



## ELECTION RESULTS

Mayor Masella and Councillors Feeny and Torres were acclaimed. Elizabeth Ulin (the incumbent) was re-elected with 66% and Lauren Small-Pennyfather was elected with 73% of votes cast.

Congratulations Elizabeth and Lauren. Many thanks to Eric Aberman, Nathaniel Ward and Julien Feldman for having run.



Beny Masella



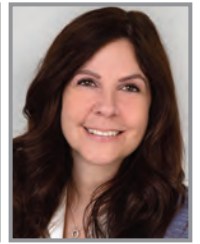
Colleen Feeny



Maria Torres



Elizabeth Ulin



Lauren Small-Pennyfather

# THE INFORMER

Montreal West Newspaper

December 2021, Vol. 49, No 9.



Dane teaching Dasein computer coding

## Dane Oberon: A Jack of all Trades

by Maurice Krystal

Last winter I finally dropped into the new library location, weeks after its Grand Opening. Sometimes it takes many months before an article finally gets printed in *The Informer*. Dane Oberon was carefully screwing into place the

plexiglass barrier at the checkout counter. We had met a few times previously at board meetings. He smiled, put down his screwdriver and asked if I wanted a guided tour. He pointed out where everything was and mentioned some books he recently read. After the tour and check-

ing out some books, I started talking with **Deb Marcogliese**, the Director, and Dane went back to his carpentry work. Dane is a man who can wear many hats.

Dane was born in a small town in the Ottawa Valley on the Ontario side. He claimed to live a very nomadic life, often

returning to Peterborough, Ontario. In 2006-10 Dane attended Trent University, and spent much of his time outside of class continuing to study in the Bata Library, wandering outdoors in the local wilderness, and dancing in the local establishments.

After a gap year backpacking through Europe, he returned to Canada and took positions at Dalhousie University and the University of King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Between 2011-17 Dane was an instructor teaching subjects such as: Shakespeare in Film; Pop Culture and the Graphic Novel; and the History of Feminism. He left after six years over a philosophical conflict with his department.

Dane is an idealistic educator. He believes that as a teacher he imparts knowledge for the sake of learning. For him grading and marking creates an antagonistic relationship between the student and the teacher. In large universities, stu-

dents have little chance to communicate with their professors, creating a distance between teaching and learning. Dane greatly respects teaching-focused institutions but he is critical of the trend among universities to prioritize research over instruction

In 2019 Dane and his son, **Dasein**, (a German term meaning "being there") moved to Montreal. Following his philosophy of teaching, Dane began teaching children computer programming (apps and games) at the Children's Library, and also taught intergenerational courses at the public library. When things shut down for the pandemic, Dane reached out to see if he could offer technical help to library members, which began his ongoing work with the library. This past year, he helped the library move to its new location, where he now happily greets people most days. He also teaches at the Explorations summer camp and

*continued on page 14*

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# INFORMER

10 Westminister North  
Montreal West, Quebec  
H4X 1Y9

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

January 12



A memorial wreath created by a grade 6 class at Elizabeth Ballantyne school.

## Remembrance service

November 6, 2021

Bienvenue à tous.  
Welcome to all.

We recognize with humility and gratitude that Canada is located in the traditional, historical and ceded and unceded Lands of the First Nation, Inuit and Metis peoples. On behalf of us all, we acknowledge and pay respect to the Indigenous peoples' past, present and future who continue to work, educate and contribute to the strength of this country.

Today we unite in a simple service of silence and remembrance for all who have served in uniform during conflict and in peace. As retired General Rick Hiller has stated – the dead cannot talk – but the living can remember them.

The First World War raged from 1914-1918. 4000 Indigenous people served in uniform. Canada was a country of only 8 million and it sent a quarter of a million soldiers into conflict. 66,000 did not return and 170,000 returned home wounded. Highly decorated First Nation Veterans were dismissed when they returned to Canada, they were not consid-

ered a Veteran and had no access to military pensions. It has been estimated that as many as 12,000 First Nations, Metis and Inuit people have served in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for Canada with 500 of them dying defending our country. Their story is only starting to be told.

Many, including me, have little knowledge about the inequalities the First Nation people faced. Today we remember and acknowledge and pay tribute to these Canadians. In the past there was wrong done and we who are here will learn to do better. We who are here can cross skin borders and bridge religious differences and find a common heart.

In these Cenotaphs are names of those who lived in Montreal West and died in the First and Second World Wars. Montreal West became a town in 1897 and in 1900 men from the Town went to fight in South Africa in the Boer War. This was followed by the First World War (1914-1918) and then the Second World War (1939-1945). 549 names are on the Honour Roll – 1/6<sup>th</sup> the population of our Town of 3474 people at that time. This was followed by the Korean War and now there are Armed Forces continuing to defend Canada's borders and others abroad from our Town and all over. Our military have been very present and helpful during the crisis of the COVID pandemic in our seniors' residences and we thank them for this service to our seniors. We owe so much to those who serve and that is why we are here today and every year the week of November 5-12.

from Joan Foster

## Make the end of 2021 meaningful... by singing Christmas carols!

Sunday, December 11 at 4 pm, there will be a special event sponsored by the *Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG* and *MW United Outreach* to raise funds for *Resilience Montreal* – a homeless shelter for Indigenous persons in downtown Montreal – so that they can purchase an industrial dryer for the shelter.

We will have an old-fashioned carolling concert – a sing a long (with masks on) – for all to come together and support this amazing shelter. Wonderful voices will lead us and a giant screen will have the words for all to see. Come prepared to belt out your favourite carols at MW United Church!

Please come and share this time together for a great cause: \$25 for a family and \$20 per person or whatever you can give. Tax receipts will be available for all donations over \$20.

Together we can make a difference.



Photo: Nigel Dove



## Homage to the St. Pierre River



In late October, members of the 200-Metres group and *Les amis du parc Meadowbrook* gathered at Toe Blake Park to pay homage to the St. Pierre River. The 200-metre section of the river that was open to the daylight as it crossed the Meadowbrook golf course is being diverted by the City of Montreal into an underground pipe, following a ruling by the Quebec Court of Appeal. Around 24 trees will also be cut. Many people hope the river will once again see daylight some day.

During the tribute, speakers recognized the unceded status of the territory, read the declaration of the river's legal rights and read several poems.

A videotaped report of the event can be viewed on Pimento Report #154 - YouTube.

from Janice Hamilton

## Bake sale for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

On Friday, October 28, Action Sport Physio MoWest held a bake sale as well as a raffle to raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The staff baked delicious sweet treats and all contributed to this event.

The wonderful MW community helped raise a total amount of \$425 that will be donated to the great cause.

A big thank you to everyone who has donated, your generosity is truly appreciated!

Physiotherapists Delphine Bénazet and Sabrina Sabelli



Photo: Alex Brzezinski

Front row: Aynsley Devine, Philippa Vikander, Joyce Teiber, Karen Cross, Joan Foster  
Back row: Sue Sladen, Becky Dolan, Evelyn Kalff, Mieke van Soest, Carol Foster, Gail Mendonza

## Merry Christmas!



It has been far too long since we've gathered in the Music Room of the Town Hall to enjoy our very eclectic group of speakers and, of course, to have time to chat, enjoy a scrumptious selection of home baking and connect with fellow gardeners and friends.

Walking around Town, it was quite noticeable that many gardens have flourished and an interest in gardening is on the rise.

This was the upside to hunkering down at home during Covid – we all needed that connection with nature.

Hopefully your bulbs are planted and protected from the dreaded squirrels and, on a positive note, they will soon be covered with an insulating blanket of snow.

The Executive of the *Montreal West Horticultural Society* wish all our members and friends a very Merry Christmas with Health and Happiness in 2022.

## West End Quilters

The *West End Quilters* had an in-person retreat, the first one in over two years. Their favourite place, *L'Ermitage* is closed, so they had to find another place and tried *Manoir d'Youville* in Chateauguay. It's a fabulous location on the river right beside a nature park. Everyone enjoyed themselves so we now have scheduled retreats there for the spring and next fall.

We have had regular meetings at MW United Church, in a larger room to allow for distancing but are still keeping zoom get-togethers for alternate weeks. Nothing beats face-to-face gatherings but on a cold winter's night sitting home sewing and chatting works well too.

The *West End Quilters* have donated a quilt to *Chez Doris*



for their online auction November 15-December 1. The quilt was a Round Robin project; a block was made and then each quilter added a border of their choice before passing the quilt on to the next person. An amazing result!

If you are interested in quilting please get in touch with me.

from Mary Sutherland  
marysdogbob@gmail.com

## All hands on deck!

As I write this, the UN climate conference in Scotland, known as COP26, is down to its last few days. Negotiators from nearly 200 countries are working hard to strike a deal before the summit comes to an end. Demonstrators have come from all over the world in hopes of meeting the objective to keep warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. So, what are we doing here in MoWest?

Municipal elections have just passed and Council will soon be back to work. What can we do, first as individuals and second, as a community, to contribute to climate action?

### Thrifting

Satisfy your desire for “retail therapy” with some thrifting – oh the thrill of the find! And



rather than leaving items that you no longer want at the curb, drop them off at the local *Renaissance Center*. You can even bring them your old socks – they recycle fabric! Make friends with your brown bin – composting is really not that bad, people.

### What about our local merchants?

Let’s challenge them to reduce waste, eliminate single-use plastics and start using compostable take-out containers. The consumer has the power to effect change.

### Can Town administration do better?

Wouldn’t reusable plastic cups make sense when celebrating Canada Day? Serve up those

hot dogs and burgers on cardboard plates and spread those condiments with bamboo utensils, then just toss ’em in a brown bin. These are small and easy things. What about that big ticket item, the new rec centre? Sure, we are all concerned about the cost to the Town, but if we can raise the funds to get it built, why not do it right and make it green? For goodness’ sake, let’s make room for community gardens.

### Time is running out

We can all find excuses – it’s hard, it’s expensive... but time is running out. We all need to get serious about climate change.

*from Laura Cousineau  
MoWest Environment Committee*



Kids love Halloween. But would they love it less without huge, unsightly plastic blow-ups?

I was so disappointed, nay appalled and discouraged to see these on people’s lawns. We are trying to reduce plastic – using reusable shopping bags, conscientiously recycling, switching to hybrid cars, etc. Please, dear neighbours, rethink Halloween in the hopes of providing a liveable planet for our children.

P.S. Christmas is coming and already plastic blow-ups are on sale. Christmas lights are more festive and attractive. Again, fellow MoWesters, please make our Town beautiful and do so with a good conscience.

*from Evelyn Kalfff  
Brock North*



*In memoriam*

## Dennis Miller 1944-2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of **Dennis Miller**, in the early hours of October 31. Dennis was surrounded by love, and his family.

Dennis was born in Vancouver on May 4, 1944 to hard working parents, **Otto** and **Dorothea** (nee **Miles**) who emigrated from Denmark and England respectively. The eldest of three children, he grew up sur-

rounded by books and music, which were lifelong passions for him.

