



Montreal West Newspaper

June 2022, Vol. 50, No 5

MoWest Charity Golf Tournament is back!

After taking a short two-year break and under local resident **Nick Mavidis'** leadership, the 8th annual MoWest Charity Golf Tournament will be taking place at the Caughnawaga Golf Course in early fall.

All levels of players are welcome for a fun afternoon with friends and neighbors as we raise funds for several local charitable organizations as well as our local elementary schools.

Dates and details are to be confirmed, but please reach out to Nick Mavidis at nick.mavidis@cibc.com or **944-6314** to discuss volunteering, sponsorship or for any other information.

from Nick Mavidis

Protesting against Bill 96



Maria Torres, Colleen Feeney and Elizabeth Ulin at the Dawson College rally against Bill 96, May 14



Photo: Christine Downey, July 1, 2019

The MoWest Canada Day parade is returning Friday, July 1!

After a two-year hiatus, MoWesters will once again be able to join their family and friends to enjoy this wonderful tradition.

The festivities will start at 3 pm at Davies Park. Please bring your Blinged-up Bikes, Snazzy Strollers, Wild and Whimsical Wheelchairs or Primped Pets! We will have some prizes for your creations!

The parade will start at 3:30 pm from Ainslie and Westminster. It will follow the traditional route northward up Westminster, through our beloved commercial hub, over The Hump, past Edinburgh School and back down to Strathearn Park where further Canada Day celebrations are being planned.

Want to participate?

The Canada Day parade committee is reaching out to various organizations to see if

they would like to participate. If we have not connected with you and you would like to participate, here is what you need to do: please contact us through our email address: mowestcanadaday@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

Want to volunteer?

To make this parade a success, we also need lots of volunteers to help guide people. We are also looking for clowns, skateboarders, a uni-cyclist and community dogs who would like to walk in the parade!

Looking forward to seeing you there! Let's make this the biggest and best MoWest Canada Day ever!

MoWest Canada Day committee

mowestcanadaday@gmail.com

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THE 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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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Heather Baylis
489-7022

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Julia Ross
julia@ross.cd

AD MANAGER

Heather Baylis
489-7022
montrealwestinformer@gmail.com

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Rhonda Schwartz 482-0227

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NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

August 10

We are 50!

50th year of publication of *The Informer*

Issue Five, December 1973

The Board now consists of: **Wavell Cowen, Ned Lanthier, Frances Phelan, Harry Goldsmith, Marguerite King, Jaimie Watt, Marg Swetland.** The Task Force, which dramatically increased, now included: **Alice Cowen, Irene Liddiard, Liesl Urtnowski, Margaret Vincent, Bruce Dodd, Margot Zalass, Sharon Gold, Ed Parker, Joan Gundy, Diane Barley, Charlotte MacLaurin and Brendon Cavanaugh.** Technical Advisors: **Brian Philcox and Paul Rush.**

The number of ads has increased to nine. Interestingly, none of the advertisers are still in business, at least in MoWest. *Orchid Dry Cleaners* was the last to close.

The appearance of the paper has altered. Instead of the small headshots, there are now three group shots. The front page had a collage of photos that accompanied an article about the Public Library's open house. Page 8 had a photo of members of the Montreal West H.S. Band. They had raised money with a walk-a-thon and they were presenting a geriatric chair to the *Griffith McConnell Home*. Page 11 showed a photo of **Linda and Tom Beckerleg**, the new owners of *Hall's Florist Shop*.

Viewpoints from the Community had two pages of letters. **Bill Boswell** praised the Citizens' Association for refusing to submit a slate. He said it finally made the citizens think for themselves. **Bruce Dodd** took an opposite view saying that by the time the candidates were presented, it was too late to nominate others more desirable. In the past five decades, it seems that Mr. Boswell may have been more in tune with history.

Phyllis Newman complained that residents "over the hump" are being ignored. She grumbles about being the last to have their snow removed, no parking on different sides of the street, no organized sports in any of the northern parks, or clearing of the rinks.

Dianna Bovey reminded that democratic elections are only good if the voting lists are kept up to date. "If a Town can tax correctly. Its citizens should correctly be granted the right to vote." And **Bernice Scott** complained about late penalties registering with the *CRA*. This got a response from **Joan Drummond**, chairperson of the *CRA* membership committee, who explained why the action was taken. Seems that the previous year 35% registered late, and this complicated issues like organizing teams and leagues.

Two pages were devoted to the election results and words of congratulations. **Mr. Reekie** obtained 50% of the cast ballots in the three-way race for mayor. **Mr. Reid**, in Seat #1, gained 70% against **Mr. Vincent**, a last-minute candidate and **Mr. Wadsworth** gained 61% of the vote over **Mr. Garber**. Just under 50% of those eligible both-

ered to vote. And so ended the first election for mayor in MoWest's history.

Observations

The format of *The Informer* has remained surprisingly constant for the past five decades. The same issues were and still are brought up: Street cleaning, snow removal, garbage collection, taxes, dogs, trees, bylaws, traffic, potholes and speed-bumps beautifying the commercial hub, and recycling. At times there were issues that lasted only a few issues when passions flared. These included: a seniors' residence, bike safety, dog parks, noise and odor pollution and bilingual signage.

While the issues are similar, they are not reported in the same manner. *The Informer* staff was bigger. Layouts were done by hand. Most of the content was written by the volunteer staff. Today the paper is done digitally with computers. Content is outsourced to various places of worship, schools, day cares, organizations, clubs and groups, libraries and the mayor and Town Council reports. Today, only two pieces are consistently written by a staffer, the front page and the Town Council meetings. Is this a good thing?

The founder of the paper, Wavell Cowen, promised not to write editorials. That is, not to take a position. Instead, the paper was a vehicle to show the views of the citizens. It was labelled a viewpaper. Yet the main purpose of the paper, the letters, that were so important at the beginning of this paper's life, have dried up. I'm not sure why, I know MoWest readers have opinions, they just seem less inclined to put them in print. Without these opinions, can *The Informer* still be called a viewpaper?

A HOROSCOPE FOR THE COMMUNITY

by Dan Phelan

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

It's high time you shook off feelings of winter idleness and lethargy. Start taking the 6:59 to work in the morning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Redirect your energies to the cause of civic awareness. Write a letter to your favorite Commissioner and demand an explanation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Be attuned to unusual vibrations. Your snowblower is due for a check-up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

A month when travel is not necessarily broadening. They are expecting snow in Antigua this year.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)

You can bring calm to the center of a chaotic scene if you are careful to keep your own responses under control. Fight the temptation to yield to

Le Défi sportif *AlterGo*

April 30, I participated in one of my first official duties as a municipal councillor. I was invited to attend le Défi sportif *AlterGo* at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve for the Chantal Petitclerc Classic. What amazing and gifted paracyclists!

AlterGo is a unifying organization that promotes universal accessibility and the full participation of people with functional limitations by using levers of sport, leisure and culture to promote social inclusion throughout Quebec.

from Lauren Small-Pennefather



Replacing the lawn

The green and manicured lawn has been the pride and joy of many a homeowner in Montreal West, and elsewhere, for decades. But times are changing and we are learning that lawns are actually unnatural and bad for the environment.

The fertilizers and pesticides that are required to keep them green are harmful, and, rather than being cool in summer, scientists have found that lawns actually produce heat. They also create more greenhouse gases than they absorb. Furthermore, the lawn is comprised of just one type of grass and does not

provide a biodiverse ecosystem of flora and fauna.

The movement called “No Mow May” was born in the UK

several years ago and is now inspiring new habits in the United States and Canada. The idea is to not mow your lawn in the early spring so that flowers, such as violets and dandelions, can flourish. The formerly dreaded dandelion provides needed sustenance to bees and diversifies plant life. Letting your grass grow longer also makes it more drought-resistant so you do not have to water it as frequently.

The next step is to re-naturalize your property by replacing monoculture grass with a diversity of grasses, flowering plants, shrubs and trees. Preferably, these plants should be native species that

grew here long before the lawn had been invented. Examples of such indigenous plants include northern Maidenhair fern, Canadian anemone and Canadian wild grape as ground cover in the shade and phlox and New England aster for sunny spots. Other indigenous plants that grow easily in the Montreal area include milkweed, black-eyed Susans, buttercups and forget-me-nots.

Do not grow ragweed or other species that can cause serious allergies, and there are some restrictions on tree planting in the MoWest zoning bylaw 2020-002 (online) but apart from this, go ahead and experiment with the landscaping around your home.

*from Les Amis
du parc Meadowbrook
lesamisdemeadowbrook.org*



West End Quilters

The *West End Quilters* are winding down after another great season. We are planning a picnic for a closing get-together. We will still be able to Zoom over the summer. Some people might slow down when the weather heats up, but most will continue with a stitch or two.

Monique made 12 Zebra or Donkey squares, now known as Zonkeys and gave them out to members who will turn them into baby quilts.

Our final meeting means IFFIs need to be shown. You either show these “I Finally Finished It” items or pay what you pledged for something still not finished.

We have a number of new members who have recently joined us, so we look forward to great activity in the fall.

from Mary Sutherland



Monique's Zonkey quilt



Summer Row by Row quilt made by seven members. Fall, winter and spring to come.

Leaf blowers



Thanks for your continuous efforts (50 years of it I understand!) to report and put the community together.

In the last edition, I liked the article advocating against leaf blowing because of the various negative impacts of that activity. That article comes back to my mind each time I hear "the" sound of a leaf blower now. Alas, oftentimes that sound comes from the blowers of... municipal employees cleaning the local parks. Maybe it is easier that way for them, maybe there are some other reasons that make sense, I don't know. But if the municipality wants to try to lead by example, restructuring the way parks are cleaned by employees is probably a low hanging fruit.

Regards,

*from Jacques Buré
21 Ballantyne North*

Councillor's response

I want to thank Mr. Buré for his letter to the editor and am very pleased that he liked the article in the last *Informer* on the harms leaf blowers can cause. In Montreal West, we recognize those problems and restrict the use of the blowers to two weeks in the spring and four in the fall, but we have not restricted the types of machines that can be used (gas-powered or electric), and sometimes the noise he hears does indeed come from our public workers.

This year, Council will be taking a look at how we deal with leaf blowers in Town. Several Montreal boroughs and Island municipalities have now banned the gas-powered blowers, including, most recently, NDG. While we know this can be a very controversial subject with passion on both sides, it behooves us to reconsider how best to move forward. The health and safety of our citizens being paramount.

