

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly Vol. 18 No. 9b

We are Westmount

September 10, 2024

After long delays, work accelerates on apartment project Tree work, pile driving questioned by 500 Claremont's neighbours

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Work at the construction site of a six-storey residential building at 500 Claremont building took a leap forward last week with accelerated work on a demolition permit. This began with pile driving for an underground garage that is to stretch south along Claremont Ave. from Windsor.

Before this, much of what activity could be seen involved shoring up of existing portions of the 1908 institutional building. But last week, concerned neighbours questioned the intensity of the noise and vibra-

tion from recent pile driving as well as what appeared to be unexpected planned tree cutting on the south property line.

"If these trees are removed, the residents of the (new) project will be able to look directly into our homes," explained Frank Philpott of Claremont before any cutting.

This referred to five large trees along the side of neighbouring houses that had been painted with orange markings and then numbered in yellow, suggesting they were to be cut down despite what had previously been stated.

He said he had spoken *continued on p. 10*

Happy Birthday, Eva!



As seen on Hallowell last week.

PHOTO: VERONICA REDGRAVE.

Set the example: Dufour of city's new enviro. committee

Why not choose 'green' option for new roof?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A resident member of the city's new committee on environment and sustainability asked city council August 5 why the city did not specify a reflective "white roof" as an environmental replacement option for the new one it is contracting for a Public Works garage.

"This would have cost the same," Richard Dufour, of Anwoth, suggested during the question period. As a regular questioner at council sessions, this was the first

one he had asked as one of the five residents who had been appointed July 2 to the city's new committee (see story July 9, p. 4).

"We'll get back to you," Mayor Christina Smith told him.

The contract was awarded to Groupe Pentagone at its bid price for \$64,552 and a maximum of \$74,219 though no other information was provided.

The issue of "greening" in the permits system at Urban Planning and in connection with roof replacement *continued on p. 10*

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Director McBain: Call 911 first for medical emergency

Public Security tracks down man in respiratory distress

Sept. 15's Terry Fox 'run' includes more than running

The organizer of this year's Terry Fox run in Westmount, Marina Carricaburu Ortiz, wanted people to know that the event includes more than running.

"Unfortunately, some people think that because it is called a 'run,' it means that they have to run... [Everyone is] invited to run, walk or even just cheer for the runners/walkers. It is meant to be for everyone."

The event takes place Sunday, September 15 at 11 am at the Westmount Athletic Grounds behind Westmount High.

Runners and walkers can register online at run.terryfox.ca/69779 or in person on the day of the event at 10 am. Carricaburu Ortiz can be reached at carricaburu@hotmail.com.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A 79-year-old man in respiratory distress was taken to hospital by Urgences Santé September 1 from an apartment on Rosemount Ave., Public Security officials said. The man had called Public Security for help but without leaving an apartment number.

Responding officers were able to find out on arrival through his name where to find him, and knocked on his apartment door, which he managed to open himself despite obviously having trouble breathing.

The man was seated and when Urgences Santé arrived, oxygen was immediately administered to before he was transported to the Montreal General Hospital.

The incident led to Public Security issuing a reminder to residents to immediately call 911 first for medical assistance, which will generate response by Urgences Santé. While this usually in turn involves Public Security, the first call should be to 911, said department director Greg McBain.

Illegal use of leaf blower brings ticket for \$282

A contractor was fined \$282 when found using a gasoline-fired leaf blower September 2 to clean up grass clippings, Public Security officials said. Not only was he spotted using the prohibited equipment, but the offence occurred on Labour Day, a legal holiday.

Electric blowers are now permitted but only for spring clean-up and then not again until October 1 for cleaning up fall leaves (see story April 23, 2024, p. 3).

The recent work was reported to have been spotted at 4643 Sherbrooke, just east of Lansdowne, at 12:33 pm, leading to the ticket.

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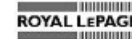
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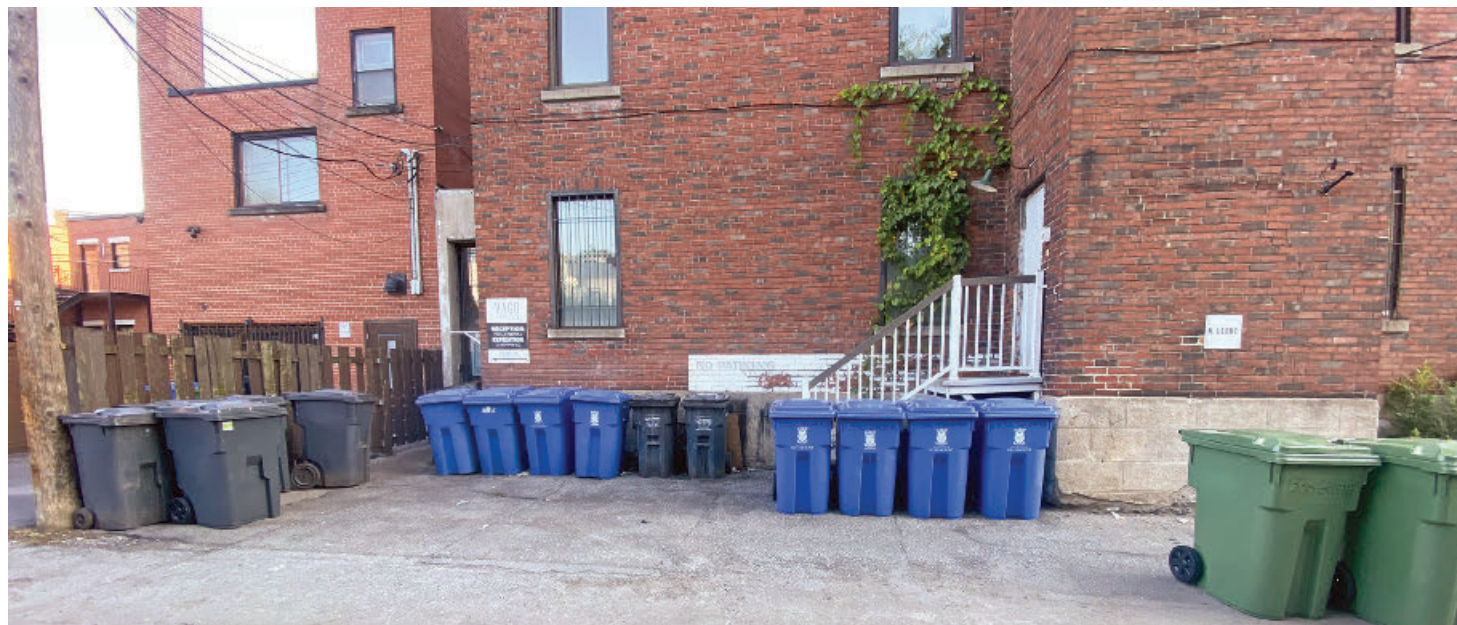
Fewer cigarette butts seen in Greene/Olivier alley

Vago restaurant works to assuage neighbours, adds new waste bins

BY JENNIFER BALL

The alley between Greene Ave. and Olivier Ave. between Sherbrooke and de Maisonneuve is half commercial (Greene/east side) and half residential (Olivier/west side). It recently slid back into being a sanitary concern for at least three Olivier Ave. residents after two years of marked improvement (see July 9, p. 18 and April 26, 2022, p. 5).

When Shaun Turriff, who is a minority



Black (garbage) and blue (recycling) bins photographed September 5 in the alley between Greene Ave. and Olivier Ave. south of Sherbrooke.

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shareholder and the general manager of Vago, spoke with the *Independent* on June 28, he indicated that the situation would be remedied and that the state of the dwindling blue (recycling) and black (garbage) bins was due to city contractors

breaking them.

He was true to his word. On September 4, the exterior of Vago restaurant in the alley between Greene Ave. and Olivier Ave. displayed an additional three new black bins and five new blue bins. None of these

new bins had broken or missing lids.

On September 5, there were also considerably fewer cigarette butts in the lane than on June 28, which is something that had also irritated the three Olivier Ave. residents.



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Police Report

Police conducting school-zone safety blitz in the coming weeks

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

While police at Station 12 report having fewer criminal incidents to deal with in Westmount in recent weeks, they expect to be busier for much of the remainder of this month conducting a road-safety blitz near schools where students are back after the summer holiday period.

During this time, many drivers who are insufficiently aware of the campaign undertaken by the police in September for three to four weeks often end up scoring their only demerit points of the year after being ticketed for speeding through 30 km/h school zones.

However, speeding is just one of several school zone safety infractions that the police will be watching for closely up to September 28, according to Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit.

"I am sure that anybody who has been driving near school zones has noticed a lot of police presence lately," he said, noting that officers and squad cars will be most

visible during morning student drop-offs and afternoon pick-ups.

They'll also be on the lookout for things like double-parking outside schools, hand-held cell phone use while at the wheel of a vehicle, and illegal left-hand turns during prohibited periods.

Although officers were handing out warning tickets during the first week, regular tickets will be issued for the rest of the month, added Yigit.

Attempted entry

According to Station 12's database of reported incidents, there was only one occurrence of criminal activity on Westmount's territory in recent weeks: an attempted forced entry.

On August 31 around 4:30 in the afternoon, security cameras at a home on Grove Park between Clarke and Mountain avenues spotted a potential intruder behaving suspiciously while on the property.

