

THE INFORMER



Montreal West Viewspaper

October 2022, Vol. 50, No 7



MWest libraries achieved 92% (level 5) for 2019

BiblioQUALITÉ – and the MoWest libraries

The libraries of Montreal West thought, as residents, you would be interested in learning that the children's library and the public library submitted indicators to the program "BiblioQUALITÉ". Although there are two distinct libraries, they submitted their indicators as one organization.

BiblioQUALITÉ relies on a series of quantifiable indicators from the Guidelines for Québec Public Libraires (lignesdirectricesbiblioquebec.ca). For each indicator, a score is assigned to determine the level reached by the library.

Each municipality is evaluated on quantifiable indicators that are considered fun-

damental to the functioning of library services: acquisition (including refresh rate), business hours, space, seating places and human resources (full-time employees, librarians, technicians).

In addition, there are two elements: a bonus if the library has abolished late fees (which we have) and a penalty if the library subscription is charged (we no longer charge membership fees to our residents).

Each indicator is associated with a recognized guideline and a weight given to each indicator. A rank of 1 to 5 is associated with each indicator where 5 signifies excellence.

MoWest libraries got 92%!! This is the level 5 – an achievement of excellence.

Read more on page 12

Alexandra Esthétique

Keeping time at bay

by Maurice Krystal

You have to know that the place is there, that's why appointments are a must at *Alexandra Esthétique*. This is the way it is for the small MoWest businesses located in commercial buildings. Often above busy Westminster, they can only put up a small sign at street level to show that they exist.

Born in Bucharest, Romania, **Alexandra Aprodú** moved, as a child, to California with her parents. In 2006, after high school, she came to Montreal to study languages at Concordia University.

Her aim was to be a translator, but the idea of working behind a desk did not appeal to

her. She does, however, speak five languages.

She decided to switch careers and went to LaSalle College to obtain a diploma in aesthetics (beauty and skin care) from Inter-Dec College, which has interested Alexandra ever since she was a teen.

She worked in a number of spas, but took time off when she gave birth to her first son. In 2013 she originally worked from home and as her clientele expanded, she opened an office on Westminster north of Côte Saint-Luc Road. Three years ago, she needed a larger space and moved to MoWest – to remain close to her customer base.

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INFORMER

10 Westminster 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
October 12

Head shaving party at Action Sport Physio for Breast Cancer Awareness!

October is *Breast Cancer Awareness* month and our amazing customer care representative **Jennifer** decided to shave her head to raise funds October 26. We are so happy to be able to support this cause with the help of the wonderful community of MoWest, and we are inviting everyone to join!

Earlier this summer, *Action Sport Physio* warmly welcomed the one and only, Santa Claus to our clinic! We would like to thank MoWesters who came and took pictures with Santa while generously donating to our fundraiser. Thanks to all of you, we were able to give back to *Share the Warmth*.



Tiffany, Jennifer, Daphne, Zeina and Vivianne

Local author records video for Children's Hospital

As part of an initiative by the Family Resource Centre of the Montreal Children's Hospital, local MoWest author, **Pat Nicholson**, along with three other authors, recorded videos of themselves, reading their books for the hospital's Literacy Day celebration.

Pat read her book and family favourite, *I Don't Like Spiders but They Seem to Like Me*. The videos were then made available in each patient's room for the children and their families.

In addition, more than 400 goody bags containing copies of the participating authors' books and fun family activities, were distributed to the patients with the goal of promoting family literacy.

In support of the event, Pat's daughter, family physician, **Dr. Kelly Hennegan**, read and recorded the French version of *Moi, je n'aime pas les araignées, mais elles semblent vraiment m'aimer!*



West End Quilters

September 13, we had our first meeting of the new season at the MW United Church. That meant it was an in-person meeting! What fun to get together again. There was a good turnout with some old and some new members. We had a show of all our summer work and some "tells" about summer experiences. Some quilters took the summer off while others were very productive including some newer members.

Nathalie, our president, revealed our program for the year. We will be very busy with a new challenge, workshops, retreats, demonstrations, a fabric exchange and a number of community projects. To see more of our creations, check out our Facebook page: facebook.com/westendquilters/.



A Cat Quilt made by Barbara H.

from Mary Sutherland

Alexandra Esthétique

continued from page 1

With the help of her husband, they worked long hours for a whole month to prepare the space and opened on March 7. On March 13 the business had to close until mid-June. Government regulations for the next two years witnessed numerous lockdowns. Alexandra said her clientele was extremely loyal during these rough patches.

I got a brief tour and was shown the manicure and pedicure stations. While I said I was sort of lost in this world, Alexandra assured me that she had a small percentage of male clients. She is very conscious of cleanliness and the threat of cross contamination. All clients are seen one at a time, as stated earlier, by appointment only. Buffers and files used are given to the customer to take home. All metal instruments are UV sterilized like in a dentist's office. The bowl used in pedicures is lined with disposable plastic bags.

I was then shown the waxing and facial room that looked like a doctor's examination table, including the paper lining changed with each new client. I got a brief lesson in skin care and microdermabrasion. Though it was a little beyond me, I learned that collagen in the skin begins to deteriorate after 35 and wrinkles appear. This aging process in the skin can be aggravated/accelerated by factors such as: pollution, stress, DNA and the sun. Alexandra uses a diamond wand with vacuum suction to gently remove one layer of epidermis. She tried it on the back of my hand and it's definitely painless. The light lifting of the skin makes wrinkles less visible.

Soft music plays to create a relaxing atmosphere so the clients feel they have their own space to relax. Often some of them fall asleep while lying on the bed for a facial. They say they feel like they were flying during the procedure. It can last for 60 to 75 minutes, though there is also an express facial of 30 mins. for those who are rushed for time. Full body massages are also available insurance receipts are also provided.

She carries a line of skin care products from France called *Académie Scientifique de Beauté Canada* and homemade, all natural lip products called *Refreshi Cosmetics*. Her future plan is to purchase a laser machine for permanent hair removal.

Alexandra lives in nearby Hampstead with her husband **Carlos Cruz**, a self-employed commercial cleaner, sons **Gabriel**, 9, **Eric**, 6, and step children **Josefina**, 9, and **Justin**, 13.

Alexandra Esthétique
16 Westminster Avenue North #205
(514) 910-2125

ART etc.

Our 2021 edition was greeted with enthusiasm and joy by our artisans and guests alike. It was so wonderful to see the Town Hall filled with the variety of products and happy, friendly artisans.

Our 2022 show will be held at Town Hall on Saturday, November 19 (10 am-5 pm) and Sunday, November 20 (10 am-4 pm).

We are once again thankful for the generous support of both the community and the Town of Montreal West.

Our invitations will be included in the October edition of *The Informer* but this is a "save the date" notice. Hopefully, we will see you all in November!

SAT-SUN
November
19-20

How much do you love *The Informer*?

Well, if you do, you need to get involved because the current editor-in-chief is getting long in the tooth and needs volunteers to take over monthly issues. These people will be responsible for editing and coordinating articles. A group of proofreaders will assist, but the issue editor has final say on the spelling and the way of expressing the ideas presented.

Julia Ross will continue to do layout and organization of articles.

Please call **Heather Baylis**, 489-7022.

Aimez-vous *'l'Informer*?

Eh bien, si oui, vous devez vous impliquer parce que l'éditrice responsable actuelle se fait de moins en moins jeune et a besoin de bénévoles pour prendre en charge les numéros mensuels. Ces personnes seront responsables de la rédaction et de la coordination des articles. Un groupe de relecteurs vous assistera, mais l'éditeur/éditrice du numéro a le dernier mot sur l'orthographe et la manière d'exprimer les idées présentées.

Julia Ross continuera à faire la mise en page et l'organisation des articles.

Veuillez appeler **Heather Baylis** au 489-7022.



New resident

The Informer received a note from **John Castellarin** and **Aylish Hunter** saying that "So far, we're surviving! We're lucky, he's a cooperative little guy." They are the new parents of **Charles William Castellarin**, born August 22, 7 lb. 4 oz.

Congratulations and sleep-filled nights!

I Can Dream Theatre

I Can Dream Theatre has been on a hiatus (like the rest of the world) for the last three years. In that time, there have been a lot of Zoom calls, some small gatherings for the cast to see each other, including a private screening of their documentary *The Love Letter* back in November 2021 – but that's been pretty much it!

On November 5, *I Can Dream Theatre* will be taking the word "return" to heart. They will be hosting a casino night fundraiser at Plaza Centre-Ville (777 boul. Robert Bourassa) beginning at 5 pm.

All proceeds from the night will be going directly to the group – and their new production in 2023!

Tickets are \$100 and include a buffet dinner. All guests will receive \$5000 in house money. There will be gaming tables (blackjack, poker, etc.) and slot machines.

For more information, contact **Fiona** at icdtgala@gmail.com for more details.

SAT
November
5



Rotary Club's Younkers Little Theatre Troupe

 Last June 16-19, the *Montreal West-NDG Rotary Club* sponsored the all-volunteer community Younkers Little Theatre Troupe's presentation of Agatha Christie's classic *And Then There Were None* in the Town Hall.

Brilliantly directed by **Douglas Floen**, the cast captured the mystery and suspense of the play. The performance entertained an audience of over 250 and it raised \$3700 for the club's charity, the *Homeless Project*. Kudos to the cast and crew in their first stellar performance.

Make a point of putting in your calendars the second performance due on set next June! The troupe will stage the Moss Hart/

George Kaufman comedy *You Can't Take It with You*. This madcap, idealistic comedy reinforces the idea that you can only live life to the fullest by doing whatever makes you happy! The next performance of this most able director, cast and crew is sure to please!

Help us refurbish a break room for nurses at the Douglas Hospital

While delivering 9000 meals to front-line health care workers during the pandemic, we decided to visit break rooms in various Montreal hospitals and what we discovered was surprising. Some break rooms were hardly used because of their complete

dis-functionality. Other rooms were used frequently (for sleeping, eating and resting) but were cramped, outdated and neglected.