*from Councillor Elizabeth Ulin
Public Works, Environment
and Communication*

**Recycle your old laptops,
notebooks, desktops, towers,
tablets and smart phones**

Richard Eckerlin

**16 Westminster North,
Suite 100B (basement)
Monday-Saturday, noon-6 pm
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Félicitations !



Nous sommes fiers de partager avec vous les derniers accomplissements de **Mikaela Salameh Grijalva** en gymnastique rythmique lors du concours inter-clubs montréalais par invitation de ce dimanche 8 mai.

Mikaela a remporté la 1^e place (or) en routine libre et 4^e place en routine avec corde, la plaçant en 2^e place (argent) dans l'ensemble de sa catégorie.

Mikaela fait partie d'un des principaux clubs de gymnastique au Québec: *Questo*.

Elle se présentera de nouveau lors de la 3^e Coupe du Québec, le 29 mai prochain.

En tant que résidente de la ville de Montréal-Ouest, Mikaela participe activement à son rayonnement!

*de Natalia Grijalva
et Dominique Salameh
119, Westminster North*

On the playing fields of Eton



I agree the Legion Memorial Rink needs to be totally rebuilt. However, **Scott MacKenzie's** gung-ho praise of sports reminds me of the popular misquote that the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton. Yes, it can teach cooperation, it can foster friendship, and it can make us healthier. But it's not the panacea that he proposes. It has to be balanced between the mind and the body. Not everyone is into physical competitiveness yet ultimately everyone in our town will be expected to financially contribute through taxes.

When this project was first heralded, some years ago, it was a combined sport and cultural center. It would have included a library for children and adults. It would have been a place for everyone to gather and learn about arts and culture. Some of us like to exercise our mind as well as our body. I feel the new proposed center is too narrowly focused on serving only a small segment of our citizens.

from Maurice Krystal

Cutting down trees to save the environment: the EXO way



My name is India and I am a lifelong Montreal West resident and pretty much a lifelong train user. I care deeply about the quality of life and beauty of our Town. As many residents are aware, construction has begun on the new MoWest train station. I believe it will hinder our Town's qualities.

EXO representatives are concerned about safety at our station. I have never witnessed a problem with security and there was no problem when there were only two platforms and the three tracks were easily accessible. A few years ago, EXO built a third platform that wasn't needed in my eyes. It did not help the traffic flow (the reason for its installation), and the accessibility problem has angered many MoWest train users.

Not long after the construction of the third platform, EXO put a fence between the second and third platforms. Now, the only way to board the train from the third platform is by crossing the tracks at the Elmhurst crosswalk that cannot be used once the train is almost at/or in the station. People could have boarded the train from either the second or third platform if trains arriving between platform 2 and platform 3 opened their doors on both sides (which could have been a solution, but was never explored).

Unfortunately, in order to build the huge, new station, beautiful trees have been cut down on Sherbrooke Street. MoWesters are proud of having many tall, old trees that provide shade in our increasingly hot summers. For a world that is supposed to be fighting climate change, it seems strange to cut down trees unnecessarily.

The design of the new train station does not fit our Town's urban plan and is far too big since not enough people use the trains to merit its size. Our Town also prides itself on having interesting architecture in an increasingly McMansion city. When walking

Mailbox

around our Town, you will still find homes dating from its inception. The design proposed by *EXO* does not match the existing station and I believe the new one will look out of place and decrease the visual value of our Town, which is not an insignificant detail. People love to look at pretty things. No wonder more vacations are spent walking around the streets of Paris as opposed to the suburbs of Laval.

If you agree with my sentiment, and would like to have your voice heard as well, please sign my petition at: change.org/mow-esttraintstation

*from India Cianberlano
131 Ballantye S.*

Mayor's response

I am writing in response to a letter by India Cianberlano concerning the new station entrance being constructed by *EXO* at the Montreal West train station.

I think, first and foremost, that the writer needs to understand that, while the station is called the Montreal West station and our residents take a certain ownership and pride in that station, the reality is that the building lies within the borough of Côte des Neiges-Notre Dame de Grace. Therefore, the Town of Montreal West has absolutely NO JURISDICTION in guiding the appearance of the building being erected on Sherbrooke and Connaught.

That being said, I would like to respond to some other points. The writer questions the need for this new building as well as the need to fell the mature trees to make place for the building. She mentions that she doesn't feel there were any safety issues. Really?

There are ongoing safety issues at both ends of the train station, at Westminster and at Elmhurst. Any interventions that help keep users from walking from the train platforms directly onto Westminster is going to help increase safety. Let's separate the cars, trains and pedestrians from being in the same space at the same time. The new building and tunnel will funnel users exiting the station heading northbound onto Sherbrooke, the same way the main building funnels users going south onto Broughton. They will be on sidewalks and can use proper pedestrian crosswalks. They will not be forced onto Westminster between the barriers where there is zero safety.

So yes, in this case, felling those trees to dramatically increase safety is valid. Yes, it will be many years until the trees mature. But someone being hit or killed by a car or train in the existing configuration cannot be replaced.

*Mayor Beny Masella
Town of Montreal West*

Lincoln



Please indulge me for a few moments while I address a personal issue.

Last month, our dog **Lincoln** passed away while he was being prepped for surgery. It was supposed to be a simple procedure, but his heart gave up while they were preparing the anaesthesia. The unexpected turn of events was devastating for my family.

So many people knew Lincoln and remembered his quirk for carrying sticks way too big for his little stature. My wife and I were so comforted by the expressions of sympathy we received from so many of our neighbours and friends in Town. And while it may seem obvious because we MoWesters love our four-legged friends, I prefer to think that people expressed their sympathies because that is the kind of community we live in. We look out for each other, we care for each other, and we help each other during somewhat miserable times. And it reaffirmed my pride to be a member of our community.

On behalf of **Janet** and our family, thank you for your thoughts and kind words.

J'aimerais prendre le temps de partager un message de nature personnelle.

Le mois dernier, notre chien **Lincoln** est décédé alors qu'on le préparait pour une opération. Il devait s'agir d'une procédure simple, mais son cœur a lâché pendant qu'on préparait l'anesthésie. La tournure inattendue des événements a été dévastatrice pour ma famille.

Tant de gens connaissaient Lincoln et se souvenaient de sa manie de porter des bâtons bien trop grands pour sa petite taille.



Lincoln: social distancing

Ma femme et moi avons été réconfortés par les témoignages de sympathie que nous avons reçus de nos voisins et amis. Il peut sembler évident que les citoyens de Montréal-Ouest aient exprimé leurs sympathies parce qu'ils adorent leurs compagnons à quatre pattes, mais je préfère penser que c'est caractéristique de la communauté dans laquelle nous vivons. Nous nous soucions les uns des autres et nous nous entraïdons dans les moments plus difficiles. Cela a réaffirmé ma fierté d'être un membre de notre communauté.

Au nom de **Janet** et de notre famille, un gros merci pour vos pensées et vos bons mots.

Beny Masella



Andrew Blundell

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IODE



Janet King:

Celebrating 25 years of service



On May 20 a celebratory tea was held in honour of **Janet King's** 25 years of dedicated service to IODE HMS Victory.

In attendance were recent and long-term members, neighbours and Councillor **Colleen Feeney**. **Joan Foster** came to thank IODE for the substantial War Memorial scholarship that started her daughter **Sarah** on her way to her MSc at Dalhousie.

Sarah presently lives in Vancouver, with husband and two children and is quoted in the April 2022 *National Geographic's* article *The Weird Wonder of Seahorses*. She is the Project Seahorse's Program Manager

and leader, a research associate at the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries at UBC, a project which recently won the prestigious Indianapolis Prize, the world's leading award for animal conservation.

Her proud mother said that it all began with an IODE scholarship, still awarded annually from a fund originally started after World War II to assist the education war veterans' children.

In a beautifully decorated room at the Community Centre, tea and homemade baked goods were enjoyed by all. A preview screening of Janet's interview about IODE for the Threads of Memory library project was held. It can be viewed at the public library.

Spring cleaning...

In our ongoing provision of personal hygiene bags for women arriving in shelters, we are currently in need of small deodorants, packages of pens and small notepads. Last year HMS Victory made and distributed about 50 pretty bags filled with such essential items.

Donations can be dropped off in the porch at 131 Wolseley N., and will be gratefully received.

Rotary



Poet Greg Santos

Our recent speaker, **Greg Santos**, was sponsored by *The Canada Council* and is a poet, editor and educator.

His newest full-length poetry collection is *Ghost Face* (2020). He is the author of the poetry pamphlet *Blackbirds* (2018), two full-length collections *Rabbit Punch!* (2014) and *The Emperor's Sofa* (2010) and two chapbooks, *Tweet Tweet Tweet* (2011) and *Oblivion Avenue* (2008). He holds degrees from The New School (MFA in Creative Writing), Concordia University (BA Honors in English literature and creative writing) and Mount Allison University (BA in drama).

His writing has been featured in, among others, the League of Canadian Poets' *Poetry Pause* series, The Academy of American Poets' *Poem in Your Pocket* Day booklets, *The Walrus*, *This Magazine*, *Queen's Quarterly*, *Geist*, *Vallum*, *The Feathertale Review*, *Cha: An Asian Literary Journal*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*.

Greg regularly works with at-risk communities as a creative writing instructor, course designer and leader at *The Thomas More Institute*. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the Quebec Writers' Federation's *carte blanche* magazine.

He is an adoptee of Cambodian, Portuguese and Spanish heritage. He lives in Tiohtià:ke/Montréal with his wife and two children.

He explained how his book *Ghost Face* came about and what that it addresses. April was national poetry month, so he started by reading a very old poem *A Red, Red Rose* by Robbie Burns. The next poems were from *Ghost Face*; he started with *History* then *Journal Entry* followed by *Cambodian* and a few of his other poems. Many explore his Cambodian roots, a country that he has never visited.

The reading was very interactive and Greg was constantly answering questions and explaining things as we went along. His parents were not very artistic, so he does not know where he got his talent from.

After his readings, Greg briefly explained what black out poetry was and he gave credit to Austin Kleon. He then showed us how to do black out poetry by taking a newspaper article and circling the words that stand out and then blacking out other words to make a poem. Greg was thanked for being so forward, direct and personal about his life and his poetry.

from Doug Yeats



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Edinburgh Elementary School

Spring food drive

Edinburgh Elementary's in person food drive is back, along with a virtual model as well this year! A group of grade 6 students circulated throughout all classes from kindergarten through to grade 6 this month to talk about the effort and to deliver cardboard boxes to each class.