According to Cst. Yigit, the owners were away at the time, and a friend or neighbour had *continued on p. 10*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANK YOU, PSO MICHAEL

I wish to thank Michael, a Westmount Public Security officer who works in the park, for his great kindness and help to me on Tuesday, August 20. He found me on Claremont Ave. in a panic looking for my husband, who had not turned up for a dentist appointment.

Thanks to another man, we heard that he had fallen and had been taken off by ambulance. Michael accompanied me back to Liz, where I live, and helped me find what emergency room my husband was in. Then he called three more times to see how my husband was doing.

Many thanks to you, Michael!

MARY MARTHA GUY, NDG

PLEASE STOP THE CLAREMONT TRIANGLE PILOT

We would like to thank Councillor [Elisabeth] Roux, the councillor for District 2, for her integrity and transparency in sharing at the August 5 city council meeting that she opposed the Claremont triangle project.

With respect to your August 20 interview* of Councillor Peart, he references the WSP study (on Engage Westmount), as an open-ended question: "What would happen if we close the street?" On the contrary, the study revealed that Westmount told WSP on April 7 that they planned to close the street and asked how

this could be done.

In [his p. 7 column in] your August 13 edition, Councillor Peart advised that the current one-way southbound configuration "is not planned as a feature of any potential permanent design. Given the possibility of a shared athletic field at Marianopolis, city council would resist any permanent solution that restricts direct access from Claremont." He also advised publicly that Claremont Ave. could be widened for such access, presumably cutting into the Claremont triangle [green space from the west]. This possibility negates any putative green benefits from closing [the diagonal extending] NDG Ave.

Given that to date the provincial grant for the synthetic soccer field referred to in resolution 2024-05-107 has not been awarded, it is uncertain if it will be, and therefore there is no partnership between Westmount and Marianopolis, we urge council to stop the pilot for safety reasons. The crosswalks are now dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists, especially on Westmount Ave. where the city removed the stop sign. We should only examine closing NDG Ave., widening Claremont and cutting into the park [i.e. the triangular green space] if the soccer field project goes forward and there is an Environmental Assessment as per the city's commitment in its May 6, 2024 resolution. We need to ensure that any solution secures safety at crosswalks with stop signs that protect

pedestrians and bicyclists.

SHONA AND RICHARD MELTZER,
CLAREMONT AVE.

Editor's note: *For clarity, we did not interview Councillor Peart. Our coverage in that article was drawn from his remarks at the August 5 council meeting. – DP.

FOCUS ON RECYCLING PLASTIC, NOT DISTRIBUTING IT AS WHEELED BINS

Get ready, Westmount, for the invasion of the wheeled blue box behemoths. They measure four foot high with lid, weigh 20 kilos empty, and have a capacity of 360 liters. These bins are being delivered to all detached and semi-detached dwellings by the end of the year.

In contrast to city council's recent draconian imposition of reduced garbage-collection services, they do deserve credit for at least allowing citizens a means to refuse these monsters and keep on using the old boxes.

My family has been recycling in Westmount since the 1980s – back in the days when we sorted it ourselves rather than the jumble that is presented to the sorting centres today. In all those years, we have never needed more than two standard blue boxes of 50 liters each. We always produced great wads of newsprint and, I add shamefully, a regular mountain of empty wine bottles (which should be dropped off at the SAQ as they do in Ontario, but that's another issue).

Now we are offered a bin with four times the weekly recycling capacity we need, even counting the Amazonian river of packaging that Jeff Bezos has inflicted on the world.

And another thing. We always kept our two blue boxes in the basement. When not taking up space curbside, this [new] four-by-three-by-two-foot Brobdingnagian blue bin would become an unavoidable visual feature in our garden, as we have no garage.

While lidded containers for recycling bins obviously make sense, it's hard to see how grossly oversizing our recycling bins will increase our recycling rate. The sad fact is that barely one half of the plastics you put in your blue box actually gets recycled (see my column in *The Gazette* of May 2 montrealgazette.com/opinion/columnists/trent-islands-solid-waste-plan-is-a-waste).

Instead of introducing hypertrophy in collection containers – while an undoubtedly well-intentioned gesture – the city of Westmount should, along with other Montreal municipalities, be focusing on the fate of recyclables – especially plastics – that are sent to the sorting plants.

PETER F. TRENT, CÔTE ST. ANTOINE RD.

Editor's note: Trent was the mayor of Westmount from 1991 until 2001 and from 2009 to 2017. – DP

BUSY ARGYLE/CÔTE ST. ANTOINE INTERSECTION NEEDS ATTENTION

Westmount Public Security is wisely counselling parents to allow extra time and caution to access schools in construction zones (September 3, p. 3). I wish they would include Argyle Ave. and Côte St. Antoine as a permanently high-risk area. There are four schools within two blocks. Twice daily, traffic jams at this corner during school "rush hours" produce blocks long line-ups of cars, irritated honking drivers and multiple risks for children.

Yesterday [September 6], while I was crossing Côte St. Antoine at Argyle, as kids were leaving school, three cars went through the intersection without stopping; and by my count, about 30 percent of cars turn left or right without signaling. I would hate to be a child trying to cross!

Residents of this sector have been asking for years for safer and calmer access to this school zone.

Will the city please address this before there is a tragedy?

PATRICIA RILEY, ARGYLE AVE.

INTRODUCING WESTMOUNT'S ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Westmount's Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee has been active, meeting regularly to develop objectives and metrics to ensure progress. Specifically, the committee will be making policy recommendations on the following: protecting and improving the quality of Westmount's natural environment, flora, and fauna; the management of residual and waste materials and city operations;

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Correction/new information: Montreal Design did not apply for city permit

Contrary to the summary provided to the public meeting for a permit to install a rear patio door at 38 Anwoth (see August 27, p. 5), while Montreal Design sold the owner the door in question at its store, it had no role in applying for any Westmount construction permit, nor in installing the door; nor any knowledge about the proposed project. – DP.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the shift to renewable energy sources and reducing carbon emissions by and in the city; and measures to boost the city's resilience to the impacts of the climate crisis.

The committee comprises experts from diverse and relevant fields. For instance, Ross Brown, a retired climatologist from Environment and Climate Change Canada, has published over 50 papers in the field of climate science, contributed to the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change assessment process, and worked for more than 10 years with the Ouranos consortium on climate change issues facing Quebec.

Richard Dufour holds a BA in communications and an MA in educational technology, specializing in needs assessment and systematic program design. He also brings over 30 years of experience as a contractor-builder with a focus on sustainable construction.

Mira Katnick, a principal at the renowned architectural firm Architem, is a LEED green associate, emphasizing eco-friendly building designs.

Jessica Winton, an urban planning student from Concordia, was awarded the prestigious Quebec lieutenant governor's Youth Medal. She is recognized for her work on waste management at Concordia University and has presented at the International Conference of Sustainable Development.

The committee also includes council representatives such as Matt Aronson, our commissioner for climate change and sustainability. With a law degree from McGill, he brings critical problem-solving skills to address complex legal issues related to environmental policy.

Councillor D'Amico, a chartered professional accountant with an MBA, is actively exploring the introduction of green accounting in Westmount, a practice that integrates environmental factors into financial and economic analysis.

This committee brings an impressive

breadth of expertise to our community. While its members may not have all the answers, they are committed to consulting subject-matter experts when required. Ultimately, they will provide council with a well-considered set of priority actions consistent with the United Nations' sustainable development goals for more liveable and climate-resilient cities.

The committee's mandate is not tied to the current term of our city's elected council. In fact, its mandate extends until February 2026, ensuring continued engagement and progress on environmental issues beyond the upcoming 2025 municipal election.

RICHARD DUFOUR, ENVIRONMENT
AND SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEMBER

FINDING THE REAL GOLD AT THE OLYMPICS, PARALYMPICS

Watching the opening ceremony for the Olympic games in Paris left me with a feeling of euphoria, a feeling I had to share with a group of friends that evening.

However, I soon found out that not everybody had the same view. I was informed that there is too much corruption, too many cheats and that some athletes have somehow used their fame for too much financial gain.

While I am sure that many of those claims are true, I can't help thinking about the perseverance, the courage, the hard work, enthusiasm, the dealing with defeat and self-doubt that so many remarkable young people have experienced to finally make it to the world stage of the Olympics and Paralympics.

I can't help thinking about the parents of these young people who have sacrificed so much to support their child's dream.

I think about the concept of the Olympics and Paralympics, where the best of the best from so many countries are marching into the stadium together, cheering,

proudly bearing the flags of their country, all being part of this incredible event, and for a brief moment, politics and differences are taking backstage.

I have faith in these young people, that they will form friendships, gain respect for our differences and appreciation for our sameness, and therefore they will help the world to become a better place for all.

Doing my daily walks through Westmount Park, by the pool, the tennis court, the YMCA, I watch children playing soccer, learning team play, learning to play by rules, learning to push themselves. At the tennis courts, I watch the players sweating it out, so focused, so intense. At the pool, I watch the swimmers, always fighting against time and perfecting their stroke to improve their personal best.

I am grateful that our children have this great opportunity to participate in sports and to reach any level of competency they wish. I am grateful that in this country, people of all ages and physical ability have the wonderful opportunity to engage in and enjoy sports activities.