Our goal is to transform nurses' private work quarters into functional, comfortable and restful spaces. We're confident that these changes can have a real and positive impact on their well-being.

For this fundraising campaign, we have chosen to revamp a nurses' break room at the *Douglas Mental Health University Institute*. This campaign will allow us to refurbish, transform and beautify the nurses' break room for the Burgess Unit 2 staff, who have worked tirelessly these past three years. We are working with the Douglas Foundation and, after spending an estimated \$10,000, we will receive a grant of \$3000 from the Rotary Foundation

Rotary event at Town Hall

Oyster Party

Friday, November 4, 7 pm
MoWest.NDG.Rotary@gmail.com.

Join us!

If you are someone who wants to give back to your community, city, country or the world, *Rotary* is an excellent way. *Rotary* is a worldwide organization that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards and helps build goodwill and peace. There are 1.2 million Rotarians across the globe and that number is growing

from Doug Yeats

IODE

Tribute to Queen II

Patron of IODE Canada

Our Regent, resolute and ever ready to fulfill her regal duties, selfless service to the military as mechanic, to her people as guiding light, to her realm as constant compass, to her faith as steadfast servant, to her charities as caring patroness, to her family as warm and giving mother. Elizabeth II – a life of dedication.

by Giuliana Penderza
HMS Victory Chapter



IODE Canada has been asking chapters across the country, in honour of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee, to publicize their works in multiples of 7, such as 140 (7x20)

recycled birthday and Christmas cards made and signed, that will be delivered to *St-Andrew Residential Centre* by members of *IODE HMS Victory chapter*. This 7 coincides with our chapter's upcoming 77th anniversary in February 2023, more details to be revealed.

We are also delivering on a COVID-delayed promise to present a certificate of citizenship to **Ron D'Souza** for his remarkable support for *Meals on Angels' Wings* during the last two years, and to **Dr. Rob Drummond** for his excellent research actions about military history in Montreal West.

These presentations will happen at a joint meeting of the *Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG* with *IODE HMS Victory*.



Mailbox



New recreation centre

I am writing in response to the letter by **Howard Barza** entitled “Sports and recreation centre: a financial albatross?” that was published in the September 2022 edition of *The Informer*.

In the letter, Mr. Barza questions the financial viability for the Town of such a project and further questions why such a decision is being made without consultation.

Mr. Barza does acknowledge that we did embark on public consultations, but lamented the small number of participants. Unfortunately, that is the nature of municipal politics – as Mr. Barza surely knows having served as a commissioner. In general, when people are happy with the services they are receiving, they tend towards apathy.

Consultation: more than a decade

But this consultation project is not one purely defined by the online sessions we held this past year. The consultations have spanned more than a decade – the amount of time that I personally have been advocating for a new centre. We held multiple consultations, one of which I remember Mr. Barza attending, when we first started the grant application process. In the survey on the new recreation centre conducted in 2017, 818 households responded, representing well over 2000 residents.

And further to the point, I and the past and present councillors have all publicly stated our support for a new centre and have won many elections on this platform.

Ability to diversify recreational offerings

I believe we are at the point where we must move forward of course with a transparent and gated process that includes good governance and due diligence. Consider the alternative. The existing arena is months, not years, away from needing to be shuttered. If we do not plan a replacement, we will be left without an arena which will lead to a decrease in services for our residents and a decrease in the value of our properties. And, no, the answer does not lie in sharing resources with our neighbouring towns. After closing the arena, we are left offering other recreation services in the Town Hall, in the Community Centre and in the schools – much as they are now. These options are no longer acceptable. They offer no universal access nor climate-controlled facilities and greatly limit our ability to diversify our recreational offerings.

Investment vs reasonable debt level

In fact, our current Community Centre is itself in dire need of investment – strictly because of short-sighted planning in the past that has left our Town with a huge deficit in necessary investments in infrastructure. Since my time on Council, we have made serious investments of over \$30 million in our road, building, and recreational infrastructure to try and nibble away at long-standing deficits in investment.

We have made these investments while keeping our debt at a reasonable level and even managing to accumulate a surplus. I am confident that the Town’s good record of sound financial management and fiscal rigour for these past investments, will continue for our future ones.

Capital campaign

Mr. Barza also diminishes our capital campaign, stating that it was at approximately \$700,000 out of a goal of \$2.5 million. Unfortunately, he is quoting a figure from March 2022. Since that time, we have received commitments of close to 2/3 of our goal. In addition, we have yet to begin our public portion of our fund-raising campaign. Currently, we are still in the private portion of the campaign (where we target individuals and organizations that will likely donate significant amounts).

This Town, this community, needs the project to go forward. It is a generational project that will ensure that we continue to thrive, continue to be a place where young families want to settle and continue to renew our community. Of course, that doesn’t mean it is a fait accompli. We will need to see the final plans, to develop the final

construction and operational budget before we issue a call for tender. The call for tender must also yield an acceptable bidder. Yes, Council and I continue to be excited by this prospect but rest assured that the project will continue to be reviewed and assessed as a viable and responsible option for us all.

*Beny Masella, Mayor
Town of Montreal West*



Another opinion

This letter pertains to **Mr. Barza**’s comments on the planned new recreation centre.

I entirely agree with Mr. Barza’s comments. This is the first time I have read an analysis challenging the financial viability of this project. I feel that all through the discussions and consultations, the citizens have been subjected to a manufactured consent process.

The Town Council should hold a referendum on this project. I would add that because federal and/or provincial money is available is not a valid reason to go ahead with a such major expense that we cannot afford as a community.

At this point we appear to be \$1.8 million short in our fundraising campaign and Mr. Barza spoke of inflated costs. We all know that cost overruns will oblige an increase in taxes of a lot more than \$100 per household. It is not too late to take a second look and, if necessary, mothball this project.

*Robert DesLauriers
71 Curzon*



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www.tonidelpeschio.com



Meet your candidates

In the lead up to the October 3 provincial election, *The Informer* asked candidates running in the riding of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce one key question.

What do you see as the three most pressing issues for the Town of Montreal West, and how would you address them as the MNA for the riding of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce?

Here are the responses we received, by press time.



Rachel Hoffman

Parti marxiste-léniniste du Québec (PMLQ)

Montreal West has a rich and vibrant cultural diversity expressed in multiple social, spiritual, material forms, life-styles, beliefs, values and mores. Out of caring and sharing and working together our most valuable asset is the people of our community and our historical traditions which make us an integral part of one Quebec people.

I am running for the PMLQ to support its program for democratic renewal that vests sovereignty in the people, not in the crown, the system of party government or the rich they represent.

As MNA, I would prioritize ensuring that the National Assembly upholds the human right to conscience and speech for all and be a voice for a modern, democratic Québec which upholds the inviolability of beliefs and mores of all. In my own constituency I would do my best to make sure everyone can speak in their own name to identify what can be done about the problems that our society faces.

Promotion of racism, sexism, assaults on lifestyles and beliefs by those who consider themselves guardians of legitimate values, mores, beliefs and lifestyles violate the people's right to define their own identities as they see fit. A modern Quebec must not divide communities to preserve privileged interests of the few in the economy or social, cultural, political life.

Democratic renewal and where sovereignty is vested are fundamental to the cultural life of the people.

Regarding this election, I think the three main issues that affect citizens for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce are poverty and inflation, access to affordable housing and access to subsidized childcare.

Poverty and inflation: The CAQ promises up to \$2,000 a year for seniors, which means further help for our low-income seniors. Indeed, we would increase the maximum allocation for seniors from \$411 to \$2,000. This measure would impact a total of 1.1 million people aged 70 and over. Also, we would give back between \$400 and \$600 to 6.4 million Quebecers as a direct check and reduce taxes. More precisely, it is a 1% reduction in the first two tax brackets as of 2023. Under the CAQ, Quebecers will save \$7.4 billion in taxes in the next mandate.

Access to affordable housing: The CAQ proposes an investment of \$1.8 billion for social and affordable housing. This would allow the construction of 11,700 social and affordable housing units during our mandate and a rent Supplement Program would provide an additional 7,200 households with subsidies.

Access to subsidized childcare: The CAQ promises an investment of \$1.4 billion over 5 years to convert all unsubsidized childcare spaces into subsidized spaces. This will really help young families in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce.

If you support my candidacy, I am committed to TRULY listening to you in order to represent you to the best of my capabilities and to carry out beautiful and great projects for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, a vibrant and dynamic community!



Désirée McGraw

Liberal Party of Quebec

Dear neighbour,

I'm Désirée McGraw, the Liberal candidate in the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce riding, of which Montreal West is an important and unique part. I was born and raised here; it's also where my husband Chris and I are raising our family. Montreal West is my home and my heart. That's why issues of concern to MoWesters are my issues. In speaking with so many of you, I'm hearing about three in particular: healthcare, the cost of living and language.

I share your frustration with the failings of our health-care system, which has worsened dramatically under the CAQ. Quebec Liberals have a far-reaching plan to address this crisis, including having more health-care professionals recognized, trained, and supported.

Regarding the rising cost of living, Liberals have a comprehensive plan to help average Quebecers: from offering a tax cut to middle-class families and a credit to people over 70; from eliminating sales tax on hydro bills and essential goods to expanding daycare at \$8.70 a day.

Finally, I share your concern about language and identity. Along with climate change, they are the main reasons I am running. Quebec is a diverse society. That's a fact – and one Liberals embrace. But for Quebec to be an inclusive society, a government has to make enlightened choices. Instead, the



Geneviève Lemay

Candidate de la Coalition Avenir Québec

In my opinion, there are many different things that should be analysed and considered for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. Generally, I think that we need more people from diverse horizons in Quebec politics. People from Notre-Dame-de-Grace would gain in having someone at the National Assembly who really listens to them and has the power to really change things.

