

THE INFORMER

Montreal West Newspaper

February 2026, Vol. 54, No. 1

Long time *Informer* writer retires

by Trish Hewat

Maurice Krystal's name has been on the front page of *The Informer* for a couple of decades. He has written the lead story for 21 years now and feels it's time to retire.

So here I am at his door to turn the tables on him. In this setting he is not the interviewer, he is the interviewee.

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Boomi Fruits et Légumes

Continuing the Quality Fruit Bowl tradition

by Trish Hewat
and Maurice Krystal

Mrs. Yoo's store was always a bit more expensive, but the cleanliness, quality of the produce and personal, friendly contact made a trip to The Fruit Bowl worth it. And now a new era begins for one of the longest-established businesses on Westminister as it transitions to a new name as well as new ownership.

We walked in on the very last day of September and looked around. Much has changed but the cleanliness is still evident. New refrigeration equipment and more shelving create the illusion that the store is larger. We met the new proprietor, **Rajan Boomi**, and went to a nearby coffee shop to talk.

Born in Sri Lanka, he came to Montreal when he was 18. His country was experiencing a long and devastating civil war and he had an uncle living in Montreal. He found employment at the fruit store where his uncle was working. He began by unpacking and displaying produce. He contin-



Rajan Boomi is the new owner of Boomi Fruits et Légumes

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Long time *Informer* writer retires

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I wonder how it would feel to sit on the other side of the table answering the questions instead of asking them.

The entranceway to the Krystal home leads into an open concept living/dining room with a wall-to-wall picture window that frames a view of the golf course beyond the backyard with its charcoal-coloured, leafless trees throwing shadows on the pristine whiteness of the snow. The walls of the rooms are covered in oil paintings hung side by side and one above the other giving the room an airy art gallery feel.

I ask about the paintings. I know Maurice paints. He's shared email photos of some of his paintings with us former members of the writers' group, a group he led for ten years and whose members still keep in touch. And these pictures seem in his style, a modernistic post-impressionist one that combines freedom of brushwork with a stylistic restraint.

"Are these yours?" I ask him.

He nods and I step in for a closer look. It's an impressive collection. The paintings are good, as good as any I've seen on art gallery walls. He points to a couple in a slightly more traditional style. Those, he says, are his father's. Is there a painting gene in the DNA?

We sit down at the dining room table and I ask how he got started writing for *The Informer*.

"Well" he said, "I was a high school teacher, I was planning to retire in a couple of years, and I was looking ahead for things to fill this new free time I'd have. A neighbour had written a couple of things for the

paper and asked if I'd like to do some writing. I tried it out and the writing came easily. I found it interesting to meet people and find out about them and what they do, what motivates them, what matters to them. It was like seeing what was going on behind the scenes. And deep down I was always reserved," he added. "The interviewing got me out of my shell."

He remembers his first interview well. He was interviewing an artist. She had a display of her paintings to show him and, as a fellow artist, he loved their style. There were other memorable interviews. One was with a retired chemical engineer whose company had transferred him to Germany in the 1930s when a new leader, Adolf Hitler, had just come to power.

"This man had met Hitler," Maurice said. "And that sent shivers down my spine. Being Jewish and losing much of my extended family in the Holocaust, I was taken aback. But at the same time, I thought to myself that this man had been in the "eye" of history, and now it felt like that bit of history was intruding into the present tense."

There was another interview that stood out in his memory. It was with a professor from McGill, a biochemist, whose area of research was how to get vitamins into milk. The actual chemistry behind the process was complex and that posed a difficulty in communicating it to readers who are not versed in science. Maurice vetted his written article with the scientist for accuracy. It was returned five times with notes for corrections. Finally, the scientist's wife took him aside on that last visit and, with a sage look, told him not to worry, just go ahead and print the story.

Over the years, Maurice has written on everything from new businesses taking root in the Town to showcasing the work of local

writers and artists to the long-term push and pull by residents for the construction of a seniors' residence. He remembers interviewing a woman whose husband was in a wheelchair. She'd had ramps and elevators put in her house, at great expense, but the time had come when her husband needed more care.

"She was heartbroken about having to leave Montreal West, to leave all her friends and neighbours, and the neighbourhood that was her home, as there was no seniors' residence to accommodate them here," Maurice said. Her plight touched him.

Whenever he conducted an interview, he wanted the people he was speaking with to feel comfortable, for it to be more like a conversation, so they could talk about what mattered to them. At first, he used a tape recorder but somehow that didn't feel right so he just let people talk and took notes.

Maurice pointed out that a common thread has connected his work in Montreal West – whether writing for the paper, helping with Scouts or leading a MoWest writers' group – it's all been on a volunteer basis. "And that's part of the reason I'm doing this interview, to say that I think it's important to volunteer, to give back to your community."

For Maurice it all started with the Scouts. When his kids were young, he volunteered to go on a Scouts camping trip with them. Scouts welcomed having parents along. He didn't know anything about camping, so the kids had to teach him. From there he moved on to the annual Scouts' Fertilizer Drive and ended up meeting a lot of people in the Town.

"And then one thing leads to another. You volunteer for one thing and find yourself involved in other things as well, like writing for *The Informer*," he smiled. "It's been a good ride."



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

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NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE
DATE LIMITE DU PROCHAIN
NUMÉRO

February 11 février

The new sports and recreation centre begins phased opening

The Town is thrilled to announce the partial opening of its new sports and recreation centre, effective January 26, with every effort made to open the rink as early as possible, allowing residents and visitors to enjoy part of the winter season at their local facility.

As is typical with large construction projects, the new facility will open to the public in phases to ensure a smooth and safe launch of its operations. As part of the first phase, the skating rink, locker rooms, spectator stands and washrooms will be accessible to participants in the evenings and on weekends. The building will remain closed to the public during the day while the contractor completes final adjustments in other areas of the facility.

Public skating will begin on January 31 and will take place on both Saturdays and Sundays. The public skating schedule can be found on the Town's website.

Mayor **Jonathan Cha** noted that "With this sports and recreation centre, Montreal West now has a major facility that we can be proud of. This contemporary, spacious and bright building is an investment in the future of the community that will benefit all residents. The commitment and financial support of the community were crucial in making this project a reality. I warmly thank all those who contributed to the completion of this project and welcome you to your new sports and recreation centre."

Councillor **Bergeron**, who is responsible

for Sustainable Mobility and Sports, added "The opening of the centre is an exciting new chapter for the Town. I can't wait for everyone in our community to experience the new facility. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this achievement; the previous Council, Mayor **Masella** and Councillors **Ulin, Feeney, Torres and Pennefather**, the volunteers of the fundraising campaign, the many donors, employees, residents and non-residents who help get this project completed. This generation and future generations will enjoy this wonderful facility, thank you again."

Full opening in the spring

The full opening of the sports and recreation centre is planned for the spring. Additional details on programming, schedules, and opening events will be shared in the coming weeks.

The Steve and Rob Michelin ice rink visited by Councillors Philippe Bergeron, Lauren Small-Pennefather, Nick Tassé, Mayor Jonathan Cha, Councillor Martha Slocombe



Le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif ouvre graduellement ses portes

La Ville est ravie d'annoncer l'ouverture partielle de son nouveau centre sportif et récréatif à compter du 26 janvier. La Ville a déployé des efforts importants pour ouvrir la patinoire le plus rapidement possible, permettant ainsi aux citoyens et visiteurs de profiter d'une demi-saison de patinage à la patinoire municipale.

Comme c'est courant pour les grands projets de construction, le centre ouvrira ses portes au public par phases afin d'assurer un lancement fluide et sécuritaire. Lors de la première phase, la patinoire, les vestiaires, les gradins et les toilettes seront accessibles aux usagers en soirée et la fin de semaine. Le bâtiment restera fermé au public durant la journée, alors que l'entrepreneur effectue les derniers ajustements dans les autres espaces du centre.

Le patinage libre débutera le 31 janvier et sera offert les samedis et dimanches. L'horaire est publié sur le site web de la Ville et sera mis à jour au fil de la saison.

Le maire **Jonathan Cha** a fait remarquer que « Avec le centre sportif et récréatif, Montréal-Ouest se dote d'un équipement d'envergure dont nous pouvons être fiers. Cet édifice à l'architecture contemporaine, spacieuse et lumineuse est un investissement pour l'avenir de la communauté qui bénéficiera à l'ensemble des résidents. L'engagement et l'appui financier de la population auront été déterminants pour que ce projet devienne réalité. Je remercie chaleureusement tous les intervenants ayant contribué à la réalisation ce projet et vous souhaite la bienvenue dans votre nouveau centre sportif et récréatif ».

Le conseiller **Bergeron**, responsable de la mobilité durable et des sports, a ajouté : « L'ouverture du centre récréatif marque le début d'un nouveau chapitre passionnant pour la ville. J'ai hâte que tous les membres de notre communauté puissent profiter de nos nouvelles installations. Merci à tous ceux qui ont contribué à cette réalisation : l'ancien conseil municipal, le maire **Masella** et les conseillères **Ulin, Feeney, Torres et Pennefather**, les bénévoles de la campagne de financement, les nombreux donateurs, les employés, les résidents et les non-résidents qui ont aidé à mener à bout ce projet. La génération actuelle et futures pourront profiter de ces magnifiques installations. Merci encore ».

Ouverture complète au printemps

L'ouverture complète du centre est prévue au printemps. De plus amples détails concernant la programmation, les horaires et les activités d'ouverture seront communiqués au cours des prochaines semaines.

Boomi Fruits et Légumes

continued from page 1

ued learning the trade at various fruit stores in NDG, CSL and MoWest.