I remember the little boy who lived with his single mom a few doors down from me, who always seemed to be running, doing summersaults, jumping over things

and climbing trees. The little boy who was sponsored to attend for many years a gymnastics summer camp, and who was sponsored to join the gymnastics club. The boy who excelled and had his picture in the local paper because of the medals he won. The boy who enjoyed having friends, enjoying life and doing what he loved best, gymnastics.

I think of the growing boy who started to have a dream, who did well in school, who trained on weekends and after school, who disciplined himself to work towards the realization of that dream, who was always looking towards the next competition.

I think of the teenage boy who had coaches that gave him "big brother" and "fatherly" guidance.

I think of that young man who graduated with high marks from high-school, who himself became a junior coach for little children, who worked as a camp counsellor in the summer months, who never gave up even when the dream of becoming an Olympian was beyond his abilities.

I think of that young man who used the mental and physical skills gained from sports to be driven to doing his best, who graduated with a university education, who is now *continued on p. 10*



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Candlelight vigil held in honour of six slain Israeli hostages

By JENNIFER BALL

Montreal Jewish community members held a candlelight vigil to honour six dead Israeli hostages – men and women – whom it was always hoped would return home safely to their loved ones, but who were slain over a 48-hour period between August 31 and September 1.

The vigil occurred for Ori Danino, Carmel Gat, Hersh Goldberg-Polin, Eden Yershalmi, Alexander Lobanov and Almog Sarusi, who were kidnapped by Hamas during the October 7, 2023 attacks and whose bodies were recovered in the Rafah area of the Gaza Strip.

The vigil took place on September 3 outside the Hall Building at Concordia University, where the adjacent mural of the late Leonard Cohen covers more than 1,000 square meters.



The downtown mural of Leonard Cohen, as seen above the candlelight vigil that took place on September 3 outside the Hall Building at Concordia University on September 3.

Cohen – who grew up in Westmount – often depicted himself as a soldier in art and life, and he improvised the first version of his 1974 song “Lover, Lover, Lover” for Israeli troops in the Sinai during the Yom Kippur War of 1973.

Cohen’s grandfather, Lyon Cohen, was the longest serving president of Westmount’s Congregation Shaar Hashomayim. His first term was 1902 to 1907 and then he served again from 1914 until 1932 (see September 20, 2022, p 15).

Its current senior rabbi, Adam Scheier,

its cantor Gideon Zelermeyer and Professor Shai Davidai from Columbia University, who was in town to deliver a September 4 talk, “Tackling anti-Semitism on campus and beyond,” at the Shaar, were at the event.

Sitting shiva

The vigil coincided with grieving families sitting shiva in Israeli. There were six candles lit for the six dead but Rabbi Scheier added, “In Judaism, six candles means something: we light six candles for the six million [who died in the Holocaust]...”

“We don’t want to be here again. We stand here because our hearts have been broken again and again and again and again...”

“This is in the memory of the six hostages who were brutally kidnapped and executed in the worst way imaginable: as they were just about to be rescued.”

Davidai is an Israeli citizen and an assistant professor of management at Columbia University business school.

He spoke with the *Independent* before the vigil and said,

“It is our time as a community to come together to support each other and to show the world that enough is enough.”

He wanted the gathered mourners, a large and peaceful cohort, to understand that “this is not an Israeli issue. This is a Jewish issue.”

He referenced a rising tide of anti-Semitism – which, according to a Global News investigation based on documents, interviews and figures compiled from Canadian police forces, appears to be dramatically surging since the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel.

“What we are seeing in Canada, in the United States and across the world is so horrific,” Davidai said.

“We need to make it clear to the world that we are not going anywhere and this needs to be solved.”

Reuben Joshua Poupko is a Canadian-American Orthodox rabbi. He has served as spiritual leader of the Beth Israel Beth Aaron Congregation synagogue in Montreal since 1986.

Rabbi Poupko told the *Independent* in an interview before the vigil that “it is the moral obligation of every decent person to respond with outrage and to gather to remember the victims...”

“...every rally that has taken place since October 7, every single one, the victims have been central in how we gathered and what we spoke about.”



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Placed! Seeded!



The two paving stones that were on the front lawn of Victoria Hall for much of August (at the least, see August 27, p. 13) have been placed, as seen September 4. The dead grass in the foreground is where one of them stood. The spot has been seeded.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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500 Claremont, cont'd from p. 1

with the city's Urban Planning department September 4, whose email reply was that, "There is currently an application for tree cutting for 500 Claremont under review. Several of the trees on the site will be approved to be taken down as they are in the path that will lead to the road/driveway to the underground parking facilities."

Philpott recalled that Julia Gersovitz, as chair of the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) some seven years ago, had stated at an original presentation meeting that "no trees should be removed."

Developer Gideon Pollack told the *Independent* last week, however, that he was "not aware of any neighbours upset about trees but in the event that they are, they should feel free to refer their concerns to the city. We are only removing trees that are either in our landscaping plan or that have been found to be in the way of construction. As per the [city] by-law, certain trees within close proximity of construction are allowed to be removed."

Asked for a projected timeline for completion of the project, Pollack said that at this stage when "the period of time that a construction project is below grade and starting excavation is the most uncertain. Until we're out of the ground and able to control the timeline, I really prefer not to speculate on when we will be finished."

"I'm truly hoping we don't incur any unforeseen delays."

Tree crews were observed at work September 6.

The long saga of the project resulted mainly from its development as non-conforming to the current zoning. Its development has been through many meetings, versions, delays, revised schedules and iterations involving the COVID pandemic, several public consultations, a referendum process and demolition meetings.

The institutional building, classified by the city as Category 2 in heritage value, has been presented as providing high-end apartments.

New roof, cont'd from p. 1

issue proposed by District 5 candidate Liz McCallum during the 2021 municipal election.

This had followed her own frustrating efforts to install a white (reflective) roof on the "leaky" roof of the Category 1-rated "railway cottage" of her house on St. Catherine as had been recommended by two contractors (see story February 9, 2021, p. 4).

While the city's building guidelines stated that "the city advocated for cool roof design and sourcing for flat roofs," in McCallum's case, it had been explained that the roof was sloped.



Two tree crews at work simultaneously at 500 Claremont on September 6.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Letters to the editor, cont'd from p. 7

a responsible father, who continues to be a leader in the community, who is giving back.

Yes, there are many flaws in the organization and execution of such an immense, worldwide endeavour as the Olympics.

It is an endeavour that has survived the same challenges the world has: wars, murder, political propaganda, bullying and

dishonesty.

While the Olympics' underbelly may be flawed.....it is organized, managed and executed by humans. We are flawed.

But the *spirit* of the Olympics, that which represents our dreams and ability to succeed, is not flawed.

It is pure gold.

HEIDY VERMEULEN, METCALFE AVE.

Police report, cont'd from p. 5

been delegated as caretaker.

But the cameras recorded images of an unknown individual trespassing onto the property, after which he was also seen trying to forcibly open doors as well as a rear window.

Local officer bitten by suspect

Cst. Yigit himself recently became part of an incident report after he was injured while making an arrest in Cabot Square on Atwater Ave. just outside Westmount.

In addition to his responsibilities as Station 12's community relations officer, Yigit has long been a foot patrolman along stretches of St. Catherine St., as well as in Cabot Square in the city of Montreal.

Around 10 am on August 27 while out on a patrol, he and a second officer spotted someone who appeared to be a fugitive in the midst of a crowd of street people who

were gathered near the corner of Atwater and St. Catherine.

They recognized him from a photo that had been published with a Canada-wide warrant for his arrest.

"He ran away, we chased him and I happened to be a little quick," said Yigit. "I caught up to him. I wrestled him to the ground. And while I had him on the ground and I was waiting for my back-up to arrive, he bit my hand."

He said the pain from the bite wasn't nearly as hard to endure as some of the medical treatment afterwards, which included rounds of antibiotics and anti-retroviral medication to safeguard against infection and potential HIV transmission.

"That was heavy on my system – that really weighed me down," he said of the experience, even though it was only for a few days.



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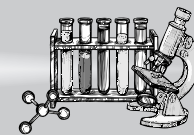
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WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Heads up! It's back to school



@lucy_and_tyson

© Lise Gallant

What does this mean?



Maybe local students will be so well educated this year that they will be able to tell us. As seen on Clarke near St. Catherine September 6.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

ON BOARD THIS ISSUE

	GIRLS ONLY	GIRLS & BOYS	BOYS ONLY
Elementary		The Priory p. 3	
Elementary & high school*	Villa Ste. Marcelline p. 8 The Study p. 10 ECS p. 11	Kells p.4-5 LCC p. 6 St. George's p. 7 Alexander von Humboldt, p. 9	Selwyn House p. 13
High school*	Sacred Heart p.12 Trafalgar p.14		

*also includes Grade 12 in some cases.

Open houses of the Independent's School Guide

Most schools have some sort of registration recommended or required. Please check to see if registration is necessary before attending. Also, many schools have other ways or events to see their schools. Inquire! – WI.

