

Quebec Award presented to Janet King

Janet King, our ever-beloved Brown Owl, has been an active member of Guiding in Montreal West since 1987. She has held various positions from unit Guider to District Commissioner and everything in between. This past December, she officially retired.

Janet was always one for making sure her co-Guiders were recognized for their service when they went above and beyond what was expected from someone who was volunteering at weekly meetings. Her Guiding CV was six pages long! It covers everything she has done in Guiding. From the first time she registered, to all the camps she has attended, to all the awards she has been given.

This past August, a small group of current and former members who have had the

pleasure of being taught by Brown Owl or working with her, or both, gathered in her home to present her with the Quebec Award. Our very own **Mayor Masella** was even there for the event. This award is given to Quebec Guiders who are in good standing who have contributed greatly to Guiding in our province. The Guider must already have been awarded the Gold Merit award in recognition of her outstanding service to Guiding, which she received in 2005. The ways she has contributed to Guiding in Montreal West and our province are far too numerous to list. The traditions she has shared with us will continue to be taught, and passed on to the young members of Guiding. Brown Owl's light will continue to shine.



Photo: Bob Barnes



Making *Elegance On a Nudist Beach*

MoWester's resilient multi-instrumentalist, Dom Hemelas, finds musical solace amidst pandemic challenges with fab titled *Elegance On a Nudist Beach*.

MP3s, WAVs, Photos, Bio and All Assets Here *Without a Shadow of a Doubt* YouTube and Spotify Bandcamp

All you need are ears

Like for all of us, the pandemic presented Montreal-based multi-instrumentalist **Dom Hemelas** with more questions than answers. Locked in his basement and isolated from the outside, he chose a path of

positivity rather than wallow; Dom threw himself into his music, recorded songs written past and present, and relished the burden of playing all parts.

Three years later, his self-titled and fully self-created LP *Elegance On a Nudist Beach* is a reality, named after his group.

Dom is responsible for the entirety of the album's songwriting, vocals, instrumentals, mixing, and mastering. That includes the lead single from the Lebanese Canadian musician's project, *Without a Shadow of a Doubt*.

continued on page 15

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The JCC Maccabi Games are considered the Jewish teen Olympics. They are held every summer in a different host city within North America, but this summer for the first time since 2011, the host was Israel. JCC Maccabi Games is an opportunity for thousands of Jewish teen athletes to compete in a wide variety of sports, learn more about their culture and meet Jewish athletes from all over the world.

The 2023 Maccabi U17 tournament hockey games were July 9-13. Players ranging from ages 14 to 17 are invited to participate in a five-day tournament and then in a two-week tour of Israel.

Eight teams took part, from as far away as Montreal, Toronto, Western Canada, New York, California as well as the home team IIHF U18 men's team.

MW resident and former MWH hockey player, **Levi Kolesnikow** was apart of the delegation representing Team Montreal. Levi got his start at the Legion Rink with **Ann MacKay** at Can Power and **Eric Raymond** at Future Stars. He played for the MWH Knights for two seasons and then played double letters with Westluc for two

MoWester plays for Team Montreal at JCC Maccabi Games

seasons. In Pee Wee, Levi was selected to play for the Lac St-Louis Lions AAA and he's currently playing LSL Lions M17AAA.

Team Montreal's U17 hockey team included athletes from CSL, DDO and St-Laurent. Levi was the only MoWest resident on the team, but MoWest was very well represented by him! Normally a defenceman he played forward at the games scoring at least 1 goal in all 7 games. He had 2 hat tricks and assisted on other goals.

My husband and I followed a few days later after the team. We packed our Team Montreal hoodies and I brought my cow bell to help cheer on the hockey team. Anyone that has played on one of my son's hockey teams knows I love to encourage the athletes with the bell!

The entire team wanted to win and they were unstoppable. I rang my bell often. They played great and won all their games!

Coach **Harold Hersh** deserves a lot of credit says Levis mom, **Ally Stern**.

Team Montreal kept winning, beating the home team in the semi finals, advancing to the finals against the Long Island New York team. The team went on to win the Gold medal in the final game with a final score of 3-0, with our very own MW player Levi scoring the last goal. The MWH Knights are so proud of their former player and send him their congratulations!

Once the games ended the players went on a two-week tour of Israel touring with Team Morocco and Team OC (California). There were parties, they swam in the Mediterranean and Dead Seas, they toured Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, they climbed up Masada and went rafting in the Golan Heights. What an incredible experience!

from Ally Stern



THE INFORMER

10 Westminister North
Montreal West, Quebec
H4X 1Y9

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

Le rôle de *l'Informer* est de fournir aux gens de Montréal-Ouest de l'information sur leur ville et ses citoyens afin de favoriser l'atmosphère de petite ville et de proximité qui fait de Montréal-Ouest un endroit spécial où vivre.

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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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René Boucher, Cynthia Koomas, Lise McVey, Jeanne Ragbir

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NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

October 4

in memoriam

Beverley Kerr

October 27, 1949-
July 21, 2023

Beverley Kerr passed away suddenly July 21, after a life well-lived and a history of volunteerism in Montreal West.

Beverley and **Peter** lived for nearly 10 years in Toronto before returning to Montreal and buying their home at 342 Ballantyne North and where they lived for 34 years. Beverley and Peter raised their children **Lesley** and **Andy** in that home, where Beverley was like a second mother to Lesley and Andy's friends.

Beverley was an accomplished professional with a bachelor and master's degree from McGill University. She had many professional successes, including Manager of Employment at the University of Toronto.

Beverley's greatest accomplishments were in creating a loving home for her children and their friends, and her community involvement.

Beverley taught Sunday school at MW United Church, volunteered at the MW Public Library, the St. Mary's Hospital boutique and MW Meal on Wheels, and of course, the BBQ pits on Canada Day. For ten years, Beverley worked at *L'Abri en Ville*, making a positive contribution to people living with mental illness.

She became an accomplished travel writer and was a favoured correspondent for many travel public relations companies and their clients.

In a service led by Reverend **Sally Myers**, a celebration of Beverley's Life took place on July 28 at MW United Church. Beverley loved music from *The American Songbook* and jazz pianist **Taurey Butler** played some of her favourite selections.



Remembering

Every year during the week of November 11, Canadians pause in a silent moment of remembrance for the men and women who have served and continue to serve our country during times of war, military conflict and peace.

Attending Remembrance Day ceremonies is a well-known way to remember the sacrifices and achievements of over one and a half million Canadians who served and continue to serve our country at home and abroad.

Montreal West will be holding our Remembrance service at our Cenotaph on Westminster Ave South on Sunday, November 5 at 12:30 pm. There will be a parade from the United Church (Westminster and Curzon) starting at noon.

Taking an active role to remember the 118,000 Canadians who have died so that we may live in peace and freedom is a small way for all of us to say "thank you."

We must never forget the contributions and sacrifices of the Canadians who have served and are serving our country Canada – especially those who did not return.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 5 at 12:30 pm, Montreal West Cenotaph.

See you all there young and not so young

from Joan Foster

Whisky and Wisdom

Scotch tasting fundraiser
at Public Library

Whisky Night at the library is back!

The library is excited to host an educational and fun night of whisky tasting on Saturday, November 4 at 7:30 pm.



Luc Lefebvre will guide us through a tasting of eight malt whiskies and help us understand the wonderful world of malt. It promises to be a special experience, sampling a range of styles amidst the library's collection at 41 Westminster Avenue North.

Space is limited, so reserve your places soon! All proceeds are in support of the library. Tickets are \$165 per person (a tax receipt for \$100 will be provided).

For tickets and further information, please contact **Todd Georgieff** at toddgeorgieff@gmail.com or call **973-9127**.

The end of an era. Montreal West's Legion Arena as of September 22, 2023. © Julia Ross



Artists' Showcase

Fall 2023

**Seascapes
and summer memories**

MoWest amateur and professional artists of all ages are invited to display their art on the Town website. Application deadline: September 29. To find out more about the Artists' Showcase or to get an application form, go to the MoWest website under "culture" or pick up a form at the Community Centre or contact Recreation and Cultural Services, **484-6186**.

Montreal West The Garden Suburb

There are some beautiful gardens in Montreal West and area. Every so often the garden club showcases them with a slide show/PowerPoint presentation, and the time has come for another reveal. Chosen are some oldies but goodies as well as some newbies. To see what stands the test of time, and what's new, come to the Gardening Club meeting on Monday, October 16.

The picture show presentation will take place at the Town Hall on October 16 at 7:30 pm. If not already a member, \$5 will get you in the door. As well as the presentation, there will be tea and coffee, cake and cookies.



Rotary

Meetings and events fall 2023

Enjoy a speaker at a \$25 Thursday lunch (noon) or Friday evening dessert and coffee (free, 7-9 pm). Please check our web-site (Rotary Montreal West & NDG portal.clubrunner.ca/9719) calendar or email mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com. We meet at the Town Hall.

Thursday, October 5, noon

Speaker **David Heurtel**, former MNA Breaking the Stalemate: Navigating the Current Political Climate. Guests welcome to attend with no lunch, but complimentary coffee and dessert. RSVP mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com or call Giuliana Pendenza: 943-9310

Caribbean Evening

Saturday October 7, 7 pm

Five rum tastings, accompanying bouchées and dance lessons. Proceeds will go to support disadvantaged youth and the Rotary Foundation. \$75. Tickets: mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com

Friday October 20, 7 pm

Guest speaker is **Noam Schnitzer**, Director of Real Estate Development, *SAJO Construction* discussing long-term benefits of the sports and recreation centre and The Easton projects to the Town of Montreal West. \$10, BYOB, coffee and dessert. RSVP mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com or call Giuliana Pendenza: 943-9310.

