Mark Sakamoto, *Forgiveness*  
Omar El Akkad, *American War*  
Cherie Dimaline, *The Marrow Thieves*  
Craig Davidson, *Precious Cargo*

As to non-fiction, come and see all our cold weather cooking books and magazines including these new ones: *The How Not Die Cookbook* by Michael Greger, M.D. and *The Ultimate Instant Pot Pressure Cooker Cookbook* by Ella Sanders.

Plus, new to the library, *The Sunday New York Times* is now available for library use.

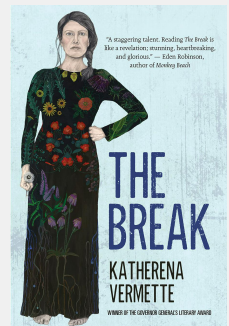
### What I have read recently



by **Ellen Moore**

(a new section written by some of our members  
on books they have read recently)

*The Break* by **Katherena Vermette** is an eye-opening and very well-written book about Canadian native and Métis women living in Winnipeg. The story of a nighttime attack on a native girl is told by different characters, each in her own voice. Everyone looks to the past as well as the present, to explore the why of the event. The setting is darkest winter, which is totally appropriate, and the author (a Métis woman herself) uses language effectively to convey the voices of the different women – sweet and vulnerable, coarse and insulting, capable but deeply troubled. This is fiction, but most relevant to the current situation in Canada.



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# COUNCIL communiqué

## Strategic Financial Plan and the 2018 Budget



The 2018 budget is the first one to be approved under the Town's new Strategic Financial Plan (SFP) 2018–2022. It was particularly helpful this year to have a plan to guide us when

faced with the unanticipated and hefty 9% increase in our Agglomeration bill (for police, fire, transportation, etc.).

The following checklist provides a report card on how the budget measured up against the SFP objectives.

### 1) Limit property tax increases

- The 1.66% tax increase for residential properties is less than the projected CPI of 1.7%.

### 2) Continue investing in infrastructure renewal

- Plans are under way for the renewal of the water and road infrastructure for Percival Avenue in 2018.
- The budgeted air curtain for the Public Works garage is energy-efficient and will decrease heating costs with a return on investment of less than two years.

### 3) Manage the debt level

- Debt servicing has decreased in 2018 and is now 14.4% of the local budget, down from 16.7% in 2017.
- Special projects and capital expenditures, such as the Davis Park project, the purchase of a dump truck and building repairs are being funded through the accumulated surplus and working fund without incurring additional debt.

### 4) Increase the overall tax base

- Resources will be made available to move forward on the development of the library lot.
- Funds are being allocated from the accumulated surplus for the Westminster beautification plan with a goal of encouraging business growth.

### 5) Provide high-quality, cost-effective services

- Funds have been allocated to maintain and renew the Town's equipment, vehicles, parks and tree canopy.
- Enhanced communications will be achieved with the additional funds budgeted for communications and the planned redesign of the Town's website.

### 6) Improve preparedness for external agglomeration costs

- By maintaining a healthy surplus, the Town was able to offset the Agglo increase of \$472,000 in 2018 by using these surplus funds for some planned expenditures.

While there are other long-term strategies still to be developed, the 2018 budget has hit the mark on several key objectives as we head into Year 1 in the implementation of the SFP.

*Colleen Feeney, Councillor  
Urban Planning, Finance, Administration  
and Human Resources  
cfeeney@montreal-west.ca*

## MAYOR'S REPORT



### Agglomeration reform

Subsequent to the adoption of the Agglomeration Council budget last month, the mayors of the 15 demerged municipalities walked out of the Agglo Council meeting. This was to protest the inherent flaw in the system that allows Montreal to effectively tax all the residents on the Island even though our independent municipalities cannot participate in the vote for Montreal's mayor. All demerged municipalities on the Island belong to the Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM) which represents some 246,000 residents. And NOT ONE of those residents voted for Mayor Plante. The definitive example of taxation without representation!

Because the ASM was able to shine a light on this inherent flaw in this system, we have been able to push a good case for reform of the agglomeration system. We've been made aware, after meeting with a mayor under the Longueuil Agglomeration that this problem is in evidence there as well.

To present our need for reform, the ASM has now scheduled a meeting with Mayor Plante. In parallel, we will be meeting with Minister Martin Coiteux as well to present our case to him. I will keep you updated as talks continue.

### Coffee with the Mayor

The next Coffee with the Mayor will take place on **Thursday, March 22**, from 7:30 to 8:30 am at the Community Centre. These meetings are a chance for residents to sit and discuss things more informally with me. Unlike the formal Question period at Council meetings, Coffee with the Mayor is an opportunity to chat about individual matters of concern in more detail.

*Beny Masella, Mayor  
Town of Montreal West  
bmasella@montreal-west.ca*

## Calling all artists and artisans



Did you know that MoWest regularly features the work of local artists and artisans at the Town Hall? Since 2006, we've been encouraging both

professional and amateur creative types to participate in our Artist Showcase program. Whether you're a photographer, a painter, a potter or anything in-between, we'd love to see your work.

Many creative residents have shown their work publicly for the first time through the program. Their art is exhibited alongside well-established local artists. And some Showcase participants have even sold the pieces they exhibited with us! It's a wonderful way to share your artistic talent to friends and neighbours, and help brighten up the Town Hall.

Every 4-6 months a new theme is announced and artists are asked to

contribute pieces reflecting that subject (though we're fairly liberal about how you might interpret the theme). Contributions of two-dimensional art must be framed and ready to hang. Three-dimensional pieces must fit into the glass cabinet in the front hall.

On your next trip to the Town Hall, take a peek in the Music Room and upstairs in the Assembly Hall. You'll certainly be impressed by the wealth of artistic talent gracing the walls and inside the glass cabinet. Hopefully that will tempt you to submit something yourself. If so, please contact Marian Scully at 514-484-1610 or [mscully@montreal-west.ca](mailto:mscully@montreal-west.ca). We're open to a whole range of artistic output. So, show your true colours and join in!

*Elizabeth Ulin, Councillor  
Recreation, Culture and  
Communications  
[eulin@montreal-west.ca](mailto:eulin@montreal-west.ca)*

## Dealing with winter potholes



By the end of February each year, motorists are well acquainted with the treacherous proliferation of potholes. They're as much a source of irritation as the icy roads. Sadly, they're (literally) unavoidable.

When water seeps beneath the road, freezing and thawing during winter, the pavement continually expands and contracts. Ultimately, the road surface cracks and, as vehicles pass over, the asphalt dislodges creating potholes.

In Montreal West, as part of regular road maintenance, potholes and cracks are fixed as soon as possible, regardless of the season. During the winter, starting around January, Public Works starts patching potholes by cleaning out the loose debris, filling them with a cold asphalt patch and compressing it onto the hole. This is not a permanent solution but is necessary to avoid further deterioration of the asphalt and road foundation, and is essential for driver and pedestrian safety.

Since asphalt must be hot to properly blend with the road surface and set, we must wait until summer to replace these "quick fixes" with longer-term solutions to keep the road in good condition.