Students were invited to drop off non-perishable items into their classroom bins, for collection.

Edinburgh's spring food drive is organized by the Home and School's Outreach Committee, led by Nelson Avenue resident and grade 5 Edinburgh parent **Jody Mason**.

This year the committee is running a virtual drive for *The Depot*, and in-person collection of food items for *Carolyn's Food Drive*. To donate online please visit the Edinburgh School Fundraiser for *The Depot* 2022 on CanadaHelps.org.

Edinburgh volunteer Jody Mason with grade 6 students volunteering to spread the word about the Edinburgh spring food drive

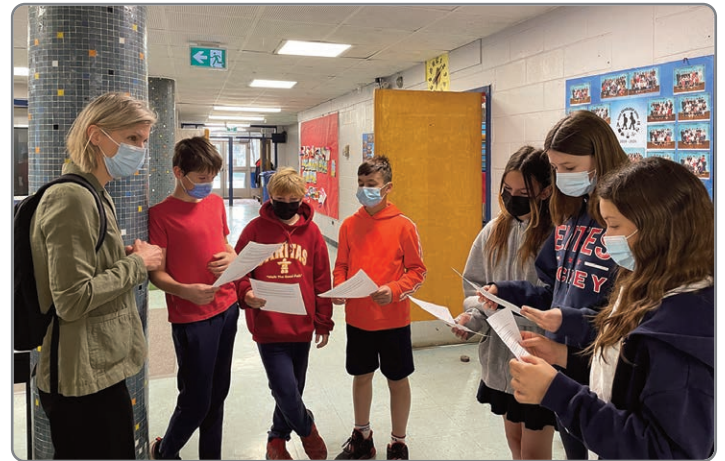


MoWest residents and Edinburgh grade 5 students (from left) Tom, Charles Loic and Jack enjoyed the day trip along with their classmates.

Halo Race

Edinburgh Elementary took part in the Halo Race, on Wednesday, May 11 at Mont Royal. Students from grades 3 and 4 ran 1 kilometer, and students from grades 5 and 6 completed a 2-kilometer course. Volunteer parents assisted physical education teacher **William Cho**, and teachers from grades 3-6 in ensuring students had enough water and sunscreen to enjoy the exceptionally warm day on the mountain.

It was the first in-person race since spring 2019, and many commented on how enjoyable it was to be back together in person for this annual event.



Percival resident and grade 4 student Mia Secko (centre) won second in her race. Here she is pictured with peers Bedbrook resident Violet Connell (left) and Cassie Ramadori (right), Ballantyne South.

Grade 4 French teacher Mme Genevieve Guay (left) and Grade 4 English teacher Pina Trengia (right) cheered on their students throughout the morning.



MoWest resident and physical education teacher William Cho has overseen Edinburgh's participation in the Halo Race over the years. He is easily recognizable in his trademark 'Let it Cho' shirt!

The experience of a lifetime

My experience with the *Canadian Conservation Corps (CCC)* program has only just begun, yet so much has already happened! It is built to introduce young adults (18-30) to the world of conservation. It is operated by the *Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF)* and runs multiple times throughout the year, and across Canada.

The experience is entirely covered by the CWF and starts with two weeks of training in outdoor education, wilderness first aid and activity planning.

My cohort was based out of Jasper, Alberta, where we learnt how to teach and communicate notions of conservation, plan for group outdoor-based activities and deliver a baby in the middle of the wilderness... you can guess which of these skills we hope to never have to use!

Along with eight other strangers from across Canada that I can now call my good friends, we learnt team-building skills in these two weeks, before being sent off to our Stage 1 adventure.

Stage 1

Our adventure took place in Wells Gray Provincial Park and started with a bang – or rather a very loud WOMP, WOMP, WOMP. That's right, we got flown into the park by helicopter along with our 50-pound bags and enough food for 14 days in the wilderness. Our group was lucky enough to be based out of a cabin, only doing a few nights out to explore further reaches of the park. With nights down to -18 degrees and close to three metres of snow, the cabin was a true lifesaver! We ate like kings, a nice mix of dehydrated ingredients and preserves. Growing up a part of the Montreal

West Scout Group gave me the confidence and knowledge I needed to stay warm and to teach the rest of the group some winter camping skills. Fourteen days flew by, and we packed down a helicopter pad in the snow for our lift out. What a thrilling adventure!

Stage 2

After a debrief in Jasper, we all headed out to our Stage 2 placements. These placements are in groups of two, in an area related to conservation. It lasts three months and gives you a good chance to explore a new field and new places.

I am fortunate enough to be writing to you from Vancouver Island where I'm one month into my placement at *The Raptors*, a centre that trains raptor birds for use as a natural deterrent of rodents and birds around landfills, airports and city centres. The centre also gives flying demonstrations and educates about the importance of different birds of prey in our eco-system. Their sister organization rescues birds and, on occasion, receives unreleasable birds. I'd never been exposed to this type of organization, and am absolutely loving my time and the community I've met here.

If you're looking for a summer program, or a gap year activity, I highly recommend canadianconservationcorps.ca.

from Jonathan Halliday

Cubs

The Cub Scouts have had a busy and varied spring – learning, planting and building. It has been wonderful being back together in the Royal West gym.



Charlie and Max holding up the sock puppets they made

In one session, **Raksha** talked about gardens and the planting and nurturing of seeds. Then we distributed to each Cub a half-dozen egg carton, some soil and a variety of seeds – they were asked to choose four of two types of cucumber, two types of tomatoes, green beans and cat grass. In their lairs (with drop sheets!), the Cubs put the materials together with a spritz of water and took them home. Not all the seeds germinated, but a survey after a month showed that quite a few were still surviving.

In another meeting, we discussed various skills for dealing with emergencies and the need to obtain help when required. Then each Cub was given a few supplies to make up a simple first aid kit to keep in their Cub Box.

Kub Kars

An exciting part of our program is the making and racing of Kub Kars. Each Cub has been given a kit, and we have spent several meetings designing and making the Kars. First, we showed a few examples of Kars made in previous years, then the Cubs drew a design on paper. Next, the design was transferred to the block of wood in the kit and roughly cut (saws and knives used only by Scouters!) and a lot of time was spent smoothing them out with files and sandpaper. The next step was to colour the cars, with markers or paint. The final steps were installing the wheels and adding or removing weight to be as close as possible to the official limit. Stay tuned to hear who were the winners (in your next *Informers*)!

One last activity to challenge the imagination and skills of the Cubs was the making of sock puppets, using lonely socks, buttons, markers and whatever else....

from Bob King

Last stop before our helicopter ride into Wells Gray: the motel diner!



Guiding



Sparks and Brownies

The Sparks and Brownies were thrilled, once the warmer weather arrived, to move their meeting outside. For the second Sunday in May, the girls traced their hands onto colourful paper and made cutouts. In the palm of the hand they wrote a word which expressed how they felt about the mother figure in their lives they were going to give the flower to. With a bit of guidance, the handprints were transformed into unique flowers expressing love.

The girls adopted a tree in early spring. They drew a map of where to find "theirs." They did a bark rubbing of "their" tree. Not all trees look the same! They also drew what "their" tree looked like in the spring. The plan is to visit the trees during each of the seasons to see how it changes.

The younger girls also enjoyed doing a scavenger hunt while on an urban hike. The girls saw a total of 18 pylons during our one block hike. It wouldn't feel like home if we didn't see pylons! Their hike ended at the Roy Locke Park. The girls were given a chance to play on the play structure there, join Brown Owl in a round or two of Kim's game or build in the sand, as the girls wished, before making the final walk back to our meeting space.

As the Guiding year is quickly coming to a close, our final meetings provided the girls with an opportunity to finish off badge work. Given COVID restrictions, many girls missed quite a few meetings this year.

Guides

The Guides have been busy taking the lead in their meetings! Two second-year Guides asked their leaders if they could lead a "Healthy Eating" meeting. Normally it is third-year Guides who lead meetings, but these young ladies are very enthusiastically working toward their Lady Baden Powell award. This is the highest award a Guide can earn. It involves taking more initiative and completing tasks outside of the regular meetings.

In keeping with the program area of Into the Outdoors, the Guides also went on an urban hike; however, theirs was a little more involved! When the girls arrived at the meeting space, they were asked to give a direction. The girls did not know why they were asked to do this, but they were happy to oblige. Once all the girls arrived, they set off on their hike, following the order of the directions given by the girls. The leaders

were certain to make adjustments should the "next direction" send the girls into an unsafe area. As they hiked, the girls participated in an alphabetical scavenger hunt and a garbage collection. The items were sorted into recyclable and non-recyclable and left in the appropriate bins. It was an eventful two-hour hike!



Opening Wa-Thik-Ane

Photo: Christine Downey

Earth Day project

The Guides also decided they wanted to keep pens and markers out of landfill. Over several weeks, the girls used their free time to test all the markers the Sparks, Brownies and Guides had. When learning of the project, the *Curzon Creative Preschool* contributed their collection of used markers to the effort as well. The Guides learned *Bureau en Gros* will recycle used pens and markers. So, after collecting an impressive number of non-functioning markers, they decided to head to the *Bureau en Gros* in

NDG on Earth Day! They used public transportation to make their way into town. They were on the bus, metro and the train!! The timing worked out perfectly; they were able to have this wonderful adventure all within their regular meeting time. They even had some time to play in a park on the way home!

Opening Wa-Thik-Ane

This weekend, a group of volunteers went up to Wa-Thik-Ane to "open" the camp. It was hot, but we managed to set up 34 of the old-style canvas tents over four different sites. Our technique improved with practice. We were a well-oiled machine by the end of the day at 5 pm. We did take necessary breaks to get out of the sun. On one of the sites, there is a little "waterfall." It brought back wonderful childhood memories of camping on that site and listening to the water flow past as we drifted off to sleep. It was still a relaxing place to be. Unfortunately, the file is toooooo large to share it

with you. I'll see if I can share it with you another way. I was so exhausted by the end of the day I slept for over twelve hours once we made it home. (Thankfully I was not the driver!!)

Registration

Registration for next year is gradually opening. It is currently open for girls who are returning next year. June 13, it will be open to new members. Go to register.girl-guides.ca/ to register your daughter for a year of fun and adventure!

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OPENING HOURS

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, Friday

noon-6 pm

Wednesday: noon-8 pm

(Starting July 9)

**Closed Fridays
June 24 and July 1.**

New opening hours!

