

*Council presents 2017 budget of \$106M*

## Tax freeze adopted for second year

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council December 12 set a tax rate for 2017 that freezes the average tax bill on single-family dwellings for the second consecutive year while adopting a \$106-million budget that hikes spending 4 percent.

In delivering the budget speech, Finance commissioner Victor Drury announced a property tax rate of \$0.8014 per \$100 of evaluation that applies to all residential categories.

This translates into a tax bill of \$12,760 – “the same as in 2016” – for the average single-family dwelling, now assessed at \$1,592,223, he said. “Tax bill increases and/or decreases will vary depending on the change in valuation of each individual property.”

“We talk about a tax freeze. In fact, it’s a reduction in taxation when two years of inflation are factored in,” explained Mayor Peter Trent. Owners of single-family dwellings are the largest category of taxpayers.

Commercial taxpayers are also reported to be getting a break with a tax rate of \$3.05309, though there is no averaging for this category.

Other budget highlights *continued on p. 16*

## Carollers croon at the club



The city’s annual neighbourhood Christmas carol gathering assembled at the Westmount Lawn Bowling Club December 11 at 6 pm. The event’s coordinator, Virginia Elliott, who is project manager with the city’s Community Events department, is helped by Councillor Nicole Forbes (background), while Helen Rainville Olders provides piano accompaniment. See story, p. 24. Photo: Ralph Thompson

**This is our last edition of 2016. We are back in the office the week of January 9 to prepare the issue of January 17. Happy New Year!**

## Westmount grandmother appeals to council

# Drop-off zones for zoneless daycares at temporary stage

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Requests to the city to create drop-off zones in front of the city’s daycares appear to be bearing fruit – but not likely in time for this winter, one concerned resident was told at the city council meeting December 5.

Things changed within the week, how-

ever, when Public Works put up temporary drop-off signs December 12 in front of the KIDS Daycare on St. Catherine at Metcalfe, Councillor Patrick Martin later told the *Independent*.

Toby Morantz of Columbia Ave. said she had become involved in the issue when she became a grand- mother and “was ap- *continued on p. 22*



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# Gates, fences, latches among defects reported at dog runs

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Deficiencies at the newly updated dog run in King George (Murray) Park are in the throes of being corrected, Councillor Cynthia Lulham told questioner Bruce Anderson at the council meeting December 5.

Anderson, an architect and resident of Côte St. Antoine, asked who had designed the city's dog runs, saying when one looks at a design one should also look at the deficiencies such as surface material, fences, gates and latches.

These, he described as being of "the cheapest" quality, which was leading to frozen latches, holes under the fence

through which smaller dogs are escaping, a sand mix that clumps and a gate that swings the wrong way.

Lulham said she would be going up to the Murray run (just recently refurbished) to check out his concerns. "We've changed the new fence already," she said. Latches at the Westmount Park run also had already been changed.

The specialized dog run sand mix used by the city had been well researched, she said. It is one found in dog parks around the world, adapted to the area of use. The Westmount Park run, she added, had been designed by landscape architect Mike Hodgins, which appeared to satisfy Anderson.



Photos: Westmount Independent



At the King George (Murray) Park dog run on December 9, the Independent found the six latches at the four entrances to be in working order (two accesses have inside and outside gates), including this one at the southwest corner (left). At least three spots were found where the fence did not meet the ground, like this one hole on the eastern side (right). One friend of the photographer who was walking his dog announced – unprompted – that some dogs do escape under the fence.

## Unidentified dog taken to SPCA

A dog without a collar was found wandering loose inside the door area of the apartment complex at 110 Hillside November 22, according to Public Security officials. When inquiries at the building failed

to identify the dog, it was kept at the station before being taken to the SPCA. It was identified as an adult beige and black mixed breed resembling a pug.

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# Dorchester Blvd. group presses council for changes

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Nine outspoken residents of Dorchester and vicinity told city council December 5 they were opposed to a city proposal to narrow the current boulevard, eliminate its curve at St. Catherine, and redevelop the parking lots as part of an aim to restore the area’s historic residential aspect. One by one they challenged the only option that had been presented by the city at two public meetings, stating it failed to

represent views already expressed at two public presentations and asked the city to “re-open discussions” with citizens. “This is not a final plan,” said District 8 councillor Theodora Samiotis, who as commissioner of Urban Planning was on the hot seat throughout most of the 45 minutes of questioning. She thanked questioners for generating interest in the project to regenerate the southeast district and insisted she has received only “positive feedback” to the “pre-

liminary plan.” “We don’t understand why you say you have received only positive feedback because according to over 200 people who have signed a petition, 90 percent do not agree with the city vision and believe it’s a done deal between the city and developers,” said Tony Kez. Mayor Peter Trent shot back in outrage: “That’s enough! You have just insulted us.”

### No meetings with developers

Trent said no members of the council had been involved with developers on the issue. If they had been, the proposal would have included higher-rise buildings and higher prices for the sale of the city land than expected. Among a succession of questioners was Honor Robertson, whose late city-councillor husband, Douglas Robertson, was cred-

ited with preserving the area south of Dorchester as a residential enclave during the urban renewal trends of high rise building the mid-1960s (see story January 20, 2015, p. 12). She questioned how some highrise buildings shown on the city’s plan behind proposed homes fronting on the north side of Dorchester would “make us feel more comfortable?” Samiotis said these would serve as a transition between the houses on Dorchester and taller buildings on St. Catherine. **Two viewings** The city’s preliminary plan has been presented on at least two public occasions. The first was at a meeting June 14 for residents of the area and again at an address by Samiotis to the West- ..... continued on p. 5



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At the council meeting December 5, Tony Kez leads off questions about a city plan for the Dorchester area.

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# to part of renewal 'plan' for the south east

ation (see stories June 21, p.1 and November 8, p. 12).

At both meetings people had asked for a bicycle path, more green space, lower development to the north of houses on Dorchester and mock-ups of other options that had been prepared.

Kathleen Kez, a Dorchester resident who was a member the city task force created to inject resident concerns into the plan, questioned the council on how she could obtain a copy of a city survey on the issue after running into red tape in previous efforts. She was told she could get it from the city's Legal department by making an access to information request.

During the council meeting's second question period, after most of the opponents had departed, Samiotis acknowledged the city's concept was not necessarily shared by others. In answering a question from Paul Marriott, president of the Westmount Municipal Association, however, she said it was urgent for the city to have a "road map" for traffic planning and other needs.

It was not just about the narrowing of Dorchester, she explained. It's like the piece of a puzzle the way Dorchester fits in



Honor Robertson was one of nine residents opposing the Dorchester plan.

with the total vision for the southeast sector, she said.

Tony Kez told the *Independent* after the meeting that the petition of 200 names to which he had referred was still ongoing with the aim of presenting it at the January 16 council meeting.



Councillor Theodora Samiotis, at right, responds to questioners December 5. Other councillors shown, from left, are Christina Smith, Nicole Forbes and Cynthia Lulham.



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## Crossing guard retires after 12 years at busy Selwyn corner



*Liliane MacKay December 2, before her retirement December 22 from the Selwyn House crossing.*

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After 12 years on the job, a prominent Westmount resident is “putting down” her stop sign.

Liliane MacKay will retire December 22 as the school crossing guard for Selwyn House students at the intersection of Côte St. Antoine and Stanton St. Fittingly, it is the last day of classes before the holiday break.

A longtime resident of Grosvenor and mother of three, MacKay has been on duty three times a day until last year when the noon-hour shift was deemed unnecessary for a school where most students stay for lunch.

Since then, she has worked from 7 to 9 am and 2:30 to 4:30 pm, at a location many can attest to as being a jungle of moving traffic: cars dropping off and picking up students, others exiting the city hall parking lot and vehicles – fire, police and Public Security – coming down Stanton in emergency mode.

On a regular basis, “The big challenge I have is a half hour in the morning, in particular, when I can have 500 cars passing through here between 8 and 8:30. I have to be very vigilant.”

And MacKay has developed an eagle eye to the sudden and unexpected, as the *Independent* discovered in observing her one

rainy morning. Drivers may call out greetings while other passers-by stop for a fleeting word. “For many, I am the first smile of the morning,” she said.

On duty since September 2004, MacKay says she likes the part-time work. And “I prefer to stop work before I don’t like it anymore, especially in the bad weather.”

### **Needed most in bad weather**

While she is allowed 10 sick days a year, she said, it might be tempting sometimes to call in sick when the weather is bad “but I know that is when I am needed most. I say to myself, ‘It’s important that I am there today.’”

“The boys,” she said, “are very polite, and after all the years, I have many memories.”

While the older students may want to cross on their own, sometimes the younger ones try to copy them, so she has to watch out for those trying to dart across the street from different corners at the same time.

Like other crossing guards, MacKay is unionized and is evaluated by police on her performance once a year. While she works for the SPVM, her contact with local Station 12 just up the street on Stanton is generally limited to a possible complaint. Otherwise, “it’s just like I work for myself,” she said.





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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## CLARIFYING COVERAGE

Centre Greene is always grateful for any coverage by the *Westmount Independent* of the events at our community centre.

Thank you for the write-up of our Treats & Treasures, which is our special day where we extend an invitation to all to come for a visit – with 30 artisans, Empty Bowls, a raffle, bake table and lunch. All volunteers are pleased to welcome the public.

I would like to clarify the following from the article “Centre Greene annual fundraiser brings in \$4K” (November 29, p. 5). Our artisans pay to rent their tables but are able to keep all revenues. They each donate an item to our raffle, but they do not give us a percentage of their sales.

Also, we did not include any local stores, although we have been given donations from many of them. Our crafters include many fundraising groups, such as the Avataq Cultural Institute (located in Westmount to promote Inuit culture), Chez Doris and Kyanyawara Women’s Project (aid to women in Uganda).

