

## Call for repurposing train station coming down the track

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A call for proposals appears to be in the works for use of the abandoned Westmount train station at Victoria and St. Catherine, Mayor Peter Trent confirmed last week. The call had initially been scheduled for January though city officials said they had nothing to report at this time.

It stems from a presentation to repurpose the building as a networking site for start-up technology. It was presented by

Councillor Philip Cutler at closed-door meetings of the general committee of council in November and December, according to minutes released February 1.

"This is one idea," Cutler said last week. "Council was on side and open to proposals. It's a way to stir the pot and try to see what ideas are out there."

Cutler had contacted project coordinators of the historic Notman House downtown at Sherbrooke and Clark, which had been repurposed as a networking site.

They had visited the train station and estimated the cost of such a project at between \$1.5 million and \$2 ..... million. It would not re- continued on p. 4

## No Valentine for Miss Vicky's



Miss Vicky's pre-school was decked out in hearts February 12 as founder/owner Victoria Naday wished parents and children a happy weekend despite the message from the government of Quebec to close by March 11. See story p. 3.

Photo: Laureen Sweeney



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Social Notes BY V. REDGRAVE p. 13

## Recalling trial for de Maisonneuve path

## \$11,000 budgetted for trial bike routes on CSA, Wstmt. Ave.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Opposition over a proposed spring trial for bike routes on Côte St. Antoine and Westmount Ave. continued to be voiced once again at the council meeting February 1. The plan was announced six months ago.

Councillor Philip Cutler, commissioner of Public Security, reminded questioner Bruce Anderson of the Côte Rd. that he had "mentioned over and over and over

again" that this was a trial to collect information to present to all citizens at a public consultation meeting. He considered this to be "a very good idea."

The budget for the trial as requested, he said, was \$11,000. "The goal is not to incur a financial burden on the city. We're painting a line on the street and moving a few signs," for switching parking on Côte St. Antoine from the north to south sides.

Anderson and other res- ..... dents have been opposing continued on p. 5



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# Miss Vicky's faces March 11 closure, seeks injunction

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

One month. That's the lifeline the Quebec Family ministry has given Miss Vicky's pre-school at St. Matthias' Church before forcing it to close March 11. Its hours of operation have been in dispute with the government off and on since 2013.

A notice to parents, dated February 9 from the ministry and received by some parents last week, stated the closure could take effect unless the school "conformed" to the law on child care services and obtained a permit to operate as a daycare for more than six children.

School officials said they are prepared to fight the closure in court, starting by filing for an emergency injunction to remain open.

"We're traumatized," said Christine Molson, as she picked up children February 12. "It's awful. It doesn't seem to make any sense."

The private school has an enrollment of some 80 children and has been operating under an acquired right as a "Jardin d'En-

fants." This allowed it four hours a day of operation.

When this permit category was abolished in 2005, the school retained its acquired rights until it was officially informed January 20 that these had been lost, according to founder/owner Victoria Naday.

She said she had been told by ministry representatives the previous day that the government considers the school's half-hour drop-off period from 8:30 to 9 am to be an addition to the 9 am to 1 pm operation (see story February 9, p. 3).

To continue after March 11, therefore, the school must apply for a daycare permit, a category that does not fit its type and location of operation, she explained.

Closure would not only impact parents but also the community, Naday told the *Independent*. In particular, the church would be deprived of the rental revenue.

## Daycare option not viable

"And it's not just us," she said of the government's action against the school.

"They're doing the same thing to [other] Jardins d'Enfants. All they seem to want is daycares."

For Miss Vicky's, she said, the daycare option, "is not physically or economically viable within the premises of St. Matthias' Church." The school would have to undertake costly renovations, be open longer hours, 365 days a year and provide a more standardized and less flexible program under greater regulation.

Emily Ritchie, whose fourth child is now

attending Miss Vicky's, said its closure would be "very sad for the community and for stay-at-home moms like myself." She said she only needs or wants pre-school services for half a day.

Ritchie is a former Selwyn House teacher who said Miss Vicky's had provided her three daughters with excellent preparation for integrating into the French environment of St. Marcelline.

The pre-school has been .....  
operating at the church for ..... *continued on p. 14*

## 'Alderman' Lloyd served 8 years on council

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Funeral services were scheduled for February 10 in Guelph, Ontario for Alwyn Lloyd, who served eight years as a Westmount city councillor. He had been Finance commissioner during the mayoral terms of Donald MacCallum from 1975 to 1983.