### Amazing talent, amazing career

At the age of 13, Dennis took up the tuba upon the advice of family and friends because “trumpet players [were] a dime a dozen.” He was captivated by the instrument and quickly developed immense proficiency. Five years later, before graduating from high school(!) Dennis won the position of principal tuba in the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (VSO). He held this position for 27 years, including a one-year sabbatical as principal tuba with the Houston Symphony Orchestra (1980-81). In 1989, he and his family moved to Montreal to join the Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal (OSM). They moved to Ballantyne North in 1990 and then to Westland Drive in 1999. Dennis retired from the OSM in August 2012, but continued to play with the orchestra until March 2013 when his successor was found.

### Devastating news

Shortly after Dennis’s final performance, he was diagnosed with a rare and devastating Stage 4 head and neck cancer. Dennis underwent surgery, chemo-radiation and multiple reconstructions. Beating the odds, he lived eight years with visible scars of his cancer, always maintaining his dignity and positive attitude.

### Musician, teacher, mentor

Dennis was an extraordinary musician, teacher and mentor and held teaching positions at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Rice University, the Banff Centre and McGill University. His kindness, grace, and humour had an indelible impact on his colleagues and students, many of whom hold prominent positions in orchestras around the world. Dennis elevated the image of the tuba from just a supporting bass line to a lyrical, sonorous voice. He pushed the boundaries and expectations of tuba repertoire, playing music written for voice, flute, violin and more.

Dennis loved to host the annual Westland block party and welcome new neighbours. He is survived by **Evelyn Pytko** his beloved wife and partner of 44 years, his children **Tobie**, **Erik (Lane)**, **Annelise (Scott)**; his sisters **Sherrill Miller (Courtney Milne)**, **Lorraine Richey (Bill)**; brother-in-law **Saul Pytko (Babs)**; sisters-in-law **Pauline Pytko** and **Marilyn Pytko**, as well as nieces, nephews and many cousins.

We are grateful to the Head and Neck and Neurosurgery teams at the JGH, who gave us the gift of eight years, as well as the staff on K8, K10 and the Palliative Care Unit at the JGH. We are especially grateful to Dr. Marc Tewfik for the compassionate care he provided over these many years.

A celebration of Dennis’s life is planned in the new year, and a scholarship fund in Dennis’s memory is being planned – details to follow.

Dennis, we raise a glass of single malt in your honour. May the fourth [sic] be with you.

## Virtual Artists' Showcase

The new theme: *Beauty*

Please submit your art by February 11.

Our last spring/summer season theme was *Unsung Heroes*. The new theme is: *Beauty*.

Montreal West Artists are invited to display their art online. To find out more about the Artists' Showcase and submit online go to the MoWest website under "Culture." For more details, call **484-6186**.

Artwork: Our Fathers Served by Rose Marie Loughran



## IODE

### The duty to remember:

The dignity of a people resides in remembering its history



IODE has always promoted respect for Veterans. IODE Canada lays wreaths at the two National War Memorials, in Ottawa and in St. John's Newfoundland.

**Heather Ferguson**, the Citizenship Officer of IODE HMS Victory, is pictured laying our wreath in tribute to the First and Second World War Veterans whose names are listed on the MoWest Cenotaph, and in honour of all those who have served in Canada's Armed Forces over the years. And, for those currently serving across the world,

we recall the cost of their service: IODE HMS Victory donated, through the Quebec Veterans Foundation, \$5,000 to a special program in Quebec to assist women who are suffering from the side-effects of their terms of duty in the military as they return to civilian life, changed by their experiences which affect their families. Keeping the peace, helping in civilian emergencies like flooding, fire or COVID, our military men and women deserve great recognition and respect.

from Janet King

## Rotary

### Francine Levi

*No Man is an Island*



Our speaker was **Francine Levi** who was director of fund raising at the Jewish General Hospital and later at Concordia University (Go Stingers!) until she retired in 2015.

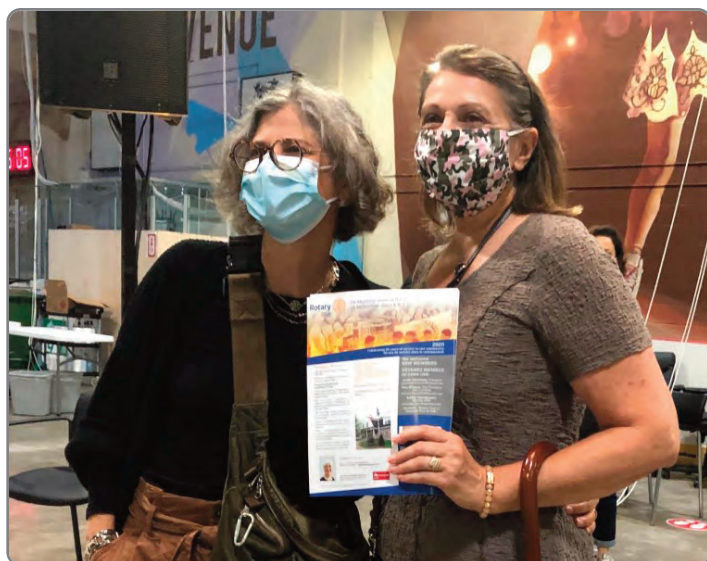
She was brought out of retirement to help set up and run the very efficient vaccine centre at Decarie Square several. Her talk was titled *No Man is an Island* because, as she said, she cannot do what she is doing alone. She also stated that the Centre Ouest section has given 500,000 doses of the Covid vaccine and that deserves a standing ovation.

In 2013 the Quebec government merged 34 health and service centres the largest being the Jewish General Hospital. The number of employees jumped from 5,000 to 12,000 plus another 1000 at the Covid sites. In March, they staffed seven vaccination sites, borrowed workers from other sites, but they had to hire over 1000 new workers. In today's job market, it is impos-

sible to find workers for any job. So, to hire 1000 workers is pretty amazing.

The *Rotary Club* stepped up without being asked and offered to help by sending the workers snacks, meals and all kinds of other goodies. This does two things: it fills their tummies and puts a smile on their faces. It also makes it easier to give the vaccine.

Francine said we helped her and we helped the staff by making them happy. She then shared the story of the cupcake bakery *Sandrini Confections* located at 5707 Sherbrooke West. It is a husband-and-wife operation that makes cakes, cupcakes and has a gelato counter. They started up one season before Covid and Francine and her husband went over for an ice cream and learned from the owners how hard their business has been since the start of Covid. The Bill Durnan Arena vaccine centre was closed on August 28 and to celebrate its closing, our *Rotary Club* provided cupcakes from *Sandrini*.



Francine Levi and Giuliana Pendenza deliver rainbow cupcakes from *Sandrini Confections* to vaccine workers at Bill Durnham Arena August 29, part of Meals on Angels' Wings by *Rotary Club of Montreal West* and *NDG*

Francine talked to the owner (**Sandrine**) and though she offered the cupcakes for \$1 each, our club paid \$2 each and Francine said Sandrine was ecstatic. Francine said she can feel for these small retailers and thanked the *Rotary Club* for helping small merchants pay their rent. Francine said they will be replacing the Bill Durnan vaccine centre with a new one in Park

Ex. Our club agreed to supply more snacks to the new centre.

After some questions Francine was thanked for her pleasant smile and the great work she has been doing.

from Doug Yeats

**SPEAKER SERIES -**  
Every Thursday, 7:30 pm  
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88132722993>



## Dear *I Can Dream Theatre*: a love letter to an amazing group

It's January 2021, and the globe is completely at a standstill because of a worldwide pandemic. I think I might have been the only one who was naïve enough to think that things weren't going to shut down entirely like they did – I mean was there a precedent in our lifetime to compare to? But I was wrong. And we were all in our homes, building new routines for our new hermitic way of living.

Usually in January, *I Can Dream Theatre* would be raring to start rehearsing with their neurodiverse cast members and get ready to put on a new production in the fall. But like 2020, 2021 wasn't looking like a show was going to happen.

The cast of *I Can Dream Theatre* are some of the most passionate and dedicated people to subscribe to a group. They LOVE putting shows together and getting together with each other. In every of the word, *I Can Dream Theatre* is a family made up of chosen members, who have connected and collaborated in such an artistic and expressive way.

Having another year without a show, I knew was going to be heartbreaking to say the least for everyone.

It occurred to me in late 2020 that 2021 was going to mark *I Can Dream Theatre's* 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Ten years where 8 shows were produced full of hard work, sweat, laughs, repetition and some tears thrown in for good measure. Show or no show, I knew I couldn't let 2021 pass without some sort of acknowledgment of this milestone.

Five years prior, I had made a documentary on *I Can Dream Theatre* called *The Making of a Dream* which really detailed the process it took for the directors, crew and actors to make an *I Can Dream Theatre* performance. It was my first film, I was very green, but we pulled it off. I am my

own harshest critic, so years later when I re-watched the film, I found it to be loving and important, but flawed. My critique obviously came from learning more about putting a film together. But I always thought that should the opportunity come to revisit the story of *I Can Dream Theatre*, I would maybe "correct some things."

Signing up to do a new documentary on *I Can Dream Theatre* was a no brainer for me. My focus this time around was to not have "my voice" be the dominating point of view, but rather the cast. I wanted it to be their words, their speech. I assembled a line of questions that would allow each of them to express themselves. Uncensored. Unfiltered. If they spoke unclearly, then that's what it would be. Their story. Their impact.

I started putting together this film in January 2021. Every current cast member was on board and were so excited to be able to work on a project. I contacted former cast members as well to see if they would be willing to come on board. I am happy that many did take me up on my invitation.

Videos came in throughout the year, and I got my needle and thread and started weaving a story together. The process of making this film was smooth as I incorporated the cast's testimonials on how the group has impacted their lives along with clips from past shows. I wanted the film to be something special for fans of the group, but also an introduction for people who didn't know what *I Can Dream Theatre* was about. I wanted it to be entertaining, but with context as to what can be achieved when you nurture and support someone.

And as much as I was making this film for the cast, the film ended up saving me as well. Creating during a pandemic is the best medicine that one can take. The film saved me as much as it will be of service to those who accept it.

And here we are – my film, which has also been living with me in isolation during these months is now ready to be shared with others. I'm proud of it. I'm happy that it got done, and that more people will be able to see the great stuff that *I Can Dream Theatre* has produced.

I don't know what happens next. But I do know that giving the opportunity for these individuals to speak and have their stories be heard was the greatest honour.

As of December 3, *The Love Letter* is available to stream on YouTube.

from Merrill Matthews

Merrill Matthews is the writer, director, and editor of *The Love Letter*. His previous short documentary *Included* won the Honorable Mention award at the 2019 Canada Shorts Film Festival.

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## ARC / CRA



Preschool skate class



Steve Morrisette competing in the 2021 Veteran World Judo Championship

**Winter registration is open for indoor soccer, basketball, gymnastics and preschool skate. In addition, we have opened more spots in our skating lesson program on Wednesdays and Sundays.**



### Hockey Knights

The tryouts are completed and 12 single letter teams for the 2021-2022 season are on the ice. Players range in age from 7 to 18 years old. Teams play in the EHL league against other cities such as Westmount, CSL, Lachine, TMR and Lasalle. Home games are played at Legion Rink and everyone is welcome to come and cheer on our KINGHTS.

We are off to a great season start and look forward to an action-packed season. To see the schedule, visit our website at [www.mwhhockey.ca](http://www.mwhhockey.ca).



