



July 1, 2025. Montreal West is celebrating. See our traditional Canada Day parade collage on pages 14-15. Thank you Robert Ganz for the photos.

THE INFORMER

Montreal West Viewpaper

September 2025, Vol. 53, No. 6

Katie Adamson and India Ciamberlano

The library girls

by Maurice Krystal
and Trish Hewat

We walk into the library and there they are, **Katie Adamson** and **India Ciamberlano**, seated at the large table in the middle of the stacks surrounded by knitters, their heads bent over their work in rapt concentration. It is a Wednesday evening and the summer sun is shining, brightening up the sky like it is still midday. The 6-8 pm knitters' group is in session lead by India with Katie's assistance. They are two library workers who are comfortable with the multi-tasking that comes with a part-time job at the Public Library. Katie and India greet us as we enter with welcoming smiles and at once you can feel the lively exuberance they bring to their work.

They animate the Wednesday evening knitting group along with their daytime duties behind the check-out desk assisting the volunteers with any questions or difficulties they may encounter. The main chunk of their duties involves all the computer work that's needed to keep the library's collection of books current and responsive to the members' tastes as well as helping publicize the various activities that the library offers.

We sit down at a couple of seats at the table and watch the knitters as their needles clack away, once in a while asking for help or advise from Katie or India who have both brought their own knitting projects to work on along. It is quiet, everyone focusing on the task at hand so it is easy for us to ask questions without disturbing



Katie Adamson and India Ciamberlano

anyone. First Katie, then India tell us their stories.

Follow your passion

Katie is originally from Toronto and came here to do a degree in classical piano at Concordia University. She started

working at the library part-time in 2022, just after it opened up again to welcome members after the threat of Covid diminished. But before that, she earned her Bachelor's in English Literature at Trent University.

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Darryl Fox and Lauren Small Pennefather in Ottawa on Canada Day 2025 with an original white Marathon of Hope T-shirt.

It's time to lace up for the 12th annual MoWest Terry Fox Run

This year marks the 45th year that **Terry Fox** started his *Marathon of Hope* across Canada; mine started 26 years ago, never missing a run since 1999. In February 2023, I completed my final run in Vancouver on my birthday, with **Darrell Fox** and my family cheering me on for my #FiftyForFox Fundraiser, where I ran in every province across Canada raising over 10K for the *Terry Fox Foundation*. The impact of Terry's commitment transcends generations and is a source of Canadian pride!

On July 1, it was my turn to cheer on Darrell and the peloton team on stage with other Terry Foxers on Canada Day in the nation's capital (the white t-shirt we are holding is an original from 1980 gifted to my daughter from Darrell on her tenth birthday). Darrell Fox, Terry's younger brother, and his peloton mates completed the *National Ride of Hope* in 32 days covering 10 provinces from British Columbia to Newfoundland, raising over \$1.1 million in support of cancer research.

Now it's your turn! Please join us at Strathearn Park to run, walk or roll for the 12th annual Montreal West *Terry Fox Run* on Sunday, September 14. Registration and warm up start at 10:30 am, with a rolling start time at 11 am. Go to the following link to register as an individual or a team: run.terryfox.ca. Type in Monreal West.

Whether you are a veteran or a newbie, all are welcome to participate.

In the end, it is all about connections. Connections to people and places, connections to dates and destinies, made because of Terry and his legacy. These are the ties that bind us, the ones that make us human, the ones that define us. Terry represents the best in all of us and what we aspire to be. To continue to be part of the hope that matters most.

"Even if I don't finish, we need others to continue. It's got to keep going."

Let's Finish It!

from Lauren Small Pennefather

Municipal election summary

- September 19** First day to file a nomination paper with the Returning Officer
- October 3** Last day to file a nomination paper
Electoral list will be officially tabled
- October 9&14** Board of revisers (application for entry, striking off or correction of the electoral list).
Town Hall, Thursday: 6:30-9:30 pm,
Tuesday: 9:30 am-12:30 pm and 2 to 5 pm.
- October 26** Advance poll, noon to 8 pm.
- November 2** Polling day, 10 am to 8 pm.

NEW in 2025: Mobile polling an option upon request for electors who are unable to move about.

Élections municipales en bref

- Septembre 19** Premier jour où une déclaration de mise en candidature peut être reçue
- Octobre 3** Dernier jour pour produire une déclaration de candidature. Dépôt officiel public de la liste électorale.
- Octobre 9&14** Commission de révision (demande d'inscription, de correction ou de radiation à la liste électorale).
Hôtel de ville, jeudi : 18h30-21h30 h, mardi : 9h30-12h30 et 14h-17h.
- Octobre 26** Vote par anticipation, midi à 20h.
- Novembre 2** Jour du scrutin, 10h à 20h.

NOUVEAUTÉ en 2025 : Vote itinérant pour les personnes incapables de se déplacer et inscrites sur la liste électorale.

THE INFORMER

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Montréal-Ouest, Québec
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The Informer's role is to provide MoWest-ers 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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In memoriam

Tony Teiber 1942-2025

Tony was born July 4, 1942, to **Lena** and **Andreas Teiber**. The Teibers, ethnic Germans, emigrated from Sintana, Romania in 1930, along with 17 other residents of that small town near the Hungarian border.

Soon after their arrival in Montreal, Tony's father purchased 10 acres of land at Kildare and Hudson and then began an idyllic childhood for Tony and his two older sisters, **Mary** and **Madlynn**.

Most weekends, the German immigrants would come to the country on the streetcar, that ended at Westminster and Parkside. From there they would walk to Kildare Road where the men worked on the house and the women cooked. Card games and shouting went on in German, Romanian and Hungarian. Singing and dancing usually ended the evenings with Tony and his sisters watching from the stairs.

Tony's life changed dramatically when his mother died at age 42. He was 12 and, although surrounded by love from his sisters and father and the extended family, life was not the same. His father was left with medical bills forced him to work 24 hours a day to pay them off and support his family.

School was a challenge for Tony. He was profoundly dyslexic and was being taught in French by the nuns and the Christian brothers who had no training or patience for learning disabilities. As a result, he fell behind in just about everything.

Soon, he dropped out of school, but because he was so mechanically gifted, he never had any difficulty in finding work. Before long he landed a job with air compressors at *Power Press*, where he was mentored by **Ted Nashman**.

Then, one fateful day in March 1965, Joyce and her best friend **Brenda** went to a bar in NDG. And there was Tony at the end of a long table. He said, "I couldn't take my eyes off of her." They quickly became a couple and married in April, 1969 and began their 61-year life together!

Just two years into their marriage, Joyce had a longing to travel to Europe, so she convinced her boss to give her a few months' leave. Always up for an adventure, Tony quit his job and together they flew to Europe. They purchased a VW bus and off they went.

It was 1971/1972 when they stayed in some of the most horrible, but exciting places: Morocco, Romania, Hungary, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and on. It was wonderful and cemented their relationship.

They returned home refreshed and renewed. Joyce went back to work and Tony started a business selling, servicing and repairing air compressors: *Equipair Ltd/Ltée*. Working from the trunk of his little car with \$50 worth of business cards, Tony never looked back; he was trusted and loved by his clients – he had a natural gift for connecting with people.

In January 1978, Joyce and Tony bought the house at the corner of Westminster and Nelson, just 3 km from where Tony grew up. They got involved in the community, volunteered, made friends, planted a garden, had parties and enjoyed life.

They bought a house with 65 acres in the Eastern Townships. Tony was in his glory and built so many structures: a pool house, a tree house 33 feet up in a huge pine tree, Joyce's little coffee hut, a sunroom, a gazebo and more. He was at his happiest on his big tractor going into the woods with a chainsaw and one of the dogs and dragging back logs for the winter fireplaces.

Their large family gatherings were wonderful, and they enabled all the cousins to get to know each other and become friends. Tony was always ready to scoop up a kid on his tractor or ATV. Hey Uncle Tony, I need

a hammer, screws, wood, paint for my project – no problem. He was happy to oblige.

Joyce ended the eulogy with, "There was no one who could make me laugh like he could. He was kind, gentle, patient and loving. He will always be in my heart and missed forever, but these memories will remain to hopefully comfort me in the coming years."

Tony was a volunteer extraordinaire in Montreal West. Always smiling behind the Canada Day BBQ, dressing up as a RCMP Mountie in the long ago Canada Day parade or helping with the plant sale, carving the Christmas turkey for housebound seniors and so much more. He touched so many lives in our Town with his ability to help out, always knowledgeable and cheerful.



In memoriam

Into the stars

On June 4, the world lost a grand Canadian and I lost a cherished friend and mentor. **Marc Garneau** was Canada's first astronaut and an accomplished academic. He earned a PhD in electrical engineering, served with the Royal Canadian Navy, the *Canadian Space Agency* (CSA) and Parliament.

I traveled the globe with Marc when he was at the helm of the CSA. He had one of the biggest service hearts, was a quiet leader, humble, inspiring, kind, with a great sense of humour. Marc always had time for me whether I was seeking career advice on a foray into municipal politics or joining the Royal Canadian Navy. Marc supported me through his wisdom and curiosity. He even dedicated his Member Statement to me in the House of Commons when I started my run across Canada in support of the Terry Fox Foundation. I am beyond grateful to Marc for being in my sphere of influence for more than 20 years. He was so looking forward to this next chapter: a well-deserved retirement with his sweetheart **Pam**.

With grace and bravery to the end, I wish you fair winds and following seas, sailor. Condolences to the entire Garneau crew, extended family, friends and colleagues. *Ad astra per aspera*. You will be missed!!

Lauren Small Pennefather



Another recipient of the King Charles III Coronation Medal

Janet King was (posthumously) awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal for her work in the community, particularly with the Girl Guides.

Mailbox



Pedestrian safety on Westminster

Citizens for Safe Transit (CFST) would like to thank the Town Council for organizing the public information meeting on June 12, where the proposed changes to Westminster were shared with the community.

Our group has reviewed the proposal and conducted a quick survey (open from June 20-28) which resulted in 151 responses from residents and non-residents alike. The results of this survey helped to inform this response. A summary of the results, as well as a summary of the comments, are attached for your information. In addition to this citizen feedback, *CFST* would like to highlight the following issues of concern:

- **Transparency:** The lack of a publicly shared full report undermines citizen confidence in the proposal and makes it difficult for citizens to understand and assess this proposal.
- **Consultation:** The lack of a clear plan for consulting residents and accepting feedback is concerning.
- **Oversight of pilot project:** There is a need for clear parameters for assessing failures and successes, identifying who is responsible for that oversight, and making timely corrections.
- **Lack of holistic vision:** It appears the engineering firm was engaged primarily to respond to Transport Canada's Letter of Non-Compliance, with a narrow focus on the level crossing and vehicle queuing. While the Town has asserted that the traffic engineers believe pedestrian safety

would improve because of the proposed changes, this seems based more on assumption than on concrete evidence or analysis. As a result, the safety of vulnerable road users does not appear to be meaningfully addressed or guaranteed. Moreover, the broader ecosystem of roads, sidewalks, bike paths, and pedestrian connections seems to have been overlooked in the planning process.

- **Car and train centred:** The proposal prioritizes getting vehicles across the level crossing safely. While this is extremely important, it cannot be done at the expense of other modes of transport: walking (many pedestrians are also train users) and cycling. In 2025, Montreal West must do more to support alternate modes of transport.
- **Protecting vulnerable users:** Since the Letter of Non-Compliance, two young people were hit by cars, and there have been other near misses. In addition, a senior pedestrian was hit and killed by a train. The proposed changes do not address the Town's vulnerable pedestrian users in a way that assures stakeholders.
- **Long term solutions needed:** Given the shortcomings identified above—particularly the lack of transparency, consultation, holistic planning, and comprehensive protection for vulnerable users—we are concerned that the proposed changes may not meaningfully improve safety or reduce traffic congestion on Westminster and surrounding streets. Addressing these issues is essential to achieve lasting improvements for all modes of transit.

While we are happy to see that the Town is proposing changes to Westminster, and we agree that some of these changes are needed for basic road user safety, *CFST*

does not support the current proposed changes, and calls for, at a minimum, a release of the full traffic study before the pilot project is implemented.

We remain committed to working with the Town Council to make transit safe for all those who live and transit through Montreal West.

Citizens for Safe Transit

Response

Thank you for your email and for your engagement as part of the *Citizens for Safe Transit*. I would like to take this opportunity to address some of the concerns you raised in your letter.

Transparency

As you are aware, on June 12, Council convened a public meeting to present the results of the traffic study undertaken by *WSP Canada Inc.*, who are recognized global experts in traffic engineering and road safety. *WSP* recommendations are also in line with previous studies undertaken by the Town. Council agreed to release the full report once the tender process has been completed. In addition, Council has been referencing the study since it was undertaken in 2023.

Consultation

Following the commissioning of the study in the fall of 2023, in 2024, the Town initiated a collaborative effort with key stakeholders including the MW Community Safety Committee which includes residents, the SPVM and Public Security, *CPKC*, *exo*, the *STM* and Transport Canada to improve safety and security at the level crossing.

It is very important to note the role of the MW Community Safety Committee, who are volunteer residents confirmed by resolution and who are there to represent independent views when making safety recommendations to Council. The recommendations of course are supported by traffic experts from both the SPVM and Public Security who are standing members of the Committee, which is chaired by me, as Councillor responsible for Public Security.

Oversight of the pilot project and lack of holistic vision

The eight recommendations from *WSP* which include several modifications and re-configurations including the prohibition of turns, reduction of lanes and addition of safe islands for pedestrians, need to be contemplated with a holistic approach with the suite of changes we are considering. These





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Mailbox

changes will first be introduced as temporary measures to evaluate their impact before any permanent implementation. We will ensure that the modifications are cohesive and address the fundamental concerns for our community. There were no assumptions, *WSP* as part of their mandate provided an analysis on a number of contributing factors and were well aware of the circumstances. We will continue to work with the Community Safety Committee,

Public Security, *SPVM*, Transport Canada, *exo*, *CPKC* and the *STM*, all of whom have expertise in the management of traffic and road safety.

In parallel, the Town prepared and submitted an application for provincial funding through *le programme d'aide financière du Fonds de la sécurité routière (PAFFSR)*. The funding would support some of the recommendations the Town received from the traffic study, which would significantly enhance safety and security on Westminster South. Council also sent a letter to **Geneviève Guilbault**, Provincial Deputy Prime Minister and Minister responsible for Transport and Sustainable Mobility, asking for additional support to implement changes. As this is a provincial initiative, the Town continues to work with our MNA, **Désirée McGraw** and her office to advance our proposal.

Car and train centred

The Westminster corridor is very complex, characterized by high volumes of car traffic, pedestrians, cyclists, three intersecting train lines and a high school with over 800 students. The eight recommendations (from *WSP* including prohibiting turns, reconfiguring lanes, modifying traffic patterns and adding safe islands for pedestrians), are absolutely focused on the cohabitation of pedestrians, vehicles, and cyclists. As Council has stated on a number of occasions, we will prioritize pedestrian safety over traffic flow and convenience.

Protecting vulnerable users

As you are aware, the Town continues to make additional modifications to the Ainslie and Westminster crosswalk. In two meetings that were coordinated and convened by the Town in November 2024 and January 2025 with key stakeholders, including the *SPVM*, the *EMSB* and the community of Royal West Academy had opportunity to share concerns and exchange ideas to improve safety; all parties have deployed maximum effort in doing so.

In addition, the Commandant committed to extend police presence around RWA, even though we are the smallest population they serve in their territory. Police continue

to fine drivers who do not respect the vehicular code to issue penalties which are not only financial, but also include demerit points. Poor driver comportment is part of a larger systemic issue across the city and province, not limited to the Town of Montreal West, which can only be improved with police intervention, safety awareness campaigns and sanctions.

It is also important to note that in the tragic death of a senior who was struck and killed by a train in the spring of 2024, there is absolutely no correlation to any failed security measures by any of parties, including the Town, *CPKC* and *exo*. The coroner ruled the death accidental without any recommendations. Furthermore, when citing such examples, it is misleading to residents and the broader community to infer that the accident had anything to do with failed measures or non-compliance.