Provincial election

Legault government has manufactured fear and division. The Liberal Party is the only party that voted against Bills 21, 40 and 96. Bill 96 is especially coercive, and ineffective in achieving our shared goal of promoting French. It hinders business and restricts access to justice, healthcare, and education. If elected, I will work to repeal these punitive and discriminatory measures.

Bill 96 sets up so much of Quebec society – especially newcomers and students – for failure. As a parent, advocate and educator, my goal is to set up the next generation for success.



**Constantine
Eliadis**
**Canadian Party
of Quebec**

Bill 96 will damage all aspects of life in Quebec and particularly for Montreal's local communities.

NDG has lost its voice in the National Assembly. Residents are frustrated by the Liberal Party's failure to oppose legislation that violates their human rights and freedoms. In fact, they supported Bill 96 during three of the four readings as well as in committee, nullifying 20+ fundamental provisions of both the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Quebec Charter. If elected as MNA for NDG, I commit to stand in vocal opposition against such proposed legislation and to work with my colleagues to build a groundswell of opposition in the National Assembly to defend rights for all Quebecers.

Healthcare is in crisis in Montreal and throughout Quebec. Clinics and emergency rooms are overloaded and/or closing. Nurses and doctors for whose training we have paid for (as taxpayers), are leaving Quebec while government throttles the entry of new talent with French-language proficiency restrictions. The system is on the verge of collapsing under its own bureaucracy. Patients lie in hallways for days. Montreal West's medical care infrastructure has all but disappeared. Our

demographic requires a local care network including family doctors, clinics, seniors' residences, and mobile services. If elected, I would demand funding allocations to rebuild NDG's healthcare infrastructure.

Our economy is shrinking. François Legault has already conceded it will continue. Bill 96 will exacerbate it. The trickle-down effect is upon us. There are 250,000 small businesses in Quebec, most subject to more language restrictions. The CAQ is investing in enforcement infrastructure of, rather than in support of, small business. Skilled workers are leaving. 150 Quebec CEOs signed an open letter opposing Bill 96. As your MNA, I will oppose any investment in support of Bill 96 and propose programs to support small business including grants for new employees, skills training, employment services and tax incentives.



Élisabeth Labelle
Québec solidaire

Public Services - Improving public services is one of my top priorities. Québec solidaire wants to invest more funds in public healthcare and education, CPEs, community organizations and affordable housing. We want to create a system of public and universal dental care. CLSCs should have a more central role in providing services,

and we would upgrade the 811 Info-Santé line. We also want to make major investments in home care for seniors, and to improve elementary schools and high schools.

A Québec for All – We want to change Québec's approach to immigration. Not only do immigrants make Québec a better place to live, with their diverse life experiences and culture, they also make the workforce stronger. We need to expand the recognition of foreign educational credentials and guarantee access to public services to anyone who does not speak French fluently. We plan to amend Bill 21 to allow public servants to wear religious symbols. Finally, Québec solidaire wants to give newcomers a \$200 stipend to cover the admission to a variety of shows, exhibitions, concerts, and plays.

Climate Crisis – finally—and this is an issue that concerns me greatly—there is the climate crisis. As part of a plan to make public transit faster, more frequent, and more accessible, Québec solidaire wants to reduce fares by 50% for everyone. I am committed to doing everything I can to protect and develop the Falaise Saint-Jacques park. The “dalle-parc” project is essential to create a green link between NDG and the southwest, and I support turning Meadowbrook into a protected green space accessible to all. Moreover, I believe that urban agriculture and community gardens are very important for any city today. Finally, we would pass a law to fight food waste.

Roy Eappen from the Parti conservateur du Québec - Équipe Éric Duhaime; **Balarama Holness** from Bloc Montréal - Équipe Balarama Holness and **Cloé Rose Jenneau** from the Parti Québécois did not reply to The Informer's Q & A by press time.

Meet the candidates was organized by **Kate Shingler**. Many thanks, Kate.



Alex Tyrrell
Green Party of Quebec

As leader of the Green Party of Quebec and as a long-time resident of western NDG my priorities for Montreal West include massive public transit expansion with the construction of the pink metro line with a station in Montreal West, I want to build an inclusive province in which all minority communities are treated with respect and dignity while having our rights upheld. I also want better and more accessible healthcare services for seniors and people of all ages. The Green Party of Quebec is an eco-socialist party that puts environment and social justice first. It would be an honour to be able to represent Montreal West in the National Assembly.

Edinburgh Elementary School

VM: Welcome to Edinburgh, **Mr. Sifoni.** We are very happy to have you as our new principal. What can you tell us about yourself and your experience as a principal?

GS: Hi Victoria: thank you for welcoming me. What I can tell you is that I really love being a principal. I've been in school my entire life, since I was 5 years old. From being a student, to a teacher, to a vice principal and now a principal at Edinburgh. Being a principal is one of my favorite roles, especially now because there is so much positive energy at Edinburgh. I like seeing all the smiling faces and making sure that kids are having fun, so that they can learn. You aren't having fun if you aren't learning, and you aren't learning if you aren't having fun!

VM: What are your plans to make Edinburgh an even better place?

GS: I am not sure what it was like before, but I came in as principal after strict protocols for COVID were coming to an end, hopefully. So, right away, we can go back to the fun things that were missing: such as the BBQ and field day that we just had. We plan to have fun field trips and assemblies in the gym. I want to bring our school forward using technology and have fun in class while learning.

VM: What are your first impressions of Edinburgh and its community?

GS: I love the community. I love that that community feels like a family. Right away, everyone was very welcoming and engaged with me. I was nervous coming here as a new principal, but after how welcoming everyone was, I was put at ease. It was great seeing everyone at the

— A Sixth graders' perspective —

Q & A with new Principal Gaetano Sifoni

by Victoria McCutcheon

BBQ. I feel like the entire school was at the event. It was so nice to see such an involved and caring community.

VM: Can you tell us a little bit more about your connections with a former Edinburgh principal, *Mr. Zampini*?

Principal Gaetano Sifoni and 6th grade student Victoria McCutcheon



GS: Oh Mr. Zampini! (laughing) Mr. Zampini is one of my most favorite people I have ever worked with. He was an excellent teacher. I used to teach history as well. I would go to him for advice and inspiration. He became a vice-principal when I was teaching and when I became a vice-principal, I would always think about how he managed situations and how people appreciated what he did. I was inspired to do the same in my own job. He became Edinburgh's principal when I became a vice-principal. I would hear stories about how much everyone loved him, and he was always very fair. It helped me reflect on what I should be doing in my own role.

VM: What do you like most about being a principal?

GS: I like that I get to meet so many people, especially kids. I was in high school before which is very different. There is something special about elementary school. The kids are always happy, and I really enjoy sharing in their happiness. If ever I am having a tough day, I like to go to a kindergarten class to see everyone smiling and having fun. It gives me the boost I need to get through those days when I have a lot of work. Sometimes I just like to go outside and see everyone enjoying themselves or go through the classrooms to connect with the kids and see what they are learning.

VM: Thank you very much for taking the time to speak with me today. The entire school community is very excited to have you as our new principal.

GS: Thank you Victoria, it was a pleasure speaking with you today. It was lots of fun!

Catherine Eustace
B.A., B.S.W., LL.B.

Avocate-médiatrice
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Guides

September is the start of a new school year and a new Guiding year. We have had new girls joining each week. We are thrilled to see our numbers increasing.

Brown Owl (Janet King) started her career as our illustrious Brown Owl in 1986. She has tried to retire at least twice. This December, she will officially retire.

Janet has promised to come to the occasional special meeting. Her fellow Guiders wish her well in her retirement and promise not to take advantage of her kind nature. From the very start of this year, the leaders have placed into action a plan to recruit new leaders. Hopefully, at the writing of the next *Informer* article, there will be wonderful news to share about new leaders joining our units.

The mint cookies are back!

Pearl was able to pick up the Montreal West unit's 75 cases of cookies and then make it over to the Montreal West Merchants' street fair to sell them "fresh off the truck!" There were so many delighted customers! The girls will be going around our

community selling these tasty treats. The cost remains at \$5/box. Through purchasing the cookies, you are supporting the girl-driven programming we deliver in our weekly Girl Guide meetings.

If you would like to purchase some cookies, but do not know of any local guiding members, please feel free to email Pearl at pearl.barnowl@gmail.com.



EBS

Back to school!

Elizabeth Ballantyne school students, both new and returning, were welcomed back by eager teachers and staff members. They were also greeted by our Principal, **Mr. Servello**, who is familiar to most of our students from his previous time with us.



The halls are buzzing with excitement; students are happy to see each other again and to make new friends. The students are able to mingle between classes, as they are no longer required to stay within their bubbles. The planning of various activities has started, in order to make this a terrific year. Staff members are eager to organize outings and field trips, and to be free to interact again with other classes.

Mr. Servello is happy to be part of EBS once again and looks forward to getting to know all the new faces and help inspire our students to reach their full potential. We anticipate a wonderful year, filled with many great adventures, and look forward to learning in a fun and creative manner!

The staff at EBS is ready to make 2022-2023 an unforgettable year!

Scouts

WE'RE BACK



After a long Covid Break we are ready to reopen our Beaver Colony.

If you know of a child who is between the ages of 5 & 7 years old, in Kdg, grades 1 or 2 who enjoys the outdoors and discovering the world around them, they may like to join us.

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Oct. 5th : 6 pm to 7 pm

Edinburgh School: 500 Hudson Ave, Montreal West.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Karen at (514) 717-5696 or karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com



Meetings start soon!

Planning meetings have been held, and the Scout Group is starting its activities. As Royal West is not available for the time being due to renovation work, all sections will be meeting at Edinburgh School. Scouts will be Tuesdays at 6:30 pm starting September 20, Cubs on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm starting September 28, and Beavers on Wednesdays at 6 pm.

As there have been no Beavers for a couple of years, the first meeting will be an open house October 5, at which any child in kindergarten, grade 1 and grade 2 can come, with no commitment, to see what Beavers is all about.