ERICA BLOOM, CENTRE GREENE BOARD  
MEMBER AND COORDINATOR OF  
TREATS & TREASURES

## SWAT SUCCESSFUL AGAIN

The Westmount Old Timers Hockey team (SWAT) held its 26th annual tournoi the weekend of December 1-4, with eight Quebec and Ontario teams at the Westmount recreation centre and some 500 players, spectators and supporters. It was in support of the Montreal Children’s and St. Justine hospitals.

Players participated in 15 competitive games, with Kirkland Oldtimers and Westmount Wanderers competing in a final thrill-filled game for the second consecutive year, with Kirkland emerging victorious again.

Participants were provided with a warm breakfast Sunday morning by Westmount’s Metro grocery store. Dagwoods provided delicious sandwiches on Friday.

A silent auction was organized by Marina Cutler and a sum of \$4,600 was raised this year, just shy of the 2015 record of \$4,710.

Although final numbers are awaited for this year, the sum of \$280,000 has been donated to these two fine institutions, since inception.

These *tournois* are successful due to (1.) the unfailing support of the dedicated

Westmount retailers, who, each year provide program advertising and supplies, (2.) advertisements, donations and products from numerous corporations and professionals from Westmount and the greater Montreal community, (3.) the *pro bono* work of the referees, (4.) the immense contributions of the recreation centre managers and rink attendants, (5.) the support of the *Westmount Independent*.

The concept arose from the inspiration and courage of the late Nicolas Matossian. Undaunted by his illness, at the age of 16, Nicolas organized, with his friends, fundraising activities for neurosurgery at the two hospitals.

SWAT CO-CHAIRS  
JIM WEST AND ADAM CUTLER

## DORCHESTER PROJECT: NOT FOR MY PERSONAL INTEREST

In a letter in last week’s paper (“Can’t go back to future,” December 6, p. 6), a resident of The Boulevard suggests that the Dorchester/Clarke intersection and highway-like curve are just fine as they are now, because they allow cars “unimpeded access to the downtown core.” He also asserts that we should not aspire to restore the residential flavour of the area because “the neighbourhood in which it is situated does not invite leisurely strolling...”

I could not disagree with this more strongly. The city of Westmount seeks to create a community where residences and businesses enjoy tightly-knit, sustainable neighbourhoods, where people and the urban natural environment are more important than vehicular traffic flow to the downtown core.

Even more troubling for me personally is the author’s thinly-veiled allegation that as councillor for this district and the one championing the redevelopment of the south east sector, I included this intersection because my personal residence will somehow benefit. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Mayor Peter Trent has written in this paper that successive councils have lamented the state of Dorchester and the Tupper parking lots. Moreover, the specific proposal for the Dorchester/Clarke intersection that is attracting recent attention was not designed nor proposed by me. It came forward from the city’s planning consultant during the last administration, when Cynthia Lulham was commissioner for Urban Planning.

In the 2013 election, I campaigned for the revitalization of the south east, and I received the largest majority of any councillor – 79 percent. This gives me the legiti-

macy and obligation to represent the interest of my fellow citizens on the south east project. My family and I will receive no more or less benefit from a thoughtfully revitalized south east than will any of the multitude of families in our neighbourhood that would also like to see it improved.

THEODORA SAMIOTIS,  
COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT 8

## WRC STAFF HELPFUL

The 26th SWAT Old Timers Hockey Tournament took place in early December at the Westmount recreation centre (WRC). This annual event, organized by the SWAT hockey team and supported by the Westmount population and business community, allows the raising of money for the Montreal Children’s and St. Justine hospitals. Once again this year, the tournament was a great success, thanks to the participation of many. On behalf of the tournament committee, I would like to pay tribute to the work and collaboration of all the WRC employees during this event for a good cause. Your assistance and enthusiasm were very helpful and greatly appreciated. Thank you!

BERNARD LAROCHE, ST. CATHERINE ST.

## SELBY MURAL WAS POSSIBLE WITH COLLABORATION

I would like to thank Westmount city council for awarding me a commission to paint a 500-foot mural next to Selby Park.

I didn’t do it alone. It would never have happened without a lot of collaboration.

Much appreciation goes to Mike Deegan, director general of the city of Westmount, and his highly capable executive assistant Christine Joly, plus a team of great guys from Public Works, headed by Réjean Binette, and the technical expertise from Benoît Hurtubise, director of Hydro Westmount.

And finally, Councillor Nicole Forbes, who believed in me and the project.

BRUCE ROBERTS, IRVINE AVE.

## THINK BIG FOR DORCHESTER

To undo the urban disaster caused by the widening of Dorchester, whose end result was parking lots, the south east project should give back to the community a sense of it being a neighbourhood, at the human scale. There are two requirements to achieve this: sustainability and liveability.

Sustainability is an entity to be calculated, not a empty phrase. For example, what are the goals in the fields of energy, building envelope, transportation, water use, etc. ....  
continued on p. 26

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We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. E-mail any letter or comments to indie@westmountindependent.com. Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic.



## Thanks to residents, staff for patience, work during construction



*Director general's  
column*

MIKE DEEGAN

Dear residents,

As 2016 draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the city of Westmount, to thank all residents for their patience and understanding throughout an unprecedented number of important Public Works projects across the city.

Over the past months, our crews have been working to improve our streets and sidewalks, from resurfacing roads to replacing streetlights, as well as making much-needed upgrades to our aging water and hydro infrastructure.

Major projects, such as replacing underground water mains and sewers, take time and require street closures, but although each project was carefully planned to minimize inconvenience to residents, I know it has not been easy.

From Summit Circle and Westmount Ave. to Wood, Prince Albert and Argyle

amongst many other streets, residents throughout the city have patiently endured not only dust, noise, and debris around their homes, but many did not have access to their own driveways and were forced to park on neighbouring streets for extended periods. Others had to find alternate routes while local streets were either closed or had reduced capacity during the reconstruction.

These major projects could not have succeeded without the hard work and dedication of many people in Westmount Public Works and Hydro Westmount. Although there are too many to name here individually, I wish to acknowledge the hard work in particular of Elisa, Cristian, Chris and the entire engineering team.

The contribution of the team at Hydro Westmount – Salah, Maxim, André V., Robert and Pierre C., did a great job, especially on the complete reconstruction and new underground electrical infrastructure on Westmount Ave.

As well, I thank Ena, Annique and Daniel for answering phone calls by worried residents. They did a masterful job in assuaging residents' many concerns.

We would also like to recognize the con-

tributions of many other departments, including: Public Security, Urban Planning, Legal, Finance and Purchasing. Each department helped us in different ways, and their support is greatly appreciated.

But there is still a considerable amount of work yet to be done. Looking ahead to 2017, projects include water main and sewer replacement work on Belmont, Westmount, Anwoth, Grosvenor, Clendeboye, and Sunnyside avenues, as well as road reconstruction on Argyle Ave. and phase 2 of the ongoing naturalization plan for Summit Circle and the lookout.

I'm happy to say that residents have been, for the most part, very understanding and cooperative throughout this period of inconvenience. They understand the scope and necessity of these projects, as well as the ultimate benefit – not only to their own streets, but to Westmount as a whole.

Lastly, with the arrival of the snow, our Public Works crews will be out working hard, continuing their tradition of making Westmount streets amongst the safest on the island.

Wishing all of you an enjoyable and peaceful holiday season.

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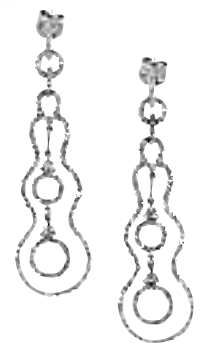
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Historical association's 'Strolling the Streets of Westmount' goes north

# How Summit Circle's road will change to path

By RALPH THOMPSON

The Westmount Historical Association (WHA) held its third lecture in its fall series November 17 at the Westmount Pub-



Left: Cynthia Lulham, foreground, and Nicholas Mory, were guest speakers at the November 17 lecture. Right: Looking towards Montreal and Mount Royal, this November 19 aerial photo shows the new pathway under construction.

lic Library. Guest speakers were Cynthia Lulham, councillor and commissioner of sustainability and parks, and Nicholas Mory, superintendent of horticulture and

arboriculture in Public Works. The main topic was the refurbishing of the closed-road section of Summit Circle, and the city's long-term objectives to assist nature in and around Summit Woods. The



Photos: Ralph Thompson

current activity includes removal of the existing paved road surface, light stands, side rails and invasive plant species along the northern quadrant of Summit Circle (the section currently closed to vehicles) and replacing them with a gravelled pathway destined for pedestrians only. The work also includes upgrading some of the existing pathways, introducing an appropriate blend of trees and bushes, and discreet lighting bollards.

The \$3-million project is funded 50 percent by the Quebec ministry of Culture and is being coordinated with the city of Montreal's efforts to spruce up Mount Royal and to link it with Montreal's other two mountains Westmount and Outremont, and establish a "discovery trail."

Mory explained that Summit Woods is susceptible to significant erosion because rain and snow are not absorbed into the

ground. This causes a lot of muddy pathways and road damage.

The project includes the introduction of "bioswales" to help the ground absorb water runoff and prevent damage to the paved road foundations. The pathways through the woods are being covered with wood chip, which will provide a more natural and biodegradable surface. Invasive plants will be removed, no trees will be cut, and hundreds of new, complementary tree species are to be planted.

Montreal's 'stumps' not to be included

In keeping with Westmount's intent to maintain Summit Woods as natural woods, Montreal's controversial granite "stumps" installations and other para-

phernalia are not to be included in Westmount.

The initial work is to be completed in 2017, after which the last phase of the project will commence. It will tackle the core of Summit Woods, remove invasive species, relocate trails to take account for water runoff and address erosion, especially around the escarpment.

The speakers were peppered with questions from an interested audience, but the meeting had to end at 8:30 pm because speaker Lulham had to attend to a family matter.

The next WHA event is to take place the evening of Thursday, December 15 in the Gallery at Victoria Hall to honour past president Doreen Lindsay.

