

## Steve Rosenstein

### Checkmate in the field

by Jada Chen

**Steven Rosenstein**, better known by the pseudonym he loves, **Captain Catalyst**, is a character. He'll tell you first that he's an environmental science guy, then let slip that he's a serious chess player too. He's one of a kind – as at ease lecturing in a classroom or working in the field as presiding over a table at *Pâtisserie de la Gare* with almost his entire office piled on the table. Over coffee, he sifts through decades of fun anecdotes.

On environmental matters, he's tireless. He flips through photographs of birds, pausing on the chimney swift. The little, cigar-shaped bird, he tells *The*

*Informer*, flies all day without stopping. In Côte-des-Neiges – “Cotenes,” as he calls it – they nest on rooftops, and he's even pitched them as the borough's symbol. By day, they look like bats. For him, they're as certain a sign of spring in Montreal as the snow giving up.

### Environmental science and chess

He teaches two disciplines in parallel, environmental science and chess, and throws himself into both.

“I do my research. The problem with some environmentalists is they don't. They take on

*continued on page 9*



## Mrs. Yoo

### A local legend retires

by Maurice Krystal and Trish Hewat

“It's a convenience store,” **Mrs. Yoo** reminded us. “It can only be called a convenience store if it stays open!”

Thus explains the history of her store never closing. Not closing for holidays, power outages or snow storms; definitely outdoing even the mail delivery service.

Truly a Montreal West icon, Mrs. Yoo opened the doors to *Quality Fruit Bowl* 47 years ago and never looked back.

As of June 1, the store quietly changed hands and was sold to *Boomi Fruits and Vegetables*, a local supplier to the store for the past 20 years. She

isn't quite leaving as she will be helping out during the transition period.

She admitted her decision to sell was sudden. Her children were encouraging her to retire. They were urging her to finally do “things for herself.” The timing seemed right. Recent Trump policies destabilized the prices of produce causing volatile price fluctuations. Part of the new owner's offer was that his large network of suppliers, including local farmers, would stabilize and lower prices that could be passed on to her customers.

That was an important consideration to Mrs. Yoo as her customers have always been im-

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Photo: Jada Chen

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## Volunteer fair

The NDG/Montreal West Volunteer Recruitment Committee is excited to announce its volunteer fair, taking place Saturday, October 18, from 11 am to 4 pm at the Centre Sportif de Notre Dame de Grâce, located at 6445 Monkland Avenue. Admission is free.

This event offers a unique opportunity for community members to explore volunteer opportunities with local organizations, meet representatives from a variety of non-profits and learn how they can make a positive impact in the NDG and Montreal West areas.

Whether you are passionate about helping youth, seniors or community programs, the volunteer fair is the perfect place to discover ways to give back, connect with like-minded individuals, and contribute to strengthening the local community.

For more information, contact: **Tracie Swim** at [extramiles.senior@gmail.com](mailto:extramiles.senior@gmail.com) or 482-3210.

## Foire du bénévolat

Le Comité de recrutement des bénévoles de NDG/Montréal-Ouest est heureux d'annoncer sa foire du bénévolat, qui se tiendra le samedi 18 octobre, de 11h à 16h, au Centre sportif de Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, situé au 6445 avenue Monkland.

Cet événement offre une occasion aux membres de la communauté d'explorer des opportunités de bénévolat auprès d'organismes locaux, de rencontrer des représentants de divers organismes à but non lucratif, et de découvrir comment ils peuvent avoir un impact positif dans les quartiers NDG et Montréal-Ouest.

Que vous soyez passionné par l'aide aux jeunes, aux aînés ou aux programmes communautaires, la Foire du bénévolat est l'endroit idéal pour découvrir des façons de redonner à la communauté, rencontrer

des personnes partageant les mêmes valeurs, et contribuer au renforcement du tissu social local.

Pour plus d'informations, contactez : **Tracie Swim** au 482-3210.



Sunday, November 9

## Will YOU Remember?

**Are you a great-grandchild of a War Veteran?**

Sunday, November 9 at 12:30 pm the citizens of Montreal West and invited dignitaries will gather at our Town Cenotaph to remember with gratitude all those living in Montreal West who are/were in the Canadian Armed Forces from the Boer War in 1900 to the present day. Many went into battle and did not return home.

We traditionally have presented wreaths to represent the parents of War Veterans, the children of War Veterans and the grandchildren of War Veterans. I am thinking that now in 2025 there must be some great-grandchildren of War Veterans who would like to also lay a wreath honouring their family's history in keeping Canada a safe country and in helping other countries as well.

The parade starts at MoWest United Church at 12:15 pm and all are safely led down Westminster to the Cenotaph for the service that begins at 12:30 pm.

If you are or have a great-grandchild of a War Veteran – it does not have to be someone from Montreal West – please reach out to me so we can include you in the service.

from Joan Foster  
779-5234

## THE INFORMER

10 Westminster North / Nord  
Montreal West, Quebec  
Montréal-Ouest, Québec  
H4X 1Y9

*The Informer's* role is to provide MoWesters with information about their Town and its citizens in order to foster the small-town, close-knit atmosphere that makes Montreal West a special place in which to live. • Le rôle de *l'Informer* est de fournir aux gens de Montréal-Ouest de l'information sur leur ville et ses citoyens afin de favoriser l'atmosphère de petite ville et de proximité qui fait de Montréal-Ouest un endroit spécial où vivre.

ISSN: 084741X

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### RATES / TAUX

1/6 page: \$50. Billed annually or semi-annually. / facturation annuelle ou semestrielle  
Monthly billing / Facturation mensuelle : \$60 per/par insertion.  
1/12 page: \$30. Billed annually / facturation annuelle  
Monthly billing / Facturation mensuelle : \$35 per/par insertion.  
Flyer / Dépliant : \$50 (non-profit / non lucratif), \$85 (commercial)  
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Subscription / Abonnement : \$25  
Classifieds / Petites annonces:  
26-50 words / mots – \$10,  
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*The Informer* is published nine times a year (usually on the second or third week-end of the month) except January, July and August. Typesetting by *Informer* staff, printing by *Les Publicités A. Campeau Ltée*. Extra copies available at Town Hall and both libraries. Funded, in part, by the Town of Montreal West. Articles are printed in French or English, as submitted.

*L'Informer* est publié neuf fois l'an (habituellement le deuxième ou troisième week-end du mois) sauf en janvier, juillet et août. Composition par le personnel de *l'Informer*, impression par *Les Publicités A. Campeau Ltée*. Des exemplaires supplémentaires sont disponibles à l'hôtel de ville et dans les deux bibliothèques. Financé, en partie, par la Ville de Montréal-Ouest. Les articles sont imprimés en français ou en anglais, tel que soumis.

**NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE**  
**DATE LIMITE DU PROCHAIN**  
**NUMÉRO**  
October 8 octobre



## Rotary



### Mahesh Sharma honoured at Rotary luncheon

Our *MoWest and NDG Rotary Club* luncheon meeting August 21 was devoted to a tribute to **Mahesh Sharma**, a long-time *Rotarian* who was recently appointed to the Order of Canada, one of the country's highest civilian honours.

A beloved professor and mentor at Concordia University, community leader and philanthropist who is passionate about education and "giving back," Mahesh established scholarships for students in Concordia's John Molson School of Business to honour the memory of his family members who were killed in the 1985 bombing of Air India Flight 182. Mahesh's wife, two daughters and mother-in-law perished in the crash.

MNA **Désirée McGraw**, *Rotary* President **Semiha Sengunay**, Past President **Ron D'Souza** and many other *Rotarians* attended the event to celebrate Mahesh's award and life story characterized by resilience, strength and generosity in the face of tragedy. An investiture ceremony will be held in Ottawa at which Mahesh and the other recent Order of Canada inductees will receive their insignia from Governor General **Mary Simon**.

### Coming meetings

Buffet \$40. Guests welcome to attend without buffet. Complimentary dessert and coffee. Both are at 7 pm in the Town Hall.

#### Friday, October 3

Meeting with guest speaker **Zahra Yaghtin**, Registered Naturopathic Doctor (ND), founder of *CrystalCanada Clinique and Academy*.

#### Friday, October 17

Meeting with guest speaker **Joe Ortona**, Chair, English Montreal School Board, who will talk about legal challenges facing the EMSB.

## IODE

### IODE Quebec A walk through our history



As the 19<sup>th</sup> century ended, Canadian volunteer forces fought alongside the British in the Boer War.

**1900: Margaret Poison Murray** proposed a sup-

port role for women to assist troops overseas. The first chapter was formed in Fredericton on January 15, 1900, followed by a constitution meeting in Montreal on February 13. The first junior chapters were established in Québec City.

**1917-1919:** The *IODE* Kathleen Symmes Chapter in Aylmer participated in *IODE* Ottawa meetings until a Québec Provincial Chapter was established. At the 1919 National Meeting, Québec chapters gifted Margaret Murray a jewelled badge, now the National President's badge.

**1923-1925:** A camp provided outdoor experiences for children. The Québec Provincial Chapter received its Charter in 1924 and helped welcome new immigrants.

**1928:** The Sir Charles W. Lindsay Prize was established for music students.

**1930s:** During the Great Depression, chapters organized food drives and soup kitchens.

**1938:** A museum was opened in Québec City, sponsored by *IODE*.

**1939-1946:** During WWII, *IODE* chapters operated hospitality houses and provided support for service personnel. Post-war, *IODE* flourished with scholarships, Well Baby Clinics and Veterans' support.

**1950-1960s:** The HMS Victory Chapter was formed, and members aided Hungarian refugees. *IODE* raised funds for various causes, including support for teacher training in special education during Canada's centennial celebrations in 1967.

**1968:** Many French classes were offered to new immigrants.

**1975:** The Montreal's Windsor Hotel hosted Founder's Day celebrations for the *IODE* Baden Powell Chapter, marking the National Chapter's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**1976:** The Concern for Children project raised funds through *IODE* rose sales to donate hearing equipment for children. This led to the Silence to Sound project, which has provided scholarships for audiology students at McGill University since 1986.

**1979:** To mark the International Year of the Child, the Municipal Chapter of Montreal created the Nurses' Bursary Fund for seminars at the Montreal Children's Hospital, continuing until 2024.

**1987:** The Provincial Chapter adopted Bafin House for Inuit patients and families.

After its relocation, attention shifted to Nunavik House. Chapters assist nursing stations, schools, shelters and provide art supplies for therapy groups.

**2001:** The Provincial Chapter of Québec relinquished its Charter, but members in the province still support *IODE* efforts.

**2016:** The *IODE* de Gaspé Chapter in New Carlisle was one of two active chapters until its retirement in 2020.

**2023:** *IODE* HMS Victory in Montreal, supported local classes with knitted items and school supplies, engaged in community events and promoted *IODE*.

**2025:** *IODE* HMS Victory, the only remaining chapter in Quebec, is thrilled to be part of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *IODE*, continuing various initiatives to help the community with care and joy!

Here's to the next 125 years!

### We are welcoming!

We welcome new ideas, participants and projects – so we would love the chance to welcome you!

Our meetings are held every second Tuesday of the month at the Community Centre and start at 1 pm. Feel free to join us to see where your talents can enrich our group.

For further information, please contact us at [iodehmsvictory@gmail.com](mailto:iodehmsvictory@gmail.com).

from Diane Ellison

## Meet the Candidates!

Thursday, October 16  
7:30-9:30 pm

Town Hall, Assembly Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

As in previous municipal elections, *The Informer* will be hosting a Meet-the-Candidates evening. Candidates will present information about themselves and then answer questions posed by audience members. Local resident **Julie Ducharme** will be moderating.

The event will be broadcast live on *The Informer's* YouTube channel for those unable to attend in person, and there will be a chance to submit questions in advance if you are not able to attend. More details will be shared on the Town website, by e-bulletin and on social media. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Kosher corner



### Yom Kippur

We have a seat waiting for you at Yom Kippur services! Whether you want to come for five minutes or five hours, we are looking forward to greeting you!

#### Schedule

##### Wednesday, October 1

6:16 pm: candle lighting and fast begins  
6:30 pm: Kol Nidrei and evening service

##### Thursday, October 2

10:00 am: Shacharit – morning service  
12:30 pm: Yizkor memorial service  
5:45 pm: Neilah – closing service  
7:16 pm: Shofar blowing - fast ends

Please check out partnership opportunities to support our work at [chabadwestminster.com/chai](http://chabadwestminster.com/chai).

#### Sukkot!

Sukkot is an exciting holiday. Please join us for some or all of the festivities!

Soup and sushi in the Sukkah Tuesday, October 7, drop in anytime between 5-7 pm for a Lulav shake and light dinner!

Sunday, October 12, 4:30-6:30 pm: enjoy a burger in the Sukkah at the annual Sukkot BBQ. Fun for the whole family!

Simchat Torah dancing celebration! Tuesday, October 14, 6:45 pm.

Stay tuned for our winter programs starting after the holiday season!

*from Rabbi Mendy Marlow*

## Mailbox

### Average tax increases have exceeded inflation



I was surprised to read in the Council Communiqué section of the September *Informer* that our average annual % tax increases for the past 12 years have been below the average CPI inflation rate (Consumer Price Index). In fact, they have not.

It seems that a simple average was made of the individual annual % increases in taxes and % inflation. While appearing logical, this is incorrect. The best calculation of average % increases is a CAGR (Cumulative Annual Growth Rate) analysis which accounts for compounding; that is, how the growth builds on itself, which is what our tax increases do.

The problem with simple averaging is that the base amounts on which the % increases are calculated generally increase every year, so that a 1% increase in later years is much greater than in earlier years.

For example, a 1% tax increase on the average house at the end of 2014 was \$75; at the end of 2025 it will be \$105. Averaging the individual yearly % increases fails to recognize the different dollar amounts associated with each 1% increase.

For the 12-year period from 2014 to 2025, taxes actually grew at an average rate 10.3% above the average CPI % increase. Though this may not seem a big deal, our tax levels were already highest on the Island by the mid-2010s. Even average increases below inflation would be significant in dollar terms.

(If the Council Communiqué calculation used the period 2013-2024, a CAGR analysis would show average tax increases 6.2% above inflation, but the weakness here is that this period doesn't capture the 5.6% tax

increase in 2025 which will percolate through all subsequent tax increases. Data available for interested residents.)