Tuesday, September 17
Selwyn House, 8:30 am (kindergarten)

Thursday, September 19
LCC, 9:15 am to 11:45 am & 5 to 8 pm (grade 7)

Saturday, September 21
LCC, 9 am to 4 pm (grade 7)
ECS, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm (elementary & senior)

Tuesday, September 24
The Study, 8:30 am to 10 am (elementary)

Wednesday, September 25
The Study, 8:30 am to 10 am (senior school)
The Study, 5 pm to 7:45 pm (elementary & senior school)

Thursday, September 26
St. George's (high school), 5 pm to 8 pm

Friday, September 27
Sacred Heart, 9 am to 11 am & 1 pm to 3 pm

Saturday, September 28
St. George's (high school), 9 am to 2 pm

Tuesday, October 1
ECS, 6 pm to 8 pm (senior school)

Thursday, October 3
Selwyn House, 8:30 am (kindergarten)

Saturday, October 5
Villa Ste. Marcelline, 10 am to 3 pm
Alexander von Humboldt, 10 am to 2 pm

Tuesday, October 8
ECS, 9:45 am to 11 am (kindergarten)

Wednesday, October 9
Trafalgar, 3 pm to 7:30 pm
Sacred Heart, 9 am to 11 am & 5 pm to 7 pm

Kells, 9 am (elementary) & 7 pm (high school)

Tuesday, October 15
Kells (grade 12), 7 pm

Thursday, October 17
St. George's (elementary), 8 am to 11 am

Saturday, October 19
St. George's (elementary), 9 am to 2 pm

Sunday, October 20
The Priory, 10 am to 12 noon

Wednesday, October 23
The Priory, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

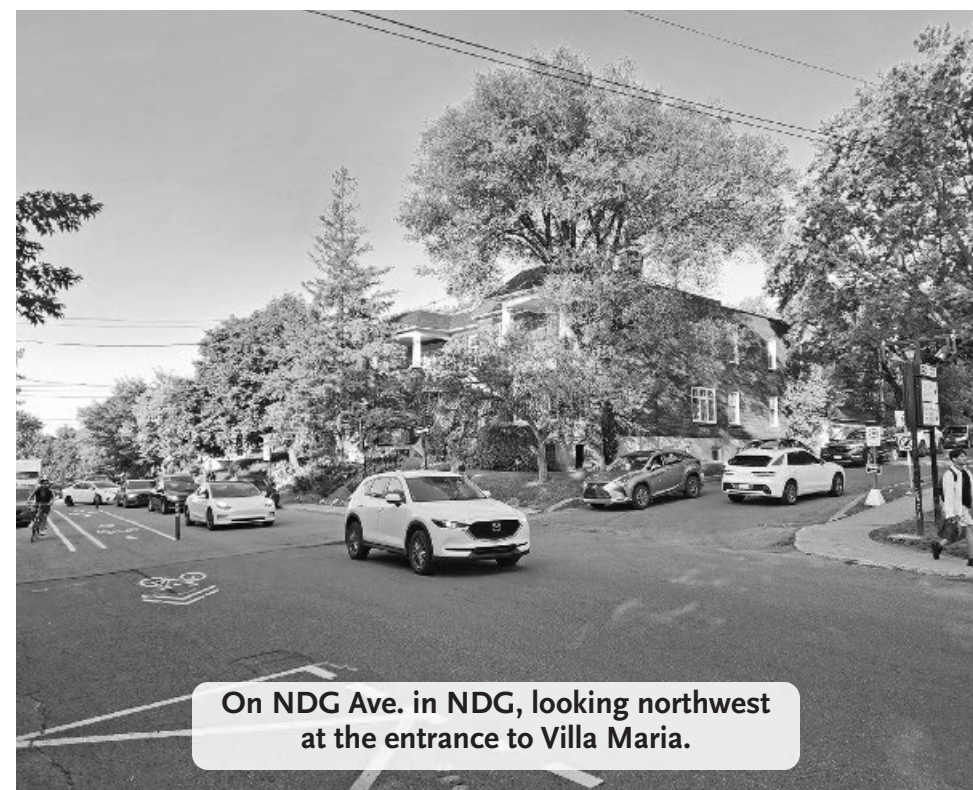
Back-to-school means adapting to traffic changes



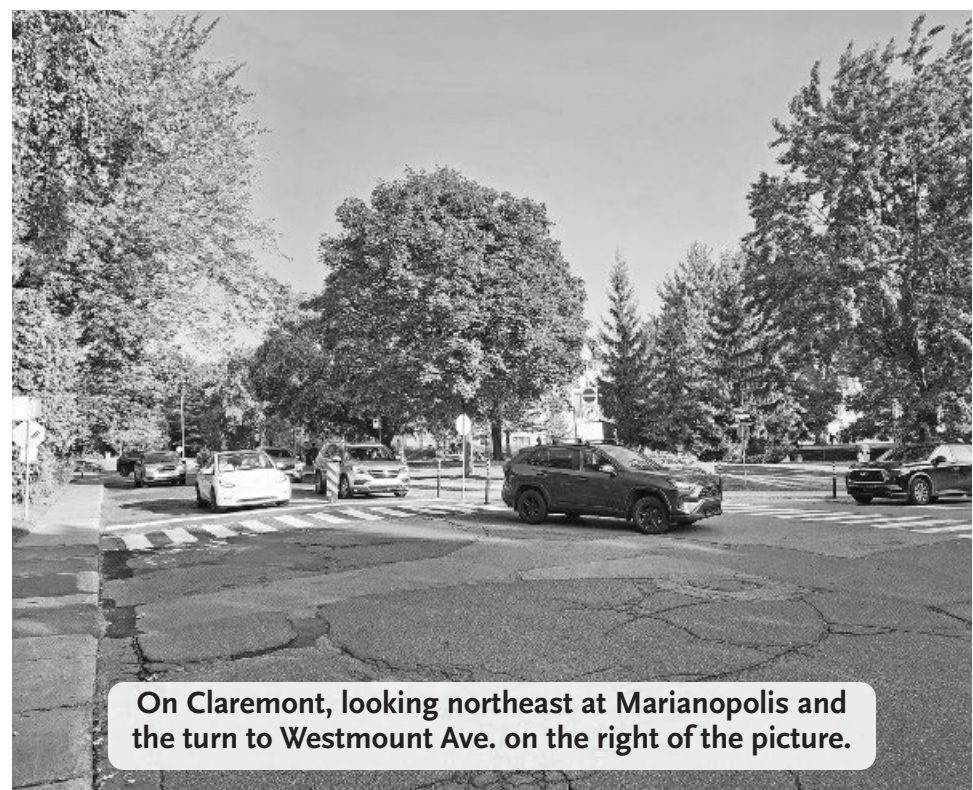
Looking west down NDG Ave. and into NDG from the top of Claremont.

Above, the closed “diagonal” of the Claremont-NDG Ave.-Westmount Ave. triangle would appear to be causing traffic back to Decarie Blvd., as seen September 5, although the Independent did not (and was not able to) monitor how it looked pre-closure. Traffic using the entryway into and from Villa Maria, below left, adds to the volume. At bottom right is the view north towards Marianopolis and the triangle, as seen from where Westmount Ave. meets Claremont. The diagonal’s closure is a pilot project by the city.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



On NDG Ave. in NDG, looking northwest at the entrance to Villa Maria.



On Claremont, looking northeast at Marianopolis and the turn to Westmount Ave. on the right of the picture.

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You Have a Home at Kells!

A private English school (K-12) with three campuses in NDG, Kells Academy is proud of its strong reputation among Montreal's top independent schools. If you thought you already knew the school, read on and you will be impressed by Kells.

Student Support

Ever since its founding in 1978, Kells has prioritized the individual learning needs and special talents of its students. For support in navigating their overall program, Kells students may turn to their advisors, who take on a shepherding role to ensure every student is cared for. Learning Support Coordinators manage students' learning plans and provide one-on-one support where necessary to ensure that students meet their academic goals.

Strong Academics

The structure of the program allows all students to flourish. Teachers prioritize getting to know each student's abilities and use the latest pedagogical techniques and technologies to adapt their lessons accordingly. Parents appreciate this customized approach

and the additional help and support. This positive learning environment makes for happy, confident students who feel understood and guided.

Kells also offers different levels of French instruction, from beginner to enriched, and an accelerated mathematics program which

regularly earns honours in national mathematics competitions and science fairs.

Top University Acceptances

Kells students graduate with the Quebec high school leaving certificate and many continue to Cegep. With the Minis-

try's new French requirements, many also choose to enroll in the Kells Grade 12 program to earn the Ontario high school diploma that enables them to apply to any university in North America or overseas. Many of these graduates have won scholarships or bursaries from prestigious universities like McGill, Concordia, the University of Toronto, and the University of British Columbia.

Vibrant Extracurriculars

The Kells emphasis on quality academics is balanced by a full sports and extracurricular program. The signature Kells "Flex" system lets students choose from

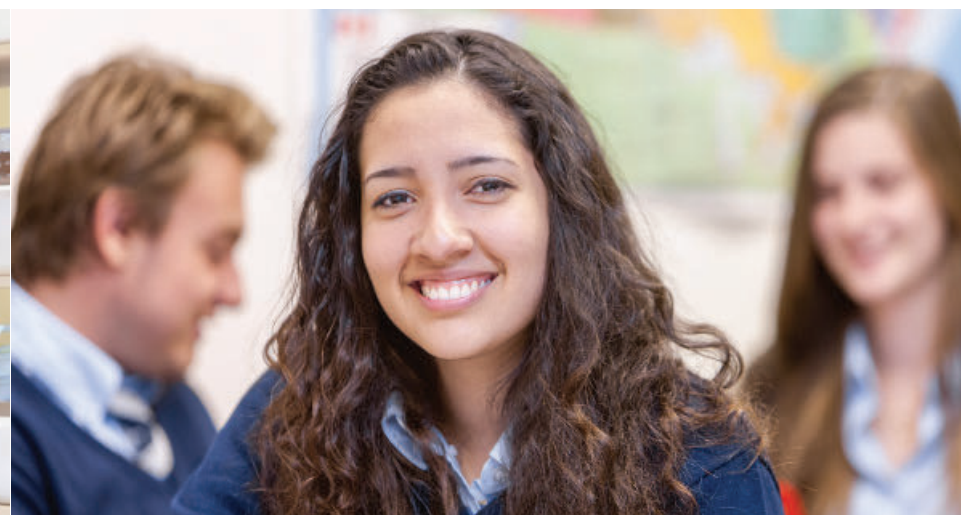
weekly enrichment activities such as chess, drama, robotics, film, visual arts, digital media, and yoga.