## A new take on artisans festival



The annual craft fair held at Victoria Hall attracted many shoppers interested in buying hand-made art pieces November 12 and 13. The popular weekend event had a new organizing committee this year, consisting of Liz McCallum, Christiane Loisele and city councillor Rosalind Davis, who established a jury of Westmounters. They selected the 32 exhibitors from more than 60 candidates from around the province. The artisans were not identified to the jury. The committee developed a creative new bilingual name and logo "Artisans Westmount." Products on sale included a mix of applied art from jewelry, soaps, leather goods, wooden lathe work and furniture, pottery, scarves, gloves and decorative cards.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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## A lighter moment in the sound barrier issue

# Can council help his little dog's nerves?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A moment of raucous laughter followed serious questions by a resident of Prospect St. about delays in plans for a proposed sound wall on land alongside the Ville Marie expressway in front his street.

Frank Candido was in the throes of reviewing requests for the sound barrier and concerned about “rumours” of its status when Mayor Peter Trent asked him to state his question.

Hesitating a moment, Candido picked up on an earlier discussion about dog runs to say:

“We treat our dogs better than humans in Westmount .... I’m hoping you can do something for my little dog Cheeto and other dogs on Prospect,” whose nerves are bothered by the noise from the highway.

The council chamber erupted in applause and laughter that included at least one councillor pounding on the council table in guffaws.

Prior to his question, Candido had stated

he had heard rumours that the Quebec Transport ministry (MTQ) would not revisit the feasibility of a sound wall on the highway for another three years and the end of the work by KPH Turcot. He noted that before the start of this work, the city had gone through a 50-50 partnership with the MTQ on building a sound barrier, which had been narrowed to studying a new option for one on the highway after the original proposal alongside the tracks was deemed to be not feasible west of Greene. He found it too bad since residents of Prospect were “unanimous” in wanting one in front of their homes, where there was sufficient land.

Councillor Theodora Samiotis explained that previous delays by the MTQ were causing problems now that the Turcot work is under way, and that possible changes around Greene after construction of the highway was still under consideration.

See stories May 31, p. 1, and November 15, p. 3.

Joyeuses Fêtes  
et tous nos meilleurs vœux pour la nouvelle année!

Happy Holidays  
and best wishes for the New Year!



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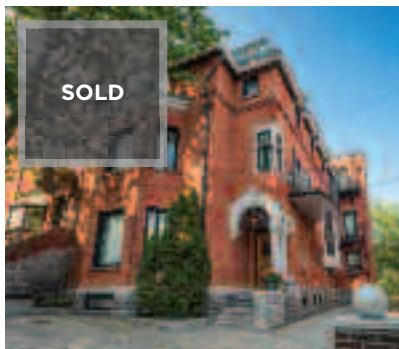
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## Parked car inches its way down Strathcona

A driverless car was seen inching slowly down the hill on Strathcona December 2 at 9:46 am, Public Security officials said. Responding officers placed a wedge under the wheels and called at houses in search of the driver. When no one was found, they called police to identify and try contacting the owner. A tow truck was finally

called to place the car in the city hall parking lot. The wheels of the car had not been turned to the curb nor had the emergency brake been applied. The car was also left in gear, a reason why it had been rolling forward so slowly, officials said. The owner was identified as a Laval resident.



*Wishing all our clients, friends & family  
a very happy & healthy & prosperous holiday season!*  
Bunny Berke & Larry Lusko

## City's Christmas tree comes to life Dec. 1



Some 50 people gathered December 1 outside city hall to continue the tradition of lighting the large Norway spruce, which comes to life each year as the city's Christmas tree. It was a healthy-size crowd that showed up in spite of the steady drizzle and gusting winds. Montreal chamber choir Seraphim sang carols while children and adults had hot chocolate, punch and cookies. At 6:40 pm, people joined together for a countdown from 10, with a pause before hundreds of lights lit up on the tree to a big cheer. The tree, number 3328, can be located on the city's website (<http://westmount.org/en/environment/trees/>), which "geomaps" the city's trees.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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## The square at Prince Albert launches holiday season



Prince Albert Square had the feel of festivity November 24. Around 6 pm, people gathered to watch the now annual event to light a tree and start the holiday season. Upbeat music came from the loud speakers of The Beat 92.5. Davids Tea provided tea and snacks, and Councillor Rosalind Davis walked around with her homemade fudge. The library's mascot, Findlay Featherton, also attended, to the delight of young children. After the tree was lit, the Burton Street Singers led the audience with a number of rousing carols. People were coming and going, but it was estimated that about 100 were there.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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# Agglo share, pay-as-you-go among budget highlights

cont'd. from p. 1

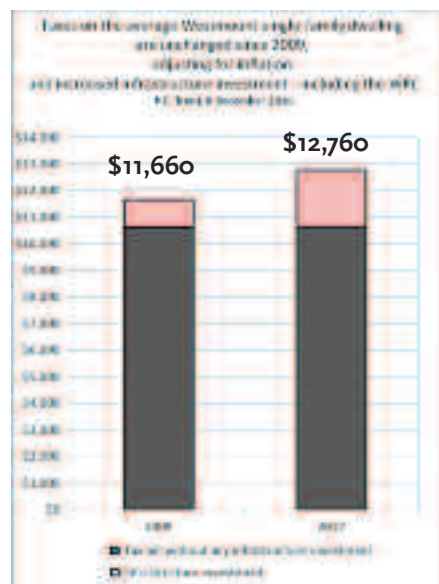
include eliminating the phase-in over three years of a new property valuation roll, increased tax revenue from the addition of new “premium” condos and a lower than expected rise of 1.9 percent in the city’s agglomeration share of \$52.7 million for island-wide services.

These helped lead to the tax break along with an injection of \$3 million from accumulated surplus, decreases in total financing costs and tighter budgeting.

## Budget breakdown: spending

In a breakdown of the 2017 budget of \$105.8 million, fully \$52.7 million will go to the agglomeration with another \$913,400 to the Montreal Metropolitan Community for regional expenses – a total of \$53.6 million.

Of the remaining \$52.2 million for Westmount’s local services and expenses, \$14.2 million is to be spent on pay-as-you-go for capital works and some \$16.5 mil-



Left: Councillor Victor Drury delivers the 2017 budget December 12 as Finance commissioner. Right: Lawrence Kryzanoski, a resident of Prince Albert Ave. and a Concordia finance professor, questions council on the city's pension fund status. He was one of three members of the public attending the budget meeting December 12.

lion on regular Public Works operations (road maintenance, snow removal, parks and garbage recycling collections).

The rest is allocated to administration, Public Security, Sports and Recreation, library and other departments, as well as other projects totalling \$17.6 million and other expenses, such as contingencies, of \$1.2 million.

Debt service/financing is down from close to \$6 million to \$4.7 million while the cost of servicing the pensions of retirees is down from \$2.4 million to \$2.1 million.

These are offset by some \$3.8 million in transfers related to Hydro Westmount, the water and sewer network and the Westmount recreation centre.

The city’s pay-as-you-go strategy for capital works means the city no longer borrows for these expenditures but has “greatly increased” these amounts, Drury explained.

## Revenue, WRC fundraising

Revenues on the other hand, include



\$86 million from general taxation, \$3 million in compensation from federal and provincial government properties, \$5.3 million in welcome tax, and more than \$3 million in fines and permits. More than \$3 million is also forecast from parking. An appropriation from accumulated surplus adds some \$3.3 million.

Drury said the city had already received \$4.6 million of the \$6.5 million in pledges made over five years to fundraising for the Westmount recreation centre (WRC).

## Debt-free status enabled tax freeze

In adding comments following delivery of the budget speech, Trent emphasized the impact of the city becoming free of net debt in 2016 and now having \$2 million on the positive side. This was one reason the city was able to provide tax breaks while increasing its capital works pay-as-you-go allocation by \$5 million to \$14.2 million without having to borrow.

“This is what a mature city such as Westmount that is already built up should be doing,” he said.

In this regard, he told the *Independent* that “For a city that is 142 years old, we are financially pretty spry. We have never been healthier,” able to spend \$17 million on infrastructure (including government subsi-

dies), being free of net debt and “reducing” taxes two years in a row when adjusted for inflation.

“This is where we should remain,” he said. That is, “as long as we continue to pay cash for infrastructure investments, any improvement to our zero net debt position should be used to lower taxes.”

## Commercial taxes

The lowering of commercial taxes is aimed at giving merchants a break, Trent told the meeting. The ratio of the commercial tax rate to that of single-family dwellings has been reduced from 3.95 to 3.81 for the coming year. “The number is high because of a much slower assessment growth for the commercial sector over the years,” he explained.

This ratio of 3.81 compares to Montreal’s 4.38. Westmount’s commercial tax rate of 3.05 per \$100 of evaluation compares to Montreal’s rate of \$3.55, he said. “There’s quite a substantial difference.”

## No phase-in

He also said the decision not to phase in the 2017-19 valuation roll over three years results from the new roll being a “quiet” one in which increases in property values for single-family dwellings ranged from minus 10 percent to plus 10.

This compares to property increases of 34 percent in 2004, 36 percent in 2007, 19 percent in 2011 and 21 percent in 2014, he said.

## Tax bills going out end January

Tax bills are to be mailed out at the end of January. Due dates for paying the two installments are February 27 and May 29.

The city recently announced the implementation for 2017 of a new tax collection practice, whereby properties with overdue accounts for a current year will be subject to the process for selling properties at auction starting at the end of the calendar year (see story November 22, p. 1).

## Safety precautions installed around crane

A Public Security patroller checked out a crane in front of 4175 St. Catherine, corner of Greene, November 28 and discovered it had not met the conditions of its city permit to occupy the street. According to department officials, the permit specified the need for a flagman and a safe passage for pedestrians. A worker described as “very cooperative” was cautioned at 10:41 am and corrected the situation immediately.