He was 86.

"Al" Lloyd, as he was known, spent a 40-year career in public accounting and had lived in Guelph for many years. Running for re-election in 1979, he was acclaimed for his second term as an "alderman," as councillors were then known. He had lived at 649 Roslyn.

For at least one of his budget presenta-

tions, Lloyd made sure that at least one member of the public would be in the audience: one of his sons. This was recalled recently on December 14 – more than 30 years later – when the city brought down its 2016 budget in the presence of, once again, a lone attendee (see story December 15, p. 17).

While Mayor Peter Trent did not serve on the council with Lloyd, he said last week he remembered him as "a gentle, thoughtful man."

Lloyd is survived by his second wife, Joan Snyder, following the death of Betty Anderson, with whom he had four sons and ultimately many grandchildren. A celebration of his life is to be held in Montreal in the spring.

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The 1907 train station at Victoria and St. Catherine remained boarded up February 12.

### Train station cont'd. from p. 1

quire much change to the infrastructure and could be carried out in a relatively short period of time, the minutes state.

This use could be expected to receive some 15 to 20 visitors a day, described as a minimal impact on the area's traffic.

While a "tech hub," or centre attracting people with similar business interests, is not among the site's permitted uses, Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier told the *Independent* last week that if this were council's decision, the by-law would have to be "adjusted."

At this time, the site's uses are limited to a public square or park, a heritage centre or municipal building, she said.

Cutler told the *Independent* that tech hubs were conducive to buildings with heritage value because they were "inspiring" to people working in similar lines of work such as "med tech" or even non-profit organizations. "It's really a nice thing to have in a community."

### City took over ownership

Once a thriving transportation hub, the train station was replaced by the Vendôme station in 1984. The city took over ownership following lengthy negotiations with CP Rail concluded in 1999.

Under the agreement with CP, the city

would preserve the deteriorating 1907 station and purchase the 25,000 square feet of land on which it stands plus the area in front, now a small park.

The city also exacted an additional 4,000 square feet of land as the cadastral contribution from Oblin Homes, developer of the adjacent homes along St. Catherine.

Also in 1999, to mark Westmount's 125th anniversary, the city committed \$125,000 from its capital works budget toward a fundraising campaign of \$850,000 by the Westmount Historical Association (WHA). The goal was to restore the station as a heritage centre for the organization, though this use never materialized.

Over the years, numerous uses for the station have been suggested. These included a café, headquarters for the WHA, a Victoria village branch of the Westmount Public Library and even a summer market.

The small size of the building's interior limits its use, Trent pointed out. He estimates it at "probably well under 2,000 square feet."

While the station's exterior was restored, it remains boarded up and unused. When the former arena was demolished in 2012 for construction of the new recreation centre, some of its furnishings, equipment and supplies were moved into the station for temporary storage.



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# 1979 trial path on de Mais. was also opposed

cont'd. from p. 1

the bike route based on safety, aesthetic and other concerns.

A "trial" for the de Maisonneuve bike path more than 35 years ago had also been opposed, according to news reports of the day. At that time, it had been created as a recreational bike path.

One report from November 1, 1979 linked two bike accidents on the path to eastbound bike traffic meeting cars coming from the side streets. At that time, the route was separated from traffic by a double yellow line.

The city would take that winter "to review the experimental bike path," it was reported, "in the hopes of making it safer next year." The study probably would "include consultation with the Westmount Bicycle Path Committee," the news report stated.

Then Public Security commissioner André Gervais stated he appreciated that the bike path was not "a safe path," but added: "perhaps it is safer than not having anything," words that have been echoed re-

cently by council members regarding the proposed experiment on Côte St. Antoine.

The de Maisonneuve bike path has since evolved into a commuter route from Montreal West to downtown.

"The more things change, the more they remain the same," observed Cutler when informed of reaction to the trial for the bike path on de Maisonneuve.



Councillor Philip Cutler said the trial would provide information for a public consultation meeting.



Bruce Anderson questions the bike routes February 1.

## Warning sign damaged at Greene/Selby

A sign warning drivers of the height of the underpass at Greene and Selby was found dangling by one of its chains February 3, Public Security officials said. Informed by 911 at 8:51 am, officers responded to find firefighters removing it entirely and police on the scene. Another sign warning of the height restriction (3.5 meters) remained in place but the damaged one was reported to have been replaced later in the day by Transport Quebec.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## NEED CONSENSUS TO SOLVE INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES

With fascination, I have been following the interaction between Councillor Patrick Martin and our Mayor Peter Trent in the two most recent editions of the *Independent* (February 2, p. 6 and February 9, p. 7). So let me get this straight:

- Councillor Martin has been the commissioner of Public Works for the past six\* years;
- He thinks we have infrastructure deficiencies;
- Under his stewardship, Councillor Martin has not spent nor properly utilized the annual budgets approved by council.