Worse, for the 4-year period 2022-2025 (base year 2021) taxes on the average house increased a total of 27.9% – almost \$2,300, with an annual average CAGR of 6.35% which was 53.4% above average inflation of 4.1%.

Our tax increases are of concern; what to do about them should be an election issue.

*Paul Kenton  
70 Brock N*

*paulkenton48@gmail.com*

### Response to Mr. Kenton on average tax increases

Mr. Kenton seems to have missed the point of the article showing how the Strategic Financial Plan (SFP) has guided the Town in the past 12 years.

The first objective of the plan is to “limit residential tax increases for the average single-family home to no higher than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) not including any special tax which may be levied under exceptional circumstances or for new facilities after consultation with residents.” The property tax increases for the past 12 years starting in 2014 were 0.2%, 1.53%, 1.24%, -0.44%, 1.66%, 1.89%, 1.95%, 0.99%, 4.23%, 7.96%, 5.48% and 2.88%. It was a simple averaging of these numbers that led to the 2.46% average increase. However, the point was simply to show that we had been able to achieve that SFP goal most years, not to debate the total tax increase over the 12-year period.

#### Are our taxes high?

Yes, they are, and, as my article states, there are still more challenges. We are a small town with no industrial base and a very small commercial base. This has always been the case in Montreal West. Over the past 12 years with the SFP however, we developed a plan for the future and have moved ahead with increasing our tax base, doing more than \$2M annually in infrastructure and now building a new recreation centre that will be almost 40% funded by government grants.

In Mr. Kenton's efforts to constantly undermine the Town's numbers, even those from our external audit, he has failed to appreciate what has been achieved. That is too bad and likely nothing I could say would change that.

*Colleen Feeney, Councillor  
Finance, MADA and Recreation and Culture*



Member of Parliament | Députée  
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## Mailbox

### Concerns about pilot project on Westminster



Residents have been requesting access to the traffic study that underpins proposed changes to Westminster Avenue, introduced at a Town meeting on June 12. Although the Town said the report would be released after the tender process, the final WSP report (dated January 14) was posted publicly on August 1, via the Quebec's government's online tender system (SEAO).

*Citizens for Safe Transit (CFST)* shared the report on our website (cfst-cpds.ca), Facebook group and email list, believing the public has a right to timely access to publicly funded studies. CFST members are not traffic engineers, but we have concerns that arose from our review of the traffic study.

#### Focus on vehicles

The WSP report primarily addresses Transport Canada's 2023 Letter of Non-Compliance, which raised concerns about traffic queuing on the rail crossing, road surface issues, left-hand turns from Sherbrooke, as well as pedestrians crossing on the east side of the tracks. While these issues are extremely important to rectify, the WSP traffic study lacks detailed assessment of pedestrians and cyclists.

The WSP report largely overlooks the safety of these users, with the exception of some measures to correct the issue of pedestrians crossing on the east side of the tracks. Despite the fact that the report was finalized in January 2025, recent pedestrian incidents – including one involving a student in fall 2024 – are not addressed.

The report outlines three scenarios for Westminster between Milner and Avon, one

involving traffic lights. Yet the Town's June 12 presentation suggested only one option was recommended.

#### Discrepancies between Town plans and the report

The WSP report indicates that one of the three scenarios was adopted after consultation with the Town. Yet the Town's pilot project appears to differ from the scenario that was adopted. Specifically, some measures common to all three scenarios as well as the chosen scenario (e.g., changes to the Westminster/Avon intersection and restricting right turns from Westminster to Sherbrooke) are not being implemented in the pilot project.

In addition, the pilot calls for removing a stop sign at Westminster and Sherbrooke, though the report gives no clear direction on this point.

CFST calls on the Town to clarify these differences to maintain transparency and trust.

#### CFST's core requests

**Community consultation:** Residents deserve a clear voice in decisions affecting safety and quality of life.

**Transparency:** Public reports should be released without delay to ensure informed community participation.

**Safety first:** The traffic study appears to have been mandated with a narrow focus on traffic flow and meeting Transport Canada compliance measures; however, changes must pay equal attention to the needs of all road users, including pedestrians and cyclists.

*co-chairs of Citizens for Safe Transit:*  
Jody Mason, Paul-Vahe Cicek,  
Joanna Duy and Victor Gonzalez

### Response

In addition to the extensive responses I provided in the September edition of *The Informer*, as well as to your letter on August 6, here are some additional points of clarification you are seeking regarding the traffic study undertaken by the Town in the fall of 2023.

The methodology from the study conducted by WSP included gathering technical information, meeting with stakeholders, conducting counts at intersections and on-site observations in terms of pedestrian, vehicle and cyclist traffic.

Even though the zone of concern identified by Transport Canada was limited to the level crossing, the study area included the Montreal West exo station, Davies Park, the Town Hall and a mix of commercial and residential properties on Westminster Avenue between Avon and Milner. A notable mention was made regarding Royal West Academy, as a major generator of traffic, particularly of students, in the area.

Some proposals from the preliminary study were not included in the final report, as the analysis was refined during the design phase. A preliminary study is essentially intended to guide decision-making. In addition, before the final report of the traffic study was produced by WSP in January 2025, a workshop was conducted to discuss the recommendations with MW Public Security, MW Public Works, the SPVM and traffic and safety experts from CPKC and exo to incorporate their views and expertise.

The removal of the stop sign at the intersection of Sherbrooke Street and Westminster on the west side and adding a rapid flashing light at the pedestrian crossing are intended to maximize safety and ensure consistency with the pedestrian crossing at the Broughton intersection.

Again, I would like to reiterate that this is a pilot project and none of the recommendations will be finalized until we better understand all of the impacts on the Town. We have prioritized safety over convenience, as many residents will be affected by the new reconfiguration including the reduction of traffic lanes and restrictions of turns, which will have a positive net effect on pedestrians who use the crosswalks at Broughton and Ainslie.

Once recommendations begin to phase in, these changes will continue to inform the decision-making process and influence any necessary changes that will be shared with the public in a timely and transparent manner.

Thank you again for raising your concerns,

*Lauren Small-Pennefather, Councillor  
Public Security*





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**Tranquilli-T**

## Mailbox

### A year later, still waiting for a safer crosswalk



On October 28, 2024, my son, a Sec 3 Royal West student, was hit by a car while crossing the street on his way to school, crossing on the exact crosswalk the school had instructed their students to cross on. Thankfully, he sustained no serious injuries, but it was a wake-up call for many in the Royal West Academy community. It's important to clarify that **Charlie** was not looking at his phone at the time – there was a visible imprint of it on his leg from being in his pocket. This detail matters because far too often, young victims are unfairly blamed for being distracted.

Nearly a year later, and despite continuous efforts by RWA parents – including a petition signed by over 800 people and presented to Town Council and the SPVM – there has been almost no meaningful improvement to the dangerous Westminster and Ainslie intersection. While we acknowledge and appreciate the installation of three flashing stop signs and increased SPVM patrols, these actions fall short of what is needed to truly protect our children.

Royal West parents, with the support of the Governing Board, made a formal request to the SPVM for a crossing guard at the intersection. We were told that *brigadiers scolaires* are not available for high schools. The dangerousness of the area is not a factor considered – it is a blanket policy. The Town has said that it lacks the resources to assign a Public Security Officer for 30 minutes in the morning and afternoon on school days as an alternative measure.

On June 12, the Town of Montreal West presented a pilot project for changes along Westminster between Milner and Avon – but none of the proposed changes involved Westminster and Ainslie where Charlie was hit. In response, on June 23, the Royal West Parent Participation Organization submitted a revised proposal for practical, budget-friendly solutions to improve pedestrian safety at this intersection. **Councillor Small Pennefather** responded with reassurance that barring any issues, the Town would move forward and implement enhancements ideally before the start of the school year.

And yet, here we are in September, two weeks into the school year, with no public plan in place.

How much longer must we wait for action? What horrible outcome are we waiting for? Hundreds of students use this crosswalk every single school day. It is unacceptable to continue deferring their safety. I fear that one day, in the near future, we will collectively look back in regret at this inaction.

I urge Town Council to follow through on their commitment and implement the proposed changes immediately – we've had our warning last October – we are 11 months past the time to act.

*Samara Zavalkoff, MD  
Royal West Academy parent  
Pediatric Intensive Care Physician*

### Response

Over the course of the last year, I have been corresponding with **Dr. Zavalkoff** following an unfortunate traffic accident where her son **Charlie**, a student at Royal West Academy (RWA) was hit by a car while crossing Westminster at Ainslie. Immediately following the accident, I reached out proactively to the administration at RWA and to Dr. Zavalkoff to see where the Town could be of assistance. The Town organized meetings with RWA (administration, governing board, EMSB parent representative), the SPVM and the EMSB, in addition to seeking assistance from the provincial government and working with our local MNA, **Desiree McGraw**, CPKC and *exo*.

The Town boasts three EMSB schools in our territory, which all require the implication of the Town's Public Security, including two elementary-level schools. The recommendations from the traffic study conducted by the Town, which were specific to the level crossing, following a letter of non-compliance from *Transport Canada*, will also increase safety at the Ainslie and Westminster crossing, with the reduction of lanes and prohibiting turns from Sherbrooke and Broughton.

In June of this year, the Royal West Parent Participation Organization proposed some additional signage at the Ainslie crosswalk. I responded positively that the

Town would implement the additional signage or variation thereof. A new pedestrian crossing sign at Ainslie, as well as a new street light to increase visibility were installed at the beginning of September; this is in addition to three flashing stop signs that were installed in December 2024.

All parties have deployed maximum effort to improve safety at RWA. The SPVM has expanded police presence and has increased fines for non-compliant drivers substantially. We are currently reviewing the addition of signage to the southwest intersection at the Ainslie crosswalk and the sequencing of the lane reconfiguration that is required.

Thank you,

*Lauren Small Pennefather, Councillor  
Public Security*



### Candidate information

Just a reminder about the open election website where candidates can post information about themselves, their platforms, and answer questions:

[mwelection2025.com](http://mwelection2025.com).

At the time this letter was submitted to *The Informer*, I had no idea whether the website would prove useful, or have any traction.

*from Paul Kenton  
70 Brock N*

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## Boîte aux lettres

### Inquiétudes concernant le projet pilote pour l'avenue Westminster



Les résidentes et résidents de Montréal-Ouest demandent depuis plusieurs mois d'avoir accès à l'étude de circulation qui constitue la base du projet pilote proposé pour l'avenue Westminster, présenté par le Conseil de ville lors d'une séance d'information le 12 juin. Bien que le conseil ait affirmé que l'étude serait rendue publique seulement après la fin du processus d'appel d'offres, le rapport final de WSP (daté du 14 janvier) a été affiché le 1<sup>er</sup> août sur le Système électronique d'appel d'offres (SEAO) du gouvernement du Québec.

*Citoyens pour des déplacements sécuritaires (CPDS)* a partagé l'étude sur son site Web (cfst-cpds.ca), sur son groupe Facebook, et par sa liste de diffusion par courriel, convaincu que le public devrait pouvoir consulter rapidement les études financées à même les fonds publics.

Les membres de *CPDS* ne sont pas des ingénieurs en circulation, mais après avoir étudié le rapport de WSP, nous avons plusieurs inquiétudes :

#### L'accent mis sur les voitures plutôt que sur les usagers vulnérables

Le rapport de WSP répond principalement à l'avis de non-conformité émis par Transports Canada en 2023, qui soulevait des préoccupations concernant les files d'attente sur le passage à niveau, l'état de la chaussée, les virages à gauche depuis la rue Sherbrooke, ainsi que la traversée des piétons du côté est des voies. Bien que ces enjeux soient extrêmement importants à corriger, l'étude de circulation de WSP ne comporte pas d'évaluation détaillée des piétons et des cyclistes. Le rapport de WSP néglige en grande partie la sécurité de ces usagers, à l'exception de certaines mesures visant à corriger le problème des traversées piétonnes du côté est. Malgré le fait que le rapport ait été finalisé en janvier, des incidents récents impliquant des piétons – dont un survenu à l'automne 2024 avec un étudiant – ne sont pas abordés.

#### Trois scénarios présentés

Le rapport présente trois scénarios pour l'avenue Westminster entre les rues Milner et Avon, dont un avec des feux de circulation. Pourtant, la présentation de la Ville du 12 juin laissait entendre qu'une seule option avait été recommandée.

#### Divergences entre le projet pilote et le rapport de WSP

Le rapport de WSP précise qu'un des trois scénarios recommandés a été retenu

après des consultations avec la Ville. Cependant, le projet pilote présenté par la Ville semble différer du scénario retenu. Par exemple, certaines mesures communes à tous les scénarios (e.g., les changements à l'intersection Westminster/Avon et l'interdiction de tourner à droite de Westminster vers Sherbrooke) n'apparaissent pas dans le projet pilote.

Par ailleurs, le projet pilote prévoit le retrait du panneau d'arrêt à l'intersection Westminster/Sherbrooke, alors que le rapport de WSP ne fournit pas de recommandation claire à ce sujet.

Le *CPDS* demande donc à la Ville de clarifier ces divergences afin d'assurer la transparence et la confiance.

#### Les demandes centrales de CPDS

Consultations avec les citoyens: les résidentes et résidents ont le droit de se faire entendre dans les décisions liées à la sécurité et à la qualité de vie de notre communauté.

Transparence: les rapports publics devraient être partagés sans délai afin de permettre la participation citoyenne.

La sécurité avant tout: le rapport de WSP semble avoir été commandé avec une priorité donnée au mouvement des véhicules motorisés et pour répondre aux exigences de conformité de Transports Canada en 2023. Or, les changements doivent accorder une attention égale à tous les usagers de la route, y compris les piétons et les cyclistes.

*Co-président(e)s de  
Citoyens pour des déplacements sécuritaires  
Jody Mason, Paul-Vahe Cicek,  
Joanna Duy et Victor Gonzalez*

### Réponse

En plus des réponses détaillées que j'ai fournies dans le numéro de septembre du journal *The Informer*, ainsi qu'à votre lettre du 6 août 2025, voici quelques précisions supplémentaires que vous souhaitez obtenir concernant l'étude de circulation entreprise par la Ville à l'automne 2023.

La méthodologie de l'étude menée par *WSP* comprenait la collecte de renseignements techniques, des rencontres avec les parties prenantes, un comptage aux intersections ainsi que des observations sur le terrain concernant la circulation des piétons, des véhicules et des cyclistes.