Long term solutions needed

All members of Council are also residents of the Town. It is in the best interest of our community that we continue to share information in a timely, transparent manner, based on facts and evidence-based data. Council agreed on a phased approach and pilot project basis to move forward with adjustments as necessary, once we have implemented the changes and have a better understanding of the effects.

Perhaps I missed it in a previous exchange with members of the *CFST*, did you submit anything from a professional and certified traffic expert/engineer that contradicts the recommendations from *WSP*?

Again, thank you for your implication and on behalf of Council, I trust that you find my response reassuring.

Lauren Small-Pennefather,
Councillor Public Security,
Town of Montreal West



Central website for election candidates

Montreal West municipal elections will be held on Sunday, November 2.

In the past, candidates have communicated their biographies and platforms in *The Informer* issue just prior to the election, have been introduced at a meet-the-candidates night at the Town Hall, distributed flyers and occasionally done door-to-door canvassing. A few have set up their own websites.

Getting messaging out can be time-consuming, labour-intensive, and very often last-minute. Posting material online is simple and efficient. However, the problem with using a Facebook group such as the Montreal West Residents is that many people don't use Facebook, and posts eventually sink down the feed into obscurity.

I've set up a website that is open to all candidates to post biographies, platforms and any other relevant information: **mwelection2025.com**. Just email me at paulkenton48@gmail.com. In order that no candidate always has top-billing, I'll rotate candidate information up and down each page.

There are three pages on the website: a Home page for biographies, platform page and a questions-from-residents page. Interested residents should email me with any questions or comments, and I'll pass them along to the candidates and post their answers.

As of the first week in August four candidates have introduced themselves.

This is an important election that will bring in new ideas, energy and ways of doing things and offer a fresh start after the turbulence of recent years.

Paul Kenton
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Montreal West Public Library

A look at our summer

Summer tends to be a quieter time at the library, with many of our residents away on vacation, schools closed and staff taking some well-deserved time off. But behind the scenes, we've been busy preparing for the fall and winter seasons – planning new programs and revisiting past favourites to see what we'll offer next.

This summer was no exception. We were lucky to have a student join us to support our day camp programming. So, while things may have seemed calm during your visits, rest assured, we've been hard at work getting ready for an exciting new season.

Ann Smith, as our Artist in Residence, brings a thoughtful and personal touch to her work, drawing inspiration from a familiar and beloved part of the library's collection: our cherished vintage teacups.

These delicate English bone china cups, adorned with unique botanical patterns,

have become the starting point for a new series of textile artworks. Ann is exploring these floral designs through intricate beadwork, blending both traditional and contemporary techniques. Among them is the Métis flatwork beading style – an art form she was introduced to right here at the library during a workshop led by Métis artist **Molly Chamagne**.

Ann's residency is more than just an artistic endeavor – it's also a personal journey. Through her hands-on, site-specific process, she is exploring the connection between her mother's English roots and her own Canadian identity. The result is a deeply layered body of work that speaks to heritage and place.

The library is thrilled to support this unique creative project, and we invite the community to follow Ann's progress. Stay tuned for opportunities to meet the artist, view her work-in-progress and learn more about the stories behind the stitches.

What's coming up

Building community through music and fun while supporting our local library.

In May 2024, a karaoke fundraiser was held at *The Wheel Club* in support of the MoWest library. We knew it would be fun, but we underestimated just how much!

Multi-generations of MoWesters came out to sing and spend time with friends and neighbors, showing how much they appreciate and love their library. Many had never been to *The Wheel Club* before and they were inspired by the friendly welcome and close proximity to our Town.

So, if you want to sing out your favorite song, enjoy other people's songs or just hang out with familiar faces in a very relaxed atmosphere, join us on October 3, 7 pm at *The Wheel Club* for the second annual *Karaoke for a Cause* in support of the Public Library.



— What are you reading now? —

Hollow Bamboo

by William Ping

review from
Trish Hewat

Hollow bamboo has two meanings. It is defined as “the empty compartmentalized core of the bamboo plant”. It is also the “English translation of the Cantonese term *jook-sing*, a pejorative term that describes those of Chinese descent who identify more strongly with Western culture than with Chinese culture. As the stem of the bamboo plant is both hollow and compartmentalized, water cannot flow through it. Therefore, people metaphorically referred to as *jook-sing* cannot connect to either culture.”

So the young William Ping begins his tale exploring his grandfather's story as an immigrant to Newfoundland in 1931, then not yet a province of Canada but still a territory under British rule. William, it turns out, hardly knew this grandfather whose name he bears and still less does he identify with him. His looks

are Western and he feels like a Westerner. When people in Newfoundland's Chinese community tell William what a respected man his grandfather was the young William has to admit that he knows next to nothing about his life.

But enter a spirit with attitude called Mo who inhabits a green gaseous cloud. Like the ghost of Christmas past, he takes the young William on a journey, one that goes back to his grandfather's youth in China where his family sent him halfway around the world to take an uncle's job for a year so the uncle could go back to China to see his mother for perhaps the last time. Reluctantly, William assents to the exchange, leaving behind his wife, his child and his job as a teacher and taking the long journey across the Pacific in the claustrophobic ship's underbelly, called steerage,

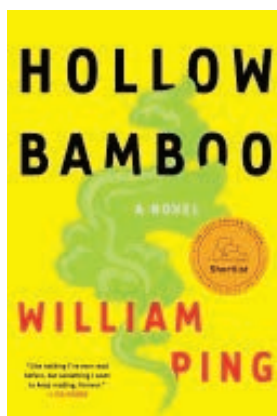
where food was scarce and seasickness a constant companion.

He arrives in Newfoundland to find things are not the way he thought they would be. Instead of managing his uncle's Chinese laundry, he finds himself elbow-deep in the laundry tubs, hands raw from scrubbing clothes, with only two hours sleep a night in the crowded upstairs room he shares with the other workers from China. This is where they eat and sleep with only a metal chair each for a bed.

On Sunday, their only day of rest, they are expected to go to church and learn English before they have their only recreation, a Chinese-run club where Ma Jong is played. There, the men gamble to supplement their meagre wages and pay off the government's punishing \$300 head tax charged to every Chi-

nese immigrant. But they are primarily at the Ma Jong club for another reason: it is only among other Chinese immigrants that they know they are safe. They are not welcome in Newfoundland. They are ridiculed and taunted and sometimes assaulted, accused of taking jobs from the locals and stealing their women.

Yet despite the obstacles and the prejudice, William finds a way to thrive, building a successful business and becoming a well-respected and influential businessman in the community. He marries a local woman and fathers several children, managing to begin the process of integrating into Newfoundland society. And that's how his grandson views himself... as a Westerner with Chinese ancestry. And yet as the young William goes back to view a monument that stands in the place where the laundry his grandfather first worked, one dedicated to honouring the struggles the early Chinese community faced, William sees the word CHINK scrawled in bright yellow paint across its face.



Public Library

Tickets are \$35 and all proceeds go towards much-needed additions to the library. Income tax receipts are issued immediately through the Canada Helps website once you purchase your tickets.

Library book sale

Our annual library book sale has started! Come and pick up some great reads for exceptional prices. The sale will be continuing till the end of September.

Tea and Books

Join us on September 17 (2 pm) as we welcome acclaimed author **Irena Karafilly** for a discussion of her latest novel, *Tunes for Dancing with Bears*. This is Irena's second visit to our library, and we're thrilled to have her return.

Her newest book promises to spark thoughtful conversation on themes of love, marriage and the true meaning of commitment – what it really means to stand by someone for better or for worse. Irena will also have copies of her novel available for purchase at the event. If you would like to attend, please register by emailing info@mwpl.ca.

To help you prepare for the discussion, we have two copies available for borrowing on a special short-term loan. To reserve your copy, call or email us at info@mwpl.ca.

Ongoing events

This fall we will be continuing with our Knit and Natter drop in every Thursday at 3 pm. If you like to knit, crochet or even rug hook or do some bead work, join us and bring your project!

We'll also be bringing back our sweater mitten workshop, as we're now the proud repository for all the community's previously loved sweaters!



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The library girls

continued from page 1

sity in Peterborough, Ontario. She and her partner **Dan Crawford**, an artist, filmmaker and art teacher, worked at a music event centre there. They also hosted art events such as wine and cheese parties at a venue called *Studio in the Attic* as well as vernissages and concerts for local and out-of-town artists.

The influences of her upbringing are evident in her lifestyle choices. Her father was a bookseller and her mother, originally from Newfoundland, has worked as a non-profit fundraiser for many organizations, including various women's shelters and the *Canadian Society of Cinematographers*. Museums, plays and books played a large role in her younger years and have led her into a life where her creative side is the dominant force guiding her life. She cited the diarist and author Anais Nin's words, that creativity was a hedge against a chaotic world, as something she takes to heart. She writes poetry and short stories and some of her writings have been published.

She is also an avid gardener. Her interest is in pollinator gardens where she can grow food stuffs rather than in traditional ornamental gardening. And right now she is doing an Urban Gardening certificate at Concordia's *Coop CultivAction*. She also works on the garden in the backyard of the library. Not for her the sedentary office lifestyle that requires a gym membership to stay fit. She is doing the things that matter to her and living the life she loves.

From delivery girl to cover girl

"Hmm from delivery girl to cover girl." Those were practically the first words out of India's mouth when we started talking. "Can't believe we're going to be on the cover of *The Informer*," she said with a

smile. "I delivered the paper for six years, probably a record for longest serving delivery person."

India started volunteering on Saturdays behind the desk at the library in 2017 and was hired to work there part-time in 2022 when the library reopened. Now, with Katie to assist, she runs the Wednesday evening knitting group. It was India's brainchild to offer an extra opportunity for knitters to gather and, based on attendance, her idea is a success. She is on duty every Saturday behind the desk, helping the volunteers and working on various projects such as sourcing the origins of the donated thimble collection.

India is one of those rare beings, someone both born and bred in Montreal West. Her parents moved to the Town shortly before her birth from their house on Connaught Avenue where her older brother was born. Her father, of Italian heritage, wanted to give her an Italian name but her mother held out for India, wanting her daughter to have a truly unique name. Her mother's background was Acadian and thus she came from French-speaking stock. She brought India up in French while her brother, **Mas-simo** was spoken to in English at home. Her brother would speak to her in English and India would respond in French. It was a social experiment in their home. For high school India went to Villa Maria on the French side, but she admits that her French has waxed and waned over the years, depending on what outside influences were operating in her life.

India is a few years younger than Katie and still at university. She is now in her third year at McGill pursuing a degree in Nutrition. She is working at the Children's Hospital part-time helping in their nutrition program. After she graduates, she wants to go on to train as a mid-wife at a school in Trois-Rivières. It was in grade 6 that she saw a video of a woman giving birth and mid-wifery has been her career goal ever since.

Children's Library



Jury member and author Dara Murphy, Geneviève Marchand-Keilman and Joan Foster

Bill Foster Writing Contest Results

The award ceremony for the *Bill Foster Writing Contest* was held at the beginning of June. The jury who read and evaluated the submissions selected the following texts:

Category 6-9 years old: First place for **Geneviève Marchand Keilman** for her story *Back in Time*; second place for

Mireille Mangerel Oigny for *Les Toutous disparus*; third place for **Evelyn Lloyd** for the text *Escaping the Forest*.

Category 10-13 years old: First place for **Simon Kuchinsky** and his story *Damon and Kattos*; second place for **Ella Bounic**, *A Road Trip Gone Wrong*; third place for **Felix Kuchinsky** and the story *Saving Santa*.

Congratulations to all winners and to every single one of you who wrote a text on the theme of travel.

A compilation of all the texts submitted is part of the book collection and is available to borrow and enjoy at home.

TD Summer Reading Club

The summer reading program is still running – the deadline to register your books on the reading cards is August 30. The program was launched on June 25 with a joyful concert by beloved children's musician **Shawny**, who entertained the children with travel-related songs in line with the theme of the *TD Summer Reading Club*.

We are very pleased with the children who visit the library during the summer, borrow books and register the books read in their reading cards. They go around the library on a hunt for challenges, and it is a great satisfaction to see them solve one. Up to this point, three different puzzles depicting continents have been put out to build by visitors. The children who are lucky enough to finish a puzzle by placing the last piece receive books as a prize.

Party and fundraising event

We are getting ready for the closing party of the program. Mark your calendars: Friday, September 5 at 5 pm. We will have a big party to reward those who have read

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Fermée le 1^{er} septembre
Closed September 1



Ella Knitter and Carmen Marilley were our student library assistants for the summer

during the summer and participated in our games and challenges.

The closing party will also be a fundraising event for the library, so tasting the dishes will be by donation – suggested donation \$25 per family. Come explore delicious, traditional foods from the six continents, play games and learn some facts. Participation in the closing party is by registration, so please contact us by August 30. The children who have earned travel miles with our summer reading program will get a rebate of \$5 off the family price of the meal. Everyone supporting the library is welcome to join the party!

Books and music

We invite you on a musical adventure! If your child plays an instrument this may of interest: borrow a book, read it and then come up with a melody, a tune or a song, inspired by the story. Any genre or format of book can be used as an inspiration – a picture book, a graphic novel, a chapter book. You will have the months of September and October to read and create.

On November 8, we will organise a special event where children can play the music they composed. You can bring your own instrument; if your composition is for a piano, we will have a keyboard.

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ARC / CRA

Welcome back to fall programming!

As the summer days become shorter and the anticipation of cooler weather grows, it's time to gear up for another exciting season of fall sports programming. We are thrilled to welcome back all families to a new year of sports and community spirit!

Our programs are designed to provide a nurturing and engaging environment where participants can develop new skills, make friends and enjoy the benefits of physical activity. Whether your child is a budding athlete or looking to try something new, we have something for everyone.

This season, we are offering a range of activities that cater to all ages and interests.

- Gymnastic: 3½-12. Intro to gymnastics flexibility, strength and coordination in a fun and dynamic environment
- Indoor soccer: 5-adult. Develop soccer skills, teamwork and strategy.
- Hockey: 4+. Join our exciting hockey program, suitable for all skill levels.
- Sportball: 4+. Multisport includes an introduction to various sports such as baseball, basketball, football, hockey, volleyball, golf and tennis.
- Basketball: 7-18+. Improve shooting, dribbling and game-play skills in our basketball program.

Registration dates

Residents: opens August 19; non-residents: opens August 21.

To secure your spot and find more information about each program, visit our website at mwcrasports.ca

MWH hockey registration now open!

One of the highlights of our fall sports calendar is the much-anticipated hockey season, and we're excited to announce that registration for MWH Hockey is open until August 31 (U7 registration is ongoing). We welcome all residents of Montreal West and Hampstead to be part of what promises to be another fantastic year on the ice.

Whether your child is stepping onto the ice for the very first time or is a returning player eager to improve his game, our program offers a fun, inclusive and development-focused environment for all skill levels.

While we await confirmation from the Town regarding the opening of the new recreation facility, we will begin the season using nearby rinks. This includes LCC arena and *Hockey Etcetera*. We will provide updates as soon as more information becomes available.

Evaluations will begin in September, and

all players must be registered in order to participate. These evaluations are a great opportunity for athletes to demonstrate their skills and be placed in a group that best matches their level and development goals.

All schedules, group placements and updates will be posted on our website: mwh-hockey.ca. Please check regularly so you don't miss important information as the season approaches.

We're looking forward to another exciting season, full of growth, energy and community spirit. Let's make this our best season yet!

MWH Hockey

Spring sports season recap

As our spring sports season wraps up, we're thrilled to look back on a few of the highlights from another incredible season of community, teamwork and fun!

Soccer

Soccer was once again a huge success, with close to 400 players taking to the fields throughout the season. Despite facing one of our rainiest springs in recent memory, players, coaches and parents showed amazing support and flexibility. Thanks to everyone's dedication and teamwork, we managed to play all scheduled games – including semi-finals and finals – rain or shine! The final day was a true celebration of our community and the love of the game.

Rugby

Rugby also had a strong season, with 100 participants aged 4 to 16 taking part in our growing program, including our first U16 girls' team. We were proud to host the

first jamboree of the season, welcoming eight clubs and 30 teams to MW for a full day of rugby, BBQ and festivities. Our teams went on to participate in several other jamborees on and off the Island, continuing to build skills, friendships and community pride along the way. We hope to continue to grow and are grateful for the help of parents and coaches in our MW rugby community.