The library will now be open Wednesday from noon to 8 pm. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday will remain from noon to 6 pm. We will also be open on Saturdays from noon to 6 pm starting July 9.

We would also like to remind members that you can return books only during opening hours. Our small mailbox does provide adequate protection from the elements and books are ruined when they are left in our mailbox.

Children's library pop up is back

Coming this summer, we will again have our pop-up library from the children's library. You will be able to borrow books from this collection and return them to us as part of our regular collection. We will also be sharing some of our collection with the children's library.

eBooks are here!

After much planning, trial and error and lots of hard work we have been able to offer our members ebooks and eaudio-books. We now have EBSCO books, Flipster magazines and Overdrive available with your library membership. You must be a registered member at the library and be able to log into our website in order to use these applications.

Flipster is our platform for magazines and journals. It allows you to read the latest and past issues of The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, The Atlantic, Elle Quebec, Je Cuisine and Les Idées de ma Maison. Flipster has an application available for all your handheld devices too.

On the EBSCO platform you will find a Canadian publications series of fiction, non-fiction in both English and French. In order to access EBSCO you must use a browser of your choice and your library card number. On EBSCO platform the books are in PDF or EPUB formats that are available for you to download to your favourite ebook application like iBooks.

Overdrive can be accessed from a browser or it has an application called "Libby" for your tablet, iPad, phone or iPhone. Libby also allows you to request new titles for consideration and reserve books that are not available. The collection on Overdrive has fiction, non-fiction for adults and young adults in both French and English. You will also find a collection of audiobooks available. Books and audiobooks are available for a loan period of three weeks.

Threads of Memory: Part 2

We are very pleased to kick-off the Threads of Memory: Creating and Preserving our Memories on June 14 at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to attend as we begin to plan our coming year.

One of our most successful initiatives continues to be our Threads of Memory project, sponsored by *New Horizons for Seniors Program*, Canada. This project has seen seniors connect with other seniors and community members (of all ages) as well as community groups in an oral history project. To date we have worked with *Montreal West and NDG Rotary Club*, *Scouting* and the *IODE*. We have produced dozens of oral history interviews. In the coming year, we want to dig deeper

and create digital pieces based on the interviews we have recorded. Examples include creating:

- simple animations to illustrate engaging anecdotes found in our interviews.
- an audio walk that features our recorded stories to bring to life our town's history
- site-specific performances or media presentations
- website to store and archive these digital artifacts

If you would like to learn some new skills or help work with others to teach new skills, please join us on June 14 at 3 pm. You can sign up by emailing mwlib.requests@gmail.com. We hope to see you then.

In June: We read First Nations!

Celebrate National Indigenous History Month with us. This June in honour of National

Indigenous Peoples Day why not pick up a book written by a First Nation author? The library has a good selection of fiction and non-fiction written by acclaimed first nation authors. Some of the books you can find are: *Five Little Indians* by Michelle Good, *21 Things You May Not Know About The Indian Act* by Robert P.C. Joseph, *DreadfulWater*: a mystery by Thomas King, *There, There* by Tommy Orange, *The Strangers* by Katherena Vermette, *Unreconciled: Family, Truth and Indigenous Resistance* by Jesse Wenthe, *"Indian" in the Cabinet: Speaking Truth to Power* by Jody Wilson-Rayboul.

These are just a few of the titles you can find at the library. Come and join us this June as we discover Aboriginal literature. This is an original initiative launched in 2021 by the *Librarie Hannenorak* in Wendake.



Lors d'une situation d'urgence, soyez informés!

La Ville de Montréal-Ouest utilise le système d'appels automatisé **CodeRED**. Dans un cas d'urgence, ce système permettrait à la Ville de communiquer avec tous les citoyens dans un délai de quelques minutes.

Les résidents inscrits recevront des informations importantes, notamment les procédures à suivre le cas échéant. Les alertes **CodeRED** peuvent être transmises par téléphone, par courriel et/ou par SMS.

Consultez le montreal-west.ca/fr/code-red pour vous inscrire ou pour mettre à jour vos coordonnées.

In the event of a major emergency, be informed!

The Town of Montreal West uses an automated emergency notification system called CodeRED. In the event of a major emergency, the **CodeRED** system provides the Town with the ability to reach and inform residents of a potential danger within minutes.

Registered residents will receive important information, including possible procedures to follow when applicable. **CodeRED** alerts can be transmitted by telephone, email, and/or SMS text messages.

Visit montreal-west.ca/en/code-red to sign up or to update your contact information.

Children's Library

TD Summer Reading Club

As you already know, the theme of the *TD Summer Reading Club* will be "Once Upon a Time." Fairy tales, myths, legends and heroes associated with this theme will be explored from any possible angle. Aimed at children 0 to 13 years of age, the *TD Summer Reading Club* is an excellent opportunity to keep children motivated to read and prevent the summer slide. Mark



The Parent-Child Book Club discussing *The Haunted Mustache* by Joe McGee, in April



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La Bibliothèque sera fermée
les 24 et 25 juin, les 1 et 2 juillet .

The library will be closed
June 24 and 25, July 1 and 2.

your calendars for the launch party: Tuesday, June 14, 4:30 pm at Strathearn Park; please call to register. We have prepared a treasure hunt, games and surprises. On that date, registration will start and children could already begin reading as part of the summer program. For every 10 books read, the child receives a gift after answering book challenges or questions. Other reading challenges and games await in the library.

Mother Goose in the Park

The first Mother Goose in the Park for the season will be on Thursday, June 30, 11 am. Make sure to consult the website for timely information and details on all our events that will take place this summer.

Vente de livres

La vente de livres usagés aura lieu les samedi et dimanche, 4 et 5 juin, de 10 h à 15 h devant la bibliothèque. Nous avons une grande quantité de livres en français et en anglais, des périodiques, des DVD, qui vont faire le bonheur des enfants. On vous attend en grand nombre!

Pop-up libraries

Every summer since 2018, we have teamed up with the public library to offer the pop-up library, from June 27 to August 31. An excellent selection of books for adults will be available at our library, and the public library will have a selection of children's books.

Parents will be happy to borrow a book for themselves while,

choosing books with their children. If you haven't used the pop-up libraries yet, make sure to try them this summer.

New in 2022: non-resident families – members of one or the other library – can use both libraries for the summer.

Le mois de la BD

Au mois de mai, les bandes dessinées sont à l'honneur ! Ce format de livres a gagné beaucoup de popularité ces dernières décennies. Nos présentoirs sont remplis de nouvelles parutions qui attendent d'être empruntées.

Un questionnaire a été envoyé aux membres : vous êtes invités à tester vos connaissances — répondez d'ici la fin mai. Un tirage sera tenu parmi les participants, et trois personnes pourront gagner des bandes dessinées.



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Plant a pollinator garden this spring

Montreal West is a beautiful place to take a walk in the warmer weather. I get the pleasure of walking my dog almost every day and, while he's mostly interested in what there is to sniff, I'm constantly admiring everyone's gardens!

And I love to hear about the environmental efforts they incorporate when planting. For anyone interested in creating a pollinator-friendly garden to attract butterflies, bees, hummingbirds and all the other critters who do so much for us, here are some tips:

- A wide variety of plants, placed in clusters, provides pollinators with a steady progression of easy-to-find plants from early spring through fall.
- Many kinds of bees live in Quebec; some nest underground, while others nest in dead trees or bee houses, which you can build yourself! To attract the first kind of bee, avoid applying thick layers of mulch that are hard to dig through.

- Providing water is a good way to attract bees and butterflies. Pools, ponds, and small containers of water with a shallow or sloping side present drinking and bathing opportunities.
- Avoid pesticides whenever possible. But if you absolutely must use them, try non-toxic ones and spray at night, when most pollinators are inactive.
- To protect pollinators from severe weather and predators, incorporate different canopy layers in the landscape by planting trees, shrubs, and different-sized perennial plants.
- Butterflies like platform-shaped plants like sunflower and aster. And they need open areas such as bare earth or large stones where they can bask, and moist soil from which to wick minerals.
- Plants you may consider "messy" might be just what pollinators are looking for. Milkweed, for instance, is what monarchs feed on exclusively.

- If you'd like to attract bees to your garden, try planting false indigo, black chokeberry, blue-bead lily, phacelia, sunflowers, or tomatoes.
- For butterflies, plant bearberry, "swamp" and "common" milkweed, butterfly weed, or pale corydalis. Most other pollinators love those too.

For a more comprehensive list of pollinator-friendly plants to grow in Quebec, visit pollinator.org.

MoWest will be inaugurating its own public pollinator garden this spring in Roy Locke Park (at the corner of Sherbrooke & Ballantyne). There will be information on all the plants residing there, and the pollinators we hope will visit. Please come have a look!

*from Haley Clarke-Cousineau,
for MW Environmental Action Committee*



Plantez un jardin de pollinisateurs ce printemps

Montréal-Ouest est un endroit magnifique pour faire une promenade à l'arrivée du beau temps. J'ai le plaisir de promener mon chien presque tous les jours, et bien qu'il s'intéresse surtout à ce qu'il y a à renifler. De mon côté, je suis constamment en train d'admirer les jardins de chacun !

Et j'adore entendre parler des efforts environnementaux que nos résidents déploient lorsqu'ils plantent. Pour tous ceux qui souhaitent créer un jardin favorable aux pollinisateurs afin d'attirer les papillons, les abeilles, les colibris et toutes les autres créatures qui font tant pour nous, voici quelques conseils :

- Une grande variété de plantes, placées en groupes, offrent aux pollinisateurs une progression régulière de plantes faciles à trouver du début du printemps à l'automne.

- Plusieurs sortes d'abeilles vivent au Québec ; certaines nichent sous terre, d'autres dans des arbres morts ou dans des cabanes à abeilles, que vous pouvez construire vous-même ! Pour attirer la première espèce d'abeille, évitez d'appliquer des couches épaisses de paillis difficiles à creuser.
- L'apport d'eau est un bon moyen d'attirer les abeilles et les papillons. Les piscines, les étangs et les petits récipients d'eau peu profonds ou en pente offrent des possibilités de boire et de se baigner.
- Évitez autant que possible les pesticides. Mais si vous devez absolument les utiliser, essayez des produits non toxiques et pulvérisiez-les la nuit, lorsque la plupart des pollinisateurs sont inactifs.
- Pour protéger les pollinisateurs des intempéries et des prédateurs, intégrez différentes couches de canopée dans le paysage en plantant des arbres, des arbustes et des plantes vivaces de taille différente.
- Les papillons aiment les plantes en forme de plate-forme comme le tournesol et l'aster. Ils ont besoin de zones ouvertes, comme de la terre nue ou de grosses pierres, où ils peuvent se prélasser, et d'un sol humide où ils peuvent absorber des minéraux.
- Les plantes que vous pouvez considérer comme "désordonnées" peuvent être ex-

actement ce que les pollinisateurs recherchent. L'asclépiade, par exemple, est la plante dont se nourrissent exclusivement les monarches.