Même si la zone identifiée par Transport Canada se limitait au passage à niveau, la zone de l'étude englobait la gare *exo* de Montréal-Ouest, le parc Davies, l'hôtel de

ville et l'ensemble des propriétés commerciales et résidentielles situées sur l'avenue Westminster entre Avon et Milner. Une attention particulière a été portée à l'Académie Royal West, considérée comme un important générateur de circulation dans le secteur, principalement en raison des élèves.

Certaines propositions de l'étude préliminaire n'ont pas été retenues dans le rapport final, l'analyse ayant été raffinée en cours de la phase de conception. Une étude préliminaire a essentiellement pour but d'orienter la prise de décision. De plus, avant la production du rapport final de l'étude de circulation par *WSP* en janvier 2025, un atelier a été tenu avec la Sécurité publique et le Service des travaux publics de Montréal-Ouest, le SPVM, ainsi que des experts en circulation et en sécurité du *CPKC* et d'*exo* afin de discuter des recommandations et d'intégrer leurs points de vue et leur expertise.

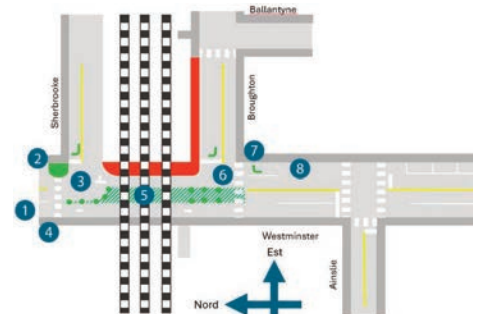
Le retrait du panneau d'arrêt du côté ouest de l'intersection de Sherbrooke et Westminster, ainsi que l'ajout d'un feu clignotant rapide au passage pour piétons, visent à maximiser la sécurité et à assurer une cohérence avec le passage piéton à l'intersection de Broughton.

Encore une fois, je tiens à réitérer qu'il s'agit d'un projet pilote et qu'aucune des mesures ne sera finalisée tant que nous n'aurons pas une meilleure compréhension de l'ensemble des répercussions pour la Ville. Nous avons accordé la priorité à la sécurité plutôt qu'à la commodité. La nouvelle reconfiguration, qui comprend notamment une réduction du nombre de voies de circulation et des restrictions de virages, touchera de nombreux résidents, mais aura un effet globalement positif pour les piétons qui utilisent les passages pour piétons aux intersections de Broughton et Ainslie.

À mesure que les recommandations sont progressivement mises en œuvre, l'impact de ces changements continuera de guider le processus décisionnel. Si des ajustements sont nécessaires, ils seront communiqués au public de manière opportune et transparente.

Nous vous remercions encore une fois d'avoir fait part de vos préoccupations.

*Lauren Small-Pennefather,  
Conseillère, Sécurité publique*



## Looking back



# Silvio Narizzano:

The movie director who grew up on Brock North

by Harold Rosenberg

In 1924, the *Narizzano* family moved to their new house at 156 Brock Ave. N. Silvio was one of five Narizzano children (**Alberto, Silvio, Yola, Dino, Dolce**) to grow up there. He would go on to become a noted television and film director.

Silvio's father, **S.W. Narizzano**, was managing director of a fruit importing business, *Saxonia Fruit Preserves*, located in Lachine. Silvio was educated at Loyola High School in Montreal and Bishop's University in Lennoxville, Quebec.

Silvio began his career working in theatre, directing productions at the *Mountain Playhouse* in Montreal. In 1952, he switched to the screen while working at the *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation*, assisting directors such as **Norman Jewison** and **Ted Kotcheff**. Within a few years, he was working in British television, directing various TV series. His first film, in 1965, was a British thriller called *Fanatic*, starring **Tallulah Bankhead, Stephanie Powers** and **Donald Sutherland**.

His most successful film was *Georgy Girl* (1966), a risqué romantic comedy set in swinging 60s London, starring **James Mason** and **Lynn Redgrave**. The film, which had a catchy theme song, received four Academy Award nominations, as well as a British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) nomination for Best British Film.

Other films Silvio directed include *Loot* (1970) starring **Richard Attenborough** and

**Lee Remick**, and *Why Shoot The Teacher* (1977) which starred **Bud Cort** and **Samantha Eggart**. He also directed *Bloodbath* (1979), a horror movie starring **Dennis Hopper**.

His work tailed off in the 1980's after he began suffering bouts of depression. He kept homes in Mojacar, Spain and London, U.K.

Childhood friend **Elizabeth Hillman**, formerly of 157 Ballantyne Ave. North, lived in the house behind the Narizzano house. She recalled, "the Narizzanos lived back-to-back with our spare lot. That was in the early 1930s. My brother and I went to birthday parties at their place when we were all little. I am not sure how many younger children there were after Alberto (Silvio's brother) and Sylvio. The youngest girl was

called "Baby" Narizzano.

"My father and Mr. Narizzano did over-the-fence visits, talking about radishes and strawberries. As the war approached, my father and Mr. Narizzano had political disagreements, resulting in the end of the backyard chats and also the birthday parties."

"As we grew older, my brother and I didn't know the Narizzano kids very well. They went to Loyola when we were in Montreal West High. We thought Alberto and Silvio were okay, but we had a completely different set of friends. And then years later, there was Silvio's name in the credits for some super films made in England. He was obviously very talented – what a thrill to think we knew him when!"

Silvio Narizzano died in London on July 26, 2011, age 87.

Many thanks to Silvio's sister, Dolce ("Baby") **Little**, his cousin **Sandra Scoppettone**, his friend **Elizabeth Hillman** and my wife, **Janice Hamilton**, for help in preparing this article.





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## Mrs. Yoo

*continued from page 1*

portant. People coming into the store have often requested items she didn't stock and she would seek them out. She was born in a village in Korea and Montreal West has that same village feeling where everyone knows each other.

Customers chat and some ask if they had jobs for their daughters, and she is proud to have given work experience to so many. She always looked for honesty and the ability to look customers in the eye when conversing.

### Many challenges

It has been a long journey with many challenges.

She emigrated to Germany in 1972, at the age of 20, to become a nurse. While on vacation in Italy, she met a fellow Korean, **Dong Hoon Yoo** who, she smilingly revealed, was very persistent. After her three-year nursing contract expired, she and her husband migrated to Sudbury, Ontario. Due to language issues, they moved to Montreal the following year. In Ville St. Laurent, she became the manager of a *Perrette* convenience store and learned how to run such an enterprise.

In 1979, now 26 years old, she and her husband set up their own business in Montreal West. Her produce was fresher and her ability to respond to her customers' needs led to immediate success.

### Passing it forward

But it hasn't always been easy. She came to Montreal with no family or friends to guide her through the immigration process, finding housing, buying food, getting work, all a somewhat intimidating challenge to someone unfamiliar with how things are done in Canada. But she was lucky. At the immigration office, she met a woman from Germany (Mrs. Yoo could speak to her in German), who took her under her wing, even renting out the upper floor of her duplex to her. It is something for which she is very grateful. Now, when friends and relatives come to Canada, she does the same. She once had three families living in her house.

### Staying for the transition

Mrs. Yoo plans to stay on during the transition period because staying at home was never her thing. She loves chatting with customers. As we stood outside the store, many who strolled by stopped to say hello. She has quite the following. While she will still be around, she does have plans to visit family in Korea and Florida. As for her husband, Dong Hoon Yoo, he has just turned 80 and will give up his 4 am pilgrimages to Marché Central. He will sleep in and focus his passion: golf, both playing and teaching.

## Steve Rosenstein

*continued from page 1*

emotional fights. You have to know your facts," he says. The same drive shapes his teaching in chess, though that's the one that's taken him the furthest.

"I teach my kids how to lose, how to win. I'm a very good sport," he smiles proudly. "One of my four-year-old students was a prodigy who went to the world championships at seven. I had another five-year-old. He wasn't a prodigy but a hard worker. Both went to world championships, also top ten in the world. Another started a chess academy at 17 and ranked in the top three nationally. In total, seven of my students have gone to the world championships."

### What 20 years off the board can teach you

Rosenstein first learned the game on his own, teaching himself chess in high school. He didn't have a coach to guide him back then, so he never developed the sportsmanship that tempered early talent. As a teen, he would lose a game and knock all the pieces off the board. But decades later, he walked back and gave it a second chance.

"I stopped playing, I didn't play for 20 years."

While living in Vancouver and focusing on his science work, he went to the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) where there happened to be a large public chess event – one of those setups where a grandmaster drifts from board to board in a crowded hall facing whoever's in the line of fire. Notable players included **Kevin Spraggett**, at the time the number one chess player in Canada and a grandmaster, and a junior grandmaster – a young but top-ranked player in the country. Rosenstein sat down and played them both.

Against Spraggett, he managed to hold a draw for 50 moves.

"I almost beat the junior grandmaster," he says. He was one move away from victory before making a small mistake that cost him the game. Both players told him he was an excellent player, and Spraggett in particular encouraged him to continue playing.

### The four-year-old-prodigy

At the Tyndale library in Little Burgundy where he was teaching, he set up a chess-board when a little girl noticed it and came over. She pointed at the board and asked him to teach her how to play – only four years old, a blank slate.

He gave her a lesson, expecting her to cover the basics, but she instantly grasped concepts that most beginners struggle with. Within that first lesson, she cut through the beginner stage and could already analyze positions, asking questions like: "This is a good move? No, I don't think that's a good move."

"I've never seen a four-year-old who

could analyze a chess move like that," he says, still sounding little astonished after all these years. The mother tried to downplay it. Rosenstein didn't. His verdict was final: she was a genius.

Years later, he saw her picture in a newsletter from a chess organization. It was the same girl – Julia – now seven years old. She had won the national championship and gone on to represent Canada at the world championships in her age group. Rosenstein said he tried to contact her to congratulate her, but couldn't get through. He still tells the story as one of his proudest teaching moments.

### Playing the person

"I discovered a way to make chess fun," he says of his teaching style. "I set up the board with mistakes and have the kids find them. In a lesson or two, they're already playing well."

### My own lesson

At Davies Park, Rosenstein and I played a round so I could test his approach. I admitted I barely knew how to play – just the basic movement of the pieces. He stripped it down to the simplest code: thumbs up for a strong move, thumbs down for a weak one. At first, I blundered and watched his reaction after every turn; if he stayed quiet, it meant I was fine. The match itself wasn't a disaster, but the revelation was in how he taught. No arcane notation, no rehearsed openings. Just situational awareness: training you to see the board through his eyes. Over time, you start anticipating his verdict before you even reach for a piece. He plays you on instinct. It's low-pressure by design. He strips away the jargon, keeps the board quiet and locks you in on one idea at a time: What will my opponent be able to take if I do this? But it's more than a mantra. He makes you live inside the other player's head. Half of the goal is to rewire your view of the board until you're thinking like him, and not you.

"I'm not that great a chess player, but I must be a very good instructor," he laughs, "My students are doing extremely well."

When the match ended, I saw it clearly. His players don't necessarily follow the book. They knock the man down across the board. That's the subtext of Rosenstein's philosophy – chess stripped to raw, dead-on intuition.

### Chess classes

Rosenstein is offering chess classes for both seniors and children; the sessions will take place at the Community Centre on Saturdays, 9:30-11:30 am and at the Benny Library, Sundays, 1-4 pm twice a month. If there are any event at the parks, he will be there with his table set up. His phone number is **733-2048**.

## West End Quilters



LtoR: Barb H. focused on black and white fabrics in this quilt. All the triangles are the same size. Moishe put together this haunted house wall hanging to hang in his house for Halloween. Howard made this colourful quilt using precut strips of quilting fabric called jelly rolls.

### West End Quilters are back with their summer's work

We had our first meeting of the new season September 9. The room was full, with 24 members present, including three new members. The program for the year was presented, and we will be kept busy quilting, stitching and maybe even some crocheting and knitting. Many members brought in some of their summer's work.

*from Mary Sutherland*

### Karaoke for a Cause

Hit the high notes for the Montreal West Public Library

Get ready for an unforgettable night of fun, friendship, and fabulous singing at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Karaoke for a Cause!

Last year, Montreal West-ers of all generations rocked the mic, made new friends and showed their love for the library in a lively, no-pressure vibe – many had never stepped inside *The Wheel Club* before and were inspired by the warm welcome and cozy atmosphere. It was so incredible, we're doing it all again!

Mark your calendars for October 3 at 7 pm and join us at *The Wheel Club* for a night filled with singing your heart out, enjoying others' talents, and connecting with familiar faces in the most relaxed, fun-filled setting. Whether you're a superstar or just there for the good

times, everyone is welcome!

Grab your tickets now via the library's website ([mwpl.ca](http://mwpl.ca)) and be part of an event you don't want to miss.

#### Proceeds to the library

Tickets are just \$25 and all proceeds go straight to making exciting new additions to our beloved library. Plus, you'll get an immediate income tax receipt through *Canada Helps* – easy peasy!

We can't wait to see you there!



Le jardin d'enfants

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## Edinburgh

# September: a fresh start

September was full of energy and community spirit at Edinburgh! The month began with the first day of school September 2, followed by a warm welcome at the New Edinburgh Parents' Breakfast on September 5.

Students kicked off the fun September 10 with the first Spirit Day of the year – Pattern Day – filling the halls with stripes, polka dots and plenty of creativity. Parents also gathered that evening for the first Home & School meeting, setting the stage for the year ahead.

Mid-month brought big community moments: Curriculum Night on September 18 and a jam-packed September 19 that featured Welcoming Day, TCBY treats and the always-popular Home & School BBQ. It was the perfect blend of learning, laughter, and togetherness.

This month also highlighted important traditions. Students ran with pride during the Terry Fox Run September 25, raising awareness for cancer research. And September 30, the community marks Orange Shirt Day, wearing orange to honour Truth and Reconciliation and reflect on its importance.

From first-day jitters to joyful celebrations, Edinburgh's September was the perfect launch to a year of connection, learning and school spirit.

*from Alexandra Kelebay,  
on behalf of the  
Edinburgh Home and School Association*

## CRA

Fall programming is starting throughout September! We still have spots available in the basketball, indoor soccer, Future Stars hockey and gymnastics programs. All our programs are running full-time 7 days a week.