Thursday, October 26, noon

Namuwongo Literacy Project, Uganda. A small but dedicated group of Montreal volunteers and a board of educated and responsible Ugandans are determined to help the children of Namuwongo thrive through education. Guests welcome.

Oyster Party

Friday November 10, 7 pm

All you can eat oysters, cold cuts and salad buffet, bar, auction. Tickets mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com

Garbage Bowl Association fundraiser

Saturday, December 2, 7 pm

Tickets mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com

Christmas Party

Friday, December 15, 6:30 pm

Tickets mowest.ndg.rotary@gmail.com

Club de Montréal-Ouest & NDG

Rotary

Club of Montreal West & NDG



IODE



Moira Bettinville

First meeting after summer break



Our busy bee members have been very hard at work throughout the summer. **Moira**

Bettinville, a retired psychiatric nurse who has adopted a second Grade 3 Inuit class in Labrador, has knitted daily for 4-5 hours a day, seven days a week.

What is special this year is that she took a course with **Anne Smith** at the Public Library, where she learned how to recycle woolen sweaters and turn them into mittens. So creative is she that you would

never know some of her sweaters were almost family heirlooms. Along with the mittens, tuques and socks,

Holiday gifts will all be shipped next month. **Heather Ferguson** has enjoyed making grooming bags, filling them with toiletries, and delivering them to *Auberge Transition* for over ten years.

She has started holiday jewellery pouches, all destined to reach the women's shelter.

Stay tuned for our spa/salon raffle fundraiser to benefit Nurses' Bursary Fund.

Heather Ferguson



Mailbox

Westminster and Avon (St. Jacques)



I have been concerned for some time about the lack of setbacks on Westminster and Avon (St. Jacques) in The Easton development in Montreal West.

I have combined a Google Earth screenshot and a drone photo, and annotated the result (please see below).

The “bump outs” I refer to in the annotated image, are based on the architect’s rendering at The Easton site (see attached), as well as obvious results from the placement and extent of this new building in our midst.

Traffic has been historically bad at the rail crossing at Westminster and Sherbrooke. To add to this, during the construction of The Easton, sections of Westminster and Avon (St. Jacques) have been reduced to three lanes, with further traffic delays.

It seems like the realization of The Easton will permanently place bottlenecks at one of the area’s busiest intersections.

As Westminster and St. Jacques are part of the larger City of Montreal, it begs the question: was Montreal consulted – and informed – of this major change to two of its traffic arteries?

Regards,

Bob Soden

Response from Mayor Masella

In response to the query by Mr. Soden regarding the corner of Westminster and Avon, I feel it important to share some of the facts.

That corner has been problematic for decades. Having many pedestrians and two busy streets using the same space is the obvious root of the problem. Add in the problem caused by a 5-road geometry. We have had

that whole intersection studied a few times by traffic engineers when the idea of a traffic roundabout was considered. The traffic engineers determined that the intersection is not large enough to properly configure a roundabout.

The situation worsened during the reconstruction of the Turcot interchange, returned to some form of normalcy after that project was completed and is now facing more challenges during the construction of the building at the corner. The post-construction plans envision bump-outs on the Westminster side of the intersection to help increase pedestrian safety. But that will be re-validated after the building construction is completed and we have an updated “lay of the land” undertaken by traffic engineers.

Some of the changes brought upon us by the different challenges there have proven to be beneficial. For example, the traffic lights that were temporarily installed during the Turcot rebuild have proven very efficient at both increasing pedestrian safety and allowing efficient flow of traffic. I believe the lights will become a permanent fixture at that intersection. As well, making Easton one-way westbound has also made the corner more easy to navigate for cars and pedestrians.

We would see a major benefit by reducing the number of cars that pass that intersection daily. But, I believe, that will only happen when there is an outlet at the other end – a completed Cavendish-Cavendish connection – to help relieve the pressure here.

And finally, Westminster and Avon are roads in Montreal West. And though they may be arterial, the responsibility for their design, configuration and maintenance lays solely with Montreal West and has absolutely nothing to do with Montreal. Montreal West will continue, as we always have, to rely on experts to guide our choices for road safety.

*Beny Masella Mayor,
Montreal West*

If not in my back yard, then where?

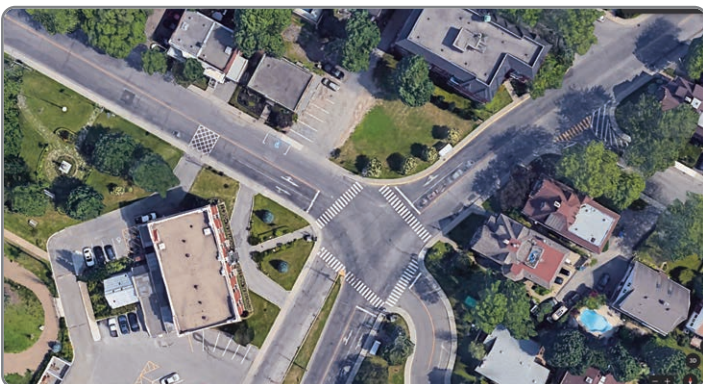
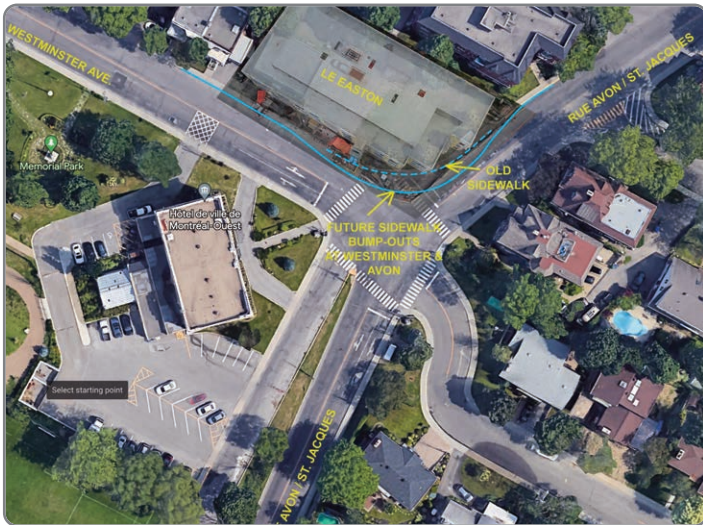


I read with mixed feelings the story by **Deborah Cere** (“Community

Triumph”) concerning the successful efforts of the Brock and Ballantyne south community to prevent the installation of a minimum-security prison, some thirty years ago. On the one hand I understand the need to preserve the safety and charm of a neighborhood. I live in Côte St Luc, just next to the Montreal West border, and I and my son benefit from and appreciate the safe and welcoming streets and community of MoWest; my son has just graduated after seven years at Edinburgh Elementary. On the other hand, Mrs. Cere’s story is an example of the NIMBY (Not in my backyard) phenomenon, where ‘residents oppose undesirable developments because they are close to them, but would tolerate them or support them if they were built farther away’. Such developments, (for example homeless shelters, power plants and landfills in addition to prisons), are often necessary for society. When residents unite to prevent their installation, they are simply built elsewhere, often in disadvantaged neighborhoods, where residents do not have the resources or connections to oppose them.

As a parent and resident, I definitely understand the perspective of Mrs. Cere – I would also view the installation of a nearby minimum-security prison with great trepidation. However, I do believe that in addition to residents coming together to oppose undesirable developments in their neighborhoods, we should also think about the bigger picture, the needs of the larger society and perhaps more equitable ways to determine the location of these developments. I do not have the answers to this issue, but feel it is worth thinking about.

from Ernest Lo



West End Quilters

The *West End Quilters* are meeting again after the summer break. There was a large turnout for our first meeting at MW United Church including a couple of new members. Some people took the summer off, but others continued to quilt. The Show & Tell had more tells than shows, but **Moishe** kept pulling quilts from his bag, **Monique** had another scrap quilt all done, **Gloria** had quilt tops and placemats to show, **Ann** a lovely beaded bracelet and **Allison** an Eye Spy quilt for her first grandchild.

We have a new program set up for the year with retreats, workshops, demonstrations, community projects, sew days with *Loose Threads* of Côte Saint-Luc and other fun things to keep us very busy.

Next time, **Anna** and **Barbara** will unveil our yearly challenge. The word "sassy" was thrown around and although it was an email auto-correct, it just might be our word of the year! Happy quilting. Check out facebook.com/westendquilters/.

from Mary Sutherland

Allison made the quilt for her first grandchild



Children's Library



Some of the participants in the flower pounding activity in September with their flower-decorated bags

Author Visit – Yayo

Yayo is a renowned author and illustrator raised in Colombia, living and working in Québec. His superb illustrations have won many prestigious awards – Mr. Christi Book Prize, Charles Biddle Award, Concours Lux. The picture book *Pikiq* (2015), written and illustrated by him, was a finalist for the Governor General's Award in 2016. We have chosen *Pikiq* as our StoryWalk® for this fall, it be can read it in front of the library. You have the great opportunity of

meeting Yayo in person! He will be visiting the Library on October 21, at 11 am. Just pass by and enjoy the time with Yayo who is going to read from his books and show you some illustration techniques. No registration is required for this activity.