Baseball recap We Are the Champions!

What a season for the M16 Mudhens! This spring, they brought home the championship title, defeating CSL in a thrilling best-of-three final series.

The victory was especially sweet after last year's narrow loss to CSL – a true comeback story and a win well worth the wait.

Congratulations to our Mudhens players and a big shoutout to our dedicated coaches: **Trevor Drummond, Kurt Johnson, Jean Ducharme and Brad Connell**. Your leadership, commitment and teamwork helped guide the team to a well-earned championship!

Our M11 team Mudhens faced some challenges this season, but they showed heart, determination and steady improvement throughout the season. Despite the ups and downs, the team earned some impressive wins along the way and laid a strong foundation for future success.

We're proud of their growth this season and look forward to seeing what this group can accomplish next year!

A heartfelt thank you to all players, coaches, volunteers and families who helped make this spring season such a success. We can't wait to see you all back on the fields next year!

Mudhens M16 champions



Rotary



Marc Garneau

Honouring long-time Rotary member

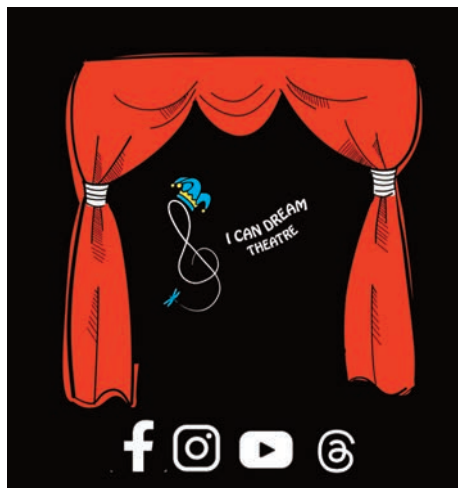
We are very saddened by the passing of the Honorable **Marc Garneau**, former MP, minister and first Canadian astronaut. Marc was a long-time member of our *Rotary* club and helped by giving his presence to our fundraising events, including speaking May 2 about his career. Marc was the epitome of the *Rotary* Motto "Service above Self." We were blessed to have him to help our country in so many ways.

From Mark's talk *Things I've Learned along the Way*: Be honest – admit mistakes. Don't let your pride get in the way. Think about the possible consequences for actions before you do something. Don't be afraid to act on your hopes and aspirations – You do not want to live with regrets.

May 2, we also honoured two recipients of the King Charles III Coronation Medal – MNA **Désirée McGraw** and long-time Rotary member Dr. **Nii Quao**.

from Kathie Montgomery

Dr. Nii Quao and MNA Désirée McGraw, recipients of the King Charles III Coronation Medal



5th Golf tournament

I Can Dream Theatre is thrilled to be holding their 5th golf tournament at the Club de Golf Bell Vue (880, boul. de Lery), with registration starting at 10 am and shotgun beginning at noon.

All information around joining us is available at icandreamtheatre.com.

The golf tournament is one of the organization's big events for the year, and all proceeds go directly to *I Can Dream Theatre* as it continues to create productions with its neurodivergent cast. *I Can Dream Theatre* has been wowing audiences since 2011 and shows no signs of stopping! Their latest show is slated for 2026!

What can you expect from the tournament? You can expect a full day on the green in the great outdoors, supported by our cast which you'll be able to meet in person. Following the game, a dinner will be served where you'll be able to connect with everyone.

It will be an inspiring evening all for a great cause. We can't wait to see you there!

IODE



L to R: Moira Bettinville, Giuliana Pendenza, Diane Ellison and Barbara Marshall

Welcome back from summer!

We hope that the very warm summer allowed for many moments of rest, relaxation and recharging.

In June, we wrapped up the spring season with a visit to the Field of Honour in Pointe Claire. We held a brief service and made a small donation to continue supporting the *Last Post Fund*, which is dedicated to providing a dignified burial for any military veteran or their immediate family.

It was incredibly touching, and we were able to take a tour of this sacred space.

from Diane Ellison



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Avez-vous consulté la page web pour aînés sur le site Web?

Vous êtes une personne aînée à la recherche d'activités de loisirs, d'événements locaux ou de renseignements sur les services de santé?

Ne cherchez pas plus loin que la page pour aînés sur le site Web de Montréal-Ouest. Cette page a été spécialement conçue pour répondre aux besoins et aux intérêts des aînés, des personnes qui prennent soin d'eux ainsi que des résidents plus jeunes qui cherchent de l'information générale, que ce soit sur le bénévolat ou les services gouvernementaux. En quelques clics seulement, vous pouvez accéder à une foule d'informations pour rester informés et engagés dans notre communauté et au-delà.

Bien que la page des aînés soit en ligne depuis quelques années et qu'elle soit déjà utilisée régulièrement par certains, nous souhaitons encourager tous les aînés de notre communauté à profiter pleinement de cette ressource.

Voici un aperçu de ce que vous pouvez trouver sur la page Web :

- La politique Amie des aînés de Montréal-Ouest
- Six promenades autoguidées dans la ville
- Un enregistrement de la conférence du Dr. Gauthier sur les troubles neurocog-

nitifs présenté lors de la consultation publique des aînés

- Des activités de loisirs dans la ville et les environs
- Des ressources communautaires tel que *La popotte roulante*
- Des occasions de bénévolat dans la ville et ailleurs
- Des services de la santé incluant une liste des cliniques sans rendez-vous
- Des conseils pour prévenir la fraude
- Des informations juridiques sur les procurations, les mandats de protection et bien plus encore

Donc, si vous souhaitez rester actifs, engagés et bien informés, n'hésitez pas à consulter notre page Web destinée aux aînés. Nous sommes convaincus que vous y trouverez une ressource précieuse : tinyurl.com/57zpu357

Si vous souhaitez nous faire part de vos commentaires sur le site, y compris des suggestions concernant du contenu à ajouter, veuillez cliquer sur le bouton « Nous joindre » situé en haut à droite de la page.

*Comité consultatif des aînés
MADA*

Have you checked out the seniors' webpage?

Are you a senior looking for recreational activities, local events, or information on health services?

Look no further than the seniors' webpage on the Montreal West website! This webpage has been specially designed to cater to the needs and interests of seniors, those caring for seniors, or younger residents seeking general information about anything from volunteer opportunities to government services. With just a few clicks, you can access a wealth of information that can help you stay informed and engaged in our community and beyond.

Although the seniors' webpage has been operational for a few years and is used regularly by some, we would like to encourage all seniors in our community to take advantage of this valuable resource.

Here's a small sample of some of the things you can find on the webpage:

- The Town's Age-Friendly Policy
- Information on six self-guided walks through the town
- A recording of Dr. Serge Gauthier's talk

on dementia presented at the Seniors' Consultation

- Recreational activities in and around town
- Community Resources and Services, such as *Meals on Wheels*
- Volunteering opportunities in the town and beyond
- Health services, with a list of walk-in clinics and phone numbers
- Fraud prevention tips
- Legal information on power of attorney and mandates and much more

So, if you are looking to stay active, involved, and informed, be sure to check out our seniors' webpage today. We are confident you will find it to be a valuable resource: tinyurl.com/6jydm5tw/

If you would like to provide feedback on the website, including suggestions for additional information, please let us know by clicking the "Contact us" button on the upper right side of the webpage.

*from Seniors' Advisory Committee
MADA*



The Montreal West Horticultural Society is thrilled to have resumed its activities! And it's only fitting that we kicked off our 2025 program with our first garden tour in several years, which was a resounding success!

More than 40 people – some revisiting a cherished tradition, others joining for the first time – took part in a guided tour of six residential gardens. Each garden reflected a different shape, style and approach, expertly curated by resident, member of the MWHS executive committee and professional landscape architect, **Jonathan Cha**.



The tour began with a meticulously maintained garden on Curzon, then continued to Percival, where four very different gardens were featured: a vibrant perennial garden, a striking "floral firework display", a garden bursting with colour in bold masses and a contemplative space imbued with an Asian spirit. The tour concluded at a true backyard oasis on Parkside, tucked behind Strathern Park.

All these gardens showcased not only the expertise and personality of their creators, but their unique visions and personal relationships with their outdoor spaces. We thank all the homeowners for generously opening their gardens and sharing the fruits of their hard work.

We're already looking forward to offering more garden tours next season so we can continue to celebrate the beauty and diversity of our neighbourhood gardens. If you're interested in showing your garden, please reach out to us at mwhs1908@gmail.com.

Next up: fall programming! We'll be offering a mix of talks and hands-on workshops. Membership will also be reopened. Visit mwhs.ca to sign up for our newsletter and be the first to hear about upcoming activities.

We hope to see many of you there!

from Martha Slocombe

Une machine bien huilée

Les MoWesters visitent la nouvelle usine de compostage de Montréal

Quelle est l'odeur de plusieurs tonnes de compost?

Étonnamment, pas tant que ça.

C'est peut-être parce que l'installation où il est traité – le *Centre de traitement des matières organiques (CTMO)* – est la plus avancée technologiquement de son genre au Canada, puisqu'elle vient d'ouvrir ses portes à l'automne 2024. Les exploitants de l'immeuble certifié LEED Gold ont fait du compostage une forme d'art. Les membres du *Comité d'action environnementale (CAE)* l'ont découvert lors d'une visite au CTMO en juin.

Chaque jour, environ 40 camions de compostage déposent au CTMO des déchets alimentaires et des résidus de jardinage provenant de l'ouest de l'île de Montréal. Les matériaux passent par un broyeur, puis par une série de processus de tri – des aimants (pour collecter le métal) et des tamis, ainsi qu'une « table de densité » (pour trier les matériaux en fonction de leur poids) – avant d'aboutir dans un tunnel où la « recette » du compost commence sa phase de compostage actif de trois semaines. Les températures peuvent être élevées à l'intérieur de ces tas de compost, et les scientifiques y ont trouvé des microbes que l'on ne trouve que dans les centres de compostage du monde entier.

Après cette phase active, le compost est transféré dans un tas de maturation pendant

quatre semaines. Le compost est testé à différentes étapes du processus pour s'assurer que les matériaux tels que les plastiques (y compris les plastiques compostables) sont éliminés et que les matériaux plus denses (tels que le carton) se sont suffisamment décomposés. Il arrive qu'un lot soit renvoyé au processus de déchiquetage/tri pour être composté à nouveau.

Une fois que le compost a passé le contrôle de qualité, une partie est utilisée par la Ville de Montréal dans ses opérations de parcs et d'aménagement paysager, une autre est distribuée aux habitants de Montréal et de ses municipalités, et une autre encore est vendue par l'exploitant du Centre, Veolia.

Avant la mise en service de ce centre, le compost provenant de l'ouest de Montréal était transporté par camion en Ontario pour y être traité. Le fait d'avoir une opération sur l'île permet donc de réduire considérablement les émissions de gaz à effet de serre puisque la distance parcourue par les camions est beaucoup plus courte.

Le centre fonctionne actuellement à une fraction de la capacité de 50 000 tonnes par an pour laquelle il a été conçu. Mais les exploitants espèrent qu'en informant les citoyens sur le rôle précieux que joue le compostage dans la réduction des gaz à effet de serre et des déchets mis en décharge, ils augmenteront l'engagement des citoyens.

Les visites du centre sont organisées par le *Groupe uni des éducateurs-naturalistes*

et professionnels de l'environnement (*GUEPE*) et sont ouvertes aux écoles et à d'autres organisations. Le CAE espère organiser bientôt des visites pour les résidents – restez à l'écoute !

Difficultés et solutions en matière de compostage

Bac à compost malodorant

- Les sacs poubelles en papier compostable aident à garder la poubelle propre. Le papier journal peut également être utilisé
- En été, conservez les produits à base de viande ou de poisson dans le congélateur jusqu'au jour du compostage.
- Rincez la poubelle avec de l'eau et du vinaigre pour la nettoyer
- Essayez de recadrer la façon dont vous considérez le programme : les ordures sentent mauvais lorsqu'elles contiennent des matières compostables.

Les animaux envahissent le bac à compost

- Veillez à ce que votre poubelle reste verrouillée ; si le verrou est cassé, contactez les services des travaux publics.
- Placez une grosse pierre sur la poubelle ou utilisez un élastique pour la fermer
- Essayez de mettre du Vic's Vapo Rub autour de l'ouverture de votre poubelle.

de Joanna Duy

traduction par Google

EAC members (L to R) Joanna Duy, Julie Waters, Elizabeth Ulin, Tagrid Akl, Dan Boulerville at the Centre de traitement des matières organiques. Storage bays for compost at the composting centre



Environmental Action Committee

A well-oiled machine

MoWesters tour Montreal's new composting plant

What do several tons of compost smell like?

Surprisingly, not that bad.

It might be because the facility where it's processed – the treatment centre for organic waste (*Centre de traitement des matières organiques – CTMO*) – is the most technologically advanced of its kind in Canada, having just opened in fall 2024. And the LEED Gold-certified building's operators have composting down to an art form. Members of the *Environmental Action Committee (EAC)* discovered this on a trip to the *CTMO* in June.

Every day, approximately 40 compost trucks drop off food and yard waste from around the western part of the Island of Montreal. Materials go through a shredder, then pass through a series of sorting processes – from magnets (to collect metal) and sieves, as well as a “density table” (to sort materials based on weight) before finally ending up in a tunnel where the compost “recipe” starts its three-week active compost phase. Temperatures can get high inside these compost piles, and scientists have found microbes in these piles that are found only in composting centres around the world.

After this active phase, the compost is transferred to a maturation pile for four weeks. The compost is tested at different points along the process to ensure that materials such as plastics (including compostable plastics) are removed and denser materials (such as cardboard) have broken down sufficiently. Sometimes, a batch will be sent back through the shredding/sorting process to be composted again.

Once the compost passes quality control, a portion is used by the City of Montreal in its parks and landscaping operations, some is distributed to residents around Montreal and its municipalities and some is sold by the operator of the Centre, *Veolia*.

Prior to this Centre's being operational, compost from the western part of Montreal was trucked to Ontario for processing. Having an operation on the Island thus saves a significant amount of greenhouse gas emissions since the travel distance for trucks is much shorter.

The Centre is currently operating at a fraction of the 50,000 tonnes per year capacity for which it was designed. But operators hope that by educating citizens about the valuable role that composting plays in

reducing greenhouse gases and landfill waste, citizen engagement will increase.

Tours of the Centre are given by *Groupe uni des éducateurs-naturalistes et professionnels de l'environnement (GUEPE)* and open to schools and other organizations. The *EAC* hopes to organize tours for residents soon – stay tuned!

Composting hurdles and solutions

Smelly brown bin

- Compostable paper bin liners help keep bin clean. Newspaper can also be used
- In summer, keep meat/fish products in the freezer until composting day
- Rinse bin with water and vinegar to clean
- Try reframing how you consider the problem: garbage also gets smelly when it contains compostable materials

Critters invading the bin

- Make sure your bin is kept latched; if the latch is broken, contact Public Works
- Place a large rock on the bin or use a bungee cord to close it
- Try putting Vic's Vapo Rub around the opening of your bin

from Joanna Duy



Join Extra Miles and brighten a senior's day

Volunteer visitors needed just 1 hour a week

This summer, the *World Health Organization* released a landmark report declaring social health a vital pillar of well-being, on par with physical and mental health. The report highlights that loneliness and social isolation are widespread, with serious but often overlooked impacts on health and society, and that social connection is a solution we can build together. It is a powerful call to action, and with the help of volunteer visitors, that is exactly what *Extra Miles* has been doing for over two decades: building connection, one visit at a time.

Extra Miles matches volunteers with isolated seniors for weekly one-hour in-person visits or friendly phone calls. These simple gestures can lead to genuine connection, helping seniors feel valued and more en-

gaged with their community. And when an in-person visit is not possible, a phone call can still brighten someone's day.

Right now, we are looking for volunteers to visit:

- An isolated senior who would love company and to knit with a fellow knitter, perhaps even help assemble sweater sleeves or chat about shared projects.
- A visually impaired senior who would appreciate help reading occasional mail and friendly conversation.
- Other seniors who speak English or French and would benefit from your time, warmth and kindness.