The Athletics and Student Life Coordinator is charged with raising the bar on competitive sports and further building Kells positive school culture. Just this year, Kells was awarded the School Sportsmanship Award by the Greater Montreal Athletic Association for the mature and responsible way its student athletes conduct themselves in competition.

After almost fifty years in operation, Kells Academy looks to an even brighter future. Success looks different for everyone. At Kells, you can discover what success looks like for you.

"Kells is a gem of a school with an outstanding faculty. Our program is both powerful and flexible so it can position students well for future success. Our founder and director, Ms. Irene Woods, envisioned a school of excellence that would meet and exceed the learning goals of a diverse student body. Her dream has truly come to fruition"

*Tom Malone,
Kells Academy Principal*



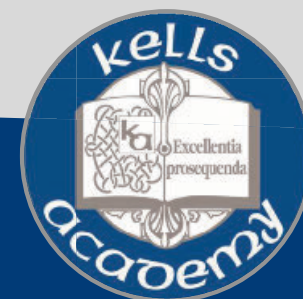
Visit us at our Open House

**Date: October 9, 2024 Time: Elementary School at 9:00 AM,
High School Grades 7 to 11, 7:00 PM**



A private English school (K-12) with three campuses in NDG, Kells Academy is proud of its strong reputation among Montreal's top independent schools.

After almost fifty years in operation, Kells Academy looks forward to an even brighter future. Success looks different for everyone. At Kells, students discover what success looks like for them.



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Tel.: 514-485-8565 E-mail: kadmin@kells.ca www.kells.ca

Irene Woods
Director

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Students can choose from five program streams:

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- Commerce
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Our school proudly partners with VHS (Virtual High School - Accredited by the Ontario Ministry of education)

Visit us at our Open House

Date: October 15, 2024 Time 7:00 PM



Kells Academy

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www.kells.ca



At LCC, All Are Included

Lower Canada College, a leading school in Canada, has developed an international reputation. The school's red brick buildings and expansive playing fields provide a setting where generations of leaders have been nurtured and gone on to attend some of the world's great universities.

While some of its most beloved traditions endure, LCC never seems to rest on its laurels. Always casting an ambitious eye on the future, the school has shown a commitment to innovative approaches to education, adapting curricula, the continuous training of its teachers and expansion of its top-tier facilities. Keeping pace with these priorities is a focus on inclusivity, making sure that

LCC is a welcoming place where students of all kinds will flourish.

Academic excellence and a dedication to sport are matched by a wide array of opportunities in community service, clubs and activities, ensuring that the interests and potential of all students will be served. There are numerous avenues to explore, including those related to social justice, cultural understanding, and sustainable global leadership. For example, members of the Coalition of Racial Equality club discuss global events, and collaborate with other student groups on school initiatives, such as Orange Shirt Day and Black History Month. In activities like debating and Model UN, students not only hone their communications skills, but also

learn multiple points of view.

At a time when schools across North America often struggle to maintain support for the arts, LCC continues to believe that creative expression is integral to students' growth and development. A flourishing music department, thriving visual arts program, and diverse theatre arts outlets offer countless possibilities for discovery. A dedicated Fab Lab and a keen focus on design gives students a chance to step away from books and screens and create real-world, tangible work.

Meanwhile, a growing recognition of the different ways in which individual students acquire knowledge has resulted not only in a bustling Learning Enrichment and Development

(LEAD) Centre that has six full-time staff members, but also the integration of various learning strategies, time-management skills and executive functioning profiles throughout the curriculum and at all grade levels. Whatever their learner profile, all LCC students will find that paths to success are beckoning.

With students originating from nearly 40 countries and speaking as many languages, LCC offers a world of opportunity. From kindergarten, through Middle School and all the way to its International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme and lauded Pre-University year, the LCC experience is designed to welcome its students into a vibrant community of learners.



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CAIS



Grade 7 Open House

September 19, 9:15 - 11:45 am, 5 - 8 pm
September 21, 9 am - 4 pm

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Grade 7 Application Deadline:
October 9

English eligibility certificate
NOT required

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LCC is an English, gender-inclusive, K-11 school leading to the MEQ Secondary Leaving Diploma / LCC est une école anglophone mixte de la maternelle à la 5e secondaire menant au DES du MEQ.

St. George's: Fostering authentic individuals through personalized learning

With a mission to help students be their authentic selves and live inspired futures, it is no surprise the educational approaches favoured by St. George's School of Montreal focus on adapting to every individual student. St. George's provides an environment designed to nurture students' academic success, creativity, personal development, and interests so that every student who graduates has the knowledge, confidence and critical thinking skills to successfully tackle whatever complex challenges come their way.

For Alexander Bandrauk, this is exactly why St. George's was a top pick when he needed a new environment for his final years of High School. Bandrauk's former school had squashed his confidence with its rigid, conventional approach, and his passion for soccer, a sport he excelled in – was waning. After making the transition to St. George's, not only did Bandrauk's academic average skyrocket – from low 70s to mid- and high 80s – but his interest in sports and school

life blossomed. "This school does not ask a young person to fit in, this school works to fit each young person," says Michael O'Connor, Head of School.

With the guidance and support of his teachers, Alex gained the confidence to pursue his passion for soccer and realize his full academic potential. Scouted by an American prep school that he is attending this fall, Alex is now excited for the future, both on and off the soccer field.

"[My husband and I] both knew his potential wasn't being tapped," says Christine Mack, Bandrauk's mother, regarding Bandrauk's previous school. "What [St. George's] gave Alex was incredible belief in himself. We saw him blossoming a few weeks after he started the school. The teachers connected with him on an individual basis, setting the bar high because they knew he could reach it. [St. George's] helped him find his purpose, back into sports and back into learning. Parents' jobs are to find the right environment for their children, and when you get the environment

right, magic can happen."

Families with multiple children can also count on St. George's approach to education to meet the needs of all their children, no matter how different those needs may be. Alumna Annie Santiago knew, based on her own experience, that the school would be a place where both her children would thrive. Santiago's son needed an environment that prioritized a sense of belonging and a personal approach to learning, whereas Santiago's daughter needed the opportunity and encouragement to explore her passions and take risks outside of her comfort zone.

"I knew St. George's would be perfect for both of them, knowing their personalities, knowing the kind of academic enrichment they would need, while also supporting their individual interests," said Santiago.

For more information, visit stgeorges.qc.ca.



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**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
October 17 & 19**

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La Villa
Sainte-Marcelline

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Saturday,
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Open House

From kindergarten to grade 11

Westmount's only private all-girls French-language school is thriving!

To meet the increasing demand and to offer high quality education to more girls, La Villa Sainte-Marcelline on Upper Belmont Ave. has doubled the number of preschool and elementary school classrooms for the 2024-2025 school year and maintains an **excellent student-teacher ratio** at all levels, from kindergarten to grade 11.

La Villa offers a **warm, family-like environment** where each girl can **develop her full potential** and make friends for life. She can explore the world through international travel, strong general culture, foreign languages (Spanish and German), native level in English, in addition to a very solid mastery of the French language and culture.

With La Villa's **exceptional music program**, your daughter will be able to nurture her passion for her instrument, perform in recitals, attend special events and enjoy one-on-one lessons during her regular school hours. This year we are proud to be celebrating our 50-year partnership with l'École de musique de Verdun which has allowed us to foster and grow our excellent music

program and train generations of young musicians.

La Villa's many extra-curricular sports teams have a spot for your daughter! In grades 5 and 6 she can be part of our junior sports teams. In secondary school, she can join the basketball, badminton, volleyball, flag football, hockey or swimming teams, among others, and proudly represent the school in RSEQ tournaments. In our small school, **your daughter can make the team and play a leadership role!**

If your daughter is involved in more intensive sports, dance or music programs outside the school, she can benefit from the PEP program (**personalized study program**) which allows her to complete the enriched curriculum of La Villa while practicing her sport or activity thanks to an adapted schedule.

La Villa is resolutely moving towards the future. Your daughter can be part of the journey!

**COME DISCOVER
LA VILLA
ON 5 OCTOBER,
BETWEEN
10 am and 3 pm**



OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 5, 2024,
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The Study

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Open House
September 24 & 25



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A certificate of English eligibility is not required (Kindergarten-Grade 11).