### Kings

This year at double letters, we have two teams playing under the WESTLUC KINGS banner, M11BB and M13BB. The Westluc Kings are off to a great start and are starting their first tournament soon. Go Kings!

### Future Stars Hockey

Our youngest players are 4-5 and 6 years old. These are the "Future Knights" of MWH hockey. Twice a week they practise with our hockey Director, Eric Rayment, learning the basics of hockey through a va-

riety of drills focusing on skating techniques, puck handling and mini scrimmages. We have a smaller group this year and welcome any new participants. If you are interested in signing up, please call the office or email us at [infocra@mtlwestcra.ca](mailto:infocra@mtlwestcra.ca)

### Gym-Tastic!

The fall session of the is program is coming to an end, and what a fantastic group of kids. They have learned many of their basic moves and even some more advanced skills. Registration for the winter session starting in January is now open.

### Skating lessons

Led by our program co-ordinator **Mackenzie Bullett** and her team of coaches, this program shows these newest skaters how to make snow with their skates and to get up off the ice in less than 5 seconds, twirl, balance and control. Our youngest skaters, the pre-school skaters have impressed us with how fast they have caught on and are learning more advanced skills each session. We have opened more spaces for both Pre-school and regular skating lessons. Classes run Wednesdays and Sundays.

### Basketball

This class has quickly become one of our most popular as players learn basic skills and then apply them in a game setting. Thank you to our coaches **David Steiner, Esmee Roy, Saydie Roy, Olivier Bazinet** and also our parent volunteers who help every week for making this program so successful. We are working towards building this program into something bigger and better in the year to come.

### Indoor soccer

Our indoor soccer program started at RWA in late September and has been non-stop since. We have classes for the younger players ages 5 to 18 years old.

The classes have everyone running, doing drills, games, learning different strategies and playing a scrimmage each week. Registration for the winter session starting in January is now open.

### Judo

Our judo program began in late September and everyone has their new judogis and is learning the holds and various judo techniques.

The program had to take a short pause as our Sensei **Steve Morrisette** was competing in the 2021 Veteran World Judo Championship in Lisbon, Portugal. Steve won his first fight against a Georgian fighter to move to the second round, where he lost to a Portuguese fighter. He continued to his next fight for the bronze medal, but unfortunately lost to an American fighter, but he finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the world, which is an official ranking.

In addition to the competition, Steve saw this as an opportunity to start a fundraiser for the event and was able to raise \$1270 to donate to the *Marie-Vincent Foundation*.

HUGE congratulations to Sensei Morrisette for his incredible accomplishment.

To register go to  
[www.mwcrasports.ca](http://www.mwcrasports.ca)

## Scouts



### Scouts

Scouts are very grateful to be able to move our weekday meetings into the gymnasium at Edinburgh School and we have also had several outdoor adventures on Saturday afternoons.

The Troop has been joined by Cubs who moved up to Scouts, as well as youth who are new to Scouting. **Nathan Held** has been elected to be the Troop Leader, and elections have also determined the leaders of the patrols: **Ivan Stedl**, **James Ruffolo** and **William Dines** with **Tom Chapman**.

Scouts went hiking from the Beaver Lake Chalet to the cross on the top of Mount Royal. It was a rainy day, but everyone came prepared for the wet weather. The hike was a linking activity with the Cubs, and the whole group was led with a steady hand by Scouter **Cerrie Rogers** who guided us on a path that explored different parts of the mountain.

Scouts also met in early November at Hodgson Field, where we put our lashing skills to the test. We made A-frames for a chariot race, put up a 30-foot flagpole, made a tarp shelter and a catapult. We also began practical training in the use and care of pocket knives, and this also provided a real-world opportunity to apply our first aid skills.

*from Andy Chapman*

### Cubs

Cubs have been getting together and enjoying the outdoors this fall. The Scouts invited us to hike with them on Mount Royal, and despite the pouring rain everyone had a great time, proving once again that rain doesn't stop us from having fun outside.

*from Todd Stedl*

### Blood Donor Clinic

Once again this year, the Blood Donor Clinic sponsored by the MoWest Scout Group exceeded its objective. Grateful



Scouter Andy Chapman leads Jagger Pawsey, Tom Chapman and Winston Li Yilang in lashing together a huge flagpole

Since fall camps were still closed because of the pandemic, the Cubs had a mini-camp at Angrignon Park where we spent a few hours learning how to set up tents (with the help of a few Scouts) and also how to bake apples on the grill! Now that the evenings are getting darker and colder, we'll be spending many of our Wednesday meetings indoors at Royal West Academy's gym, wearing masks and staying safe, but still having lots of fun.



Scouter Bob King chats with donor and veteran volunteer Darlene Marshall

thanks are offered to all those who helped to make this possible:

- all the donors, who braved a cool and rainy day to come
- the many volunteers – Scouters, parents and people from the community – who are invaluable in making the process run smoothly and comfortably
- St. Philip's Church by providing the premises and its staff
- **Bronia Zaks** and *Les Délices Lafrenaie*, who combined to provide some special snacks

We hope that we will be able to do this again next year, so put the last Monday in October, 2022 in your diary – to donate blood or volunteer.

*from Bob King*

### Remembrance Day ceremonies

Cubs and Scouts participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies held at the Cenotaph on November 6. Along with Guides and Brownies, they carried flags, laid a wreath on behalf of the MW Scout Group and lowered and raised the flag on behalf of the Town.

### Beavers

We would love to restart our Beaver Colony in January 2022 but we do not have any Scouters (Leaders) to run the program. We have two older Group Committee members, former Beaver Leaders, who would be willing to help but we need some energetic, young parents to take over.

If you would like to register your children in kindergarten, grades 1 and 2 and are willing to help, please contact **Karen Johnstone** (Group Commissioner) at 717-5696.



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## Guiding



I am Stephanie Barnes and I am submitting the article for Guiding page in *The Informer*. I am a first-year Ranger with the 1<sup>st</sup> Monklands Rangers. The Montreal West Guiders are thrilled that I am writing this month's publication.

The MoWest Girl Guide units settle into a routine as the weeks go by; they keep figuring out ways to have fun while still being 2 m apart and not sharing the same objects. Since it is getting colder and darker earlier, all the units have moved to indoor meetings while ensuring all COVID-19 protocols are respected. This way they are able to do more activities without having to worry about lighting or weather.

### Enrollment

Six Sparks and seven Brownies were enrolled at the end of October. All the families were in attendance for ceremony. Before the ceremony, the girls went on a scavenger hunt to find their certificates, pins and badges. Each girl was enrolled individually and, after she made her promise, one of her parents awarded her her certificate and pin. All the Sparks were enrolled by Pearl, their leader, and the Brownies were enrolled by Brown Owl, their leader. As for the Guides, five new Guides were enrolled on October 29, and the other girls renewed their promises all while wearing their Halloween costumes.

At the last outdoor meeting for the Sparks and Brownies, they said goodbye to their meetings at Hodgson Field by working on Our Shared Planet and focusing on the differences between wants and needs and how they can positively impact our planet and environment. As a thank you for



Guide Leaders are explaining how the enrollment is going to work to make sure everyone stays far enough apart and does not touch the same things

all the wonderful memories they made while at the field, they picked up garbage that had been littered and were shocked at the amount they collected. The Sparks and Brownies cleaned up the field just in time for the Guides to have their last outdoor meeting and do some team-building activities to get to know each other better and to have fun.

### Remembrance Day

For their first indoor meeting, the Sparks and Brownies had a Remembrance Day meeting; they talked about the meaning behind Remembrance Day and why it is so important to take the time on November 11, and every other day of the year, to remember everyone who fought to give us the freedom we have today in Canada and those who helped people all around the world. When it came time for the Guide's meeting, they made Remembrance Day postcards, that are being sent to the Veterans at St. Anne's Hospital. **Akira, Hazel, Catherine and Stephanie** formed the colour party for the MoWest Remembrance Day ceremony. **Ava and Pearl** laid the Guiding wreath.

Later, the Guides made edible campfires, which were eaten outside, discussed the importance of handwashing and different techniques. To put their knowledge to the test, the Guides then used a UV light and special soap to see how effective they actually are at properly washing their hands.

### Voting

To go coincide with the municipal elections, the Sparks and Brownies learned about different voting systems and used their new knowledge to vote for their patrol emblem and the service projects they would like to take on this year.

### Oooh, cookies!

The Guides received their cookies towards the end of October and have been having fun selling them to their neighbours, family and anyone who wants Girl Guide cookies. In an interview, they were eager to discuss how much fun they had selling cookies, during the activities in their meetings and even disclosed that their favourite games so far are wink murderer and cookie werewolf.

Everyone is settling into the routine of meeting indoors and singing songs outside while keeping their distance; each girl has her own set of markers to avoid any type of contact or sharing. Most girls have completed the Our Story theme of the Guide Together area and are off to a great start of expanding their badge collection. Some girls have even finished selling all their cookies.

### Thank you

The MoWest Girl Guides wish to extend their gratitude to the MW United Church and *Curzon Preschool* for sharing their spaces with our units.

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# COUNCIL

## communiqué



### MAYOR'S REPORT

#### Our new Town Council

On November 15, our newly-formed Town Council held its first public meeting. Welcome back to Councillors Feeny, Torres and Ulin and welcome to our new Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather.

I have decided to make some changes to bring fresh eyes to the portfolios:

**Councillor Feeny** retains the portfolios for Finance and for seniors, but will also inherit the portfolio for Recreation.

**Councillor Ulin** will retain the portfolio for Communications and will now also hold the portfolio for Public Works and Buildings. She will also handle the portfolio for the Environment and will be assisted in that portfolio by Councillor Torres.

**Councillor Torres** will handle the portfolio for Urban Planning and will be

assisted by Councillor Small Pennefather. Councillor Torres will also assist Councillor Ulin in the Environment portfolio.

**Councillor Small Pennefather** will handle the Public Security portfolio and will assist Councillor Torres on the Urban Planning portfolio.

I look forward to working together with these four accomplished people to better serve our citizens.

#### And it's underway! An update on the Sports and Recreation Centre

At the November 15 meeting, Council awarded a **contract to Consortium Blouin-Tardif Architecture** for the professional services contract – architectural firm and multidisciplinary team – to design the sports and recreation centre. The Town formed a selection committee to lead

the bid selection process. The selection committee included members of our Town management as well as outside resources that were hired for their experience and expertise. The selection committee was made up of two lawyers, a chartered accountant, a senior architect and an engineer spent 95 hours reviewing the bids, challenging each other and reaching a consensus on the winning bid.

There was a two-envelope bid procedure as required by law whereby every bidder submitted two envelopes. The first envelope contained information about the bidder: their experience, their understanding the mandate, the projects they have undertaken, the experience of their proposed strategic resource team and their plan for resources and work distribution. The selection committee assigned a score to the first envelopes for each of the five bids received. Only scores over 70/100 were retained and then those second envelopes were opened for the three qualifying bidders. The second envelope contained the bid price. The selection committee then evaluated the quality to price ratio and the best ratio became the recommendation to Council who awarded the mandate.