In my opinion (and others), the quantity and quality of the roadwork he has managed is inadequate and substandard; it will need constant attention and expensive continued maintenance. Our infrastructure is crumbling, our greenhouses and buildings are in a shambles, and our councillor seems to suffer from option paralysis and a lack of straightforward reporting.

Parliamentary protocols customarily result in the resignation of the responsible executive if acceptable results are not achieved, and especially if reporting has

not been adequate or transparent.

When can Westmounters expect a proactive, positive and transparent approach to our infrastructure issues from the councillor appointed to oversee the portfolio? We need consensus and collaboration, not confrontation and electioneering, to solve our problems in an acceptable manner.

PETER STARR, CEDAR AVE.

*\* Editor's note: Councillor Patrick Martin was first elected to council in 2005 and is in his third term as commissioner of Public Works.*

## LOOKING FORWARD TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESS

Mayor Trent, it's not that residents don't read your letters on the subject of the city's deteriorated infrastructure but that, frankly, we find them muddled and difficult to understand. They appear to us as statements of what happened yet neglect to cover why it happened.

What is clear now is that, for a long time, the city has not been able to deliver on its annual targets for infrastructure maintenance and upgrades. Evidence of this has been well documented. At the same time,

we have seen the city's cash build up substantially from taxes and other revenues.

You are a successful entrepreneur and businessman. If your own factory experienced periodic shutdowns, surely you would have not accepted this as normal for years and waited until a window pane fell out of your glass lobby to confront the seriousness of the problem. You would have immediately called in your head of operations and worked on ways to get back on track.

I do recognize that for many years now you have been occupied fully with the after-effects of the demerger and Westmount's position in the agglomeration. While this is still important, it is also time to get back to basics.

Westmount residents deserve a safe, efficient, well-run city that meets our needs. Now that the Public Works department has hopefully been provided with the right manpower levels, skills, funding and leadership to be able to achieve its targets, we look forward to solid progress on infrastructure in 2016.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

## BUDGETS SHOULD REFLECT PAST COMPLETION RATES

As a retired accountant with years of experience in capital works budgeting and financing, I was quite surprised by Mayor Peter Trent's claim that delays in completing capital works projects by year end contributes to the surplus. Councillor Patrick Martin opposed that view, and Mayor Trent states categorically that Councillor Martin is wrong.

In fact, Councillor Martin is perfectly correct. The surpluses that Mayor Trent tries to assign to non-completed capital works are simply an indication that council's and the administration's overly conservative budgeting process is flawed. It regularly underestimates non-tax revenues and over-estimates expenses, leading to a repeated over-taxation of residents. It is not grounded in reality.

The normally accepted practice to treat municipal capital works budgeting is to take account of historical completion rates and factor them into the estimates. This obviously was not done.

One might worry that the repetitive na-

ture of the surpluses and of the over-taxation would indicate that it is intentional.

WILLIAM BOOTH, RETIRED CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT, BROCK AVE.

## WMA, ON THE CURRENT TAX/SURPLUS CONTROVERSY

Cities have the right to levy taxes, but taxpayers have only consented to this because of the responsibility implied in the use of said monies. When federal or provincial taxes are overpaid, a refund is awarded. Citizens are free to save or use their remaining income as they see fit – this responsibility does not belong to cities.

There are several problems with the inability of the city to actually use the monies taxpayers entrusted to them. During this time of record-low interest rates and an acknowledged infrastructure crisis, to both cut spending on maintenance as well as lock up tens of millions of dollars where it has no leverage, is to betray the trust given by taxpayers.

The Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) has several questions:

- Public Works consistently under spends its budget. Why weren't future budgets based on their actual capacity?
- Why did the Finance department fail to forecast the "unexpected" revenues?
- Why did council keep approving budgets without incorporating any feedback from previous years?
- Is the pay-as-you-go model appropriate for long lifespan infrastructure?
- Why should current taxpayers front all the costs associated with this infrastructure?

The WMA is not asking for a refund and is somewhat heartened that 2016 infrastructure spending is returning to 2010 levels. We believe the surplus should be leveraged as much as possible to fix our crumbling parks, water works, roads and sidewalks and to finally begin to implement the Master Traffic Plan.