After close to two decades, Rajan decided it was time for a change and took a job at the *Royal Alfa* warehouse at Marché Central. He had an ambition to become a middleman, a businessman in his own right, distributing products from the market to stores. So after work he started going store to store to find potential clients and meet local farmers to supply him with produce. One by one, he found customers and gradually built up a clientele that allowed him to have a profitable business as a distributor.

“You have to know your customers,” he told us. “You have to know the quality of the various stores and provide products that meet that quality, that price point. Then you have satisfied customers.”

We asked Rajan why he chose to craft a career in the fruit and veggie business instead of branching out into another field. He

told us his father was a farmer in Sri Lanka so it came naturally. He grew up around crops. Sri Lanka has a strong agricultural sector, growing a variety of fruits and vegetables, many of which are for export.

And he prides himself on knowing good produce when he sees it and getting it onto his customers’ shelves. That requires rising early and getting to the market for its opening time of five in the morning. That’s when the farmers are there and as they say “the early bird gets...” well in this case, it’s the pick of the crop.

But his ambition went beyond being a middleman. In the back of his mind there was always the desire to purchase a good quality fruit store of his own. Over the years he would occasionally ask **Mrs. Yoo** if she was willing to sell to him. He liked Mrs. Yoo’s store. She had high standards and a well-run, customer-oriented business in a friendly neighbourhood. It checked all his boxes.

Now, as the new owner of *Quality Fruit Bowl*, Rajan is a busy man. He is running

the fruit store and continues his distribution business. His brother-in-law, **Kitty**, helps him out, giving him a hand running the store when he is busy with the distribution side of things. With both of these on the go, he has little time for much of anything else. He spends his limited free time with his family, his wife **Shalini** and two boys **Miruenhu**, 12 years old, and **Agshinth**, aged 7. He does admit to watching the odd soccer game when time permits and he is a fan of cricket, which he played as a child.

We asked him if his ambition stretched to buying up more fruit stores but he said no, this is what he wanted: a good store, in a good neighbourhood. In fact he likes the neighbourhood so much he’s hoping to move his family here in the near future. “It’s a great place to live and to raise kids. People are kind here.”

Boomi Fruits et Légumes
Monday-Friday 7 am-9 pm
Saturday & Sunday 8 am-8 pm
514-481-4411

ART ETC. 2025

ART etc. 2025 once again ushered in the holiday season with the annual artisan show in November. We were so fortunate to have a big contingent of MoWest artisans with us this year.

For anyone new to Town or new to the show, please come and visit us next November. An invitation will be sent with *The Informer* in the fall. *ART etc.* is a juried artisanal show, which means that any artisan who

wishes to join must participate in our jury process. The committee is always looking for a wide variety of different disciplines all done to a high standard. This year we had fine art painting and photography, pottery, candles, woodworking, soaps and bath products, preserves, chocolates and baking, children’s items, scarves, knitting, hats, stained glass, a variety of different jewelers, clothing and home accessories.

The *ART etc.* committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following people: **Paula Cordeau** (without whom we would not have a show), the Town Hall caretaking staff: **Patrice Giroux** and **Antoine Shousha** (who were extremely helpful, as always!), **Poppy Baktis**, our amazing floor manager, as well as **Barbara Harrold-Wells** and **Lynn Crawford**, who helped staff the door prize table and generally assist the floor manager. We greatly appreciate and thank **Chris Birecki** who graciously allowed our artisans to park in the lot by his garage. Three cheers and enormous thanks to **Chris Hagemeyer** who gave us the gift of music this year; it made such a difference and we are so grateful for his expertise. A very special thank you to the *Montreal West Public Library* for presenting their Brown Paper Bag Lunch on Saturday, which was extremely successful. It is always wonderful to have luncheon options for all on both days of the show. We would also like to say another very special thank you to the *Children’s Library* committee who organized the Sunday Café which is always greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all.

To the families and individuals from MoWest who make our show an annual event in their



lives: thank you! All our artisans comment on how lovely our show is and how wonderful the visitors are; very interested in each artisan’s process and talent.

Any MoWest artisan who is interested in participating in the November 2026 show, please send us an email at artetcmontrealwest@gmail.com by late January so we can give you all the details about the jury process.

It is all the events like these which involve residents, groups and organizations that make living in a town like Montreal West so special. We look forward to welcoming you next November, which will be our 40th anniversary!

Cate Gregory
ART etc. Committee



Rotary

This year's *Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG's* Christmas party, held Friday, December 12, was an uplifting and festive finish to a very successful 2025 for our club. Following a delectable buffet dinner accompanied with live holiday music, pianist **Robin Chemtov** went on to lead Rotarians and Rotary friends through multiple choruses of our favourite Christmas songs and seasonal selections.

Mayor **Jonathan Cha** (pictured with club President **Semiha Sengunay**) was on hand to join in the fun as we celebrated our 86th year of existence pursuing Rotary's goals of bringing about positive change in our local and global communities.

We also honoured long-standing Rotarian (48 years of service) **Dr. Nii Quao**, whose generosity and engagement in our



Dr. Nii Quao, 48 years of Rotary service

Rotary Club President Semiha Sengunay at the Christmas party with Mayor Cha



club and community are legendary and whose 85th birthday coincided with our event. We sang Happy Birthday to Dr. Nii in 11 different languages representing the native tongues of our diverse membership.

The *Rotary Club of MoWest and NDG* is also delighted to announce that our club recently received a bequest in the amount of \$92K from the estate of the late **Habib Khoury**. We are grateful to this generous benefactor and are currently exploring ways in which this money may be put to good use. Future initiatives under consideration include: a children's playground, an accessibility ramp or a meeting place for vulnerable women. Projects already in place consist of ongoing support for the creation of jobs for women in the area of Türkiye that was devastated by the 2023 earthquake and a commitment to sponsor benches at the new Steve and Rob Michelin ice rink along with a Rotary Peace Pole.

Doreen Solin

IODE

Spring initiatives



We usually dedicate January to preparing our annual reports, which we later compile into a year-book and release in June.

Now, we are focusing on a variety of engaging spring initiatives. While we continue to finalize details, we plan to host a lively chili cook-off, participate in the MoWest Garage Sale, welcome dynamic guest speakers and build stronger relationships with community organizations such as the MW Public Library. Stay tuned for further updates and opportunities to get involved!

With the transition to the new sports and recreation centre on the horizon, we'd like to express our profound gratitude to all who have enabled us to hold our monthly meetings at the Community Centre for many years. We are MOST appreciative of your support and hope that your new facility is a joy-filled chapter in the evolution of the Recreation team at the Town of MoWest.

Did you know?

We support the professional development of our nurses here in Montreal through the IODE Bursaries to Nurses Program. For the 2024/2025 period, **Nadine Allard**, a Pediatric Nurse Clinician in the Complex Care Department at the Montreal Children's Hospital, was awarded this bursary to support her professional development. Specifically, the funding allowed her to attend the International Pediatric Intestinal Failure and Rehabilitation Symposium (PIFRS) in Pittsburgh. The bursary Nadine received is part of a long-standing program, Bursaries to Nurses at the Montreal Children's Hospital. Here are the key details about this specific opportunity:

Purpose: The bursary provides deserving nurses at the Montreal Children's Hospital with financial assistance to attend educational conferences, helping them bring advanced clinical knowledge back to their practice and benefit the children in their care.

History: The IODE Provincial Chapter of Quebec established the program, and IODE Canada has managed it nationally since 2002.

Recent recipients: 2024/2025: Nadine Allard, 2023/2024: **Andree-Anne Matte** and 2022/2023: **Julie Brouillard**

Our meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month at the John A. Simms Community Centre, beginning at 1 pm. We invite you to attend, connect with our members and see how your unique skills can contribute to our vibrant group.

For further information, please get in touch with us at iodehmsvictory@gmail.com.



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Edinburgh School



Holiday concert and BeaverTails

December was a joyful and festive month at Edinburgh Elementary School as students, staff and families came together to celebrate the season. The winter holiday concert filled the school with music, smiles and plenty of proud moments, while a special staff luncheon offered a chance to thank our dedicated team for everything they do. Students enjoyed a number of special moments throughout the month, including a cozy movie day and our second multi-grade team-building activity, which was a huge success and a wonderful way for students across grades to connect. A surprise BeaverTails truck in the schoolyard added an extra dose of excitement, and the month wrapped up in the coziest way possible with a school-wide pyjama day on the last day before the winter break, sending everyone off into the holidays feeling warm, happy and connected.

Alexandra Kelebay



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Elizabeth Ballantyne



Kindergarten: a foundation for learning and play

The K4 and K5 programs at Elizabeth Ballantyne School are built on the belief that young children learn best through play. Classrooms encourage hands-on exploration that nurtures curiosity, strengthens fine motor skills, language development and early thinking skills. Children are guided to explore, create and discover in a safe, supportive environment.

The program emphasizes physical and motor development, helping children build coordination and confidence through movement. Equally important is our social and emotional learning program (SEL), where children learn to manage emotions, cooperate with others and form positive relationships.

One of our parents, **Tamar**

Dahan Zahler, shares the impact of the program: "My daughter attends the K4 program and it has been a wonderful choice for our family. The program supports her strengths and builds her confidence both academically and emotionally. She often shares at home what she has learned, and I can clearly see her progress in recognizing the ABCs, understanding letter sounds and writing her letters neatly. Beyond academics, the program nurtures curiosity, independence and a genuine love of learning. We are very happy with our decision."

For information regarding registration, please call the school office at **484-1006**.

Kate Marien

West End Quilters

Happy New Year!

Our first meeting of 2026 was held on Zoom. There were 19 members in attendance, all happy to see each other, even if only online. The Zoom meetings will continue through February.

We met **Suzanne**, a new member, and there was much chit-chat and even some cats joined in.