## A great golf course?

A local resident called Public Security December 1 to say a man was golfing in King George (Murray) Park, Public Security officials said. When officers arrived just after 1 pm, they told the man that using a golf club in the park was not allowed. He was described as a St. Henri resident.

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## Part of broader move to protect surrounding land

# Glen arch becomes first local heritage site

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's Glen arch is being officially named the Glen Viaduct as it, with its supporting embankments, becomes the city's first designated heritage site under a by-law tabled at the city council meeting December 5. And this is only the first phase in a plan to extend similar recognition to more of the area around it, said Councillor Theodora Samiotis, Urban Planning commissioner.

The distinctive grey stone arch through which traffic travels to and from St. Henri is described as the city's first civil works structure. Dating back to 1892, it replaced a wooden trestle railway bridge erected over the old Glen stream.

Other reasons cited for its heritage importance relate to its technological, architectural, landscape and symbolic values.

These are further detailed as including its proven durability, the integrity of materials used, its representation of the Richardson style of Romanesque revival architecture and its importance as a "visual landmark." A commemorative plaque was dedicated to the arch at the southwest cor-

ner of Glen Rd. and St. Catherine in 2012 (see story November 27, 2012, p. 12).

Samiotis later told the *Independent* that phase 2 of the heritage recognition is expected to include the land on either side of Glen Rd. leading north through the tunnel from Hydro Westmount.

This would likely include the emergency access road to and from the super-hospital on the west side, the corners of Glen Rd. and St. Catherine St., and potentially include the site of the former Westmount train station to the west.

Samiotis said the MUHC had been represented at a committee meeting on the plan "so they are well aware" of it. CP Rail had been invited but did not attend.

"Thank you for recognizing the Glen arch," Maureen Kiely, past president of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), told the council after she was mentioned by Mayor Peter Trent for spearheading the recognition.

The resulting designation of the landmark stemmed from a joint effort by the WMA and the Westmount Historical Association (WHA).

Kiely recalled how since 2009, as a mem-

ber of the Community-University Research Alliances (CURA), she had become concerned someone would "mess with the arch" to improve traffic flow in connection with the new super-hospital.

The draft by-law is to be adopted under the city's powers bestowed on municipalities in 2012 by the provincial government under its Cultural Heritage Act, resulting in the creation of the Westmount Local Heritage Council. This was established by the city under the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) two years ago (see story June 9, 2014).

Under the PAC's new heritage role, it is invested with the power to hold public hearings regarding the heritage designation of a cultural landscape. It may also advise council on the "identification of elements of intangible heritage" and "the recognition of all or part of a document, immovable, object or site in its territory as heritage property."

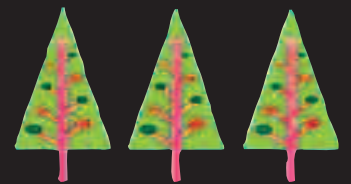
Members of the heritage council along with those on the PAC are Caroline Breslaw, as a representative of the WHA (of which she is president), and urban planning professor and historian David Hanna.

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Agence immobilière



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The McGuigan Team wishes  
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holiday season!**



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**Jacques Chagnon**

Député de | MNA for Westmount—Saint-Louis

Président de l'Assemblée nationale  
President of the National Assembly



**MEILLEURS VOEUX POUR LA PÉRIODE DES  
FÊTES ET POUR LA NOUVELLE ANNÉE!**

**BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON  
AND THE NEW YEAR!**

**Bureau de circonscription | Riding Office**

1155, boulevard Robert-Bourassa, bureau 1312,

Montréal (Québec) H3B 3A7

(514) 395-2929 | jchagnon-wsl@assnat.qc.ca

**NOUS VOUS SOUHAITONS,**

à vous et à votre famille,  
un joyeux Noël et  
une bonne fête de Hanoucca.

**WISHING YOU**

and your family,  
merry Christmas  
and happy Hanukkah.



**HON. MARC GARNEAU**

Député / M.P.

Notre-Dame-de-Grâce Westmount

marc.garneau@parl.gc.ca

(514) 283-2013

4060, Rue Ste-Catherine Street Ouest/West, #340  
Westmount, Qc H3Z 2Z3





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# infoWestmount

HÔTEL DE VILLE

### Message du conseil municipal

Le maire Peter F. Trent, les conseillers municipaux et le personnel de Westmount souhaitent à tous et chacun une joyeuse période des fêtes en toute sécurité, en famille et entre amis, et une bonne et heureuse année en santé.



SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

### Collecte d'aliments à Westmount

**Jusqu'au 16 décembre** : déposez vos dons d'aliments non périssables dans les bacs situés dans les édifices municipaux ou appelez au 514 989-5222.

### Obtenez votre permis de chien en ligne

Le nouveau système de la Ville vous permet d'obtenir ou de renouveler le permis de chien en ligne. Visitez le [westmount.org](http://westmount.org) pour en savoir plus.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Exposition - Le monde d'Harry Potter : Renaissance, science, magie et médecine

**Jusqu'au 7 janvier**, Bibliothèque. Une exposition itinérante de la *National Library of Medicine*.

### Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

**Les mercredis 14 et 28 décembre et 11 janvier, 10 h 15**, Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Ciné-Club

**Le vendredi 16 décembre, 14 h**, Bibliothèque. *The Man Who Knew Infinity*. Billets requis; 514 989-5299.

### Cercle de lecture Finnegans Wake de Joyce

**Les mercredis 21 décembre et 18 janvier, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Films pour les fêtes à la Bibliothèque

**Le mercredi 28 décembre, 14 h** : *Finding Dory* (4 ans et +). **Le mercredi 4 janvier, 14 h** :

Prochaine séance du conseil

## le lundi 16 janvier 2017

### Club de films documentaires

**Le mercredi 4 janvier, 19 h**, Bibliothèque. *Herb and Dorothy* (2009). Billets requis; 514 989-5299.

### Concours littéraire McEntyre

Thème pour 2017 : *des endroits secrets et des trésors cachés*. Invitation aux étudiants du primaire et du secondaire! Renseignez-vous au [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

### Chœur d'hommes gallois de Montréal

**Le mercredi 14 décembre, 19 h 30**, Victoria Hall. Le CHGM présente *Holiday Traditions*, une soirée de joyeux chants traditionnels gallois et de courtes lectures. Billets 20 \$. Info : 450 465-2092.

### Conférences-midi

**Le mardi 17 janvier, 12 h 30**, Victoria Hall. *Ethical Challenges in End of Life Care*. En collaboration avec Le Cercle canadien des femmes de Montréal. 10 \$ par conférence. Info : 514 989-5226.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

### Collectes municipales : horaire régulier

Pendant la période des fêtes, les collectes de résidus alimentaires, de matières recyclables et d'ordures s'effectueront selon l'horaire habituel.

### Collecte de sapins

**Du 4 au 31 janvier**. Placez votre sapin de Noël en arrière du trottoir à tout moment pour la cueillette. SVP, faites preuve de patience pendant les périodes d'opérations de déneigement. Info : 514 989-5390.

CITY HALL

### Message from municipal council

Mayor Peter F. Trent, Westmount Council members and personnel wish everyone a festive and safe holiday season in the company of family and friends, and a healthy and happy New Year.

PUBLIC SECURITY

### Holiday Food Drive in Westmount

**Until December 16**: bring donations of non-perishable food to the collection bins located in City buildings or phone 514 989-5222.

### Dog permits available online

Westmount's new dog permit system enables you to obtain or renew a permit online. Find out more at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

LIBRARY

### Exhibition - Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine

**Until January 7**, Library. A traveling exhibition from the National Library of Medicine.

### Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

**Wednesdays, December 14 and 28 and January 11, 10:15 a.m.**, Library. Info: 514 989-5299.

### Film Club

**Friday, December 16, 2 p.m.**, Library. *The Man Who Knew Infinity*. Tickets required; 514 989-5299.

### Reading group for Joyce's Finnegans Wake

**Wednesdays, December 21 and January 18, 7 p.m.**, Library. Info: 514 989-5299.

### Holiday films at the Library

**Wednesday, December 28, 2 p.m.**: *Finding Dory* (4 years +). **Wednesday, January 4, 2 p.m.**: *The Secret Life of Pets* (4 years +). Please register in advance at 514 989-5299.

Next Council Meeting

## Monday, January 16, 2017

### Documentary Film Club

**Wednesday, January 4, 7 p.m.**, Library. *Herb and Dorothy* (2009). Tickets required. Info: 514 989-5299.

### McEntyre Writing Competition

Theme for 2017: *Secret Places, Hidden Treasures*. Open to elementary and high school students. Find out more at [westlib.org](http://westlib.org).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

### The Montreal Welsh Male Choir

**Wednesday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. The MWMC presents *Holiday Traditions*, an evening of joyous carols, traditional Welsh songs and short readings. Tickets \$20. Info: 450 465-2092.

### Afternoon Lecture Series

**Tuesday, January 17 at 12:30 p.m.**, Victoria Hall. *Ethical Challenges in End of Life Care*. In collaboration with The Women's Canadian Club of Montreal. \$10/lecture. Info: 514 989-5226.

PUBLIC WORKS











### City collections: no change to schedule

During the 2016 holiday period, the kitchen waste, recycling and garbage collections will take place according to the regular schedule.

### Christmas tree collection

**January 4 to 31**. Place your Christmas tree behind the sidewalk anytime for collection. Please be patient during snow removal operations. Info: 514 989-5390.