As the Cubs are new to the school, one of their first meetings will include a walk-about to get familiar with the area. They also are planning to plant spring bulbs in the school yard to say thank you for their welcome.

Blood donor clinic

As we have done for more than 20 years, the Scout Group will be sponsoring a blood donor clinic at St. Philip's Church, Monday, October 24 from 1:30 pm to 7 pm.

There is a constant need for blood donations – if you possibly can, please contact Héma-Québec at jedonne@hemaquebec.qc.ca or **1-800-343-7264** to make an appointment (walk-ins may be possible, but it is preferred that donors reserve in advance).

If you would like to volunteer to help with making the donors comfortable, please contact **Bob King at 481-6523**.



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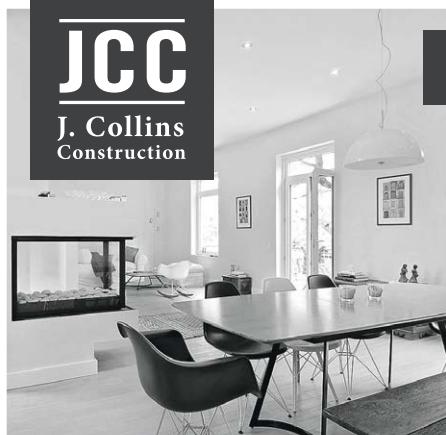


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MWest libraries achieved 92% (level 5) for 2019

Area of improvement

The only area where the libraries received a ranking of less than 5 was for the actual floor space. Based on the Guidelines for Québec Public Libraries and the MW population, Montreal West should have a larger space available for its libraries. The libraries should have more room to accommodate seating and other type of uses in the library. In other words, libraries are not just for books!

Also, the libraries expect the space, the number of seats and the size of the collections to be further impacted in 2022/2023. Since the move in 2021, the public library has reduced its overall space which has impacted the size of the collection and the number of seats available. The public library has begun an ebook, e-audio book and streaming services which has helped diminish the impact of the smaller space.

We have limited space available in the Town for our libraries but both libraries continuously look to improve their facilities by creating flexible and multi-purpose spaces.

If you would like to see the entire report, feel free to reach out to either library where they would be happy to share the entire report with you.

Activities on the go!

The library has been very busy this fall organizing our book sale, coming events, and new programming. We have also been busy implementing e-books and e-audiobooks. Have you tried Libby yet?

With lots of things happening in the library this fall we hope to see you at one of our events or new workshops.

Author readings

October 13 at 7 pm we will be hosting, along with The Montreal Island of Suburban Libraries, a meeting with author **Marc Levy** on Zoom. This a free activity presented for National Libraries Week in collaboration with the libraries of the suburbs of the Island of Montreal. This virtual interview will be broadcast at the library; it will also be possible to receive a link. Advance registration is required, and the number of places is limited. This event will be in French.

Saturday, October 22, as a joint venture with MoWest children's library, we will be hosting a reading with **Monique Polak**, a children's author, freelance journalist and CEGEP teacher. She is the author of 29 books for young adults. This reading is also sponsored by the *Writers' Union of Canada*.

Sweater Mitten Workshop

Be crafty and save the planet at the same time! Our new workshop will show members how to make an old sweater into a felted fabric and turn it into a bespoke pair of mittens with embroidered embellishment. Moth holes, rips and laddered knits are no match for you and the skills you will acquire. What would otherwise become garbage in landfills can now become gifts!

In four sessions, you will learn the following skills:

- How to make felt from an old sweater
- How to design and cut a mitten pattern
- Embroidery
- How to assemble and sew a pair of mittens

We will provide all the materials needed, but if you have an old sweater that you want to use, feel free to bring it in!

Location: Public library

Session dates: October 13, 20, 27, and November 3

Time: 4-6 pm

Cost: \$10 per person

Come in to the library, or visit our website to reserve your spot: mwpl.ca/.

Bernie Sanders broke the internet with the pair he wore to Joe Biden's inauguration back in 2021. Now is your chance to warm some hands and hearts.

Library clubs are back!

Library clubs are back! After a summer hiatus, we have returned to in-person club meetings at the library.

The drama club meets Tuesdays, 7-8 pm.



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Join us in bringing plays to life by reading scripts aloud together. We take turns with different roles, so that each participant gets the experience of playing both major and minor characters.

The chess club meets Wednesdays, 5-6 pm. Come sharpen your mind by playing the classic strategy game. Welcoming beginners and veterans alike: matches are casual and open to all levels.

Teen events

Teen events have also resumed at the library.

Our board games nights will be October 14, November 11 and November 25. Youth can register at mwpl.ca.

Our next movie night is Friday, October 28, showcasing a Halloween movie chosen by teens.

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Children's Library

TD Summer Reading Club closing party

Needless to say, the closing party of the *TD Summer Reading Club* was a great celebration. The attendees shared a lot of fun moments.

In line with this year's theme of the club – Once upon a time – we tried making togas (like the Romans) out of toilet paper. Children decorated cupcakes with magical (edible) flowers and had a lovely treat.

The most exciting, however, was the last part of the party when prizes were awarded and gifts given to the lucky ones whose names were drawn for the numerous challenges completed during the summer.

You may be curious to know the total number of books declared in the reading cards and reading challenge – 1258! The actual number of books read, however, is much higher: 5632 books were borrowed during the summer months.

Congratulations for your perseverance as readers!

Book Club

The Parent-Child book club resumes its meetings on September 30. The first session is dedicated to presenting everyone's favorite titles. After voting for the books to read during the year, starting the following month, we gather to discuss two titles – one aimed at younger



Participants in the TD Summer Reading Club Closing Party had a lot of fun.

readers and the other at more advanced readers. Thus, the Book Club welcomes children aged 7 to 12 years old.

We meet on Zoom, the last Friday of each month, 6.30-8 pm. If you need more information and if you are interested, don't hesitate to contact us to register at any point during the year. You have a chance to join a group passionate about reading and sharing book ideas!

Land Art

Have you heard of Land Art? Have you seen any land art structures? Leaves, sticks, flowers, stones, shells can be put to-

gether to produce ephemeral pieces of art.

We invite all those curious to experiment this art technique on October 1, 11 am-noon. We will provide the materials, but you may bring your own as well. Please contact us to register.

Cubetto

Les jeunes sont les bienvenus à la bibliothèque pour jouer avec Cubetto – le robot en bois auquel ils peuvent donner des commandes et l'observer les exécuter. Ainsi, les enfants auront une première notion des concepts de la programmation. Conçus spécifiquement pour les



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La bibliothèque sera fermée
les 9 et 10 octobre,
Action de grâce.

The library will be closed
October 9 and 10,
Thanksgiving.

jeunes de 3 à 5 ans, Cubetto est un outil formidable qui introduit la programmation de façon ludique. L'activité est gratuite, et l'inscription n'est pas requise. Les prochaines dates sont : les samedi, 15 octobre et le 19 novembre, de 11 h-11 h 30.

Author's visit

We are excited to co-host, together with the public library, Montreal author **Monique Polak**. Save the date – October 22, when you can meet this prolific author who has penned books for all ages. Stay tuned for details about the venue and the time of the meeting.



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Fabian Arrowsmith and Simon Kuchinsky show the magical cupcakes they decorated.

Participate in a family study about eating behaviours

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Researchers at Concordia University and the University of British Columbia have launched a study to learn more about parent and children's eating behaviours. We are looking for families with children aged 5-11 to participate.

Purpose?

Parents have a major influence on their children's eating habits; however, very little is known about how parents' and children's eating behaviours compare.

The researchers will use the information gathered to help create family-based interventions to help parents and their children build positive eating behaviours to promote long-term health.

What is involved?

- All family members will come for an assessment session at the Concordia PERFORM Centre
- Parents will fill out questionnaires on their and their children's eating behaviours in English
- The family will film four family meals at home with the provided recording equipment

Upon completion of the study, families will be compensated for their time with a President's Choice Gift Card worth up to \$200.

Who can participate?

- Families with a least one child between 5 and 11 years of age
- Families that speak English or French during mealtime
- Parents who can fill out questionnaires in English
- Families who have access to Wi-Fi at home
- Other eligibility criteria will apply
For more information or to participate, email perform.family.meal@gmail.com or call **848-2424 ext. 4164**!

To learn more about the lab's research activities, visit our Facebook page and our website.

Participez à une étude familiale sur les comportements alimentaires

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Des chercheurs de l'Université de la Colombie-Britannique et du Centre PERFORM de l'Université Concordia ont lancé une étude pour en apprendre davantage sur les comportements alimentaires des familles avec des enfants de 5 à 11 ans.

Quel est le but?

Les parents ont une influence majeure sur les habitudes alimentaires de leurs enfants, mais peu est connu sur la façon dont les comportements alimentaires des parents et des enfants interagissent.

Les chercheurs utiliseront ces informations pour créer des interventions familiales visant à aider les familles à adopter des comportements alimentaires sains pour promouvoir la santé à long terme.

Que doit-on faire?

- Tous les membres d'une famille viendront pour une séance d'évaluation au Centre PERFORM
- Les parents rempliront une série de questionnaires sur les comportements alimentaires familiaux en anglais
- À la maison, les familles enregistreront quatre repas familiaux avec le matériel d'enregistrement fourni

À la fin, les familles seront récompensées avec une carte-cadeau le Choix du Président d'une valeur maximale de 200 \$.

sées avec une carte-cadeau le Choix du Président d'une valeur maximale de 200 \$.

Qui peut participer ?

- Des familles avec au moins un enfant entre 5 et 11 ans
 - Des familles qui parlent anglais ou français durant les repas
 - Des parents qui peuvent remplir des questionnaires en anglais
 - Des familles qui ont accès au Wi-Fi à la maison
 - D'autres critères d'éligibilité s'appliqueront
- SVP envoyez un courriel à perform.family.meal@gmail.com ou appelez le **848-2424 poste 4164** pour plus d'information ou pour participer à cette étude !