Please understand that during peak snow removal season (especially during a winter like this one) our Public Works Department is stretched to the limit. They may not get to minor pothole repair immediately. However, if you do spot a dangerous pothole, please contact the department at 514-485-8597.

And if you have any questions about "pothole policy", please don't hesitate to send me an email.

*Maria Torres, Councillor  
Public Works, Buildings and Environment  
[mtorres@montreal-west.ca](mailto:mtorres@montreal-west.ca)*

## So, you want to report a traffic infraction?



One issue that I find comes up often in the Public Security portfolio is where a resident observes a traffic or by-law infraction and wants our PSOs or the police (SPVM) to issue a ticket for something law enforcement did not personally observe. The

question becomes: what can an individual do when she/he witnesses a breach of the Highway Safety Code or the Town's by-laws?

First, we encourage you to report such violations to law enforcement—even after the fact. Where the matter relates to a non-moving violation such as a parking infraction, reporting it to our PSOs is very useful. We may not ticket the alleged violation; however, our PSOs will pay greater attention to that problem area going forward. For example, if someone routinely parks her/his car overnight on a local street and does not have a parking permit, our PSOs will watch for any recurrence.

Where the matter relates to a moving violation (e.g. speeding), you can go online and file a confidential observation report with our local SPVM Station 9 ([www.spvm.qc.ca/en/Contact/SecuriteRoutiere?Pdq=9](http://www.spvm.qc.ca/en/Contact/SecuriteRoutiere?Pdq=9)). The form will require some key information (e.g. date, time, incident description, vehicle make and colour, licence plate number, and description of driver).

It is not a given that the police will issue a ticket based on your report, regardless of the details and photographic evidence you provide. However, the SPVM will issue a letter to the owner of the vehicle, identifying the complaint brought against him/her and that any such repeated behaviour by the owner (or user) of the vehicle may result in the issuance of a ticket. In many instances, such a notice will have the effect of encouraging an individual to modify her/his inappropriate driving habits.

It bears noting that making a false statement in this report is a public mischief infraction under section 140 of the Criminal Code and could lead to serious legal consequences.

Where a problem persists for which you require my assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Dino Mazzone, Councillor  
Public Security and Special Projects Fundraising  
[dmazzone@montreal-west.ca](mailto:dmazzone@montreal-west.ca)*





## Plan financier stratégique et le budget 2018



Le budget 2018 est le premier approuvé sous le nouveau Plan financier stratégique (PFS) 2018-2022 de la Ville. Il a été particulièrement utile d'avoir ce plan cette année pour nous guider lorsque confrontés à l'augmentation considérable et imprévue de 9 % de la facture de l'agglomération (police, incendies, transport, etc.).

La liste de contrôle qui suit donne une fiche de rendement du budget par rapport aux objectifs du PFS.

### 1) Restreindre les hausses d'impôts fonciers

- La hausse de taxes de 1,66 % pour les propriétés résidentielles est moindre que l'IPC prévu de 1,7 %.

### 2) Poursuivre les investissements pour le renouvellement des infrastructures

- Des plans sont en cours pour le renouvellement des infrastructures d'aqueduc et de voirie pour l'avenue Percival en 2018.
- Le rideau d'air budgété pour le garage des Travaux publics est écoénergétique et diminuera les coûts de chauffage avec un rendement du capital investi de moins de deux ans.

### 3) Gérer le niveau de la dette

- Le service de la dette a diminué à 14,4 % du budget local en 2018, en baisse des 16,7 % de 2017.
- Les projets spéciaux et les dépenses en immobilisation, comme le projet du parc Davies, l'achat d'un camion-benne et des réparations aux édifices sont financés par l'excédent accumulé et le fonds de caisse sans contracter de dette supplémentaire.

### 4) Élargir l'assiette fiscale

- Des ressources seront rendues disponibles pour avancer la mise en valeur du terrain de la bibliothèque.
- Des fonds sont alloués depuis l'excédent accumulé pour le plan d'embellissement de Westminster avec pour but d'encourager la croissance des entreprises.

### 5) S'engager à fournir des services de grande qualité avec efficience

- Des fonds sont prévus pour entretenir et renouveler les équipements de la Ville, les parcs et le couvert forestier.
- La communication sera améliorée grâce aux fonds supplémentaires budgétés pour les communications et le réaménagement du site Web de la Ville.
- Malgré les défis posés par l'absorption de l'augmentation de la facture de l'agglomération, aucun service local n'a été coupé.

### 6) Améliorer l'état de préparation aux coûts externes de l'agglomération

- En maintenant un excédent sain, la Ville a pu compenser l'augmentation de 472 000 \$ de la facture de l'agglomération en 2018, en utilisant ces fonds excédentaires pour certaines dépenses planifiées.

Bien que d'autres stratégies à long terme demeurent à élaborer, le budget 2018 a atteint la cible de plusieurs objectifs-clés à l'aube de l'An I de la mise en œuvre du PFS.

*Colleen Feeney, conseillère  
Urbanisme, Finances, Administration et  
Ressources humaines  
cfeeney@montreal-ouest.ca*

## RAPPORT DU MAIRE

### Réforme de l'agglomération



Par suite de l'adoption du budget du Conseil d'agglomération le mois dernier, les maires des 15 municipalités reconstituées ont quitté la réunion du Conseil d'agglomération. Cette

démarche se voulait une protestation de la faille inhérente du système qui permet à Montréal d'effectivement taxer tous les résidents de l'île, même si les municipalités indépendantes ne peuvent participer au vote pour la mairie de Montréal. Toutes les municipalités défusionnées de l'île sont membres de l'Association des municipalités de banlieue (AMB) qui représente quelque 246 000 citoyens. Et PAS UN SEUL de ces résidents n'a voté pour la mairesse Plante. Un exemple flagrant de taxation sans représentation!

Puisque l'AMB a su illustrer cette faille inhérente au système, nous avons pu faire avancer la cause de la réforme du système d'agglomération. On nous a informés, après une rencontre avec un maire de l'agglomération de Longueuil, que ce problème est aussi évident là.

Pour présenter son besoin de réforme, l'AMB a maintenant programmé une réunion avec la mairesse Plante. Parallèlement, nous rencontrerons aussi le ministre Martin Coiteux pour lui présenter notre cause. Je vous tiendrai au courant des développements.

### Café avec le maire

Le prochain Café avec le maire aura lieu le **jeudi 22 mars** de 7 h 30 à 8 h 30 au Centre communautaire. Ces rencontres décontractées sont l'occasion pour les résidents de s'asseoir et discuter avec moi de façon informelle. Contrairement à la période de questions formelle lors de la réunion du Conseil, le Café avec le maire est une occasion de discuter de préoccupations individuelles en plus grand détail.

*Beny Masella, maire  
ville de Montréal-Ouest  
bmasella@montreal-ouest.ca*



## Appel aux artistes et artisans



Saviez-vous que Mo-Ouest met régulièrement en vedette les travaux d'artistes et artisans locaux à l'hôtel de ville? Depuis 2006, nous encourageons les créatifs, professionnels et amateurs, à participer à notre programme Vitrine artistique. Photographe, peintre, potier ou autre du genre, nous aimerions voir vos œuvres.