During the mandate, Consortium Blouin-Tardif Architecture will be responsible for completing the design of the new sports and recreation centre to meet the needs of our Town: improve our sports and recreation activities for a healthy and active population, promote exemplary universal accessibility, ensure the resilience of the infrastructure to climate change and respect the environment through an

eco-responsibility for the design and performance of infrastructure.

The successful bidder will also be responsible, with the Town's project team, for proposing a design that respects the Town's budget constraints and schedule and complies with requirements of the *Programme d'aide financière aux infrastructures récréatives et sportives (PAFIRS)*. **The Town was granted \$12,556,727 in financial assistance from the federal and provincial governments under this program.**

The Town will soon announce the public consultation plan that it intends to implement to ensure that the needs of the various stakeholders and users of the infrastructure in addition to those who reside in the immediate area are satisfied. We listened to the concerns our citizens have expressed during the past few months since the announcement of the grant and during the municipal election campaign and we have the firm intention of continuing to do so. When finalized, our consultation plan will be communicated via all our platforms.

We will continue to keep you abreast of the project progress via the dedicated web page and by e-bulletin.

It is an extremely exciting time for Montreal West. This was the first step towards the realization of a centre that will serve the needs of our citizens, young and not so young, for generations to come and will ensure the continued vitality and renewal of our Town.

Beny Masella, Mayor  
Town of Montreal West  
[bmabella@montreal-west.ca](mailto:bmabella@montreal-west.ca)



## FROM PUBLIC WORKS TO URBAN PLANNING

As we all know by now, there are a few changes on Council. We, the Councillors, have been assigned to new portfolios. I am honoured to tell you that I have accepted the portfolio of Urban Planning.

This past month I have been busy meeting all the members of the Urban Planning team, catching up with issues related to the department, reviewing Urban Planning by-laws and attending my first Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting. There is still lots to learn and I hope to soon start a discussion on how we can best serve the community. I will keep you all posted. In the meantime, if you wish to share your comments, opinions, experiences or suggestions about the Urban Planning department, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I'd also like to share a thought or two about the department I worked with

for the past 8 years. Although I am exhilarated by all the new challenges ahead of me, I am saddened to leave the Public Works portfolio.

I still fondly remember the first day I walked into Rylan Wadsworth's office, the Director of Public Works, notebook in hand, ready to learn everything there was to know about the department. That day marked a long and fascinating learning period in my life, one for which I feel deeply grateful. Rylan, together with Assistant Director, Allen Idle, foremen Nando and Johnny, and all the blue and white collar members of the department form a highly efficient team! With limited human and financial

resources they do a great job fixing and maintaining our infrastructure including: the "grey" (roads and sanitary network) and the "green" (parks, green space and trees). Be assured that our Town is in very capable hands!

My family joins me in wishing you joy and peace during the holidays and a wonderful, safe and healthy new year!

Maria Torres, *councillor*  
Urban Planning  
mtorres@montreal-west.ca



## URBAN PLANNING: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Although Covid-19 may have slowed down many operations, the Urban Planning department of Montreal West was not one of them! With many residents working from home, a great number took the opportunity to better adapt their homes to their changing needs.

This translated into **over 400 permits** being issued, a new record! In addition, if the construction or renovation projects involved modifications to the building's exterior, they were also reviewed by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) to ensure that they adhered to the Town's Site Planning and Architectural Integration Program (SPAIP). These guidelines were set up to "ensure the preservation and development of quality architecture that is in harmony with the Town's built environment".

In the past twelve months, PAC met **18 times** and reviewed **158 projects**. Their expertise and thorough review and recommendations for project proposals is an added value to residents

who are making important investments in their homes.

In this next Council mandate, several Councillor portfolios have switched hands, and I will no longer be responsible for Urban Planning. In the past four years I have learned a lot and have gained an increased appreciation for the very important work done by this small hard-working group. It has been my pleasure to work with our Manager of Urban Planning, Vlad Florea-Archir, his assistant, Agata Palarchio, and all the dedicated PAC volunteers. Thank you!

### New portfolios

I am pleased to be continuing in the Finance and MADA (*Municipalité amie des aînés*) portfolios. Our Strategic Fi-

nanacial Plan and Age-Friendly Policy provide clear plans of action for both these dossiers, which I will continue to implement. I am thrilled to be adding the Recreation and Culture portfolio to my responsibilities. Ensuring that we move ahead with our new Recreation Centre will be a top priority, but it will not stop us from continuing to deliver the kinds of programs and services you have come to appreciate. I look forward to working with the wonderful teams at the Recreation department and at our two excellent libraries.

Colleen Feeny, *Councillor*  
Finance, MADA, Recreation and Culture  
cfeeny@montreal-west.ca



## THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

I'd like to thank the citizens of MoWest for electing me to a fifth term on Council! It's a great honour to serve this beloved community. The refrain I heard most often from residents as I went door to door was how lucky they felt to have "found" this place to call home. And I feel the same way.

Of course that's not to say there isn't room for improvement. With the election over, now it's time to get back to work on all the challenges we face – many of which were also related to me at the door.

For the last 16 years on Council I held the Recreation and Culture portfolio and loved every minute of it. For various periods I also oversaw the departments of Environment, Public Security and Communications. This time around I'm pleased to take on the portfolios of Public Works, Environment and Communication.

Public Works offers fresh challenge and I'm really looking forward to it. Montreal West is known for its top quality services and my

priority will be maintaining those services and exploring new ways to meet citizens' needs in this realm.

Throughout my time on Council, I've been a strong advocate of sustainable initiatives including organic

waste pick up, alternative energy, and the acceleration of tree planting.

So I'm delighted to add the Environment portfolio to my mandate. In this area I'll push for increased energy efficiency, the reduction of

fossil fuel use and the further revitalization of our tree canopy.

I've kept the Communications portfolio in this mandate and here I'll focus on improving how the Town reaches out to its citizens and also how it receives feedback. I'm excited to open up new avenues of communication that keep residents engaged.

Once again, I'd like to reiterate what an honour it is to continue serving my fellow MoWesters. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

*Elizabeth Ulin during pendant the Meet the candidates Zoom evening on October 27, 2021 (organized by The Informer)*



*Elizabeth Ulin, Councillor  
Public Works, Environment  
and Communication  
eulin@montreal-west.ca*



## PUBLIC SECURITY

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your confidence in electing me to Council for the next four years.

My campaign was a learning experience, meeting individuals and families from all areas of Town who expressed an interest in various issues including the recreation centre, beautifying Westminster, development, traffic, safety, seniors, youth and communication to name but a few. I am committed to working with and for you alongside Mayor Masella and Councillors Feeney, Torres and Ulin.

I appreciate all of your support and ex-

tend my gratitude to the other candidates for caring about our Town.

I am also very pleased to share that I am the Councillor responsible for Public Security and, as such, will reconstitute the Traffic and Safety Committee. I will be seeking experts in the community such as traffic engineers, consultants and urban planners to work together in moving the traffic and safety agenda forward with viable recommendations and solutions.

As part of my portfolio, I will also be second Councillor to Councillor Torres, as part of Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) under Urban Planning.

I would like to conclude by wishing everyone a healthy and happy holiday season.

*Lauren Small-Pennefather, Councillor  
Public Security  
lsmall-pennefather@montreal-west.ca*



*On October 27, 2021 The Informer organized Meet the candidates Zoom evening.  
Le 27 octobre 2021 la Soirée des candidats a été organisée par The Informer.*





# communiqué du CONSEIL



## RAPPORT DU MAIRE

### Notre nouveau conseil municipal

Le 15 novembre, notre nouveau conseil municipal a tenu sa première séance de conseil. Bienvenue aux conseillères sortantes Feeney, Torres et Ulin et à notre nouvelle conseillère Lauren Small-Pennefather.

J'ai décidé de faire quelques changements pour apporter un regard neuf sur les portefeuilles :

**La conseillère Feeney** conserve les portefeuilles des Finances et des Aînés, mais hérite également du portefeuille des Loisirs.

**La conseillère Ulin** conserve le portefeuille des Communications et hérite désormais du portefeuille des Travaux publics et des Bâtiments publics. Elle s'occupera également du portefeuille de l'Environnement et sera assistée dans ce domaine par la conseillère Torres.

**La conseillère Torres** s'occupera du portefeuille de l'Urbanisme et sera assistée par la conseillère Small-Pennefather. La con-

seillère Torres assistera également la conseillère Ulin dans le portefeuille de l'Environnement.

**La conseillère Small-Pennefather** s'occupera du portefeuille de la Sécurité publique et assistera la conseillère Torres pour le portefeuille de l'Urbanisme. J'ai hâte de travailler avec ces quatre personnes accomplies pour mieux servir nos citoyens.

### Et c'est parti! Une mise à jour sur le centre sportif et récréatif

Lors de la réunion du 15 novembre, le Conseil a adjugé un mandat au **Consortium Blouin-Tardif Architecture** pour le contrat de services professionnels d'architecture avec équipe multidisciplinaire pour la conception du centre sportif et récréatif. La Ville a formé un comité de sélection pour procéder au processus de sélection des offres. Le comité de sélection comprenait des membres de la direction de la Ville ainsi que des ressources externes qui ont

été embauchées pour leur expérience et leur expertise. Le comité composé de deux avocats, une comptable-agrèe, un architecte sénior et une ingénieure a passé un total de 95 heures à examiner les offres en détail pour arriver à un consensus sur l'offre gagnante.

Conformément à la loi, chaque soumissionnaire a soumis deux enveloppes. La première enveloppe contenait des informations sur le soumissionnaire : son expérience, sa compréhension du mandat, les projets qu'il a réalisés, l'expérience de l'équipe des personnes-ressources stratégiques proposées et un plan des ressources et de la répartition du travail.

Le comité de sélection a attribué un score aux premières enveloppes pour chacune des cinq offres reçues. Seuls les scores supérieurs à 70/100 ont été retenus, puis les deuxièmes enveloppes ont été ouvertes pour les trois soumissionnaires qualifiés. La deuxième enveloppe contenait le prix de l'offre. Le comité de sélection a ensuite évalué le rapport qualité/prix et le soumissionnaire avec le meilleur rapport qualité/prix a été recommandé au Conseil qui lui a adjugé le mandat.

Au cours du mandat, le Consortium Blouin-Tardif Architecture aura la responsabilité de réaliser la conception du nouveau centre sportif et récréatif afin de répondre aux besoins de notre Ville : bonifier l'offre sportive et récréative pour une population active et en santé, promouvoir une accessibilité universelle exemplaire, assurer la résilience des infrastructures aux changements climatiques et respecter l'environnement par une éco-responsabilité de design et

de performance des infrastructures.

Le soumissionnaire retenu sera également responsable, avec l'équipe de projet de la Ville, de proposer un design qui respecte les contraintes budgétaires et l'échéancier de la Ville et qui est conforme aux exigences du *Programme d'aide financière aux infrastructures récréatives et sportives (PAFIRS)*. **La Ville s'est vu octroyer une aide financière de 12 556 727 \$ des gouvernements fédéral et provincial dans le cadre de ce programme.**

La Ville annoncera sous peu le plan de consultation publique qu'elle compte mettre en œuvre pour s'assurer de répondre aux besoins des différentes clientèles et parties prenantes qui utiliseront les infrastructures en plus de ceux qui résident dans le secteur immédiat. Nous avons écouté les préoccupations exprimées par nos citoyens au cours des derniers mois, depuis l'annonce de la subvention et pendant la campagne électorale municipale, et nous avons la ferme intention de continuer à le faire. Une fois finalisé, notre plan de consultation sera communiqué via toutes nos plateformes.