Pour en savoir plus sur les activités de recherche du laboratoire, visitez notre page Facebook et notre site Web (en anglais seulement).

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News from the pews

MW United

...the brick one

It is so good to be back together! So far, we've had a baby shower for **Samantha** and **Kevin** and our Sunday school had a Bouncy Castle on the lawn for all the neighbourhood. Hope you and yours got in on that. It was good to be together to say goodbye to **Queen Elizabeth**. In fact, we sang *God Save the Queen* one last time to send her off, followed by *God Save the King* to welcome **King Charles III** to the throne. Very moving.

October's off and running

October 2 brings World Wide Communion. Being a faith that doesn't celebrate Communion or Mass at every service, we take a special joy in knowing that Christians the world over are sharing in this sacrament with us – and we with them – on this day. Thanksgiving Sunday is October 9. On October 16, we'll hold our welcome back luncheon and a baptism. Added to that we will have our usual memorial Communion as we near All Saints' Day, but with a twist.

Over the course of the pandemic, we lost many of our folk – some to COVID, but most not. Either way, we were prevented from coming together to bid them farewell. So, at this year's memorial Communion, we will expand the list of those named to include those who left us during this restrictive time. Afterwards, we will plan to have some way to recall and remember them so this unfinished business may be addressed.

Normally at this time, we are all very busy with bazaar preparations. It is not yet time for this. But one never knows when some sort of pop-up bake-sale-related-thing may happen. So, keep your eyes peeled for such. Keep watch also for a Labyrinth Walk.

In the meantime, church still happens at 10 am on Sundays as does Sunday school. **Rev. Mark** would welcome you any time. You can find him in his office Tuesdays, 10-noon; Wednesdays, 12:30-2:30 and Thursdays, 10-noon or by appointment. **Merrie** welcomes all to the Sunday school. The office phone is **482-3210** where messages can be left at any time as **Vicky** is working from home.

Keep well and stay in touch.

from Susan Upham

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St. Philip's

With summer past, we have been welcoming more and more people to join us in person for Sunday worship, both old members returning from pandemic isolation and some new members as well. It is good to see both familiar and new faces (even if behind masks). We are continuing for the fall with one service only, at 10 am, with a live Zoom connection for those unable to come in person.

We also have a children's corner with some lessons and activities or children can take the children's bulletin and complete the activities while sitting in the pew with their parents or grandparents.

On Sunday, October 9, we will celebrate our annual harvest festival, with seasonal decorations in the church and special music. We are not yet ready to resume our past Thanksgiving potluck lunch, but we will have a little bit more than just coffee and tea for coffee hour.

Unfortunately, we will not be resuming our Christmas bazaar this year. Many of our volunteers are still hesitant about crowds, and there is still too much uncertainty about whether there will be a fall surge in cases. We prefer to err on the side of caution.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our September yard sale. It was nice to reconnect with neighbours, and it was also a good opportunity for fellowship for the volunteers who helped out.

Finally, on a sad note, one of our oldest members, **John Bishop** (formerly of Ballantyne North), died in Toronto on July 20 at age 98. A memorial service will take place at the church October 14 at 11 am.

from Fr. Pratt

Kosher corner



Yom Kippur

Holiday season is in full swing!

It's not too late to join us for Yom Kippur. Feel free to join for any of the services starting from Kol Nidrei on October 4, at 6:25 all the way through the shofar and breakfast at the end of Yom Kippur.

Yizkor memorial service will be at 12:30.

Sukkot celebration

From Yom Kippur we move on to Sukkot. If you need any assistance with purchasing or assembling a sukka or lulav please reach out!

Some highlights of this year's Sukkot community events:

- The annual Sukkot community barbecue which will take place on October 12, 5:30-7:30 pm.
- The Simchat Torah celebration of the year on October 17 at 7pm!

Hebrew school

Hebrew school is off to a great start! Learn more about the latest local Hebrew school at chabadwestminster.com/hebrew

Rosh Chodesh Society

New monthly classes exclusively for women starting on October 31; please email chaya@chabadwestminster.com for more information.

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow



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Call For An Appointment Today So You Can Feel Better Tomorrow.

50+ Club



October

- 19** Day trip to Kahnawà:ke
- 27** Bridge
- 31** Halloween Tea, sign up.

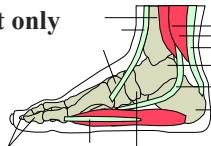
For information, call Tammy at **484-6186** or email recreation@montreal-west.ca.

Foot clinic

October 12

484-6186

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



Halloweek October 24-31

Contests

Have some skele-fun participating in our contests! These are free contests, open to all MW residents. Entries accepted until 10 pm on October 31. Winners will be announced November 1. To participate, submit your photos on the Town website: montreal-west.ca under special events.

House decorating

Gather up the family and get to decorating! Let's get into the Halloween spirit and make our houses look fang-tastic.

Great site with podcast and illustrations for interior and exterior decorations:
trashmagination.com/halloween-decorations-from-recycled-materials/

HALLOWEEN ON ICE

Sunday, October 30
Arena, 1 pm-2:30 pm

Take your Halloween costume for a skate and enjoy spooky music, treats and fun on the ice!

Community Centre

Montreal West Legion Rink Opening

Saturday, September 24

See the website for the schedule and free skate.

Events

November 5:

Remembrance Walk

November 6:

Remembrance Ceremony 12:30

November 7:

Remembrance Lecture by historian and author **David O'Keefe**

November 10:

War time music lecture by **Craig Morrison**

See the website for coming events and sign up for the e-bulletin: montreal-west.ca.

Fall, winter recreation programs

Check our website: montreal-west.ca and our Facebook page: facebook.com/montrealwest.ca. Registration is online for residents for all Town programs on Amilia.com.

Classes

- **Red Cross Babysitting course:** October 22
- **Red Cross Stay Safe Program:** October 23
- **Ballet for Adults:** Wednesdays @ 9:30 am
- **Essentrics: Saturday:** @ 10:30 am
- **Emergency First Aid & CPR Course:** Saturday, November 19 (Red Cross)

NEW

- **Mom & Baby Workout:** Tuesday @ 9:30 am (starting October 4)
- **Meditation:** Thursdays @ 7 pm
- **Pilates:** Thursdays @ 7:30 pm

lected; however, the vast majority (85%) end up in landfills.

However, it does not have to be this way, especially since Halloween occurs during Waste Reduction Week and Circular Economy Month!

There are various ways to celebrate Halloween more sustainably and reduce the amount of waste you produce.

Here are some resources to help get you started:

recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/
and enter

“Eco-friendly Halloween Party”

blogterracycle.fr/2018/10/29/consells-et-astuces-pour-une-fete-d-halloween-eco-responsable/

let paper rolls, boxes, milk cartons and jugs, crepe paper....

When you have designed your masterpiece, please take a picture of it and go to the town's website, so we can post everyone's creations and make our contribution to Circular Economy Month! Become a Waste Wizard!

This site has 25 simple crafts which use common materials around the house:

thesavvyage.com/recycled-halloween-crafts/

Simple craft for children with supervision:
thisolemom.com/kids-halloween-packaging-peanuts-ghosts-craft/

Trash to ART

(Thanks to the EAC)

Hello Montreal Westers! Are you ready to have some fun with creating art from trash... for Halloween?

What can you and your family re-use and make beautiful? Dig into your craft boxes and your recycling to create great displays and costumes from what you have lying around. There are so many great sites to inspire your imaginations and find a new use for objects. Have a look below and pick something simple and fun that uses what you already have at hand! Egg cartons, toi-

Town Council meeting: August



by Carol Foster

Mayor Masella opened the meeting by giving an update on the progress being made in the sports and recreation centre project. The proposed plans are still being fine-tuned but the closer it gets to a final one, the better ideas can be used to prepare a final budget. The project can then go to tender at the end of this year or early next year. If an acceptable bid is received, a contract will be signed and, hopefully, the ground can be broken in the spring. The time frame for closing the present facilities will depend upon the contractor's plans.

In his role as president of the Association of Suburban Municipalities, Mayor Masella has expressed the needs of this body to the head of the Union des municipalités du Québec so that they can be passed on to the leaders of the political parties before the provincial elections in October.

Councillors' reports

Councillor Feeney announced that the annual water meter reading cards should be returned by September 26. She encouraged the use of the online form for these submissions. Electronic payments for permits, cat and dog licences and seasonal contractors' permits are also now available online.

As usual, she reviewed the expenditures for the past two months which totalled \$1,607,820.

Councillor Feeney reported that the pool had a very successful season and issued over 350 memberships. The day camps were also well attended and credit is due to all the staff involved. The online brochure for the next fall, winter and spring programs is available on the Town's website and participants may register on Amilia. The rink will open on September 24 and the MW Merchants' Association will be holding a street festival on September 17.

The requests for building permits continued during July and August and 61 were issued according to **Councillor Torres**. One notice was handed out for work being done without a permit, one was issued for heating and cooling equipment in an unauthorized

location, and a third related to property maintenance. Torres explained why a fourth notice was delivered for not respecting the bylaw concerning "visibility triangles." This bylaw pertains to situations where trees, hedges or shrubs are likely to cause an obstruction for either vehicular or pedestrian traffic. It is especially important for corner lots and property owners should ensure all vegetation does not exceed a height of 61 centimetres in an area no less than three metres on either side of the triangle.

Councillor Small-Pennefather noted that there had been a recent increase in criminal activity in the Town. In one case, there was a report of an incident of indecent exposure. Sadly, there was a double homicide near the intersection of Avon and Ronald Drive. The 17- and 18-year-old victims were not residents of MoWest. Parcels continue to be stolen from balconies. The PSOs continually patrol the Town and deal with many problems. For example, following a medical emergency that was attended to, a PSO was called on to ensure the house was locked. But when they see any criminal activity, they must call the police for assistance. This kind of cooperation is invaluable. In closing her report, Small-Pennefather announced that the former Traffic and Safety Committee will now become the Community Safety Committee. People who expressed an interest in serving on this committee will be contacted. The first meeting will be held in September.