Beyond individual visits, *Extra Miles* also hosts intergenerational events, interactive get-togethers with local students and musical afternoons that bring joy and connection to

many. For seniors who cannot attend, our volunteers are a vital source of social connection and a link to the outside world.

Whether you're a student, retiree or working professional, your time can make a meaningful impact.

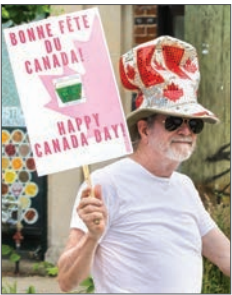
Ready to make a meaningful connection?

- Contact **Tracie Swim** at extramiles.senior@gmail.com
 - Or call **482-3210** to get involved
- Extra Miles* is a community initiative dedicated to reducing isolation and fostering connection among seniors.

Juliette LORD

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July 1, 2025. Canada Day parade in Montreal West. Photographs: Robert Ganz. Collage: Julia Ross

News from the pews

MW United

...the brick one

Welcome back!

As the golden days of summer begin to fade and September peeks around the corner, we hope you had time to take in a few of the many vibrant festivals our city has to offer. Whether you traveled far or stayed close to home, we trust you found space to rest, recharge and reflect.

At Montreal West United Church, we're ready to welcome everyone back as we launch into a new season of community, connection and spiritual growth.

Our first Sunday service after the August break will be held September 7, 10 am – all are welcome to join us as we gather again in faith and fellowship. Sunday school will resume the following week, September 14, and we look forward to seeing familiar faces and hopefully some new ones alike.

Crafts & Laughs

Our Crafts & Laughs group – where creativity and community come together – resumes Tuesday, September 9, 10 am. Whether you're a beginner or an expert, there's a seat at the table for you. The group continues to work on beautiful creations in preparation for our annual Christmas bazaar happening in early November – always a highlight of the season!

Quiet Centre

The Quiet Centre returns for in-person gatherings in the sanctuary starting Wednesday, September 17, 6:30 pm offering a free mid-week moment of calm and reflection. Online sessions for youth begin again Thursday 7 pm – for details or to register, please contact **Natalie** at **884-0444**.

Labyrinth Walk

And for those seeking a peaceful, meditative space, our first Labyrinth Walk of the fall will take place on Sunday, September 21, 2-4 pm in Wadsworth Hall – please remember to bring socks or slippers.

No matter how you spent your summer, we're grateful to gather again in community – ready to share in a new season of faith, friendship, and meaningful moments together.

*Your church neighbor
with a keyboard,
Tania Watson*

Thrift store

The thrift store is open Thursday, August 28 and Thursday, September 25 from noon-3 pm in the hall basement (7505 Sherbrooke St. W.). A variety of houseware items, kitchen utensils, used books, decorative accessories, jewellery and more will be on sale. Come for the bargains and stay for the friendly conversation!

Worship at St. Philip's is every Sunday at 10 am, with children's activities available.

from Mark Reimer

St. Philip's

We trust that everyone had a restful and relaxing summer. Thanks to the abundance of warm weather and care of our volunteers, St. Philip's community garden once again flourished, with a bumper crop of blackberries, zucchini, Saskatoon berries, kale, beans, tomatoes and other yummy produce. Our pollinator bed was a big hit with passers-by, bees and butterflies alike.

Public access to the garden was hampered by the road work on Sherbrooke and surrounding street closures (argh!), but construction is now complete (hallelujah!), so why not drop by and check out our remaining late summer offerings? The garden is open to all in the community.

Fall workday

As a heads-up, our fall workday, when the garden is "put to bed" for the winter, is planned for Saturday, October 4. If you are interested in becoming a member of our garden community, please contact **Anne Williams** (anne.johnston.williams@gmail.com) for more information.

Kosher corner

We hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Here at Chabad Westminster, we're excited to prepare for a new year of Hebrew school and the High Holiday season.

If you have a child in grades K-5 and want to learn more about Hebrew school, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. You can contact Chaya at chaya@chabadwestminster.com or visit our website at chabadwestminster.com/hebrewschool.

For boys and girls approaching their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, we offer Bar Mitzvah lessons and Bat Mitzvah Club; just let us know if you're interested!

Our First Friday Shabbat services have been a huge success throughout the summer, and we'd love you to join us for our service on Friday, September 5 at 8 pm followed by a Kiddush hors d'oeuvres.

As the High Holidays approach, here are some important dates to keep in mind.

Rosh Hashanah begins on the evening of Monday, September 22. We're excited to welcome you to our services and invite you to reserve a chair. For the full schedule and to RSVP, please visit tinyurl.com/ynxpuepe.

Shofar services. We will once again be holding the popular Shofar services in Strathearn Park Tuesday and Wednesday, September 23-24 at 5 pm.

An additional Shofar service will be held Tuesday at 4:15 pm by **Jaime** and **Sandy's** lighthouse (corner of Sheraton and Radcliffe).

Yom Kippur begins Wednesday, October 1 at 6:16 pm. Please join us for meaningful services as we reflect on the past year and look forward to the future.

To stay up-to-date on all our events and activities, consider joining our email list by visiting chabadwestminster.com/subscribe. We look forward to seeing you at our services and events!

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow



Andrew Blundell

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West End Quilters



Barbara H. (on the left) showed off her portrait of her daughter from our spring workshop. Janice H. (on the right) showed off her improv quilt. She sewed fabric together as the spirit moved her and then trimmed blocks to put the quilt top together.

New quilting season begins early September

Some members might have found it too hot to quilt during the summer, while others have enjoyed working in their air-conditioned homes.

We will see what has been

accomplished at the first meeting. Members can already sign up for our fall retreat.

Our season closed with a pizza dinner in Barbara M's garden. For once, it was a beautiful

evening with no rain, no chill, no wind and no bugs. We had lots of show-and-tells, some of which are pictured here.

from Mary Sutherland

60 + Club

August

26 Bridge

September

16 Play: *Hurry Hard* at Upper Canada Playhouse

18 Brunch

30 Bridge

Call 484-6186 for more information or to register.

MADA free lecture

September 10, 1:30 pm,
Music Room

Speaker: **Alana Greenberg**,
Notary of
Greenberg & Greenberg
Notaries

Learn more about notaries and how they can help you from living wills to estate settlements.

Presentation in English, questions accepted in French and English.

Club 60+

AOÛT

26 Bridge

Septembre

16 Pièce de théâtre : *Hurry Hard* at Upper Canada Playhouse

18 Brunch

30 Bridge

Pour plus d'informations sur nos activités, veuillez appeler le 484-6186.

Conférence gratuite MADA

10 septembre, 13h30,
salle de musique

Conférencière :
Alana Greenberg,
notaire chez
Greenberg & Greenberg
notaires

Apprenez-en davantage sur les notaires et sur la façon dont ils peuvent vous aider, qu'il s'agisse de testaments de vie ou de règlements successoraux.

Présentation en anglais, questions acceptées en français et en anglais.

5 Posture tips for back-to-school students

Prevent forward head posture, stiffness and joint pain—whether at school or home.

Action Sport Physio

Health and Wellness

Action Sport Physio MoWest is here to help you and your family stay aligned, active and pain-free this school year.

Call: 514-485-9292

Email: montrealwest@actionsportphysio.com

1. Set up your study space right

Keep screens at eye level, feet flat, knees at 90°, and back supported. Avoid hunching or looking down for long periods.

2. Move every 30 minutes

Follow the 20-8-2 rule: Sit 20 min, stand/stretch 8 min, move 2 min. Staying still too long leads to stiffness.

3. Strengthen posture muscles

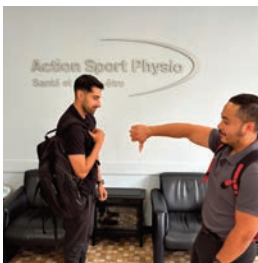
Do daily exercises like chin tucks, wall angels and shoulder squeezes to support better alignment and reduce tension.

4. Backpack check

Wear both straps, keep it snug and limit the weight to 10–15% of your body weight. A heavy or low-hanging bag strains your spine.

5. Limit screen time in bed

Looking down at phones encourages poor neck posture. Avoid screens before sleep and prop devices up when using them.



Scouts



Cubs

The Cubs had a great year, with their numbers soaring to 22 members. Six of their members finished the program to move up to Scouts to have fun doing more advanced activities relating to community service, badge work, hiking and camping. We are looking forward to welcoming the new Cubs in the fall who have advanced from Beavers.

As a final hurrah for the summer, seven Cubs and seven Scouts went to the regional camp at the Lake Lovering Scout Reserve in Magog to participate (along with seven other groups from Greenfield Park, Huntington, Candiac, Hudson, St. Lambert, TMR and Storer) in a weeklong summer camp. Over 100 Cubs, Scouts, Venturers and Rovers were in attendance. There were approximately 30 volunteers giving of their free time over the week to provide wonderful summer experiences for the boys and girls.

All youth and most of the adults slept in tents with two to four members per tent; meals were served outside. We couldn't have asked for nicer weather. After breakfast the Cubs split off into smaller groups to go to the various activity stations. Activities included canoeing, kayaking, fishing, swimming, badge work (outdoor adventure skills), campfires, s'mores, a 12 km canoe trip down a river for Scouts, a canoe overnight for the senior Cubs, fire building, crafts, cooking, a nature hike led by a very knowledgeable visiting Scouter, early

Scouter Lesley Coles, Venturer Daegan Thun, Venturer Rosa Gardner, Venturer Myles Gardner Kneeling Nicholas Dansereau-Derome, Scouter Rover Jonathan Halliday



Jon Wiersma – Rover Advisor, Karen Johnstone – Group Commissioner, Lesley Coles Rover & Scout Leader, Liam Massey – Rover, Daegan Thun – Recipient of Chief Scout Award, Jonathan Halliday

morning dips in the lake and much more. Wednesday was backwards day, and the youth were amused to have pizza for breakfast and eggs for dinner, but there were no complaints when they got to have canteen (candy, ice cream, etc.) in the morning! On Thursday, everyone participated in preparing dumplings for the traditional Asian-style dinner which is always a huge hit.

At the end of the week, there was a water regatta – an entire day of water challenges. The winning team got to be first in a water fight with the leaders. A talent show was held on the last night where we got to see how talented some of the campers were. We got to realize that if you apply yourself, there are no barriers to what you can accomplish: we witnessed some extraordinary presentations!

This was an amazing camp for the third year running, where we were able to renew friendships made at past camps and make new friends and new memories.

from Darzee (Lee-Ann Simpson)

Venturers / Rovers

The MW Scout Group had their year-end banquet May 31 where we presented the Chief Scout Award to **Daegan Thun**, the highest award a Scout youth can earn.

We presented our Venturers and Rovers *Camping in the Rain* badges that were well deserved as this spring they camped twice in the *rain*, waking up one morning at the end of April to *snow* and then again on the May long weekend, everything from *rain*, *wind*, weather statements and warnings, but they survived.

They also delivered garden supply products in the rain (thank you again for your orders!). Sunday, June 8, the group was asked by the *MW United Church* to coordinate

their BBQ as part of the 100th celebrations of the church; this they did in the SUN!

Funds from this fundraiser, along with donations from **Andy Michelin** and the *Montreal West and NDG Rotary Club*, were put towards our trip to PEI, where our Venturers and Rovers cycled the Confederation Trail from tip-to-tip, 273 km over five days. Special mention to Venturer **Myles Gardner** for completing the full 273 km. We had a great nine-day road trip exploring the East Coast, enjoying the beaches, a lobster supper, a few stops at *COWS* ice cream shops and spent an overnight in Quebec City.

The Venturers are keen to work on the King's Venturer Award along with the Duke of Edinburgh Award and have lots of outdoor and camping plans on the calendar. Regular weekly meetings start up again in September. To find out more about Venturers and Rovers (youth aged 14+) please email Rusty at jonwiersma1968@gmail.com.

from Rusty (Jon Wiersma)

Group committee:

Our 2025-2026 programs will begin in September after everyone has settled back into their school routines. All meetings are held at Edinburgh School, 500 Hudson.

- Beavers: kindergarten, grades 1/2, Thursdays, 6-7:15 pm
 - Cubs: grades 3/4/5, Wednesdays, 6:30-8 pm
 - Scouts: grades 6/7/8, may stay with the troop when they are 14. Tuesdays 6:30-8 pm
 - Venturers: 14 to 17 years, Tuesdays, 6:30-8 pm. Location may vary depending on activities
 - Rovers: 18 to 26 years. Location may vary.
- For information, email **Karen Johnstone** at karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com.

Montreal West Guiding



Together for a campfire

Summer equals Guiding, too!



The Guiding year came to an end toward the close of the school year. But before the year's end, there were still some fun plans in store.

The Guides planned and ran an entire bonus meeting for the Sparks and Embers to show the younger girls what fun activities the older girls have. It was a great way to share with the younger ones some of the activities which await them in Guides. As the girls move up each branch of Guiding, they acquire more skills and independence.

Sparks and Embers

Spark and Ember day at Camp Peaceful Waters was held at the end of May. It was an event for a caregiver to attend as well. The leaders animated the space-themed activities. The families had an opportunity to go at their own pace to learn about building rockets, attending astronaut school, learning about the solar system, making parachutes, making s'mores and sitting around a campfire, all while getting to see the beautiful provincial Guide camp near Morin Heights.

The buses leave early from their designated locations to bring everyone to camp and we were all home in time for dinner. The weather was not favourable in Montreal, but those who attended the camp had a lovely day, without the rain experienced at home.

With the weather in May being quite pleasant, the Sparks and Embers held most of their meetings outside, including their advancement. The ceremony was held within sight of the bulbs they planted last fall in honour of **Brown Owl**. Everyone was thrilled to see the allium starting to bloom.

Guides

The Guides held a spring camp in early June. Camp Peaceful Waters had units

camping on most of the sites. There was a lifeguard on staff that weekend, a special treat for the girls, and they had the opportunity to explore all of the camp. With the other units camping that weekend, there was a common campfire. It was a great way to meet other Guiding members who also live in the Montreal area and share in well-known campfire songs. With the nights being clear and very dark, the girls had a wonderful opportunity to stargaze and learn about different constellations.

The Guides held their advancement ceremony in late June. The ceremony was followed by a potluck meal. The MW United Church generously donated a cake to the event. The Guiding units are very grateful to the United Church for their unwavering support of our activities.

Camping

Guiding did not end over the summer. Summer is the perfect time to enjoy camping adventures at Camp Peaceful Waters. The province runs week-long camps for all levels of Guiding. For the younger Sparks there are three-day camps and even an opportunity to camp with a trusted female adult. One of our Spark members camped with her mother. This is what they had to say:

"This was our first weekend camp; it was an unforgettable experience, especially for **Anna**, who was camping for the very first time. Watching her build friendships, gain confidence and embrace the outdoors with so much joy made me incredibly proud.

"She quickly bonded with other Sparks and Embers, and by the end of the weekend, it felt like they had known each other forever. It was also a wonderful opportunity for us to connect as mother and daughter in a fun and supportive environment. She is al-

ready looking forward to her next camp – this time she's ready to go on her own!"

from Sarah

Guider Getaway

Camp isn't just for the girls. Guider Getaway took place in mid-August. It was an opportunity for Guiders to reconnect with one another, exchange ideas and recharge their batteries before the start of the next Guiding year in September.

Summer camping opportunities

Embers (grades 2 and 3) have an opportunity to do a three-day or a week-long camp, whatever fits into the family's schedule.

Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers, in addition to spending a week at camp, have an opportunity to attend a week of trail camp or adventure camp. During the trail camp they learn all the skills they need: from dehydrating their food to planning their route to camping away from the established camp. For the adventure camp, they go off-site and explore other outdoor activities supported at the camp.

It is only during the summer camp that the girls have the opportunity to earn the special camp challenge crests. These challenges range from different swimming events (boat swim, short lake swim, Blueberry Island swim) to a cooking challenge.