Randi gave us a tour of her sewing room. In her case, it is rooms as she expanded her working space when one of her daughters moved out. This gave her the room for a long-arm machine. Longarm quilting is the

process by which a longarm sewing machine is used to sew together a quilt top, batting and backing into a finished quilt. The machine moves over the quilt on rails at least 6 feet long, so a large space is needed.

Our next meeting is all about markers used in quilting. There are erasable, disappearing and washable markers used for sewing and quilting lines and permanent markers, paints and pens for embellishing, colouring and labels. There are many marking tools out there, but which ones are our favourites?

from Mary Sutherland

A Courtepointe Quebec mystery quilt, started in 2022 and finally finished by Mary






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An amazing 90 years in Montreal West!



January 1, I had the pleasure of being invited to the 90th birthday party for my friend and neighbour, **Ruth Darling**.

The party was abuzz with friends of all ages whom Ruth had met through her wide range of activities. Following her over 60-year career as a physiotherapist, Ruth has remained just as busy in retirement. She is a very active member of her church, plays bridge regularly, loves travel and enjoys attending performances of the opera and symphony. As a “foodie,” you may even run into her shopping for some specialty item at the Atwater Market. Many would call her a superager!

What is most unique about Ruth, however, is that she has lived in Montreal West her entire 90 years. I doubt if we have anyone else in town who can beat that record! Ruth remembers minute details of her childhood. She can rhyme off the names of more mayors than I ever knew and will tell you who lived in any house on the streets where she has lived. She also recalls when the snow was plowed by horse and buggy!

Old friend **Ann Kelly** wrote in Ruth’s memory book: “Ruth and I have known each other since I was five.... **Judy** and **Nancy Buzzell** are of the same

vintage. **Twinkie Crosby** also lived on Fenwick. We had such fun on Fenwick Avenue. It was a great place to grow up. All the children knew each other and we played together outside – girls and boys – old-fashioned games like Hide & Go Seek, Tap the Icebox, Run Sheep Run and Kick the Can. We climbed trees. We played outside till the streetlights came on, the signal to go inside. I do not think anyone locked their door at that time.... We were so lucky to have the childhood we did”.

Ruth adds that she tobogganed and skied down Cabbage Hill (Avon at Easton), Mills Hill (just off Brock South), John Brown Hill (beside John Brown’s house) and Devil’s Hill – we all know that one!

Ruth shared some photographs from her days growing up on Fenwick which I thought readers would enjoy. You will note how few houses there were in that area circa 1940.

Happy Birthday, Ruth, and many more. I will be back to hear more of your Montreal West stories. Like the one where J.J. Kirkpatrick, Mayor of Montreal West (aka Gramp), shot a robber at the Royal Bank on Westminster.

from Colleen Feeney

Ruth celebrating her 90th birthday; (below) snowbanks in front of J.J. Kirkpatrick’s house on Easton, bicycling on Easton and sailing boats in Strathearn Park



CRA



Basketball class (ages 7-9) with coach David Steiner; Coach Camille with Sportball; superhero day at gymnastics

Winter programming in full swing

It is shaping up to be one of the most exciting seasons yet for Montreal West sports.

Indoor soccer

Indoor soccer continues to be one of the most popular programs and is nearly full. Players ranging in age from 5 to 21+ are enjoying staying active indoors at RWA, developing skills, building teamwork and keeping the game going throughout the winter months.

The indoor format allows players of all levels to stay engaged, improve technical skills and enjoy fast-paced and energetic games.

Gymnastics

The gymnastics program is also close to capacity, with participants enthusiastically moving through circuits designed to build strength, balance and coordination.

Children are learning cartwheels, gym stops, balancing techniques and tuck jumps, all while making friends in a fun setting. This session has a great group filled with energy and tons of smiles.

Sportball program

In January, the Sportball program launched with a free drop-in session on January 14, giving families the opportunity to try the program before committing.

Led by Coach **Camille**, each week, Sportball introduces children to a different sport such as soccer, baseball, golf and more helping them develop basic movement

skills while discovering what sports they enjoy most.

Basketball

Basketball remains one of the most popular programs, with classes running out of RWA for players aged 7 to 21+.

New this session is the 15- to 20-year-old program, offering older youth a chance to come out, play and compete all under the supervision of our Basketball Director **David Steiner**. It runs Wednesday evenings starting at 8:30 pm.

The Knights come home!

Perhaps the most anticipated moment of the winter season arrived on January 26, when the Knights came home and we officially began at the Steve and Rob Michelin ice rink. After nearly three years of playing all home and away games on the road, the MWH Knights are thrilled to finally have a rink to call home.

From January 26 through the end of the regular season, MWH hockey has more than 95 games scheduled at the new arena before playoffs begin. It will be an exciting and very busy time at the rink, filled with energy, competition and a strong sense of community. The Knights' first official home game will be against longtime neighbours CSL. Go Knights Go!

While there are plans in place to properly celebrate the opening of the rink for our MWH Knights' families, the immediate priority is ensuring that all scheduled games are played and the season is completed suc-

cessfully. Once the building is fully operational, the association looks forward to celebrating this long-awaited milestone and welcoming the Knights community back home.

Learn to Skate

Finally, the popular Learn to Skate program is back, running on Sundays and Wednesdays, with registration still open. This foundational program continues to be a pathway for young skaters beginning their journey on the ice.

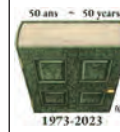
With packed programs, a long-awaited return home, and a community eager to be active, this winter promises to be an exciting season for MoWest sports, and we look forward to the months and seasons ahead.



Montreal West Public Library



Some of the volunteers who prepared and served the first prize winner of our annual raffle: L to R Sharon Rozen, Kathy Minorgan and Merle McPhail



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OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday:
noon-6 pm

Our fundraising events also played an important role, raising over \$7,500 while bringing people together in support of the library. Beyond the funds raised, these events strengthened community connections and helped introduce new people to everything the library has to offer.

In addition, our Flexible Spaces campaign, combined with support from community partners, will allow us to continue modernizing our existing space. These improvements help ensure that the library remains adaptable, welcoming, and better suited to a wide range of activities – from quiet reading to collaborative programs and events.

We were also fortunate to receive over \$23,000 in community grant support this year. These grants allow us to bring in expertise from outside our community and to expand our programming, offering new workshops, talks and creative experiences that would not otherwise be possible. We have received grants from *Canada Summer Jobs*, the *Grace Dart Foundation*, *New Hope*, our MNA and other small granting institutions.

One exciting example of this expanded programming is the ongoing crafting project supported by *Concordia University* and the *Grace Dart Foundation* that brings together creativity and technology. Working with **T Braun**, a professional artist, participants create physical craft pieces that are then transformed into a shared virtual world, extending the life of their creations and introducing new ways of storytelling and expression.

Together, these combined efforts represent more than \$53,000 in direct fundraising support and program investment for the library this year – a remarkable reflection of how much this community values its library.

We are deeply grateful to our donors, partners, volunteers and supporters. Your generosity helps ensure that the library continues to grow, adapt, and serve our community in meaningful ways.

from Deb Marcogliese

2025 – a year of generosity

This past year has been an exceptional one for our library, made possible by the generosity of our community, the success of our fundraising efforts and the support of valued partners.

Thanks to individual donations, we received just over \$23,000 from community members who believe deeply in the importance of a strong, welcoming public library. These gifts – large and small – continue to

be the foundation of our work.

Our most successful effort this year was our Six Days Open campaign. Thanks to the incredible response from our community, the library is now able to remain open six days a week, Monday through Saturday, from noon to 6 pm. This schedule makes the library more accessible and ensures that more residents can take advantage of our space, services and programs.

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Ozobot coding class

The Ozobot Evo is a tiny, pocket-sized programmable robot for kids as young as 5 years old. It teaches coding through drawing lines and using block-based coding on an app. It follows colour codes – like black, red, green markers – and can be programmed to move, react and even communicate emotions with friends, offering a fun, engaging introduction to computational thinking. If you wish for your child to be introduced to the concept of visual programming, you can register for this event taking place Saturday, February 7, 11 am.

Author event: Joanne Levy

We first met Canadian children's author **Joanne Levy** last year, when she

February
15

visited our library for a presentation with the Elizabeth Ballantyne school students.

She is coming back this year to meet with children from our community who plan to participate in the *Bill Foster Writing Contest* and those who love writing and wish to learn how to start the process. Join us at the library to see the virtual presentation of Joanne Levy Sunday, February 15, 11 am. You will be introduced to writing techniques, tips on how to put your ideas on paper and other secrets only a renowned author can share. If you have not read Joanne Levy's books, you may consider borrowing some titles from our library.



Bill Foster Writing Contest

The annual *Bill Foster Writing Contest* will challenge young writers to think and write about friendship.

Starting February 15, you can pick up an envelope from the library in which to submit your short story, poem, graphic story, or illustrated text. Children can either write by hand or type the story. The jury will select three winning texts in two categories: 6 to 8 years and 9 to 12 years.



Welcome to Ella Knitter to our team! You will be able to see her more often at the library. She is replacing Maya Amato on Sundays.

Entries in English or French are accepted. April 2 is the last day for submissions. More information will be provided at the library.

Lunar New Year

We are collaborating with *Peek-a-Boo Activity Center* to bring to you a multimedia art activity on the occasion of the Lunar New Year. According to the lunar calendar, 2026 is the

year of the horse. The artists from *Peek-a-Boo* will make sure – as always – that your project uses a multitude of art supplies to accomplish your project. Join them Saturday, February 14, 11 am.

On our website, you will find information on the programs that we run at the library: Scratch Club, Dungeons & Dragons, Manga drawing and Lego Club. Contact us for registration if any of these are of interest.