- Si vous souhaitez attirer les abeilles dans votre jardin, essayez de planter du faux indigo, de l'aronie noire, du lys bleu, de la phacélie, des tournesols ou des tomates.
- Pour les papillons, plantez de la busserole, de l'asclépiade des marais, de l'asclépiade commune, de l'herbe aux papillons ou du corydale pâle. La plupart des autres pollinisateurs les aiment aussi.

Pour une liste plus complète de plantes favorables aux pollinisateurs à cultiver au Québec, visitez pollinator.org.

Jardin public pour pollinisateurs

MoWest inaugurera son propre jardin public pour pollinisateurs ce printemps dans le parc Roy Locke (à l'angle des rues Sherbrooke et Ballantyne). Il y aura des informations sur toutes les plantes qui s'y trouvent, ainsi que sur les pollinisateurs que nous espérons voir nous rendre visite. Venez y jeter un coup d'œil !

*de Haley Clarke-Cousineau,
pour le Comité
d'action environnementale du BEMM*



Photo: Julia Ross

News from the pews

MW United

...the brick one

Masks or no?

Considering that speaking and singing are a large part of what happens in a church, your intrepid reporter is suggesting we continue wearing masks within the building until further notice. The exception would be when seated to eat or drink such as at fellowship time.

Journey into June

In case you missed our return to indoor Labyrinth Walks in May, we will hold one also on Tuesday, June 7 between 7 and 9 pm in Wadsworth Hall. Please walk in socks or slippers as usual and come for a peaceful individual meditative experience. No cost. No experience necessary to find calm or perhaps a new approach to something that is on your mind. All welcome. And anyone is welcome to use the Outdoor Labyrinth on the Ballantyne lawn anytime.

Book Browse Plus

Hurry to catch the Book Browse Plus on Saturday, June 11 in Wadsworth Hall. Hopefully you dropped off your pandemic pile of reading, listening and playing entertainment at the church so that you have room for a new batch of books, CDs, puzzles and games, etc. Kids' stuff too. Drop by and browse. Bring your wagon....

June 19 is for Dads and much more

Sunday School draws to a close this day with the usual hot dog lunch. This will be followed at 12:30 by the Blessing of the Pets on the Westminster lawn, weather permitting. Four-legged, finned or feathered, **Rev. Mark** will be there to celebrate any and all that come by. They give us so much comfort just by their presence. Your pet doesn't travel well? Then bring a picture for a blessing. The same is possible for pets who may have left us recently.

Sauntering into summer

We are continuing our on-line and in-person services. No plans to change....

We're worshipping here through to the end of July, resuming Sunday September 11. So, the church is closed for August through Labour Day weekend inclusively.

May summer find us all making the adjustments we need to regain what is possible. Travel well, rest easy and home safe. 'Til then....

from Susan Upham

St. Philip's

The Rev. Canon Dr. **Lettie James**, a long-time resident of Ballantyne North, passed away on May 1 at the age of 97.

In 1976, she was the first woman ordained in the Diocese of Montreal and served as Curate at St Philip's from 1976 until 1979. She served several parishes in Montreal and on the South Shore and served as a hospital chaplain. In retirement, she was honorary assistant at St George's Church and frequently filled in at St Philip's and elsewhere into her 90s.

Family Day

The Diocese of Montreal will be hosting a Family Day on the church grounds on Saturday, June 4, from 11 am to 3 pm. There will be live music, a bouncy castle and activities; and all are welcome to drop by (but you must register at montreal.anglican.ca for the free lunch).

Platinum Jubilee of the Queen

On Sunday, June 12, we will be marking the Platinum Jubilee of the Queen with a special service of thanksgiving at 10 am, followed by a garden party and picnic lunch with cake and punch.

All are welcome, but please register for lunch by calling the church office by March 31, so that we can give the caterers a number.

Community garden

Our community garden is flourishing, thanks to many enthusiastic volunteers. As of press time, they are busy sowing seeds and setting up the trellises for the beans and cucumbers, and the strawberries are blooming. Stop by and check out what is available to pick and help yourself to reasonable quantities, leaving some for others.

Refugee sponsorships

Our refugee sponsorships, jointly with St Thomas' Church, continue. We welcomed a Rwandan woman in January, and her adult son will be arriving any day now. An Afghan family is awaiting their travel papers, and we hope they will arrive over the summer.

We submitted three other applications for Afghan refugees who fled the Taliban, but none of our applications were chosen in Quebec's lottery and we will have to resubmit next year.

from Fr. Pratt

Kosher corner

Lag BaOmer BBQ

Lag BaOmer was celebrated in Montreal West with the very first annual Lag BaOmer community BBQ. The atmosphere was great as many new and old faces enjoyed a BBQ dinner together while the kids were busy with the many different activities. We thank all our volunteers and sponsors who made it happen!

Shavuot dairy buffet!

Sunday, June 5 will be the holiday of Shavuot, the anniversary of the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. Chabad Westminster will be holding a reading of the Ten Commandments at 10:30 am followed by a delicious dairy brunch for the whole family!

Hebrew school

Chabad Westminster is excited to start Hebrew after school activities for the school year of 2022/2023. Hebrew School is where we explore Judaism through a fun and hands-on experience. Please reach out for details.

Mommy and Me

Chabad Westminster is looking forward to the 3rd year of mommy and me with **Chaya**. A great way to meet and socialize with local moms and for your child to meet new friends.

Shabbat services

After a winter break, outdoor Shabbat services and Kiddush is back. Please contact us for more info.

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow

Sandra Roscanu:

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May 31 Bridge
June 10 Annual BBQ
July 19 Intergenerational Jubilee tea

More activities are in the works!

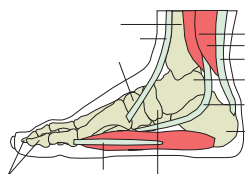
Tuesday bridge stops for the summer and will start again on August 30. New players are always welcome.

For information, call **Tammy** at **484-6186** or email recreation@montreal-west.ca.

Foot clinic

June 1
484-6186

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



Community Centre

Pool

The pool is happy to return to full operation this season with a full gamut of programming and full capacity. Led by returning manager **Sacha Mitchell**, the staff is organizing an exciting slate of programs and activities for members and residents. Full programming is available to register online through the Town website that also has a downloadable schedule available. Pre-season begins June 4, so get your membership and sign up for programs now!

Camp

Some spots still remain in some age categories for summer camp. Our camp coordinator **Alexandra Ciocca** and her team are assembling a wide array of activities and games for participants to take part in, so don't miss your chance to take part in a fantastic summer of fun.

Skatepark

The skatepark inside the rink will open in early June, so check the Town website for the full schedule in the coming days!

MADA

Seniors' Advisory Committee at the local table

The *Seniors' Advisory Committee (SAC)* is the Montreal West group tasked with following up on the *Municipalité amie des aînés (MADA)* plan of action established by the *MADA* Steering committee and approved by Council in 2020. The group was very pleased to have been invited to the local round table which brings together stakeholders to discuss issues of interest to the community, and named **Joanne MacPhail** as its delegate. The Town's objective is to make this consultation an annual event.

The first such consultation was held on line April 28, with the subject of the consultation being the new sports and recreation centre. Some of the things seniors find important and would like included in the plan for the new centre include:

- accessibility in all seasons
- a gymnasium which could include a pickleball court
- an outdoor walking track
- conference or small group rooms to be used as a gathering place for clubs, intergenerational events, group activities or social events
- a coffee bar, a terrace, a small outdoor garden space to be tended by the community
- handicapped parking
- new activities, possibly line dancing and art classes

The mayor explained that many of these ideas are already in the plans, and that the others will be given consideration.

The SAC/MADA group is enthusiastic about this new facility in Town which will increase the number of activities offered to all. We were very pleased to be represented at this round table. Encouraging the participation of seniors in Town affairs is one of the many objectives we strive to attain to make MoWest a truly age-friendly community.

from Joanne MacPhail
 Seniors' Advisory Committee/MADA

Comité consultatif des aînés à la Table ronde locale

Le Comité consultatif des aînés (CCA) est le groupe de Montréal-Ouest chargé de donner suite au plan d'action de la *Municipalité amie des aînés (MADA)* établi par le comité directeur *MADA* et approuvé par le Conseil en 2020. Le groupe était très heureux d'avoir été invité à la Table ronde locale qui réunit des intervenants pour discuter de questions d'intérêt pour la communauté, et a désigné **Joanne MacPhail** comme déléguée. L'objectif de la Ville est de faire de cette consultation un événement annuel.

La première de ces consultations a eu lieu en ligne le 28 avril, et avait pour objet le nouveau Centre sportif et récréatif. Voici quelques-unes des choses que les aînés jugent importantes et aimeraient voir incluses dans le plan du nouveau centre :

- accessibilité en toute saison
- un gymnase qui pourrait comprendre un terrain de pickleball
- une piste de marche extérieure
- salles de conférence ou pour petits groupes à utiliser pour des réunions de clubs, des événements intergénérationnels, des activités de groupe ou des événements sociaux
- un café-bar, une terrasse, un petit jardin extérieur entretenu par la communauté
- stationnement pour handicapés
- nouvelles activités, peut-être des cours de danse et d'art.

Le maire a indiqué que plusieurs de ces idées sont déjà dans les plans, et que les autres seront prises en considération.

Le groupe CCA/MADA est enthousiaste à l'idée de cette nouvelle installation dans la ville, laquelle augmentera le nombre d'activités offertes à tous. Nous avons été très heureux d'être représentés à cette table ronde. Encourager la participation des aînés aux affaires de la Ville est l'un des nombreux objectifs que nous nous efforçons d'atteindre pour faire de Montréal-Ouest une communauté véritablement accueillante pour les aînés.