Origami

On Saturday, October 14, 11 am, join us as we have fun with origami. Aimed at children 6 to 12 years old, this activity will teach you the five basic folding techniques from a single sheet which will turn into different paper structures. Please contact us for registration.

Halloween at the library

Our traditional Halloween activity will take place on Saturday, October 28, 11 am. As usual, you will enjoy some spooky stories, followed by pumpkin decoration. The pumpkins are provided by the library! Don't forget to come dressed in a Halloween costume to add to the ambiance of the event. A reminder: the library has a rich collection of children's costumes you can borrowed as any other library item.

If you are interested in joining any of the programs, check out our web-site for the dates and times of the upcoming session.



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Kosher corner

Sukkot and Simchat Torah!

With the conclusion of another memorable high holiday season in Montreal West, we usher in the joyous holiday of Sukkot!

On Tuesday, October 3, 5-7 pm will be the annual community Sukkot BBQ. Join us for great company and delicious food in the sukka.

If you would like to purchase a lulav and etrog set for your family, please contact Rabbi **Mendy Marlow**.

The highlight and climax of the holiday season is Simchat Torah – when we celebrate completing the entire Torah and starting the new cycle. For the first time ever, Chabad Westminister will be holding celebrations both on the eve of Simchat Torah Saturday, October 7 (preceded by Yizkor) as well as Sunday, October 8 Simchat Torah. Dancing and fun for the whole family!

Jewish Women's Circle

Jewish Women's Circle was launched with over 50 participants in the pre-Rosh Hashanah Challah bake! Join the evening of games and sushi on Wednesday, October 18.

New Courses from JLI!

For the first time ever, Jewish Learning Institute flagship courses are being offered here in Montreal West. The first season will begin in November with a six-week course titled *The World of Kabbalah: Revealing how its mystical secrets relate to you*.

For more information, please visit chabadwestminister.com/JLI.

from Rabbi Marlow

Montreal West Public Library

MWPL's 50th anniversary

Celebrating all year and celebrating our volunteers

481-7522

41 Westminister N.

Reservations/requests:

mwlib.requests@gmail.com



Visit us online: mwpl.ca

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday:
noon-6 pm

Autumn has come to the library in full force, although, the weather in September seemed to say summer is still here! Our crafting activities have started and are now in full swing. The library started with Hooked on Crocheting and a small, dedicated group is taking on the challenge to learn how to crochet, including me. Having never crocheted before, it is one I am embracing, but boy do I feel like I am all thumbs!

This year as library week's theme is "You've changed and so has your library", we invite you to visit us if you haven't already to see what's new things we do and what we still do. Check mwpl.ca to see a listing of events from Tea and Books to another tea tasting, to visible mending and knit and knatter.

The Public Library's library of things

For the next few issues, we will be describing some of the items that are housed in your local library that you may not be aware of. Did you know that the library has a selection of games that you can borrow for

a period of one week at a time? Our games include the game of Life, Monopoly and Settlers of Catan to name a few. Feel free to borrow a game for your next family night.

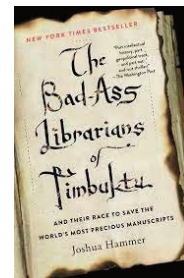
from Deborah Marcogliese

What are you reading now?

from by Ellen Moore

The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: and their race to save the world's most precious manuscripts

by Joshua Hammer



I was astounded when I started reading this book to encounter a whole different world: Mali, where families save manuscripts instead of silver or china as their patrimony and where the city of Timbuktu was the centre of the Islamic and African

worlds in the 15th century. People there pursued knowledge about medicine, law, physics, astronomy, poetry, religion and a whole lot else and wrote down what they were discovering in beautiful Arabic scripts, then decorated the manuscripts with intricate geometric designs. By the late 20th century, though, Timbuktu had become a backwater and the manuscripts were in danger of disappearing.

Enter Abdul Ra-man Haidera, whose knowledge of two native Malian languages plus Arabic and French enabled him to gather funds world-wide and use them to buy the manuscripts of his fellow Timbuktuans and put them in a communal library, where they were well preserved and many were repaired. Then in 2011 a new problem, Islamic jihadists, whose understanding of Islam is much narrower than that expressed in the manuscripts, endangering them in a very immediate way. How Haidera managed, with the help of many co-workers, to purchase enough strong-boxes for the manuscripts and then transport them by donkey and boat to a safe place during the jihadi occupation of Mali is another amazing saga in this short book. I'm still in awe.

If there is a library book that moved you, inspired you or you just found a particularly good read please email us at info@mwpl.ca and we will be happy to include your thoughts in our next review.

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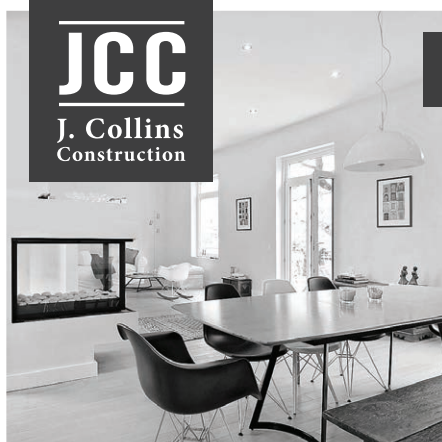
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Edinburgh Elementary



Abby Logan

— A sixth grader's perspective —

I stared at the big school in front of me. I had no front teeth and a brand-new uniform and was excited to meet friends, learn and explore the world around me. This day doesn't seem so long ago, and the school doesn't seem so big now. I have finally made it to the last year of Edinburgh Elementary!

It's barely been a month being the oldest grade at Edinburgh, but I already realize how much my perspective on school has changed over the years.

When I first started school, I was eager to make new friends and learn new skills – there wasn't a worry in my head. However, as time has passed, I have grown more aware of the pressures and expectations that come with being an older student. I feel the need to do well in all of my classes and work hard to make sure I'm meeting the expectations that have been set for me. It's not all about recess and playtime.

That's not to say that these last seven years have only been about work. The friendships and crazy memories I have created at this school will forever follow me in my journey after Edinburgh.

I remember telling one of my friends in grade 3 "I can't wait to be in grade 6." I had always looked up to the grade sixers as role models and now I'm finally one myself!

It's partly sad to think that we are not coming back after this year, and most people will go their separate ways, but I know wherever anyone ends up it is where they are meant to be. We will excel because Edinburgh has taught us to adapt to new situations and challenges with a smile.

On day one of high school, we will have all our teeth, a new uniform, more wisdom and I bet high school will seem pretty big.

*from Abby Logan
age 11*

Scouts

Blood donor clinic

Monday, October 30, there will be a blood donor clinic sponsored by the MoWest Scout Group, at St. Philip's Church, from 1:30 to 7 pm, and operated by *Héma-Québec*.

Donation of blood is an important aspect of the medical field. The use of blood, or one of its components is essential for the healthy recovery of many patients – every 80 seconds someone in Quebec needs blood

– and scientists have not yet found an artificial substitute.

Our clinic is one of only three (aside from the two permanent centres) to be held that day on the Island of Montreal, and our objective of 70 donations represents 26% of the number of donations expected to be received in Montreal that day. And so, it is extremely important that we do our best to meet our objective.

Collecting one bag of 450 ml of blood takes an average of 10 minutes, and the

whole procedure, including registering, screening, donating and resting afterwards should take about an hour. (If many people arrive at the same time, it might take longer, but we and the *Héma-Québec* staff do our best to expedite things.)

It is advisable to make an appointment, at either hema-quebec.qc.ca or 1-800-343-7264. If a person comes at a time when it is not too busy, they will be welcomed without an appointment.

All the medical tasks of the clinic are performed by the professional staff of *Héma-Québec*. But volunteers are required to help things run more smoothly; They do the initial registration, show people where to go, serve snacks and chat with the donors. This side of things has been organized for about 25 years by the MW Scout Group. We are not permitted to use our youth members, so we call upon Scouters, parents and members of the general public.

For information about the donation process and the uses of the blood donated, please go to the *Héma-Québec* website at hema-quebec.qc.ca.

If you would like to volunteer at the clinic or want to know more about the Scouts' participation, please call **Bob King** at **481-6523**.

Hope to see you October 30, as a donor or volunteer or both!

For information about our Scout Group please email Karen Johnstone at karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com.



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Guides



The Guiding units in MoWest are off to a great start for this new Guiding year. The units benefited from the lovely weather to hold their meetings outside. As always, the girls play many “get to know you” games with a theme of Guiding and friendship behind them. This is a great help for everyone to quickly become familiar with one another and start the ball rolling to help the new girls learn everything they need to know in order to become enrolled. Enrollments usually happen in October or November, depending upon how the units grow over the course of the fall. We will share the news of the celebrations in upcoming *Inform* articles.

Become a leader!

We have had some longtime leaders move on, and are eager

to welcome new women to join in our fun. You need not have a daughter in one of the units. To be honest, none of our leaders have a daughter in their unit. Why join, you may ask? Why not! You would have a hand in helping the young women of tomorrow find their paths. It is very rewarding to watch them grow and discover new things, and find their passions. The girl's enthusiasm is quite infectious!!

Why buy Girl Guide cookies?

We are happy to share both the traditional sandwich cookies and the chocolate mint cookies available for purchase to support the Guiding units this fall. What does \$6 “get you,” you may ask? Well, a little bit of the profit of each cookie box sold stays within each of the units. Some of it helps to support membership for girls whose

families find it difficult to pay the annual fees. Some of the money goes into scholarships or camperships. You can enjoy the cookies guilt free knowing you have helped a young lady find her way in the world!