Councillor Ulin reported that the Town flowers were exceptional this year and she thanked the Town's gardener, **Bruce Thicke**, for his care and expertise in the design and maintenance of these gardens.

The fall tree-planting campaign will begin shortly with a goal of 40 new street trees.

Residents who are on the list to have a tree planted in front of their homes will be notified shortly. Other residents who wish to participate in this campaign should notify Public Works as soon as possible.

Montreal West will be joining many other municipalities in the further regulations of leaf blowers and is proposing that starting November 1, 2023, all gas-powered blowers and vacuums will be prohibited and only electric models will be permitted during the spring and fall periods.

The time for the Town's "Give Away, Take Away" event will occur on the same weekend as the street festival. Functional but unwanted items can be placed on your front lawn for your neighbours to pick up for free. Those items which are not claimed must be removed at the end of the day.

Question period

Several problems caused by linden trees were reported during the first question period.

The sap from one tree was continually falling on a resident's car and driveway. The initial problem was reported some time ago. The mayor promised to have the Interim Director General get in touch with her to try and get the problem finally sorted out. Another tree, planted on the Town's property, was causing problems with the homeowner's main drain. Councillor Ulin explained that any problems with drain blockages from the street to the house were the citizen's responsibility; otherwise, a claim could be sent to the Town Clerk's office.

Identical house numbers on houses on two different streets were causing confusion according to the next speaker. The mayor replied he thought that situation had been resolved, but it would be reviewed once again.

Questions were raised about bike paths in the Town. It was suggested that a bike path connecting the present path at the end of Brock South to the Falaise Saint-Jacques and beyond would be desirable. The Agglomeration Council is in charge of developing bike paths on the Island and although progress in that area is slow, the mayor will put the idea forward. More information was requested about the plan for a bike path to be built within Hydro-Québec's Green Line, but no further information is available at this time.

A photo and description of the water and debris accumulation in the lane behind several houses on Westminster North was requested from the resident reporting it so that Public Works staff could deal with the problem. Overgrown bushes at the corner of Radcliffe and Wolseley which make passage on the sidewalk difficult and a dumpster sitting in front of a house for over a year were situations also brought to Council's attention.

When asked if the slow progress in the construction of the Easton project could be caused by financial problems, the mayor replied that it does seem to be going a bit more slowly than had been expected. However, the Town is absolutely not concerned about the financial stability of the developer.

In reply to a concern about the possibility of lead in the water of some homes in the Town, Councillor Feeney said that there is a plan to help with the purchase of water filters for homes that fall under certain criteria. It is currently being worked on and should be available by next month.

Other business on the agenda included giving the Town's support for the request of the City of Dorval to the Government of Canada for the recognition of the ecological value and importance in terms of biodiversity of federal land known as Golf Dorval.

JANE F. LEE, B.Sc., D.D.S.
Chirurgien Dentiste - Dental Surgeon

63 WESTMINSTER N
MONTREAL WEST
H4X 1Y8

369-0255



*par Carol Foster
traduction par René Boucher*

Le maire Masella a ouvert la réunion en faisant le point sur les progrès réalisés dans le projet de centre sportif et récréatif. Les plans proposés sont encore en cours de mise au point, mais plus on se rapproche d'un plan final et mieux les idées peuvent être utilisées pour préparer un budget final. Le projet pourra ensuite faire l'objet d'un appel d'offres à la fin de cette année ou au début de l'année prochaine. Si une soumission acceptable est reçue, un contrat sera signé et, espérons-le, la première pelletée de terre se fera au printemps. Le calendrier de fermeture des installations actuelles dépendra des plans de l'entrepreneur.

En sa qualité de président de l'Association des municipalités de banlieue, le maire Masella a fait part des besoins de cet organisme à l'Union des municipalités du Québec afin qu'ils puissent être transmis aux chefs des partis politiques avant les élections provinciales d'octobre.

Rapports des conseillères

La **conseillère Feeney** a annoncé que les cartes de lecture annuelle des compteurs d'eau devraient être retournées d'ici le 26 septembre. Elle encourage l'utilisation du formulaire en ligne pour ces soumissions. Le paiement électronique des permis, des licences pour chiens et chats et des permis pour entrepreneurs saisonniers est maintenant disponible en ligne.

Comme d'habitude, elle a passé en revue les dépenses des deux derniers mois, totalisant 1 607 820 \$.

La conseillère Feeney a souligné la saison très réussie de la piscine qui comptait plus de 350 abonnements. Les camps de jour ont également été bien fréquentés et le mérite en revient à tout le personnel impliqué. La brochure en ligne pour les programmes d'automne, d'hiver et du printemps est offerte sur le site Web de la Ville et l'on peut s'inscrire sur Amilia. La patinoire ouvrira le 24 septembre et l'Association des marchands de M-O organisera un festival de rue le 17 septembre.

Les demandes de permis de construire se sont poursuivies en juillet et août et 61 ont été délivrés selon la **conseillère Torres**. Un avis d'infraction a été remis pour des travaux effectués sans permis, un autre pour des équipements de chauffage et de climatisation à un endroit non autorisé et un troisième relatif à l'entretien de la propriété. Torres a expliqué pourquoi un quatrième avis avait été émis pour non-respect du règlement concernant les «triangles de visibilité». Ce règlement s'applique aux situations où des arbres, haies ou arbustes sont susceptibles d'obstruer la circulation des véhicules

ou des piétons. Il est particulièrement important pour les terrains de coin et les propriétaires devraient s'assurer que la végétation n'excède pas de 61 centimètres de hauteur dans une zone d'au moins trois mètres de chaque côté du triangle.

La **conseillère Small-Pennefather** a fait remarquer qu'il y avait eu récemment une hausse de la criminalité dans la ville. Dans un cas, on a signalé un incident d'indécence. Tristement, il y a eu un double homicide près de l'intersection Avon et promenade Ronald. Les victimes, âgées de 18 et 17 ans, ne résidaient pas à Mo-Ouest. Les vols de colis sur les balcons continuent. Les ASP patrouillent continuellement dans la ville et font face à de nombreux problèmes. Par exemple, à la suite d'une urgence médicale, on a fait appel à un ASP pour vérifier que la maison était verrouillée. Mais, quand ils voient une activité criminelle, ils doivent demander l'aide des policiers. Ce type de coopération est inestimable. En terminant son rapport, Small-Pennefather a annoncé que l'ancien Comité de circulation et de sécurité deviendra dorénavant le Comité de sécurité communautaire. On communiquera avec les personnes qui ont manifesté un intérêt à siéger à ce comité et la première réunion se tiendra en septembre.

La **conseillère Ulin** a indiqué que les fleurs de la ville étaient exceptionnelles cette année et elle a remercié **Bruce Thicke**, le jardinier de la Ville, pour ses soins et son expertise dans la conception et l'entretien des jardins. La campagne automnale de plantation d'arbres débutera sous peu avec l'objectif de 40 nouveaux arbres dans nos rues. Les résidents sur la liste pour avoir un arbre devant leurs maisons seront informés sous peu. Les autres résidents qui souhaiteraient participer à cette campagne doivent en aviser les Travaux publics le plus tôt possible.

Mo-Ouest se joindra à nombre d'autres municipalités pour resserrer la réglementation des souffleurs de feuilles et propose qu'à compter du 1er novembre 2023, les souffleurs et aspirateurs à essence soient interdits et que seuls les modèles électriques soient autorisés au printemps et à l'automne.

L'événement «Bon débarras» de la ville aura lieu le même week-end que le festival de rue. Les articles fonctionnels, mais dont vous ne voulez plus peuvent être placés sur votre terrain avant pour que vos voisins puissent les ramasser gratuitement. Les articles non réclamés doivent être retirés à la fin de la journée.

Période de questions

Plusieurs problèmes causés par des tilleuls ont été signalés au cours de la première période de questions.

La sève d'un arbre tombait continuellement sur la voiture et l'allée d'une rési-

dente. Le problème initial a été signalé il y a quelque temps. Le maire a promis que le directeur général par intérim prendrait contact avec la résidente pour tenter de régler le problème. Un autre arbre, planté sur la propriété de la Ville, causait des problèmes avec le drain principal du propriétaire. La conseillère Ulin a expliqué qu'il incombaît au citoyen de régler les problèmes de blocage des canalisations de la rue à la maison; autrement une réclamation pourrait être envoyée au bureau du greffier municipal.

Les numéros identiques sur des maisons de deux rues différentes ont été source de confusion selon l'intervenante suivante. Le maire a répondu qu'il croyait que la situation avait été résolue, mais qu'elle serait réexaminée.

Des questions ont été soulevées au sujet des pistes cyclables dans la ville. Il a été suggéré qu'un tronçon reliant la piste cyclable actuelle à l'extrémité de Brock Sud dans Mo-Ouest à la Falaise Saint-Jacques et au-delà serait souhaitable. Le Conseil d'agglomération est chargé de développer les pistes cyclables sur l'île et bien que les progrès dans ce domaine soient lents, le maire va transmettre l'idée. On a demandé plus d'information sur le projet de construction d'une piste cyclable dans le cadre du corridor vert d'*Hydro-Québec*, mais aucune autre information n'est actuellement disponible.

Une photo et la description de l'accumulation d'eau et de débris dans l'allée derrière plusieurs maisons de Westminster Nord ont été demandées à la résidente qui l'a signalée afin que le personnel des Travaux publics puisse régler le problème. Des arbustes démesurément grands à l'angle de Radcliffe et Wolseley rendent difficile le passage sur le trottoir et une benne installée devant une maison depuis plus d'un an ont également été portés à l'attention du Conseil.

Lorsqu'on lui a demandé si les lents progrès du projet Easton pouvaient découler de problèmes financiers, le maire a répondu que la construction semble aller un peu plus lentement que prévu; cependant, la Ville ne se soucie absolument pas de la stabilité financière du promoteur.