Joanne MacPhail
 Comité consultatif des aînés/MADA

Town Council meeting: April



by Carol Foster

Two formal public consultations regarding the new sports and recreation centre have now been held. The overall view of the plan, as it currently stands, was presented by the mayor and questions were answered. Small discussion groups were formed to gather participants' impressions and concerns, and a summary was then presented to the whole group.

The mayor stated that "the quality and variety of the feedback went above and beyond our expectations." The concerns and suggestions, including those of the steering committee will be summarized in a report at the end of the consultation phase.

Councillor Torres reported that a special PAC meeting was held in which the recreation project was presented, giving PAC members an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions. She advised residents that PAC is beginning to receive a very large number of applications and that permits may take a little longer than usual.

Councillor Small-Pennefather cautioned residents to respect the parking notices in effect from April 1 until November 15 to allow passage for the street sweeping vehicle. For the first two weeks of this process, courtesy notices have been placed on vehicles on streets with no parking restrictions as a reminder, but after this grace period, fines of \$44 will be incurred.

PSOs continue to respond to home surveillance requests as more people begin travelling again. They also assisted Public Works staff by conducting traffic on Westminster during any emergency road repair. Line painting on streets and parking lots will soon begin.

Several residents living near Sherbrooke and Ballantyne lost power in the middle of the night following the collision of a vehicle with a utility pole. *Hydro-Québec* had to be called for emergency repairs and the police caught up with the driver who had fled the scene.

Potholes, parks and tree planting are all receiving attention from Public Works according to **Councillor Ulin**. She explained that the closing of the temporary dog run at Hodgson's Field at the same time as the permanent one near the Town Hall was also closed was inconvenient, but necessary. Both areas required attention and April is the best time to install grass and repair any damages done during the winter.

A section of Westminster, in front of the Town Hall, which had become unstable due to the excavation work carried out for the Easton Project, has now been repaired by the contractor.

Councillor Ulin ended her report by an-

nouncing that it has been decided that a special pollinator garden, a suggestion of the Environmental Action Committee, will soon be planted near the Town Hall and the Communications Department is busy organizing the public consultations.

In **Councillor Feeney's** absence, the mayor gave her report. The first item was a reminder that the second instalments of the property taxes are due on May 26.

The financial statement for 2021 shows a surplus of \$827,000 due mainly to the increase in property transfer payments, the increase in the number of permits and a grant from the government to reimburse the Town for salaries paid to employees assigned to duties related to COVID. This statement will be posted on the website and thanks are due to the Town's treasurer for such excellent budget results.

Both the return of a full slate of activities and programs offered by the Recreation Department, as well as the remaining summer jobs openings, are now available on the website.

A delegate from the Seniors' Committee has been chosen to represent the group during the consultation phase of the sports and recreation centre.

Question period

The mayor was asked if Council would take a stand against the amendment in Bill 96 which requires the addition of three core courses in French at the CEGEP level. Mayor Masella explained that Council is currently discussing composing a resolution which can be made public concerning this bill.

As president of the Association of Suburban Municipalities, he has already appeared before the Parliamentary Committee to present the concerns of municipalities.

He is very aware of the concern of many parents and is supporting groups such as the English Parents Committee Association and the Quebec Community Groups Network in helping to ensure objections to this bill are being reported by the media.

The suggestion that the east- and west-bound traffic configuration on Avon Road should be revised will be passed on to PAC and the Public Security Department to look at the problems the present situation is creating.

Councillor Ulin reported that this summer, no street will be repaired or have its infrastructure fully redone. The focus will be on doing the preliminary work on the section of Avon between Westminster and NDG in preparation for the major reconstruction of the whole eastern area of that street which will be coordinated with the city of Montreal in the following year.

Following the report of another large wild turkey, seen this year in a resident's front yard, Councillor Small-Pennefather cautioned residents not to feed the wild life which seems to be increasingly observed in the Town in the hopes that they will move on.

The mayor explained that he doesn't know if there are any plans to install a *BIXI* station at the train station during the Sherbrooke development since all of that takes place on the NDG side. He understands the cost to buy a *BIXI* station is quite expensive, but when he meets with the mayor of NDG, he will see if they have any plans to do so.

Encouraging the use of sustainable menstrual products is one of the suggestions the people working on developing the Town's Waste Management Plan will consider.

Included in other items on the agenda was a review, by the mayor, of some of the highlights of the Town's financial statement for 2021 and the meeting was then adjourned.





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Réunion du Conseil : avril



par Carol Foster
traduction par René Boucher

Deux consultations publiques officielles concernant le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif ont été tenues. Le maire a présenté le plan d'ensemble, tel qu'il se présente actuellement, et a répondu aux questions. De petits groupes de discussion ont été formés pour recueillir les impressions et les préoccupations des participants, et un résumé a ensuite été présenté en plénière.

Le maire a déclaré que « la qualité et la variété des commentaires étaient au-delà de nos attentes ». Les préoccupations et les suggestions, y compris celles du comité directeur, seront résumées dans un rapport à la fin de la phase de consultation.

La **conseillère Torres** a rapporté qu'une réunion spéciale du CCU a eu lieu au cours de laquelle le projet du centre sportif et récréatif a été présenté, ce qui a permis aux membres du CCU de poser des questions et de faire des suggestions. Elle a informé les résidents que le CCU commençait à recevoir un très grand nombre de demandes et que les permis pourraient prendre un peu plus de temps que d'habitude.

La **conseillère Small-Pennefather** a averti les résidents de respecter les avis de stationnement en vigueur du 1er avril au 15 novembre pour permettre le passage du balai de rue. Pendant les deux premières semaines de ce processus, des avis de courtoisie ont été placés sur les véhicules dans les rues sans restriction de stationnement pour rappel, mais après ce délai de grâce, des amendes de 44 \$ seront encourues.

Les ASP continuent de répondre aux demandes de surveillance de domiciles alors que de plus en plus de gens recommencent à voyager. Ils ont également aidé le personnel des Travaux publics en dirigeant la circulation sur Westminster pendant des réparations routières d'urgence. Le traçage des lignes sur les rues et les stationnements va bientôt commencer.

Plusieurs résidents du secteur Sherbrooke et Ballantyne ont manqué d'électricité en milieu de nuit par suite de la collision d'un véhicule avec un poteau de service public. *Hydro-Québec* a dû être appelée pour des réparations urgentes et la police a rattrapé le conducteur qui avait fui les lieux.

Les nids-de-poule, les parcs et la plantation d'arbres retiennent l'attention des Travaux publics, selon la **conseillère Ulin**. Elle a expliqué que la fermeture du parc canin temporaire au terrain Hodgson, en même temps que la fermeture du parc permanent près de l'hôtel de ville, n'était pas commode, mais nécessaire. Les deux zones ont besoin d'attention et avril est le meilleur moment pour installer l'herbe et réparer les

dommages causés pendant l'hiver.

Une section de Westminster, en face de l'hôtel de ville, devenue instable en raison des travaux d'excavation effectués pour le projet Easton, a maintenant été réparée par l'entrepreneur.

La conseillère Ulin a terminé son rapport en annonçant qu'il avait été décidé qu'à la suggestion du comité d'action environnementale, un jardin spécial pour pollinisateurs serait bientôt planté près de l'hôtel de ville et le Service des communications est occupé à organiser les consultations publiques.

En l'absence de la **conseillère Feeney**, le maire a présenté son rapport. Le premier point était un rappel que le deuxième versement des impôts fonciers est dû le 26 mai.

Les états financiers de 2021 affichent un excédent de 827 000 \$, attribuable principalement à l'augmentation des droits de mutation, à l'augmentation du nombre de permis et à une subvention gouvernementale pour rembourser à la Ville les salaires versés aux employés affectés à des tâches liées à la COVID. Cette déclaration sera affichée sur le site Web et nous tenons à remercier la trésorière de la Ville pour ces excellents résultats budgétaires.

Une liste complète d'activités et de programmes offerts par les Loisirs, ainsi que d'autres emplois d'été, sont maintenant disponibles sur le site Web.

Un délégué du Comité des aînés a été choisi pour représenter le groupe lors de la phase de consultation du centre sportif et récréatif.

Période de questions

On a demandé au maire si le Conseil prendra position contre l'amendement du projet de loi 96 qui exige l'ajout de trois cours de base en français au niveau du cégep. Le **maire Masella** a expliqué que le Conseil discute actuellement une résolution qui pourrait être rendue publique concernant ce projet de loi.

À titre de président de l'Association des municipalités de banlieue, il a déjà comparu devant la commission parlementaire pour présenter les préoccupations des municipalités. Il est très conscient des inquiétudes de nombreux parents et appuie des groupes comme l'English Parents Committee Association et le Quebec Community Groups Network pour s'assurer que les médias font état des objections à ce projet de loi.

La suggestion de revoir la configuration de la circulation en direction est et ouest sur le chemin Avon sera transmise au CCU et à la Sécurité publique pour examen des problèmes que la situation actuelle crée.

La conseillère Ulin a indiqué qu'aucune rue ne sera réparée ou ne verra son infra-

structure refaite cet été. L'accent sera mis sur la réalisation de travaux préliminaires sur la section d'Avon entre Westminster et NDG en vue de la reconstruction majeure de toute la partie est de cette rue qui sera coordonnée avec la ville de Montréal au cours de l'année prochaine.

À la suite du signalement d'une autre grosse dinde sauvage, vue dans la cour d'une résidence, la conseillère Small-Pennefather a mis en garde les citoyens de ne pas nourrir la faune sauvage qui semble de plus en plus visible dans la ville, dans l'espoir qu'elles passeront ailleurs.

Le maire a expliqué qu'il ne sait pas si l'on projette d'installer une station *BIXI* à la gare exo pendant le réaménagement de Sherbrooke, puisque tout cela se fait du côté du NDG. Il sait par ailleurs que l'achat d'une station *BIXI* coûte très cher, mais il posera la question quand il rencontrera la mairesse de NDG.

Encourager l'utilisation de produits mensuels durables est l'une des suggestions qu'étudieront les personnes travaillant à l'élaboration du plan de gestion des déchets de la Ville.

D'autres points à l'ordre du jour comprenaient une revue, par le maire, de certains des points saillants des états financiers de la Ville pour 2021.

La réunion a ensuite été levée.

Heure d'ouverture de l'hôtel de ville

Le comptoir de service à l'hôtel de ville est maintenant ouvert au public les mardis, mercredis et jeudis de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30. Nos employés sont disponibles par téléphone et par courriel du lundi au vendredi.