De nombreux résidents créatifs ont exhibé leurs travaux publiquement pour la première fois grâce au programme. Leur art est exposé avec celui d'artistes locaux établis. Certains participants à la Vitrine ont même vendu les pièces qu'ils ont présentées chez nous! C'est une merveilleuse façon de partager vos talents artistiques avec vos amis et voisins et d'égayer l'hôtel de ville.

Tous les quatre ou six mois, un nouveau thème est annoncé et on demande aux artistes de proposer des

pièces reliées à ce sujet (quoique nous soyons plutôt ouverts à la façon dont vous pourriez interpréter le thème). Les œuvres bidimensionnelles doivent être encadrées et prêtes à suspendre. Les pièces tridimensionnelles doivent aller dans le cabinet vitré du hall d'entrée.

Lors de votre prochain passage à l'hôtel de ville, jetez un coup d'œil à la salle de musique et à la salle d'assemblée en haut. La richesse des talents artistiques qui ornent les murs et le cabinet vitré vous impressionnera certainement. Avec un peu de chance, cela vous inspirera à présenter vos propres travaux. Si oui, contactez Marian Scully à [mscully@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:mscully@montreal-ouest.ca) ou au 514-484-1610. Nous sommes ouverts à une vaste gamme de produits artistiques. Montrez vos couleurs et participez!

*Elizabeth Ulin, conseillère  
Loisirs, Culture et Communications  
[eulin@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:eulin@montreal-ouest.ca)*

## S'occuper des nids-de-poule en hiver



Chaque année, à la fin de février, les automobilistes sont bien familiers avec la prolifération des nids-de-poule. Ils sont une source d'irritation, tout comme les routes glacées. Malheureusement, ils sont inévitables (littéralement).

Quand l'eau s'infiltre sous la surface, gèle et dégèle pendant l'hiver, le bitume se dilate et se contracte continuellement. Finalement, la surface de la route craque et, avec le passage des véhicules, l'asphalte se délodge, créant des nids-de-poule.

À Montréal-Ouest, dans l'entretien régulier des voies carrossables, on répare les trous et les fissures dès que possible, quelle que soit la saison. En hiver, commençant à peu près en janvier, les Travaux publics commencent le colmatage des nids-de-poule en nettoyant les débris détachés, remplissant les trous avec de l'asphalte froid et le compressant. Cette solution n'est pas permanente, mais elle est nécessaire pour prévenir une plus grande détérioration du bitume et des fondations de la voie et est essentielle pour la sécurité des automobilistes et piétons.

Comme l'asphalte doit être chaud pour bien se lier avec la surface de roulement et durcir, nous devons attendre l'été pour remplacer ces expédients rapides par des solutions à long terme afin de garder la route en bon état.

Vous devez comprendre que durant la haute saison du déneigement (particulièrement lors d'un hiver comme celui-ci), notre service des Travaux publics est poussé à la limite. Les petits trous ne seront peut-être pas réparés immédiatement. Cependant si vous voyez un nid-de-poule dangereux, contactez le service au 514-485-8597.

Si vous avez des questions concernant la « politique des nids-de-poule », n'hésitez pas à me contacter.

*Maria Torres, conseillère  
Travaux publics, Bâtiments et Environnement  
[mtorres@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:mtorres@montreal-ouest.ca)*

## Vous voulez rapporter une infraction de circulation?



Une question qui revient souvent dans le portefeuille de la Sécurité publique est où s'adresser si vous observez une violation à la circulation ou à un règlement et voulez qu'un ASP ou un policier (SPVM) délivre un constat pour quelque chose que

ce dernier n'a pas personnellement constaté. La question devient alors : que faire lorsque vous êtes témoin d'une entorse au Code de la route ou à un règlement municipal?

D'abord, nous vous incitons à rapporter ces violations aux forces de l'ordre, même après le fait. S'il s'agit d'une infraction sans mouvement, comme pour le stationnement, en aviser nos ASP est très utile. Peut-être n'y aura-t-il pas de constat pour cette contravention, cependant nos ASP porteront une attention spéciale à ce secteur à l'avenir. Par exemple, si quelqu'un stationne régulièrement sa voiture de nuit dans une rue, sans permis, les ASP surveilleront toute récurrence.

S'il s'agit d'une infraction avec mouvement (p. ex. vitesse), vous pouvez aller en ligne et remplir un rapport d'observation confidentiel auprès du Poste de quartier 9 ([www.spvm.qc.ca/fr/Contact/SecuriteRoutiere?Pdq=9](http://www.spvm.qc.ca/fr/Contact/SecuriteRoutiere?Pdq=9)). Le formulaire vous demande des renseignements-clés (date, heure, description de l'incident, marque du véhicule et couleur, numéro de plaque et description du chauffeur).

Il n'est pas assuré que les policiers délivreront un constat sur la base de votre rapport, quels que soient les détails et photographies fournis. Cependant, le SPVM enverra une lettre au propriétaire du véhicule, énonçant la plainte et spécifiant que toute récidive par le propriétaire ou utilisateur du véhicule pourrait entraîner l'émission d'une contravention. Dans plusieurs cas, un tel avis aura pour effet d'inciter la personne à modifier ses mauvaises habitudes de conduite.

Veillez noter qu'une fausse déclaration dans ce rapport constitue une infraction de méfait public selon l'article 140 du Code criminel et pourrait mener à de sérieuses conséquences juridiques.

Si un problème persiste pour lequel vous avez besoin de mon aide, n'hésitez pas à me contacter.

*Dino Mazzone, conseiller  
Sécurité publique et Financement de projets  
spéciaux  
[dmazzone@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:dmazzone@montreal-ouest.ca)*



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## Montreal West Scout Group



Photos: Brendan Mirochnik (Bagheera)



Going to camp is always exciting, but this February was extra special as we had our own Mini Junior Olympics. Sixty-three Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, leaders and parents headed north to Camp Tamaracouta on Friday, February 2. After a quick snack, settling into our cabins and cabooses, the Beavers hit the hay while the Cubs and Scouts continued outdoor activities.

Saturday morning was -26°C plus wind chill, but that did not

hold back our hardy group. The Beavers built Olympic rings in the snow, the Cubs headed off on a 2-km hike and the Scouts piled snow to build their quinzee (snow shelter). By mid morning the Beavers and Cubs were divided into teams representing four countries that compete in the Winter Olympics – Finland, Italy, Norway and South Korea. They made small

## Winter fun at camp

flags to wave, learned a few words of their assigned language and prepared a chant to encourage their team members. After lunch we gathered by the dining hall and paraded down the hill to our games area accompanied by our T-Rex mascot. (Why T-Rex? – because **Wiley** had the costume!)