### Skating

Unfortunately we are unable to offer our skating classes until we have access to the new facility. We will keep everyone updated on our website as soon as we learn more from the Town.

### Future Stars Hockey

This program is designed to introduce our youngest players (4-5-6 years old) to the sport of hockey. Skaters are on the ice twice a week on the weekends, learning the game of hockey through skill stations, games and drills designed to build confidence, coordination and a love for the game – all in a safe and supportive environment! We start October 4, so there is still time to sign up. All levels of skills welcome.

### Indoor basketball

This program is run out of local school gyms Thursdays (boys) under the guidance of **David Steiner**. There are two sessions, one in the fall and one in the winter.

We also have a men's 18+ program Thursday evenings.

### Indoor Soccer

This program takes place at the RWA gym and is always popular. Each session includes skill-building drills, teamwork activities and exciting mini-games – perfect for all levels of experience. Come play, learn and have fun! Classes run Monday to Thursday with players ranging in age from 5 to 18+.

### Hockey U9-U18

As we eagerly await the return of MWH hockey to our home rink, practices will be held at local rinks in the area. Evaluations begin Saturday, September 20 at LCC Arena. Go Knights Go! Players will be on the ice twice a week, with practice and games.

### Girls Hockey U9+

We're excited to announce a new partnership this year with Westmount, CSL and Montréal West to form West Luc Girls Hockey. Teams will be playing out of LCC, Samuel Moskovitch or Westmount arenas. We're fielding U9, U12 and U15 teams as we gear up for the coming season.

Questions or need more information? Contact us at [infocra@mtlwestcra.ca](mailto:infocra@mtlwestcra.ca) / 968-6272 / [mwcraports.ca](http://mwcraports.ca) / [mwhhockey.ca](http://mwhhockey.ca).

## EBS



# Welcome back!

Students and staff members kicked off the new school year with a lively corn roast on the school grounds. The event brought everyone together to enjoy delicious corn and fun activities. The afternoon was filled with laughter, play and a strong sense of community.

Parents of kindergarten students were warmly welcomed with another corn roast on Friday, September 5, playing and sharing the meal alongside their children.

The celebrations set a positive tone for the exciting school year ahead, with staff members, students and families looking forward to many more memorable moments in the 2025 and 2026 school year.

*from Kate Marien*



# Semer, échanger, s'engager

Mo-Ouest en mode durable

À Montréal-Ouest, les citoyens passent à l'action, que ce soit en réinventant leur cour ou en repensant leur garde-robe. Cet automne, le CAE met en lumière des initiatives locales simples, mais porteuses d'un véritable changement.

## Des jardins qui bourdonnent de vie : les cours arrière réinventé

Et si votre jardin pouvait devenir un refuge pour la nature? C'est exactement ce que propose « Remettre un mètre », une initiative du CAE, qui en est déjà à sa deuxième année. Le principe est simple : transformer peu à peu les pelouses ordinaires en mini-écosystèmes remplis de plantes indigènes et de vie.

Lancée au printemps, la campagne a invité les résidents à s'inscrire en ligne et à commencer leur démarche pour faire place à la nature. Tout l'été, les participants ont aménagé une section de leur jardin avec des plantations utiles à la biodiversité. Objectif : attirer abeilles, papillons et oiseaux tout en rendant nos espaces plus sains et surtout, plus vivants.

Pas besoin d'être un expert en jardinage pour participer. Planter quelques fleurs indigènes, réduire l'arrosage, ou même installer un point d'eau peuvent suffire à faire une vraie différence. Et les résultats parlent d'eux-mêmes : en septembre, les photos des cours transformées témoignaient d'une véritable passion collective pour la nature urbaine.

## Remise de prix

Pour célébrer ces efforts, une remise de prix aura lieu durant la semaine du 29 sep-

tembre. Les gagnants, tirés au sort parmi les participants, recevront des prix éco-responsables : des plantes indigènes offertes par *Jardin Buzz*, ainsi que des certificats-cadeaux des *Fermes Lufa* et de *Loco*, une boutique zéro déchet.

Mais « Remettre un mètre », c'est plus qu'un simple concours. C'est un mouvement. Un appel à repenser notre rapport à la nature, même en pleine ville. Car chaque mètre carré retourné à la nature compte : il améliore la santé des sols, réduit les besoins en entretien et, surtout, crée un refuge pour une faune de plus en plus menacée.

Le CAE espère voir encore plus de jardins se transformer l'an prochain. Et si la prochaine était la vôtre? Pour en savoir plus ou participer à la prochaine campagne, visitez la page web de la campagne « Remettre un mètre » [tinyurl.com/yz2r9h5r](http://tinyurl.com/yz2r9h5r) ou écrivez à [eacmowest@gmail.com](mailto:eacmowest@gmail.com).

de Tagrid Akl

## Un nouveau souffle pour votre garde-robe

Alors que l'été tire à sa fin et que l'air devient plus frais, c'est le moment idéal pour faire un tri dans sa garde-robe et sortir les vêtements plus chauds et confortables. Et si, cette année, vous en profitez pour alléger vos tiroirs tout en renouvelant votre style, sans rien acheter de neuf?

Le CAE vous invite à participer à notre échange de vêtements, le 19 octobre à l'Hôtel de Ville de 13h à 15h30. Une belle occasion de repartir avec des pièces « nouvelles

pour vous » tout en posant un geste concret pour la planète. Vous pourrez déposer vos vêtements à partir de 11h, afin que notre équipe de bénévoles puisse tout trier avant l'ouverture officielle de l'échange.

## Venez, participez

L'entrée est de 5 \$ (gratuite pour les enfants de 12 ans et moins). Les fonds récoltés soutiendront quelques projets du CAE. Le principe est simple: Le nombre de sacs que vous apportez correspond au nombre de sacs que vous pouvez emporter. Besoin de plus? Des sacs supplémentaires seront disponibles à petit prix. Même si vous n'apportez rien, vous pourrez repartir avec de belles trouvailles! Les articles non échangés seront donnés à des organismes locaux après l'événement.

Nous demandons simplement que les vêtements, chaussures et accessoires soient propres, en bon état, sans taches ni déchirures. Et pendant que vous magasinez, profitez de notre vente de pâtisseries : thé, desserts et options véganes vous attendent pour une pause gourmande.

C'est la quatrième année de cet échange organisé par le CAE et chaque fois, c'est un vrai succès. L'ambiance est conviviale, les trouvailles nombreuses, et l'occasion parfaite de faire un petit geste pour une mode plus responsable.

Alors notez bien la date, invitez vos proches et retrouvez-nous le 19 octobre, de 13h à 15h30, à l'Hôtel de Ville. Qui sait ce que vous y trouverez?

de Laura Cousineau

## Juliette LORD

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## Environmental Action Committee

# Sow, swap, sustain

## MoWest's eco-friendly style

**From rewilding our backyards to rethinking our wardrobes, residents are finding thoughtful ways to live more sustainably. This fall, the EAC celebrates local initiatives that turn small, simple choices into real, lasting change.**

### Rewilding at home: how yards are helping nature

This summer marked the second year EAC encouraged residents to create native, pollinator-friendly gardens in their own yards.

The campaign kicked off in the spring when residents were invited to fill out a short participation form and begin rewilding portions of their green spaces. Over the course of the summer, participants focused on reducing lawn areas, planting native species and creating spaces where bees, butterflies and birds could thrive. Small steps, like replacing grass with wildflowers or adding a water source, can lead to meaningful environmental impact. By mid-September, resident had submitted photos of their transformed yards that highlighted not only blooming gardens but also a growing commitment to urban biodiversity.

### Great prizes

To celebrate their efforts, winners will be selected through a random draw during the week of September 29 and will receive eco-conscious prizes, including gift certificates from *Lufa Farms* and the zero-waste store *Loco* as well as mature native plants donated by *Jardin Buzz*.

More than just a contest, Yard by Yard is part of a growing movement toward urban ecological stewardship. Native plants support bees, butterflies and birds, improve soil health and reduce the need for pesticides and excess watering. Even a small patch of native species can serve as a mini oasis for wildlife.

The EAC hopes the campaign continues to inspire residents to rethink their outdoor spaces, not just as lawns to maintain, but as living ecosystems to support. With more yards rewilded each year we're collectively contributing to a healthier, more resilient urban environment.

For more information on native plants or to take part in next year's campaign, visit the Yard by Yard campaign webpage [tinyurl.com/55vb3n2m](http://tinyurl.com/55vb3n2m) or email [eacmowest@gmail.com](mailto:eacmowest@gmail.com).

*from Tagrid Akl  
Environmental Action Committee*

### Fall Clothing Swap: Give your closet a fresh start!

As summer comes to a close and the air gets chillier, many of us are switching up our wardrobes for warmer, cozier clothes. This could be a perfect time to clean out your closet. Maybe you'd like some new items, but are looking to cut down on purchases or are just put off by the fast fashion industry which takes a huge toll on our environment.

Join us for the clothing swap on Sunday, October 19, 1-3:30 pm at the Town Hall!

It's a great way to exchange your unwanted clothes for new to you items you'll love. You have the option to drop off clothes as of 11 am and we will get them sorted before the swap begins.

### Clean and wearable

We ask that you please ensure all clothes, shoes and accessories are clean and wearable with no stains or tears. The number of bags of clothes you bring in is the number you can take home or you can purchase extra bags for a nominal fee. So even if you came with nothing, you may leave with some stylish new threads! All items left at the end of the swap will be donated.

### Tea and bake sale, too!

The entrance fee is \$5 (kids 12 and under get in for free) which will help fund future projects by the EAC. There will also be treats to enjoy (including some vegan options) and tea at our bake sale.

This will be the fourth swap held by the EAC and people often ask when we're holding the next one! It's great fun, and there are always lots of really good quality items to take home. So please mark it on your calendar and come with family and friends to swap it up! Hope to see you there.

*from Laura Cousineau  
Environmental Action Committee*



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Montreal West, QC H4X 1Y8

## Children's Library



Staff members Carley Decarie and Newton Pekker serve food at the Summer Reading Club party

### New collection

Libraries nowadays are famously developing collections that go beyond the printed books. It is a norm to find audiobooks, toys, games and puzzles on any library shelf. Our library is proud to have been developing a collection of costumes, started in 2022, that is now counts 100 costumes.

In an attempt to offer yet more interesting materials to our young patrons, this fall, we are introducing a new collection: *Storykits*. A *Storykit* contains a book on a theme or character, a stuffed toy and activity sheets, and it all comes in a nice little bag. *Storykits* are now available for you to start borrowing and enjoying at home.

### Summer Reading Program: Statistics

We had the pleasure of unleashing our imaginations for the theme of this year's *TD Summer Reading Club*: Travel Around the World. Thank you to all readers who visited us to complete reading challenges as well as games and organized activities at the library. We had 72 registrations and a total of



Staff members Lee-Ann Walsh and Judy Alison-Gerrett serve a selection of international food

483 books were read! The number of children we have reached and who participated in all our activities (in-person and online), including the MoWest summer camp, is 1183! Congratulations to the starred readers for this summer: **Mila and Kiara Soueidan, Evelyn Lloyd and Jaden Riven.**

### Book sale

A sale of second-hand books, magazines and DVDs for children is planned for Saturday, September 27. Starting at 10 am, you can browse the tables and select among the treasures on offer. Hardcover books sell for \$1 and softcover for \$0.50. The book sale will end at 4 pm.

### Story Walk®

The picture book *The Leaf Thief*, by **Alice Hemming**, is the new *Story Walk*®. The pages of this book will be displayed on panels, and you can read the story as you

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Tue / mar : 10 am-8 pm  
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Fermée les 12 et 13 octobre  
Closed October 12 and 13

stroll by. *The Leaf Thief* is a perfectly, captivating tale for the autumn season. You can enjoy it from September 15 to November 10.

### Author's visit

Award-winning podcast producer, TED<sup>x</sup> speaker, author and entrepreneur **Amanda Cupido** is the founder of *Lead Podcasting*, an agency that produces podcasts for enterprise organizations. She has also authored the book *Let's Talk About Podcasting for Kids*. You will have the opportunity to meet her during her visit Saturday, October 4 at 11 am, for a reading of her book and exchanges on the theme of podcasts. You will be able to brainstorm ideas about your own podcast!

### Books and Music

Don't forget that the Books and Music event is ongoing. Your children are invited to borrow a book, read it and then compose a melody, a tune or a song that is inspired by the story. The music does not have to be written down. Any genre or format of a book can be used as an inspiration – a picture book, a graphic novel, a chapter book. On Saturday, November 8, at a special event, children can play their composed music. You must bring your own instrument; if your composition is for piano, we will provide a keyboard.



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## Montreal West Public Library



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### Reservations / requests:

info@mwpl.ca

Visit us online: mwpl.ca

### OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday:  
noon-6 pm

### CLOSED:

October 11-13 for Thanksgiving

### September at the library

September is always a busy time at the library as we get our autumn groove back. We welcome the students at lunch time and after school; our knitters return from holidays and we gear up for our fall programming.

We were delighted to have a return visit from author **Irena Karafilly**. Karafilly joined us in 2023, reading from her novel *Arrested Song*. Her newest novel, *Tunes for Dancing Bears*, is available at the library now.

**Ann Smith's** summer residency has wrapped up, but creativity keeps flowing through the library.

### WHAT'S COMING Membership drive

It's hard to believe it's been over seven years since we digitized our system at the Public Library! Throughout the rest of this year, we'll be conducting a membership drive, to confirm that all the member information we have is up to date. Our desk volunteers will be checking in, so make sure you have your address memorized before your next visit!

### Crafting Virtual Reality

We are very excited to partner with artist **T Braun**, and Concordia University's Grace Dart Foundation Knowledge Mobilization Fund, for a project called Crafting Virtual Reality.

This project will blend textile arts and virtual reality to create miniature worlds in teacups. Watch this space for more details! We are delighted to host another ongoing art project at the library (and of course, we're always happy when teacups are given a place in the sun).

### Book launch

November 5 at 7 pm, the library is thrilled to welcome Dr. **Robert Drummond** as he launches his new book *One Town in a*

*Very Long War* published by Double Dagger. Stay tuned for more information!