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Montreal West Scouts

Cubs

The Cubs had a great time in the fall and are looking forward to more adventures in 2026.

We were all excited to see each other in September as classes began and we started preparing for a weekend of camping at Lake Lovering in Magog. Plans were made and the Cubs had a great time at camp: singing at the campfire, going on a night hike and learning about celestial navigation. They also got to make their own dinners on Saturday night giving them the opportunity to explore new flavours and skills. They had a lashing competition and enjoyed it so much that they spent a lot of time creating a well-built structure with their new lashing skills. Sunday concluded with a hike to Big Rock where everyone practised their rock-climbing techniques.

Our activities continued with a visit from a member of Canadian Armed Forces for Remembrance Day to explain his duties and equipment as a soldier and reinforce the reason for the observance and respect of November 11. The Cubs were thrilled to try on his helmet and they enjoyed trying to pick up his 60-pound backpack.

Our last big activity of the year was a Christmas card creation campaign where all the Cubs prepared Christmas cards which we distributed when we went to *Saint Andrew Residence* a couple of days before Christmas to sing carols, provide tasty treats and distribute the cards they had created. The residents were very happy to have the joyous activity so close to the holidays.

To finish off the year we celebrated with a little party where we planned for the coming season; played a lot of fun games and had refreshments kindly provided by the parents.

Beavers



Before the holidays, the Colony was busy on a STEM project learning about our senses. They explored Hearing, Sight, Smell, Taste and Touch. As a special treat, one of the parents, **M. Frenette**, a chemistry Professor at UQAM, came to visit with all sorts of exciting experiments to razzle-dazzle the beavers and parents.

We finished the year with a bowling night with friends and family. The Colony has started 2026 with a focus on winter outdoor skills including snowshoeing, tobogganing, healthy snacks, how to dress for the cold and safety in the cold. We are looking forward to winter camp in February.

by Rainbow (Karen Johnstone)

Cubs with soldier



Cubs Ben and Jex building a shelter



Venturer Rosa bouldering

We are looking forward to an active 2026 with our annual Kub Kar rally, winter camp in the Ste. Agathe area, a games night, a spring trip and many other fun activities.

by Darzee (Lee-Ann Simpson)

Venturers

The Venturers ended 2025 with a group bowling evening, followed by a “bouldering” activity where Venturers challenged themselves with some fun climbing problems at *Café Bloc*.

The 2026 season began with a hockey evening. After shoveling off the rink, they played pickup hockey and really showed us (Rovers / Leaders) just how out of shape we are! We look forward to winter camp with some great activities planned!

by Scouter Jonathan Halliday

Montreal West Guiding



Cookie Sleuths and making playdough



Lots of activity in local Guiding!

The young ladies in the MoWest Guiding units have been busy since the last article was published.

Sparks and Embers

The Sparks and Embers had some forensic fun while they worked toward the C.S.I. Challenge. The girls learned the uniqueness of fingerprints. They studied their own and each other's. The meetings culminated in the girls' solving the mystery of who had taken the Girl Guide cookies. They studied the crime scene and took notes. After comparing fingerprints, bite marks and handwriting analysis of the note left at the scene, each of the detectives was ready to make an accusation. The girls were right in their theories. As it turned out, the cookies were not actually taken, but they were put away for safekeeping. Everyone had an opportunity to enjoy a cookie at the end of the meeting.

The last meeting for the younger branches was a talent show. **Sunflower** was our mistress of ceremonies. She did an excellent job introducing all the performers. We had excellent performances ranging from magic shows, karate demonstrations, singing, piano recital, tambourine and trumpet.

Teddy bear health clinic and tea party

The first meeting of 2026 was celebrated with a teddy bear health clinic and tea party. The health clinic was run by Sunflower RN (retired) and Dr. Unicorn. The girls learned some basic first aid, like how to properly apply bandages and stop nose bleeds. The second half of the meeting was a tea party with our furry friends. The table was set with a linen table cloth and fine china. The girls enjoyed the pampering!

All three units are continuing to work toward the Camp Peaceful Waters 100 Challenge. One aspect of the challenge is to sing 100 different Girl Guide songs before the end of the Guiding year. It's quite an impressive undertaking. Stay tuned to see how we do!

Sleepover

Toward the end of November, the Montreal West Guide unit enjoyed joining forces with the NDG Guide unit for a sleepover at the NDG meeting space. The girls learned to pitch tents. They played games from the past 100 years. They enjoyed preparing food together and a sunrise hike Saturday morning.

The Guides enjoyed a board game and pyjama-themed meeting in December. The girls had fun playing different games their friends had brought. The first meeting of 2026 saw the girls enjoying the traditional Game of Life, where the girls are the game pieces and the meeting space is the game board. The girls brought friends to enjoy the fun. There was much laughter that night!

Half price Guiding

Guiding membership is now half price for new members for the remainder of this Guiding year. Our weekly meetings will wrap up by June.

Camping schedule available

The schedule is now available for the summer camp session at Camp Peaceful Waters. From the end of June, for a month, there are different types of camping experiences available.

For the younger, first-time campers, there is an opportunity to camp with a trusted female for a weekend. There are three-day camps for our younger members. For the more comfortable campers, there is an opportunity to camp for a week.

All campers will have an opportunity to experience swimming and boating sessions, adventures and making new friends! Visit the link on the Quebec provincial Guiding page to find out more information.

from Montreal West Guiders



Teddy bear tea party



A Spark participates in the talent show

News from the pews



Peter Kerr carving turkey; Tania Watson and Tracie Swim at the Community Outreach Dinner; Rev Mark Hammond and daughter Erin; holiday dinner volunteers (L to R) Norma Barnes, Susan Pahl and Sue Smith

MW United Church

...the brick one

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it carries some powerful themes. It invites us to reflect on love – so visible around Valentine's Day – and on understanding and justice, as we honour Black History Month. Both remind us of the importance of connection, compassion, and listening well to one another.

There is lots happening this month – opportunities to gather, learn, create and care for body and spirit.

Midweek Conversation Wednesdays at 1 pm

Rev. Mark meets weekly in his office with a small group to talk about the coming Sunday scripture. The conversation is shaped by curiosity and lived experience rather than academic study. All are always welcome to drop in when you're able. Rev. Mark values these gatherings as a way of keeping sermons grounded and real.

Crafts, Creativity and Laughter Tuesdays 10 am–noon (resuming this month)

Our craft group is back – and the fun officially resumes on February 17! This is a lively, welcoming group where creativity

flows, ideas spark, and laughter is part of the process. Best of all, it's free to participate and open to anyone who enjoys making things (or simply enjoys good company).

The group creates items for the bazaar and other projects, and last year's creations were so popular they sold out in no time! Drop in, share a laugh, and see if this creative time becomes your new favourite part of the week. All are warmly welcome.

Shrove Tuesday = Pancakes! Tuesday, February 17, 5:30 pm

Our Sunday school will host a pancake supper complete with all the usual fixings. Games or trivia may appear, so expect more than just eating and running! All are welcome for this fun, family-friendly evening. Please call the office to reserve your spot **482-3210**.

Labyrinth Walk - Tuesday, February 24, 7-9 pm

Yes – it is happening this month! With everything costing so much these days, here's a chance to step away from the busyness of life and into a quiet, reflective space – completely free. Our indoor labyrinth offers a gentle walking path for meditation, prayer, and peaceful reflection. As you follow the winding path toward the centre, you're invited to slow down, breathe deeply

and let your thoughts settle. This is a free, drop-in event. For comfort and care of the space, please wear socks or slippers while walking the labyrinth. Come for a few minutes or stay awhile. All are welcome.

Weekly worship Sundays at 10 am A little something for everyone

Looking for a meaningful start to your Sunday and something fun for your kids? Join us for worship at 10 am while your children enjoy a lively, engaging Sunday school where they learn through stories, activities and fun. It's a chance for kids to make friends and grow, and for parents to take a well-deserved moment to relax, reflect and recharge.

After the service, stay for fellowship time – chat, connect and enjoy some tasty treats with our welcoming community. We'd love to welcome your family!

A word of thanks

The 2025 Community Outreach Dinner was a wonderful success and it truly reflects the generosity, compassion and commitment of our community. This outreach is an important part of who we are, and it would not be possible without the many hands and hearts that make it happen. Donations covered all costs, allowing every dollar and every effort to go directly toward caring for others.

News from the pews

On December 24, 55 volunteers came together to slice and dice, 22 turkeys were cooked and 90 pounds of potatoes were peeled and chopped. On Christmas day, 25 volunteers + 30 delivery families assembled more than 180 hot meals that also including a gift to unwrap, sweet treats and a card, all delivered to some of our most vulnerable community members – sharing not just food, but care, dignity and connection. Thank you for being the kind of community that shows up for others. We look forward to doing it all again next year.

*Your church neighbor with a keyboard,
Tania Watson*

St. Philip's

Before the wonders and excitement of the Christmas season become but a distant memory, we wish to thank all those who joined us in the celebration of Christ's birth by attending our Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols as well as our two Christmas Eve services. It is always uplifting to reconnect with family, friends and neighbours at these special occasions.

St. Philip's Vestry meeting (annual general meeting) will take place Sunday, February 22, immediately following our service of Morning Prayer at 10 am. Light refreshments will be served.

Save The Date!

St. Philip's mid-Lent pancake brunch will be held Sunday, March 15 at 11:15 am, immediately following our 10 am Sunday service. Delicious pancakes, ham and scrambled eggs will be on the menu. Stay tuned for more details!

from Mark Reimer

Kosher corner

Rosh Chodesh Society: "The Art of Eat"

Join like-minded women Wednesday, February 4 for an inspiring evening exploring how everyday activities, even something as simple as eating, can be transformed into a meaningful spiritual experience. This is the third class of the Rosh Chodesh Society "Lift your Life" course. This course is sponsored and studied in memory of **Hannah Freedman-Solomon**.