During the second week, the first-year Guide site cooked s'mores over a wood-burning stove as well as over a traditional campfire. They learned to make foil fajita dinners in the coals of the campfire as well as using buddy burners to cook grilled cheese sandwiches.

Newer challenges included sleeping in a hammock, hiking the entire camp and learning about all the different sites. Some of these challenges, such as the sunrise hike to the bluff, are only open to the girls who are in high school.

These camps provide opportunities to work with Guiders from other districts or units; many girls live in the Ottawa area. Camping builds friendships that will last a lifetime and the girls look forward to coming to our camp every year.

Registration

Registration is open for the new Guiding year. The leaders have been brainstorming fun activities to offer to the girls. There is room in each of the units for girls to register. Guides (Grades 4-6) hold their weekly meetings on Fridays, 5-7 pm. The Guides' first meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 10. Meetings are held at MW United.

Registration is online at register.girl-guides.ca/ If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to **Pearl** at 483-3303.

from Pearl Barnowl

Town Council meetings: May and June



by Alexandra (Olesia) Lewyckyj

MAY COUNCIL MEETING

Councillor Small-Pennefather was absent.

Updates from the Town

Mayor Masella defended the Town's decision not to publish the commissioned traffic study. The report was prepared for Town administrators and includes a level of detail and nuance that risks being misinterpreted or misrepresented (a report drafted for the public would be different in structure and content). The Council wanted to prioritize expert analysis over input from casual readers. The Town is also negotiating with certain partners (e.g. *exo*) and doesn't feel that it can publish the report while those negotiations are ongoing. An information session will be held on June 12.

The mayor also noted that he had received targeted personal harassment for the decision not to publish the report. Whatever opinion people may have about the report, a basic level of civility is always important.

Councillor Feeney reported that recent pop-up events in Davies Park were well attended, and more would be planned throughout the summer. She also noted that the Town's 2024 financial statements would be published in the June edition of *The Informer*.

Councillor Torres reported that Urban Planning issued 32 permits in the month preceding the meeting.

Councillor Ulin reported that Public Works had spent the spring focused on tree maintenance and inspections, green space cleaning and planting, asphalt repairs and the installation of seasonal speed bumps. She also noted that there were five water

main breaks in the preceding month, with two still awaiting repair at the time of the meeting.

Users of the Public Library shared their thanks with the Council for the Town's continued support of the library.

The auditor's report for the Town's 2024 financial statements was filed. Overall, the auditor found the reports accurately reflected the Town's finances. The Town has an operating surplus of over \$2 million. Town debt increased to \$17 million, up from \$11 million in 2023, due to the rec centre construction. While the jump is notable, the Council also noted that debt was also this high a decade ago, and the Town's finances remain stable overall.

RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Road safety

The crosswalk at Westminster and Ainslie is not well lit because the street light is set back from the corner; can more lights be added to improve pedestrian visibility?

Installing solar street lights might be possible; an analysis will be conducted.

Can a traffic camera be installed at Westminster and Avon?

The Town has been pushing for just such a camera, but the municipality does not have the ability to install one itself; it would need to come from the City of Montreal.

The school zone sign on Westminster (outside the Easton condo development) has yet to be reinstalled. When will it happen?

The Town is waiting for the signs to be delivered and will install them ASAP.

*Planning documents showed that when *exo* increased commuter train frequency in 2012-2013, there was a discussion of a grade-separated crossing at West Broad-*

way. What came of that plan?

The plan for a grade-separated crossing at West Broadway was first proposed 15 years ago and was raised again two years ago during the train station renovation. *Exo's* position is that the crossing is still on the table as part of a "subsequent phase," but the timing was and remains unclear. The major barrier seems to be obtaining funding from the provincial government. *Exo* is responsible for this type of project and would be the best target for advocacy.

Is there an update on the provincial grant for community traffic safety?

Per the Council, the Town submitted an application, but has not received updates on its status.

When will Westminster Avenue markings be updated? These may help drivers follow traffic bylaws.

Westminster is hard to repaint as it must be done at night; a discussion will be held with Public Works about how to proceed.

Can anything be done to reduce gridlock on Strathearn N and Ballantyne N from drivers trying to dodge traffic on Westminster?

Restricting drivers from using streets that are otherwise open is challenging if they are abiding by traffic laws and municipal bylaws. "Resident only" restrictions don't work as there isn't a viable enforcement mechanism.

On Ronald Drive, a hole was cut in the roadway during work around a manhole cover. When will the hole be repaired?

Public Works will follow up.

Recreation centre and green spaces

What was the process for naming the ice rink at the new recreation centre?

The decision was made by the fundraising committee, without public consultation. A fundraising consultant (brought onto the project to help offset costs for residents) made a series of suggestions for maximally effective fundraising, including offering naming rights for parts of the centre. Naming rights for the rink were granted following a \$1 million donation.

Is there a plan to redo the soccer field to the south of the new recreation centre?

As part of phase 2, the soccer field will be redone and a running track added; this will happen only after the centre is finished.

Will the Town replace a tree that was improperly cut down with one of the same species?

Residents get a choice from a limited set of options when a public tree is planted on their lot, but the Town cannot accommodate all preferences.

Can residents prune public trees?

No, they cannot.



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Town Council meetings: May and June

Can the Town address a dangerous tree on Brock and Avon?

Public Works will look into it.

Town administration

Following up on the meeting about the U-Haul building demolition and replacement, how are residents alerted to public consultation sessions?

Public notices about this kind of project and accompanying Town meetings are generally posted to the Town's website, *The Suburban* and/or *The Informer*, and on panels near the affected properties; they're also included in emails from the Town and mentioned during council meetings. For this particular public consultation, information began being shared last October. The Town website is the most detailed and comprehensive place for information.

There is currently no way for residents to challenge or defend themselves from PAC recommendations; can the Town consider creating an appeal mechanism? Residents are not always able to share all evidence or files when submitting to PAC, especially regarding complex files, is there a better way to share that information?

Residents can submit a written request to Council explaining why they disagree with the PAC's decision; Council will consider such submissions before making their decision. Emails can be sent to Councillor Torres. With regard to sharing large files, that level of detail is generally not necessary for a decision to be made.

Other

Why are there so many water breaks along Ballantyne S? Has the potability been affected?

This is a complex area for water infrastructure. Both Avon and Ballantyne are high-priority for repairs with no date yet set. The Town has received grants to change that road, but cannot do that work independently; we must coordinate with the City of Montreal, and the City has unfortunately made clear that this work is not its priority (and has been dismissive of Montreal West residents' concerns in the past).

There seems to be an uptick of rats in the town, what is being done?

Public Works has not seen an increase in rats overall. There may still be localized issues depending on how specific households handle garbage on their own properties. In recent years, stricter garbage collection policies have been implemented to help manage animal infiltration into waste.

Reminders to readers

Property owners who get a permit for tree removal are required to replace the trees

in the same place or nearby as soon as possible. This is a mandatory part of the permit.

Feedback and criticism regarding our garbage contractors should be submitted in writing directly to Public Works. This paper trails helps the Town hold our contractors accountable.

JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

All members of the Council were present.

Updates from the Town

The June 12 public information session on road safety on Westminster was well-attended with respectful listening and thoughtful questions. The feedback will help improve the project as it moves forward.

Collective agreements have been made with the Town's blue- and white-collar workers, with no interruption in services. Council appreciates the work from everyone on both sides of the table.

An historic building survey is being conducted in Montreal West by an architecture firm, as part of a province-wide heritage inventory mandated by recent changes to the Cultural Heritage Act. This will primarily involve photos taken of buildings from streets and sidewalks; no entry into the buildings will be required.

The Council remembers the life of **Marc Garneau**, former Member of Parliament for our riding, remarkable public servant and friend and mentor to many.

Mayor Masella has not yet decided whether he will seek re-election.

RESIDENTS' QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Road safety

What is the status of the Town's application for the Road Safety Grant (deadline July 17)?

Despite submitting an application in January and receiving a receipt notification from the provincial authorities, the Town was recently informed that our original file was misplaced and we will need to resubmit parts of our application. The Town's own road safety work will proceed whether or not the grant comes through. Our MNA's office is also involved in pushing our file through.

The school zone sign in front of the Easton condos has not yet been replaced; when will it be?

Council is following up with the contractor, it is their responsibility to put it back.

Why aren't speed bumps being installed on Radcliffe? There's a lot of unsafe driving in the area, which is especially dangerous considering the proximity to the elementary school.

This decision was made following a traf-

fic study that found a relatively low incidence of speeding above posted limits. The larger issue in this area is the volume of vehicles, especially around school drop-off times. Public Safety will discuss whether there are other traffic management strategies that can be implemented in that area, including an increased SPVM presence.

Does the Town have plans to make changes south of the tracks following the lane restrictions in front of the new train station access on Sherbrooke? Combined with the bylaw change on left turns onto Westminster from Sherbrooke, more traffic risks being fed onto Avon.

Many of the road safety changes are being implemented as part of a pilot project to see whether just these kinds of knock-down effects occur. Other changes and adjustments can be made as needed.

Why does the traffic safety plan discussed on June 12 not include changes to the Westminster and Ainslie intersection?

The traffic engineer who prepared the study explained that, by making safety-minded changes to the intersections above and below Ainslie on Westminster, driver behaviour can be improved at that intersection, even if the infrastructure is not being changed. If the pilot project does not deliver the improvements Council hopes for, then more changes may be made.

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Town Council meetings: May, June

There are serious hazards at the Westminster and Avon intersection, especially regarding the traffic lights; what can be done?

Public Works will review the timing of the lights to make sure they are cycling correctly and will review other options to cut gridlock.

What is the status of the proposed bike safety changes?

The Town is pushing the Agglo, forcefully, to get their updates about their part of this project.

Why were residents not notified about the closure of Bedbrook in front of the new sports and recreation centre?

The Town is very disappointed in the short notice offered by the contractor, who will be repaving the road in front of the rec centre. The process did not conform to our expectations and standards for road closures, and Public Works is available to support residents who need extra help during the closure.

Other

What is the purpose for the restriction on leaf blower use? Can the bylaw be re-evaluated?

While residents notice the noise leaf blowers generate, the bigger concern is the particulate matter that gets kicked up through their use. This dust is hazardous to human health when inhaled. The current bylaw is a compromise on leaf blower use, allowing it using high-need times of year in the spring and autumn.

Who is responsible for public safety at the construction site on the former RBC building? Security fencing was damaged and not repaired.

It seems that there was a “broken telephone” at Public Safety in terms of sharing information about the fencing issue at the

site; Council will look into what happened.

There's a grant available to help create inventories of historic architecture, is this something Council might consider?

Yes, the Urban Planning office has received the information; the staff member responsible is currently on vacation but will follow up.

Businesses on Ronald are not complying with bylaws on waste disposal, what can be done?

Public Safety will follow up.

Will new lampposts be added to Ballantyne S?

Lampposts are updated when the streets are updated; Ballantyne is not currently on the schedule for whole-street replacement, but when that eventually happens, the lampposts will also be replaced.

With the Easton condos, the redevelopment of the old RBC building, and the changes to the U-Haul site, what is the gross tax increase?

Property tax is collected after the building is completed, submitted for valuation, and then inhabited. Because the projects are still in progress, the Council can't cite a specific amount, but anticipates an increase in the coming months.

Reminder to residents

Public Safety offers a “building check” service to residents who are out of town for long periods, to help keep an eye on homes that are temporarily unoccupied. There are other things residents can do to secure their property, such as making sure mail and packages are picked up, using lights set on timers to turn on in the evening or inviting a neighbour to use your driveway in your absence.



2025 Municipal elections Employment opportunities

The office of the Returning Officer is seeking personnel to work during the elections, which will be held on the following dates:

- Sunday, October 26, from 12 pm to 8 pm (advance poll);
- Sunday, November 2, from 10 am to 8 pm (polling day).

All members of the electoral staff will be required to attend training sessions that will be held in the evening.

If you are interested in working during the elections, please complete the application form and return it to the Town Clerk's office at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster S. Montreal West, or via email at election@montreal-west.ca.

The employment form may be obtained on the Town's website, under the section “Municipal Elections 2025” or by communicating to the aforementioned email address.

For more information, you may write to Mathieu Boissonneault, Election Clerk, using the same address.

*Me Claude Gilbert
Returning Officer*

Élections municipales 2025 Offres d'emploi

Le bureau du président d'élection procède présentement au recrutement de personnel pour la tenue d'une élection devant se tenir :

- le dimanche 26 octobre de 12h à 20h (vote par anticipation);
- le dimanche 2 novembre de 10h à 20h (jour du scrutin).

Tous les membres du personnel électoral devront assister, en soirée, à des séances de formation. Si vous êtes intéressés à travailler lors de l'élection, veuillez remplir le formulaire d'emploi et le retourner au bureau du greffier à l'hôtel de Ville situé au 50 Westminster S, Montréal-Ouest, ou via courriel au election@montreal-west.ca.

Le formulaire d'emploi peut être obtenu sur le site internet de la Ville, sous l'onglet « Élections municipales 2025 » ou en communiquant à l'adresse courriel ci-dessus.

Pour davantage d'informations, veuillez communiquer avec **Mathieu Boissonneault**, secrétaire d'élection, à la même adresse.

*Me Claude Gilbert
Président d'élection*

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Réunions du Conseil : mai et juin



de Alexandra (Olesia) Lewyckyj
traduction par René Boucher

RÉUNION DE MAI

La conseillère Small-Pennefather était absente.

Mises à jour de la Ville

Le maire Masella a défendu la décision de la Ville de ne pas publier l'étude de circulation commandée. Le rapport a été préparé à l'intention des administrateurs municipaux et comporte un niveau de détail et de nuance qui risque d'être mal interprété ou mal représenté (un rapport rédigé à l'intention du public aurait une structure et un contenu différents). Le Conseil voulait donner la priorité aux analyses d'experts plutôt qu'aux commentaires de lecteurs occasionnels. La Ville négocie également avec certains partenaires (comme exo) et n'a pas l'impression de pouvoir publier le rapport pendant que les négociations se poursuivent. Une séance d'information aura lieu le 12 juin.

Le maire a également fait remarquer qu'il avait été la cible de harcèlement personnel en raison de la décision de ne pas publier le rapport. Quelle que soit l'opinion des gens sur le rapport, un niveau de civilité élémentaire est toujours important.

La conseillère Feeney a signalé que les événements ponctuels qui ont eu lieu récemment au parc Davies ont attiré beaucoup de monde et que d'autres événements seront prévus tout au long de l'été. Elle a également souligné que les états financiers de la Ville pour 2024 seraient publiés dans le numéro de juin de l'*Informateur*.

La conseillère Torres a indiqué que le service d'Urbanisme avait délivré 32 permis au cours du mois précédant la réunion.

La conseillère Ulin a indiqué que les Travaux publics avaient consacré le printemps à l'entretien et à l'inspection des arbres, au nettoyage et à la plantation dans les espaces verts, à la réparation de l'asphalte et à l'installation de ralentisseurs saisonniers. Elle a également fait remarquer qu'il y avait eu cinq ruptures de conduites d'eau principales au cours du mois précédent, dont deux étaient toujours en attente de réparation au moment de la réunion.

Des usagers de la Bibliothèque publique ont remercié le conseil municipal pour le soutien continu de la Ville à la bibliothèque.

Le rapport du vérificateur pour les états financiers 2024 de la Ville a été déposé. Dans l'ensemble, le vérificateur a constaté que les rapports reflétaient fidèlement les finances de la Ville. La Ville a un excédent d'exploitation de plus de 2 millions de dollars. La dette de la Ville est passée à 17 millions de dollars, contre 11 millions en 2023, en raison

de la construction du centre récréatif. Bien que le bond soit notable, le Conseil a également noté que la dette était aussi élevée il y a dix ans et que les finances de la Ville demeurent stables dans l'ensemble.

QUESTIONS ET PRÉOCCUPATIONS DES RÉSIDENTS

Sécurité routière

Le passage piétonnier à l'angle Westminster et Ainslie est mal éclairé parce que le lampadaire est en retrait du coin; peut-on ajouter de l'éclairage pour améliorer la visibilité?

L'installation de lampadaires solaires serait une possibilité; une analyse sera effectuée.