### Tea & Books: Book club celebration

Montreal West (Public Library) Book Club is celebrating its tenth anniversary by inviting you to join us for an afternoon with books October 15, from 2-3 pm when club members will treat you to a selection of books they've read over the past ten years. They've investigated a variety of themes and genres, settings as far away as Australia and as close as Montreal, and books they recommend for their beautiful prose. They even judge a book by its cover. They invite you to share your views with them on October 15 at 2 pm.



### Montreal West Book Club

Did you know that there is another book club that meets regularly at the library? If you are interested in joining, please email [montrealwestbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:montrealwestbookclub@gmail.com). They would love to hear from you!

### Fall in love with your library this October!

It's time for our annual fundraising campaign, and your support makes all the difference. With your help, we can modernize our space, stay open on Saturdays, offer creative programs and welcome the Town day campers. Everything we do is possible because of you. Thank you!

— What are you reading now? —

### *Killed by a Traffic Engineer*

by Wes Marshall

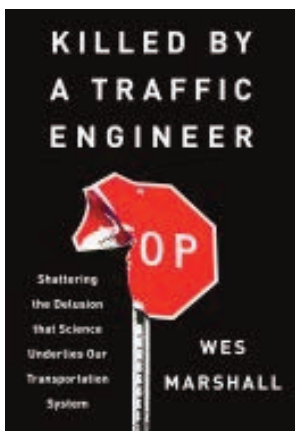
review from  
Kathleen Adamson

Traffic is such a tedious part of city life that reading about it might seem like cruel and unusual punishment (almost as cruel and unusual as rush hour on Westminster, right?) You may be as surprised to read this book as we are to write it, but thankfully, *Killed by a Traffic Engineer* is funny. Really funny – almost as funny as some of the conversations we've overheard about local traffic around the library.

Wes Marshall delves into the world of his education and training – traffic engineering and road design. We all know that roads, cars, and the laws that govern them affect daily life in a big

way. Good road design is right up there with proper building codes and sanitation standards in terms of things that need to be done right for a city to “work”. Given that, you'd think that data on traffic engineering is updated frequently and examined closely. Unfortunately, nothing could be further from the truth.

The ins and outs of the traffic engineering industry are fascinating and well worth the read. But the salient point here is that traffic engineering is a very young science, with a lot of interests at play behind the scenes that have nothing to do with safety – especially pedestrian safety. Local observation of traffic and activism around safety are the furthest thing from trivial. Indeed, local input brings a perspective to the table that, as Marshall says, is sadly lacking when plans around traffic are being made. But the main thing to remember is that the book is funny. We promise. Check it out and thank your local traffic activists today!



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## Scouts



The beginning of the school year is always a very busy time. Our leadership teams have planned their programs until the end of 2025 with many exciting activities, including fall camp for the four older sections, October 17-19.

### Regular meetings

Our regular meetings at Edinburgh School have all resumed. Scouts: grades 6/7/8, Tuesday, 6:30-8 pm; Cubs: grades 3/4/5, Wednesday, 6:30-8 pm; Beavers: Kdgn, grades 1/2, Thursday, 6-7:15 pm. Our two older sections Venturers and Rovers usually meet at the same time as the Scouts.

If your child is interested in visiting one of our sections, please email **Karen Johnstone** at [karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com](mailto:karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com) for information.

### Community service a pillar of Scouting

One of the principles that guides Scouting is service to others. Beaver Scouts promise "to help take care of the world," Cub Scouts promise "to do a good turn for somebody every day" and the older sections make a similar promise. The Montreal West Scout Group puts this into practice at various times of the year, but in the autumn, we have two special activities where we collect food and help with the collection of blood.

### Food drive

During the week of October 20, we will once again be collecting food on behalf of *Head and Hands*, an organization in NDG that strives to promote the physical and mental well-being of youth aged 12 to 25 by providing medical, legal and counselling services and a young parents' program.



Garden supplies delivery

They also operate an emergency food pantry, and our food drive will help them stock their shelves.

Our youth members will be going door-to-door in the Town to ask for non-perishable food donations on the evenings of October 21, 22 and 23. It is likely that we will not be able to visit every house in the Town. If we miss you, please call **Bob King** at **481-6523** and we will arrange to pick up your donation. Thank you for your generosity.



### Bood donor clinic

Monday, October 27, we will again be assisting *Héma-Québec* at a blood donor clinic. It will be held in St. Philip's Church hall



Olgdia Paulo handing out flags on Remembrance Day

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from 1:30 to 7 pm. While all the medical procedures will be performed by staff of *Héma-Québec*, Scouters, parents of Scouts and other volunteers assist with making the donors comfortable and otherwise helping the clinic to run smoothly.

If you are able, we hope that you will come to the clinic to donate. In all, it takes about an hour, is only mildly uncomfortable, and you will feel good to know that you are helping a sick person in the only way that is possible (at present, there is no artificial substitute for human blood).

It is preferable that you make a reservation in advance at [hema-quebec.qc.ca](http://hema-quebec.qc.ca) or 1-800-343-7264, but, unless we are too busy, people who come to the church during the hours of the clinic will be welcomed. Thank you for your help.



## Montreal West Guiding

Photo: Christine Downey



Embers and Bubble Tea (Spark Junior Leader) prepare for another exciting year

## Summer equals Guiding, too!



The Montreal West Guiding units are off to a great start this year. With the weather being so mild, meetings were held outside. The girls were asked for their input as to how their year will unfold. They had successful brainstorming sessions. The Sparks and Embers even learned about the voting process for their preferred ideas to be decided upon.

We are thrilled to welcome a Guider back into an active role in our weekly meetings. Sunflower was a Guider when her daughter was in Guides over 20 years ago. She learned the Sparks and Embers were in need of additional help this year and happily came forward to offer a helping hand. We are excited to be working with her.

### Yum, yum... cookies!

The fall mint cookies have arrived!! The Girl Guide cookies are produced twice a year. In the fall, we have the chocolaty mint cookies. The traditional vanilla and chocolate sandwich cookies arrive in April.

The cookies are so much more than a tasty treat. Through learning to sell the cookies, the girls also learn how to develop plans to reach goals they've set, team building work, with the public and money man-

agement. These are just some of the skills they learn through cookie sales.

The profits from each case of cookies go to support girls here in Montreal West, our beautiful Camp Peaceful Waters near Morin Heights and Girl Guides across Canada! As you snack on the cookies, you can know you have helped to make the world a better place!

The cookies sell for \$6 a box or \$72 a case of 12 boxes. If you do not know a member of Guiding, please feel free to contact **Pearl** at [pearl.barnowl2@gmail.com](mailto:pearl.barnowl2@gmail.com).

### Room for more girls to join

The units have space available for additional girls to join in the fun. All meetings take place at the MW United Church. We use the door off of Curzon to access our meeting space.

The Sparks (Kindergarten and grade 1) meet on Wednesday nights, 5:15-6:45 pm. Embers (grades 2 and 3) also meet on Wednesday nights, 5:15-6:45. Guides (grades 4, 5 and 6) meet on Friday nights, 5-7 pm. Pathfinders (grades 7, 8 and 9) as well as Rangers (grade 10 to CEGEP) meet in nearby NDG.

*from Montreal West Guiders*

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## Come for the stories, stay for the treats!

The *MW Horticultural Society* is excited to kick off spooky season with our first guest speaker of 2025-2026! Join us on Monday, October 20 at 7:30 pm in the Town Hall Music Room for an enchanting evening of storytelling.

Our speaker, **Julie Boudreau**, will transport us into the world of myths and legends about the plants all around us – revealing the secrets, superstitions and folklore woven through our gardens and landscapes.



And the evening doesn't stop there! After the talk, we're reviving a beloved tradition: refreshments and mingling – the perfect chance to reconnect with fellow plant lovers. Event details:

- When: Monday, October 20, 7:30 pm
- Where: Town Hall Music Room
- Language: talk in English; questions welcome in English or French
- Cost: \$5 at the door (free for members)

### Membership is back!

For just \$25 per year, you'll support our mission and enjoy free entry to all our speakers' events. You can pay your membership in two ways: send an e-transfer prior to the event to [mwhs1908@gmail.com](mailto:mwhs1908@gmail.com) (write your full name in the Notes field to ensure your membership card is made out to you) or in person at the event (exact change appreciated).

Don't miss this chance to discover the hidden lore of everyday plants while reconnecting with your horticultural community. We can't wait to see you there!

*from Martha Slocomb*

## News from the pews

### MW United

...the brick one

Autumn is upon us – the air is crisp, the trees are painted in glorious color and routines have settled in after the long summer days. This season always brings with it a sense of renewal and community as we gather once again in worship, study and fellowship.

### Annual bazaar

Our committees are hard at work preparing for the busy weeks ahead, most especially our annual bazaar! Saturday, November 1 is the big day, with set-up taking place on Friday, October 31. As always, there will be treasures to discover, home-made goods to admire, and plenty of opportunities to find that “just right” item. And of course, we’ll be serving lunch – perfect for those needing a bite after shopping, or for friends wishing to sit, visit, and catch up.

### Other events this month include:

#### Welcome back lunch

Sunday, October 19: As the last cottages are closed and routines are set, this tradition offers a chance to reconnect, rekindle friendships and begin the season together in community.

#### Labyrinth Walk

Thursday, October 23, 7-9 pm: A time for quiet reflection and spiritual centering.

#### Crafts & Laughs

Join us every Tuesday from 10 am to noon for a season of creativity, fun and friendship! This group is open to all skill levels – whether you’re an experienced crafter or just starting out, you’ll feel welcome. No crafting experience is needed – just bring your enthusiasm and a smile. We can’t wait to see you there.

### Bible study

Every Wednesday at 1 pm: Together we explore the weekly readings with historical context, anecdotes and shared insights. Always thoughtful, always welcoming – come join the conversation.

### The Quiet Centre

Free program every Wednesday at 6 pm: a midweek pause for calm reflection through meditation and gentle yoga. A youth session is also offered on Zoom, Thursdays at 7 pm (contact **Natalie** at **884-0444** for details).

### World Food Sunday

In addition, we are taking part in World Food Sunday, October 19.

Leading up to that day, we are collecting cash donations for *The Depot* (formerly known as *NDG Food Depot*) in support of those facing food insecurity. With the continuously rising cost of essentials, this effort feels especially meaningful this year. Contributions can be made by e-transfer to [mwu-coffee@gmail.com](mailto:mwu-coffee@gmail.com) (please note World Food Donation in the message line) or dropped off in person at the church.

As we step into this busy and beautiful season, may we do so with gratitude for community, generosity of spirit, and hearts open to the ways God is at work among us.

*Your church neighbor  
with a keyboard,  
Tania Watson*

### St. Philip's

Our community garden has completed another successful growing season. On the morning of Saturday, October 4 we will be having a fall workday to put the garden to bed for the winter. Volunteers are welcome to join us.

Our harvest festival will be celebrated Sunday, October 5 at 10 am with special music by the choir and organist **Peter Butler**.

### Mark your calendars!

St. Philip's annual Christmas bazaar will take place Saturday, November 8 from 10 am to 2 pm in the parish hall (7505 Sherbrooke). An amazing array of scrumptious baked goods, fudge, candy, jams, jellies and preserves will be featured, as well as a huge selection of books, DVDs, CDs, knitted items, jewellery and various attic treasures. And don't forget to stay for the ever-popular lunch served by the Men's Fellowship.

*from Mark Reimer*





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## MADA



Municipalité  
amie des aînés

### Journée de bon voisinage le 25 octobre

Le *Comité consultatif des aînés* de Montréal-Ouest organise une nouvelle Journée de bon voisinage le samedi 25 octobre.

Des équipes seront envoyées pour aider les voisins âgés ou à mobilité réduite ayant besoin d'un coup de main pour leurs travaux extérieurs d'automne, comme râcler et mettre les feuilles dans des sacs, ranger le mobilier de jardin, etc.

Si vous avez besoin d'aide ou souhaitez obtenir plus d'informations pour vous inscrire, veuillez appeler le Centre communautaire au **484-6186** ou envoyer un courriel à [loisirs@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:loisirs@montreal-ouest.ca) avant le 15 octobre.

Nous espérons pouvoir compter sur un bon nombre d'étudiants bénévoles. Toutefois, nous pourrions être limités quant au

nombre de personnes que nous pourrions aider et ne pouvons garantir que toutes les demandes seront réalisées.

#### Bénévoles recherchés pour quelques heures

Nous recherchons des bénévoles, adultes et étudiants, pour faire de cette journée un succès et venir en aide à nos aînés dans le besoin. Nous avons besoin d'adultes pour accompagner les équipes d'étudiants de maison en maison. Que vous soyez disponible pour 1 heure ou 3 heures, merci de considérer offrir votre aide, nous ne pourrions pas organiser cette initiative sans la participation de nos résidents. Après tout, c'est ça l'esprit d'un bon voisinage.

*Comité consultatif des aînés  
MADA*

### Active Walking Group

Sign up at the community Centre or online. Registration: mandatory. Cost: \$5 for residents and 50+ club members / \$10 for all others

**Tuesday, October 7:** The Falaise

**Tuesday, November 11** (to be confirmed): National Field of Honor, Pointe-Claire. Departure: 9:30 am (Community Centre)



#### Groupe de promenade active

Inscrivez-vous sur en ligne ou au centre communautaire. Inscription: nécessaire.

Coût: 5\$ pour les résidents et les membre du club 50+ / 10 \$ pour les autres.

**Mardi 1<sup>er</sup> octobre :** La falaise

**Mardi 11 novembre :** Le champ d'honneur national à Pointe-Claire (à confirmer)  
Départ: 9h30 du Centre communautaire

### Free lecture

**October 1**

**International Seniors' Day**

Free lecture and food to celebrate. Sign up online or call the Community Centre.

**Isobel Cunningham:** Prepare for *A Walk, a Long Walk – the Walk of a Lifetime*.

Town Hall (Music Room), food and connecting 12:30 pm, lecture begins at 1 pm. Presentation in English, questions accepted in French and English.

### Conférence gratuite

**1<sup>er</sup> octobre**

**Journée internationale des personnes âgées**

Conférence gratuite et repas pour célébrer cette journée. Inscrivez-vous en ligne ou appelez le Centre communautaire.

**Isobel Cunningham :** « Préparez-vous pour une marche, une longue marche – La marche de votre vie »

Salle de musique (hôtel de ville), repas et rencontres à 12h30. Début de la conférence à 13h. Présentation en anglais, questions acceptées en français et en anglais.