Colourful profiles

Wednesday, February 11 and Wednesday, February 18 at 7:45 pm: discover short, fascinating stories of extraordinary and unexpected characters from Jewish history. These engaging sessions bring the past to life with insight, inspiration and surprise.

First Friday Shabbat Friday, February 13

Please note the date change! Join us for uplifting, spirited services followed by a warm and welcoming light Kiddush.

Jewish Women's Circle

Annual hamantaschen bake: Wednesday, February 25. Back by popular demand, our all-time favorite event! Roll up your sleeves and join us for a fun, hands-on evening mixing, rolling, shaping and filling delicious homemade Purim treats.

As a reminder, Hebrew school, Teen Lunch and Learn, Jtext teen trivia and Bat Mitzvah Club are all in full swing. For more information or to join any of the above events, please email us at info@chabad-westminster.com.

from Rabbi Marlow



February speaker

The Montreal West Horticultural Society is excited to kick off its first event of 2026 with a February speaker evening.

Our guest speaker **Pamela Fillion** will present **Sweet Remedies: Syrups**. Pamela draws on more than a decade of DIY workshops and shares her hands-on approach to making simple, plant-based syrups.

We are looking for 2-3 volunteers for refreshments for this event. Please email us at mwhs1908@gmail.com if you would like to contribute.

Event details

When: Monday, February 16, 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)

New executive members welcome

We're looking for new executive members to join our team! Do you have an interest in fundraising, communications (website or newsletters), logistics or event planning? We welcome garden enthusiasts of all ages to join our diverse and friendly group. To learn more, come speak with us at an event.

Send us your photos

We also love to showcase your gardens! If you enjoy taking and sharing photos of your garden, please send your best ones to mwhs1908@gmail.com, along with your street name, for a chance to be featured in a coming newsletter.

from Martha Slocombe

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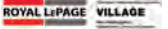
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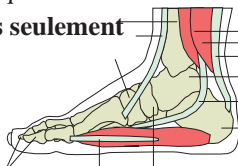
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H4X 1Y8**Community Centre 484-6186****Day Camp**

Early Bird Registration: February 2 to March 2.

Get a \$25 rebate when registering for 4 weeks or a \$50 rebate for 8 weeks.

Registration for individual weeks will open on May 11 based on availability.

- Tennis camp: Sign up before March 2 and receive a \$20 rebate!
- **NEW!** Splash Camp: Sign up before March 2 and receive a \$20 rebate!

To sign up, register your child(ren) on Amilia
or call the Community Centre at **484-6186**.**Artists' Showcase****Deadline: February 6**

Winter theme:

Cosy and WarmFor more information and to submit your
work, visit montreal-west.ca.**Parents' Night Off**

4 to 10 years, 5-9 pm

Pizza, movie and fun!

Fridays, February 13 and March 20

March Break Camp**March 2-6, 5 to 10 years****Location: Community Centre**

\$290 residents/ \$300 non-residents

To sign up, register your child(ren) on
Amilia under March Break or call the Com-
munity Centre at **484-6186**.**Music with Shawny**

Baby & Me, 0-2 years old, 3-5 years old

Saturdays, February 21 and March 14

Cotton Tail Party**Sunday, March 29****SUMMER JOBS**Do you love spending time outside
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may be for you! Candidates will be
chosen based on their qualifications,
experience and availability. All candi-
dates must be students currently or in-
tend to be in fall 2026.**NEW outdoor pool:** hiring lifeguards,
wading pool attendants and cashiers**Day camp:** hiring counsellors, special-
ized counsellors**Application deadline:
February 13**

Apply on the Town website.

**Emergency First Aid and
CPR/ AED Level C****March 15****8:30 am-4:30 pm**To sign up, register on Amilia under or
call the Community Centre at **484-6186**.**Children and youth courses****Red Cross
Stay Safe! course****Sunday, February 1****9:30 am-3:30 pm**

- Real-world scenarios often call on children to respond to challenges. The Stay Safe! course teaches applicable and age-appropriate skills, while increasing and reinforcing a youth's capacity to improve his or her own safety.
- Ages 9-13 years
- Cost: Residents: \$80/Non-Residents: \$90

**Red Cross
Babysitting Course****Sunday, April 12****9:30 am-5:30 pm**Learn the skills required to carry out
babysitting duties.

- Ages 11+
- Cost: Residents: \$ 85/Non-Residents: \$ 95

**Free skate
begins January 31!**Lace up your skates and join us at the
new sports and recreation centre for free
public skating! Residents of all ages are in-
vited to enjoy the ice in a brand-new, state-
of-the-art facility. Whether you're
practising your laps or just gliding for fun,
it's the perfect way to get moving and cele-
brate this exciting new community space.
No registration required; just bring your
skates and come out to skate!**Saturday: 4-5:30 pm****Sunday: 1-2:30 pm**

See the website for the full schedule!

Centre communautaire 484-6186

Camp de jour

Prix pré-inscriptions a partir du 2 février jusqu'au 2 mars: Rabais de 25 \$ pour 4 semaines, 50 \$ pour 8 semaines

Les inscriptions pour les semaines individuelles ouvriront le 11 mai selon les disponibilités.

- Camp de tennis: rabais de 20 \$ par semaine avant le 2 mars!
- **NOUVEAU** Camp Splash: rabais de 20 \$ par semaine avant le 2 mars!

Inscrivez-vous en ligne sur Amilia
ou appelez au **484-6186**.

La Vitrine Artistique

Date limite : le 6 février

Thème d'hiver :

Confort douillet

Pour plus de détails et pour soumettre vos œuvres en ligne : montreal-ouest.ca.

Soirée congé pour les parents

4 à 10 ans, 17h à 22h

Pizza, film et plaisir garanti

Prochaines dates :

Les vendredi 13 février et 20 mars

Camp de semaine de relâche

2 au 6 mars pour les 5 à 10 ans.

Lieu : Centre Communautaire

290 \$ résidents / 300 \$ non-résidents

Inscrivez-vous en ligne sur Amilia ou appelez au **484-6186**.

Musique avec Shawn

Bébé et moi : 0 à 2 ans, 3 à 5 ans
les samedis 21 février et 14 mars

Fête du Lapin

Dimanche 29 mars

Patinage libre: À partir du 31 janvier!

Enfilez vos patins et rejoignez-nous au nouveau centre sportif et récréatif pour une séance de patinage libre gratuite! Les résidents de tous âges sont invités à profiter de la glace dans une toute nouvelle installation moderne. Peu importe votre talent en patin, c'est l'occasion parfaite de bouger et de célébrer l'ouverture de ce nouvel espace communautaire vibrant et accueillant!

Aucune inscription nécessaire, il suffit d'apporter vos patins et de venir patiner!

Samedi : 16h à 17h30

Dimanche : 13h à 14h30

Consultez le site Web pour connaître l'horaire complet!

Premiers soins d'urgence et RCR/DEA niveau C

15 mars

8h30 à 16h30

Pour vous inscrire, rendez-vous sur Amilia ou appelez le centre communautaire au **484-6186**.

Programmes pour enfants et adolescents

Cours « Prêts à rester seuls de la Croix-Rouge

Dimanche 1^{er} février

- Les situations réelles exigent souvent des enfants qu'ils réagissent face à des défis. Le programme « Stay Safe! » enseigne des compétences applicables et adaptées à l'âge des participants, tout en renforçant leur capacité à améliorer leur propre sécurité.
- 9h30 à 15h30
- Pour les enfants âgés de 9 à 13 ans.
- Coût : Résidents : 80 \$ / Non-résidents : 90 \$



EMPLOIS D'ÉTÉ

Vous aimez passer du temps à l'extérieur et travailler avec des collègues formidables? Un emploi d'été à Montréal-Ouest pourrait vous convenir ! Les candidats seront sélectionnés en fonction de leurs qualifications, de leur expérience et de leur disponibilité. Tous les candidats doivent être actuellement étudiants ou avoir l'intention de l'être à l'automne 2026.

À la nouvelle piscine extérieure : sauveteurs, surveillants de pataugeoire et caissiers

Camp de jour : moniteurs et moniteurs spécialisés

**Date limite de candidature:
13 février**

Postulez sur le site Web de la ville.

Cours de gardiennage de la Croix-Rouge

dimanche 12 avril

Les enfants âgés de 11 ans et plus acquièrent les compétences nécessaires pour exercer des fonctions de gardiennage.

- 9h30 à 17h30
- Coût : Résidents : 85 \$ / Non-résidents : 95 \$





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Tranquilli-T

Town Council meeting summary

Due to poor audio quality, there will be no Town Council meeting summary for December.

Résumé de la reunion du Conseil

En raison de la mauvaise qualité audio, il n'y aura pas de résumé pour le mois de décembre.

Do you enjoy the Council meeting summary?

The Informer is looking for a temporary replacement (for approximately one year) to write the Town Council meeting summary. Please call the editor.

COMING EVENTS / À VENIR

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

Next deadline / Date limite: **February 11 février**

January

Sat 31 **Free skate.** Steve and Rob Michelin ice rink. 4-5:30 pm.