Empowering girls to



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OPEN HOUSE
K-11 • SEPTEMBER 21st

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The Sacred Heart Difference: Cultivating Courage, Confidence, and Character



Since 1861, The Sacred Heart School of Montreal has been a beacon of academic excellence and social development, inspiring students to reach their full potential and aspire to greatness. With a steadfast commitment to nurturing young women of intellect, conviction, compassion, and a strong sense of justice, the school has cultivated a legacy of empowered and visionary leaders. We welcome students from all countries and linguistic backgrounds, as our students do not require a Certificate of Eligibility, which enriches our vibrant and diverse community.



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In addition to our day students, we offer a picturesque boarding experience nestled right in the heart of the city, where both 7-day and 5-day boarding options are available. With our boarding, you're stepping into a community where you build lifelong connections and unforgettable memories.

Exploring New Horizons

Sacred Heart offers a Grade 12 program leading to an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) and fast-tracking your way to University. This unique program combines an in-person active learning approach and virtual materials, with career mentorship opportunities and unlimited access to Sacred Heart's Grade 12 Academic Advisor.

Join the Global Sacred Heart Sisterhood

What truly sets Sacred Heart apart is its remarkable global network spanning 150 schools across 41 countries. Through sister school collaborations and student exchange programs, Sacred Heart creates a vibrant global community. This encourages expanding horizons, embracing diversity, and gaining global perspectives.

Our campus is located in vibrant, downtown Montreal, just steps away from public transit and the metro system. We take full advantage of being in such a beautiful and culturally rich city, and our students benefit from all it has to offer.

Certificate of Eligibility not required.

Benefits of an All-Girls School Environment

In our Students Own Words

“An all-girl school creates an environment free of judgment that encourages girls to achieve academic success. It's a place that fosters sisterhood and self-expression. Over the course of your five years your classmates become your sisters.” - Bianca '24

“Being in an all-girls environment allows young girls to reach their full potential. You can be an actress or a scientist, and the community will support you. It creates the feeling of independence and gives courage to young girls to forge their own paths in the world.” - Morgan '24

“An all-girls school provides the right environment to grow and learn. It allows you to feel comfortable in your own skin and create bonds that will last forever with your peers, which makes Sacred Heart a home away from home.” - Saiya '24

Preparing Girls to Change the World
sacredheart.qc.ca



Visit us at Open House
September 27th & October 9th

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GRADES K-12



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OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 9, 2024

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PORTES OUVERTES le 9 OCTOBRE 2024



Trafalgar
School for Girls

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Trafalgar.qc.ca

Trafalgar School for Girls is an English Language private school for grades 7-11, leading to the MEQ's Secondary School Diploma. English-language eligibility certificate is required.
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Un certificat d'admissibilité en anglais est requis.

Back-to-school means dealing with still-underway construction



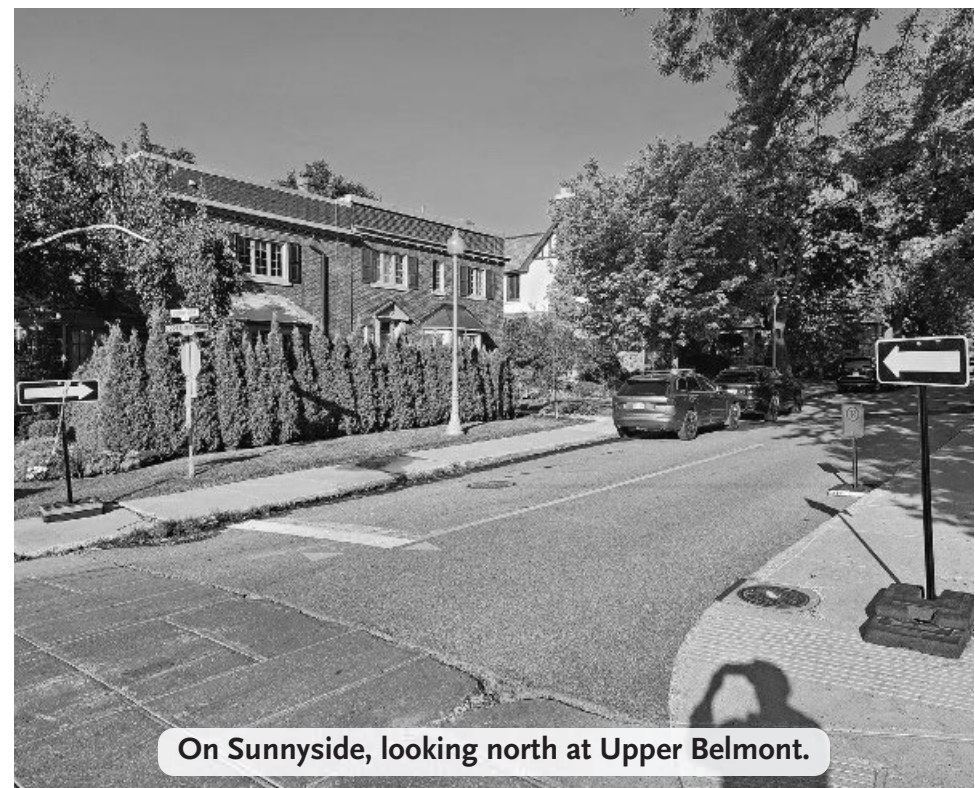
Looking north at Upper Lansdowne from Sunnyside.

Above, major work on Upper Lansdowne north of Sunnyside precludes the roadway's use by vehicles, although the sidewalks are done, as seen September 5 (all photos). Below, accessing Villa Ste-Marcelline (where Upper Belmont terminates at Lansdowne Ridge) is made more difficult by this closure of the closest part of Upper Lansdowne and the changing of Upper Belmont in this section to one way north.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



On Upper Belmont at Devon, looking south at Upper Belmont.



On Sunnyside, looking north at Upper Belmont.

Guest column

What public school is required to provide and what you are responsible for buying

The Independent received this press release from EPCA Quebec (English Parents' Committee Association) on September 5, which has been lightly edited for presentation here. It applies to public schools.

As the new school year approaches, you should anticipate receiving an invoice for the items required for the year along with a letter from the school. It's critical that you are aware of the responsibilities that fall on you as a parent and the school.

As per the Education Act, EPCA offers a clear explanation of the sections below.

Parents must buy...

"Materials that are used for personal use and personal organization," such as pens, pencils, paper, pencil cases, backpacks, binders, school uniforms (if applicable, specific conditions apply), and clothing for physical education, etc., can be broadly categorized as items that parents are responsible for.

In essence, parents are responsible for items that are not re-usable and cannot be brought back to the school. See details below on the grey areas for parents' responsibility.

Schools must provide...

Items that can be used by multiple students and must be returned to the school at the end of the school year cannot be charged to parents. For example, if a textbook is needed for a class, the school must provide it in full or in part (printed pages), [along with] technology supplies, goggles, safety gear, balls, rackets, and more.

Be aware. There are some exceptions!

Although the school may request that the parent pay for supplies for personal use, and they may suggest a colour of a duo-tang or the style of pencil or even a binder with pockets, it is not permitted to force the parent to purchase a specific brand or from a specific supplier.

Uniforms

This rule is also applicable to school uniforms.

Indeed, alternative options must be provided when school uniforms are supplied/manufactured by a single company. For example, the school could establish uniform style and colour standards (e.g., long-sleeved, shorts, blue, skirts, pants et cetera), and provide a crest with the school logo to be affixed to the garment purchased by the parent at a reasonable cost.

In all cases, if the parent is required to

pay a fee, it must reflect the actual cost of the purchase; the school cannot profit from the sale of crests.

Free

Are you familiar with the regulation regarding free instructional materials and who it applies to?

According to Article 10 of the Education Act: Regulations governing free use of teaching materials and certain financial

Expectations regarding school fees – A manual for parents

contributions that may be required, items specified in the minister's budget, such as tissue paper and health and hygiene products, must be supplied by the school.

ALSO!!! Any educational materials, such as teaching aids, that are required for the implementation of activity programs and/or the teaching of a curriculum must also be provided free of charge, including:

- Protective gear, including helmets, safety glasses, and hairnets,
- Art supplies: paint, pastels, clay, modeling clay, et cetera,
- Technological tools like headphones, laptops, and graphing calculators.

Invoices required

"Every financial contribution required

for a service for an activity, for material to which the right of free use does not apply or for the supervision of students at lunch time must be the subject of a clear and detailed invoice."

In other words, the school must provide you with a clear invoice detailing what each item is used for and the exact cost to support it.

"Where a voluntary contribution or a donation is requested, no amount related to it may be included in the total indicated on the invoice." It is the governing board of each school that must review and approve the school supplies list, and they must inform the school of the approved itemized list.

Locks

What about the padlocks? It depends.

If the school does not provide padlocks (combination locks), you will likely have to purchase your own. However, if the school provides a lock (which is already installed on the locker), the parent will not be charged for it. In many cases, the school (high school) will offer the lock for purchase, which is beneficial because they will have a key to access it if your child forgets their combination. However, you may be charged a security deposit if the lock is not returned by the end of the year.

If you decide to buy your own combination lock, you should ask that this fee be taken off your bill when you return the borrowed padlock to the school.