Municipalité  
amie des aînés

### Caring Neighbourhood Day, October 25

The *Seniors' Advisory Committee (SAC)* is organizing another Caring Neighbourhood Day Saturday, October 25.

Teams will be sent out to assist older or disabled neighbours who need help with their outdoor fall chores, e.g., raking, bagging of leaves, storing patio furniture, etc.

For information on registering, please call the Community Centre at **484-6186** or email [recreation@montreal-west.ca](mailto:recreation@montreal-west.ca) by October 15.

We hope to have a good number of student helpers. However, we may be limited in the number of people we can assist and cannot guarantee that all requests for assistance will be met.

#### Volunteers needed for a few hours

We are looking for adult as well as student volunteers to help make this a successful and helpful day for our seniors. We need adults to walk the teams of students to and from the various houses. Whether you are available for 1 hour or 3 hours, please consider helping out – we can't run this initiative without MoWesters pitching in. After all, that's what a Caring Neighbourhood is all about.

*from Seniors' Advisory Committee  
MADA*

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## Town Council meeting: August



by Alexandra (Olesia)  
Lewyckij

### Updates from the Town

It has been a busy summer for Public Works, Public Safety, Recreation and Culture and other municipal departments, including additional training for PSOs, significant tree maintenance, roadwork and more.

The Director of Recreation and Culture, **Paula Cordeau**, is retiring after 39 years with the Town. Her tenure is remembered fondly, and she will be missed! **Chris Kearney**, a supervisor for the department, becomes Director, and **Marian Scully** will be Assistant Director.

Council provided updates on the road closure on the “hump” bridge. The work was time-sensitive and could not be delayed. While the Town was eager to complete the roadwork before school restarted, the project required substantial coordination with CP which did not have the necessary staff available until late August. The work is expected to last four weeks. The specific closures and rerouting were recommended by a traffic expert consulted by the Town. Council is aware of safety issues from non-compliant drivers at the road closure and is taking steps to address the problem.

**Councillor Torres** noted a growing issue in the Town with work being done without permits or the scope of a permit being exceeded. While most infractions are promptly addressed when brought to residents’ attention, a small but vocal minority has taken issue with the permit system overall. Permits are not just a recommendation; they are required by bylaws for certain kinds of work. Bylaws can and have been amended by Council, following respectful and informed feedback from citizens, but they can’t be disregarded outright. Severe

non-compliance can result in court cases that cost the Town thousands of dollars – as Councillor Torres notes, not a great use of taxpayer money!

**Mayor Masella** also addressed some of the political commentary present on social media, especially in spaces specific to Montreal West. Councillors have been personally criticized beyond the scope of their roles and have even been accused of criminal actions. While civic disagreement is healthy, residents are asked to remain respectful even in critique.

### RESIDENT QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

#### Road safety

*Did the traffic study estimate how much longer it would take residents to drive in Montreal West once the prohibitions of left turns onto Westminster are implemented?*

No, drive times were not estimated as part of the study. While the study did its best to estimate impacts, there’s a lot that’s still unknown in terms of driver behaviour. This is part of the reason why the changes are being made on a trial basis.

*What is the status of the road safety grant?*

The Town resubmitted the grant application in July but has not yet heard feedback. While the grant would augment the Town’s budget for road improvements, no projects are entirely conditional on the grant.

*Can the routing changes related to the “hump” construction be made safer?*

Yes, there were Town staff who noted issues and made recommendations. Those changes are being considered and evaluated by the contractor responsible for managing the site.

*Did the Town consider doing the repairs to the “hump” bridge during the summer?*

Yes, the Town tried, but was limited by CP staff availability.

*Will CP take snow clearing at the crossing on Westminster more seriously?*

Council certainly hopes so! They also appreciate a resident-submitted suggestion to send CP letters of non-compliance if they do not maintain the crossing.

### Recreation centre

*What is the opening date?*

The Town is hoping for a soft opening in the autumn, with a full opening expected in January. The pool will be operational next summer.

*Can the ice rink be rented by schools?*

Yes, the Town is already in talks with the school boards for use of the facilities.

*What is the final debt amount?*

There are still many moving components with new and potential grants, so it is difficult to estimate the final number; however, we know the debt will be less than the \$27 million approved by the Town’s citizens.

### Other

*Can a resident cut down a tree that causes significant inconvenience?*

Possibly – it will depend on individual circumstances. Residents are encouraged to contact the Town to evaluate their specific situation.

*Can the audio for Town Council meetings be improved?*

Yes! The AV system was upgraded this month. More substantive changes were considered, but approving them will rest with the new Council.

*Will the old RBC building be rented out to a Tim Hortons? Residents are concerned that it will harm the character of Westminster as well as small businesses.*

The building is privately owned, and Council isn’t privy to the specifics of the lease. There are no bylaws preventing a *Tim Hortons* or similar business from opening on Westminster. Mayor Masella noted that similar concerns were raised when *Pharmaprix* moved onto Westminster, and they have proven to be good corporate citizens of Montreal West.

### Reminder to residents

Residents are reminded that their dogs must be leashed and under control while in public spaces. Dog owners must comply with municipal bylaws and other regulations, including new provincial legislation. Now that the legislation is in force, the Town’s options are limited when it comes to how bites (especially recurring bites) are handled, and residents are encouraged to protect both their neighbours and their dogs by preventing such incidents before they occur.



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## Réunion du Conseil : août



de Alexandra (Olesia) Lewyckyj  
traduction par René Boucher

### Mises à jour de la Ville

L'été a été chargé pour les Travaux publics, la Sécurité publique, Loisirs et Culture et autres services municipaux, y compris la formation supplémentaire pour les ASP, l'entretien important des arbres, les travaux routiers, et plus encore.

La directrice des Loisirs et de la Culture, **Paula Cordeau**, prend sa retraite après plus de 30 ans avec la Ville. On se souviendra de son mandat avec affection et elle nous manquera! **Chris Kearney**, actuel superviseur du service, en devient le directeur et **Marian Scully** l'assistera en tant que directrice adjointe.

Le Conseil a fourni des mises à jour sur la fermeture de la voie sur le pont «hump» au-dessus de la ligne ferroviaire nord du CP. Les travaux étaient urgents et ne pouvaient être retardés. Alors que la Ville était impatiente de terminer les travaux routiers avant la reprise des études, le chantier a nécessité une coordination importante avec le CP qui n'avait pas le personnel nécessaire disponible avant la fin août. Les travaux devaient durer quatre semaines. Les fermetures et les réacheminements spécifiques ont été recommandés par un expert de la circulation consulté par la Ville. Le Conseil est conscient des problèmes de sécurité que posent les automobilistes qui ne se conforment pas à la fermeture de la route, et prend des mesures pour y remédier.

La **conseillère Torres** a noté un problème croissant dans la ville avec les travaux effectués sans permis ou le dépassement de la portée des permis. Bien que la plupart des infractions soient rapidement traitées lorsqu'elles sont portées à l'attention des résidents, une petite minorité, mais qui se fait entendre, s'est opposée au système de permis dans son ensemble. Les permis ne sont pas qu'une recommandation; nos règlements administratifs les exigent pour certains types de travaux. Les règlements peuvent être modifiés par le Conseil, et l'ont été, à la suite d'un retour d'information respectueux et éclairé des citoyens, mais ils ne peuvent pas être ignorés d'emblée. Les cas graves de non-conformité peuvent entraîner des poursuites judiciaires qui coûtent des milliers de dollars à la Ville – comme le fait remarquer la conseillère Torres, ce n'est pas une bonne utilisation de l'argent des contribuables!

Le **maire Masella** a également abordé certains commentaires politiques présents sur les médias sociaux, en particulier dans les pages spécifiques à Montréal-Ouest. Des membres du Conseil ont été personnellement critiqués au-delà de la portée de leurs rôles et ont même été accusés d'actes crim-

inels. Bien que le désaccord citoyen soit sain, les résidents sont invités à demeurer respectueux, même dans la critique.

### QUESTIONS ET PRÉOCCUPATIONS DES RÉSIDENTS

#### Sécurité routière

*L'étude de circulation effectuée par la Ville a-t-elle mesuré le temps qu'il faudrait aux résidents pour conduire dans Montréal-Ouest une fois les interdictions de tourner à gauche sur Westminster mises en œuvre?*

Non, les temps de conduite n'ont pas été évalués dans le cadre de l'étude. Bien que l'étude ait fait de son mieux pour estimer les impacts, il y a encore beaucoup d'inconnus en termes de comportement des conducteurs. C'est en partie la raison pour laquelle les changements sont apportés à titre d'essai.

*Quel est le statut de la subvention pour la sécurité routière?*

La Ville a présenté une nouvelle demande de subvention en juillet, mais n'a pas encore reçu de rétroaction. Bien que la subvention augmenterait le budget de la Ville pour l'amélioration des routes, aucun projet n'est entièrement conditionnel à la subvention.

*Les modifications d'itinéraire liées aux travaux sur le «hump» peuvent-elles être rendues plus sûres?*

Oui, des employés de la Ville ont noté des problèmes et ont fait des recommandations. Ces changements sont évalués par l'entrepreneur responsable de la gestion du site.

*La Ville a-t-elle envisagé de faire les réparations au pont «hump» pendant l'été?*

Oui, la Ville a essayé, mais elle était limitée par la disponibilité du personnel du CP.

*Le CP prendra-t-il le déneigement au passage à niveau de Westminster plus au sérieux?*

Le Conseil l'espère certainement! L'on apprécie également la suggestion des résidents d'envoyer des lettres de non-conformité à CP si le passage à niveau n'est pas entretenu.

#### Centre récréatif

*Quelle est la date d'ouverture du nouveau centre récréatif?*

La Ville espère une ouverture en douceur à l'automne, avec une ouverture complète prévue en janvier. La piscine sera opérationnelle l'été prochain.

*La patinoire du nouveau centre récréatif peut-elle être louée par les écoles?*

Oui, la Ville est déjà en pourparlers avec les conseils scolaires pour l'utilisation des installations.

*Quel est le montant final de la dette pour le nouveau centre récréatif?*

Il y a encore beaucoup de composants variables avec des subventions nouvelles et potentielles, il est donc difficile d'estimer le montant final; cependant, nous savons que

la dette sera inférieure aux 27 millions de dollars approuvés par les citoyens de la ville.

### Autres

*Un résident peut-il abattre un arbre qui cause des inconvénients importants?*

Possiblement, cela dépendra des circonstances individuelles. Les résidents sont incités à communiquer avec la Ville pour évaluer leur situation particulière.

*Peut-on améliorer l'audio pour les réunions du conseil municipal?*

Oui! Le système audiovisuel a été mis à niveau ce mois-ci. Des modifications plus substantielles ont été envisagées, mais leur approbation incombera au nouveau Conseil.

*L'ancien immeuble de RBC sera-t-il loué à un Tim Hortons? Les résidents craignent que cela nuise au caractère de Westminster et aux petites entreprises.*

L'immeuble appartient à des intérêts privés et le Conseil n'est pas au fait des détails du bail. Aucun règlement n'empêche Tim Hortons ou autre entreprise semblable de s'installer sur Westminster. Le maire Masella a souligné que des préoccupations similaires ont été soulevées lorsque *Pharmaprix* a emménagé sur Westminster et s'est ensuite avéré bon citoyen corporatif de Montréal-Ouest.

### Rappel aux résidents

On rappelle aux résidents que leurs chiens doivent être tenus en laisse et contrôlés dans les espaces publics. Les gardiens de chiens doivent se conformer aux règlements municipaux et autres réglementations, y compris la nouvelle loi provinciale. Maintenant que la législation est en vigueur, les options de la Ville sont limitées en ce qui concerne la façon dont les morsures (en particulier les morsures récurrentes) sont traitées, et les résidents sont appelés à protéger leurs voisins et leurs chiens en prévenant de tels incidents avant qu'ils ne se produisent.

### Rencontrez les candidats!

**Jeudi 16 octobre, de 19h30 à 21h30**  
**Hôtel de ville, 2<sup>e</sup> étage**

Comme lors des élections municipales précédentes, l'*Informer* organisera une rencontre avec les candidats. Les candidats se présenteront et répondront ensuite aux questions du public. **Julie Ducharme**, une résidente, animera l'événement.

L'événement sera diffusé en direct sur la chaîne YouTube de l'*Informer* pour ceux qui ne pourront y assister en personne. Vous pourrez également soumettre vos questions à l'avance. Plus de détails seront partagés sur le site Web de la Ville, par bulletin électronique et sur les médias sociaux.

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## 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  
2 novembre  
de 10h à 20h**

Les postes qui restent à combler sont ceux de scrutateur et secrétaire de bureau de vote.

Une formation devra obligatoirement être suivie et elle aura lieu le mercredi 29 octobre à 18h30 au Centre communautaire.

Si vous êtes intéressés, veuillez remplir le formulaire de demande d'emploi et le retourner au bureau du greffier à l'hôtel de Ville ou via courriel au [election@montreal-west.ca](mailto:election@montreal-west.ca).

Ce formulaire 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*



## Centre communautaire 484-6186

### Programmes d'automne

Les programmes récréatifs ont débuté, mais certains cours ont encore des places disponibles :

Hip-hop et ballet, danse en ligne, échecs, Donjons et Dragons, cours de fitness pour les 70 ans et plus, cours d'équilibre, pickleball et cours d'espagnol.

#### Film documentaire

**Lundi 6 octobre**  
**L'Hôtel de Ville, 19h, gratuit**



Entre le road movie et l'essai politique, ce documentaire nous fait remonter le fleuve Amazone du Brésil jusqu'à l'une de ses sources en Équateur, à la rencontre de ceux et celles qui se portent à la défense de leur territoire.

Inscrivez-vous, les places sont limitées.

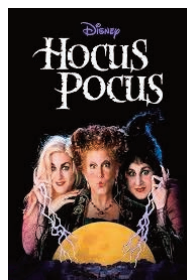


97 minutes, français et portugais avec sous-titres en anglais

Le film sera suivi d'une discussion avec le public. L'invitée pour la discussion est la protagoniste du film, **Marie-Josée Béliveau**, et l'animateur est **Daniel Racine**.