The teams rotated through four activities: hockey (shots on the goalie), curling (using wind-shield washer containers filled with coloured water and frozen silly), dog sled (pull your friends around a course) and snowball target practise (with tennis balls). This was all topped off with a friendly Beaver tug-o-war. Olympic team medals were presented at closing: South Korea won the Gold; Italy, Silver; Finland, Bronze and Norway, a special Metallic Blue. A great time was had by all! Many thanks go to all of the leaders, parents and Scouts who made this possible.

Sunday was a free day to snowshoe and toboggan in the

fresh snow that we had over night. A very tired but happy group headed home on Sunday afternoon.

### Other news

The Beavers had a practice campfire at a meeting, complete with a fake fire, skits, songs and cheers. We even had a mini mug-up. This way anyone who was unable to attend camp got to enjoy some of the fun. The Beavers are presently rotating through three activities during their regular meetings: cooking, craft (fox pencil holder) and Winter Outdoor Games (similar to those at camp).

The Cubs completed Winter Skills badges 1 and 2 at camp, are working on basic knots, celebrated Founder's Day on February 21 and will be building their Kub Kars for their rally in March. As part of the Olympic spirit, the Cubs organized their own Olympic games. Each Lair designed their own event and the Pack took turns competing with the other Lairs.

### Garden supplies

Our annual garden supplies fundraiser will run the month of March into April this year. Order forms are included in this issue of The Informer. If you are not approached by a member of our Scout Group by the end of March, please call one of the following numbers and we will make sure that your order is picked up. The residents of MoWest and neighbouring communities have always been very supportive of the Montreal West Scout Group. It is much appreciated!

If you would like to give a donation in lieu of garden supplies, we can give you a tax receipt. To order, call **Dave Wood** at 487-6272 or Bob King at 481-6523.

Thank you for your support in helping keep our Montreal West Scout Group vibrant!





## Guiding

This winter has been a rather unusual one with all the temperature ups and downs. But the timing of the mid-January weekend snow storm could not have been better timed for our Monklands District winter camp.

The families drove their campers to Notre-Dame-de-Fatima under the threat of freezing rain. Good fortune was on our side; all families were able to make the drive before the roads became treacherous. We woke up on Saturday morning to roughly 24 cm of fluffy snow. It was WONDERFUL!!!

The MoWest Guides have been helping the girls prepare for the Winter Olympics. At the end of January, they held a meeting where the girls learned which sports were official Winter Olympic sports. They did not

## Our Winter Olympics' flags!

know there are only 15 of them. In patrols, the girls designed their "team's" flag and uniform.

They were also given the fun task of picking three winter sports from a hat, and then com-



Photo: Christine Downey

binning them to make a new winter sport. The girls needed to develop the rules for each of the new sports.

The following week, despite the chilly temperature outside, the girls met at Hodgson Field to hold their first Guiding Winter Olympics. The teams participated in an opening ceremony. The girls all competed in the sports of Skarlurling, Speedstical, Bice Hockieigh and Freestyle Nordic Track. The patrol which created the sport would explain the rules to the other girls. Great fun was had by all!! The staff at the Legion Rink were very kind to let us plug in a hot water urn so the girls could enjoy some hot chocolate following the closing ceremonies.

The girls are certainly enjoying winter!!

## A year of celebrations



Girl Guides  
of Canada  
Guides  
du Canada

The theme for the weekend camp was "A Year of Celebrations".

You may think all the "traditional" holidays were celebrated. The leaders who organized the camp decided to mix things up a bit. The girls celebrated Valentine's Day, Easter, Earth Day, Canada Day, the construction holiday, Guy Fawkes Night and the Festival of Lights. When one activity would be wrapping up the girls were eager to know what they were going to be celebrating next! Even with all of the planned activities, the girls had many chances to enjoy tubing and snowshoeing over the weekend.

For Valentine's Day, the girls made cards for the Veterans. These cards were delivered to Ste-Anne's Hospital as well as a seniors' group from Christ Church Cathedral conjunction with others which were made by the Sparks and Brownies. In total there were 90 cards to be shared. We know they will be well appreciated.

As everyone knows, it just would not be Easter without an Easter egg hunt. What better way to have an egg hunt, than out on snow shoes! With all the fresh snow, it was so much fun to walk through. Some of the eggs were never found. Perhaps when spring comes around, the eggs will reveal themselves!

Our next celebration was Earth Day. The girls learned the history of water filtration in Montreal, as well as how the filtration

system works. It was brought to a conclusion with a blind water taste test. Water was collected from many different locations including the camp, Royal West Academy, Dawson, Edinburgh School and the MUHC. The girls voted for Edinburgh's water as being the best tasting! Who knew?!

After a fantastic lunch, the girls celebrated Canada Day... that was the time to relax and recharge the batteries for the afternoon's activities.

A year of celebrations would not be complete without the annual construction holiday! The girls were divided into teams and given the same number of marshmal-

lows and toothpicks and asked to make the tallest free standing structure possible. We do have some budding engineers in our group. After dinner the girls enjoyed Guy Fawkes Night campfire.

The camp ended with the Festival of Lights. This was a time for the girls to reflect upon their experience and friendships made and renewed. They wrote wishes onto paper flowers. They folded the petals and then placed the flower into a bowl of water, and watched as the flower "bloomed". It was quite magical!

*from Montreal West Guides*

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## News from the pews

### MW United

...the brick one

#### Lent and winter – what a combo

If you are finding it hard to keep hopeful (you don't ski, skate or curl?!), just remember that after winter comes spring. After Lent and Good Friday comes Easter. Hold that thought.

That's not to say that valuable and worthwhile things don't happen in March because they surely do. Wading through challenging times can open up into something so rewarding that the world takes on a different hue. Spring is all the more beautiful for the contrast, metaphorically speaking.

#### What inspires good music?

Composers have often looked to emotionally rich times in their lives and others to seek inspiration. March can certainly provide grist for that mill. The magic is in hearing how the music works through this to its climax, its moral, its peak. On Sunday, March 25 the choir will present words and music that speak to this process in our worship service at 10 am that day. Not to be missed.

#### Pondering peace

Sunday afternoon, March 25, 2-4, will be our Labyrinth Walk in Wadsworth Hall. All welcome to walk in socks or slippers please. Come, walk, see what comes to mind.

#### Good Friday

Do you read the last page of a mystery first? That's what catching only the Easter service can be like. Our Good Friday service, March 30 will be at 7 pm. It will honour this deeply significant time in our Christian story.

### Tulips, trumpets and treats

Easter Sunday arrives April 1 (no fooling!) at 10 am. Come to feast your senses with all that happens in that service. Good for the soul.

#### Heads up for a concert

Thursday, April 5, 1 pm, **Richard Roberts**, OSM concertmaster, will lead a string quartet and a quintet (add a piano) in two selections by Dvorak. Dvorak is best known for the *New World Symphony* with the familiar *Going Home* melody. **Laurie Altman** is behind this Musical Thursday offering. All welcome. A donation of \$20 includes refreshments afterwards. It is for, but not limited to seniors, so I fully expect to be there, she said youthfully.... *Extra Miles* sponsors the occasion. Mark your calendars now. After all, when were you last up close and personal with a cello?