February

- Sun 1 **Free skate.** Steve and Rob Michelin ice rink. 1-2:30 pm.
- Tue 3 **Crafting VR – Sweater Mittens.** Sign up required. Public Library. 2-4 pm.
- Thu 5 **Knit & Natter,** drop in. Every Thursday in February. Public Library. 3 pm.
- Tue 10 **IODE meeting.** On Zoom. 1-3 pm.
- Mon 16 **Horticultural Society: Sweet remedies.** Town Hall. 7:30 pm.
- Tue 17 **Crafts, Creativity and Laughter.** MW United. 10 am–noon.
- Tue 17 **Pancake supper** hosted by the Sunday school. MW United. 5:30 pm.
- Wed 18 **Tea and Books,** drop in. Public Library. 2 pm.
- Sun 22 **Annual meeting.** St. Philip's. 11 am.
- Wed 25 **Recipes for the future – all about chocolate.** Public Library. 2 pm.
- Mon 23 **Town Council meeting.**
In person and virtually (Town's YouTube channel). Town Hall. 8 pm.
- Tue 24 **Labyrinth Walk.** MW United. 7-9 pm.

Classifieds

SIMPLE REPAIRS: electrical, mechanical, plumbing. Need a repair too small for a professional, or don't know if you need to call one? For a donation to a charity of your choice I may be willing to see what I can do. Roy Hoffman, 133 Percival, **894-6780**.

TUTORING: Need help with English, French, Math or Science? Maya, a second year student at McGill, living in Montreal West, offers personalized tutoring sessions for elementary and high school levels. Patient, enthusiastic and experienced. Contact Maya today to improve your academic results at **486-6717!** Available weekends and week nights!

FOUND WATCH: to claim; describe, give approximate time and location of loss. LChenevert20@gmail.com.

Comedy night fundraising event at RWA

Get ready for a night full of laughter at the Royal West Academy Foundation's comedy night, hosted by the critically acclaimed *CBC Radio 1 Daybreak* parenting columnist **Franco Taddeo!** The headliner of the evening will be Montreal icon **Joey Elias**, who has appeared 17 times on the *Just For Laughs scene*, and is sure to bring the house down. Joining him will be hilarious comedians **Viveth K.** and **John Cotrocois**, making for a night you won't want to miss! The event will be held at the Royal West Academy performing arts centre (189 Easton Ave.) Friday, April 24, starting at 7:30 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm).

April
24

All proceeds will benefit the RWA Foundation's Active Learning Classroom Campaign, supporting a bright future for our students. Tickets are \$40 each. Space is limited, so be sure to get your tickets online before they sell out at rwaf.ca.

from Theodora Zikos

Sing! Sing! Sing!

Update from Christmas Sing! Sing! Sing! at Montreal West United Church:

We raised \$1105 dollars for St-James Drop-In Centre! Congratulations to you all! Thank you for your participation and support. Thank you to Mayor **Jonathan Cha** for coming and showing his support!

We will plan to do it again next year for another cause!

Samantha Borgal

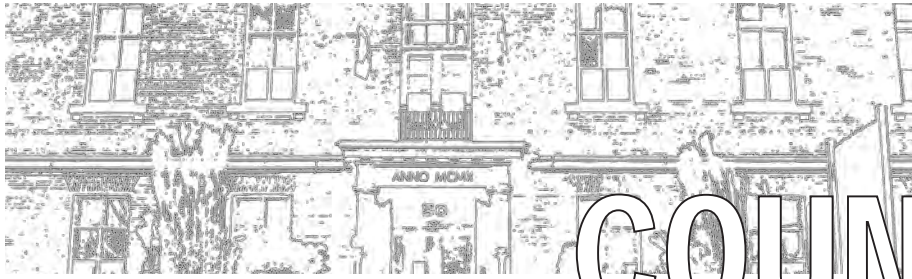


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COUNCIL communiqué



MAYOR'S REPORT

The month of December has been very enriching. It included several work sessions with

Town Council to complete our integration, meetings with all department heads, touring all Town facilities and equipment, meeting employees, reviewing the budget, and handling day-to-day business. I was delighted to participate in several important community events: the Lunch with the Library (a fundraiser for the Children's Library), the Art etc. market, the CPKC Holiday Train, Breakfast with Santa, Old Fashioned Caroling for a Cause at the United Church to benefit the St. James Drop-in Centre, the employee lunch, the Rotary Club Christmas party, the seniors' Christmas dinner and the "Slice 'N Dice" preparation and delivery of Christmas meals with the MW United Church. I thank all Town employees, volunteers and everyone who donated or contributed to the success of these activities.

The past few weeks have allowed me to meet with all 15 mayors of the Association of Suburban Municipalities (ASM), to sit for the first time with my colleagues on the Montreal Agglomeration Council, and to meet with the Chair of the Executive Committee, Claude Pinard, and the Mayor of Montreal, Soraya Martinez Ferrada. She was very open to collaborating with the ASM. During the Agglomera-

tion Council meeting, she stated that "We must work together with all the mayors on the island, that all residents of the island must have the same respect, that the agglomeration must be strong, and that we must work together." This is therefore an encouraging and positive first public statement from the mayor regarding the demerged municipalities.

Initial brief meetings were also held with the mayor of the Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce borough, Stéphanie Valenzuela, and the councillor for the Loyola district, Alexandre Teodoresco. They each demonstrated great enthusiasm for collaboration, and meetings will take place at the beginning of the new year. I also met with the executive director of the Union of Quebec Municipalities (UMQ).

I was elected by the ASM to represent demerged cities on the *Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM)*. A first meeting of the CMM was held on December 11 and brought together mayors from Montreal, Laval, Longueuil, elected officials from the island of Montreal and mayors from the North and South Shores. At this meeting, the Minister Responsible for the Metropolis and the Montréal Region, Chantal Rouleau, presented the new 2026-2046 Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan for Greater Montréal (PMAD).

During the CMM council meeting, the Mayor of Montreal emphasized the

economic vitality of the Montreal area, adaptation to climate change, the protection of wetlands and improvements to public transit. She invited all elected officials to consider the PMAD in their decision-making, with the goal of proposing a shared vision and harmonizing their actions. Since she expressed interest in visiting the CMM municipalities, I personally invited her to come to Montreal West. We agreed to meet soon.

Finally, among the improvements implemented by the council in its first month in office, three points stand out:

- **Job postings in English.** The council requested that all job postings be translated so that they are available in both French and English. They are now systematically available in English. This confirms our commitment to bilingualism.
- **Monthly report of complaints and requests.** The council asked all Town departments to prepare a monthly report on citizens' complaints and requests to improve tracking and follow up on residents' inquiries.
- **Elected officials' portfolios.** After further discussions with the councillors and the Director General, I am now ready to announce the portfolio assignments. New this year, a portfolio will also be assigned to the mayor.

Continued on the next page

PORTFOLIOS

The allocation of portfolios is an expected exercise at the start of a new council's mandate. These portfolios address day-to-day operations and the strategic orientations that guide the decisions and actions of the Town of Montreal West. Elected officials do not replace staff, but rather stay informed about files, develop partnerships and relationships with the community, chair committees, learn about best practices and opportunities, report to council, and contribute through their actions to achieving the Town's objectives. While specific files are assigned to councillors, all files will be worked on collaboratively by all council members. The experience, expertise, and interest of each member will be leveraged for all files.

Mayor: Governance and Urban Development

The Mayor will be responsible for files relating to governance, communications, partnerships, strategic planning and all major real estate development and land use planning

projects, including the revitalization of Westminster Avenue.

Seat 1: Finance and Bilingual status

The Councillor for seat 1 will be responsible for files related to finance (budgets, revenues, taxes, grants), the Clerk's office (requests, claims), procurement (monitoring of goods and services contracts) and the promotion and protection of bilingual status. She will also assume the duties of Pro-mayor for the first four-month term and will serve as an alternate member of the PAC.

Seat 2: Ecological Transition, Urban Planning and Citizen Participation

The Councillor for seat 2 will handle files related to the environment, sustainable development and climate resilience, urban planning, inclusion, families, seniors and recreation activities, namely educational and cultural programming. She will also lead community engagement initiatives with residents.

Seat 3: Asset Management and Economic Development

The Councillor for seat 3 will handle files related to asset management and improvement (equipment, infrastructure, facilities), public works and economic development, with a focus on the commercial revitalization of Westminster Avenue.

Seat 4: Sustainable Mobility and Sports

The Councillor for seat 4 will be responsible for sustainable mobility (ensuring the environmentally responsible coexistence of different modes of transportation), public safety, level crossing compliance and the development of sports programs, as well as the Sports and Recreation Centre.

Jonathan Cha, Mayor
Town of Montreal West
jcha@montreal-west.ca



GETTING ORIENTED: THE FIRST MONTHS OF COUNCIL

Your new Town Council was busy in November and December, completing five full days of integration along with several working sessions, all designed to ensure we hit the ground running.

These sessions gave us a clear picture of how Montreal West works day to day. We met with Town teams across all departments, learned about their work and gained insight into the Town's strengths, challenges and priorities. Having this shared understanding is essential to making thoughtful decisions that reflect residents' needs.

We were also struck by the dedication of Town staff. Many have served the community for years and accomplish a great deal with limited resources. Their commitment is invaluable, and our community is in very good hands.

Just as importantly, this time allowed Council members to come together as a team and begin thinking collectively

about the future. We are committed to working collaboratively and thoughtfully to preserve what makes Montreal West such a special place to live.

I'm excited to take on the portfolios of Ecological Transition, Urban Planning and Citizen Participation. As I settle into these portfolios, my focus will be on listening, learning and building on community conversations, to ensure we move forward in a responsible way that serves all citizens.

Martha Slocombe, Councillor
Ecological Transition, Urban Planning and Citizen Participation
mslocombe@montreal-west.ca



A NEW PERSPECTIVE

In the first weeks of our new mandate, Council focused on reconnecting with staff and residents to gain a clear understanding of ongoing projects and operational priorities. These conversations have helped establish a solid foundation for the months ahead.