Veuillez consulter notre site web pour les heures d'ouverture mises à jour : montreal-west.ca/fr/nous-joindre

Town Hall opening hours

The service counter at the Town Hall is now open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Our employees are available by telephone and by email from Monday to Friday.

Updated opening hours are available on the Town website: montreal-west.ca/contact-us

COMING EVENTS À VENIR

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

Next deadline: August 10

May

Tue 31 Town Council meeting. In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.

June

Sat 4 Family Day celebration. St. Philip's. 11 am-2 pm.

Tue 7 Tea and TRC Circle Meeting online. First Tuesday of every month. Everyone welcome.

Tue 7 Indoor Labyrinth Walk. MW United. 7-9 pm.

Wed 8 Drama Club online. Every Wednesday. New time: 6:45 pm.

Wed 15 Tea and Books. Special guest author, Robert Hough. Hybrid meeting online and in person! Everyone welcome. 2 pm.

Thu 16 The Montreal West/NDG Younkers Little Theatre, under the auspices of the *Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG* presents Agatha Christie's ***And Then There Were None***. 7:30 pm.

Continues Friday and Saturday, June 17-18, 7:30 pm; matinee performance 2 pm Sunday, June 19. Purchase tickets (\$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors) through *Rotary Club*, at the door or by contacting Ron D'Souza at 563-9769. All funds raised go to the *Homeless Project*. Town Hall.

Sun 19 Blessing of the Pets. Westminster Lawn, MW United. 12:30 pm.

Tue 28 Town Council meeting. In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.

July

Sun 31 Last service until September 11. MW United. 10 am.

Aug

Tue 30 Town Council meeting. In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.

Please register for library activities at mwlib.requests@gmail.com.

Classifieds

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE: June 4, 10 am-3 pm. Craft supplies, yards of fabrics, wool, dishes, household goods, furniture, toys: all treasures! 50 Westland Drive.

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Happy birthday to **Pusik**, who turned 16 on Tuesday, May 10. According to Linda Hammerschmid, the admin of the Facebook Group "MoWest Dog People," he's the Town's most senior canine resident!

Summer events



June 7



Community Night and Art in the Park
Davies Park, 6 pm

Featuring the live jazz music by the **RAZALAZ** (Conseil des Arts de Montréal en tournée). Food by *Burger de Ville*.

Come and meet the local artists and local groups. Bring your bike: SPVM – bike theft prevention

June 14

Meet the Councillors
Davies Park, 6 pm



Thursday, June 23



La fête nationale
du Québec :

Notre langue aux mille accents
Davies Park, 6 pm

Music by **EDME & Georgette**, circus performance, face painting, quizzes, crafts, BBQ, beer tent.

July 1



Canada Day celebrations!

3:30 pm: Parade begins corner Ainslie and Westminster south

4:30 pm: Festivities begin at Strathearn Park. Music by the *Fundamentals*, dancing, BBQ, fun for the whole family!

10 pm: Fireworks at Hodgson Field

July 9



Youth Duathlon

Hodgson Field, 9 am-1 pm

Register on Amilia. \$15 for residents / \$20 for non-residents. Ages 4-13. RUN! SWIM! RUN!

July 12



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Night
Davies Park, 6 pm

Featuring music by: *The Hi-FINS*

July 20

CTV Movie in the Park

Details to be announced. Bring your chairs or blankets. Hodgson Field.

August 9

Band Night (Préville Band)
Davies Park, 6 pm.

August 12

Corn roast and camp variety show
Davies Park, 6 pm.

Like our [facebook.com/montrealwest](https://www.facebook.com/montrealwest) page for updates or sign up for the Town bulletin at montreal-ouest.ca/en/subscribe-to-bulletin/ or call the Community Centre: **484-6186**.

MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE TOWN OF MONTREAL WEST

This report is a summary of the fiscal year ending December 31, 2021 presented at the Council Meeting of April 25, 2022.



The external auditor gave an unqualified opinion, meaning that the statements accurately reflect the financial situation of the Town with no exceptions or concerns.

The results showed an **operating surplus** of \$826,508, which is 5.03% of total budget. The following are some of the highlights:

Revenues were \$1,030,734 over budget, mainly due to an additional:

- \$622K duties on transfers due to the increase in home sales and sale prices
- \$122K salary reimbursements received from Emergency Measures Coordination Centre for the employees assigned to COVID tasks
- \$100K permits and licences due mainly to the many home renovations undertaken by residents
- \$58K in lieu of taxes and property taxes due to home improvements
- \$58K water tax due to high water consumption

On the **Expense** side, total operating expenses were \$204K over budget. Savings were realized in the following areas:

- \$101K in administrative expenses due mainly to legal claims, legal fees and office expenses
- \$62K in remuneration related to the pool, day camp and recreation programs
- 61K in public work expenses related mainly to lower snow removal costs
- \$59K in interest expense due to a decrease in borrowing
- \$43K in recreation expenses related to the arena, parks, and program costs
- \$36K in public security expenses due to the dispatch fees

These savings were offset by an additional \$555K in capital expenses as part of our pay-as-you-go financing which allows us to fund certain projects through our operations budget rather than incurring additional debt. This included the following expenditures:

- \$350K for Public Works and Town Hall roof repairs
- \$125K partial financing of infrastructure projects (new Recreation Centre, Courtney, Avon traffic lights and Davies Park)
- \$80K buildings, parks improvements and IT

In addition to this, and continuing with our infrastructure renewal program, a major capital investment of \$2.33M was spent on road and water infrastructure work on Fenwick and \$363K on road repair work on Avon.

At year-end, The Town's net debt stood at \$13.3M, down from \$14.3M in 2020, with a capital investment of over \$3M. Our unappropriated operating surplus is \$3.7M.

We are pleased with the excellent results of the 2021 Financial statements and express our appreciation to our Treasurer, Valentina Todoran, our Director General, Raffaele Di Stasio, and all the directors for their careful management of the Town's finances. Full details of the financial results can be found on the website under Financial Reports.

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

*Colleen Feeney, Councillor
Finance, MADA, Recreation and Culture
cfeeney@montreal-west.ca*

COUNCIL communiqué

BUSIEST SEASON EVER FOR THE URBAN PLANNING DEPARTMENT IS IN FULL SWING!

Every year, the department receives a higher number of applications for per-



mits and authorizations between April and October. But this year, we have surpassed all expectations!

Just to give you an idea, anytime outside the busy season the department might process around 14 permits per month. However, in this last month alone, the department has received 66 applications – and counting!

Due to this incredibly high volume of applications, we would like to ask all residents to please be patient. We understand that a lot of your projects are time-sensitive, however, there is a process that needs to be followed to do due diligence. The Town plans to hire an extra staff member to help with this task.

Please apply for your permit as early as possible, with the understanding that it may take longer than expected. If you have questions or wish to request an appointment, contact Agata Palarchio at apalarchio@montreal-west.ca.

Finally, please remember that if your project needs to be reviewed by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC), you need to submit a complete application file two weeks prior to the PAC meeting. PAC will be meeting on the following dates during the summer-time: **June 8 and 22, July 6 and August 3 and 24.**

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





LIONS AND TIGERS AND BYLAWS.....OH MY!

There has been some recent discussion regarding bylaws in the Town. The aim of this article is to dispel the myth behind the establishment, administration and enforcement of bylaws in Montreal West.

Each municipality develops bylaws unique to its own circumstances. Bylaws provide a legal framework that are established in good faith and in the public interest in both their creation and in their administration.

Common bylaws in MoWest include urban planning, council and internal municipal issues, public security, watering, snow removal and landscaping, environment and sanitation and finance. In the Town of MoWest, Public Security is responsible for the administration and enforcement of bylaws which set a legal standard

and expectation for a code of conduct by residents for the safety and quality of life for all citizens.

In this context, I would like to take this opportunity to remind residents that allowing dogs to run in public areas without leashes is strictly prohibited. There have been some recent complaints regarding Percival Park and Hodgson Field. Please note that the bylaws regarding animals are in place for the protection and security of all. In addition, a friendly reminder regarding the disposal of household items and garbage to ensure

items do not linger on your property and that arrangements are made with either the Town or a private entity for removal. Larger items, including construction debris, furniture and appliances, will not be picked up with regular garbage on Thursdays.

MoWest's Public Security team conducts preventative patrols across the Town to ensure the application of municipal bylaws concerning parking and obstruction of public roadways, damage to public property, surveillance of parks and public buildings and noise, disturbances and

nuisances. Public Security Officers aim to work with residents to raise awareness regarding Town bylaws often issuing warnings before applying an official infraction and/or penalty. Public Security Officers do not have authority under criminal law enforcement and therefore work in close collaboration with police services, who have authority under the criminal code, such as in the case of break-ins and theft.

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



SPRING CLEANING

It's that time of year again – finally – and many of us are keen to start spring cleaning. So it's worth a few reminders on how we can de-clutter responsibly.

Got stuff to donate?

There's a great new service called **Grand Montréal** that helps you find new homes for your surplus items. You can reach them by simply calling 211 or check them out online at 211qc.ca. They'll connect you to charitable organizations that are looking for household items in good condition.

Free For All Day is back!

Saturday, May 28 is Free for All day in MoWest. Just put any items you'd like to give away at the end of your driveway or at the edge of your lawn for neighbours to take for free! Your trash is certainly someone else's treasure.

Use the right bin on the right day

Sounds simple, but it's surprising how many bins are placed out on the wrong day or too late for pick up. You're en-

couraged to put out your bins well before the collection time. That can be as early as 9 pm the night before. All collections begin as early as 7 am.

Tuesdays: Recycling & Organic Waste
Thursdays: Garbage

Unsure which bin your waste goes in?

Just consult the app [ca va ou](http://ca.va.ou). You can download it on your phone and find out if an item is recyclable, compostable or just garbage.

Need a special pick up for bulky items?

If your bulky items are not reusable, the Town can help with a special pick up. Place your stuff in durable construction bags that do not exceed 35 lbs each and contact Public Works. Someone will visit and provide you with a quote for removal. There's a minimum \$20 charge.

Missed Hazardous Waste Day?

Don't throw this waste in the regular garbage! You can bring any hazardous waste, electronics, and many other non-recyclable items to a nearby Eco-centre (i.e. Côte-des-Neiges or Lasalle). Most consumer hazardous waste can also be brought back to the merchants that sell them. Hardware stores, for instance, will take paints, CFL light bulbs, batteries, etc. We also have a recycling box for old batteries at the Town Hall, and recycling boxes for Covid PPE in all Town buildings. And check our website for a list of alternative networks that will dispose of your hazardous materials properly. If we're all on board, a touch more time disposing of waste responsibly will make a big difference.