May March lead to good things for you and yours.

from Susan Upham

### St. Philip's

Our annual mid-Lent pancake brunch is Sunday, March 11 at 11:30 am. Join us for pancakes, scrambled eggs and ham, all prepared by the Men's Fellowship. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and are available by calling the church office at **481-4871**.

For Holy Week, the choir will once again be leading Tenebrae on Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 pm. The service, which takes place in near-darkness, consists of several readings and psalms sung to traditional Gregorian chant, forming an extended meditation on the Passion.

On Maundy Thursday, March 29, we join with St. Thomas' Church on Somerled

for a pot-luck supper and commemoration of the Last Supper at 6 pm.

Our traditional Good Friday service is at noon on March 30. The choir will chant the Passion Gospel.

Saturday, March 31 at 7 pm, is our Easter service for children. We take elements from the ancient Great Vigil of Easter – the lighting of the new fire, the telling of the history of God's people – in an interactive, kid-friendly way, and we greet Easter with bell-ringing and joyous noise-making! On Easter morning, April 1, we have worship at 8 and 10 am.

### St. Ignatius of Loyola

Easter is almost upon us! Come to St. Ignatius to celebrate the joy of the Easter season. Palm Sunday is March 25 and marks the beginning of Holy Week. On Holy Thursday, March 29, our service marking the Last Supper is at 8 pm, followed by a time of prayer before the blessed sacrament as we recall Christ's gift of his very self for us. The following day is Good Friday during which we will have our Veneration of the Cross service at 3 pm.

This year, at the Easter Vigil on Saturday March 31 at 8 pm; we are excited to welcome the two adults who will be baptized and received into the Church! This is the high point of the Christian calendar.

April 1 is Easter Sunday, and our services are at 9 and 11 am. This is always a joyous celebration to mark the glory of the Resurrection and the new life Jesus promises us. Everyone is welcome to come celebrate with us. More information is always available at our website [stignatiusmtl.org](http://stignatiusmtl.org)

from Fr. Leclerc

## Kosher corner

The joyous festival of Purim is just around the corner! The liveliness and fun of Purim is unparalleled on the Jewish calendar.

Purim observances include:

- Reading of the Megillah (book of Esther) that recounts the story of the Purim miracle,
- Giving money gifts to the poor,
- Sending food gifts to friends and
- A festive Purim feast.

#### Purim party!

Please join the MoWest Jewish community for an indoor Purim picnic party at the



Curling Club on Thursday, March 1 at 4:30 pm. Costumes are welcome. For more information, please visit [chabadwestminster.com](http://chabadwestminster.com).

Chabad Westminster looks forward to celebrating our second annual family Purim celebration with you. We hope you can make it!

#### Monthly Shabbat service

The monthly Friday night service for the month of March will be on March 2 at 5:30 pm at 141 Westminster Ave North. followed by a light Kiddush.

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow

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## Community Centre

### Early bird Spring and summer registration

Activities for parent and tots, preschool, youth, adults, Day Camp, Tennis Camp, Ballet Camp, etc.

- Spring early bird: until **March 5**
- Summer programs: until **April 27**

Receive a discount\* by registering before the early bird deadline, per person per activity. (\*not valid on pool programs or membership and a few other exceptions).

Registration is ongoing at the John A. Simms Community Centre, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Or online at montreal-west.ca.

### March Break Madness

March 5-9  
8 am-4 pm  
5-12 years old

- Full week: \$215 resident/\$225 non-resident
- Daily fee: \$55 resident/\$65 non-resident
- Extended care also available.

#### Monday Madness

Snow fun, crafts, Zumba, giant games, hot chocolate and more

#### Tuesday

Trip to the Aquadôme and Lego challenges

#### Wednesday

Circus workshop by *Cirkazou*

#### Thursday

Music and rhythm with **Tatiana** (*Music Hive*) and intro to Brazilian jiu-jitsu at *Gracie Barra*

#### Friday fiesta

Reptiles and animals with *Educazoo*, tacos, piñatas and movie

More info: **484-6186** or montreal-west.ca

### St Patrick's Breakfast

Sunday, March 18  
Town Hall

Choose: 8 am, 9 am or 10 am

Come and have breakfast before the parade. What's included? Food, live Irish music by *Mariner's Curse*, arts and crafts, face painting, and calèche rides. Spirits for sale. Tickets available online or at the Community Centre. Cost in advance: under 2: free. Children under 12: resident \$5/non-resident \$8; 12 and up: resident \$10 resident/non-resident \$13. Additional \$5 at the door.

### Cotton Tail Party La fête du lapin

Sunday, March 25  
2- to 10-year-olds  
2-4 pm at the Town Hall

Come and enjoy an outdoor egg hunt, face painting, crafts, followed by a show by **Kattam** and his *Tam-Tams*.

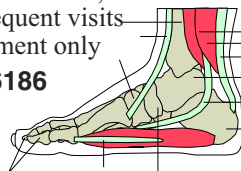
Tickets: are available at the Community Centre or online at montreal-west.ca. Cost per child: in advance: \$10 residents, \$12 non-residents; at the door: \$15 for all.

### Foot clinics

March 1 & 22

\$40 for the first visit,  
\$35 for subsequent visits  
by appointment only

**484-6186**



## 50+ Club



### February

- 27** Bridge:  
new teams welcome
- 28** Movie matinée:  
*Loving Vincent*

### March

- 16** St. Patrick's Day luncheon
- 20** CTV News trip
- 21** Tea and Talk by **Isabelle Ducharme** from *Kéroul*:  
Travel and Accessibility (free)
- 27** Bridge
- 28** Diners' Club:  
*Tavern on the Square*
- 29** Movie:  
*Goodbye Christopher Robin*

### April

- 4** Soup's On: Volcanoes by  
speaker **Bruno Stenson**

### Overnight trips

Stratford Festival: June 13-16

Montreal-Quebec by boat  
with overnight: August 23-24

Charlevoix: September

For more information, please call  
**Marian Scully** at **484-6186**.

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Membre APCHQ

## Budget 2018 Revenus / Revenues

	2018 \$	2017 \$	% total
<b>Taxes</b>			
Résidentiel / Residential	11,991,547	11,676,078	75.79
Lots vacants / Vacant Lots	39,619	\$59,843	0.25
Non résidentiel / Non-residential	1,281,311	1,239,330	8.10
Taxe Eau / Water Tax	447,000	422,000	2.82
CMM / MMC	103,680	106,305	0.66
Droits de mutation / Duties on transfers	525,000	415,000	3.32
Reçus au lieu de taxes			
Payment in lieu of taxes	262,052	241,441	1.66
	<b>\$14,650,209</b>	<b>\$14,159,997</b>	<b>92.59</b>
<b>Autres/ Other</b>			
Loisirs et Culture / Recreation and Culture	614,800	590,800	3.89
Contravention / Tickets	120,000	120,000	0.76
Stationnement et permis / Parking and permits	81,500	\$81,500	0.52
Intérêts / Interest	115,000	115,000	0.73
Intérêts à recevoir sur subvention			
Interest receivable on grants	190,892	179,252	1.21
Autres / Others	50,645	50,345	0.32
	<b>\$1,172,837</b>	<b>\$1,136,897</b>	<b>7.41</b>
<b>REVENUS TOTAUX</b>			
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$15,823,046</b>	<b>\$15,296,894</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## Dépenses / Expenses