HORAIRE DES FÊTES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE	MER / WED 21	JEU / THU 22	VEN / FRI 23	SAM / SAT 24	DIM / SUN 25	LUN / MON 26	MAR / TUE 27	MER / WED 28	JEU / THU 29	VEN / FRI 30	SAM / SAT 31	DIM / SUN 1	LUN / MON 2	MAR / TUE 3	MER / WED 4
BUREAUX ADMINISTRATIFS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	fermés - closed					8 h 30 - 16 h 30	8 h 30 - 16 h 30	fermés - closed					8 h 30 - 16 h 30
BIBLIOTHÈQUE - LIBRARY	10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h	fermée - closed				10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h	fermée - closed				10 h - 21 h	10 h - 21 h
VICTORIA HALL	fermé - closed														8 h - 22 h
CENTRE DES LOISIRS RECREATION CENTRE	7 h - 23 h 30	7 h - 23 h 30	12 h - 22 h	9 - 16 h 30	fermé closed	12 h - 19 h 30	8 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	8 h - 22 h	9 - 16 h 30	fermé closed	12 h - 19 h 30	8 h - 22 h	8 h - 23 h
CONSERVATOIRE - CONSERVATORY	*** fermé pour une période indéterminée pour travaux de rénovation *** *** closed for an undetermined period for renovation work ***														
POLICE : PDQ / STATION 12	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 16 h	9 h - 16 h	9 h - 16 h	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 19 h	9 h - 16 h	9 h - 16 h	9 h - 16 h		
SERVICES DE COLLECTE COLLECTION SERVICES															



## Police Report

# Police say rear door break-in trend ongoing in Westmount

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

*The following news story is based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.*

Police at Station 12 on Stanton St. said they were seeing an ongoing pattern of household break-and-enter incidents in Westmount using back doors.

In recent weeks, at least three break-ins at dwellings in Westmount involved burglars using back doors or windows to gain access.

On November 30 around 10:30 am at a Westmount address the police would only identify as being above Sherbrooke St., a male suspect, around 50 years old with short brown hair, was spotted going house to house ringing doorbells.

According to the police report, a witness saw the suspect, who had just rung the bell at one home, proceed around to the rear where he tried a back door. Finding it unlocked, he entered, looked around, but left without taking anything.

This hit-and-miss method of targeting homes to break into is favoured by some burglars, said Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière. “Which is why we always advise home owners to make sure all their doors are locked,” he added.

On November 27 sometime between 8 am and 1 pm, a dwelling on Dorchester Blvd. near the corner of Clandeboy Ave. was entered by burglars who stole a number of pieces of merchandise from a retail business that were being stored by the owner at home.

“The owner, who was a store owner, had some objects from her store in her house,” said Laperrière. “They came in, found those objects and left with them.” He did not dismiss the possibility the perpetrators may somehow have known that the

owner was keeping valuable retail merchandise at home.

Also on November 27, a Nissan Pathfinder parked on Lansdowne Ave. above Sherbrooke St. was stolen from in front of the owner’s home.

“It was a person who went to leave in the morning to go on a trip in their car, and they realized it was no longer where it should be,” Laperrière said.

The investigators saw there was no debris such as broken glass left on the ground, where the vehicle was parked.

“There was an alarm system, but nothing was heard,” he added.

“The doors were locked. For now, there’s no evidence of how they got away with the car. Did they tow it? Were they able to disarm the alarm system? We don’t know for now.”

Sometime during the evening of November 17 and 6 am the next day, an office in a commercial building on St. Catherine St. near Metcalfe Ave. was broken into. Eight laptop computers, which were the property of a construction management company, were stolen.

According to community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, when the company staff came in the morning following the break-in, they immediately noticed a great deal of disorder, although there were no signs of the office doors being forced open.

He said the suspects left behind a number of pieces of evidence, which the investigators gathered up for forensic analysis. “They took a lot of things for fingerprints,” he said.

Around 5 am on November 19, a school on Côte St. Antoine Rd. was broken into. A vehicle from Station 12 was dispatched to the scene after an alarm was triggered by the forced entry, said Pimentel.

After searching the premises, the police concluded that the perpetrators had bro-

ken a pane of glass on the door in order to get in and then exited the same way.

After making their way to a cafeteria area, they stole a flag and a cover that was draped over a piano.

Pimentel said it was “unusual” to see burglars breaking into a school to steal

these types of items, when there were other things that had more value.

He said that images captured by surveillance cameras may reveal whether the suspects touched objects inside the building and thus left fingerprints behind.



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
**WESTMOUNT**



## AVIS PUBLIC CALENDRIER DES SÉANCES ORDINAIRES 2017

Lors de sa séance ordinaire du 7 novembre 2016, le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount a établi le calendrier de ses séances ordinaires pour l’année 2017 comme suit :

- le lundi 16 janvier à 20 h;
- le lundi 6 février à 20 h;
- le lundi 6 mars à 20 h;
- le mardi 3 avril à 20 h;
- le lundi 1<sup>er</sup> mai à 20 h;
- le lundi 5 juin à 20 h;
- le mardi 4 juillet à 20 h;
- le lundi 7 août à 20 h;
- le mardi 5 septembre à 20 h;
- le lundi 2 octobre à 20 h;
- le lundi 13 novembre à 20 h;
- le lundi 4 décembre à 20 h.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 14 décembre 2016.

## PUBLIC NOTICE 2017 REGULAR SITTING SCHEDULE

At its regular sitting held on November 7, 2016, the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount determined the 2017 schedule of its regular sittings as follows:

- Monday, January 16, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, February 6, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, March 6, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, April 3, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, May 1, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, June 5, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Tuesday, July 4, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, August 7, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Tuesday, September 5, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, October 2, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, November 13, at 8:00 p.m.;
- Monday, December 4, at 8:00 p.m.

GIVEN at Westmount, this December 14, 2016.

**Martin St-Jean**  
Greffier de la Ville / City Clerk

[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)



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## Contractor ticketed for leaving site unsafe

A contractor working December 4 outside the “POM” condos at 4700 St. Catherine, corner of Lansdowne, was found to have left the site in a hazardous condition, Public Security officials said. Patrollers called firefighters to the scene when three barrels of water were found being heated by a propane burner shortly after 11 am. A gas tank was close by. The contractor had a valid work permit but was ticketed \$1,282 for leaving a site in an unsafe condition.





Ville de WESTMOUNT					
City of WESTMOUNT					
	BUDGET ADOPTED 2016 <sup>(1)</sup>	BUDGET 2017			
REVENUS	\$	\$	REVENUES		
TAXE FONCIÈRE GÉNÉRALE			GENERAL PROPERTY TAX		
Résidentielle (1 à 5 logements)	54,578,000	55,249,300	Residential (1 to 5 units)		
Immeubles de 6 logements ou plus	6,792,600	6,900,800	Apartments (6 or more units)		
Immeubles non résidentiels	22,771,400	23,642,400	Non-Residential Properties		
Provision pour contestation et construction	-	(150,000)	Provision for Contestation and Construction		
Taxe foncière générale	84,142,000	85,642,500	General Property Tax		
Autres revenus - taxes sur terrains vacants	387,000	302,500	Other - Taxes on Vacant Lots		
Taxe foncière générale totale	84,529,000	85,945,000	Total - General Property Tax		
PAIEMENTS TENANT LIEU DE TAXES	3,155,700	2,900,400	COMPENSATION IN LIEU OF TAXES		
AUTRES SERVICES			OTHER SERVICES		
Activités récréatives	1,170,000	1,197,000	Recreational Activities		
Bibliothèque et événements communautaires	136,200	120,900	Library and Community Events		
Stationnement	3,300,000	3,500,000	Parking		
Recouvrables et autres revenus	400,000	215,600	Recoverable and Other Revenues		
	5,006,200	5,033,500			
AUTRES REVENUS DE SOURCES LOCALES			OTHER REVENUES FROM LOCAL SOURCES		
Droits sur les mutations immobilières	4,500,000	5,300,000	Duty on Transfer of Immovable		
Amendes	2,541,900	2,341,900	Court Fines		
Intérêts sur les dépôts à court terme	770,000	685,000	Interest on Short-Term Deposits		
Intérêts et pénalités sur les arrérages de taxes	392,700	191,200	Interest and Penalties on Tax Arrears		
Permis	805,400	740,000	Permits		
	9,010,000	9,258,100			
SERVICES RENDUS ET TRANSFERTS			OTHER REVENUES AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS		
Traitement des matières secondaires	479,400	439,100	Recycling and Refuse		
Recouvrables - Service des incendies de MTL	160,000	137,700	Recoverable from MTL Fire Department		
	639,400	576,800			
DISTRIBUTION D'ÉLECTRICITÉ			UTILITY OPERATION		
Revenu brut	31,462,300	29,526,000	Gross Revenue		
Coût d'opération	(29,662,300)	(28,348,700)	Operating Cost		
Contribution d'exploitation	1,800,000	1,177,300	Operating Margin		
Immobilisations imputées au Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG)	(2,690,000)	(2,335,000)	Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) Capital Expenses		
REVENU TOTAL AVANT AFFECTATION	101,450,300	102,556,100	TOTAL REVENUE BEFORE APPROPRIATION		
AFFECTATION DE L'EXCÉDENT ACCUMULÉ			APPROPRIATION FROM ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		
Dette (capital)	-	2,958,100	Debt (principal)		
Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG)	-	-	Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG)		
Élections	-	200,000	Elections		
Abattage et plantation d'arbres	-	133,000	Tree felling and planting		
	-	3,291,100			
REVENU TOTAL	101,450,300	105,847,200	TOTAL REVENUE		

(1) Certains chiffres de 2016 ont été reclassés aux fin de comparaison.  
Some 2016 numbers were reclassified for comparison purpose.