If you have any questions, or

would like to purchase some cookies and do not have a Guiding member living nearby, please contact **Pearl** at pearl.barnowl@gmail.com or call her at **483-3303**.

from Christine Downey

Unicorn with some of the Sparks and Embers



MADA

Calling all seniors

Public consultation on age-friendly policy

The Seniors' Advisory Committee has been meeting over the past two years to review the progress on the Town's Age-Friendly/MADA (Municipalité amie des aînés) policy adopted in 2020. In order to bring residents up-to-date on our progress and to solicit input on our future priorities, we invite you to participate in a public consultation.

We are extremely pleased to announce that our keynote speaker for this event will be Montreal West resident, Dr. **Natalie Phillips**. Dr. Phillips is a neuropsychologist and professor in the Department of Psychology at Concordia University as well as a Concordia University Research Chair in Sensory-Cognitive Health in Aging and Dementia. Her research focuses on investigating the relationship between our sensory health (sight, hearing, smell), our cognitive health, and our brain health in aging. I am sure her talk will be both informative and helpful.

There will also be an opportunity for questions and comments, and we will have

pertinent information on hand on issues of concern to seniors.

Please join us on Saturday, October 21, from 1-3:30 pm in the Music Room of the Town Hall. Refreshments will be served. We welcome your participation in our ongoing age-friendly initiatives.

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

Appel à tous les aînés

Consultation publique sur notre politique amie des aînés

Le Comité consultatif des aînés s'est réuni au cours des deux dernières années pour faire le point sur l'avancement de la politique MADA (Municipalité amie des aînés) de la Ville de Montréal-Ouest, adoptée en 2020. Afin de tenir les résidents au courant de notre progrès et de solliciter leurs commentaires sur nos priorités futures, nous vous invitons à participer à une consultation publique.

Nous sommes très heureux d'annoncer que la conférencière principale de cet

événement sera la Dre **Natalie Phillips**, résidente de Montréal-Ouest. Mme Phillips est neuropsychologue et professeure au département de psychologie de l'Université Concordia. Elle est également titulaire de la chaire de recherche de l'Université Concordia sur la santé sensorielle et cognitive dans le vieillissement et la démence. Ses recherches portent sur la relation entre notre santé sensorielle (vue, ouïe, odorat), notre santé cognitive et la santé de notre cerveau au cours du vieillissement. Je suis sûre que son discours sera à la fois instructif et utile.

Nous aurons également l'occasion de poser des questions et de formuler des commentaires, et nous disposerons d'informations pertinentes sur les questions qui préoccupent les personnes âgées.

Joignez-vous à nous le samedi 21 octobre, de 13 h à 15 h 30, dans la Salle de musique de l'hôtel de ville. Des rafraîchissements seront servis. Au plaisir de vous y voir!

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





All of our programming is up and running! Spots are still available in our skating programs as well as basketball, indoor soccer, future stars hockey, judo and Sportball. All our programs, are running full time 7 days a week, at LCC arena, Concordia and CSL rinks, Royal West and Elizabeth Ballantyne gyms.

If you need more information, please email us or check out our website:

infocra@mtlwestcra.ca
www.mwcrasports.ca.

Pre-school skate

This is one of our cutest classes, open to skaters 3 and 4 years old. We keep the ratio very small between coaches and skaters. In this class skaters learn to stand, shuffle and glide over a 10-week period by using games, toys and lots of encouragement. It is run out of the Concordia arena on Sunday morning.

Skating lesson

Mackenzie Bullett and her team of coaches were so excited to get back on the ice with everyone. Classes run Sunday mornings at Concordia. Everyone from non-skaters to more experienced ones are welcome to join in the fun. They will work with their coach through various stations as they learn new skills.

Figure skating

Coach **Mackenzie Bullett** has everyone back on the ice at CSL arena on Saturday afternoons. This program introduces skaters to the sport of figure skating in a relaxed atmosphere. We look forward to the end of year show in March

Future Stars hockey

This is a great program to introduce our youngest players (4-5-6 years old) to the sport of hockey. Skaters are on the ice

twice a week on the weekends at Concordia rink learning the game of hockey through skill stations, games and drills.

Indoor basketball

This program is run out of Elizabeth Ballantyne on Thursdays (boys) and Fridays (girls) under the guidance of **David Steiner** and his team of coaches. There are two sessions, one in the fall and one in the winter.

Judo

Led by our sensei **Vincent Scotto** from *Judo-Québec*, everyone learns the basic moves and holds, they are progressing quickly and we hope to have our first belting ceremony near the holidays.

Indoor soccer

This program is run out of the RWA gym and is always popular. Classes run Monday to

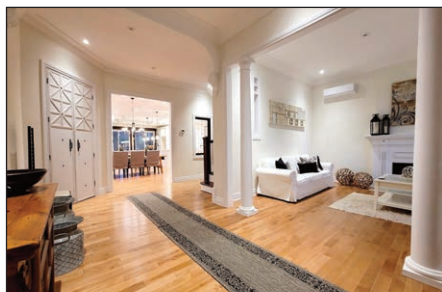
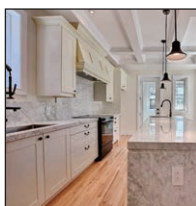
Thursday with players ranging in age from ages 5 to 18+. Registration for the winter session opens on November 1.

Gymnastics

This program is our most popular program as we welcome back our head coach **Sarah Faith**. Kids learn the basic skills of gymnastics such as bridges, splits, cartwheels and pullovers. We are even hoping to have a mini routine ready by the holidays! Registration for the winter session opens on November 1.

Sportball

This is a 10-week program run out of Elizabeth Ballantyne school Monday evenings. It teaches participants eight different types of sports such as baseball, tennis and football.



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Making Elegance On a Nudist Beach

continued from page 1

On the fifth song of the 10-track album, Hemalas delivers a cryptic tale of time, anguish and fear over a psychedelic instrumental rife with flavor.

*"And why don't you take a pause?
From all those strings in your heart
And I know it's me, yeah I've noticed too
From the start... Ooohhhh..."*

It took Dom three years to produce the project – which was released online on August 14 – since the start of recording, but that's not when the concept began. Undertaking such a task had been on his mind since adolescence – a combined urgency from a Crohn's disease diagnosis seven years ago, an invasive surgery four years ago and a Covid-19 infection while at his most vulnerable in 2020 pushed him to fulfill his long-lost goal of a solo album.

In fact, Dom had planned this for so long that the album's name was decided years before while he was touring with his previous band, *Heroes & Villains*.

"The title was an inside joke that came up on the nudist beach in Toronto," Dom explained. "I was standing there wearing my blazer when everyone around wasn't wearing anything. I declared right then and there, 'If one day I get to record my solo album, it'll be called *Elegance On a Nudist Beach*.'"

His friends agreed and snapped some pictures of him displaying his elegance on the nudist beach. The album cover comes from a photo taken of Dom on that day.

Doing it all by himself was a big deal to Dom, but there was a time when he thought about outside help to finish the album.

"After stumbling on the title from George Martin's book, *All You Need Is Ears*, I felt fuelled with the faith I could pull it off," the artist said.

It wasn't an easy process, but Dom worked with what he had. His basement was his main studio, though later in the pandemic, he utilized his jam space in the east end of Montreal to record late at night, when necessary.

"The learning curve was huge – from production to songwriting to becoming more proficient on the bass and piano," Dom explained. "Most of the songs were about 70 percent there early on, but once they were up for recording, occasional riffs or a whole new section had to be come up with on the spot."

Earlier this year, Dom had the idea of forming a band to perform his project in front of a live audience. That meant putting together a band – he could record it all himself, but a live performance is another beast.

"After many hours putting this LP to-

gether with a lot of attention to detail, the idea of only releasing it online wasn't fathomable," Dom said.

The multi-instrumentalist has been active in the Montreal music scene for close to 20 years. If you stay in any local music scene for that long, you're bound to know a great musician or two. Fortunately for Dom's sake, he knows more than two.

Dom assigned the role of lead singer and guitarist to himself, then enlisted the help of **Dave Lines** (keyboard/piano), **John Gurnsey** (bass), **Chuck Doucet** (lead guitar) and **Yoann Gasniere** (drums) to solidify the crew.

Elegance On a Nudist Beach had its debut live at *Casa Del Popolo* in Montreal on August 25, as performed by his band known by the same name. It was a celebra-

tion of the artist's three years of hard, individual work at the legendary venue in the heart of the city on Saint Laurent Boulevard.

But even if you couldn't make it to *Casa Del Popolo*, you can still enjoy *Elegance On a Nudist Beach*, *Without a Shadow of a Doubt* and the psychedelic sound of Dom Hemalas on streaming – available now!

For more information, please contact: **Eric Alper**, Publicist I Music Commentator I Shameless Idealist

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John Gurnsey - Bass & Backing vocals, Dave Lines - Piano, Keys & Backing Vocals, Charles-Etienne Doucet - Lead Guitar & Backing Vocals, Yoann Gasniere - Drums & Percussion and Dom Hemalas - Lead Vocals & Guitar



Photo: Camille Duquette



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St. Ignatius of Loyola

Welcome, Fr. Garrick!

Over the past few weeks, our parish team has enjoyed getting to know **Fr. Garrick** who recently joined us as Assistant Pastor. Originally from Vancouver and ordained in 2010, Fr. Garrick had been serving the past two years in Lac Mégantic, Québec. Previously, he had been in Montreal at St. Irénée parish in the St. Henri neighbourhood. He has a lot of experience and most importantly, a heart to serve the Church in Quebec and bring more people to an encounter with the Lord. Feel free to drop in to meet him or book an appointment anytime!