### Par service / By department

Conseil / Council	163,182	178,195	1.03
Administration	1,474,418	1,449,587	9.32
Sécurité publique / Public security	474,779	434,549	3.00
Travaux publics / Public works	3,039,142	2,925,726	19.21
Hygiène du milieu / Environmental health	980,674	875,833	6.20
Inspection et permis / Building inspection	148,661	124,590	0.94
Récréation, culture et parcs			
Recreation, culture and parks	2,527,481	2,468,898	15.97
Dépenses en capital à même les revenus			
Capital expenditures out of revenues	0	22,500	0.00
Service de la dette / Debt charges	1,479,407	1,695,972	9.35
	<b>\$10,287,744</b>	<b>\$10,175,850</b>	<b>65.02</b>
Quote part Agglomération			
Agglomeration remittance	<b>\$5,535,302</b>	<b>\$5,121,044</b>	<b>34.98</b>
<b>DÉPENSES TOTALES</b>			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,823,046</b>	<b>\$15,296,894</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## Budget commentary

On January 29, Town Council adopted its revised operating budget for 2018. This replaced the original budget passed in December before we were made aware of the 9% increase in our remittance to the Montreal Agglomeration (Agglo) Council for shared services.

Our objectives for the budget remained keeping the tax increase for the average-valued home to less than the rate of inflation while maintaining the level of service and continuing the renewal of our infrastructure. Council worked diligently to review the budget, cutting some expenses and funding others through the working fund, so as not to pass along the full extent of this large Agglo increase to taxpayers.

Balancing the budget also required an increase in projected revenues. Estimated revenues from Duties on transfer ("Welcome Tax" for new owners) increased as a result of rate increases in some brackets to bring our rates in line with the city of Montreal, as well as actual 2017 figures showing a healthy real estate market in Montreal West. Rates for water tax have also increased to compensate for the hefty increase in water fees charged by the City of Montreal (\$83 k). For the average usage, this should amount to approximately \$20 per household per year.

On the expense side, thanks to a substantial reduction in our debt charges (-\$180 k) due to a decrease in the Town's net debt, coupled with savings in other departments and the decision to use the working fund to purchase \$122 k of planned capital expenditures, the Town has been able to limit the increase in local expenses to 1.1%. This helped offset the hefty Agglo increase, and resulted in an increase in the overall expenditures of 3.4%.

Consequently, the Town was able to meet our objectives, with a **1.66% increase** in the tax bill of the average-valued home (\$608,623) for 2018.

Council also adopted a three-year capital expenditure program which includes anticipated spending of approximately \$3 million in 2018. Plans include sewer and roadwork renewal on Percival Avenue, the continuation of the upgrade to Davies Park, and investment in our buildings and vehicle fleet. Capital programs for future years are wish lists at this point and will be reviewed and reconsidered next year in light of government grants and available funds.



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*Colleen Feeney  
Councillor for Finance, Administration,  
Human Resources and Urban Planning*



## Programme triennal d'immobilisations Three-year Capital Program

Catégorie / Category	2018	2019	2020
Infrastructures / Infrastructure	\$2,770,000	\$16,100,000	1,000,000
Bâtiments / Buildings	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$25,000
Véhicules / Vehicles	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Équipements / Equipment	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	<b>\$3,035,000</b>	<b>\$16,265,000</b>	<b>\$1,140,000</b>

## Comparaison du compte de taxe Taxation comparison

Résidentiel / Residential

Résidence valeur moyenne / Average value residence

Rôle 2017 - 2019 Roll: 608 623\$

	2018	2017
Valeur imposable / Taxable value	\$608,623	\$608,448
Taxes locales + Agglo / Local Taxes + Agglo	\$7,744.73	\$7,615.34
CMM / MMC	<u>\$64.18</u>	<u>\$66.32</u>
	\$7,808.91	\$7,681.66
Augmentation relative à 2017 / Increase over 2017:		\$127.25
% augmentation / % increase:		1.66%

## Taux de taxes / 100 \$ d'évaluation Tax rates / \$100 valuation

	2018		2017	
	Local	Agglo	Local	Agglo
Taxe foncière générale / General property tax	0.755	0.5175	0.7684	0.4832
Immeuble 6 logement + / 6 Units or more	0.755	0.5175	0.7684	0.4832
Immeubles non résidentiels / Non-residential buildings	1.8875	1.3762	1.8504	1.2562
Lots vacants / Vacant lots	1.51	1.035	1.5368	0.9664
CMM / MMC	0.0105		0.0109	

## Commentaire sur le budget

Le 29 janvier, le Conseil a adopté son budget de fonctionnement révisé pour 2018, remplaçant l'original voté en décembre avant que nous ayons été informés de l'augmentation de 9 % de notre quotepart au Conseil d'agglomération de Montréal pour les services partagés.

Nos objectifs budgétaires demeuraient de limiter l'augmentation pour la maison de valeur moyenne sous le seuil du taux d'inflation tout en maintenant le niveau des services et poursuivant le renouvellement de nos infrastructures. Le Conseil a travaillé avec diligence à réviser le budget, coupant certaines dépenses et en finançant d'autres par le fonds de caisse pour ne pas passer la totalité de la forte hausse de la facture de l'agglomération aux contribuables.

Équilibrer le budget nécessitait aussi l'accroissement des revenus projetés. Les recettes estimées des droits de mutation (« taxe de Bienvenue » pour nouveaux propriétaires) ont augmenté par suite de la hausse de taux de certaines catégories pour harmoniser nos taux à ceux de la Ville de Montréal ainsi que les chiffres réels de 2017 qui démontrent un marché immobilier actif à Montréal-Ouest. La tarification pour l'eau a aussi été relevée pour compenser la hausse considérable des taux exigés par Montréal (83 k\$). Pour l'usage moyen, cela devrait se chiffrer à environ 20 \$ par foyer et par année.

Quant aux dépenses, grâce à une réduction substantielle du service de la dette (-180 k\$) en raison de la diminution de la dette nette de la Ville, combinée à des épargnes à d'autres chapitres et à la décision d'utiliser le fonds de caisse pour l'achat planifié de 122 k\$ en immobilisations, la Ville a su limiter la majoration des dépenses locales à 1,1 %. Cela a contribué à compenser la forte hausse de l'agglomération et a entraîné en une augmentation des dépenses totales de 3,4 %. Par conséquent, la Ville a pu atteindre son objectif avec **une hausse de 1,66 %** du relevé d'imposition de la maison de valeur moyenne (608 623 \$) de Montréal-Ouest pour 2018.

Le Conseil a aussi adopté un programme triennal d'immobilisations qui inclut des dépenses anticipées d'environ trois millions de dollars en 2018. Les plans comprennent des travaux d'infrastructure et de voirie sur Percival, la poursuite de la mise à niveau du parc Davies et des investissements dans nos immeubles et notre parc automobile. Les immobilisations des années à venir sont des souhaits à ce stade et seront réexaminées l'an prochain en fonction de l'aide gouvernementale et des fonds disponibles.