Printing, photocopying: specific grey areas to be aware of

It's crucial that you verify the costs on the invoice to make sure you are paying

Your local commute – some city streets remain tricky

As of late last week:

Mountain: roadwork continues from Anwoth to Montrose but road is open,

Upper Lansdowne: closed from Sunnyside to Lansdowne Ridge for roadwork. Temporary one-ways due to detours affect parts of Devon and Upper Belmont,

Hillside Lane: work continues to close the Hillside entrance to Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG), Westmount High: work continues on its parking lot and a drop-off-only lane is open on St. Catherine in front of the school,

Dorchester: work continues at Bruce Ave., closing both normal east-bound lanes. One lane has been taken from the westbound direction to allow cars to go east in this section of the street.

Claremont triangle (at NDG Ave.-Claremont-Westmount Ave.): the diagonal leading from NDG Ave. to Westmount Ave. has been closed as a pilot project. – WI

the correct amount because the school can only bill for the actual cost of a good or service. It is true that you should focus especially on the costs associated with photocopying and printing, particularly in high school. Photocopies of papers that students write, draw, or cut out may be printed and photocopied for a fee, but the cost should be specified according to the subject.

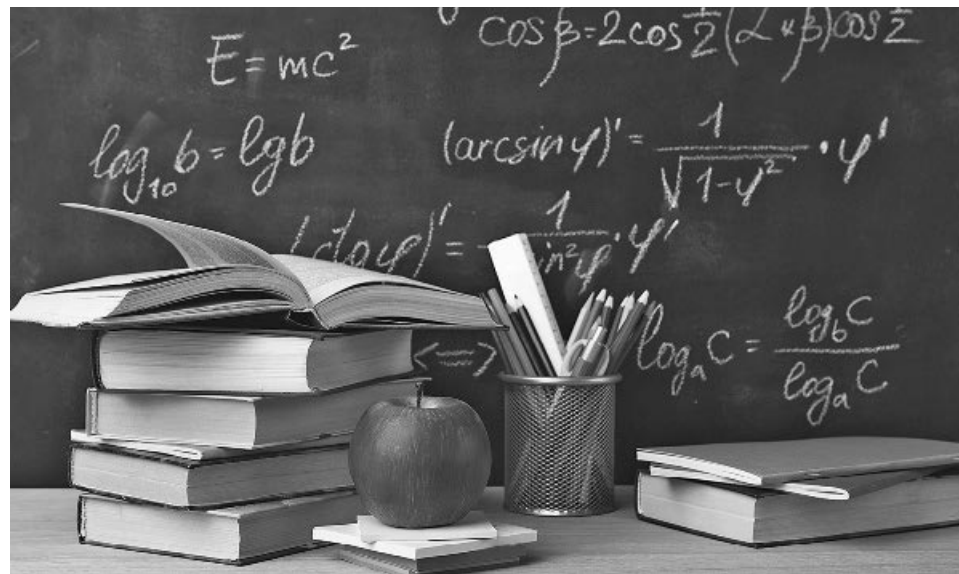
Note that the parent can only be billed for documents that serve as a substitute for an activity or exercise book.

Last but not least! No donation requests

The invoice cannot include any information regarding the possibility or amount of a personal donation. It is never permitted to ask for donations! A parent should not feel obligated to make any donation; it ought to be voluntary.

For you to understand exactly what is and is not applicable, the Ministry of Education has provided a memory aid available at www.education.gouv.qc.ca/fileadmin/site_web/documents/education/Aide-memoire-gratuite-EN.pdf.

You can also contact the EPCA's by e-mail (president@epcaquebec.org) or by chat on the website (epcaquebec.org). We'll be happy to answer your questions or direct you to the right resources.



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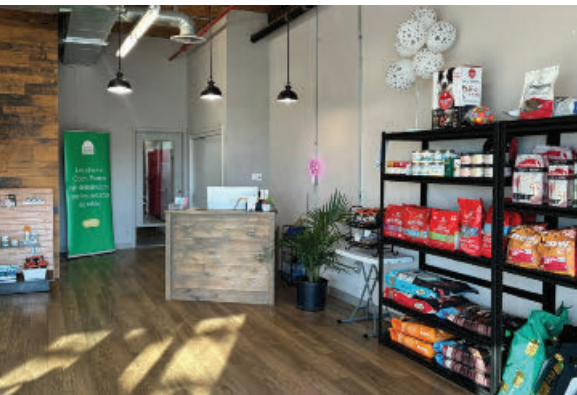
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Westmount's Nicks triumph in tennis



From left, Nick Savage Pollock of Daisy Antiques in Westmount Square and Westmouter Nick Martin won the Tennis Canada's 2024 Masters Tennis Championship in the 35-40 age category at the Granite Club in Toronto August 30. "Congratulations to the Nicks!" said Martin's father Patrick.

PHOTO COURTESY OF P. MARTIN.

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9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

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everyday routine and bond in unique ways to members of the family in the home.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

Neville Furbottom

There has been a tiny kitten rescue operation on our streets. Between Olivier, Clarke, Sherbrooke and de Maisonneuve, neighbours have mobilized and four kittens out of five, their mother and the big daddy have been trapped and are in the pro-



cess of being vetted. The next step will be for them to be presented for adoption.

One is missing: Neville Furbottom, a 10-week-old full tabby. We are not giving up, but we are wondering if you have seen him or have brought him in. Any news would be most welcome. As long as Neville Furbottom is safe, our goal has been achieved.

Please feel free to contact me at lysfov@gmail.com with your sightings or news.



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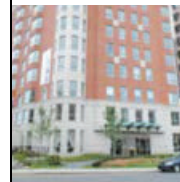
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NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 7 octobre

NEWS

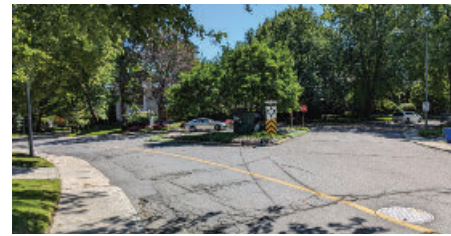
NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, October 7



Activité participative citoyenne : reconstruction de l'avenue Forden

11 septembre, 17h 30, Victoria Hall. Les résidents sont invités à partager leurs idées sur le projet lors d'une activité participative. engage.westmount.org



Public Participatory Workshop: Reconstruction of Forden Avenue

September 11, 5:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. Residents are invited to share their ideas on the project at a participatory workshop. engage.westmount.org.

Changements à la collecte des ordures dès le mois d'octobre

La collecte des ordures se fera aux 2 semaines à partir du mois d'octobre pour les maisons unifamiliales et les immeubles de 2 à 8 unités. engage.westmount.org/westmounteco

Célébration du 150e anniversaire de Westmount

Le 9 octobre au Victoria Hall, soyez des nôtres pour une soirée élégante et festive ! Célébrez la Ville en honorant les personnes et lieux qui ont façonné notre communauté. westmount.org

Kiosques d'information sur la gestion des matières résiduelles

Du 16 au 28 septembre, des membres de la Division environnement du Service des travaux publics seront présents à travers la Ville pour vous informer sur les meilleures pratiques à adopter et répondre à vos questions. westmount.org

Sécurité routière : rappels pour la rentrée scolaire

Afin d'assurer un retour à l'école en toute sécurité pour les enfants, la Ville de Westmount souhaite rappeler quelques règles et recommandations aux conducteurs de véhicules motorisés. westmount.org

Changes to garbage collection starting in October

Garbage collection will be done every 2 weeks starting in October for single-family homes and buildings with 2 to 8 units. engage.westmount.org

Celebrate Westmount's 150th anniversary

October 9 at Victoria Hall, be part of an elegant and festive evening! Celebrate the City and honour the people and places that have shaped our community. westmount.org

Information kiosks on residual materials management

September 16 to 28, members of the Environment Division of the Public Works Department will be present across the City to inform you about the best practices to adopt and answer your questions. westmount.org

Road Safety: Reminders for back-to-school

To ensure a smooth and safe return to classes for children, the City of Westmount would like to share these few recommendations for drivers. westmount.org

BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Rencontre d'artiste: Ann McCall

12 septembre, 19 h, Galerie du Victoria Hall. En anglais. Une rencontre d'artiste avec Ann McCall dans le cadre de son exposition. Elle discutera de sa pratique artistique et de son nouveau catalogue intitulé *Les voix de la nature*. En conversation avec Victoria LeBlanc, artiste, écrivaine, commissaire d'exposition et enseignante. westmount.org

Conférence - Virginia Woolf's Poetry

25 septembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. En anglais. Avec Dre Emily Kopley, Université McGill, auteure de *Virginia Woolf and Poetry*. Emily Kopley décrira l'histoire et le contenu de la bibliothèque de Virginia Woolf, puis se penchera sur les titres de poésie qui s'y trouvaient. westlib.org

Rencontre d'auteur — Remembering the Montreal Expos with Terry Mosher

29 septembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. En anglais. Terry Mosher, auteur de *Aislin's Montreal Expos: A Cartoonist's Love Affair*. Avec des invité(e)s de marque et une exposition de souvenirs des Expos. westmount.org

Club de Scrabble (10 à 16 ans)

Les mardis du 8 octobre au 26 novembre, 16 h, Salle Westmount. Ce club, avec Christine Cardinal vous permettra de perfectionner vos compétences, de découvrir des stratégies gagnantes et de maîtriser l'art du jeu de mots. westlib.org

LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Lecture – Virginia Woolf's Poetry

September 25, at 7 p.m., Westmount public library. With Dr. Emily Kopley, McGill University, author of *Virginia Woolf and Poetry*. In this talk, Dr. Emily Kopley will describe the history and contents of Woolf's library and then focus on its poetry titles. westlib.org

Author Event — Remembering the Montreal Expos with Terry Mosher

September 29, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. On the 20th anniversary of the last Expos game in Montreal, political cartoonist Terry Mosher reminisces on the team's legacy. Featuring special guests and a display of Expos artifacts. westmount.org

Scrabble Club (10 to 16-years-old)

Tuesdays, October 8 to November 26, 4 p.m., Westmount Room. This club, with Christine Cardinal will help you hone your skills, and master the art of wordplay. westlib.org



Artist meeting: Ann McCall

September 12, 7 p.m., Victoria Hall Gallery. An artist meeting with Ann McCall as part of her exhibition. She will discuss her artistic practice and her new catalog entitled *The Voices of Nature*. In conversation with Victoria LeBlanc, artist, writer, curator and teacher. westmount.org

Cinema club | Film Club: Perfect Days (2023)

September 24, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. In Japanese with English subtitles. Join our Film Club where we will watch a film on the big screen, in a relaxed atmosphere. westlib.org



Ciné-club | Film Club: Perfect Days (2023)

24 septembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. En japonais avec sous-titres en anglais. Joignez-vous à notre Ciné-club où nous regarderons un film sur grand écran, dans une ambiance décontractée. westlib.org



Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Fitness, fashion featured for fall



Zach Yaffe of YulBFit.