En réponse à une préoccupation concernant la présence possible de plomb dans l'eau de certaines maisons de la ville, la conseillère Feeney a indiqué qu'il existe un plan d'aide à l'achat de filtres à eau pour les maisons qui répondent à certains critères. Il est actuellement en cours d'élaboration et devrait être disponible d'ici le mois prochain.

Parmi les autres points à l'ordre du jour, mentionnons l'appui de la Ville à la demande de la Cité de Dorval adressée au gouvernement du Canada pour la reconnaissance de la valeur et de l'importance écologiques en matière de biodiversité des terres fédérales connues sous le nom de Golf Dorval.



COMING EVENTS À VENIR

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

Next deadline: October 12

Oct

- Sun 2** World Wide Communion. MW United. 10 am
- Mon 3** Joint meeting, *Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG with IODE HMS Victory*. Town Hall. 7-9 pm.
- Tue 4** Tea and TRC. Everyone welcome. Email mwlib.requests@gmail.com for more information. Public Library. 1 pm.
- Sun 9** Harvest festival service. St. Philip's. 10 am.
- Tue 11** *IODE HMS Victory meeting*. Community Centre. 1-3 pm.
- Thu 13** Marc Levy on Zoom! More details to follow. 7 pm.
- Fri 14** Teen board games. Public library. 7 pm.
- Sun 16** Welcome Sunday and lunch. MW United. 10 am
- Sat 22** Monique Pollack, author, professor, journalist in person. More details to follow. Public library.
- Mon 24** Town Council meeting. In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.
- Mon 24** Scout Group blood donor clinic. To make an appointment: jedonne@hema-quebec.qc.ca or 1-800-343-7264. St. Philip's. 1:30-7 pm.
- Fri 28** Teen movie night. Public library, 7 pm. Québec
- Sun 30** Memorial Communion. MW United. 10 am.

DE RETOUR



Après une longue pause Covid, nous sommes prêts à rouvrir notre colonie de castors.

Si vous connaissez un enfant âgé entre 5 et 7 ans, en maternelle, 1ère ou 2ème année qui aime le plein air et découvrir le monde qui l'entoure, il aimerait peut-être se joindre à nous.

PORTE OUVERTES

Mercredi le 5 oct. : 18h à 19h
École Edinburgh : 500 Hudson Ave, Montréal-Ouest.
Pour plus d'informations ou pour confirmer votre présence, veuillez contacter Karen au (514) 717-5696 ou karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com

Want to earn some money?

Is your child ready for a job in your neighbourhood? It has been a long tradition in Montreal West for youngsters (aged 10-18) to deliver the *Informers*. Recently, several of the carriers have 'advanced their careers', so there is a need to fill those gaps. Is your child interested in earning a few extra dollars?

Please contact **Rhonda** at howard-schwartz@videotron.ca or at **482-0227** for more details. Thank you!

Rhonda Grief-Schwartz
Informer Distribution Manager

Informer advertising manager

Perfect volunteer job for a gregarious walker! Just call or drop in to the shops/offices of current and potential Informer advertisers from time to time to see whether their ad needs modification, they want a new (larger, smaller) ad, etc.

Please call: Heather Baylis, 489-7022.

Directeur/Directrice de la publicité à l'*Informer*

Travail bénévole idéal pour qui aime la marche ! Il suffit d'appeler ou de visiter les magasins/bureaux des annonceurs de l'*Informer* actuels et potentiels de temps en temps pour voir si leur annonce a besoin de modification ou s'ils veulent une nouvelle publicité (plus grande, plus petite), etc.

Veuillez appeler **Heather Baylis** au **489-7022**.

poterie familiale: Dans cet atelier de façonnage, parents et enfants auront l'occasion de laisser briller leur côté créatif.

family pottery: a fun handbuilding workshop where parents & kids get to show off their creative sides.

pottery workshops for adults and kids

fêtes d'anniversaire boueuses

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COUNCIL communiqué



MAYOR'S REPORT

I hope the summer was kind to you and your families. It's good to be back in full swing. Bill 96 was voted into law on May 24, 2022 and came into effect on June 1. There are many problematic aspects to that law.

As president of the ASM, I was able to present our brief to the committee studying Bill 96 in late September, before adoption.

Some of the questionable aspects deal with access to English CEGEPs by francophone and allophone students that may put the future of these institutions at risk.

As well, there is a provision in the law that can cause a town to lose its bilingual status if the percentage of residents who describe themselves as mother-tongue English falls below 50%.

Our population is changing but we are still far away from being in peril of losing our bilingual status.

Minister Simon Jolin-Barrette threw a bone into the law that allows a town to maintain its bilingual status simply by adopting a resolution to that effect. Some of the other demerged Towns in the ASM have already adopted such a resolution.

But the ASM did receive a legal opinion from one of the predominant law firms in Quebec that stated clearly that a resolution to maintain bilingual status

is only valid after the town has been advised by the OQLF that its bilingual status will be removed.

In other words, all these resolutions already adopted are of no use right now. I wanted you to be assured that if ever we are advised that we could lose our bilingual status, we will immediately adopt a resolution to maintain it.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

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



WHAT A WASTE!

Did you know that October is Circular Economy Month in Canada? This means the roll out of a nationwide public awareness campaign committed to waste reduction, resource conservation and community education for sustainable living. So how will MoWest take part?

We'll be officially joining the movement by proclaiming the Town's "pledge" to waste reduction and will appear on the list of proclaimed cities across Canada who are committed to supporting a circular economy. But what's a pledge without some accompanying action?

In the public education realm we'll be adding two new tabs on the website, one for "zero waste" and another for "food waste." These resources can help you move towards a reduced waste lifestyle. Please check them out.

Also, the Environmental Action Committee will be hosting our first "zero waste challenge" for 15 to 20 families

who will be keeping their own trash diaries. These diaries will track what the household is really tossing out and where. We'll provide a workshop to get participants started, then they'll start the challenge at home. Though we may think we know how to minimize and sort our garbage, studies show that we're often quite mistaken. Households with multiple members pose an especially difficult challenge. This two week activity will certainly be an eye opener for those who participate. The general results will then be passed on to the wider MoWest community so we can all learn from their adventure.

And finally, look out for our "Trashy Art" Halloween contest where you're invited to create costumes and decorations made purely from recycled materials you've collected in October. Who ever said trash can't be fun!?

Want to take a deeper dive into Waste Reduction Month? Check out <https://wrwcanada.com/en> and <https://circularinnovation.ca/> for waste reduction nerds the world over. Enjoy!

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





SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMS – THIS YEAR AND NEXT

After two years of scaled-back programs due to the pandemic, it was wonderful to see the recreation programs in full swing this past summer. Day Camp and Community Centre summer programs returned to normal levels and ratios, as did fitness classes and special events.

Thanks to the beautiful warm weather, the pool membership was flourishing with over 350 memberships, exceeding our 2019 levels. Lessons and swim team were full and had great attendance. The season ended with a very successful adult barbecue party held on August 27. Thank you to all the volunteers who organized and worked at this event.

What will happen to the pool programs in 2023?

As the season was coming to a close, many pool regulars asked how the proposed new sports and recreation centre would impact the pool for the summer of 2023.

In fact, at the moment we do not know whether the current pool will be in operation in 2023. It all depends on the

progress of the new sports and recreation centre. If the final architectural drawings are approved, and if we are able to go to tender and receive bids within our proposed budget, and if the demolition and construction can begin in the spring of 2023, then the current pool will not be operational next summer. However, if these steps are delayed, then the current pool may survive one more summer.

The Recreation Team is in discussion with neighbouring municipalities regarding the use of their outdoor pool and rink for our residents while ours are out of commission. We will keep you apprised of developments as the year goes on.

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

THE IMPORTANCE OF FRENCH DRAINS

On September 14, *The Montreal Gazette* mentioned that “diluvian rains dumped a month’s worth of precipitation on Montreal in just two hours.”. Unfortunately, and as scary as that caption reads, diluvian rains have become all too familiar.



Such events increase the risks of water damage to our homes and buildings; however, there are measures that property owners must take to help prevent

flooding and long-term damage to our properties. Some of these measures are outlined in the Town’s Building by-laws, 2009-010 section 2.1.7. For example, this section deals with the installation of a French drain in main buildings. A french drain, a fancy name for a trench filled with a perforated pipe and gravel, is designed to funnel stormwater away from your property’s foundation.

The Town of Montreal West’s by-law stipulates that all main buildings must be equipped with a French drain and this drain has to be connected to the Town’s drainage system. In addition, the building’s drain system must be equipped with a backwater valve and a catch basin built to the Quebec Plumbing Code and, in the case where the driveway has a downward slope toward the house, the catch basin must be equipped with a sump pump.

Please note that the installation of drains, including eavestroughs requires a permit. For more information please consult the Town’s website or contact Agata Palarchio at 514-481-4858 or by email at apalarchio@montreal-west.ca.

Trivia: The French drain is named after Henry Flagg French, a judge and a farmer in Massachusetts, who wrote a book about farm drainage in 1859. Now you know!

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



LICENSE TO THRILL

You spoke and we listened! On August 24, 2022, the Town of Montreal West was very pleased to announce electronic payments for permits, including permits for dog and cat licences.