Peut-on installer une caméra de surveillance à Westminster et Avon?

La Ville réclame un tel appareil, mais la municipalité n'a pas la capacité de l'installer elle-même; il faudrait que ce soit fait par la Ville de Montréal.

L'enseigne « zone scolaire » sur Westminster (à l'extérieur de l'ensemble Easton) n'a pas encore été réinstallée. Quand cela sera-t-il fait?

La Ville attend la livraison des panneaux et les installera dès que possible.

Le document de planification montre que lorsqu'exo a augmenté la fréquence des trains de banlieue en 2012-2013, il a été question d'un passage à niveau dénivelé à West Broadway. Qu'est-il advenu de ce plan?

Le passage à niveau dénivelé à West Broadway a d'abord été proposé il y a 15 ans et a été soulevé de nouveau il y a deux ans lors de la rénovation de la gare. La position d'exo est que l'idée est toujours sur la table dans le cadre d'une « phase ultérieure », mais le calendrier n'était pas clair et ne l'est toujours pas. Le principal obstacle semble être d'obtenir du financement du gouvernement provincial. Exo est responsable de ce type de projet et serait la meilleure cible où le plaider.

Y a-t-il du nouveau sur la subvention provinciale pour la sécurité routière communautaire?

Selon le conseil municipal, la Ville a présenté une demande, mais n'a pas reçu de mise à jour sur son statut.

Quand les marquages de l'avenue Westminster seront-ils refaits? Ils pourraient aider les conducteurs à respecter les règlements de la circulation.

Westminster est difficile à repeindre, car il faut le faire de nuit; une discussion aura lieu avec les Travaux publics sur la façon de procéder.

Peut-on faire quelque chose pour réduire les embouteillages sur Strathearn N et Balfantyne N causés par les automobilistes qui tentent de contourner la circulation sur

Westminster?

Empêcher les conducteurs d'emprunter des rues autrement ouvertes est un défi, s'ils respectent le Code de la route et les règlements municipaux. Les restrictions « pour résidents seulement » ne fonctionnent pas, vu l'absence de mécanisme d'application viable.

Sur la promenade Ronald, un trou a été creusé dans la chaussée lors de travaux autour d'un couvercle de regard. Quand le trou sera-t-il réparé?

Le service des Travaux publics assurera un suivi.

Centre récréatif et espaces verts

Comment a-t-on nommé la patinoire du nouveau centre récréatif?

La décision a été prise par le comité de financement, sans consultation publique. Un consultant en collecte de fonds (engagé dans le projet pour aider à compenser les coûts pour les résidents) a fait une série de suggestions pour une collecte de fonds la plus efficace possible, notamment en offrant des droits de désignation pour certaines parties du centre. Le droit de nommer la patinoire a été accordé à la suite d'un don de 1 million de dollars.

Y a-t-il un plan pour refaire le terrain de soccer au sud du nouveau centre récréatif?

Dans le cadre de la phase 2, le terrain de soccer sera refait et une piste de course sera ajoutée, ce qui ne se produira qu'une fois le centre terminé.

La Ville remplacera-t-elle un arbre qui a été abattu de façon inappropriée par un de même espèce?

Les résidents ont le choix parmi un ensemble limité d'options lorsqu'un arbre public est planté sur leur terrain, mais la Ville ne peut pas satisfaire toutes les préférences.

Les résidents peuvent-ils élaguer les arbres publics?

Non, ils ne le peuvent pas.

La Ville peut-elle traiter un arbre dangereux sur Brock et Avon?

Le service des Travaux publics se penchera là-dessus.

Administration municipale

Dans la foulée de la réunion sur la démolition et le remplacement de l'édifice U-Haul, comment les résidents sont-ils informés des séances de consultation publique?

Les avis publics concernant ce type de projet et les réunions publiques connexes sont généralement affichés sur le site Web de la Ville, dans le *Suburban* ou dans l'*Informateur*, et sur des panneaux à proximité des propriétés touchées; ils sont également inclus dans les courriels de la Ville et mentionnés lors des réunions du Conseil. Pour

Réunions du Conseil : mai et juin

cette consultation publique particulière, l'information a commencé à être communiquée en octobre dernier. Le site Web de la Ville est l'endroit le plus détaillé et le plus complet pour obtenir des renseignements.

Il n'y a actuellement aucun moyen pour les résidents de contester ou de se défendre contre les recommandations du CCU; la Ville peut-elle envisager de créer un mécanisme d'appel? Les résidents ne sont pas toujours capables de partager toutes les preuves ou tous les fichiers lorsqu'ils les soumettent au CCU, surtout en ce qui concerne les dossiers complexes, y a-t-il une meilleure façon de partager cette information?

Les résidents peuvent soumettre une demande écrite au Conseil expliquant pourquoi ils sont en désaccord avec la décision du CCU; le Conseil examinera ces soumissions avant de prendre sa décision. Les courriels peuvent être envoyés à la conseillère Torres. En ce qui concerne le partage de fichiers volumineux, ce niveau de détail n'est généralement pas nécessaire pour qu'une décision soit prise.

Divers

Pourquoi y a-t-il autant de bris d'aqueduc le long de Ballantyne S? La potabilité a-t-elle été affectée?

Il s'agit d'un secteur complexe pour les infrastructures d'aqueduc. Avon et Ballantyne sont hautement prioritaires pour les réparations sans date encore arrêtée. La Ville a reçu des subventions pour changer cette route, mais elle ne peut pas faire ce travail de façon autonome; il faut coordonner avec la Ville de Montréal qui a malheureusement indiqué clairement que ce travail n'était pas sa priorité (et a ignoré les préoccupations des résidents de Montréal-Ouest dans le passé).

Il semble y avoir une augmentation du

nombre de rats dans la ville, que fait-on?

Travaux publics n'a pas constaté d'augmentation globale de nombre. Il peut encore y avoir des problèmes localisés selon la façon dont certains ménages traitent les déchets sur leurs propriétés. Ces dernières années, des politiques plus strictes de collecte des ordures ont été mises en œuvre pour aider à gérer l'infiltration d'animaux dans les déchets.

Rappels aux lecteurs

Les propriétaires qui obtiennent un permis d'enlèvement d'arbres sont tenus de remplacer les arbres au même endroit ou à proximité dès que possible. C'est une partie obligatoire du permis.

Les commentaires et les critiques concernant nos fournisseurs pour la collecte des ordures devraient être soumis par écrit directement aux Travaux publics. Ces traces documentaires aident la Ville à tenir nos entrepreneurs responsables.

RÉUNION DE JUIN DU CONSEIL

Tous les membres du Conseil étaient présents.

Mises à jour de la Ville

La séance d'information publique du 12 juin sur la sécurité routière sur Westminster a été très suivie, avec une écoute respectueuse et des questions réfléchies. Les commentaires recueillis permettront d'améliorer le projet à mesure qu'il progresse.

Des conventions collectives ont été conclues avec les cols bleus et les cols blancs, sans interruption des services. Le Conseil est reconnaissant du travail de tous les membres des deux côtés de la table.

Un relevé des édifices historiques est effectué à Montréal-Ouest par une firme d'ar-

chitecture dans le cadre d'un inventaire du patrimoine à l'échelle provinciale, conformément aux récentes modifications apportées à la Loi sur le patrimoine culturel. Il s'agira principalement de photographies d'édifices prises depuis la rue et le trottoir; aucune entrée dans les édifices ne sera nécessaire.

Le Conseil se souvient de **Marc Garneau**, ancien député de notre circonscription, fonctionnaire remarquable, ami et mentor pour plusieurs.

Le **maire Masella** n'a pas encore décidé s'il briguera sa réélection.

QUESTIONS ET PRÉOCCUPATIONS DES RÉSIDENTS

Sécurité routière

Où en est la demande de subvention de la Ville pour la sécurité routière (date limite : 17 juillet)?

Malgré la présentation d'une demande en janvier et la réception d'un avis de réception des autorités provinciales, la Ville a récemment été informée que notre dossier original avait été égaré et que nous devrions soumettre de nouveau certaines parties de notre demande. Les travaux de sécurité routière de la Ville se poursuivront, que la subvention soit accordée ou non. Le bureau de notre députée participe également à l'avancement de notre dossier.

La pancarte de zone scolaire devant les condos Easton n'a pas encore été remplacée; quand le sera-t-elle?

Le Conseil fait un suivi auprès de l'entrepreneur qui est responsable de la remettre en place.

Pourquoi des ralentisseurs ne sont-ils pas installés sur Radcliffe? Il y a beaucoup de conduite dangereuse dans le secteur, ce qui est particulièrement imprudent compte tenu de la proximité de l'école primaire.

Cette décision a été prise à la suite d'une étude de la circulation révélant une incidence relativement faible d'excès de vitesse au-dessus des limites affichées. Le volume de véhicules constitue le problème le plus important dans la zone, particulièrement lors des heures de début et de fin des cours. La Sécurité publique discutera de la possibilité de mettre en œuvre d'autres stratégies de gestion de la circulation dans ce secteur, y compris une présence accrue du SPVM.

La Ville envisage-t-elle d'apporter des changements au sud des voies ferrées par suite des restrictions de voies devant le nouvel édifice sur Sherbrooke? Avec l'ajout du règlement interdisant le virage à gauche vers Westminster depuis Sherbrooke, on risque d'acheminer davantage de trafic vers Avon.

Bon nombre de changements à la sécurité routière sont mis en œuvre dans le cadre



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Réunions du Conseil : mai et juin

d'un projet pilote pour voir si de tels effets se produisent. D'autres modifications et ajustements peuvent être apportés au besoin.

Pourquoi le plan de sécurité routière discuté le 12 juin n'inclut-il pas des changements à l'intersection Westminster et Ainslie?

L'ingénieur de la circulation qui a préparé l'étude a expliqué qu'en apportant des modifications axées sur la sécurité de part et d'autre d'Ainslie sur Westminster, le comportement des conducteurs peut être amélioré à cette intersection, même si l'infrastructure n'est pas modifiée. Si le projet pilote n'apporte pas les améliorations souhaitées par le Conseil, d'autres changements pourront être apportés.

Il y a de graves dangers à l'intersection Westminster et Avon, surtout reliés aux feux de circulation; que peut-on faire?

Le service des Travaux publics étudiera la synchronisation des feux pour s'assurer que le cycle est adéquat et examinera d'autres options pour réduire les embouteillages.

Où en sont les modifications proposées à la sécurité à vélos?

La Ville pousse l'agglomération, fermement, pour obtenir des mises à jour sur ce projet.

Pourquoi les résidents n'ont-ils pas été avisés de la fermeture de Bedbrook devant le nouveau centre sportif?

La Ville est très déçue du court préavis offert par l'entrepreneur qui repavera la rue devant le centre récréatif. Le processus n'a pas été conforme à nos attentes et à nos normes en ce qui concerne les fermetures de voies, et Travaux publics est disponible pour aider les résidents qui ont besoin d'aide supplémentaire pendant la fermeture.

Divers

Quel est l'objectif de la restriction concernant l'utilisation des souffleurs à feuilles? Le règlement peut-il être réévalué?

Alors que les résidents remarquent le bruit que les souffleurs à feuilles génèrent, la plus grande préoccupation est la matière particulière soulevée par leur utilisation. Cette poussière est dangereuse pour la santé humaine lorsqu'inhalée. Le règlement actuel est un compromis sur l'utilisation des souffleuses à feuilles qui permet leur utilisation pendant les périodes de l'année où les besoins sont élevés au printemps et à l'automne.

Qui est responsable de la sécurité du public sur le chantier de construction de l'ancien édifice RBC? La clôture de sécurité a été endommagée et n'a pas été réparée.

Il semble y avoir eu un bris de communication à la Sécurité publique quant au partage d'information sur la question des clôtures sur le site; le Conseil va examiner ce qui s'est passé.

Une subvention est disponible pour aider à créer des inventaires de l'architecture historique, est-ce quelque chose que le Conseil

pourrait envisager?

Oui, le service de l'Urbanisme a reçu l'information; le fonctionnaire responsable est actuellement en vacances, mais il assurera un suivi.

Des entreprises sur Ronald ne respectent pas les règlements sur l'élimination des déchets, que peut-on faire?

La Sécurité publique fera un suivi.

De nouveaux lampadaires seront-ils ajoutés sur Ballantyne S.?

Les lampadaires sont mis à jour lorsque les rues sont mises à jour; Ballantyne n'est pas actuellement sur le calendrier pour la réfection de toute la rue, mais lorsque cela arrivera finalement, les lampadaires seront également remplacés.

Compte tenu des condos Easton, du réaménagement de l'ancien édifice de la RBC et des changements apportés au site U-Haul, quelle est l'augmentation brute de l'impôt foncier?

L'impôt foncier est perçu une fois que l'immeuble est terminé, soumis pour évaluation, puis habité. Comme les projets sont toujours en cours, le Conseil ne peut pas citer de montant précis, mais prévoit une augmentation dans les mois à venir.

Rappel aux résidents

Sécurité publique offre un service de «vérification des immeubles» aux résidents qui sont à l'extérieur de la ville pendant de longues périodes, pour aider à surveiller les maisons temporairement inoccupées. Il y a d'autres moyens que les résidents peuvent utiliser pour sécuriser leur propriété, comme s'assurer que le courrier et les colis sont ramassés, installer des minuteries pour allumer l'éclairage le soir ou inviter un voisin à utiliser votre allée en votre absence.



Vanessa Iannucci

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Programmes des loisirs

Les inscriptions sont disponibles en ligne sur amilia.com ou en personne au centre communautaire.

Inscrivez-vous avant le 29 août pour profiter du tarif réduit! Notez que certains cours ne sont pas admissibles aux rabais.

Les programmes débutent la semaine du 8 septembre.

Enfants

- Échecs (samedi)
- Initiation à Donjons et Dragons (jeudi, samedi)
- Ballet et pré-ballet (samedi, lundi)
- Hip hop (mercredi)
- Cours de gardien avertis de la Croix-Rouge : dimanche 5 octobre
- Musique et bébé avec **Shawny** (les samedis - voir les options)

Soirée congé pour les parents

Centre communautaire
17h à 21h

Les enfants (âgés de 4 à 10 ans) peuvent venir s'amuser! Au programme : pizza, jus de fruits, bricolage, jeux et film.

Vendredi 19 septembre

Vendredi 14 octobre

Vendredi 17 novembre

Activités physique - adultes

- Nouveau : Body Sculpt (mardi, jeudi)
- Nouveau : Yoga Fit (mercredi), Pompe Cardio (lundi, mercredi)
- Yogalates, Yoga Flow, TRX, Barre, Étirements & Extensa, Yoga pour hommes tendus, Essentrics, Entraînement de mobilité, entraînement du guerrier, Pilates

MERCI!

Le conseil des services communautaires tient à remercier tous les bénévoles qui ont contribué au succès de la fête du Canada.

Un grand merci à **Barbara** et à son équipe de 40 personnes chargées du barbecue, aux **garçons Senderak** et à leurs amis, à **Mathew Cerrulli** et **Sam Ducharme** dans notre tente de rafraîchissements, ainsi qu'aux bénévoles de la billetterie **Marla, Mary, Bob**.

Le défilé annuel a pu avoir lieu grâce aux talents d'organiseurs de **Christine Downey, Julian Hung** et **Pamela Montgomery**. Cet événement ne pourrait avoir lieu sans votre soutien continu.

Merci à **Heritage Canada, Meldrum the Mover**, la ville de **Montréal-Ouest**; les services des **Travaux publics** et de la **Sécurité publique** et le **département des Loisirs et de la Culture** pour leur contribution à notre plus grand événement de l'année!

À l'an prochain!