#### Plaisir effrayant

**24 octobre,**  
**Parc Davies, 17h-19h15**  
**(l'Hôtel de Ville en cas de mauvais temps)**  
**Hôtel de Ville, 19h30, Film HOCUS POCUS**  
**(en anglais avec sous-titres en français)**



Venez déguisés et apportez un petit sac pour les friandises.

DJ, photos, fabrication de *glue*, artisanat, jeux, décoration de citrouilles. Hot dog et chocolat chaud gratuits.

Inscrivez-vous en ligne pour le film.

Gratuit pour les résidents/ 4 \$ par personne (non-résidents)



#### Cours de gardiens avertis (Croix-Rouge)

**Dimanche 5 octobre**  
**Hôtel de Ville, 9h30-7h30**  
Âge : 11-18 ans

#### Le train des fêtes du CP

CP confirmera ces arrêts en octobre.  
Consultez le site Web pour les mises à jour, les événements à venir et inscrivez-vous au bulletin électronique.

### ÉVÉNEMENTS DU SOUVENIR

#### Une promenade du Souvenir

**Samedi 8 novembre**  
**13h, gratuit**



Financé par le gouvernement du Canada  
Funded by the Government of Canada

Canada

par  
**Dr Robert Drummond**  
Lieu de rencontre:  
Cénotaphe

#### Cérémonie du souvenir

**Dimanche le 9 novembre**



12h15 : Procession de  
Curzon et avenue  
Westminster nord  
12h30 : Cénotaphe de  
Montréal-Ouest

#### Visite autoguidée des maisons d'Anciens combattants de la ville.

Faites une visite à pied des maisons d'Anciens combattants de la ville. Plus de 40 maisons ont installé sur leur pelouse des affiches commémoratives en souvenir des membres des forces armées qui ont donné leur vie au cours de la Seconde Guerre mondiale.

Une carte complète est disponible sur le site web de la Ville, grâce aux recherches effectuées par le docteur **Robert Drummond**.



#### 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 14 octobre**  
**Vendredi 17 novembre**



## Community Centre 484-6186

### Fall programs

Programs have begun, but you can still join some classes:

Hip hop and ballet, line dancing, chess, Dungeons & Dragons, 70+ fitness class, balance class, pickleball

Spanish language classes, Mah Jong (6-week workshop starting September 28)

### Documentary film

Monday, October 6

Town Hall, 7 pm

free (sign up, space is limited)



Blending political essay and road movie, this documentary takes us from the Amazon River in Brazil to one of its sources in Ecuador to meet with the guardians of the forest as they do everything they can do to preserve their lands.



97 minutes French and Portuguese with English subtitles. Following the film, there will be a discussion with the public with **Marie-Josée Béliveau**, the protagonist of the film, and the host is **Daniel Racine**.

### SPOOKTACULAR Family FUN

Friday, October 24

Davies Park, 5-7:15 pm

(Town Hall in case of bad weather)

Town Hall, 7:30 pm: movie *Hocus Pocus*



Come dressed up and bring a small bag for treats. Join the fun: DJ, photo booth, slime making, crafts, pumpkin decorating, free hot dogs and hot chocolate.

Reservation required for the film, (space is limited); sign up online.

Free for residents, \$4 per person (non-residents).



### Red Cross babysitting course

Sunday, October 5

Town Hall, 9:30 am-5:30 pm

Ages: 11-18 years old

### CP Holiday Train

CP will confirm the Holiday Train stops mid-October.

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

### REMEMBRANCE EVENTS 2025

#### A Walk to Remember

Saturday, November 8

1 pm, free



Financé par le gouvernement du Canada  
Funded by the Government of Canada



Led by

Dr. Robert Drummond.

Meeting place: Cenotaph



#### Remembrance Ceremony

Sunday, November 9

12:15 pm: Procession

from Curzon and

Westminster north

12:30 pm: Cenotaph

#### Self-guided tour of Town's Veterans' homes

Take a fall walking tour of the Town's Veterans' homes. Over 40 homes have commemorative posters on the front lawn remembering those family members gave their lives in service during World War II.

A full map and tour are available on the Town website courtesy of research done by Dr. Robert Drummond.

#### 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, October 14

Friday, November 17



### 2025 Municipal Election

#### Employment opportunities

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

Sunday, November 2, 10 am-8 pm

The remaining positions to be filled are those of deputy returning officer and poll clerk.

A training course is mandatory and will take place Wednesday, October 29 at 6:30 pm at the Community Centre.

If you are interested, please complete the job application form and return it to the Town Clerk's office at the Town Hall or via email at [election@montreal-west.ca](mailto:election@montreal-west.ca).

The form may be obtained on the Town's website, under the section "Municipal Elections 2025" or by emailing the above address.

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

*Me Claude Gilbert, Returning Officer*

### Foot clinic / Soins des pieds

October 1, November 5

1 octobre, 5 novembre

\$50 initial visit

\$40 subsequent visits

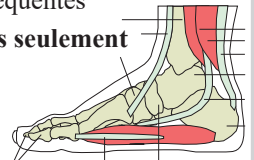
by appointment only

\$50 visite initiale

\$40 visites subséquentes

par rendez-vous seulement

484-6186



### 60+ Club

#### October

28 Bridge

17 **Oktoberfest** lunch, Town Hall

#### November

4 **Día de los Muertos** (lunch)

25 Bridge

Call **484-6186** or email [recreation@montreal-west.ca](mailto:recreation@montreal-west.ca) for more information or to register.

### Club 60+

#### Octobre

17 **Oktoberfest** Hôtel de ville (dîner)

28 Bridge

#### Novembre

4 **Día de los Muertos** (dîner)

25 Bridge

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

## COMING EVENTS / À VENIR

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

**Next deadline / Date limite:**  
**October 8 octobre**

### September

**Mon 29 Town Council meeting.** In person and virtually (Town's YouTube channel). Town Hall. 8 pm.

### October

- Wed 1 International Seniors' Day.** Free lecture and food. Page 13.
- Thu 2 Knit & Natter drop-in** (every Thursday). Public Library. 3-5 pm.
- Fri 3 Karaoke for a Cause.** Page 10. Public Library.
- Fri 3 Rotary evening meeting.** Page 3. Town Hall. 7 pm.
- Sat 4 Fall workday.** St. Philip's.
- Sun 5 Babysitting course / Cours de gardiens avertis.** Pages 22, 23.
- Sun 5 Harvest festival service.** St. Philip's. 10 am.
- Sun 5 World Communion Sunday.** MW United. 10 am.
- Sun 12 Thanksgiving Sunday.** MW United. 10 am.
- Tue 14 Crafting Virtual Reality.** Public Library. 3 pm.
- Wed 15 Tea & Books.** Book club celebration. Public Library. 2-3 pm.
- Thu 16 Meet-the-Candidates / Rencontrez les candidats.** Pages 17, 20. 7:30 pm.
- Fri 17 Rotary evening meeting.** Page 3. Town Hall. 7 pm.
- Sat 18 Volunteer fair / Foire du bénévolat.** Page 2. 11h-16h.
- Sun 19 World Food Sunday + welcome back luncheon.** MW United. 10 am.
- Sun 9 Clothing swap / échange de vêtements.**  
Pages 12-13. Town Hall. 1-3:30 pm.
- Mon 20 Horticultural Society meeting.** Page 17. Town Hall. 7:30.
- Tue 21 Scouts' food drive.** Continues October 22-23. Page 16.
- Thu 23 Labyrinth Walk.** MW United. 7-9 pm.
- Fri 24 Spooktacular / Plaisir effrayant.** Pages 22, 23.
- Sat 25 Caring Neighborhood Day / Journée de bon voisinage.** Page 19.
- Mon 17 Scouts' blood donor clinic.** Page 16. St. Philip's. 1:30-7 pm.

### November

- Sat 1 Annual Christmas bazaar.** Watch for details! MW United. 10 am-3 pm.
- Sat 8 Walk to Remember / Une promenade de du souvenir.** Page 22, 23.
- Sun 9 Remembrance Ceremony / Cérémonie du souvenir.** Pages 22, 23.



### Congratulations / Félicitations...

...to **Tammy** and **Chris** and big brother **Axel**. They welcomed their new, healthy baby girl, **Ashlyn**, into the world August 19.



September 22, 2025. The fall is finally here!



## A heartfelt goodbye on my retirement

As I prepare to retire after 39 wonderful years with the Recreation Department, I find myself reflecting on all the memories, friendships and moments that have shaped this incredible journey.

I want to sincerely thank the Town Council and the residents of our community for your constant support, encouragement and belief in the work we've done together. Your involvement – from volunteering at events to showing up for classes and programs – has meant more to me than words can express.

I've been lucky to cross paths with so many kind, dedicated and inspiring people over the years. Each of you has helped make my time here more meaningful and memorable than I ever could have imagined. You've filled my days with purpose, laughter and joy – and I carry with me so many stories and memories that will forever warm my heart.

While it's bittersweet to say goodbye, I leave with deep gratitude and a full heart. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives and this wonderful community. It has truly been an honour.

With love and appreciation,

*Paula*





# COUNCIL communiqué



## MAYOR'S REPORT

I would be remiss if I did not highlight the contributions of my Councillors. I am blessed to have worked with four amazing councillors this past mandate. I do not believe I've seen a level of devotion as demonstrated by these four individuals.

Colleen, Elizabeth, Maria, and Lauren. Thank you so much for your contributions to the betterment of our community.

Three of our councillors have decided they will not seek re-election. Among them, they have decades of experience supporting and bettering our town. To Colleen, Elizabeth and Maria, thank you so much for your many years of service. The Town would not be in the great shape it's in without your contributions. At the very least, I know that you have made my job so much easier because I had your support.

Enjoy the well-deserved time off. But, let's be honest, I am sure that you will continue contributing to the Town.

With much respect and gratitude

**Beny Masella**, Mayor  
Town of Montreal-Ouest  
[bmasella@montreal-west.ca](mailto:bmasella@montreal-west.ca)



## IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR

As I conclude my four-year mandate overseeing the public security portfolio for the Town, I am reminded of the song Seasons of Love from Rent: "Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes... how do you measure a year?"

In municipal politics, and especially in public security, time is measured – by impact, connection, and community care. Over these four years, I have worked alongside dedicated professionals and passionate residents to help make our town safer and more resilient.

Public security is often about the unseen: quick responses, prevention and quiet coordination behind the scenes. We faced challenges – from emerging safety concerns to evolving community needs – but we met them with purpose, transparency, and commitment. Each decision made, each initiative we put in place, was an attempt to ensure that the people of Montreal West felt safe and secure. Thank you to the Community Safety Committee, SPVM, CPKC, exo, and Montreal West Public Security. I also appreciate the citizenship engage-

ment from our community representatives at the EMSB, RWA, Elizabeth Ballantyne and Edinburgh.

As my term draws to a close, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to have served alongside my council colleagues and dedicated Town public servants. While the minutes may have flown by, the legacy of the last four years will remain. I am grateful for every minute of this journey. Thank you, to my family and to Montreal West, for the trust you placed in me. It has been a privilege to serve and protect our special community. See you on the campaign trail soon!

**Lauren Small-Pennefather**,  
Councillor  
Public Security  
[lsmall-pennefather@montreal-west.ca](mailto:lsmall-pennefather@montreal-west.ca)





The Steve and Rob Michelin Rink



## A PEEK INSIDE THE NEW BUILDING

I got my first glimpse inside the new sports and recreation centre at the beginning of September, and my first reaction was WOW! Here are some of my first impressions.

It is big, and we are not used to seeing a regulation size hockey rink in our Town. There is a lot more room for storage, mechanicals and, of course, the addition of a gymnasium and a restaurant.

The architecture is stunning. The hockey stick motif above the ice surface along with the clean white and natural wood colours make it so unique and nicer than any other hockey arena I have seen.

It is clean and bright. There are so many windows and such beautiful natural light flowing in to all the public spaces.

The building presents so many new opportunities. The restaurant area is large and will allow for tables both inside and out. Other open spaces and crannies can become great gathering spots for residents.

The exercise space is a large bright multi-purpose room. Mirrors and bal-

let bars are not yet installed, but will make the room even more appealing. The gymnasium markings are already on the floor and will allow for a multitude of sports.

Foundations are in for both the wading pool and the L-shaped pool, which also includes a long ramp for accessibility. Though it is a standard length of 25-metre length, we all agreed that overall it looks much larger than the old pool.

Washrooms and showers are plentiful, large, and so clean-looking. There are even lockers, lots of them!! I know that is not unusual for sports facilities, but it's new to us!

In a nutshell, the new sports and recreation centre is big, bright and beautiful. I am sure it will be well-used by residents for generations to come. I think you are really going to enjoy and appreciate it.

Meet you there in 2026!

As I step down from Council, this will be my last Communiqué article. I would like to end by saying what an honour it has been to serve this community for 16 years. You have given me your trust and your support, and I thank you for that. You have also given me your ideas and your complaints. And I thank you for that, too. My main focus has always been to work hard and focus on those issues and priorities which you have identified. Working together for the betterment of all is what makes this small community so special, and why I love it so much. I wish the new Council the best of luck and will be around to assist if I can be of help. Signing off ....

**Colleen Feeney**, Councillor  
Finance, MADA, Recreation and Culture  
[cfeeney@montreal-west.ca](mailto:cfeeney@montreal-west.ca)





## TWO DECADES OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Over the 20 years I've served on Council, some of the accomplishments I'm most proud of have been in the environmental realm. The first among them is the founding of the Environmental Action Committee (EAC) in May, 2006. This council committee brought together passionate and inventive citizens to help nudge the Town towards sustainability. And it hasn't always been easy.

Back in 2006, encouraging people to recycle was still a challenge. Many residents didn't even want the bins. Composting was a fringe activity known only to avid gardeners. Lawns stayed green with regular pesticide use, and Meadowbrook was slated to become a huge housing development.

Since then, we've seen the effects of the climate emergency accelerate in frightening ways: 35+ degree heat-waves, massive rainstorms, foreign insect invasions and, most horrifyingly, out-of-control wildfires.