Nous continuerons à vous tenir au courant de l'avancement du projet via la page web dédiée et par e-bulletin.

C'est un moment extrêmement excitant pour Montréal-Ouest. Il s'agit de la première étape vers la réalisation d'un centre qui répondra aux besoins de nos citoyens, jeunes et moins jeunes, pour les générations à venir et qui assurera la vitalité et le renouvellement continu de notre Ville.

Beny Masella, maire  
Ville de Montréal-Ouest  
[bmabella@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:bmabella@montreal-ouest.ca)



## DES TRAVAUX PUBLICS À L'URBANISME

Comme nous le savons tous maintenant, il y a eu quelques changements au conseil municipal. Nous, les conseillères, avons été affectées à de nouveaux portefeuilles. J'ai l'honneur de vous annoncer que j'ai accepté le portefeuille de l'Urbanisme.

Le mois dernier, j'ai été occupée à rencontrer tous les membres de l'équipe d'Urbanisme, à me mettre à jour sur les questions liées au service, à revoir les règlements d'urbanisme et à assister à ma première réunion du Comité consultatif d'urbanisme (CCU). J'ai encore beaucoup à apprendre et j'espère bientôt pouvoir entamer une discussion sur la façon dont nous pouvons mieux servir la communauté. Je vous tiendrai tous informés. Dans l'intervalle, si vous souhaitez me faire part de vos commentaires, opinions, expériences ou suggestions concernant le Service d'urbanisme, n'hésitez pas à me contacter.

J'aimerais également partager une ou deux réflexions sur le département

avec lequel j'ai travaillé ces huit dernières années. Bien que je sois exaltée par tous les nouveaux défis qui m'attendent, je suis triste de quitter le portefeuille des Travaux publics.

Je me souviens encore très bien du premier jour où je suis entrée dans le bureau de Rylan Wadsworth, le directeur des travaux publics, carnet de notes en main, prête à apprendre tout ce qu'il y avait à savoir sur le département. Ce jour a marqué une longue et fascinante période d'apprentissage dans ma vie, une période pour laquelle je suis profondément reconnaissante. Rylan, avec le directeur adjoint, Allen Idle, les contremaîtres Nando et Johnny, et tous les cols bleus et blancs du département forment une équipe

très efficace ! Avec des ressources humaines et financières limitées, ils font un excellent travail de réparation et d'entretien de nos infrastructures, y compris le "gris" (routes et réseau sanitaire) et le "vert" (parcs, espaces verts et arbres). Soyez assurés que notre ville est entre de bonnes mains !

Ma famille se joint à moi pour vous souhaiter joie et paix pendant les fêtes et la santé et le bonheur pour le Nouvel An !

Maria Torres, *conseillère Urbanisme*  
[mtorres@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:mtorres@montreal-ouest.ca)



## URBANISME : BILAN DE L'ANNÉE

Malgré le fait que la Covid-19 a ralenti de nombreuses activités, le Service d'urbanisme de Montréal-Ouest n'en a pas fait partie ! Comme de nombreux résidents travaillent à domicile, un grand nombre d'entre eux ont profité de l'occasion pour mieux adapter leur maison à leurs besoins changeants.

Cela s'est traduit par l'émission de **plus de 400 permis**, un nouveau record ! De plus, si les projets de construction ou de rénovation impliquaient des modifications de l'extérieur du bâtiment, ils étaient également examinés par le Comité consultatif d'urbanisme (CCU) afin de s'assurer qu'ils respectaient le Plan d'implantation et d'intégration architecturale (PIIA) de la Ville. Ces lignes directrices ont été établies pour « assurer la conservation et le développement d'une architecture de qualité en harmonie avec le patrimoine bâti de la Ville ».

Au cours des douze derniers mois, le CCU s'est réuni **18 fois** et a examiné **158 projets**. Leur expertise, leur examen approfondi et leurs recommandations concernant les projets proposés

constituent une valeur ajoutée pour les résidents qui font des investissements importants dans leur maison.

Au cours du prochain mandat du Conseil, plusieurs portefeuilles de conseillers ont changé de mains, et je ne serai donc plus responsable de l'Urbanisme. Au cours des quatre dernières années, j'ai beaucoup appris et j'ai pu apprécier davantage le travail très important effectué par ce petit groupe de travailleurs acharnés. J'ai eu le plaisir de travailler avec notre Responsable de l'urbanisme, Vlad Florea-Archir, son assistante, Agata Palarchio, et tous les bénévoles dévoués du CCU. Merci à tous !

### Nouveaux portefeuilles

Je suis heureuse de continuer à m'occuper des portefeuilles des Finances et

de MADA (Municipalité amie des aînés). Notre Plan financier stratégique et notre Politique amie des aînés fournissent des plans d'action clairs pour ces deux dossiers, que je continuerai à mettre en œuvre. Je suis ravie d'ajouter le portefeuille des Loisirs et de la Culture à mes responsabilités. Veiller à ce que nous allions de l'avant avec notre nouveau centre récréatif sera une priorité absolue, mais cela ne nous empêchera pas de continuer à offrir les types de programmes et de services que vous avez appris à apprécier. J'ai hâte de travailler avec les merveilleuses équipes du Service des loisirs et de nos deux excellentes bibliothèques.

Colleen Feeny, *conseillère Finance, MADA, Loisirs et Culture*  
[cfeeny@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:cfeeny@montreal-ouest.ca)





## LES QUATRE PROCHAINES ANNÉES

Je tiens à remercier les citoyens de MoWest de m'avoir élue au conseil municipal pour un cinquième mandat ! C'est un grand honneur de servir cette communauté bien-aimée. Le refrain qui revenait le plus souvent de la part des résidents lorsque je faisais du porte-à-porte était qu'ils se sentaient chanceux d'avoir " trouvé " cet endroit où il fait bon vivre. Et je partage leurs sentiments.

Bien sûr, cela ne veut pas dire qu'il n'y a pas de place pour de l'amélioration. La campagne électorale étant terminée, il est temps de se remettre au travail pour relever tous les défis auxquels nous sommes confrontés – dont plusieurs m'ont été transmis lorsque je faisais du porte-à-porte.

Au cours des 16 dernières années au Conseil, j'ai occupé le portefeuille des Loisirs et de la Culture et j'en ai apprécié chaque minute. Pendant diverses périodes, j'ai également été

conseillère responsable de l'Environnement, de la Sécurité publique et des Communications. Cette fois-ci, je suis heureuse d'occuper les portefeuilles des Travaux publics, de l'Environnement et des Communications.

Le portefeuille des Travaux publics offre un nouveau défi et j'ai vraiment hâte de le relever. Montréal-Ouest est reconnue pour ses services de première qualité et ma priorité sera de maintenir ces services et d'explorer de nouvelles façons de répondre aux besoins

des citoyens dans ce domaine.

Tout au long de mon mandat au Conseil, j'ai été une fervente défenseuse des projets durables, notamment la collecte des déchets organiques, les énergies alternatives et l'accélération de la plantation d'arbres. Je suis donc ravie d'ajouter le portefeuille de l'Environnement à mon mandat. Dans ce domaine, je vais prôner l'amélioration de l'efficacité énergétique, la réduction de l'utilisation des combustibles fossiles et la

revitalisation de notre couvert forestier.

J'ai gardé le portefeuille des Communications dans ce mandat et je me concentrerai sur l'amélioration des manières dont la Ville s'adresse à ses citoyens et dont elle reçoit ses commentaires. Je suis enthousiaste à l'idée d'ouvrir de nouvelles voies de communication qui engageront davantage les résidents.

Je le répète encore une fois, c'est un honneur de continuer à représenter mes concitoyens. N'hésitez pas à me contacter si vous avez des questions ou des préoccupations.

Elizabeth Ulin, *conseillère Travaux publics, Environnement et Communications*  
[elin@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:elin@montreal-ouest.ca)



## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

J'aimerais profiter de cette occasion pour vous remercier de la confiance que vous m'avez témoignée en m'élisant au conseil municipal pour les quatre prochaines années.

Ma campagne a été une expérience enrichissante, car j'ai rencontré des personnes et des familles des différents secteurs de la ville qui ont exprimé leur intérêt pour divers sujets, notamment le centre récréatif, l'embellissement de Westminster, le développement, la circulation, la sécurité, les personnes âgées, les jeunes et la communication, pour n'en nommer que quelques-uns. Je m'engage à travailler avec et pour vous, aux côtés du maire Masella et des conseillères Feeney, Torres et Ulin. Je vous remercie de votre soutien et j'exprime ma gratitude aux autres candi-

dates pour l'intérêt qu'ils portent à notre ville.

Je suis également très heureuse de vous annoncer que je suis la conseillère responsable de la Sécurité publique et qu'à ce titre, je reconstituerais le Comité de circulation et de sécurité. Je ferai appel à des experts dans la communauté, tels que des ingénieurs de la circulation, des consultants et des urbanistes, afin de travailler ensemble pour faire avancer le programme de circulation et de sécurité avec des recommandations et des solutions viables. Dans le cadre de mon portefeuille, je serai également la con-

seillère adjointe de la conseillère Torres, au sein du Comité consultatif de l'urbanisme (CCU), sous la rubrique Urbanisme.

J'aimerais conclure en souhaitant à tous des vœux de bonheur et de santé à l'occasion de la période des fêtes.

Lauren Small-Pennefather, *conseillère Sécurité public,*  
[lsmall-pennefather@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:lsmall-pennefather@montreal-ouest.ca)

*Lauren Small-Pennefather pendant la soirée des candidats le 27 octobre 2021 (organisée par The Informer)*





Cenotaph on Remembrance Day Photo by Elisabeth Roy





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## Perspectives of a sixth grader



Olive Violini-Heisler

Hi I am **Olive Violini-Heisler**, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at Edinburgh Elementary School. I would like to share my COVID journey with you.

In 2020 on March break, I went to British Columbia to see my family. It was an amazing trip! Back then I didn't really know what Covid was. All I knew was that it was a bad virus from across the world. I never thought that it would come to Canada. When we returned from our trip it was sud-

denly lockdown in Montreal. I thought that it would only last two weeks. Well, it was anyone's guess how long the lockdown would last, and it lasted for months! We had never been through anything like this ever before!

When my brother **Nico** and I did not have online school, we had to keep busy. We played outside most of the time. My parents got creative and made us obstacle courses and they had to find educational online games to entertain us as well. All this while working at their jobs, but we got through it! When we finally got online learning, it was all new to me. My brother and I were set up in our living room on a folding table, we both had to have earphones on while we were online. We also received our own computers from our parents to do our classes on, which made things easier.