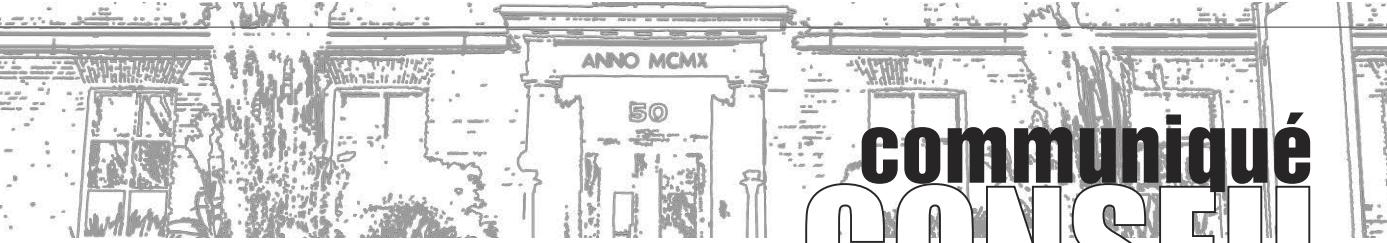
This new process will simplify the application and payment process for our four-legged family members. Since COVID, we have seen an uptick of canines and felines in our neighborhood, but current statistics do not reflect the increased trend. Licences are required for all dogs and are renewable on January 1st of each year. Dog tags should be worn at all times and assist Public Security to return lost dogs to their owners, as well as grant access to the Town’s dog park next to Town Hall.

Although Public Security do their best to reunite lost dogs with their family, unclaimed dogs without tags are con-

sidered abandoned and will be transported to a local animal shelter. Licences are also required for cats and are valid for the life of the animal. Again, having a tag can assist, when our more independent furry friends decide to fly the coop!

Please take time to register your pets today! We hope that you find this new and improved system beneficial and user friendly.

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



communiqué du CONSEIL

RAPPORT DU MAIRE



J'espère que vous et vos familles avez passé un bel été. Il est bon de revenir à la normale. La loi 96 a été adoptée le 24 mai 2022 et est entrée en vigueur le 1^{er} juin. Il y a de nombreux aspects problématiques dans cette loi.

En tant que président de l'Association des municipalités de banlieue (AMB), j'ai pu présenter notre mémoire au comité qui étudie le projet de loi 96 à la fin septembre, avant son adoption. Certains des aspects problématiques concernent l'accès des étudiants francophones et allophones aux cégeps anglophones, ce qui peut mettre en péril l'avenir de ces institutions.

De plus, une disposition de la loi peut faire perdre à une ville son statut bilingue si le pourcentage de résidents qui se disent de langue maternelle anglaise tombe en dessous de 50 %.

Notre population change, mais nous sommes encore loin d'être en danger de perdre notre statut bilingue.

Le ministre Simon Jolin-Barrette nous a jeté un os à ronger en modifiant la loi pour permettre à une ville de maintenir son statut bilingue simplement en adoptant une résolution à cet effet. Certaines des autres villes liées de l'AMB ont déjà adopté une telle résolution.

Par contre, l'AMB a reçu un avis juridique de l'un des plus importants cabinets d'avocats du Québec qui stipule clairement qu'une résolution visant à maintenir le statut bilingue n'est valable

qu'après que la ville ait été informée par l'OQLF que son statut bilingue sera retiré.

En d'autres termes, toutes ces résolutions déjà adoptées ne sont d'aucune utilité pour le moment. Je tiens à vous assurer que si nous sommes informés que nous pourrions perdre notre statut bilingue, nous adopterons immédiatement une résolution pour le maintenir.

Prenez soin de vous,

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

QUEL GASPILLAGE !



Saviez-vous qu'octobre est le mois de l'économie circulaire au Canada ? Cela signifie le lancement d'une campagne nationale de sensibilisation à la réduction des déchets, à la conservation des ressources et à l'éducation communautaire pour un mode de vie durable. Que sera la participation de Montréal-Ouest?

Nous nous joindrons officiellement au mouvement en nous engageant à la réduction des déchets et figurerons donc sur la liste des villes canadiennes qui se sont engagées à soutenir une économie circulaire. Mais qu'est-ce qu'un engagement sans action?

En matière d'éducation de la communauté, nous ajouterons deux nouveaux onglets sur le site Web, l'un portant sur le zéro déchet et l'autre sur le gaspillage alimentaire. Ces ressources peuvent vous aider à adopter des trucs pour réduire vos déchets. N'hésitez pas à les consulter.

Par ailleurs, le Comité d'action environnementale organisera son premier défi zéro déchet pour 15 à 20 familles qui

tiendront leur propre journal de bord des déchets. Ces données nous permettront de savoir ce qui est vraiment jeté et où. Nous organiserons un atelier pour préparer les participants avant qu'ils ne débutent le défi à la maison. Bien que nous pensons savoir comment réduire et trier nos déchets, des études montrent que nous nous trompons souvent. Les ménages composés de plusieurs personnes posent un défi particulièrement difficile. Cette activité de deux semaines sera certainement une révélation pour ceux qui y participeront. Un sommaire des résultats sera ensuite transmis à l'ensemble de la communauté afin que nous puissions tous apprendre de leur aventure.

Enfin, ne manquez pas notre concours d'Halloween de l'art à partir de déchets, où vous êtes invités à créer des costumes et des décorations uniquement à partir de matériaux recyclés que vous aurez ramassés en octobre. Qui a dit que les déchets n'étaient pas amusants ?

Vous voulez approfondir vos connaissances de l'économie circulaire? Consultez les sites <https://wrwcanada.com/fr> et <https://circularinnovation.ca/> pour les passionnés de réduction des déchets du monde entier. Bonne lecture !

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





PROGRAMMES DE LOISIRS D'ÉTÉ – CETTE ANNÉE ET CELLE À VENIR

Après deux années de programmation réduite en raison de la pandémie, il était merveilleux de voir les programmes de loisirs battre leur plein l'été dernier. Le camp de jour et le camp du centre communautaire étaient de retour à la normale en termes de campeurs et de ratios, tout comme les cours de conditionnement physique et les événements spéciaux.

Les abonnements à la piscine étaient nombreux en raison du beau temps chaud avec plus de 350 abonnements, dépassant nos chiffres de 2019. Les cours et l'équipe de natation étaient complets et achalandés. La saison de piscine s'est terminée par un barbecue pour adultes très réussi qui s'est tenu le 27 août. Merci à tous les bénévoles qui ont organisé cet événement.

Qu'adviendra-t-il de la piscine en 2023 ?

Alors que la saison touchait à sa fin, de nombreux habitués de la piscine ont demandé quel serait l'impact du nouveau centre sportif et récréatif proposé sur la piscine pour l'été 2023.

En fait, à l'heure actuelle, nous ne savons pas si la piscine actuelle sera en service en 2023. Tout dépend de l'avancement du nouveau centre. Si les dessins architecturaux finaux sont approuvés,

et si nous sommes en mesure de lancer un appel d'offres et de recevoir des soumissions à l'intérieur du budget proposé, et si la démolition et la construction peuvent commencer au printemps 2023, alors la piscine actuelle ne sera pas opérationnelle l'été prochain. Cependant, si ces étapes sont retardées, alors la piscine pourrait survivre un été de plus.

L'équipe des loisirs est en discussion avec les municipalités voisines concernant l'utilisation de leurs piscines extérieures et de leurs arénas pour nos résidents pendant que les nôtres sont hors service. Nous vous tiendrons au courant des développements au cours de l'année.

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



DES PERMIS POUR VOS COMPAGNONS À QUATRE PATTES

Vous nous l'avez demandé, nous vous avons écouté ! Le 24 août 2022, la Ville de Montréal-Ouest avait le plaisir d'annoncer le lancement du paiement électronique des permis, y compris les permis pour chiens et chats.

Cette nouvelle solution simplifie le processus de demande de permis pour nos chers compagnons à quatre pattes. Depuis la COVID, nous avons constaté une augmentation du nombre de chiens et de chats dans notre communauté, mais les statistiques actuelles ne reflètent pas cette tendance à la hausse. Les permis sont obligatoires pour tous les chiens et doivent être renouvelés le 1^{er} janvier de chaque année. Les chiens doivent porter leurs médailles en tout temps afin que la Sécurité publique puisse facilement retourner les chiens perdus à leurs maîtres et pour accéder au parc à chiens municipal.

Bien que la Sécurité publique fasse de son mieux pour retourner les chiens

perdus à leur famille, les chiens non réclamés sans médaille sont considérés comme abandonnés et seront transportés dans un refuge local. Des permis sont également requis pour les chats, et sont valides pour la durée de vie de l'animal. La médaille peut être utile lorsque nos minous, plus indépendants, décident de s'enfuir !

Prenez le temps d'enregistrer vos animaux dès aujourd'hui. Nous espérons que vous trouverez ce nouveau système convivial et simple à utiliser.

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

L'IMPORTANCE DES DRAINS FRANÇAIS

Le 14 septembre, le *Montréal Gazette* écrivait que des pluies diluviales ont déversé sur Montréal l'équivalent d'un mois de précipitations en seulement deux heures. Ce nouveau phénomène effrayant est malheureusement devenu chose courante.



De tels événements augmentent les risques de dégâts d'eau dans nos maisons et nos bâtiments. Cependant, il existe des mesures que nous devons prendre pour aider à prévenir les inondations et les dommages à long terme à nos propriétés. Certaines de ces mesures sont décrites dans l'article 2.1.7 du règlement municipal sur la construction (2009-010). Cet article traite de l'installation d'un drain français dans tout bâtiment principal. Un drain français, un nom fantaisiste pour une tranchée remplie d'un tuyau perforé et de gravier, est conçu pour éloigner les eaux pluviales des fondations de votre propriété.

Le règlement de la Ville de Mo-Ouest stipule que tout bâtiment principal doit être équipé d'un drain français et que ce dernier doit être raccordé au système de drainage municipal. Le système de drainage doit également être muni d'un clapet anti-refoulement et d'une fosse de retenue construits selon le Code de plomberie du Québec et dans le cas où l'entrée de garage a une pente descendante vers la maison, la fosse de retenue doit être également munie d'une pompe à vidange fonctionnelle.

Veuillez noter que l'installation de drains, y compris les gouttières, nécessite un permis. Pour plus d'information, veuillez consulter le site web de la Ville ou contacter Agata Palarchio au 514-481-4858 ou par courriel à apalarchio@montreal-ouest.ca.

Fait intéressant : Le drain français est nommé après Henry Flagg French, un juge et un agriculteur du Massachusetts, qui a écrit un livre sur le drainage agricole en 1859.

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