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

RAPPORT DU MAIRE SUR LA SITUATION FINANCIÈRE DE LA VILLE DE MONTRÉAL-OUEST

Ce rapport est un résumé de l'exercice financier se terminant le 31 décembre 2021 tel que présenté lors de la séance du conseil du 25 avril 2022. Le vérificateur externe a émis une opinion sans réserve, ce qui signifie que les états reflètent fidèlement la situation financière de la Ville, sans exception ni préoccupation.



Les résultats montrent un **excédent de fonctionnement** de 826 508 \$, représentant 5.03% du budget total.

Les revenus ont dépassé le budget de 1 030 734\$, en raison d'un supplément:

- 622 k\$ en droits de mutation en raison d'une augmentation des ventes de maisons
- 122 k\$ en remboursement de salaire pour les employés affectés à des tâches COVID remis par le Centre de coordination des mesures d'urgence
- 100 k\$ en permis et autorisations en raison principalement des nombreux travaux de rénovation entrepris par les résidents
- 58 k\$ en tenant lieu de taxes et des impôts fonciers en raison des projets d'améliorations des maisons
- 58 k\$ en taxe d'eau en raison d'une haute consommation d'eau

Les dépenses de fonctionnement totales étaient de 204 k\$ au-delà du budget. Des économies ont été réalisées dans les domaines suivants :

- 101 k\$ en frais administratifs dû principalement aux réclamations de dommages-intérêts, aux frais juridiques et aux frais de bureaux.
- 62 k\$ en rémunération lié à la piscine, au camp de jour et aux programmes des Loisirs
- 61 k\$ en coûts des travaux publics liés principalement à la baisse des coûts de déneigement
- 59 k\$ en frais d'intérêt en raison d'une baisse des emprunts
- 43 k\$ en frais de loisirs liés à l'aréna, aux parcs et aux coûts des programmes
- 36 k\$ en dépenses de sécurité publique en raison des frais du centre de communication.

Ces économies ont été compensées par des dépenses en capital de 555 k\$ dans le cadre du financement par répartition (PAYG) qui nous permet de financer certains projets à partir de notre budget de fonctionnement plutôt que de contracter une dette supplémentaire. Ceci comprend :

- 350 k\$ pour la réparation de la toiture aux travaux publics et de l'hôtel de ville
- 125 \$ pour le financement partiel de projets d'infrastructure (nouveau centre récréatif, Courtney, feux de circulation sur Avon et le parc Davies)
- 80 k\$ pour les bâtiments, l'amélioration des parcs et l'informatique

De plus, dans le cadre de notre programme de renouvellement de l'infrastructure, un important investissement en capital de 2,33 M\$ a été consacré à des travaux sur Fenwick et 363 k\$ à des réparations de la voirie sur Avon.

À la fin de l'année, la dette nette de la Ville s'élevait à 13,3 M\$, en baisse par rapport à 14,3 M\$ en 2020, avec un investissement en capital de plus de 3 M\$. Notre excédent de fonctionnement non affecté est de 3,7 M\$.

Nous nous réjouissons des excellents résultats et nous souhaitons exprimer notre reconnaissance à notre trésorière, Valentina Todoran, ainsi qu'à notre DG, Raffaella Di Stasio, et à tous nos directeurs pour leur gestion minutieuse des finances de la Ville. Les détails des résultats financiers sont sur le site Web, sous la rubrique Rapports financiers.

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

*Colleen Feeney, conseillère
Finances, MADA, Loisirs et Culture
cfeeney@montreal-ouest.ca*

communiqué du CONSEIL

LA SAISON LA PLUS CHARGÉE POUR LE DÉPARTEMENT DE L'URBANISME BAT SON PLAIN !

Chaque année, le département reçoit un nombre plus élevé de demandes de permis et d'autorisations entre avril et octobre. Mais cette année, nous avons dépassé toutes nos attentes.



Pour vous donner une idée, en dehors de la haute saison, le département traite autour de 14 permis par mois. Cependant, au cours du mois dernier seulement, le service a déjà reçu 66 demandes – et ce n'est pas fini !

En raison de ce volume incroyablement élevé de demandes, nous demandons à tous les résidents d'être patients. Nous comprenons qu'un grand nombre de vos projets sont urgents, mais un processus doit être suivi pour faire preuve de diligence raisonnable. Afin de mieux répondre aux besoins des citoyens, la Ville prévoit embaucher une nouvelle ressource.

Assurez-vous de faire votre demande de permis le plus tôt possible, en sachant qu'il peut prendre plus de temps que prévu. Si vous avez des questions ou souhaitez prendre un rendez-vous, veuillez contacter Agata Palarchio au apalarchio@montreal-ouest.ca.

Enfin, n'oubliez pas que si votre projet doit être examiné par le Comité consultatif de l'urbanisme (CCU), vous devez soumettre un dossier de demande complet deux semaines avant la rencontre du CCU. Le CCU se réunira aux dates suivantes pendant l'été : **8 et 22 juin, 6 juillet et 3 et 24 août.**

*Maria Torres, conseillère
Urbanisme
mtorres@montreal-ouest.ca*





DÉMYSTIFIER LES RÈGLEMENTS MUNICIPAUX

Le but de cet article est de dissiper le mythe qui sous-tend la création, l'administration et l'application des règlements à Montréal-Ouest suite aux discussions récentes sur les règlements municipaux.

Chaque municipalité élabore des règlements adaptés à sa réalité. Les règlements viennent fournir un cadre juridique et sont développés de bonne foi et dans l'intérêt public, tant dans leur création que dans leur administration.

Les règlements courants à Mo-Ouest comprennent l'urbanisme, le conseil et les affaires municipales, la sécurité publique, l'arrosage, le déneigement et l'aménagement paysager, l'environnement et la salubrité et les finances. La Sécurité publique est responsable de l'administration et de l'application

des règlements qui établissent une norme juridique et des attentes quant à un code de conduite des résidents pour la sécurité et la qualité de vie de tous.

Dans ce contexte, j'aimerais profiter de l'occasion pour rappeler aux résidents qu'il est strictement interdit de laisser les chiens sans laisse dans les espaces publics. Des plaintes déposées récemment concernent le parc Percival et le terrain Hodgson. Veuillez noter que les règlements concernant les animaux sont en place pour la protection et la sécurité de tous. En outre, j'aimerais

vous rappeler que les articles ménagers et les déchets ne peuvent pas trainer sur votre propriété et que des dispositions doivent être prises avec la Ville ou une entité privée pour les retirer. Les gros articles, y compris les débris de construction, les meubles et les appareils électroménagers, ne seront pas ramassés lors de la collecte ordinaire du jeudi.

L'équipe de la Sécurité publique de Mo-Ouest effectue des patrouilles préventives dans la Ville afin d'assurer l'application des règlements municipaux concernant le stationnement et

l'obstruction des voies publiques, les dommages aux biens publics, la surveillance des parcs et des bâtiments publics ainsi que le bruit, les perturbations et les nuisances. Les agents de sécurité publique ont pour objectif de collaborer avec les résidents pour les sensibiliser aux règlements municipaux, souvent en émettant des avertissements avant d'émettre un constat. Les agents n'ont pas d'autorité d'application du droit pénal et travaillent donc en étroite collaboration avec les services de police qui ont l'autorité en vertu du Code pénal, comme dans le cas d'effractions et de vols.

Lauren Small-Pennefather,
conseillère
Sécurité publique
lsmall-pennefather@
montreal-ouest.ca



MÉNAGE DE PRINTEMPS ÉCORESponsable

Enfin, il commence à faire chaud! Plusieurs d'entre nous profitent de ce temps de l'année pour débiter notre ménage de printemps. Voici quelques conseils pour faire le tri de manière responsable.

Vous avez des choses à donner ?

Un nouveau service appelé **Grand Montréal** vous aidera à trouver le bon endroit pour donner vos articles. Vous pouvez les joindre en composant le 211 ou en consultant le site 211qc.ca. Ils vous mettront en contact avec des organismes de bienfaisance à la recherche d'articles ménagers en bon état.

La journée Bon Débarras est de retour !

Le samedi 28 mai, est la journée Bon débarras à Mo-Ouest. Vous n'avez qu'à déposer les articles que vous souhaitez donner au bout de votre propriété afin qu'ils soient recueillis gratuitement par vos voisins! Vos déchets sont peut-être des trésors pour d'autres.

Sortez le bon bac le bon jour

Il est surprenant de voir combien de bacs sont mis à la rue la mauvaise journée ou trop tard pour être ra-

massés. Nous vous encourageons à sortir vos bacs bien avant l'heure de collecte. Vous pouvez les sortir dès 21 h la veille. Toutes les collectes commencent dès 7 h du matin.

Mardi : Recyclage et déchets organiques

Jeudi : Ordures ménagères

Pas certain où mettre vos déchets?

Consultez l'application **ça va où**. Téléchargez-la sur votre téléphone pour savoir si un article est recyclable, compostable ou simplement un déchet.

Besoin d'une collecte spéciale pour les encombrants ?

Si vos objets encombrants ne sont pas réutilisables, la Ville peut vous aider en organisant une collecte spéciale. Placez vos articles dans des sacs de construction qui ne dépassent pas 35 livres chacun et contactez les Travaux publics. Quelqu'un se rendra sur place et vous

fournira une soumission pour la collecte. Les frais minimums sont de 20 \$.

Vous avez manqué la collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux ?

Ne les jetez pas dans la poubelle ordinaire ! Vous pouvez apporter tous les résidus domestiques dangereux, les appareils électroniques et de nombreux autres articles non recyclables à un écocentre (p. ex. Côte-des-Neiges ou Lasalle). Plusieurs RDD peuvent être rapportés chez les commerçants qui les vendent. Les quincailleries, par exemple, acceptent la peinture, les ampoules fluocompactes, les piles, etc. Nous disposons également d'une boîte de recyclage pour les piles usagées à l'hôtel de ville, et de boîtes de recyclage pour les équipements de protection individuelle dans tous les bâtiments municipaux. Consultez notre site Web pour une liste des réseaux alternatifs. Prendre le temps de se départir de nos déchets de manière plus responsable fera une grande différence !

Elizabeth Ulin, conseillère
Travaux publics, Environnement et
Communications
eulin@montreal-ouest.ca