Ville de WESTMOUNT City of WESTMOUNT					
	BUDGET ADOPTED 2016 <sup>(1)</sup>	BUDGET 2017			
<u>D É P E N S E S</u>	\$	\$		<u>E X P E N D I T U R E</u>	
<b>ADMINISTRATION GÉNÉRALE</b>				<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	
Législation - conseil	421,500	418,800		Legislation - Council	
Gestion financière et administrative	3,857,700	2,730,700		Finance and General Administration	
Greffe et département juridique	1,110,900	1,095,800		City Clerk and Legal Department	
Ressources humaines	1,117,000	1,124,900		Human Resources	
Édifices administratifs	316,800	341,600		Administration Buildings	
	<b>6,823,900</b>	<b>5,711,800</b>			
<b>SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE</b>				<b>PUBLIC SECURITY</b>	
Édifice de la police	31,000	50,300		Police Building	
Sécurité publique	3,271,500	3,331,400		Public Security	
	<b>3,302,500</b>	<b>3,381,700</b>			
<b>VOIRIE</b>				<b>ROAD TRANSPORT</b>	
Administration	1,736,500	1,141,800		Administration	
Voirie municipale	2,761,100	2,938,100		Streets and Sidewalks	
Enlèvement et transport de la neige	3,147,500	3,202,000		Snow Removal and Disposal	
Éclairage des rues	480,900	518,000		Street Lighting	
Circulation	711,700	711,000		Traffic Control	
Stationnement	181,500	116,900		Parking Lots	
	<b>9,019,200</b>	<b>8,627,800</b>			
<b>HYGIÈNE DU MILIEU</b>				<b>SANITATION SERVICES</b>	
Entretien des réseaux d'égouts locaux et d'aqueduc	2,470,900	2,503,600		Local Water & Sewer System Maintenance	
Enlèvement des ordures et matières secondaires	1,490,800	1,501,000		Refuse Collection and Recycling	
	<b>3,961,700</b>	<b>4,004,600</b>			
<b>ZONAGE ET MISE EN VALEUR DU TERRITOIRE</b>	<b>1,283,700</b>	<b>1,331,500</b>		<b>ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b>	
<b>LOISIRS ET SPORTS</b>				<b>SPORTS AND RECREATION</b>	
Administration	876,800	887,200		Administration	
Aréna	989,400	1,021,900		Arena	
Piscine	269,100	281,100		Swimming Pool	
Programmes de récréation	615,300	607,000		Recreation Programs	
	<b>2,750,600</b>	<b>2,797,200</b>			
<b>PARCS, TERRAINS DE JEUX ET SERRE</b>	<b>3,409,500</b>	<b>3,888,800</b>		<b>PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS AND GREENHOUSE</b>	
<b>BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>3,925,900</b>	<b>3,981,500</b>		<sup>(2)</sup> <b>LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS</b>	
<b>PROJETS SPÉCIAUX</b>				<b>SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	
Développement économique	-	60,000		Economic development	
Révision processus approvisionnement		60,000		Review purchasing process	
Élections	-	200,000		Elections	
Évaluation bâtiments, traduction et archives	148,900	125,800		Building evaluation, translation and archives	
Conseil local du patrimoine	141,600	91,500		Local Heritage Council	
Comité consultatif d'urbanisme	50,000	-		Planning Advisory Committee	
Abattage et plantation d'arbres	100,000	133,000		Tree felling and planting	
	<b>440,500</b>	<b>670,300</b>			
<b>DÉPENSES MUNICIPALES CONTRÔLABLES</b>	<b>34,917,500</b>	<b>34,395,200</b>		<b>CONTROLLABLE MUNICIPAL EXPENSES</b>	
<b>AUTRES DÉPENSES</b>				<b>OTHER EXPENDITURES</b>	
Service de la dette et autres frais de financement	5,926,900	4,722,500		Debt Service and Other Financing Costs	
Transfert pour hygiène du milieu	(261,900)	(261,900)		Transfer for Water and Sewer Network	
Transfert pour Centre des loisirs de Westmount	(1,162,300)	(1,162,300)		Transfer for Westmount Recreation Centre	
Régimes de retraite (services passées)	2,442,000	2,107,800		Pension (past service)	
Contingences	500,000	400,000		Contingencies	
Dépenses recouvrables (édifices, voirie et hygiène du milieu)	194,300	177,000		Recoverables Expenses (buildings, road and sanitation)	
	<b>7,639,000</b>	<b>5,983,100</b>			
<b>IMMOBILISATIONS PAY-AS-YOU-GO</b>				<b>PAY-AS-YOU-GO</b>	
Immobilisations totales	8,988,600	14,154,500		Total Capital Expenses	
Immobilisations Hydro Westmount <sup>(3)</sup>	(2,690,000)	(2,335,000)		<sup>(3)</sup> Capital Expenses Hydro-Westmount	
	<b>6,298,600</b>	<b>11,819,500</b>			
<b>COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE DE MONTRÉAL</b>	<b>893,100</b>	<b>913,400</b>		<b>MONTRÉAL METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY</b>	
<b>QUOTE - PART AGGLOMÉRATION</b>	<b>51,702,100</b>	<b>52,736,000</b>		<b>SHARE - AGGLOMERATION</b>	
<b>TOTAL DES DÉPENSES APRÈS AFFECTATION</b>	<b>101,450,300</b>	<b>105,847,200</b>		<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES AFTER APPROPRIATION</b>	
<b>SURPLUS DE L'EXERCICE</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	

(1) Certains chiffres de 2016 ont été reclassés aux fin de comparaison.  
Some 2016 numbers were reclassified for comparaison purpose.

(2) Inclut les communications  
Includes Communications.

(3) Les dépenses en immobilisations de Hydro Westmount sont portées en diminution des revenus en page 1.  
Hydro Westmount Capital Expenses are presented as a decrease in Revenues on page 1.



Daycare drop-off cont'd. from p. 1

palled” to learn the city never made easy drop-off provisions for daycares, where very young children require a direct escort inside.

“Where does this file sit?” she asked.

Martin, the commissioner of Public

Works, whom she said she had contacted for assistance, said he had met with Public Security and traffic officials and then arranged for the subject to be discussed at the city’s Traffic Advisory Committee and then brought to the general committee of

council.

“I believe we’re well under way to establishing a policy,” he told Morantz. This could affect about eight local daycares that do not already provide drop-off access on their own property.

City director general Mike Deegan further explained that Public Works director Patrick Raggo was developing a plan for council’s review. This could lead to approval at the February meeting to be followed by implementation a few weeks later.

“Another winter struggling over snowbanks?” Morantz asked of the timeline.


The daycares would need to make their own plans, added Councillor Cynthia Lulham. People using the drop-off zones would have to be able to remain only briefly after handing their children over to daycare personnel.

Obviously frustrated with the delays, Morantz concluded saying she wanted to thank Martin for following up on her re-


quests and moving the matter forward. She later told the *Independent* she didn’t understand why drop-off zones had been created outside some facilities involving small children but not others. Miss Vicky’s and Centre Greene both have them, according to Public Security officials.



Toby Morantz asks council December 5 for timeline in creating drop-off zones at daycares.



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
WESTMOUNT



### AVIS D'ADOPTION - RÈGLEMENT 1508

Le règlement 1508 intitulé « *RÈGLEMENT VISANT À MODIFIER DE NOUVEAU LE RÈGLEMENT 1358 SUR LES RÈGLES DE CONTRÔLE ET DE SUIVI BUDGÉTAIRES* » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d’une séance ordinaire tenue à l’hôtel de ville le 5 décembre 2016.

L’objet de ce règlement vise à:

- abroger certaines responsabilités désuètes imposées au directeur général en matière de contrôle budgétaire (articles 1.4 et 1.5);
- remplacer la délivrance d’un certificat de la trésorière par une recommandation préalable et favorable de la trésorière (section 3.3);
- abroger la disposition relative à une dépense encourue par un fonctionnaire municipal ou un employé en cas d’urgence (deuxième alinéa de l’article 3.5); et
- abroger l’obligation pour la trésorière de faire des recommandations pour les transferts budgétaires en cas de situation imprévue (section 5.3).

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne peut consulter ce règlement sur le site Web de la Ville, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, durant les heures d’ouverture.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 14 décembre 2016.

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION - BY-LAW 1508

By-law 1508 entitled “*BY-LAW TO FURTHER AMEND BY-LAW 1358 CONCERNING BUDGET CONTROL AND MONITORING*” was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at a regular sitting held at City Hall on December 5, 2016.

The object of this by-law is to:

- Repeal some obsolete responsibilities imposed on the Director General with respect to budget control (Sections 1.4 and 1.5);
- Replace the obligation to support an expenditure with a Treasurer’s Certificate by a prior favourable recommendation of the Treasurer (section 3.3);
- Repeal the provision pertaining to an expenditure incurred by a municipal officer or employee in the case of an emergency (second paragraph of section 3.5); and
- Repeal the obligation for the Treasurer to make recommendations for budget transfers in the case of an unforeseen situation (Section 5.3).


This by-law comes into force according to law.

Any person may consult said by-law on the City’s Website, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), and obtain a copy at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West in Westmount, during business hours.


GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this December 14, 2016.

**Martin St-Jean**  
Greffier / City Clerk

[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
WESTMOUNT



### AVIS D'ADOPTION – RÈGLEMENT 1505

Le règlement 1505 intitulé « *RÈGLEMENT VISANT À ÉTABLIR LES TARIFS POUR L’EXERCICE FINANCIER 2017* » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d’une séance ordinaire tenue à l’hôtel de ville le 5 décembre 2016.

L’objet de ce règlement vise à établir les tarifs et les frais d’utilisation à payer au cours de l’année fiscale 2017 et à abroger le *Règlement 1318 sur les tarifs*.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne peut consulter ce règlement sur le site Web de la Ville, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, durant les heures d’ouverture.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 14 décembre 2016.

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION – BY-LAW 1505

By-law 1505 entitled “*BY-LAW TO ESTABLISH TARIFFS FOR THE 2017 FISCAL YEAR*” was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at a regular sitting held at City Hall on December 5, 2016.

The object of this by-law is to establish the tariffs and user fees to be charged during the 2017 fiscal year and to repeal By-law 1318 entitled *By-law concerning tariffs*.

This by-law comes into force according to law.

Any person may consult said by-law on the City’s Website, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), and obtain a copy at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West in Westmount, during business hours.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this December 14, 2016.