Here in MoWest, the EAC has been methodically doing its part, trying to stem the tide and encouraging others to join the effort. I'd like to take my last *Council Communiqué*, then, to thank those honourable citizens and highlight some of the things we've managed to put in place, such as:

### Waste management and consumption awareness

- Public recycling bins
- Door-to-door composting (a distant dream 20 years ago)
- Garbage pick up restrictions (incentivizing diversion to recycling and compost)

- Circular economy initiatives (i.e., clothing swap, free-for-all day, Town-wide garage sale)

### Health and Quality of Life

- Accelerated Town tree planting (my personal passion)
- Gas leaf blower ban and seasonal restrictions
- Wood burning restrictions
- Meadowbrook Park advocacy
- Pollinator and indigenous plant promotion
- Local organic CSA basket delivery

### Energy Efficiency

- A radiant heating in the Public Works garage
- Solar panels to heat the (previous) pool
- Sustainable heating and cooling systems for the new recreation centre and pool
- Hybrid Town vehicle purchases
- Communauto designated parking and Flex service

### Environmental Education

- EAC's monthly *Informer* column
- Regular workshops and speakers (on recycling, composting, biodiversity, energy efficiency, etc.)

### Where I fell short

While I'm extremely proud to have been a part of the many environmental initiatives that were adopted, there are some that are still in the pipeline or never got off the ground. For instance, MoWest is lacking a safe, identifiable bike network. Though we're surrounded by bike paths servicing most of the Island, the marked routes stop at our door. I haven't given up hope that this will be addressed in the next mandate. The EAC was working on an incentive program to encourage merchants' recycling and composting. It's a worthy idea that should be promoted in future. And I'd like to have seen a reduced reliance on road salt to keep our streets and sidewalks safe. Other municipalities have embraced partial alternatives, and it's worth considering them going forward.

All that to say, there's a lot more to do! And I encourage all MoWesters to join the action.

**Elizabeth Ulin**, *Councillor*  
Public Works, Environment and Communication  
[eulin@montreal-west.ca](mailto:eulin@montreal-west.ca)



## TIME TO SAY FAREWELL

As many of you may already know, I will not be seeking re-election in the coming municipal elections. It has been an incredible journey serving as your Town councillor for the past 12 years, and I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering support and trust.

Together, we have accomplished so much that fills me with pride. Whether it's witnessing the joyful laughter of children at the splash pad in Davies Park or seeing our furry friends play in the dog run, these moments remind me of the positive impact we've made. From planting countless trees to investing in crucial infrastructure improvements like our road networks and the new recreation centre, we have truly transformed our community. Yet, as we celebrate these

achievements, we must remember that our work is never done – communities are always evolving, and new challenges constantly arise.

To everyone who is stepping up to run in the next election, I salute your courage and dedication! I encourage all of you, the wonderful electorate, to warmly welcome them when they come knocking on your doors. This is a fantastic opportunity to share your thoughts, concerns and priorities

with those who may soon represent us on Council.

To my fellow council members and all the dedicated staff of our Town, it has been a genuine privilege to work alongside you. Thank you for this remarkable experience, I will certainly miss you all!

**Maria Torres**, *Councillor*  
Urban Planning  
[mtorres@montreal-west.ca](mailto:mtorres@montreal-west.ca)





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# communiqué du CONSEIL



## RAPPORT DU MAIRE

Nous en sommes au dernier *communiqué* de ce mandat. Je me dois de souligner les contributions de mes conseillères. J'ai eu la chance de travailler avec quatre conseillères extraordinaires au cours de ce mandat. Je ne crois pas avoir déjà vu un tel niveau de dévouement que celui démontré par ces quatre personnes.

Colleen, Elizabeth, Maria et Lauren. Merci infiniment pour vos contributions à l'amélioration de notre communauté.

Trois de nos élues ont décidé de ne pas se représenter. Ensemble, elles cumulent des décennies d'expérience au service et à l'amélioration de notre ville. À Colleen, Elizabeth et Maria, un gros merci pour vos nombreuses années de service. La Ville ne serait pas dans l'excellent état où elle se trouve sans vos efforts. À tout le moins, je sais que vous avez grandement facilité mon travail grâce à votre soutien.

Profitez de ce repos bien mérité. Je suis convaincu que vous continuerez à enrichir la vie de la ville à votre manière.

Avec tout mon respect et ma gratitude,

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



## REGARD EN ARRIÈRE

Alors que je termine mon mandat de quatre ans à la tête du porte-feuille de la Sécurité publique, je me rappelle la chanson « Seasons of Love » de la comédie musicale « Rent » : « Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes... how do you measure a year? »

En politique municipale, et particulièrement en matière de sécurité publique, le temps se mesure par l'impact généré, les liens tissés et l'attention portée à la communauté. Au cours de ces quatre années, j'ai travaillé aux côtés de professionnels dévoués et de citoyens passionnés pour rendre notre ville plus sûre et plus résiliente.

La sécurité publique repose souvent sur ce qui est invisible : des interventions rapides, de la prévention et une coordination discrète en coulisses. Nous avons relevé de nombreux défis, qu'il s'agisse de préoccupations émergentes en matière de sécurité ou de besoins changeants de la communauté, et nous les avons affrontés avec détermination, transparence et engagement. Chaque décision prise et chaque initiative mise en place, visait à garantir que les citoyens de Montréal-Ouest se sentent en sécurité. Merci au comité de Sécurité communautaire, le SPVM, CPKC, exo et la Sécurité publique de Montréal-

Ouest. Je tiens également à saluer l'engagement citoyens de nos représentants communautaires au sein de la CSEM, de l'académie Royal West, d'Elizabeth Ballantyne et d'Edinburgh.

Alors que mon mandat touche à sa fin, je ressens une profonde gratitude pour l'opportunité qui m'a été donnée de servir aux côtés de mes collègues du Conseil et des fonctionnaires municipaux dévoués. Même si le temps a filé, l'héritage de ces quatre années perdurera. Je suis reconnaissante pour chaque minute de ce parcours. Merci à ma famille et à Montréal-Ouest pour la confiance que vous m'avez accordée. Ce fut un privilège de servir et de protéger notre communauté si spéciale. À très bientôt sur le chemin de la campagne électorale!

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





## UN APERÇU DE L'INTÉRIEUR DU NOUVEAU BÂTIMENT

Au début du mois de septembre, j'ai eu la chance de jeter un premier coup d'œil à l'intérieur du nouveau centre, et ma première réaction était WOW! Voici quelques impressions.

Un espace impressionnant. Nous ne sommes pas habitués à voir une patinoire aux dimensions réglementaires dans notre ville. L'édifice offre aussi beaucoup plus d'espace pour le rangement, les installations mécaniques ainsi que l'ajout d'un gymnase et d'un restaurant.

L'architecture est magnifique. Le motif en forme de bâtons de hockey au-dessus de la patinoire, combiné aux teintes épurées de blanc et de bois naturel, confère au bâtiment un caractère unique et chaleureux, bien plus agréable que toutes les patinoires que j'ai visitées.

C'est lumineux. De grandes fenêtres laissent entrer une lumière naturelle qui inonde les espaces publics.

De nouvelles possibilités. La vaste zone du restaurant pourra accueillir des tables à l'intérieur comme à l'extérieur. D'autres espaces ouverts et des recoins deviendront d'excellents lieux de rassemblement pour les résidents.

La salle d'exercice est un grand espace polyvalent et lumineux. Les miroirs et les barres de ballet ne sont pas encore installés, mais ils rendront la pièce encore plus attrayante. Les lignes sont déjà tracées au sol du gymnase et permettront la pratique d'une multitude de sports.

Des installations aquatiques accueillantes. Les fondations sont posées pour la pataugeoire et la piscine en forme de L, dotée d'une rampe d'accès. Bien qu'il s'agisse d'une piscine standard de 25 mètres de long, nous avons tous convenu qu'elle semblait beaucoup plus grande que l'ancienne piscine.

Des commodités modernes. Les toilettes et douches sont nombreuses, spacieuses et très propres. On y trouve aussi une grande quantité de casiers. Je sais que ce n'est pas inhabituel pour les installations sportives, mais c'est nouveau pour nous !

En résumé, le nouveau centre est grand, lumineux et magnifique. Je suis convaincue qu'il sera beaucoup

utilisé par les résidents pendant des générations. Vous allez l'adorer!

On se retrouve là en 2026!

Alors que je quitte le Conseil, voici mon dernier Communiqué. Je tiens à conclure en disant à quel point ce fut un honneur de servir cette communauté pendant 16 ans. Vous m'avez accordé votre confiance et votre soutien, et je vous en remercie. Vous m'avez aussi partagé vos idées et vos doléances, et je vous en suis également reconnaissante. Mon objectif principal a toujours été de travailler avec acharnement sur les enjeux et priorités que vous avez identifiés. Travailler ensemble pour le bien commun est ce qui rend notre petite communauté si spéciale, et c'est aussi pourquoi je l'aime autant. Je souhaite au nouveau Conseil la meilleure des chances et resterai disponible pour aider si je peux être utile.

Je vous dis donc au revoir.

**Colleen Feeney**, *conseillère Finances, MADA et Loisirs et Culture*  
[cfeeney@montreal-ouest.ca](mailto:cfeeney@montreal-ouest.ca)



## IL EST TEMPS DE SE DIRE AU REVOIR

Comme beaucoup d'entre vous le savent déjà, je ne me représenterai pas aux prochaines élections municipales. Ces 12 dernières années passées à votre service en tant que conseillère municipale ont été une expérience incroyable, et je tiens à exprimer ma sincère gratitude à chacun d'entre vous pour votre soutien et votre confiance indéfectibles.

Ensemble, nous avons accompli tant de choses dont je suis profondément fière. Qu'il s'agisse des rires joyeux des enfants aux jeux du parc Davies ou de nos amis à quatre pattes jouant au parc canin, ces moments me rappellent l'impact positif que nous avons eu. De la plantation d'innombrables arbres à l'investissement dans des améliorations essentielles des infrastructures, comme notre réseau routier et le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif, nous avons véritablement transformé notre communauté. Cependant, alors que nous

célébrons ces réalisations, rappelons-nous que notre travail n'est jamais terminé : les communautés évoluent constamment et de nouveaux défis ne cessent d'émerger.

À tous ceux qui se présentent aux prochaines élections, je salue votre courage et votre dévouement! J'encourage chacun d'entre vous, chers électeurs, à leur réserver un accueil chaleureux lorsqu'ils viendront frapper à votre porte. C'est une occasion précieuse de partager vos réflexions, vos préoccupations et vos priorités

avec celles et ceux qui pourraient bientôt nous représenter au Conseil.

À mes collègues conseillers municipaux et à tout le personnel dévoué de notre ville, ce fut un véritable privilège de travailler à vos côtés. Merci pour cette expérience remarquable, vous allez tous me manquer !

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



## DEUX DÉCENNIES D'ACTION ENVIRONNEMENTALE



Au cours de mes 20 années au conseil municipal, certaines des réalisations dont je suis les plus fières touchent au domaine environnemental. La première d'entre elles fut la création du comité d'action environnementale (CAE) en mai 2006. Ce comité municipal a rassemblé des citoyens engagés et créatifs pour contribuer activement à l'orientation durable de la Ville. Le chemin n'a pas toujours été simple.

En 2006, encourager les gens à recycler représentait encore un défi. De nombreux habitants ne voulaient même pas de bacs à ordures. Le compostage demeurait une pratique marginale, connue surtout des jardiniers passionnés. Les pelouses restaient vertes grâce à l'utilisation régulière de pesticides, et Meadowbrook était pour devenir un immense lotissement.

Depuis, les effets de l'urgence climatique se sont accélérés de manière inquiétante : vagues de chaleur dépassant les 35 degrés, tempêtes de pluie massives, invasions d'insectes exotiques et, plus effrayant encore, incendies de forêt incontrôlables.

Ici, à Montréal-Ouest, le CAE a méthodiquement fait sa part, en tentant de contenir la vague et en incitant d'autres à se joindre à l'effort. Je souhaite donc profiter de mon dernier communiqué pour remercier ces citoyens engagés et mettre en lumière certaines mesures que nous avons réussi à mettre en place, parmi lesquelles :

### Gestion des déchets et consommation responsable

- Bacs de recyclage publics
- Collecte de compost (un rêve lointain il y a 20 ans)
- Restrictions des collectes d'ordures (incitant au recyclage et au compostage)
- Initiatives d'économie circulaire (échange de vêtements, journée gratuite pour tous, journée de vente de garage)

### Santé et qualité de vie

- Accélération de la plantation d'arbres dans la ville (ma passion personnelle)
- Interdiction des souffleuses à feuilles à essence et restrictions saisonnières
- Restrictions sur le chauffage au bois
- Mobilisation en faveur du parc Meadowbrook

- Protection des pollinisateurs et promotion des plantes indigènes
- Livraison locale de paniers bio (ASC)

### Efficacité énergétique

- Chauffage radiant dans le garage des travaux publics
- Panneaux solaires pour chauffer (l'ancienne) piscine
- Systèmes de chauffage et de climatisation durables pour le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif et la piscine
- Achat de véhicules hybrides pour la Ville
- Stationnement réservé pour Communauto et service Flex

### Éducation à l'environnement

- Chronique mensuelle du CAE dans *The Informer*
- Conférences et ateliers réguliers (recyclage, compostage, biodiversité, efficacité énergétique, etc.)

core en cours de réalisation ou n'ont jamais vu le jour. Montréal-Ouest manque toujours d'un réseau cyclable sécuritaire et identifiable. Bien que nous soyons entourés de pistes cyclables desservant la majeure partie de l'île, les sentiers balisés s'arrêtent à nos portes. J'ai bon espoir que ce dossier soit repris au prochain mandat.

Le comité avait également amorcé un programme d'incitation visant à encourager les commerçants à recycler et à composter. Il s'agit d'une idée prometteuse qui mérite d'être approfondie. J'aurais aussi souhaité réduire l'utilisation du sel de voirie. Certaines municipalités ont déjà adopté des alternatives partielles, ce qui représente une piste intéressante à explorer.

Bref, il reste encore beaucoup à accomplir ! J'encourage tous les habitants de Montréal-Ouest à poursuivre l'action.

### Mes lacunes

Bien que je sois extrêmement fière d'avoir contribué aux nombreuses initiatives environnementales qui ont été adoptées, certaines restent en-

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



Maria Torres, Beny Masella, Elizabeth Ulin, Chris Kearney, Paula Cordeau, Marian Scully, Colleen Feeney, Lauren Small-Pennefather et Raffaella Di Stasio visitent le nouveau centre sportif

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