One of the highlights of the past few weeks was a tour of the municipality and its facilities with the entire council. This field trip gave us a fresh perspective on neighbourhoods we thought we knew well and allowed us to learn more about our parks, green spaces, and both residential and industrial areas. We also had the opportunity to meet Town employees in their respective workplaces, which helped us gain a better understanding of operational realities and recognize the essential work our teams carry out, especially during the winter months. Among the most memorable stops was the Block Tower (former museum and archive site),

where discovering the preserved historical objects reminded us of the importance of our local heritage.

After several discussions, Council finalized the assignment of portfolios. I have been assigned Asset Management and Economic Development, and I am excited to advance these priorities over the coming year.

As winter continues, we remind residents to respect parking rules and keep garbage, recycling, and compost bins off sidewalks and streets to ensure efficient snow clearing operations, and please use the online form to report any missed pickups.

Recent watermain breaks required urgent repairs, and equipment breakdowns affected early snow removal operations. We are considering the acquisition of new equipment to improve the efficiency of our interventions. Thank you all for your cooperation and commitment to our community.

Nicholas Tassé, *Councillor*
Asset Management and
Economic Development
ntasse@montreal-west.ca



Dear neighbours,

Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays!

Many events were held within the town during the holidays. Both Libraries held their annual fundraisers during the Art etc. event; the MWPL had their brown bag lunch & raffle and the MWCL hosted their Christmas lunch.

The Town also hosted several events. The annual Breakfast with Santa at Town Hall was a very successful event for families and children. 372 meals were served. Lastly the Town hosted the annual Senior's Christmas dinner. It hosted 88 seniors for a turkey dinner with all the fixings. Fun was had by all during this classy event. I had so much fun that I marked my calendar in 2056 for my first Senior Xmas dinner!

These events are not only fun and lighthearted but keep our town lively, promote our town pride and culture thus strengthening our sense of community. They are opportunities to build lasting relationships with our neighbours. Importantly, some of these events raise valuable funds for both our libraries.

Special thanks goes out to our Recreation Department; the many volunteers that cooked, carved, baked, served, cleaned and raised money; to our many sponsors who donate to these events (Marché des Fleurs Westminster, Montreal Rug Makers guild, Sharon Rozen, West End Quilters Guild, Boomi Fruits and Vegetables, Les Délices Lafrenaie, Mini-Coût, St-Viateur Bagels and IGA Lipari, etc). These events are only successful with the collaboration and teamwork of our community. Thank you all.

On another note, my new responsibilities as councillor #4 are **Sports and Sustainable Mobility**. I will work relentlessly so that our new Sports and Recreation Centre is optimized, that sports program are successful, offer a wide variety of options and reach as many participants as possible (gender and age). A healthy community is a strong community. Lastly, I will continue the work to make our town safer whether it be during your travels (car, bike or walk) or within our community in general.

Happy New Year Montreal West!

Here to serve you,

Phil Bergeron, *Councillor*
Sustainable Mobility and Sports
pbergeron@montreal-west.ca



DOLLARS AND SENSE



Now that portfolios have been assigned, I am honoured to have been entrusted with Finance, which includes budget planning, revenues, taxes, grants, procurement and contracts. Council will continue to uphold fiscal rigour, oversight and transparency, supported by our Town Treasurer, Valentina Todoran, Chartered Professional Accountant and Accredited Municipal Officer.

Budget planning is a whole of Council exercise in concert with the Town Administration ensuring our operational budget and strategic planning for the Town are well aligned. You may have noticed that this year, the budget will be adopted on January 22, 2026.

The standard deadline for adoption is by December 31, however, during a general election year, the deadline is automatically extended to January 31 of the follow-

ing year. This allows the newly elected council time to adequately review the financial situation and define priorities within an existing envelope of funds, before making final decisions.

In addition to the Town's operating budget, we have also adopted our Three-Year Capital Works Program or Programme triennial d'immobilisations (PTI), which is a crucial capital expenditure planning document out-

lining the long-term investments in public infrastructure like roads, buildings and water systems over a period of three years. The budget may be found on the Town website. And stay tuned for more detailed information in the next edition of *The Informer*.

Lauren Small-Pennefather,

Councillor

Finance and Bilingual Status

lsmall-pennefather@montreal-west.ca

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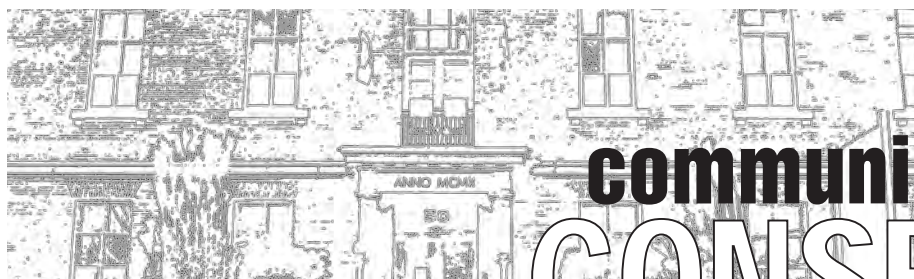
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Location: ReFitMTL, Montreal West

141a Westminster N.

www.refitmtl.ca

Email: info@refitmtl.ca



communiqué du CONSEIL



RAPPORT DU MAIRE

Le mois de décembre a été très enrichissant. Il a consisté en plusieurs journées de travail

avec le conseil municipal pour compléter notre intégration, rencontrer tous les responsables de départements, visiter les installations et équipements de la Ville, rencontrer les employés, analyser le budget et traiter des affaires courantes. J'ai participé avec grand plaisir à plusieurs activités importantes pour notre communauté : le dîner avec la bibliothèque des jeunes), le marché Art etc., le train des fêtes du CPKC, le déjeuner avec le père Noël, les chants de Noël à l'église Unie au profit du Centre de jour St. James, le dîner des employés, le souper de Noël du Rotary Club, le souper de Noël des aînés et la préparation et la livraison des repas de Noël avec l'église unie. Je remercie tous les employés de la Ville, les bénévoles et tous ceux ayant fait des dons ou contribué au succès de ces activités.

Les dernières semaines m'ont permis de rencontrer l'ensemble des quinze maires et mairesses des villes liées de l'Association des municipalités de banlieue (AMB), de siéger pour une première fois avec mes collègues au conseil d'agglomération de Montréal et de rencontrer le président du comité exécutif, Claude Pinard, et la mairesse de Montréal, Soraya Martinez Ferrada. Elle s'est montrée très ouverte à collaborer avec l'AMB. Lors du conseil agglomération, elle affir-

ma « qu'il faut travailler ensemble avec tous les maires de l'île, que tous les résidents de l'île doivent avoir le même respect, que l'agglomération doit être forte et qu'il faut travailler ensemble. » Voilà donc une première prise position publique encourageante et positive de la mairesse envers les villes liées.

De premières brèves rencontres ont également eu lieu avec mairesse de l'arrondissement Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Stéphanie Valenzuela, et le conseiller du district Loyola, Alexandre Teodoresco. Ils ont chacun démontré beaucoup d'enthousiasme à collaborer et d'autres rencontres de travail auront lieu au début de la nouvelle année. J'ai également eu une rencontre avec le directeur général de l'Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ).

J'ai été élu par l'AMB pour représenter les villes liées au *Conseil de la Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM)*. Une première rencontre du conseil de la CMM réunissant les maires de Montréal, Longueuil, Laval, des élus de l'île de Montréal et maires des couronnes Nord et Sud de Montréal a eu lieu le 11 décembre. À cette occasion, la ministre responsable de la Métropole et de la région de Montréal, Chantal Rouleau, a présenté le nouveau Plan métropolitain d'aménagement et de développement du Grand Montréal 2026-2046 (PMAD).

Lors du conseil de la CMM, la mairesse de Montréal a mis l'emphase sur la vitalité économique de la région montréalaise, l'adaptation aux changements climatiques, la protec-

tion des milieux humides et la bonification du transport collectif. Elle a invité tous les élus à prendre compte du PMAD dans nos décisions pour proposer une vision commune et harmoniser nos interventions. Comme elle s'est montrée intéressée à visiter les municipalités de la CMM, je l'ai invité personnellement à venir à Montréal-Ouest. Elle et moi avons convenu de nous rencontrer prochainement.

Enfin, parmi les améliorations apportées par le conseil dans son premier mois en fonction, notons trois éléments :

- **Offre d'emploi en anglais.** Le Conseil a demandé de traduire l'ensemble des offres d'emploi afin qu'elles soient disponibles en français et en anglais. Elles sont désormais systématiquement disponibles en anglais. Cela confirme notre engagement envers le bilinguisme.
- **Rapport mensuel des plaintes et requêtes.** Le Conseil a demandé à l'ensemble des services de la Ville de produire un rapport mensuel des plaintes et requêtes des citoyens afin d'assurer un meilleur contrôle des suivis des différentes demandes des résidents.
- **Portefeuilles des élus.** Après de nouveaux échanges avec les élus et la directrice générale, je suis maintenant prêt à dévoiler l'attribution des portefeuilles. Nouveauté, un portefeuille sera également attribué au maire.

continué à la page suivante

PORTEFEUILLES

L'attribution des portefeuilles est un exercice attendu de l'amorce du mandat de tout nouveau conseil. Les portfolios répondent aux opérations courantes et aux orientations stratégiques qui guident les décisions et interventions de la Ville de Montréal-Ouest. Les élus ne se substituent pas aux employés, mais s'informent des dossiers, développent des relations avec le milieu et des partenariats, président des comités, s'informent des meilleures pratiques et des opportunités, font rapport au conseil et contribuent par leurs actions à l'atteinte des objectifs de la Ville. Bien que l'on attribue des dossiers spécifiques à des conseillers, l'ensemble des dossiers seront travaillés en collégialité entre tous les membres du conseil. L'expérience, l'expertise et l'intérêt de chacun seront mis à contribution pour tous les dossiers.