**Martin St-Jean**  
Greffier / City Clerk

[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

# Retail Watch



VERONICA REDGRAVE

## New Italian resto on St. Catherine

A delicious new restaurant/café/bar opened November 17 on St. Catherine St. called Gentile Caffè e Cucina. And visionary owner Anthony Gentile is *molto gentile*! He and his siblings Anna Maria and Paolo are partners.

“We serve breakfast, lunch and dinner, with our classics after 6 pm,” he explained. “For example, eggplant *parmigiano* and our pastas. All home-made of course.” The day I visited, the resto wafted delicious aromas as people lined up for tables and chatted at the bar.

The hustle and bustle really makes you feel like you are in Italy. This is the café’s second location, an expansion from the original on Park Ave. It serves sandwiches (“classic” and “exotic”), wraps and bruschetta, as well as polenta to die for and a dinner menu of the day. The Gentile-t-shirted staff is cool and helpful. The space is hard to miss with its gorgeous tall sparkling seasonal fir, which is, dare we say it, a lot more *bello* than the one in Quartier des Spectacles! Its front window says it all: Open Mattina, Giorno, Sera, and, of course, cocktail hour. A presto!

4126 St. Catherine St.; open Monday to Saturday.

## A new Sunsource opens

Yay! I don’t have to trek up to Marché Central anymore for nuts and dried fruit. Sunsource has re-opened in Westmount, yes, under the same name. Owner Feng Wu purchased the shop and name out of bankruptcy. Same place, same fabulous quality, said local res Jana Smelkalova, store manager. Not only is everything fresh, but the new owner “kept the same roaster, so all our roasted nuts have the same delicious taste.” Indeed, as I sampled my favourite tamari almonds, I

agreed. Shoppers’ favourites? “The lime and pepper macadamia nuts and roasted sea salt almonds. And our chocolate-wrapped ginger sells out all the time!” All the delicious nibblies are kept carefully in dispensers, so you really do get market-fresh. As I left the sweet-smelling shop, I couldn’t resist buying a bag of Colombian coffee.

4822 Sherbrooke St.; open 7 days a week.

## When will Rudsak open?

A large construction hoarding has hidden Rudsak’s new Westmount location for months now. Larger-than-life-size models hint at the fashions within. Although the sign says “Open Fall 2016,” sadly, it is still a boarded-up space. Amélie Provost, PR at Rudsak, told me that they “still do not have an opening date.”

4879 Sherbrooke St.

## Leonidas chocolates now on Victoria

“We just opened with a grand opening on December 3,” said a beaming owner Reza Yavarian, who owns the chocolate shop with his wife Kathy Mostafaei. And what a charming shop it is! Carrying the world-renowned Belgian Leonidas chocolates, the store is “very London.” Not only can you choose from a selection of LP albums, which Reza will play for you while you sip your hot drink, but you can read magazines such as *The Economist* and *The New Yorker*. The hard part? Making a choice. The truffles are amazing: classic, dark and spéculoos. Hot chocolate? Seven different flavours await you, including one tinged with salt to balance the sweet. Tea? A range exists, including tisanes. They also serve coffee, including a wide variety of take-out options. Cupcakes? By Mille & Un, they come ready-to-eat in a jar (really!) to take home or to the office, or to munch as you read. And for pearl lovers (you know who you are!) the famed Leonidas tiny round bites: Fine orange, *framboise*, *pistache* and coconut flavours hit the tongue. My favourite? The macarons. Oh, and the champagne-filled truffles. (Sigh) Famed Italian coffee Lavazza is

available in small or larger bags. Reza explained that he will be hosting events ranging from book readings and launches to art presentations. Find out by checking Face-

book and Culturechocolat.com.

318 Victoria Ave.; open all week at different times.



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
WESTMOUNT



## AVIS D'ADOPTION – RÈGLEMENT 1507

Le règlement 1507 intitulé « *RÈGLEMENT SUR LA DÉLÉGATION DE POUVOIRS À CERTAINS FONCTIONNAIRES DE LA VILLE DE WESTMOUNT* » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount, lors d’une séance ordinaire tenue à l’hôtel de ville le 5 décembre 2016.

L’objet de ce règlement vise à abroger le règlement 1315 intitulé *Règlement sur la délégation de pouvoirs à certains fonctionnaires de la Ville de Westmount* afin :

- d’introduire de nouveaux pouvoirs concernant la gestion des ressources humaines, ainsi que l’adjudication et la modification des contrats; et
- d’augmenter la limite autorisée pour les dépenses relatives à l’attribution des contrats comme suit :
- au directeur général, jusqu’à 50 000 \$;
- aux directeurs d’Hydro Westmount et des Travaux publics, jusqu’à 25 000 \$
- aux directeurs, jusqu’à 15 000 \$; et
- aux cadres, jusqu’à 7 500 \$.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne peut consulter ce règlement sur le site Web de la Ville, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, durant les heures d’ouverture.

DONNÉ à Westmount, Québec, ce 14 décembre 2016.

## NOTICE OF ADOPTION – BY-LAW 1507

By-law 1507 entitled “*BY-LAW ON THE DELEGATION OF POWERS TO CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT*” was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at a regular sitting held at City Hall on December 5, 2016.

The object of this by-law is to repeal By-law 1315 entitled: *By-law on the delegation of powers to certain employees of the City of Westmount* in order to:

- introduce new delegations pertaining to human resources management, as well as the awarding and modification to certain contracts; and
- increase the limit authorized for the spending of money pertaining to the awarding of contracts as follows:
- to the Director General, up to \$50,000;
- to the Directors of Hydro Westmount and Public Works, up to \$25,000;
- to the Directors, up to \$15,000; and
- the Managers, up to \$7,500.

This by-law comes into force according to law.

Any person may consult said by-law on the City’s Website, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), and obtain a copy at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West in Westmount, during business hours.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this December 14, 2016.

Martin St-Jean  
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## 30 turn out for Christmas singing

At this year's city's Christmas carolling event December 11, amid all the competing events and chilly temperatures, more than 30 locals showed up in good voice, contributing to the festive atmosphere with savoury and sweet snacks to go with the mulled wine. Organizer Virginia Elliott, project manager with the city's Community Events department, welcomed the mix of young and old and thanked Westmounter Helen Rainville Olders for providing accompaniment on the piano. The program included traditional

favourites, such as the "First Noël" and "Away in a Manger," as well as the more obscure "I want a Hippopotamus for Christmas," a nonsensical song written by John Rox (1902–1957). The Columbia recording became a big hit and was performed by 10-year-old Gayla Peevey on the *Ed Sullivan Show* in October 1953. The song had been requested by a young couple at a previous year's carol gathering. Donations were being accepted for Chez Doris, The Open Door or the Old Brewery Mission. See photo, p. 1. – R.T.

## Three Westmount schools participate in glee club-style showdown



A group of 10 girls from the Study was among the 14 teams competing on November 20 in the 2016 Just for Kids Foundation's GLEE High School Showdown at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall in NDG. Two other schools from Westmount, ECS and Selwyn House, also participated. In performance, first place went to Vincent Massey Collegiate, second place to Trafalgar (which was also top fundraiser with over \$11,000) and third to John Rennie high school. Funds were to support the Montreal Children's Hospital by purchasing medical equipment.

Photo: Martin C. Barry



VILLE DE | CITY OF  
**WESTMOUNT**



### AVIS D'ADOPTION RÈGLEMENT 1506

Le règlement 1506 intitulé « *RÈGLEMENT VISANT À IMPOSER ET À PRÉLEVER UNE TAXE ET UNE COMPENSATION POUR L'EXERCICE FINANCIER 2017* » a été adopté par le conseil municipal de la Ville de Westmount lors de sa deuxième séance extraordinaire tenue à l'hôtel de ville le 12 décembre 2016.

L'objet de ce règlement vise à :

- imposer et prélever la taxe foncière générale sur tous les immeubles situés sur le territoire de la municipalité, basée sur la valeur portée au rôle d'évaluation ; et
- imposer le paiement d'une compensation pour services municipaux aux propriétaires des immeubles ou terrains situés sur le territoire.

Ce règlement entre en vigueur conformément à la loi.

Toute personne peut consulter ce règlement sur le site Web de la Ville, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, durant les heures d'ouverture.

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 14 décembre 2016.

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION BY-LAW 1506

By-law 1506 entitled "*BY-LAW TO IMPOSE AND LEVY A TAX AND A COMPENSATION FOR THE 2017 FISCAL YEAR*" was adopted by the Municipal Council of the City of Westmount at its second special sitting held at City Hall on December 12, 2016.

The object of this by-law is:

- to impose and levy a tax on all taxable immovables in the territory of the municipality, based on their value shown on the assessment roll; and
- to impose the payment of compensation for municipal services on the owners of immovables or lands situated in the territory.

This by-law shall come into force according to law.

Any person may consult said by-law on the City's Website, [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org), and obtain a copy at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West in Westmount, during business hours.

GIVEN at Westmount, this December 14, 2016.

**Martin St Jean**  
Greffier de la Ville / City Clerk

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# A brilliant success for The Neuro



## Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The second annual A Brilliant Night, held on October 19 at Windsor Station, was another success. The eve was created to raise funds for cutting-edge glioblastoma (GBM) brain cancer research at the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital – aka “the Neuro.”

The event was co-founded by Westmounters **Suzanne Wexler**, in memory of her mother Dr. Sharon Wexler, and by **Heidi Small**, of her father Dr. Allan Small. Both died in 2015 of GBM. Suzanne’s dad, **Dr. Abraham Wexler** attended, as did her husband **Dr. David Hauerstock**. Fellow co-founders included Small’s business colleagues **Wendy Sculnick**, **Christine Rushworth** and **Marie-Claude Lacroix**, whose son Francis passed away of the same disease.

Honorary co-chairs were **Lorena Cook**, Sarah’s Fund, Cedars Cancer Foundation; along with **Ivan Boulva**, VP, Cadillac Fairview Corp. Ltd.; and **Jacynthe Côté**, Neuro board director.