The 2020-2021 school year went by so quickly, and so did the summer! Now it was already the first day of grade 5. Grade 5 was an adventure! From wearing face masks, to class bubbles, to getting 8 Covid tests! When you developed a symptom, you had to get tested for Covid. Also, our class bubbles could not mix with other classes

during recess and lunch. We had to wear pinnies so we didn't mix with other classes. Three times during the school year my class got shut down, and you had to go get tested. Even if you received negative results, you still had to do online school for two weeks. The teachers changed classrooms, not us. At lunch we used to eat in the gym (because our school does not have a cafeteria), now we had to eat in our classrooms. We also had zones in the school yard we could use: the cement area, the park, the baseball and soccer field. Our zones rotated each day. My grade 5 year was something to remember!!

Now I am in grade 6, and we can eat in the gym again. There are no more pinnies, or class bubbles as we now have grade bubbles. Also this year, we change classrooms, and the teachers stay in their respective classes. This year has been an improvement over last year. Grade 6 is going to be awesome!

Perspectives of a sixth grader is a new series, produced for *The Informer* through the Edinburgh Home and School Association. If you are a student in sixth grade at Edinburgh Elementary and would like to submit your perspective, please contact [kateshingler@gmail.com](mailto:kateshingler@gmail.com)

## Curzon's 19<sup>th</sup> annual auction fundraiser

*Curzon Creative Preschool* will be hosting its 19<sup>th</sup> annual auction and fundraiser during the week of December 6 in a virtual format which was so fun last year! Join us for a week of

intense bidding from the comfort of your home!

We're looking forward to another exceptional year, with thousands of dollars' worth of exciting auction items to bid on!

Pamela Montgomery reading to the children



Get ready to bid on some wonderful and unique gifts in time for the holidays, all while supporting a school in your community. All donations, auction and ticket proceeds go toward school operating costs.

Active in the MoWest community for over 60 years, *Curzon* is a well-respected preschool serving the needs of children ages 3 to 5 in a secure, spacious bilingual environment. As a non-profit co-operative, the school's success depends upon the support of fundraising activities and the generosity of our community. We have had hundreds of children from here and surrounding neighbourhoods come through our doors and have given them a strong foundation for kindergarten and beyond.

Tickets for the virtual event are \$10. Please visit *Curzon Creative Preschool* on Facebook for details on how to pur-

chase tickets and attend the online event. For more information, please email [curzonauction@gmail.com](mailto:curzonauction@gmail.com).

At *Curzon*, we believe it takes a village to raise a child. We are so grateful to be part of a community here in Montreal West that supports us in providing a wonderful program for our children. We are so excited this year that we were able to bring back Storytime in the Park. As the season ends, we would like to thank the Children's Library for our Storytime in the Park. It truly is a highlight of the children's day and they always go home and tell their families all about the stories they have read. We can't wait till next year for another season of Storytime in the Park!

## Children's Library



Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri /  
lun, mer, jeu, ven :  
10 am-6 pm

Tue / mar : 10 am-8 pm

Sat-Sun / sam-dim :  
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484-7194

info@mwcl.ca mwcl.ca

**La bibliothèque sera fermée  
du 20 décembre au 2 janvier.**

**The library will be closed  
from December 20 to January 2.**

### New collection: children's costumes

Libraries are not only providing books or reading material as part of their loan services. We are getting ready to offer a new collection to the young ones – they will soon be able to borrow costumes from the library. In preparation for this new feature, we are reaching out to parents to donate costume if they have one that is no longer needed. The costumes that will be evaluated and will be given to the *Renaissance Centre* if they don't respond to our requirements. The costumes donated should be washed in advance. Please contact us or bring the costume by December 19. We appreciate your contribution to this project!

### Surprise holiday books and community puzzle

The holidays are just around the corner. We have a bunch of surprise books waiting to be borrowed!

Your child can choose a wrapped book (a new release) only by the clues on the tag. They will be the first to hold the book in their hands and read it. For the holidays, we are also offering every child a big blank puzzle piece – children are invited to draw a picture (or a pattern) on a winter theme. Return the drawn puzzle piece to the library and watch the community puzzle grow into a beautiful piece of art!

### Lecture en cadeau

Le programme La lecture en cadeau s'adresse aux enfants de 0 à 12 ans qui vivent en milieux défavorisés au Québec. Chaque année, grâce à ce programme, des milliers d'enfants reçoivent des livres jeunesse neufs. Pour certains enfants, ce livre est souvent le premier ouvrage neuf qu'il reçoit. Il l'apprécie d'autant plus que ce dernier a été choisi spécialement par un donateur. Comme dans le passé, notre bibliothèque fait partie des quelques 400 points de collecte au Québec. Du 20 novembre au

19 décembre, venez déposer un livre neuf dans la boîte de collecte à la bibliothèque pour apporter de la joie dans la vie d'un enfant de milieu défavorisé. Merci de votre générosité !

### Improved access to the library

Thanks to the *Vohra-Miller Foundation's* generous donation, the library has been able to implement the first stage of the project of improvement of the access to the library. A ramp has been constructed in front of the library doors facilitating the access of strollers. The second stage will involve the installation of automatic door openers which will be completed in the near future.



Edward (Teddy) Darwish is having fun decorating the pumpkin he received from the library. Check-out our website for a video of all the pumpkins given by the library and decorated at home.

## EBS



Ms. Lucy De Petrillo

### Farewell, Ms. Lucy!

Last week we said farewell to a very special member of our EBS family. Ms. **Lucy De Petrillo** was recently named Vice Principal at Rosemount High School. Ms. De Petrillo has not only been an enthusiastic teacher to her students, but also a central figure in the school by being involved in all aspects of student life, and by going over and above the call of duty at all times. Her love for the school and the students was evident in everything she did to help the school thrive. She will truly be missed by all of her students, past and present. While we will miss her at EBS, we are happy for her new opportunity to shine in a new school and community.

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**The year in review**

First and foremost, the library would like to wish you and your loved ones a healthy and safe holiday. It has been a long year but when we look back, we have seen many kind and wonderful things. As this is the last *Informer* article for 2021, it is a time for reflection for us at the library. What did we do, what happened, what is important, what needs improvement and what fell off our to do list.

This year we moved. Moving can be difficult, but we met some wonderful and kind people who still help us today! We started in the new space with only staff in the building. It was quiet and did not feel like a real library. Slowly, we started to allow the public in and now we have our volunteers back at the circulation desk. It is almost like old times, except... there are masks and there are passports, but it is all with it!

**Dane Oberon***continued from page 1*

takes on private students in very diverse subjects, including video editing and animation, as well as English as a Second Language and various history courses.

When they first came to Town, Dasein attended Elizabeth Ballantyne School and was enjoying the learning process, but then the pandemic hit. Dasein was unsatisfied with the online classes, so Dane now home schools him and brings him to the library. Dane said his son is a very independent learner and now has a whole library to read. While he regards the local educators very highly, he thinks the government provided insufficient support and training to deal with the difficulties of making the adjustments that were necessary.

Last August, Dane and Deb talked about how the library could be more than just a place that lent books. Dane has been inspired by Deb's commitment to transforming the library from MoWest's best kept secret into the cultural heart of the Town. The usual cultural activities were restricted by the pandemic, so they explored new ideas. And so was born Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* on

One of the biggest changes we have noticed is that our members are now using the catalogue more than ever. Just a little over four years ago a lot of people couldn't understand why we wanted a library catalogue online. Now our members are using it from home, requesting new titles more frequently and reserving items more often. Currently we process approximately 170 reservations per month whereas, prior to COVID, in 2019, we were only processing about 50 a month.

Like everyone, the library has been affected by the unmarked graves discovered at the residential schools across Canada. In light of this, the library decided to act on the Truth and Reconciliation report. For example, you may have noticed many Indigenous titles in the window since June, 2021. The library has decided that it will showcase the talents of the many First Nation, Métis and Inuit authors for a year. Also, the library and *Montreal West Turtle Island Truth and Reconciliation Circle (MWTITRC)* joined together to deliver some interesting events in Town (movie in the park and movie and discussion with Mutang Urud).

**Tea and TRC**

As part of the library's TRC initiatives, the Tea and TRC first meeting was held on November 2. About 10 people joined in person or via Zoom to share, connect and learn together. We began with introductions, which

Zoom. As was mentioned in the *Rotary Club's* article (last issue), the library got a grant from the *Kimberley Foundation* and things moved quickly. A call went out in September for actors and by the end of October they had a complete cast. In November, the rehearsals and workshops started. They had to not only work on the lines, but also figure out what movements were required to give the impression that people were actually talking to each other. Each member of the cast was filmed individually and the whole production was pulled together in a few weeks of video editing. Technologically the end result is quite spectacular. The effort paid off and it won an award from *Intergénération Québec*.

Dane's interdisciplinary PhD was on the Economics of Cultural Production. When he examined Shakespeare's plays, the tragedy that has been produced most over the centuries is *Hamlet*, and the least produced is *Timon of Athens*. Why does one have more cultural value than the other? *Timon of Athens* has been produced more often in the last two decades than the previous four centuries. It is about a man destroyed by debt. Debt has become more of an issue today, causing us to value this play more than any other generation. Examining the forms of en-

is an important starting place to make connections and to acknowledge that as a group of settlers on Turtle Island we have a duty to learn about, understand and take action on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations. The library shared some of their actions-in-progress such as developing a Territorial Acknowledgement, updating its catalogue subjects to use more respectful and accurate wording, and a permanent section with books and literature from the vast array of Indigenous writers.

With differing levels of knowledge and understanding of the TRC and its Calls to Action, the Tea and TRC group decided to start learning together at the beginning by reading the Summary of the TRC report. **Deb Marcogliese** read out the preface to the 500-page summary during this first meeting.

The format of the Tea and TRC group is flexible and evolving – for the next few months we will be a reading group, going through the summary of the TRC report section by section and taking the time needed to discuss, learn and understand each one while making links with the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We will also be looking outward to the MoWest community and other partners to collaborate with us as we continually renew our commitment to reading the report.

All MoWesters are invited to join this initiative, even if you are unable to attend the meetings!

tainment that are popular gives us insights into a society's values at a specific time.

His main priority is to take care of his son. Dane moved here because he loves Montreal's arts culture and chose our area in particular because he believes that this is the best place in Canada for him to raise a child.

Professionally, he hopes to offer more programming and continue making the MWPL the cultural hub of the community. In his leisure time, Dane is an avid cyclist and works closely with artists, helping with arts productions, organizing events and helping applying for grants.

After living here for two years, he and Dasein consider the Town their home. He hopes you will drop by the library to say hello.

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## St Philip's

The "greening" of St Philip's continued this fall. At the end of October, together with *Incredible Edibles* and the *Depot Community Food Centre*, we hosted a workshop by *P3 Permaculture* on creating a pocket forest to combat climate change. About 20 people participated in the workshop and helped create a small pocket forest along the Connaught side of Memorial Hall with pear trees, a plum tree, raspberry, currant and goji bushes and ground covers. Thanks to generous donations from participants and from neighbours on Brock and Connaught, we had extra trees and plants and also planted two fruit tree guilds (a tree surrounded by complementary plants) on the Brock Avenue side. Plans are under way for another workshop in the spring, probably on creating an herb spiral.

### Advent and Christmas

Advent and Christmas will see the resumption of some of our normal holiday celebrations. The annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be back in the church on Sunday, December 12 at 5 pm. Instead of our full choir, we will have a select quartet, in order to maintain proper distancing in the choir stalls, but we will still have much familiar and beautiful music. Reservations are required, as seating is limited. See our Facebook page ([facebook.com/StPhilipMontrealWest](https://facebook.com/StPhilipMontrealWest)) for the link to reserve seats, which will be active as of December 1. The service will also be live on Zoom.