Activités physique - aînés

- Fitness 70+ (mardi, jeudi),
- **Nouveau** : Danse en ligne 60+ (lundi),
- Équilibre pour adultes (lundi, mercredi)

Loisirs et Culture

- Espagnol (niveaux 1, 2, 3),
- Création littéraire en anglais (mercredi)
- Méditation (jeudi)
- Nouveau : Échecs pour adultes (mardi, 11-12),
- Atelier Mah Jong (jeudi, 10-12)
- Cours de Premiers soins et RCR : 28 septembre, 8h30-16h30)

Vitrine artistique

Automne 2025 le thème : mouvement

Les artistes amateurs et professionnels de tous âges de Montréal-Ouest sont invités à exposer leurs œuvres sur le site Web de la Ville. Date limite d'inscription : 26 septembre. (Voir le site Web de la ville)

Cours de hip hop pour enfants

Le cours de hip hop pour enfants sera offert le mercredi par **Sonja Polkii**, qui enseignera également le ballet le lundi. Sonya danse depuis 16 ans et enseigne depuis cinq ans. Vous la connaissez peut-être aussi de la piscine de Montréal-Ouest! La danse est sa passion et elle a hâte de la partager avec vous.

- Mini-hip-hop : 16h45, 4-5 ans
- Hip hop : 17h35, 5 ans et demi à 6 ans et demi
- Pré-ballet : 16h45 à 17h30, 3 ans et demi à 4 ans et demi
- Ballet : 17h35 à 18h20, 5-6 ans

Série culturelle estivale 2025

Encore un été très réussi en événements dans le parc !

Merci de vous être rassemblés dans le parc et merci à tous ceux qui ont rendu ces événements possibles : les services de travaux publics, les gens du BBQ, les maquilleurs/euses et Dame Nature.

L'équipe de natation

Merci à tous nos formidables entraîneurs d'avoir fait de cet été un tel succès!

Nous sommes très fiers de tous les nageurs qui ont fait partie de l'équipe cette année; votre travail acharné, votre esprit et votre dévouement ont vraiment rendu cette saison spéciale.

Nous sommes impatients de voir ce que l'été prochain nous réserve dans la toute nouvelle piscine!

Camp de jour

Merci à tous nos campeurs et membres du personnel pour cet été formidable! Nous nous sommes bien amusés et avons créé de nombreux souvenirs inoubliables. Au plaisir de vous revoir l'année prochaine !

Direction du camp de jour





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thelittleredplayhouse.com **petitemaisonnetterouge.com**

Community Centre

Recreation programs

Registration is now available online: amilia.com or in person at the Community Centre. Register by August 29 to take advantage of discounted pricing! Not all programs are eligible for early bird pricing. Programs begin the week of September 8.

Children:

- Chess (Saturday)
- Intro to Dungeons & Dragons (Thursday, Saturday)
- Ballet and pre-ballet (Saturday, Monday)
- Hip Hop (Wednesday)
- Red Cross babysitting course: Sunday, October 5
- Music & baby with Shawny (Saturday), drop-in

Dates for Parents' Night Off

Community Centre: 5-9 pm

Children (ages 4-10) get to come and play! It includes pizza, juice, crafts, games and a movie.

- Friday, September 19
- Friday, October 14
- Friday, November 17

Fall pop-up event

Sunday, September 21, Davies Park

Food for sale, live music and discover the tables manned by merchants, artists and residents.

- Performance by **Shawny**, 10:30 am
- **Diogo Ramos**, 1 pm (75 minutes)
- Food for sale: 10 am-2 pm

Tables are available for rent on AMILIA.

Cultural summer series

Another great summer of events in the park!

Thank you for joining us in the park and thanks to all those who make the events possible: Public Works, BBQ-ers, face painters and Mother Nature.

Swim Team

Thank you to all our incredible coaches for making this summer such a success! We're so proud of every swimmer who was part of the team this year; your hard work, spirit and dedication truly made the season special. We can't wait to see what next summer brings at the brand new pool!

Day camp

Thank you to every one of our campers and staff members for an amazing summer! We've had so much fun and created so many lasting memories. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!

The Day Camp Management Team

Adult Fitness

New: Body Sculpt (Tuesday, Thursday)
New: Yoga Fit (Wednesday)
 Yogalates, Yoga Flow, TRX, Barre, Stretch & Extensa, Yoga for Stiff Men, Essentrics, Mobility Training, Warrior Workout, Pilates

Senior Fitness

70+ fitness (Tuesday, Thursday),
New: 60+ Line Dancing (Monday),
 Adult Balance (Monday, Wednesday)

Leisure and culture

- Spanish: Level 1, 2, 3
- English Creative Writing (Wednesday)
- Meditation (Thursday)
- **New:** Chess for adults (Tuesday, 11 am-noon)
- Mah Jongg Workshop (Thursday, 10 am-noon)
- Emergency First Aid & CPR: September 28, 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Artists' Showcase

Fall 2025 theme: Movement

MoWest amateur and professional artists of all ages are invited to display their art on the Town website. Application deadline: September 26.

Find out more on the Town website.

Ballet instructor for Saturdays

Lola started dancing when she was four. She is trained in ballet, tap, modern, jazz, contemporary, acro and hip hop. She has completed her *RAD (Royal Academy of Dance)* ballet exams and *ISTD (Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing)* tap and modern exams. Lola has distinguished herself at multiple regional dance competitions since 2015. She has been teaching since 2019 and is excited to share her love for dance with the Montreal West community.

Children's hip hop class

Children's hip hop class will be offered Wednesdays with **Sonja Polkii** and she will be teaching Monday ballet as well. Sonya has been dancing for 16 years and teaching for the past five. You may also know her from the Montreal West pool! Dance is her passion and is so excited to share it with all of you.

- Mini hip hop: 4:45 pm, 4-5 years
- Hip Hop: 5:35 pm, 5½-6½ years
- Pre-ballet: 4:45-5:30 pm, 3½-4½ years
- Ballet: 5:35-6:20 pm, 5-6 years

Foot clinic Soins des pieds

September 3 septembre

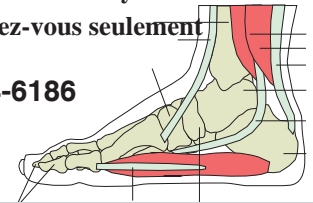
\$50 initial visit / visite initiale

\$40 subsequent visits / visites
subséquentes

by appointment only

par rendez-vous seulement

484-6186



THANK YOU!

The Community Services board would like to thank all the volunteers who contributed to the success of Canada Day.

A big thank you to **Barbara** and her 40-person barbecue crew, the **Senderak boys** and their friends, **Mathew Cerrulli** and **Sam Ducharme** in our refreshment tent, and ticket volunteers **Marla, Mary** and **Bob**.

The annual parade was made possible thanks to the organizational talents of **Christine Downey, Julian Hung** and **Pamela Montgomery**. This event would not be possible without your continued support.

Thank you to *Heritage Canada, Mel-drum the Movers*, the Town of Montreal West, the **Public Works, Public Safety** and the **Recreation and Culture** department for their contributions to our biggest event of the year!

See you next year!



63 Av. Westminster N. (514) 369-0255
 Montréal-Ouest montrealwestdental@gmail.com
 H4X 1Y8



Dr. Michael J. Wexel

Chiropractor / Chiropraticien

Tel: 773-7246

E-mail: drmjwexel@videotron.ca

18 Westminster N., Suite 110
 Montreal West, QC H4X 1Y8



23 juin La fête nationale du Québec; Desirée McGraw coupe le gâteau.

Classifieds

LOST AT STRATHEARN PARK CANADA DAY: large royal blue and black rain umbrella inscribed in white letters with Douglas University Mental Health Institute. Of sentimental value. **442-6230.**

SUPPORT ENDS FOR WINDOWS 10 IN OCTOBER. Choices: upgrade to Windows 11, purchase a new or up-to-date used computer or convert your computer to Linux Lite 7. For 55+ with a desktop or tower, then a house call (after 3 pm) might be in order. Call Richard at **438-938-6240.**

COMING EVENTS / À VENIR

Please call the editor:
Heather at 489-7022
or e-mail:

montrealwestinformer@gmail.com

**Next deadline:
September 10**

August

- Mon 25 Town Council meeting.**
In person and virtually
(Town's YouTube channel).
Town Hall. 8 pm.
- Thu 28 Thrift Store.**
St. Philip's. Noon-3 pm.

September

- Thu 4 Knit and Natter.** Every
Thursday. Public library.
3 pm.
- Sun 7 MW United re-opens for
worship.** All welcome.
10 am.
- Tue 9 Crafts & Laughs re-
sumes.** All welcome.
MW United. 10 am.
- Sun 14 Sunday school
resumes.** All welcome.
MW United. 10 am.
- Sun 13 Terry Fox Run.**
Strathearn Park.
Registration and warm up:
10:30 am.
- Wed 17 Quiet Centre resumes.**
Free yoga and meditation.
All welcome.
MW United. 6:30 pm.
- Sun 21 Afternoon Labyrinth
Walk.** All welcome.
MW United. 2-4 pm.
- Tea and Books with
Irena Karafilly.** Public li-
brary. 2 pm.
- Thu 25 Thrift store.**
St. Philip's. Noon-3 pm.
- Fri 26 Deadline for water meter
readings / Échéance
pour la lecture des
compteurs d'eau**
- Mon 29 Town Council meeting.**
In person and virtually
(Town's YouTube channel).
Town Hall. 8 pm.



The people to bring you *The Informer*. Elizabeth Ulin, Cynthia Koomas, Véronique Bélzil-Boucher, René Boucher, Mia Massicotte, Julia Ross, Bob King, Heather Baylis, Rhonda Schwartz (and her team of carriers who deliver *The Informer* to your door), Jada Chen (Concordia student in journalism), Lise McVey, Jeanne Ragbir, Trish Hewat and Maurice Krystal.



Photo: Alex Brzezinski

The 2025 group photo of the friendly, hardworking team of volunteers, many experienced and some new, in the BBQ pit! Please know that it couldn't happen without you! We thank you all! Apologies to those who were working in the parade and couldn't make it to the photo session!



MAYOR'S REPORT

As this mandate approaches its end, I would like to outline some experiences from the past four years.

Montreal West is extremely fortunate! We operate with a small team comprised of staff at various levels, ranging from blue and white collars, office employees to supervisors, managers, and the Director General. Supported by Council, this team works collaboratively to deliver services to residents. While no system is without imperfections, consistent efforts are made to address the needs of the town. Everyday, I am proud of the work they do for our Town. I will not let anyone speak poorly of them because of ignorance in understanding the realities faced by smaller municipalities on the island of Montreal nor because of isolated incidents.

Proposals that suggest major systemic changes based solely on non-municipal experience may not account for the unique challenges in local governance. Municipal teams benefit from appropriate levels of autonomy, as micro-management by elected officials can hinder their effectiveness. There is no magic panacea and upending the system based on some non-municipal experience is foolhardy at best. Our Town

has many talented, successful residents in different spheres: business-people, professionals, advisors, educators. And they can contribute to the betterment of the Town. But, speaking from lived experience, success in our private spheres is not always transferable to the municipal world. Recognizing these differences is an important lesson for new municipal officials.

The community continues to evolve, reflecting broader societal changes. Although we strive to maintain certain community values and traditions (sense of respect for others, community involvement through volunteerism, courtesy), changes in resident engagement and communication styles present ongoing challenges. I believe that leading by example is always best path forward. So, though I may not be perfect, my default will always be leading with respect and patience. And demonstrating my commitment in person, face-to-face, not hidden behind the wall of social media. I hope that has been evident, for example, in the way I interact with our residents that

come out to our Council meetings. The questioning is not always easy, but I hope they leave feeling respected and heard – even if sometimes the answer is no. Our Town is small – it's very easy to make personal connections rather than relying on posts and rants.

Regarding my future, I have not yet made a final decision about seeking another mandate. The summer has been a period of reflection about pursuing a fifth term. One objective for the current mandate was to see the Sports and Recreation Centre completed – and we are a few short months from enjoying that complex as a community. Should I choose to run again, it will be with clearly defined and achievable goals. Further updates will be provided in due course following consultation with my family.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and each other.

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

REPORT CARD ON THE TOWN'S STRATEGIC FINANCIAL PLAN



We all know the challenges that Montreal West faces: aging infrastructure which had not been renewed for decades, no industrial base and a small commercial sector. There is thus a heavy reliance on residential properties for our tax base, leading to high property taxes. Annual operating budgets respond to the short-term needs of the Town, but are inadequate to address the long-term challenges the town may face.

To correct this, Council embarked upon a project in the 2013-17 mandate to develop a Strategic Financial Plan. This started with an analysis of the Town's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT), followed up by a review of the Town's financial data, and discussions with the Administration, staff and a panel of residents. The result was the birth of our first Strategic Financial Plan (SFP) in September 2017. This plan has been our guiding principle since the start, though it requires a bit of updating at the moment. It is an ambitious plan, laying out 6 key objectives along with a series of action items and benchmarks. So, what have we accomplished in the past 12 years? Let's take a look by objective:

1) Limit property tax increases

- Tax increases for the average house were kept to the projected CPI or lower almost every year. The average annual increase for the past 12 years was 2.46%, less than the CPI average for the same period.
- Non-tax revenue increased from \$1.5M to \$2.3M as new sources of revenue were developed

2) Continue investing in infrastructure renewal

- The Town embarked upon its largest infrastructure renewal in 50 years building a new sports and recreation centre at an estimated cost of \$39.2M with the assistance of \$18.3M in grants and over \$2M in fundraising
- The Town invested \$52.4M into infrastructure projects: \$26.2M for the new sports and recreation centre, and \$26.2M mainly road infrastructure

- Grants received to date to offset the \$52.4M expenditures amounted to \$25M or 48% of costs

3) Manage the debt level

- Despite Capital Investments of \$52.4M, the Town's net debt has only increased \$1.4M since 2013
- Debt servicing has remained at 18% or less of local budget as recommended in the SPF
- Accumulated surplus and working fund have been used annually to fund capital expenditures without incurring new debt. Our combined surplus and appropriated funds stand at \$5.2M

4) Increase the overall tax base

- Several new developments have been completed or are in the progress which significantly increase our tax base, including condo buildings on Brock S., the Easton on Westminster S., the RBC commercial-residential project and the U-Haul commercial proposal
- Triplexes were approved in several zones, increasing the value of many previous duplexes
- Consultants have reviewed Town land to identify areas for potential future development

5) Provide high-quality, cost-effective services

- Departmental budgets increased an average of 3.9% per year due mainly to contractual obligations
- Positions in Communications, Urban Planning and Environmental Services were added to enhance services to residents

- Funds are allocated annually to maintain and renew the Town's equipment, parks and tree canopy

6) Improve preparedness for external agglomeration costs

- The Mayor continues to advocate for changes to the Agglo funding formula to make it more equitable for the demerged municipalities
- For three years, the Town allocated a portion of our accumulated surplus to partially cover the hefty increases in our Agglo remittance

Yes, there is still more work to be done, but I am proud of the work Council has accomplished in these past years. None of this could have been realized without the fervent work of our Treasurer, Director General and Department Heads who manage their budgets with great care. Thank you also to the residents who, for the most part, understand that designing budgets is a balancing act. Council appreciates your patience, understanding and confidence.

The SFP has proven to be an invaluable tool to help the Town in its short- and long-term planning. As I leave the portfolio in November, I extend my best wishes to the future Council, and trust that SFP which has guided us through many difficult decisions will continue to guide them. The full SFP can be found on the website.

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





ARE YOU IN THE LOOP?

Searching a specific Town topic?

The Town website is the most comprehensive source of information for residents. Check it out first for all basic news and info. Many of the questions I've been asked as a councillor can be answered on the web – often with more detail than I can provide. It's definitely the first place to search. And if there's something missing, please let us know.

Want up-to-date info delivered?

The e-bulletin is the ideal tool for informing you of the news you need, when you need it. We currently have over 2000 subscribers with an above average "open rate" of 63%. Event announcements, tax reminders, holiday hours, etc. are regularly delivered in a timely manner. If you're not already signed up, do so via the website's front page. It's crucial for keeping informed.

Have you registered for CodeRED?

Did you know the Town uses an automated emergency notification system called CodeRED? In the event of an emergency (gas leak, significant water break, fire, road closure, evacuation notice or environmental disaster), the CodeRED system contacts residents by telephone, email and/or SMS text message. This system can be used to notify the entire Town or pinpoint a single area of affected residents. The number you'll see on your call display will be 866-419-5000. Be sure to accept the call.