Maire : Gouvernance et développement urbain

Le maire portera les dossiers ayant trait à la gouvernance, aux communications, aux partenariats, à la planifi-

cation stratégique et à l'ensemble des grands projets de développement immobilier et d'aménagement du territoire y compris la revitalisation de l'avenue Westminster.

Siège 1 : Finances et bilinguisme

La conseillère du siège 1 portera les dossiers reliés aux finances (budgets, revenus, taxes, subventions), au greffe (requêtes, réclamations), à l'approvisionnement (suivi des contrats de biens et services) et à la promotion et la protection du bilinguisme. Elle assumera également pour le premier terme de quatre mois les fonctions de mairesse suppléante. Elle agira également comme membre substitut du CCU.

Siège 2 : Transition écologique, urbanisme et participation citoyenne

La conseillère du siège 2 portera les dossiers liés à l'environnement, au développement durable et à la résilience climatique, à l'urbanisme, à l'inclusion, aux familles, aux aînés et à l'offre de loisirs, soit la programmation éducative et culturelle, de

même que les démarches participatives avec les résidents.

Siège 3 : Gestion des actifs et développement économique

Le conseiller du siège 3 portera les dossiers de la gestion et de l'amélioration des actifs (équipements, infrastructures, installations), des travaux publics et du développement économique, en particulier du volet commercial de l'avenue Westminster.

Siège 4 : Mobilité durable et sports

Le conseiller du siège 4 portera les dossiers de la mobilité durable (cohabitation des déplacements des personnes dans une optique environnementale), de la sécurité publique, de la conformité du passage à niveau, de même que du développement des sports et du centre sportif et récréatif.

Jonathan Cha, *maire*
Ville de Montréal-Ouest
jcha@montreal-ouest.ca



PRENDRE SES REPÈRES : LES PREMIERS MOIS DU CONSEIL

Votre nouveau conseil municipal a été très occupé en novembre et décembre, avec cinq journées complètes d'intégration et plusieurs séances de travail, le tout dans le but de nous permettre de démarrer en trombe.

Ces séances nous ont donné une image claire du fonctionnement quotidien de Montréal-Ouest. Nous avons rencontré tous les services municipaux, découvert leur travail et approfondi notre compréhension des forces, des défis et des priorités de la Ville. Il est essentiel de partager cette compréhension pour prendre des décisions réfléchies qui reflètent les besoins des résidents.

Nous avons également été impressionnés par le dévouement du personnel municipal. Beaucoup d'entre eux sont au service de la communauté depuis des années et accomplissent un travail considérable avec des ressources limitées. Leur engagement est inestimable et notre communauté est entre de très bonnes mains.

Tout aussi important, ce temps a permis aux membres du conseil municipal de se réunir en équipe et d'amorcer une réflexion collective sur l'avenir. Nous nous engageons à

travailler de manière collaborative et réfléchie afin de préserver ce qui fait de Montréal-Ouest un milieu vie si spéciale.

Je suis ravie de prendre en charge les portefeuilles de la transition écologique, de l'urbanisme et de la participation citoyenne. Alors que je me familiarise avec ces portefeuilles, je souhaite avant tout être à l'écoute, apprendre et m'appuyer sur les échanges avec la communauté afin de nous assurer d'aller de l'avant de manière responsable et dans l'intérêt de l'ensemble des citoyens.

Martha Slocombe, *conseillère*
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UNE NOUVELLE PERSPECTIVE

Dès les premières semaines de notre nouveau mandat, le conseil municipal a entrepris de renouer le dialogue avec le personnel et les citoyens afin d'avoir une compréhension claire des projets en cours et des priorités opérationnelles. Ces échanges ont permis d'établir des bases solides pour les mois à venir.

L'un des moments saillants des dernières semaines a été une visite du territoire et de nos installations municipales avec l'ensemble du conseil. Cette sortie nous a permis de porter un regard neuf sur des quartiers que nous croyions bien connaître et d'en apprendre davantage sur les parcs, les espaces verts, ainsi que sur les secteurs résidentiels et industriels. Nous avons également rencontré les employés de la Ville dans leurs installations respectives. Cette visite guidée nous a permis de mieux saisir les réalités du terrain et de constater le travail essentiel réalisé par nos équipes, particulièrement en période hivernale. Parmi les arrêts les plus marquants figurait le Block Tower (ancien musée et lieu d'ar-

chives), où la découverte des objets historiques conservés a rappelé l'importance de notre patrimoine local.

Après plusieurs discussions, le Conseil a finalisé l'attribution des dossiers. J'ai reçu la Gestion des actifs et le Développement économique, et je suis enthousiaste à l'idée de faire progresser ces priorités au cours de la prochaine année.

Alors que l'hiver se poursuit, nous rappelons aux citoyens de respecter les règles de stationnement et de garder les bacs à ordures, de recyclage et de compost hors des trottoirs et de la chaussée afin de faciliter les opérations de déneigement. Nous vous invitons également à utiliser le

formulaire en ligne pour signaler toute collecte manquée.

Des bris récents de conduites d'eau ont nécessité des réparations urgentes, et des pannes d'équipement ont perturbé le début des opérations de déneigement. Nous évaluons actuellement l'acquisition de nouveaux équipements afin d'améliorer l'efficacité de nos interventions. Merci à tous pour votre collaboration et votre engagement envers notre communauté.

Nicholas Tassé, conseiller
Gestion des actifs et
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Chers voisins,



J'espère que vous avez tous passé de bonnes fêtes !

De nombreux événements ont été organisés à la ville pendant les fêtes. Les deux bibliothèques ont organisé leur collecte de fonds annuelle pendant l'événement Art etc. ; la Bibliothèque publique a organisé un dîner

pique-nique, et la Bibliothèque pour jeunes a organisé son dîner de Noël.

La Ville a également organisé plusieurs événements rassembleurs au cours des dernières semaines. Le déjeuner avec le Père Noël à l'hôtel de ville a connu un grand succès auprès des familles et des enfants, avec 372 repas servis. Enfin, la Ville a tenu son traditionnel souper de Noël des aînés, accueillant 88 invités autour d'un repas de dinde avec tous ses accompagnements. Tout le monde s'est bien amusé lors de cet événement distingué. J'attends déjà avec impatience mon premier souper de Noël des aînés en 2056!

Ces événements sont non seulement amusants, mais ils contribuent également à animer notre ville, à promouvoir notre fierté et notre culture et à renforcer notre sentiment d'appartenance à la communauté. Ils offrent également l'occasion de nouer des liens durables entre voisins. Il est important de noter que certains de ces événements permettent d'amasser des fonds précieux au profit de nos deux bibliothèques.

Nous tenons à remercier tout particulièrement notre Service des loisirs; ainsi que les nombreux bénévoles qui ont cuisiné, préparé et servi les repas, assuré le ménage et participé aux collectes de fonds ; et à nos nombreux commanditaires (Marché des Fleurs Westminster, Montreal Rug Makers guild, Sharon Rozen, West End Quilters Guild, Boomi Fruits and Vegetables, Les Délices Lafrennaie, Mini-Coût, Bagels St-Viateur et IGA Lipari, etc). Le succès de ces événements repose entièrement sur la collaboration et l'esprit d'équipe de notre communauté. Merci à tous pour votre engagement.

Par ailleurs, mes nouvelles responsabilités à titre de conseiller municipal n° 4 portent sur **la mobilité durable et les sports**. Je travaillerai sans relâche afin d'optimiser le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif, et de soutenir les programmes sportifs afin qu'ils soient variés, inclusifs et couronnés de succès, rejoignant des participants de tous âges et de tous genres. Une communauté en santé est une communauté forte. Enfin, je poursuivrai le travail pour rendre notre ville plus sécuritaire, tant dans nos déplacements (en voiture, à vélo ou à pied) qu'au sein de notre communauté en général.

Bonne année Montréal-Ouest !

À votre service,

Phil Bergeron, conseiller
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PARLONS FINANCES



Maintenant que les portefeuilles ont été attribués, je suis honorée de m'être vu confier le portefeuille des Finances, qui comprend la planification budgétaire, les revenus, la taxation, les subventions, ainsi que l'approvisionnement et les contrats. Le conseil continuera de faire preuve de rigueur, de saine gestion et de transparence financières, avec l'appui de notre trésorière, Valentina Todoran, CPA et Officier municipal agréé (OMA).

La planification budgétaire est un exercice collectif qui mobilise l'ensemble du conseil, en collaboration avec l'administration municipale, afin d'assurer une bonne cohérence entre le budget de fonctionnement et la planification stratégique de la Ville. Vous aurez peut-être remarqué cette année que le budget sera adopté le 22 janvier 2026.

La date limite habituelle pour l'adoption du budget est le 31 décembre ; toutefois, lors d'une année d'élections générales, cette échéance est automatiquement

reportée au 31 janvier de l'année suivante. Cette prolongation permet au nouveau conseil de prendre le temps nécessaire pour examiner adéquatement la situation financière et définir ses priorités à l'intérieur d'une enveloppe budgétaire existante, avant de prendre les décisions finales.

En plus du budget de fonctionnement de la Ville, nous avons également adopté le Programme triennal d'immobilisations (PTI), un document essentiel de planification des dépenses en capital qui présente,

sur une période de trois ans, les investissements à long terme prévus dans les infrastructures publiques, telles que les routes, les bâtiments et le réseau d'eau. Le budget est disponible sur le site Web de la Ville. Restez à l'affût : de plus amples renseignements seront présentés dans la prochaine édition du journal *The Informer*.

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