Christmas Eve, we will have a children's service at 5 pm. Our familiar one has too much moving about to comply with public health guidelines, but we will make it as interactive as possible while following all precautions. Our main service Christmas Eve will be at 9 pm, rather than 11 pm as in years past. And finally, on Christmas morning we will have communion at 10 am. All services will require reservations for in-person attendance, but will also be on Zoom; the links will be on Facebook December 13.

from Fr. Pratt

## St. Ignatius of Loyola

### New 5 pm Sunday Mass

We're excited to announce that a new 5 pm Sunday Mass was launched on November 21, which was the Feast of Christ the King! All are welcome to join at this new Mass time or at any of our other Masses. For our complete schedule or to register to attend a weekend Mass, visit [stig.ca/mass](http://stig.ca/mass). We look forward to welcoming you!

### Advent

Come and enjoy the season of Advent, a time of preparation and anticipation for the celebration of Christ's birth! Advent starts on November 28 and continues for four Sundays thereafter. This is a beautiful time of the year to get children involved, so parents are welcome to check out "Catch the Wave," our vibrant community for kids. More details can be found at [stig.ca/ctw](http://stig.ca/ctw).

### Christmas schedule

More exciting news is that our in-person Christmas Eve Masses are back this year! On Christmas Eve and throughout the remainder of the Christmas season, all are welcome to join us:

- December 24: 4 pm (livestream available: [stig.ca/live-stream](http://stig.ca/live-stream)), 8 pm
- December 25: 10 am (livestream available: [stig.ca/live-stream](http://stig.ca/live-stream))
- December 26: 10 am, 5 pm (livestream available: [stig.ca/live-stream](http://stig.ca/live-stream))
- December 31: (Holy Day Vigil): 4 pm
- January 1 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God): 10 am (livestream available: [stig.ca/live-stream](http://stig.ca/live-stream))
- January 2: 10 am, 5 pm (livestreams available: [stig.ca/live-stream](http://stig.ca/live-stream))

To keep up-to-date on all of St. Ignatius' Advent and Christmas activities, visit [stig.ca/christmas](http://stig.ca/christmas).

We truly feel blessed this year to be able to gather safely in person to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We hope to be able to celebrate with you and we'd like to wish you all a healthy and safe holiday season!

from Shawna Rose

it could appear so quickly?! Do you think Santa will be wearing a mask? Probably wise on his part. Better leave out some hand sanitizer with the stockings.

### All things being equal

...Church continues with live, in-person services. Live broadcasting and online viewing will continue for now as we see where Covid goes. For those who come to church, Fellowship time has resumed to a limited degree. And we see that visiting with each other, participating together in supporting charitable causes, etc. is a major part of what makes us a community. Resuming these things is more enriching than I imagined. But don't take my word for it....

### The Christmas line-up

Still finding our way between what is possible and what is safe. So far, we can say that:

- November 28 is Advent I with Confirmation and Communion
- December 12 will be our Choral Sunday with the choir presenting seasonal words and music.
- December 24 is Christmas Eve – watch for notices on the Church doors about this service.

With the possible exception of Boxing Day, church will happen each Sunday at 10 am. Sunday school happens at 10 am in Gibson Hall with Merrie Hammond who ushers the young ones into the upper balcony at times. Sunday school will take a break during school holiday time.

### And this from Joan Foster about Christmas Day turkey dinners...

The Community Outreach Christmas meal is being planned in hopes that we can again reach out to the isolated seniors in our community. All public health guidelines will be respected. Contact the church office to leave your name if you wish to be involved. Fingers crossed that Covid behaves!

### And in 2022

We can only hope that Covid continues to recede. It would be lovely to get back to Labyrinth Walks, among other things. Keep your ears and eyes open for news. Forecasting things is tempting fate, feels like. We will do our best to keep you informed as the weeks evolve.

In the meantime, keep well, keep hope, and if it is your tradition, keep Christmas alive any way you can.

Warm greetings of the season on behalf of Montreal West United.

from Susan Upham

## DR. HEATHER FOX B.Sc., D.D.S.

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## MW United

...the brick one

### Life is revving up...

As we are now able to be together some, albeit with some constraints, it does feel as though life is picking up speed. And here we are closing in on Christmas. Who knew



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## Kosher corner



### Happy Chanukah Montreal West!

Please look over the following Chanukah events and find the ones for you, Chanukah at Chabad Westminster has something for EVERYONE!

- November 28: Pre-Chanuka Mommy & Me for ages 1-5: Spend quality time with your toddler as we celebrate Chanukah through song, crafts, stories and snacks.
- November 28, 4:30 pm: Giant Menorah lighting and Jamie's light show (corner Radcliffe and Sheraton): Chanuka songs and treats!
- November 30: Mom & Tots for ages 0-24 months: Join local new moms as we shmooze over Chanukah refreshments and create art together with your baby.
- December 1: Jewish Women's Circle, 7:45 pm: Get together with local women at "Matanot & Martinis," an evening filled with laughter, fun and, of course, good food!
- December 4: Chanuka Pajamaka for ages 6-11: Come meet other Jewish kids at the Chanukah party of the year! Crafts, games, latkes and more....

Don't forget to light the menorah every night from November 28-December 5. To receive a complimentary menorah, candles or to RSVP for any of the above events please call **746-9649** or email [chaya@chabadwestminster.com](mailto:chaya@chabadwestminster.com). RSVP is recommended as times may be subject to change.

### New Torah classes!

- Torah & Tea is FINALLY back in person! Gain some inspiration at our weekly women's Torah class Wednesdays at 7:45 pm. Starting November 24.
- "Resurrection of the Dead:" Myth or Mystery? Explore this topic at a three-part series starting Thursday, December 9 at 8 pm.

Weekly Shabbat evening services 5:30 pm followed by Kidush and refreshments.

Wishing you and your family a happy Chanukah!

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow

## Community Centre



### Remembrance Day 2021

Thanks to all those involved in the Remembrance activities: Lecture by **David O'Keefe**, Remembrance Ceremony, Walk to Remember by Dr. **Robert Drummond** and the War time Music in Remembrance with **Craig Morrison**. A special thank you goes out to **Joan Foster** for all her hard work and dedication to help us all remember.

Thank you to the **Elizabeth Ballantyne Grade 6 classes** for taking time to visit the Cenotaph on November 10. Each of the three grade 6 classes created a wreath and added them to the 21 others already in place.

Thanks to **Tracie Swim** from *Extra Miles* for bringing everyone together.

**Winter programs begin the week of January 10. Zoom and in-person. Sign up online on AMILIA.**

*Proof of vaccine passports and ID are required for all in-person classes.*



### Sneak peek at the holiday activities

- **Holiday contests:** Home decorating, pet portraits, holiday tree decoration.
- **Collecting for the food bank:** December 1-15. Drop off points around Town including Arena and Community Centre.
- **Holiday Excitement.** December 12. Davies Park. 4 pm.
- **Craig Morrison: Christmas Music.** More unusual than usual. December 15. Residents and 50+ Club: \$5. Town Hall. 7 pm.
- **Themed free skating**
- **CP Holiday Train at Home** with Canadian Music Hall-of-Famer **Steven Page** and *The Strumbellas* will lead an all-star cast of performers on Facebook and YouTube. December 18. 8 pm.
- **Online ideas:** Baking activities, arts and crafts

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## Town Council meeting: October



by Carol Foster

**Mayor Masella** opened the October meeting by announcing that it was the last public meeting of this Council. He, as well as **Councillors Feeney** and **Torres**, will continue to serve as they have been acclaimed. Seats one and two are open for election and there are five contenders. Having thanked all of the councillors for their contributions, he then listed some of the important achievements over the past four years.

This Council has:

- Continued the rebuilding of the Town's infrastructure
- Obtained a grant for the building of a new sports and recreation centre
- Achieved the sale and development of the library lot
- Moved to the next phases of the enhancement of Davies Park
- Promoted the renovations of other parks
- Kept the property tax increases at or below the cost of living

The mayor urged everyone to vote on November 7 for the two members of the new Council which will be responsible for setting goals for the next four-year mandate.

### Councillors' reports

**Councillor Ulin** reported that all fall programs are in full swing, special events are being planned for Halloween celebrations in the Town and the arena is now open. She reminded everyone that vaccine passports are required for entrance to the arena. She ended her report with the hope to "See you out on the campaign trail."

Many water meter readings have not yet been received and Councillor Feeney warned of the \$50 fine for noncompliance. She also reminded residents that building permit applications should still be submitted via the Town's website even though the Town Hall is now partially open.

A meeting was held by PAC with the owner and architect of the Easton Project. The design element of the building is mostly worked out and is very attractive. PAC is confident the finished building will enhance the Town both in appearance and in providing much needed additional housing opportunities.

A total of 85 new trees have been planted in the Town this year was the first piece of information in Councillor Torres' report. The reconstruction of the designated area of Fenwick is coming to an end and the road will then be asphalted and sidewalks rebuilt. All properties will be restored to their original condition, but some areas may have to wait until spring.

**Joe Cauci**, a recently retired member of the Public Works staff, was congratulated

but also reminded that he owes Councillor Torres a cappuccino (reason not disclosed). Councillor Torres urged everyone to vote in the coming election and to ask the candidates questions related to the environment.

**Councillor Mazzone**, in his last report as a Town Councillor, reminded residents that parking around schools is being carefully monitored and infractions will be ticketed. Leaf blowers will be permitted from October 15 until November 15; leaves must never be deposited on the street nor stored in plastic bags for pickup. Fines will be incurred for disregarding these regulations. But Councillor Mazzone went on to explain that the PSOs don't just spend all their time handing out tickets. They are always very quick to assist people in distress as demonstrated by a recent event, when finding a gentleman who appeared lost and confused, they ensured help was provided.

On a personal note, Mazzone, who is retiring from Council, thanked his family, the other Council members and the Town's residents for their support during his term in office. In return, the mayor thanked Councillor Mazzone for his service.

### First question period

The mayor stated that the proposed new sport and recreation centre building will definitely incorporate eco-responsible and sustainable standards as that was one of the conditions of the grant. He gave assurances that what is currently seen on the website is merely a concept. The suggestion of adding a dog run at the rear of the building is an option that could be considered; however, the plans are far from being finalized as the design process has yet to begin.

It was explained to a resident living on Ronald Drive, who was upset at the abandoned and neglected property next to his home, that the Town has been monitoring this situation for quite some time. The owner has been repeatedly warned and ticketed, but has never responded. The Town must wait for permission from the court to clean up the property and bill the owner.

The oft-repeated complaint about the many trucks using Avon can be resolved only when the Quebec government approves the trucking plan submitted by the Town and it becomes law. The hold-up is because all the surrounding municipalities must first give their approval to this plan and Lachine has not yet done so. Either the plan must be modified to suit Lachine or the Town must find another way to surmount the obstacles.