Colleen Feeney, conseillère  
Finances, Administration,  
Ressources humaines et Urbanisme



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## Town Council meeting : January



by Carol Foster

Prior to the regular meeting of Council, and speaking to a larger than usual audience, **Councillor Feeney** explained the reasons behind the need to make revisions to the budget of December 2017. She then presented the highlights of the new budget and explained where and how changes had to be made.

The Mayor, in his report, continued to explain this process. He repeated the details contained in the February *Communiqué*. The Mayor added that both the composition and the mandate of the Agglomeration Committee are being strongly questioned by the Association of Suburban Mayors and it intends to press the provincial government for substantial changes.

The Mayor announced that the RTM's (Réseau de transport métropolitain) plans to make changes to pedestrian access to the train platform have been delayed. These plans are now expected to be finalized in the fall of 2019.

News from the Town Clerk's Office included the fact that a contract, in the amount of \$29,900, has been awarded for the redesign of the Town's website.

### First question period

Once again, the dangers to pedestrians trying to cross the CP tracks were brought up. The Mayor responded that the RTM is presently considering various ways to help alleviate some of these problems and consultation will take place with Town officials.

And, once again, frustration was expressed at contractors who clear private driveways and dump the snow on the street, blocking access to parking. The Mayor forcefully expressed his own frustration over this recurring complaint. He noted that two

thirds of the Town's snow-clearing budget has already been spent this year and this practice by contractors often forces Town workers to re-clear areas which have already been attended to. He urged the Roxton Crescent resident to file a report with documentation. In addition, he promised to have letters sent out to all the contractors who work in the Town, reminding them of the regulations spelled out in the bylaws and the fines levied for non-compliance.

Snow removal was also questioned by a resident on Brock North who found herself blocked in by snow banks on her street that had not been cleared by the Town for four days. She was assured that the unusual accumulation of snow and ice that occurred during three recent storms was the main cause of this problem.

### Councillor reports

**Councillor Mazzone** mentioned a citizens' rally which had recently taken place on the West Island demonstrating against the effects that **Mayor Plante's** 2018 budget was having on their town's finances. Mazzone encouraged MoWesters to also put pressure on their representatives to consider fundamental changes to the way the demerged municipalities interact with Montréal. He also encouraged residents to apply to serve on the Traffic and Safety Committee to ensure all areas of the Town have representation. In closing, he noted that residents of a home on Wolseley North which was damaged by fire had expressed gratitude to the Town for its swift and empathetic response to their emergency.

Although many disparaged the freezing weather conditions, **Councillor Ulin** was happy to announce the outdoor rinks are in great condition and are open until 10 o'clock in the evenings. She added that the new and improved Town's website should be ready by

this spring or summer and will provide timely and updated information 24/7. It will also contain many additional features such as the ability to request and receive permits online.

**Councillor Feeney** described an exceptionally busy period for staff in the Town Hall dealing with the Town's finances. They are processing income tax reporting forms, preparing for finalizing the 2017 budget reports and generating property tax forms soon to be distributed. To no one's surprise, Feeney reported that the big items in the budget for the past month were for the cost of snow removal, gravel and salt.

PAC has recommended granting five new permits and sending out 11 infraction notices. This committee is also seeking new qualified members and will continue to review the 2009 Urban Plan.

**Councillor Torres** also reported that staff members in the Public Works Department were busy dealing with removing large quantities of snow and ice from the Town's streets and sidewalks. She added that the snow dump is almost filled to capacity and the snow removal budget is quickly being spent.

### Second question period

An observation was made that attempted communication with **Kathleen Weil's** office has been less than satisfactory and therefore her support is questionable.

The use of salt on icy sidewalks was questioned by one resident who suggested wood chips would be a more environmentally friendly solution. Options are indeed continuingly being looked into was the response.

Another resident commented that the recent accumulation of ice had caused her garbage can to be immovable and forced her to put out her trash in a white plastic bag which the garbage men did not pick up. It was suggested that perhaps, in view of all the snow mounds, a white bag may have not been as easily noticed as a black bag.

The curb extensions debate was once again revived with a complaint that they were dangerous, especially on winter streets. The Mayor answered that although there could be attempts to increase their visibility, the extensions themselves "are not going anywhere!"

The meeting was then adjourned approximately 90 minutes after it had begun.

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## Réunion du Conseil : janvier



par Carol Foster  
traduction par René Boucher

Avant la séance ordinaire du Conseil, et devant un public plus nombreux que d'habitude, la **conseillère Feeney** a expliqué les raisons qui ont mené à la révision du budget voté en décembre 2017. Elle a ensuite présenté les grandes lignes du nouveau budget et expliqué où et comment on avait dû apporter des changements.

Dans son rapport, le maire a poursuivi ces explications. Il a repris certains détails contenus dans son Communiqué publié dans *The Informer* de février. Il a ajouté que tant la composition que le mandat du Conseil d'agglomération étaient fortement remis en question par l'Association des maires de banlieue qui a l'intention de faire pression sur le gouvernement provincial pour qu'il y apporte des changements substantiels.

Le maire a annoncé que les plans du RTM (Réseau de transport métropolitain) pour modifier les accès piétonniers aux quais des trains étaient retardés. On s'attend maintenant à ce qu'ils soient complétés à l'automne 2019.

Du bureau du greffier, on apprenait qu'un contrat de 29 000 \$ avait été accordé pour la transformation du site Web de la Ville.

### Première période de questions

Encore une fois, les dangers pour les piétons qui tentent de traverser les voies ferrées du CP ont refait surface. Le maire a répondu que le RTM considère présentement diverses façons de réduire certains de ces problèmes et consultera la Ville.

A nouveau, une citoyenne a exprimé sa frustration envers les déneigeurs privés qui déblaient les entrées et laissent la neige sur la rue, bloquant l'accès au stationnement. Le maire a ajouté avec vigueur sa propre frustration à cet égard. Il a fait remarquer que déjà, la Ville avait dépensé les deux tiers de son budget de déneigement et que cette pratique des entrepreneurs force souvent les ouvriers municipaux à reprendre le travail. Il a vivement conseillé à la résidente du croissant Roxton de déposer un rapport documenté. De plus, il a promis l'envoi d'une lettre à tous les entrepreneurs qui travaillent dans la ville, leur rappelant les règles édictées par règlement et les amendes pour non-respect.

Une autre résidente, de Brock Nord cette fois, a déclaré avoir été bloquée dans son entrée par un banc de neige que la Ville n'a pas nettoyé pendant quatre jours. On l'a assurée que l'accumulation inhabituelle de neige et de glace au cours des trois dernières tempêtes était la principale cause du problème.