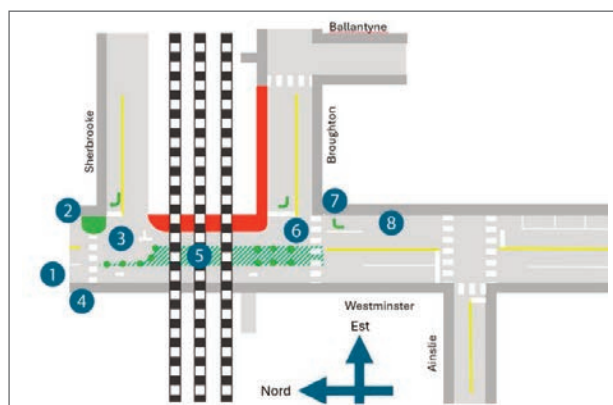
But you have to register and update your information! Please sign up on the Town website today!

How social are you?

If you're on social media, please follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram. These venues provide more topical info, sending out details of events and activities, keeping you connected to the community. We also use Youtube to livestream council meetings and share pertinent videos. They're really worth a look.

Staying informed has never been so important. And if it's Town info you're after, please take advantage of all the means at your disposal. It's all there for you, so stay in the loop.

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



A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO IMPROVE SAFETY ON WESTMINSTER



On June 12, 2025, Council convened a public meeting to present the results of the traffic study undertaken by WSP Canada Inc., who are recognized global experts in traffic engineering and road safety.

In the fall of 2023, the Town received a letter of non-compliance from Transport Canada – Rail Safety, identifying irregularities to correct, notably vehicles illegally queuing on the level crossing. In 2024, the Town initiated a collaborative effort with key stakeholders including the Montreal West Community Safety Committee which includes residents, the SPVM and Montreal West Public Security, CPKC, exo, the STM and Transport Canada to improve safety and security at the level crossing, which is an intersection of an arterial road (Sherbrooke) and a collector road (Westminister). In addition, Westminister is the only roadway covering the entire territory of Montreal West and serves other communities with notable densification including Côte Saint-Luc and NDG who transit through the Town as the sole exit point to access highway 20.

The corridor is very complex, characterized by high volumes of car traffic, pedestrians, cyclists, three intersecting train lines and a high school with over 800 students. The eight recommendations from WSP which include several modifications and reconfigurations including the reduction of lanes and addition of safe islands for pedestrians, need to be contemplated with a holistic approach with the suite of changes we are considering. These changes will first be introduced as temporary measures to evaluate their impact before any permanent implementation. We will ensure that the modifications are cohesive and address the fundamental concerns for our community; prioritizing safety over convenience.

Scan the QR code to view the June 12 presentation, including details on the proposed measures.



Work is expected to take a couple of weeks and be completed in the fall. A detailed timeline will be confirmed once the contract is awarded at the end of the month.

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

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communiqué du CONSEIL



RAPPORT DU MAIRE

Alors que ce mandat touche à sa fin, j'aimerais partager quelques expériences des quatre dernières années.

Montréal-Ouest a beaucoup de chance ! Nous opérons avec une petite équipe composée de personnel à différents niveaux, des cols bleus et cols blancs, des employés de bureau, des superviseurs, des gestionnaires et notre directrice générale. Soutenue par le Conseil, cette équipe travaille de manière collaborative pour offrir des services aux résidents. Bien qu'aucun système ne soit parfait, des efforts constants sont déployés pour répondre aux besoins de la ville. Chaque jour, je suis fier du travail qu'ils accomplissent pour notre Ville. Je ne laisserai personne les dénigrer, que ce soit par ignorance des réalités auxquelles font face les petites municipalités de l'île de Montréal, ou à cause d'incidents isolés.

Des propositions suggérant des changements systémiques majeurs basés uniquement sur une expérience non municipale peuvent ne pas prendre en compte les défis uniques de la gouvernance locale. Les équipes municipales bénéficient d'un niveau d'autonomie approprié, car la micro-gestion par les élus peut nuire à leur efficacité. Il n'existe pas de solution miracle, et renverser le système sur la base d'une expérience non municipale est, au mieux, imprudent. Notre ville compte de nombreux résidents

talentueux et accomplis dans divers domaines : gens d'affaires, professionnels, conseillers, éducateurs. Ils peuvent tous contribuer à l'amélioration de la Ville. Cependant, d'après mon expérience vécue, le succès dans nos sphères privées ne se transpose pas toujours au milieu municipal. Reconnaître ces différences est une leçon importante pour les nouveaux élus municipaux.

La communauté continue d'évoluer, reflétant les changements sociétaux plus larges. Bien que nous nous efforcions de préserver certaines valeurs et traditions communautaires (le respect d'autrui, l'engagement communautaire par le bénévolat, la courtoisie), les changements dans l'engagement des résidents et les modes de communication constituent des défis permanents. Je crois que donner l'exemple est toujours la meilleure voie à suivre. Ainsi, même si je ne suis pas parfait, je m'efforce toujours de diriger avec respect et patience. Je tiens également à démontrer mon engagement en personne, face à face, sans me cacher derrière le mur des réseaux sociaux. J'espère que cela a été évident, notamment dans la façon dont j'interagis avec les résidents qui assistent à nos séances du Conseil. Les ques-

tions posées ne sont pas toujours faciles, mais j'espère qu'ils repartent en se sentant respectés et écoutés, même lorsque la réponse est parfois non. Notre ville est petite, il est très facile d'établir des liens personnels plutôt que de se fier à des publications ou à des critiques en ligne.

En ce qui concerne mon avenir, je n'ai pas encore pris de décision définitive quant à la possibilité de solliciter un nouveau mandat. L'été a été une période de réflexion sur la possibilité de me représenter pour un cinquième mandat. L'un des objectifs de ce mandat était de voir l'achèvement du centre sportif et récréatif, et nous ne sommes plus qu'à quelques mois de pouvoir en profiter pleinement en tant que communauté. Si je décide de me présenter à nouveau, ce sera avec des objectifs clairement définis et réalisables. D'autres informations seront fournies en temps voulu, après consultation de ma famille.

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

BILAN DU PLAN FINANCIER STRATÉGIQUE DE LA VILLE



Nous connaissons tous les défis auxquels Montréal-Ouest est confrontée : des infrastructures vieillissantes qui n'avaient pas été rénovées depuis des décennies, l'absence de base industrielle et un secteur commercial peu développé. Notre assiette fiscale repose donc fortement sur les propriétés résidentielles, ce qui entraîne des taxes foncières élevées. Les budgets de fonctionnement annuels répondent aux besoins à court terme de la ville, mais sont insuffisants pour relever les défis à long terme auxquels elle pourrait être confrontée.

Pour remédier à cette situation, le Conseil a lancé, au cours du mandat 2013-17, un projet visant à élaborer un plan financier stratégique (PFS). Celui-ci a débuté par une analyse des forces, faiblesses, opportunités et menaces (SWOT), suivie d'un examen des données financières et de discussions avec l'administration, le personnel et un groupe de résidents. Ce travail a mené à l'adoption de notre premier plan financier stratégique en septembre 2017. Ce plan est, depuis ses débuts, notre principe directeur, même s'il nécessite aujourd'hui quelques mises à jour. Ambitieux, il définit six objectifs clés ainsi qu'une série de mesures et d'indicateurs. Qu'avons-nous accompli au cours des douze dernières années? Allons-y objectif par objectif.

1) Limiter la hausse des taxes foncières

- Les hausses annuelles des taxes foncières pour une maison moyenne ont été maintenues au niveau prévu de l'IPC ou en dessous, presque chaque année. L'augmentation annuelle moyenne au cours des douze dernières années a été de 2,46 %, soit moins que la moyenne de l'IPC pour la même période.
- Les recettes non fiscales ont augmenté, passant de 1,5 M\$ à 2,3 M\$, grâce au développement de nouvelles sources de revenus.

2) Poursuivre les investissements pour le renouvellement des infrastructures

- La Ville s'est lancée dans le plus grand projet de rénovation de ses infrastructures depuis 50 ans en construisant un nouveau centre sportif et récréatif dont le coût est estimé à 39,2 M\$, grâce à une aide financière de 18,3 M\$ et à une collecte de fonds de plus de 2 M\$.
- La Ville a investi 52,4 M\$ dans des projets d'infrastructure : 26,2 M\$

pour le nouveau centre et 26,2 M\$ principalement dans les infrastructures routières.

- Les subventions reçues à ce jour pour compenser les dépenses de 52,4 M\$ s'élèvent à 25 M\$, soit 48 % des coûts.

3) Gérer le niveau de la dette

- Malgré des investissements en capital de 52,4 M\$, la dette nette de la ville n'a augmenté que de 1,4M\$ depuis 2013.
- Le service de la dette est resté à 18 % ou moins du budget local, conformément aux recommandations du PFS.
- L'excédent cumulé et le fonds de roulement ont été utilisés chaque année pour financer les dépenses en capital sans contracter de nouvelles dettes. Notre excédent combiné et nos fonds alloués s'élèvent à 5,2 M\$.

4) Élargir l'assiette fiscale

- Plusieurs nouveaux projets ont été achevés ou sont en cours de réalisation, ce qui augmente considérablement notre assiette fiscale, notamment les condos sur Brock S., The Easton sur Westminister S., le projet commercial et résidentiel RBC, ainsi que le projet commercial U-Haul
- Des triplex ont été approuvés dans plusieurs secteurs, augmentant ainsi la valeur de nombreux duplex existants.
- Des consultants ont examiné les terrains de la Ville afin d'identifier les zones susceptibles d'être développées à l'avenir.

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

- Les budgets des services ont augmenté en moyenne de 3,9 % par an, principalement en raison d'obligations contractuelles.

- Des postes ont été créés en Communications, en Urbanisme et en Environnement afin d'améliorer les services offerts aux résidents.
- Des fonds sont alloués chaque année pour l'entretien et le renouvellement des équipements, des parcs et du couvert forestier de la ville.

6) Améliorer nos prévisions des coûts externes de l'agglo

- Le Maire continue de plaider en faveur de modifications de la formule de financement de l'agglo afin de la rendre plus équitable pour les villes liées.
- Pendant trois ans, la Ville a alloué une partie de son excédent accumulé pour compenser en partie les fortes augmentations de sa quote-part à l'agglo.

Oui, il reste encore beaucoup à faire, mais je suis fière du travail accompli par le Conseil au cours des dernières années. Rien de tout cela n'aurait été possible sans le travail acharné de notre trésorière, de notre directrice générale et des chefs de service, qui gèrent leurs budgets avec beaucoup de soin. Je tiens également à remercier les résidents qui, pour la plupart, comprennent que l'élaboration d'un budget est un exercice d'équilibre. Le Conseil apprécie votre patience, votre compréhension et votre confiance.

Le PFS s'est révélé être un outil précieux pour aider la Ville dans sa planification à court et à long terme. Alors que je quitte mes fonctions en novembre, j'adresse mes meilleurs vœux au futur conseil municipal et je suis convaincue que le PFS, qui nous a guidé dans de nombreuses décisions difficiles, continuera à les guider. Le document complet est disponible sur le site web.

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





ÊTES-VOUS BIEN INFORMÉ?

Vous cherchez une information précise de la Ville?

Le site Web de la Ville est la source d'information la plus complète pour les résidents. Consultez-le en premier pour toute nouvelle ou information de base. En tant que conseillère, je constate que bien des questions qu'on me pose sont déjà traitées sur le site, souvent de manière plus approfondie. C'est vraiment l'endroit à consulter en priorité. Vous ne trouvez pas ce que vous cherchez? Informez-nous.

Souhaitez-vous recevoir les dernières nouvelles dans votre boîte courriel?

Le e-bulletin est l'outil idéal pour vous transmettre les nouvelles importantes, au bon moment. Nous comptons actuellement plus de 2000 abonnés, avec un taux d'ouverture supérieur à la moyenne, à 63%. Les annonces d'événements, les rappels de paiement de taxes, les horaires des jours fériés et bien plus sont régulièrement envoyés. Si vous n'êtes pas encore inscrit, faites-le dès maintenant via la page d'accueil du site Web. C'est essentiel pour rester informé.

Êtes-vous inscrit à CodeRED?

Saviez-vous que la Ville utilise un système automatisé d'alerte d'urgence appelé CodeRED? En cas d'urgence (fuite de gaz, bris d'aqueduc, incendie, fermeture de route, ordre d'évacuation ou catastrophe environnementale), le système CodeRED communique avec les résidents par téléphone, courriel et/ou message texte. Il peut servir à avertir l'ensemble de la Ville ou cibler uniquement les secteurs concernés. Le numéro qui s'affichera sur votre téléphone sera le 1-866-419-5000. Assurez-vous de répondre.

Il faut s'inscrire et mettre à jour ses coordonnées! Faites-le dès aujourd'hui sur le site Web de la Ville.

Êtes-vous actif sur les réseaux sociaux?

Si vous utilisez les réseaux sociaux, suivez-nous sur Facebook et/ou Instagram. Ces plateformes offrent de l'information ponctuelle sur les événements et les activités, et vous permettent de rester connecté à votre communauté. Nous utilisons aussi YouTube pour la diffusion en direct des séances du conseil municipal et pour partager des vidéos pertinentes. Ça vaut vraiment le détour.

Rester informé n'a jamais été aussi important. Pour toute information municipale, n'hésitez pas à utiliser tous les outils disponibles. Tout est là pour vous. Restez branchés!

Elizabeth Ulin, conseillère

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

UNE DÉMARCHE COLLABORATIVE POUR AMÉLIORER LA SÉCURITÉ SUR WESTMINSTER



Le 12 juin 2025, le Conseil a tenu une séance d'information afin de présenter les résultats de l'étude de circulation de WSP Canada Inc., une firme reconnue à l'échelle mondiale pour son expertise en ingénierie de la circulation et en sécurité routière.

À l'automne 2023, la Ville a reçu une lettre de non-conformité de la part de Transport Canada (sécurité ferroviaire), signalant plusieurs irrégularités à corriger, notamment l'attente illégale de véhicules sur le passage à niveau. En 2024, la Ville a lancé une démarche collaborative avec les principales parties prenantes, y compris le comité de sécurité communautaire de Montréal-Ouest composé de résidents, du SPVM, de la sécurité publique de Montréal-Ouest, du CPKC, d'EXO, de la STM et de Transport Canada afin d'améliorer la sécurité au passage à niveau, qui se situe à l'intersection d'une artère (Sherbrooke) et d'une rue collectrice (Westminster). Westminster est la seule voie qui traverse l'ensemble du territoire de Montréal-Ouest et qui constitue également l'unique point de passage pour les résidents de secteurs en forte densification, comme Côte Saint-Luc et NDG, souhaitant accéder à l'autoroute 20.

Ce corridor est particulièrement complexe, en raison de la forte circulation automobile, de la présence de piétons et de cyclistes, de trois lignes ferroviaires ainsi que d'une école secondaire de plus de 800 élèves. Les huit recommandations proposées par WSP comprennent plusieurs modifications et reconfigurations, dont la réduction du nombre de voies et l'ajout de refuges piétonniers. Ces propositions doivent être envisagées dans une approche globale, en lien avec l'ensemble des changements que nous étudions actuellement. Ces modifications seront d'abord mises en place à titre temporaire afin d'en évaluer l'impact, avant toute implantation permanente. Nous veillerons à ce que les changements soient cohérents et qu'ils répondent aux préoccupations fondamentales de notre communauté, en accordant la priorité à la sécurité plutôt qu'à la commodité.

Les travaux devraient durer quelques semaines et être terminés à l'automne. Un échéancier détaillé sera confirmé une fois le contrat attribué à la fin du mois.

Lauren Small-Pennefather, conseillère

Sécurité publique
lsmall-pennefather@montreal-ouest.ca

Balayez le code QR pour consulter la présentation du 12 juin, incluant les détails des mesures proposées.



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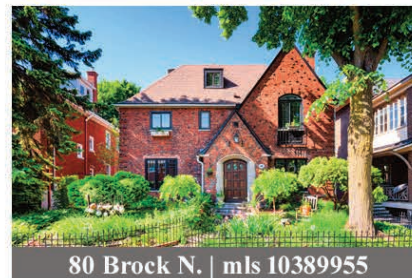
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