Orly Leibovici of Imperial.

This week's retail round-up suggests touch points for your day. Morning work-out? Athleisure wear. Evening? Dressier.

I started my morning discovering a recently opened gym. At the family-owned YULbFit (get it?), I chatted with trainer/director Zach Yaffe, who explained the concept.

The former Bacaro pizza parlour on St. Catherine near Greene is now a transformed space with state-of-the-art machines, piles of weights and a yoga area.

"We are very customer-centric, building a regime according to our client's lifestyle – be it staying in shape or getting fit for golf, tennis or skiing, for example. We also have a range of classes."

Zack comes from a physical rehabilitation background, having worked for years in a clinic, "So some of our clients can benefit as I also understand how body mechanisms work."

For YulBFit's older clientele, Zack points out that movements in the gym "carry over into real life: flexibility is increased."

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Intensive work-out programs such as cross-fit are also given, offered by Erika Del Torto, a CrossFit expert herself.

Yoga has proved popular and I noted mat-carrying acolytes arriving for a class with Esther Szabo.

Summer lures week-workers into week-end warriors. Zack and his team also offer maintenance plans so that people can try to avoid injuries after a week of computer-gazing: aka just sitting. Classes include boot camp and aero-boxing.

YULBFIT. 4259 St. Catherine.
yulbfit.com 514.403.2348

Greene Ave. has another fashion destination. Formerly in Westmount Square, Imperial has "committed customers," explained manager Orly Leibovici.

The shop's opening week had a wonder-

ful array of early fall and late summer selections on sale. Speaking with her assistant Zorana Pribic, I learnt that many women are started to "dress up again." Styles are chicer. Cashmere sweaters have sparkles. Pants – pleated, wider and skinny – are still bestsellers.

The jogging-clothes looks and the ubiquitous black tights I see all day-into-evening seem to be morphing with a European *élan*: Pants without elastic waists. Tops without hoodies. Wonderful long swishy skirts. (My favourite was a black cotton flounce – easy to pack; easy to wear with any top).

And even though *InStyle* magazine has proclaimed "brown is the new black" (who gives magazines that power anyway? – but I digress), black reigned supreme at Imperial.

Ruth Stalker Antiques



Jamie and Alison Stalker
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alison.stalker@bellnet.ca

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I noted ladies loving it as they tried on the new seasonal looks imported from Italy. Imperial is part of the Maska Group, a success story that understands fashion.

And for customers who hate shopping, the team puts together a selection. She just pops by to try. That's reminiscent of the famed "private shoppers" on 5th Avenue in New York. A great idea!

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Marley needs a forever home



*Westmount
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LYSANNE FOWLER

A loving pure-bred standard poodle with a coat in stunning shades of silver, Marley is many wonderful things: handsome, affectionate, playful. Energetic and quite clever, Marley is receiving much praise from foster family members who are taking care of him on behalf of the Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions volunteer group.

Unfortunately, his initial family faced difficult circumstances and Marley is now in need of adoption.

At an active seven years of age, he is friendly with all he meets, socializing with people and other dogs. He would also be happy in a home with another dog if that companionship was of interest.

Very healthy, Marley is up to date with his inoculations, neutered and micro-chipped. If you would like more information on this stunning companion, please refer to the Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions website at www.gerdysrescue.org, where you will find a link to an application form to fill out.

This will enable adoption coordinators to contact you back to discuss interest and adoption. You can also contact them directly at their email info@gerdysrescue.org for more details and sweet photographs.

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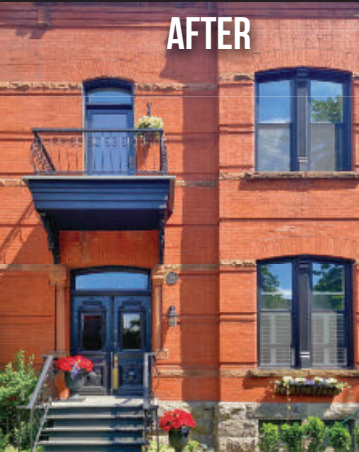
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Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The annual Cocktail des Présidentes et des Femmes Leaders 2024 was held on the 14th floor executive salons of the Bank of Montreal (BMO) head office. Designed foremost as a business event to promote networking, the innovative evening is aimed primarily at business women and female leaders.

In collaboration with the magazine *Premières en affaires*, the soirée also allowed RJV Communications, the organizing firm behind the event headed by Robert Vezina, to offer a \$20,000 contribution to support the YWCA Foundation of Montreal (the Women's Y).

Greeting guests from RJV were **Vezina, Danielle Cloutier, Eve Beauchamp Gillett, Lea Charron Bissett, Cristine Lamoureux, Renée-Claude Morin, Sophie Migneault, and Christian Gagné-Cholette.**

Media celeb **Geneviève Borne** was MC. Speeches were given by the honorary co-



Robert Vezina with guests of honour Annie Bouthillette, Viviane Croux, Anne-Marie Henson and Julie Doré.

chairs **Anne-Marie Henson**, Eastern Canada leader, BDO Canada; **Annie Bouthillette**, vp institutional relations, École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS); and **Viviane Croux**, head corporate finance Quebec, BMO Financial Group. They spoke about

the importance of female leadership as well as the need to accelerate the pace towards better gender equity in companies.

Also addressing the crowded room, **Nadine Raymond**, president YWCA Montreal and its foundation, added the impor-

ance of not forgetting to open doors for up-and-coming women.

The event's honorary vp was **Julie Doré**, managing partner BCF law firm.

Seen during the evening were **Deborah Levy**, *continued on p. 18*



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Two row Tanzanite bead necklace 127.17ctw

Social notes, cont'd from p. 17

editor-in-chief, *Premières en affaires*; Groupe Petra's **Isabelle Héroux**, vp leasing, and **Nancy Bourbeau**, building director, 1000 De La Gauchetière; **Carmela Martinez**, CEO, MP Repro; **Kim Pham**, associate NEUF Architect(e)s; **Jacynthe Alain**, associate vp strategy and planning, Sun Life Canada; **Carolina Gallo**, Women in Tech McGill Mentor, vp government affairs & policy, GE Canada; **Annamaria Testani**, head client experience, IG Wealth Management; **Franca Riso**, vp legal, Montoni and president Montoni Foundation; **Marie-Andrée Thibault**, partner, Dentons; **Sophie Perreault**, board president, Langlois; **Geneviève Pagé**, partner, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton; **Heidi Lange**, partner, Richter; **Karl Blackburn** (one of only five male guests in attendance), CEO, Conseil du patronat du Québec/Quebec Employers Council; **Anik Shooner**, co-founder and president, Menkès Shooner Dagenais LeTourneux architects; **Renée Daoust**, founding partner, Daoust Lestage Lizotte Stecker architects; and **Elida Eid**, **Nancy Girard** and **Natalie Mountain**, all three from BDO Canada; and **Marina Boulos-Winton** and **Johanne Berry**.

The delicious gourmet buffet was created by **Florian Coignée**, executive chef at the Salons BMO. Wines were selected by sommelier **Kathleen McNeil**. Door prizes were outstanding: Four VIP tickets for a full evening at "En Direct de l'OSM avec France Beaudoin" offered by IG Wealth Management; executive coaching sessions by **Danielle Cloutier**; gift certificate for a full day at the Spa of the Hovey Manor. The grand prize (a value of \$10,000) featured two executive club tickets for the 2024 Conference of Montreal (International Economic Forum of the Americas). Departing guests received a beautiful box of four champagne glasses offered by Trudeau Corporation, accompanied by a bottle of sparkling French rosé offered by BDO Canada.

Please send your upcoming event information for the Fall Social Calendar to Veronica@redgravepr.com



Cristine Lamoureux and Isabelle Héroux.



Elida Eid, Nancy Girard and Natalie Mountain.



Marina Boulos-Winton and Johanne Berry.



Nathalie Pilon, Danielle Cloutier and Franca Riso.



Nadine Raymond.



Marie-Andrée Thibault and Nancy Bourbeau.

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