### Rapports des conseillers

Le **conseiller Mazzone** a parlé d'un rassemblement citoyen dans l'Ouest de l'île pour protester contre les effets du budget 2018 de la **mairese Plante** sur les finances de leur ville. Mazzone a incité les gens de Mo-Ouest à mettre de la pression sur leurs représentants afin qu'ils explorent des changements fondamentaux à la façon dont les villes reconstituées interagissent avec Montréal. Il a aussi exhorté les résidents à poser leur candidature pour siéger au Comité de circulation et de sécurité pour assurer la représentation de tous les secteurs de la ville. En conclusion, il a noté que les résidents d'une maison endommagée par le feu sur Wolseley Nord avaient exprimé leur gratitude envers la Ville pour sa réponse rapide et empathique à cette urgence.

Bien que plusieurs dénigrent les températures glaciales, la **conseillère Ulin** se réjouissait de la superbe condition des patinoires extérieures qui sont ouvertes en soirée jusqu'à 22 h. Elle ajouta que le site Web de la Ville, renouvelé et amélioré, devrait être en ligne ce printemps ou cet été et offrira des renseignements ponctuels et à jour 24/7. On y trouvera aussi des caractéristiques supplémentaires comme la possibilité de demander et obtenir des permis en ligne.

La conseillère Feeney a décrit une période exceptionnellement occupée pour le personnel de l'Hôtel de Ville qui s'occupe des finances de la Ville. Ces personnes traitent les formulaires d'impôt sur le revenu, finalisent les rapports du budget 2017 et préparent les formulaires d'impôts fonciers qui seront distribués sous peu. Sans surprise pour personne, Mme Feeney rapportait que l'enlèvement de la neige, le gravier et le sel étaient les gros articles dans le budget du mois précédent.

Le CCU a recommandé d'accorder cinq nouveaux permis et de transmettre onze constats d'infraction. Ce comité recherche aussi de nouveaux membres qualifiés et poursuivra la révision du Plan d'urbanisme de 2009.

La **conseillère Torres** a aussi rapporté que le personnel des Travaux publics s'affairait à retirer de grandes quantités de neige et de glace des rues et trottoirs de la ville. Elle ajouta que la décharge à neige était presque pleine et que le budget d'enlèvement de la neige fondait rapidement.

### Seconde période de questions

Quelqu'un a relevé que les tentatives de communication avec le bureau de Kathleen Weil sont moins que satisfaisantes et donc que son appui est douteux.

L'utilisation du sel sur les trottoirs glacés a été remise en question par un résident qui a suggéré que des copeaux de bois seraient plus écologiques, à quoi l'on a répondu que les solutions de remplacement sont continuellement examinées.

Une autre résidente a commenté que la récente accumulation de glace avait fixé sa poubelle en place. Cela l'avait forcée à utiliser un sac blanc pour ses déchets, sac que les éboueurs n'ont pas ramassé. On a alors suggéré que, compte tenu des amoncellements de neige, un sac blanc n'était peut-être pas aussi visible qu'un sac noir.

Le débat des avancées de trottoir a à nouveau fait surface avec une plainte voulant qu'elles soient dangereuses, particulièrement en hiver. Le maire a répliqué que l'on pouvait toujours tenter d'augmenter leur visibilité, mais que les saillies « sont là pour rester! »

La séance a ensuite été levée environ 90 minutes après son ouverture.

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# COMING EVENTS

Please call the editor: Heather at 489-7022.  
e-mail: montrealwestinformer@gmail.com  
Next deadline: March 14

## FEB

- Sun 25 **Afternoon Labyrinth Walk.** MW United. 2-4.  
Mon 26 **Town Council Meeting.** Town Hall. 8 pm.

## MAR

- Thu 1 **Municipal taxes due** (first installment)  
**Échéance: taxes municipales** (premier versement)  
**Purim picnic party.** Curling Club. For more information, please visit [chabadwestminster.com](http://chabadwestminster.com). 4:30 pm.
- Fri 2 **Monthly Shabbat service.** 5:30 pm.
- Sun 11 **Pancake brunch.** St. Philip's.
- Wed 14 **Tea and books.** Come to chat about books with other members, over a hot cuppa. All welcome. Public Library. 2 pm.
- Thu 15 **Terry Mosher (Aislin) visits.** Public Library. 7 pm.
- Mon 19 **MW Horticultural Society hosts Lise Cormier** on *Mosaiculture Internationale de Montréal*. Guests, \$5 or \$20 for all of 2018. Town Hall. 7:30 pm.
- Tue 20 **Annual general meeting.** Open to all library members. Public Library. 7 pm.
- Thu 22 **Coffee with the Mayor.** Community Centre. 7:30-8:30 am.
- Sun 25 **Palm Sunday Mass.** St. Ignatius. 9 and 11 am.  
**Palm Sunday service by the choir.** MW United. 10 am.  
**Afternoon Labyrinth Walk.** MW United. 2-4 pm.
- Mon 26 **Open house** at *Le jardin d'enfants Curzon Creative Pre-school* (9-11:30 am). Drop in or RSVP 489-7860.  
**Town Council Meeting.** Town Hall. 8 pm.
- Tue 27 **St. James Literary Society** presents a talk on *Médecins Sans Frontières*. Reservations essential: 484-014; \$12 for non-members. Community Centre. 7 pm.
- Wed 28 **Tea and books.** Public Library. 2 pm.  
**Tenebrae.** St. Philip's. 7:30 pm.
- Thu 29 **Holy Thursday.** St. Ignatius. 8 pm.  
**Maundy Thursday.** St. Philip's joins with St. Thomas' Church (Somerled) for a pot-luck supper. 6 pm.
- Fri 30 **Good Friday service.** St. Philip's. Noon.  
**Good Friday.** Veneration of the Cross. St. Ignatius. 3 pm.  
**Good Friday service.** MW United. 7 pm.
- Sat 31 **Easter service for children.** St. Philip's. 7 pm.  
**Easter Vigil.** St. Ignatius. 8 pm.

## April

- Sun 1 **Easter Sunday worship.** St. Philip's. 8 and 10 am.  
**Easter Sunday Mass.** St. Ignatius. 9 and 11 am.  
**Easter service.** MW United. 10 am.
- Thu 5 **Annual Musical Thursday.** Intimate one-hour benefit concert, string quartet and piano quintet. Wheelchair accessible. MW United. 1 pm.



Nadine Fenton's pom-pom tree in her back yard. Winter is long and dark. Pom-poms are cheerful!

## Classifieds

**LOOKING TO RENT OFFICE SPACE:** Established Psychologist for teens and adults is looking to rent office space in the MoWest area for a part time practice. Considering all possibilities. Should you have space to rent or sublet in an existing office, please contact me, Lisa Courte, at 514-651-0326.

## Employment Recreation and Culture

**Application deadline:**  
**March 16, 4 pm**

Day Camp counsellors  
Community Centre counsellors  
(full & part time)  
Pool gate attendants

### Applications

Pool: [pool@montreal-west.ca](mailto:pool@montreal-west.ca)  
Camp: [camp@montreal-west.ca](mailto:camp@montreal-west.ca)  
Community Centre:  
[recreation@montreal-west.ca](mailto:recreation@montreal-west.ca)

Applications may also be dropped off during business hours at the John A. Simms Community Centre.