Attending guests included **Louis St-Laurent**, president, Quailco Investments Inc.; **Peter Lombardi**, chair, Construction C.A.L.; **Pierre Marcoux**, senior VP, TC Media; and Neuro director **Dr. Guy Rouleau**.

Hard-working committee members were **Daphne Barron** and her daughter **Robertta Bennett**, **Ellen Cape** and her daughter **Melissa Cape**, **Anne-Josée Côté**, **Amanda Fritz**, **Sheldon Ludwick**, **Mia Patt** and **Lisa Taddeo**.

Personal stories were given by the

evening’s honorary chair **Madeleine Paquin**, CEO/president Logistec, who lost her husband to brain cancer; doctors **Kevin Petrecca** (neurosurgical oncologist and brain cancer researcher), as well as **Guillaume Marcoux**, VP, TC Transcontinental, a patient suffering from brain cancer. Touching words from families of committee members affected by the disease were given by **Suzanne Wexler**, **Heidi Small**, **Marie-Claude Lacroix**, **Ellen Cape** and **Mathew Yanakoulis**, giving a son’s perspective on losing his father.

A special video message from The Tragically Hip band (lead singer **Gord Downie** is suffering from GBM) brought sustained applause.

Noted in the chic crowd were Westmounters **Gwen Nacos**, founder Cedars CanSupport, MUHC; doctors **Nikole Jecen** and **Karl Schwarz**, co-founder Espace MD; **Cynthia Carsley** and **Dr. Vincent Lacroix**, co-founder Groupe Santé Axio, and his brother **Hubert Lacroix** president/CEO CBC Radio-Canada, accompanied by **Gilbert Lauzon**, founder of the Just for Laughs comedy festival; and **Jacques Chamberland**, court of appeal of Quebec.

Also noted were **Francine Sternthal** and **Doug Wiseman**, owner Synesis; judges **Dionysia Zerbisias** and **Karen Kear-Jodoin**; **Erik Ryan**, executive VP, SNC-Lavalin; **Dorothée LePrince** and **Jean-Philippe Simard**, co-owners University Street CopperBranch; **Jasmine Adhami**, legal counsel, COGECO; McGill University’s **Marc Weinstein**, vice principal of Advancement; and **Michael Pecho**, executive director, Primary Gifts; **Anthony Powell**, Rebox Corp.; and **Rémi Marcoux**, founder of Transcontinental and grandfather of Guillaume Marcoux, who spoke during the evening.

SNC Lavalin was the main sponsor of the eve, which raised \$1 million for GBM research.



From left: Gwen Nacos, Dionysia Zerbisias, Karen Kear-Jodoin and Suzanne Wexler.



From left: Ivan Boulva, Heidi Small, Eric Ryan and Wendy Sculnick.

To my clients, colleagues and friends

Happy  
Holidays!



Anne-Marie Larue  
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WESTMOUNT SQUARE

### Letters cont'd. from p. 8

that will make this redevelopment sustainable, reduce its ecological footprint to be in balance with the environment? As the new Westmount recreation centre is a LEED building (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), the south east redevelopment should naturally follow in the LEED scheme of sustainability evaluation. Credits are to be earned by the whole redevelopment as listed in the "LEED 2009 for Neighborhood Development Rating System." By using such a calculable means of evaluation, the wish for sustainability can become reality.

Liveability is qualitative and asks the imagination to envisage the ideal neighbourhood. Numerous ideas come to mind: communal greenhouse for winter vegetables, outdoor badminton/volleyball courts, type of night lighting, Tupper as a "pedestrian street," storm water-retention grassland ponds, etc. Which are appropriate and how to integrate them into the project? Designers need to think outside the box, think ideal. Fulfilling these two requirements will give Westmount a 21st century neighbourhood.

ROGER JOCHYM, LEWIS AVE.

### IF THERE'S A LESSON IN BREXIT, US ELECTION...

As I was making my way home in the falling snow, I was admiring the 30 trees, most of them mature, that currently grow in the median along Dorchester, and how they will be destroyed if city council proceeds with their plan to narrow Dorchester.

Based on conversations with neighbours, many of the issues identified by the city in their presentation seem to be issues only to council, and not to residents. Some of the changes in the city's proposal (such as improving walking access to St. Catherine) can be done without touching Dorchester.

It appears that the primary benefit of

the narrowing of Dorchester would be to create land that can be sold by the city to developers. There would be a significant cost to the city to tear up and rebuild the boulevard, and any gain in the tax base would likely be offset by the loss in value of residential properties in the neighbourhood south of Dorchester.

In the November 29 issue of the *Independent* (p. 7), Councillor Theodora Samiotis wrote "In our democratic system, it is the role of our elected office holders to use their best judgment in making these tough decisions..." If there is a lesson to be learned from BREXIT and the recent US election, it is that voters are tired of elected office holders doing what they want rather than respecting the interest of the voters.

While I am sure that there are some residents in the neighbourhood who support the city's plan, I have yet to meet one. I have, however, met dozens of neighbours who strongly oppose the narrowing of Dorchester.

Will the city respect the voters of the south east by putting any proposal to a referendum by local residents, who are the people most directly affected?

JIM RICHARDS, DORCHESTER BLVD.

### THANKS TO MOUNTAINSIDE FOR MCL SUPPORT

For the past 25 years, the annual bridge luncheon in support of The Montreal Children's Library (MCL) takes place in autumn. A big thank-you to our loyal bridge players and Mountainside United Church for its success.

The MCL is an independent, bilingual, not-for-profit organization, which is looking forward to its 88th anniversary in 2017. In 1929, Elizabeth Murray of Westmount formed a committee to establish a children's library under the chairmanship of Maysie McSporran. With the help of enthusiastic community support (20-plus different locations over the years), talented staff and dedicated volunteers, the MCL has remained deeply committed to devel-

oping literacy, fostering imagination and connecting children and parents to their communities by equipping them with the building blocks of lifelong learning.

Yearly donations, grants and fundraisers allow MCL to offer its library services, programs (science, chess, crafts, etc.) and outreach activities free of charge in economically disadvantaged communities. Currently it operates a library at the Ren Goupil Recreational Centre in Montreal North, and its main outreach service is the parent-child Mother Goose program. This 10-week, pre-literacy course for children zero to 3 years old and their parents is offered at nine sites across Montreal. (Visit [www.mcl-bjm.ca](http://www.mcl-bjm.ca) for more details.)

The MCL board of directors expresses sincere gratitude for the generous support of individuals, foundations and businesses throughout the past 87 years.

Special recognition at this time goes to the Tyndale St. Georges Community Centre Board. Since 1970, there has been an MCL branch in Little Burgundy. Due to financial constraints, the difficult decision was made recently by the MCL board to gift the branch's assets to the centre. How thrilling that the local community will continue to nurture the joy of reading and life-long learning. Another bridge for child literacy!

THERESA COFFEY, BOARD MEMBER,  
THE MONTREAL CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

### APPRECIATE CARE FROM THE STRANGERS

At about 11 am on November 23, I fell unconscious and collapsed at the corner of de Maisonneuve and Greene. I would like to give my most hearty thanks to the passers-by who called 911 and saw to my safety until the arrival of Urgences Santé. To bring you up to date: Urgences Santé took me to the MUHC, where I was well looked after for nearly two weeks. I am now home, and making a steady recovery. Best holiday wishes to all!

JOHN DENTON, OLIVIER AVE.

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## WESTMOUNT

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## WESTMOUNT

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MLS 25118868 2540 SF



## 3 WESTMOUNT SQUARE

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Panoramic views, MLS 9366200



## DOWNTOWN

1425 Dr-Penfield #1A \$1,625,000  
MLS 19637188 2492 SF



## WESTMOUNT ADJ.

4054 Highland Av. \$1,695,000  
MLS 14308397



## CONDITIONAL OFFER

## WESTMOUNT

215 Redfern, Apt 205 \$1,210,000  
MLS 14709035 1740 SF, 2 Bdr



## DOWNTOWN

1520 Av. du Dr-Penfield \$618,000  
MLS 19338174



## WINTER RENTALS

## STE-AGATHE-DES-MONTS

Lac des Sables \$2500/mth  
MLS 26290744 Water front



## NEW

## RENTAL

## WESTMOUNT ADJ

2731 Hill Park Circle \$4900/mth  
MLS 28627101 Fully renovated, 3 Bdr



## SOLD

## WESTMOUNT

Chateau Westmount \$1,950,000  
2376 SF, magnificent views



## SOLD

## WESTMOUNT

619 Clarke Av. \$4,295,000  
MLS 27373203



## SOLD

## WESTMOUNT

744 Av. Upper-Lansdowne \$1,995,000  
MLS 17303942 3557 SF, 5 bdr, dream location



## SOLD

## WESTMOUNT ADJ,

4097 Highland Av. \$1,295,000  
MLS 20827283



## SOLD

## WESTMOUNT

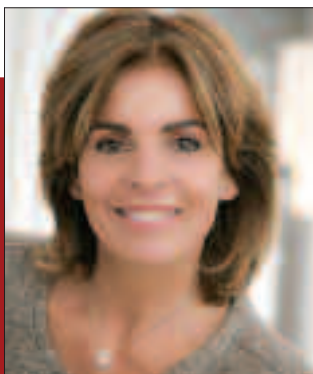
46 Academy Road



## SOLD

## WESTMOUNT ADJ.

Le Trafalgar \$589,000  
MLS 9003237 1660 SF



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# TANIA KALECHEFF

B.Arch. • Chartered Real Estate Broker

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*“Christmas is a tonic for our souls. It moves us to think of others rather than ourselves. It directs our thoughts to giving.” – B.C. Forbes*

*“May the lights of Hanukkah usher in a better world for all mankind.” – Author Unknown*

*This is the season for family traditions and lasting memories. From our home to yours, best wishes for memorable holidays. Tania*

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