Fall Alpha Series

Our 16th Alpha Series just kicked off, and we couldn't be more excited to be welcoming close to 70 guests to our hall each week for a great meal and even better conversations about faith and life's big questions. Curious to learn more or wish to join our next session? Sign up for our waitlist at stig.ca/alpha

Help St. Willibrord's food bank

St. Willibrord, our Missionary Partner Parish, has long been serving members of the Verdun community through its food bank and soup kitchen. It was a busy summer for the food bank, which has left it in urgent need of non-perishable items such as: canned fruits/veggies, canned fish/chicken/

meat, tomato sauces, peanut butter, soups/stews/chilis and instant mashed potatoes. If you're in a position to, we'd much appreciate any help that you can offer. Please bring your food donations (for the items listed above) to St. Ignatius located at 4455 West Broadway any time Monday-Friday between 8 am-5 pm. You'll find a table placed in the left stairwell of the vestibule.

Good Shepherd Atrium: something special for ages 3-9

Did you know that St. Ignatius has one of the largest Good Shepherd Atrium programs in Canada? Since 2018, our dedicated catechists have been helping children to deepen their faith through the Good Shepherd, a program rooted in the principles of Montessori.

from Shawna Rose

MW United

...the brick one

Here comes autumn!

Summer of 2023 will go down on record as a strange one in many weather-related ways. For the most part we have been in a safer part of the country and the world than so many. No matter how we do it, may we send some strength into the universe for those who struggle.

October brings new beginnings

For one, we have sent **Samuel Lee** onto bigger Pipe Organs and wish him well. Incoming then is **Raphël Ashby**, also a doctoral student at McGill. This is not his first rodeo (in church organist terms that is) and so far, he fits in seamlessly. He joins **Christopher Ducasse** our choral conductor (interim), who remains with us for another year. We have not yet been able to defeat him as he is so good at working with whatever voices he has and having fun with that. (Clearly **Samantha Borgal** is having too much fun being in the congregation with wee **Arthur**, so has postponed her return.) Our choir leads return this month so services should come up a notch, musically speaking....

Not to miss!

October 1 is World Wide Communion Sunday.

Wednesday, October 4 we will be reconvening our Indoor Labyrinth Walks. Join us in Wadsworth Hall, in socks or slippers, to tread the ancient pathway toward peace or whatever may come your way. This walking meditation can be as brief as 20

minutes to walk in and retrace your steps back out. Those who relax into it, however, may find the experience more rewarding. Come and see what works for you. No experience necessary.

Thanksgiving **Sunday, October 10** speaks for itself. So, if you aren't closing a cottage, drop on in.

October 15, our Welcome Back Sunday, the *Extra Miles* 25th anniversary celebration – see May/June *Informer* – will miraculously turn our usual soup 'n sandwich lunch into ham and scalloped potatoes (lactose-free at that)! How 'bout them apples?! Call **Vicky (482-3210)** to reserve a spot and let **Tracie Swim** know how much *Extra Miles* matters.

October 29 will be our Memorial Communion where we read the names of those lost to someone in the congregation over the past 12 months. We light a candle for each one showing how their souls continue to light our pathways... a special service.

Then it's off and running to our Christmas Family Bazaar on Saturday, **November 4**. We should be back in force. Men's store with goods from Muirs' Scottish Bakery in Maxville. Delicious lunch, hot dogs, games and toys, etc. in the Sunday school room, knitting, silent auction and who knows what all else plus artisans of the area. Come and see.

Rev. **Mark** and **Merrie Hammond** join in wishing you a splendid autumn.

Keep well.

from Susan Upham

St. Philip's

Our Thanksgiving celebration will be Sunday, October 8, with the usual decorations and special music by organist **Peter Butler** and the choir.

On Sunday, November 5, in addition to the celebration of All Saints Day, we will be joined by the *Antigua & Barbuda Association of Montreal* for their annual celebration of Antigua's Independence Day, with a Caribbean feast at coffee hour.

The Bazaar is back!

After a three-year hiatus, our Christmas Bazaar will return on Saturday, November 11 from 10 am to 2 pm. There will be some changes from previous editions, but fear not, the bake table will be there, and the elves have been busy with jams and preserves. More details in next month's *Informer*.

Worship is every Sunday at 10 am, with a children's corner.

from Fr. Pratt

Sunflowers on Parkside. © Julia Ross



Community Centre: 484-6186

COMING EVENTS

Octoberfest Pub Night

Fundraiser for new sports and recreation centre

Friday, October
7 pm, Town Hall

Sausages, sauerkraut, bretzels and beverages for sale
Music by *Dusty Brass Band*
Cost: \$30 resident/ \$40 non-resident

Spooktacular Family Fun

Fundraiser for new sports and recreation centre

Sunday, October 29
Town Hall, 2-4 pm

Come dressed up!
Show, crafts and sweets
Cost per child: \$15 for residents / \$20 for non-residents. Each child ticket includes access for one adult; to add an additional adult: \$5 + tax. See Amilia for tickets

Remembrance Walk led by Dr. Drummond

Saturday, November 4
Meet at Strathearn Park, 1 pm

Remembrance Ceremony

Sunday, November 5
12:30, Cenotaph

Remembrance lecture by historian and author David O'Keefe

Friday, November 10
Town Hall, 7 pm

Rock 'n Roll dance party

Friday, December 1
Town Hall

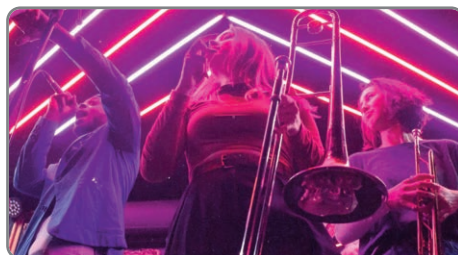
Live band: *Vintage Wine*

Breakfast with Santa

December 10

See the website for coming events and sign up for the e-bulletin.

Dusty Brass Band



Recreation programs

Check our website: montreal-west.ca or Facebook page: facebook.com/montreal-west.ca. Registration is now available on-line for residents for all Town programs on Amilia.com.

- **Red Cross Stay Safe program:** November 18, 9-13 years old

- **Red Cross babysitting course:** November 19, 11-18 years old
- **Baby and me workout** Tuesdays, 11-11:55 am
Town Hall, start date: September 26
- **70+ Fitness** Tuesday, Thursday, 10-11 am
Town Hall, start date: September 26

Dr. Michael J. Wexel Chiropractor

Neck Pain
Headaches & Migraines
Stiffness
Sports Related Injuries
Wellness & Preventative Care



Low Back Pain
Muscle Pain
Numbness & Tingling
Nutritional Counseling
CSST & SAAQ

773-7246
18 Westminster N., Suite 110
Call For An Appointment Today So You Can Feel Better Tomorrow.

Club 50+

October

- 5 Cranberry Excursion
- 17 Gardens of Light:
An ode to the Moon
- 31 Bridge/cards.
Call to reserve your table.

November

100 YEARS FROM NOW

Saturday
November 11
Aultsville Theatre in Cornwall

Musical of love, sacrifice and the great war.
Show time: 7:30 pm.

Presented by
Shipyard Kitchen Party.

December

- 6 *Home for the Holidays* starring **Leisa Way** and the *Wayward Wind Band*.
(Upper Canada Playhouse)
- 16 Christmas dinner

NEW!

Mah Jongg Workshop

The 6-week workshop will consist of learning the game for the first few classes and then supervised play for the remainder of the session.

You can expect to finish the workshop with full knowledge of how the game is played, the rules associated with play and the confidence to show others how to play.

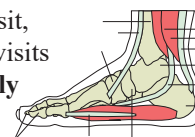
The benefits of learning and playing Mah Jongg are keeping your brain sharp, helping improve memory skills and fostering patience and, of course, the social aspect is fundamental for mental health overall.

Start date: October 3,
10:30-12:30, Community Centre

Foot clinic

October 4, November 1
484-6186

\$45 for the initial visit,
\$35 for subsequent visits
by appointment only



Town Council meeting: August



by Carol Foster

The majority of the **Mayor Masella's** report was spent on a review of the events surrounding the major flood on Brock South on July 13.

He explained that the flood was caused by a break in a 14-inch water main belonging to the City of Montreal. A valve controls the water, but the Town is not authorized to touch Montreal's network. The plumber, who was dispatched from Montreal, arrived on the scene but refused to close the valve because he was not authorized to work on a pipe of that size. The variations in water pressure can cause multiple breaks elsewhere and may affect the quality of the water. Therefore, there are procedures that must be followed before a pipe of this size can be shut down and Montreal has delegated work of this nature to a specialized external firm.

After waiting a couple of hours for Montreal to send the appropriate people to shut down the pipe, the Town took a huge risk and shut it down anyway.

The Town has now been in contact with Montreal's administrative team to ensure any future problems of this kind are acted upon swiftly and securely.

Councillors' reports

Councillor Feeney announced that the deadline for paying the 2023 water tax will be November 23. The forms will be sent out the beginning of September and the results must be returned by September 25.