A proposed change to the light commercial zoning for Ronald Drive would allow the addition of some residential possibilities in the area where Ronald Drive and Avon meet. This could include multi-housing

units such as condos or triplexes. There would be no change, however, to the current zoning which regulates the size, height and number of stories allowed. The changes can be seen on the Town's website, but will be included in the public consultation process when it is convened.

The Town has not yet received an update on the *Hydro-Québec* project and it may take a long time if the project has to be approved by the Agglomeration Council.

A geotechnical study was carried out in the Strathearn parking lot to determine the condition of the ground and soil, which is a prerequisite for its being considered for residential zoning.

The potholes in the section of Westminster crossing the tracks can be repaired only by CP personnel.

No safe method of designating a bike lane for the hill on Avon leading to Ville Saint-Pierre (Lachine) can be envisioned.

The proposal to provide lighting for the steps from Ronald Drive may be considered.

Signs indicating *No Smoking* and *No Dogs* as well as the addition of more waste and compost containers in some of the parks will be installed where appropriate.

A suggestion that the Town follow the example of many other public buildings and lower its flag to show respect for hundreds of unmarked graves recently found at an Indigenous residential school was immediately agreed upon by Council.

Following several other items on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned.



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## Réunion du Conseil : octobre



par Carol Foster  
traduction par René Boucher

Le maire Masella a ouvert la réunion d'octobre en annonçant qu'elle constituait la dernière réunion publique du présent Conseil. Lui-même, ainsi que les **conseillères Feeney et Torres** serviront à nouveau, ayant été réélus sans opposition. Les sièges 1 et 2 sont en élection et cinq nouveaux visages tentent de s'y faire élire. Ayant remercié les membres du Conseil pour leurs contributions il a ensuite énuméré les réalisations importantes des quatre dernières années.

Le Conseil a :

- Poursuivi la reconstruction des infrastructures dans la ville;
- Obtenu une subvention pour un nouveau centre sportif et récréatif;
- Réussi à vendre le terrain de la bibliothèque pour réaménagement;
- Passé aux phases suivantes de rajeunissement du parc Davies;
- Favorisé la rénovation de d'autres parcs;
- Maintenu les augmentations d'impôts fonciers égales ou inférieures au taux d'inflation.

Le maire a incité tout le monde à voter le 7 novembre pour les deux membres du nouveau Conseil qui devra établir les objectifs des quatre prochaines années.

### Rapports des membres du Conseil

La **conseillère Ulin** a rapporté que tous les programmes d'automne battent leur plein, que des événements spéciaux sont en planification pour célébrer l'Halloween et que l'aréna est maintenant ouvert. Elle a rappelé que le passeport vaccinal est requis pour accéder à l'aréna. Elle a clos son rapport avec l'espoir de « tous vous voir pendant la campagne ».

Plusieurs relevés de compteur d'eau manquent toujours et la conseillère Feeney a prévenu qu'il y a amende de 50 \$ en cas de défaut. Elle a aussi rappelé aux citoyens que les demandes de permis doivent se faire par le site Web de la Ville même si l'hôtel de ville est partiellement ouvert.

Le CCU a rencontré le propriétaire et l'architecte du projet Easton. Le design de l'édifice est avancé et très attrayant. Le CCU est confiant que le bâtiment améliorera la ville, tant par son apparence que par l'ajout de logements.

La conseillère Torres a débuté en indiquant que 85 nouveaux arbres ont été plantés dans la ville. La reconstruction de Fenwick achève, la rue sera ensuite asphaltée et les trottoirs refaits. Toutes les propriétés seront remises à leur état d'origine, par ailleurs, certaines pourraient devoir attendre au printemps.

Mme Torres a transmis ses bons souhaits

à **Joe Caucci**, nouvellement retraité des Travaux publics, tout en lui rappelant qu'il lui devait un cappuccino (raison non spécifiée). Elle a aussi incité les citoyens à voter lors des élections et à poser aux candidats des questions sur l'environnement.

Pour son dernier rapport comme conseiller, **Dino Mazzone** a rappelé que le stationnement est surveillé de près aux abords des écoles et que les infractions seront punies. L'utilisation des souffleurs à feuilles est permise du 15 octobre au 15 novembre et on ne doit jamais déposer les feuilles dans la rue ni les mettre dans des sacs de plastique pour ramassage. Des amendes seront imposées pour non-respect de ces règlements. Mazzone a aussi expliqué que les ASP ne passent pas leur temps à remettre des constats d'infraction; ils sont toujours très rapides pour venir en aide aux gens en détresse, comme le démontre un incident récent. Un homme semblant perdu et désorienté a été intercepté et l'ASP a contacté les policiers qui ont aidé l'individu.

Sur une note personnelle, le conseiller Mazzone qui quitte le Conseil a remercié sa famille, les autres membres du Conseil et les citoyens pour leur appui pendant son mandat. À son tour, le maire l'a remercié pour ses services.

### Première période de questions

Le maire a indiqué que l'édifice proposé pour le centre sportif et récréatif intégrera certainement des normes écoresponsables et durables, cela étant une des conditions de la subvention. Il a maintenu que ce que l'on voit présentement sur le site Web n'est qu'un concept. La suggestion d'ajouter un parc canin à l'arrière du bâtiment est une option envisageable; cependant, les plans sont loin d'être définitifs puisque le démarrage du processus de conception demeure à venir.

On a expliqué à un résident de la promenade Ronald contrarié par la propriété abandonnée et négligée avoisinant la sienne que la Ville surveille la situation depuis un certain temps. Le propriétaire a reçu maints avertissements et constats d'infraction, mais n'a jamais répondu. La Ville doit attendre l'autorisation du tribunal pour nettoyer et facturer au propriétaire.

La plainte fréquente concernant les nombreux camions sur Avon ne peut être résolue que par suite de l'approbation par Québec du plan de camionnage soumis par la Ville et son entrée en vigueur. Toutes les municipalités voisines doivent d'abord approuver ce plan et Lachine ne l'a pas encore fait. L'on doit donc modifier le plan pour satisfaire Lachine ou trouver une autre façon de contourner les obstacles.

Une modification proposée au zonage commercial léger pour la promenade Ronald

permettrait l'ajout potentiel de résidences dans le secteur où Ronald et Avon se rencontrent et pourrait permettre des condos ou des triplex. Le zonage actuel régissant la taille, la hauteur et le nombre d'étages ne serait pas touché. On peut voir les changements sur le site Web de la Ville et ils seront inclus dans la consultation publique quand elle sera organisée.

La Ville n'a pas encore reçu de mise à jour du projet d'*Hydro-Québec* et ce pourrait être long si l'ouvrage doit recevoir l'approbation du conseil d'agglomération.

Le terrain de stationnement Strathearn a fait l'objet d'une analyse géotechnique pour déterminer la condition des sols, ce qui constitue un prérequis pour considérer un zonage résidentiel.

Seul le CP peut réparer les nids-de-poule au passage à niveau Westminster.

On ne peut concevoir aucun moyen sans danger pour aménager une piste cyclable sur Avon en direction de Saint-Pierre.

L'on pourrait considérer l'installation d'éclairage pour l'escalier depuis la promenade Ronald.

Des affiches indiquant *Interdit de fumer* et *Chiens interdits* ainsi que des contenants pour matières organiques seront installés dans des parcs où approprié.

Le Conseil a immédiatement acquiescé à une suggestion voulant que la Ville suive l'exemple de nombreuses autres et mette son drapeau en berne sur ses édifices publics par respect pour les centaines de tombes non identifiées récemment découvertes sur les terrains de pensionnats autochtones.

La séance a été levée après les nombreux autres points à l'ordre du jour.

## 50+ Club



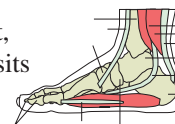
For our latest activities go to the Town website: [montreal-west.ca](http://montreal-west.ca) or call for more info: **484-6186**.

### Foot clinics

**December 8, January 12**

**484-6186**

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



## COMING EVENTS À VENIR

Please call the editor: Heather at 489-7022  
or e-mail: montrealwestinformer@gmail.com

Next deadline: January 12

### November

- Sun 28 **Confirmation and Communion.** MW United. 10 am.  
**Giant menorah lighting and Jamie's light show** (Radcliffe/Sheraton): Chanuka songs and treats! 4:30 pm.
- Tue 30 **The Threads of Memory:** MoWest seniors connecting through stories. Email mwpl.librarian@gmail.com. *Every Tuesday.* 3 pm.

### December

- Wed 1 **Chess Club.** Public Library. *Every Wednesday.* 4:45 pm.  
**Collecting for the food bank:** until December 15. Drop off points around Town including Arena and Community Centre.
- Thu 2 **Drama Club.** Public Library. *Every Thursday.* 4:45 pm.
- Tue 7 **Tea and Truth and Reconciliation Circle meeting.** Email mwlib.requests@gmail.com to register. 1 pm.
- Sun 12 **Choral service.** MW United. 10 am.  
**Holiday Excitement.** Davies Park. 4 pm.  
**Lessons & Carols.** Reservations required. St. Philip's. 5 pm.
- Sun 11 **Carolling concert fundraiser for Resilience Montreal**  
MW United. Please see page 2. 4 pm.
- Mon 13 **Town Council meeting**  
Online at: facebook.com/montrealwest. 8 pm.
- Wed 15 **Tea and Books.** Zoom. Email mwlib.requests@gmail.com to register. 2 pm.  
**Craig Morrison: Christmas Music.** More unusual than usual. \$5 for residents and 50+ Club. Town Hall. 7 pm.
- Sat 18 **(Virtual) CP Holiday Train at Home.** 8 pm.
- Fri 24 **Masses** at 4 pm (stig.ca/live-stream), 8 pm. St. Ignatius.  
**Children's Christmas Eve service.** Reservations required. St. Philip's. 5 pm.  
**Festival Holy Eucharist.** Reservations required. St. Philip's. 9 pm.  
**Christmas Eve service.** MW United. TBA.
- Sat 25 **Christmas Holy Communion.** St. Philip's. 10 am.  
**Mass** at 10 am (stig.ca/live-stream). St. Ignatius.  
**Christmas meal delivery.** Covid permitting. MW United.
- Sun 26 **Masses** at 10 am, 5 pm (stig.ca/live-stream). St. Ignatius.
- Fri 31 **Holy Day Vigil.** Mass at 4 pm. St. Ignatius.

### January

- Sat 1 **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.** Mass at 10 am (stig.ca/live-stream). St. Ignatius.
- Sun 2 **Masses** at 10 am, 5 pm (stig.ca/live-stream). St. Ignatius.
- Thu 20 **Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG's Community Theatre** troupe presents Agatha Christie's **And Then There Were None.** Thursday, Friday, Saturday January 20, 21, 22 at 7:30. Town Hall's upstairs auditorium. Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students. Tickets available through the *Rotary Club*, cast members or at the door. Proof of vaccination required.
- Mon 31 **Town Council meeting**  
Online at: facebook.com/montrealwest. 8 pm.

## Halloweek contest winners!

Pumpkin decorating:

**Tiffany and Kevin** ①

House decorating:

North: **Jamle and Sandy Melamed, Radcliffe Road** ②

South: **Sylvie Séguin, Easton Avenue** ③

Centre: **Trombley-Rabinovitch family, Brock North** ④

Thanks to all the participants;  
can't wait for next year!