Due to the weather, Canada Day celebrations were postponed but despite the rain, the show went on the on the following day with only the fireworks not included. Among other events, many more children than usual enjoyed the Day Camp. Music in the Park was a treat for all. A pool and variety show, attended by many involved families, marked the end of activities at the pool except for one event. The following and final day of enjoyment of the pool was held when fifty dogs in the Town were given exclusive use of the facility for the Doggie Swim Day. Many of the

dogs preferred to run in circles around the pool or to take a dip in the wading pool, but great fun was had by both the dogs and the humans who were watching them.

Councillor Feeney gave a warm thank you to all the staff and volunteers who helped make the summer events so successful and she added that registration is now open for the fall and winter programs.

Eighty-one permits were issued during the past two months, which was close to a record according to **Councillor Torres**. Three notices were issued: one for non-conformance with the stipulations in the permit and the other two for work done without a permit.

Councillor Torres reminded residents that applications for a permit can be made online.

As another school year begins, **Councillor Small-Pennefather** noted that all the crosswalks have been freshly painted and she urged everyone to use caution and respect the speed limits when driving.

The PSOs have recently received quite a few noise complaints due to construction work beginning before 7 am and the barking of dogs, both inside and outside of the house.

The crime stats included the arrest of an arsonist who set three small fires in the commercial area of Westminster. A senior, walking near Davies Park, was approached by a stranger asking for directions who then gave her a hug and relieved her of her bracelet. A light post at the busy corner of Westminster and Avon was repaired after it was damaged by a large truck.

Councillor Ulin reported that some public trees have been trimmed and, unfortunately, some dangerous ones had to be cut down. Two water breaks have occurred. One on Northview and the other between Broughton and Brock South. There have been multiple collapses of the sewer on Sherbrooke, between Westminster and Brock. An external contractor has now inserted PVC pipes into the old brick sewer chambers which were crumbling underneath the road at that location.

Environmental progress continues to be made with a big campaign to teach everyone what goes in which bin (compost or recycling).

Question period

Many of the questions came from residents living on Brock South, who had lived through "a month from Hell." Those who watched, as muddy water gushed down their street for hours in the middle of the night, flooding their basements and ruining the contents, were clearly frustrated, angry and demanding more answers.

The lack of information from the Town

concerning the situation was one of the main complaints

Complete and accurate information was very hard to come by for many days. It was felt that what they finally learned from the mayor's report should have been made available to the residents long before this council meeting.

The biggest question was why it took so long to get the water turned off.

The mayor explained that "we tried to wait as long as possible in order to follow protocol." The Town has only one plumber who had worked overtime the night before and came in before his next shift started to deal with a situation that was outside of his experience. Since the computers were down, a search had to be made for Montreal's paper plans and this added to the delay.

The overriding frustration expressed was concerning the fact that much of the damage caused by this catastrophe could have been prevented if only there had been a clearly defined backup plan, especially given the multiple jurisdictions and personnel involved.

Ultimately it will be up to the insurance companies to assess the claims for damages and assign responsibilities. In the meantime, it is left to the residents to deal with the extensive damage to the major equipment housed in their basements as well as the heartbreak caused by the loss of some items that cannot be replaced.

The poor conditions of some of the streets in the Town, the continued speeding and a long-standing orange cone on Westminster, the new sinkhole on Brock South and a missing manhole cover were among the other issues presented to Council. At least the good news was that, with the completion of the Easton project expected at the end of the year, the traffic will be able to resume normally on Westminster South.

Although the new entrance to *Budning's Pharmacy* has been approved by PAC, and the ramp for wheelchairs is welcomed, it is felt that the structure presents a danger to pedestrians because it extends too far into the sidewalk and is not clearly visible because of its dark colour. The snow cover in winter will add to these problems.

No Council meeting is ever complete without some comments about the dog runs in the Town. The permanent one is reported as being in disrepair and the answer to the question about the availability of the temporary one on Hodgson's Field this winter is not known at this point.

There was only one comment made during the second question period and that was a request that a copy of the Mayor's report be sent to the Brock South Group's email and the mayor agreed to do so.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Juliette LORD

PHYSIOTHÉRAPIE À DOMICILE
HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY

438 875 2115
maisonphysio@gmail.com

Réunions du Conseil : août



par Carol Foster
traduction par René Boucher

La majeure partie du rapport du maire Masella a été consacrée à l'examen des événements entourant l'inondation majeure survenue sur Brock Sud le 13 juillet.

Il a expliqué que l'inondation a été causée par la rupture d'une conduite d'eau principale de 14 pouces appartenant à Montréal. Une vanne contrôle l'eau, mais la Ville n'est pas autorisée à toucher le réseau de Montréal. Le plombier qui avait été dépêché par Montréal, est arrivé sur les lieux, mais a refusé de fermer la vanne, n'étant pas autorisé à travailler sur un tuyau de cette taille. Les variations de pression de l'eau peuvent provoquer de multiples ruptures ailleurs et affecter la qualité de l'eau. Par conséquent, il y a des procédures à suivre avant qu'une conduite de ce calibre puisse être fermée et Montréal délègue ce travail à une firme externe spécialisée.

Après avoir attendu quelques heures que Montréal envoie les gens compétents pour fermer la canalisation, la Ville a pris un risque énorme et l'a tout de même fermée.

La Ville est maintenant en contact avec l'équipe administrative de Montréal pour s'assurer que tout problème futur de ce genre soit traité rapidement et en toute sécurité.

Rapports des membres du Conseil

La conseillère Feeney a annoncé que la date limite pour payer la taxe d'eau de 2023 sera le 23 novembre. Les formulaires seront envoyés au début de septembre et les lectures doivent être retournées au plus tard le 25 septembre.

En raison de la météo, les célébrations de la Fête du Canada ont été reportées, mais malgré la pluie, le spectacle s'est déroulé le lendemain et seuls les feux d'artifice manquaient. Entre autres événements, beaucoup plus d'enfants que d'habitude ont profité du Camp de jour. La Musique dans le parc était un régal pour tous. Un spectacle piscine et variétés, auquel ont assisté de nombreuses familles impliquées, a marqué la fin des activités à la piscine, à l'exception d'un événement. Le jour suivant, l'ultime activité de la piscine a eu lieu lorsqu'une cinquantaine de chiens de la ville ont eu droit à l'usage exclusif des installations pour la Journée des chiens. Nombre d'entre eux ont préféré courir autour de la piscine ou faire trempette dans la pataugeoire, mais les canins et leurs humains se sont bien amusés.

La conseillère Feeney a remercié chaleureusement tout le personnel et les bénévoles qui ont contribué au succès des activités estivales et elle a ajouté que l'inscription aux programmes d'automne et d'hiver était maintenant ouverte.

Quatre-vingt-un permis ont été délivrés au cours des deux derniers mois, ce qui s'approchait d'un record selon la conseillère Torres. Trois avis ont été émis : un pour non-conformité aux stipulations du permis et les deux autres pour des travaux effectués sans permis.

La conseillère Torres a rappelé aux résidents que la demande de permis peut se faire en ligne.

Alors qu'une autre année scolaire commence, la conseillère Small-Pennefather a fait remarquer que tous les passages pour piétons ont été récemment repeints et elle a exhorté tout le monde à faire preuve de prudence et à respecter les limites de vitesse lorsque derrière le volant.

Les ASP ont récemment reçu un certain nombre de plaintes concernant le bruit dû à des travaux de construction débutant avant 7 heures le matin et aux aboiements de chiens, tant à l'intérieur qu'à l'extérieur de la maison.

Les chiffres sur les crimes comprenaient l'arrestation d'un pyromane qui a allumé trois petits feux dans la zone commerciale de Westminster. Une aînée, qui marchait près du parc Davies, a été approchée par un inconnu qui lui a demandé son chemin; il lui a donné un câlin et a dérobé son bracelet. Un lampadaire au coin de Westminster et Avon a été réparé après avoir été endommagé par un gros camion.

La conseillère Ulin a signalé que certains arbres publics ont été émondés et que, malheureusement, certains autres, dangereux, ont dû être abattus. Il y a eu deux coupures d'eau, l'une à Northview et l'autre à l'angle Broughton et Brock Sud. Il y a eu de multiples effondrements de l'égout sur Sherbrooke, entre Westminster et Brock. Un entrepreneur externe a maintenant inséré des tuyaux en PVC dans les anciennes conduites en briques qui s'effritaient sous la voie à cet endroit.

Des progrès environnementaux continuent d'être réalisés avec une grande campagne pour apprendre à tout le monde ce qui va dans quel bac (compost ou recyclage).

Période de questions

Bon nombre des questions provenaient de résidents de Brock Sud, qui avaient vécu «un mois d'enfer». Ceux qui ont observé l'eau boueuse qui déferlait sur leur rue pendant des heures au milieu de la nuit, inondant leurs sous-sols et détruisant tout le contenu, étaient clairement frustrés et en colère, et exigeaient plus de réponses.

L'absence d'informations de la part de la Ville concernant la situation était l'une des principales plaintes. Il a été très difficile d'obtenir des renseignements complets et exacts pendant plusieurs jours. On estimait

que ce qu'ils avaient finalement appris du rapport du maire aurait dû être mis à la disposition des résidents bien avant cette réunion du Conseil. La plus grande question était de savoir pourquoi il a fallu autant de temps pour fermer l'eau.

Le maire a expliqué que «nous avons essayé d'attendre le plus longtemps possible afin de respecter le protocole». La Ville n'a qu'un seul plombier qui avait fait des heures supplémentaires la veille et qui est arrivé avant son prochain quart de travail pour faire face à une situation qui ne relevait pas de son expérience. Comme les ordinateurs étaient en panne, il a fallu fouiller les plans papier de Montréal, ce qui a ajouté au délai.

La principale frustration exprimée concernait le fait qu'une grande partie des dommages causés par cette catastrophe aurait pu être évitée si seulement il y avait eu un plan de secours clairement défini, en particulier compte tenu des multiples compétences et du personnel impliqués.

En fin de compte, il appartiendra aux compagnies d'assurance d'évaluer les réclamations pour pertes et de répartir les responsabilités. Entre-temps, il incombe aux résidents de faire face aux dommages importants causés aux équipements importants logés dans leurs sous-sols, ainsi qu'à la douleur causée par la perte de certains articles qui ne pourront être remplacés.

Les mauvaises conditions de certaines rues de la ville, les excès de vitesse continus et un cône orange depuis longtemps sur Westminster, le nouvel affaissement de la chaussée sur Brock Sud et un couvercle de trou d'homme manquant figuraient parmi les autres questions présentées au Conseil. Au moins, la bonne nouvelle, c'est qu'avec l'achèvement du projet Easton prévu pour la fin de l'année, le trafic pourra reprendre normalement sur Westminster Sud.

Bien que la nouvelle entrée de la pharmacie Budning ait été approuvée par le CCU et que la rampe pour fauteuils roulants soit la bienvenue, on estime que la structure présente un danger pour les piétons parce qu'elle s'étend trop loin sur le trottoir et qu'elle n'est pas clairement visible en raison de sa couleur sombre. La couverture de neige en hiver aggravera ces problèmes.

Aucune réunion du conseil n'est jamais terminée sans que l'on fasse des commentaires sur les parcs à chiens dans la ville. Le parc permanent serait en mauvais état et la réponse à la question sur la disponibilité de l'enclos temporaire du terrain Hodgson cet hiver n'est pas connue à ce stade.

La seule intervention lors de la seconde période de questions fut une demande qu'une copie du rapport du maire soit transmise par courriel au Groupe de Brock Sud; le maire a accepté de le faire.

La séance fut ensuite levée.

COMING EVENTS À VENIR

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

Next deadline: October 4

October

- Wed 4 Evening Labyrinth Walk.** Wadsworth Hall. MW United. 7-9 pm.
- Tues 12 IODE meeting.** Community Centre. 1-3 pm.
- Sat 14 Octoberfest Pub Night.** Fundraiser for new sports and recreation centre. \$30 (residents), \$40 (non-residents). Town Hall. 7 pm.
- Sun 15 Ham luncheon** after 10 am worship. Welcome/Extra Miles 25th anniversary celebration. MW United.
- Mon 16 Gardens in and around Montreal West.** Presentation and refreshments. Guests, \$5. Town Hall. 7:30 pm.
- Sat 21 Public consultation on age-friendly policy.** Town Hall. 1-3:30 pm.
- Sun 29 Memorial Communion Service.** MW United. 10 am.
- Sun 29 Spooktacular Family Fun.** Fundraiser for new sports and recreation centre. Please see page 17. Town Hall. 2-4 pm.
- Mon 30 Blood donor clinic, sponsored by the MoWest Scout Group.** Contact Héma-Quebec to book an appointment: 1-800-343-7264 or hema-quebec.qc.ca. St. Philip's Church. 1:30-7 pm.
- Mon 30 Town Council meeting.** In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.

November

- Sat 4 Remembrance Walk** led by Dr. Drummond. Meet at Strathearn Park. 1 pm.
- Sat 4 Whisky and Wisdom:** Scotch tasting fundraiser for Public Library. Tickets: Todd Georgieff at toddgeorgieff@gmail.com or 973-9127. Public Library. 7:30 pm.
- Sun 5 Remembrance ceremony.** Parade starts at noon from Westminster and Curzon and proceeds to the Cenotaph for service at 12:30.
- Fri 10 Remembrance lecture** by historian and author David O'Keefe. Town Hall. 7pm.
- Sat 11 Christmas Bazaar.** Home baking, used books, collectibles, home furnishings, jams and preserves, jewelry, candy, CDs, games and DVDs. Friendly smiles and much more. Delicious lunch served 11:15 am-1:30 pm. For more information, please call 481-4871. St Philip's Church Hall. 10 am-2 pm.
- Thu 23 Water taxes due / Échéance taxes d'eau**



Photos: Alex Brzezinski

MoWest pool goes to the dogs

On a brilliantly sunny afternoon in September, on the last day of the MoWest pool's operation, a canine swimming party was held. According to the paw-ticipants, the event received rave reviews.

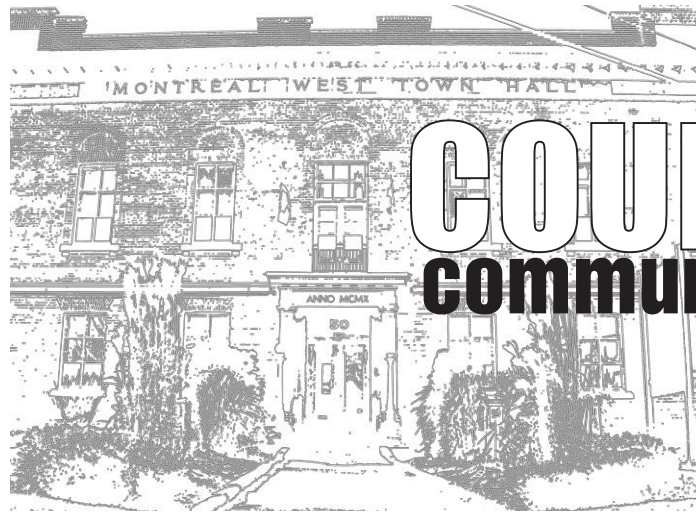
Pups of all sizes and breeds came out for the fun. On the pool deck, **Jasper, Poppy, Hennessy** and numerous others were spotted – some even wearing life jackets. While certain dogs revelled in the freedom to swim in the large pool, it appeared that the kiddie/wading pool was the preferred attraction for many. In fact, so much carousing amongst the canines took place in the small pool that onlookers were seen sporting greatly splashed clothing.

Not every dog wanted to take a dip, some chose to plant themselves on dry land, but all, along with their owners, were most grateful for this paws-itively joyful event.

This canine celebration would not have been possible without the following individuals to whom huge thanks are due and given: **Mark and Mary** (parents of **Jasper**) for making sure this pool party took place, the Town of MoWest for kindly approving it, **Tammy** at the Community Centre for helping the canines register, the amazing team of lifeguards who dutifully watched over the hairy swimmers, **Chris Kearney** and several **Public Works** employees who came out on a Sunday to ensure that all ran smoothly and **Councillor Feeney** for her appreciated in-person, poolside participation. It was a spectacular MoWest event that brought great joy to the dogs, their owners and their family members who came out to watch.

*from the Csik family
Including Hennessy
153 Strathearn Avenue North*





COUNCIL communiqué



ARE YOU 50+?? IF SO, READ ON

It may be one of the best-kept secrets in Montreal West, but our Recreation Department organizes an incredible number of activities for our pre-senior and senior population through the 50+ Club. You may have seen these events listed in *The Informer* on a monthly basis and wondered what this group was all about, so allow me to "spill the beans."

What is the club about?

The 50+ club aims to bring people together for both informal events and excursions. The informal events include bridge, speaker events, luncheons and dinners in Town. The mid-December Christmas dinner, which includes turkey with all the fixings, is served by the Mayor and members of Council. The excursions can be art exhibits, theatre productions or other events both in Town and out. In fact, our Recreation department is very flexible and open to exploring any option presented by the members. Marian Scully, our Coordinator of Cultural and Special Events has been organizing events for the 50+ group for the past 20 years and welcomes your input.

What's in it for you?

Fun, new friends, new skills and an opportunity to explore activities you may not think of doing on your own. Numerous studies have shown the importance of social interaction as we age, so here is an opportunity to expand your social network, participate in new experiences, and have someone else do all the planning for you. What's not to like?

How do you join?

The 50+ club is open to all Montreal West and neighbouring residents who are 50 years old or more. The current members are 65+, but we are looking to expand, so if you or your group of friends are 50+, we welcome you. You

can either join as a member (\$20 for Montreal West, Côte Saint-Luc and Hampstead residents or \$30 for all others) or participate in the activities on an ad hoc basis. Members get discounts on the events. To join, or for more information, please call the Community Centre at 484-6186.

Check out the Club's upcoming activities in this month's *Informer* (page 17) or online at <https://montreal-west.ca/en/recreation/community-life/50-club/>.

Hope to see you soon at one of the many planned events.

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



WHAT IS THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY?

October is “Circular Economy” month, but what exactly is it? Rather than the Linear Economy in which things are produced, used and then disposed of, the Circular Economy seeks to prolong the use of our goods, reducing the need to produce and dispose of them. In this version of the economy, far fewer resources are required and far less waste is generated, making it a more sustainable model. Here are a few examples.

Electronics

In 2020 the world dumped a record 53.6 million tons of e-waste – equivalent to the weight of 350 cruise ships. Meaning \$57 billion worth of gold, silver, copper, platinum were mostly dumped or burned rather than being collected for reuse.

The Circular Economy solutions? Re-home your usable electronics or toss your broken electronics in our e-bin (*Electrobac*) located at the Community Centre.

Textiles

On average, Canadians purchase 70 new articles of clothing a year and, in total, contribute 12 million tons a year of textile waste to landfills.

The Circular Economy solutions? Sell or donate your used clothing. Shift your shopping sprees to thrift stores. Host a clothing swap or join the Environmental Action Committee’s swap this spring.

Food

A whopping 58 per cent of all food produced in Canada – 35.5 million tons – is lost or wasted, according to a Second Harvest report. Avoidable food loss and waste in Canada costs \$1,766 per household!

The Circular Economy solutions? Shop selectively with a list. (That box of 10 avocados seemed like a bargain until I found the last 6 rotting in back of the fridge.) Don’t use “Best Before” dates to determine whether a product

is still “good” – except for highly perishable animal products like meat, fish and milk. “Best Before” refers only to flavour not health. It literally only means that it’s best before that date – not that it’s bad afterwards. And with the food you absolutely need to throw away PLEASE compost it. That is the single most effective way to reduce your contribution to the landfill (and the world’s methane emissions).

During Circular Economy month, please give some extra thought about how we might prolong or shift the usable life of the things we depend on.

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



PRIDE

When we think of public security, we often think of our homes, our vehicles and possessions, but public security also includes our own personal safety. All members of our community in our Town should feel safe and welcome. As a Positive Space Ambassador in the federal public service, I am committed to making a safer and more inclusive place for everyone.

I am a proud ally of the 2SLGBTQI+ community. Over the course of the last few years, we have seen a system dismantled that is no longer inclusive and equitable. As Pride season (May-Sept) for 2023 comes to an end, there is still significant work to be done.

Anti-trans and anti-2SLGBTQI hate and discrimination are at an all-time high across Canada and all levels of government need to be implicated to combat the rise in anti-2SLGBTQI

hate. According to *Egale Canada*, since 2020, there has been a 64% rise in police-reported hate crimes in Canada – the majority (77%) targeted the gay and lesbian community and 13% of hate crimes were directed at other sexual orientations. *Egale’s Still in Every Class in Every School* report found that 64% of students continue to hear homophobic or transphobic comments daily or weekly at school. In every corner of this country, we’re seeing a growing trend in anti-2SLGBTQI hate.

It is important to build social cohesion; all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. This is not a political issue, but a matter of basic human rights. I remain committed to creating a more inclusive and welcoming community for all residents.

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



AVEZ-VOUS PLUS DE 50 ANS ? SI OUI, LISEZ LA SUITE

C'est peut-être l'un des secrets les mieux gardés de Montréal-Ouest, mais notre service de loisirs et culture organise un nombre incroyable d'activités pour les personnes âgées et pré-seniors par l'entremise du Club 50+. Vous avez peut-être vu la liste de ces activités dans *The Informer* à tous les mois et vous vous êtes demandé ce qu'était ce groupe, alors permettez-moi de vous en parler.

Quel est le but du club ?

Le club des 50 ans et plus a pour objectif de réunir des personnes pour des événements informels et des excursions. Les événements informels comprennent le bridge, des conférences, des déjeuners et des dîners en ville. Le dîner de Noël de la mi-décembre, qui comprend de la dinde et tous ses accompagnements, est servi par le maire et les membres du conseil municipal. Les excursions peuvent être des expositions d'art, des productions théâtrales ou d'autres événements en ville ou à l'extérieur. En fait, notre service de loisirs et culture est très flexible et ouvert à l'exploration de toutes les options présentées par les membres. Marian Scully, notre coordinatrice des événements culturels et spéciaux, organise des événements pour le groupe des 50 ans et plus depuis 20 ans et vous invite à lui faire part de vos commentaires.

Qu'est-ce que vous y gagnerez ?

Du plaisir, de nouveaux amis, de nouvelles compétences et l'occasion d'explorer des activités que vous n'auriez peut-être pas pensé à faire seul. De nombreuses études ont montré l'importance de l'interaction sociale à mesure que nous vieillissons. Voici donc une occasion d'élargir votre réseau social, de participer à de nouvelles expériences et de demander à quelqu'un d'autre de faire toute l'organisation à votre place. Que peut-on demander de plus ?

Comment s'inscrire ?

Le club 50+ est ouvert à tous les résidents de Montréal-Ouest et des régions avoisinantes qui ont 50 ans ou plus. Les membres actuels sont âgés de 65 ans et plus, mais nous cherchons à nous agrandir, alors si vous ou votre groupe d'amis êtes âgés de 50 ans et plus, nous sommes heureux de vous

accueillir. Vous pouvez devenir membre (20 \$ pour les résidents de Montréal-Ouest, Côte Saint-Luc et Hampstead ou 30 \$ pour les autres) ou participer aux activités de façon ponctuelle. Les membres bénéficient de réductions sur les événements. Pour devenir membre ou pour plus d'information, veuillez communiquer avec le Centre communautaire au 514-484-6186.

Découvrez les activités à venir du Club dans *The Informer* de ce mois-ci (page 17) ou en ligne à l'adresse <https://montreal-west.ca/fr/loisirs-et-culture/vie-communautaire/club-50/>.

En espérant de vous voir bientôt à l'un des nombreux événements prévus.

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



QU'EST-CE QUE L'ÉCONOMIE CIRCULAIRE ?

Octobre est le mois de l'économie circulaire, mais de quoi s'agit-il exactement ? Plutôt que l'économie linéaire dans laquelle les choses sont produites, utilisées puis éliminées, l'économie circulaire cherche à prolonger l'utilisation de nos biens, en réduisant la nécessité de les produire et de les éliminer. Dans cette version de l'économie, beaucoup moins de ressources sont nécessaires et beaucoup moins de déchets sont générés, ce qui en fait un modèle plus durable. En voici quelques exemples.

Les appareils électroniques

En 2020, le monde a déversé un volume record de 53,6 millions de tonnes de déchets électroniques, soit l'équivalent du poids de 350 navires de croisière. Cela signifie que 57 milliards de dollars d'or, d'argent, de cuivre et de platine ont été jetés ou brûlés au lieu d'être collectés pour être réutilisés.

Les solutions de l'économie circulaire ? Réintégrez vos appareils électroniques utilisables ou jetez vos appareils électroniques cassés dans notre *Electrobac* situé au centre communautaire.

Textiles

En moyenne, les Canadiens achètent 70 articles vestimentaires par an et, au total, mettent en décharge 12 millions de tonnes de déchets textiles par an.

Les solutions de l'économie circulaire ? Vendez ou donnez vos vêtements usa-

gés. Déplacez vos achats vers les friperies. Organisez un échange de vêtements ou participez à l'échange organisé par le Comité d'action environnementale au printemps.

L'alimentation

Selon un rapport de Deuxième Récolte, 58 % des aliments produits au Canada, soit 35,5 millions de tonnes, sont perdus ou gaspillés. Les pertes et gaspillages alimentaires évitables au Canada coûtent 1 766 \$ par ménage !

Les solutions de l'économie circulaire ? Faire des achats sélectifs avec une liste. (La boîte de 10 avocats semblait être une bonne affaire jusqu'à ce que je trouve les 6 derniers en train de pourrir au fond du réfrigérateur). N'utilisez pas les dates d'expiration pour déterminer si un produit est encore bon, sauf pour les produits animaux très

périssables comme la viande, le poisson et le lait. La mention "meilleur avant" se réfère uniquement à la saveur et non à la santé. Elle signifie littéralement que le produit est meilleur avant cette date, et non qu'il est mauvais après. Quant aux aliments que vous devez absolument jeter, vous pouvez les composter. C'est le moyen le plus efficace de réduire votre contribution à la décharge (et aux émissions de méthane dans le monde).

À l'occasion du mois de l'économie circulaire, réfléchissez à la manière de prolonger ou de modifier la durée d'utilisation des objets dont nous dépendons.

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



FIERTÉ

Lorsque nous pensons à la sécurité publique, nous pensons souvent à nos maisons, à nos véhicules et à nos biens, mais la sécurité publique inclut également notre propre sécurité personnelle. Tous les membres de notre communauté dans notre ville doivent se sentir en sécurité et bienvenus. En tant qu'ambassadrice de l'espace positif au sein de la fonction publique fédérale, je m'engage à faire de notre ville un lieu plus sûr et plus inclusif pour tous.

Je suis une fière alliée de la communauté 2SLGBTQI+. Au cours des dernières années, il y a eu un démantèlement d'un système qui n'est plus inclusif et équitable. Alors que la saison de la fierté (mai à septembre) de 2023 se termine, il y a encore beaucoup de travail à faire.

La haine et la discrimination anti-trans et anti-2SLGBTQI atteignent un niveau record au Canada et tous les niveaux de gouvernement doivent être impliqués dans la lutte contre la montée de la haine anti-2SLGBTQI. Selon *Egale*

Canada, depuis 2020, il y a eu une augmentation de 64 % des crimes haineux signalés par la police au Canada – la majorité (77 %) visait la communauté gaie et lesbienne, et 13 % des crimes haineux visaient d'autres orientations sexuelles. Le rapport *Still in Every Class in Every School* d'*Egale* révèle que 64 % des élèves continuent d'entendre des commentaires homophobes ou transphobes tous les jours ou toutes les semaines à l'école. Aux quatre coins du pays, nous constatons une tendance croissante à la haine anti-2SLGBTQI.

Il est important de renforcer la cohésion sociale ; tous les individus, quelle que soit leur orientation sexuelle ou leur identité de genre, méritent d'être traités avec respect et dignité. Il ne s'agit pas d'une question politique, mais d'une question de droits humains fondamentaux. Je reste déterminée à créer une communauté plus inclusive et plus accueillante pour tous les résidents.

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