We note that our businesses are suffering and due consideration must be given to their mil rate also.

This time of low interest rates will not last forever hence advantage should be taken but ensuring that future taxpayers also share the burden over the lifetime of the infrastructure (as is the case with the Westmount recreation centre.)

PAUL MARRIOTT AND MAUREEN KIELY,  
CO-PRESIDENTS OF THE WESTMOUNT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

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# Continuing the tax and infrastructure challenge



## Councillor's Column

PATRICK MARTIN

It's perplexing how Mayor Peter Trent insists that Westmount has not underfunded infrastructure maintenance over the years, especially when the results are right before our eyes. At the same time, he tries to convince us we are not overtaxed despite massive surpluses.

When he began his mandate, the budget for roads, water and sewers for 2010 was established at \$8.13 million. Over the following five years, it was drastically reduced by almost 40 percent, to \$4.95 million per year. Meanwhile, taxes were increased annually and huge surpluses accumulated, totalling some \$30 million over the period, so the reduction clearly was not due to a shortage of funds.

For 2016, the vaunted "increased" budget of \$7.32 million for roads, water and sewers is still fully 10 percent below that of 2010, even though it includes \$1.4 million of work for Prince Albert that was shifted from 2015. As an engineering professional

with 40 years of relevant executive experience, I'm not impressed. I've been pointing out the dangers of insufficient infrastructure spending for eight years.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities had the same message in its report of last week, but Westmount's mayor and council remain in denial. The neglect of our roads and sidewalks, the water leaks, the power outages and the closed greenhouses are glaringly obvious and unforgivable in a community that prides itself on excellence in all aspects of municipal life.

### Underspending short-sighted

Politicians may prefer to underspend in order to keep taxes low, a short-sighted tactic that inevitably leads to an infrastructure crisis. They ignore the hidden deficit that is created by disintegrating infrastructure, and the onerous financial obligation that it will impose on future councils and residents. Catching up can take decades.

Mayor Trent's focus on project completion rates is a red herring. There isn't a city in the world that completes 100 percent of targeted projects each year. There has been a significant decrease in the costs of contracts in Montreal, sometimes as much as 20 to 30 percent.

When bids come in below budget, that is a positive thing. Any savings that result are not "incompleted work." Also, sometimes circumstances beyond Westmount's control can delay a project, such as weather, a late thaw, strikes, discovery of contamination and interventions by Bell and Gaz Metro, which means the work is pushed forward to the following year; it is not incompleted.

A city that has large surpluses year after year clearly is overtaxing its residents and businesses. In 2014 alone, the surplus was more than \$12 million. That means that the average homeowner was overtaxed that

year by about \$1,700! There is no acceptable justification for this. Residential and business renters are affected too as landlords increase the rent due to taxes.

*Councillor Patrick Martin, ing. (OIQ), is commissioner of Public Works.*



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## Woman upset over boyfriend's web activity

A woman in apparent distress arrived at the Public Security station on Stanton St. February 5 at 8:27 pm, department officials said. She was described as being on some type of strong medication and was worried her elderly boyfriend was searching porn sites. Local community police station 12 downstairs was already closed for the night so 911 was called owing to her state. In the meantime, the boyfriend arrived to pick her up. The local police station closes between 7 pm and 9 am.

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Police Report

January, early February criminal activity range from threats to fraud

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.

Man arrested after threatening women

Police at Station 12 on Stanton St. say a 26-year-old man placed under arrest on January 25 after making verbal threats to two women is a West Island resident, although he works in Westmount.

According to community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, one of the women, who was walking along Claremont Ave. around 11:45 am, reported she was being followed by a man, who also taunted her.

“She got scared and crossed the street where she met up with some other people she knew,” said Laperrière, while adding that she called 911.

A second woman reported being similarly targeted by the suspect only a few minutes later, he continued. She also called the emergency number and shortly after police showed up and made an arrest.

Laperrière said the suspect “doesn’t live in Westmount. We’ll just say he’s from the West Island, but he works here in Westmount. He was arrested and was placed in detention.

“He had some mental health issues,” he continued, “which still doesn’t stop us from arresting him. Following the arrest, he appeared in court and there will probably be a court-ordered evaluation for psychological reasons.”

Forced entry attempt on Holton, Jan. 19

Station 12 police say that a recent forced entry attempt at a Holton Ave. residence should serve as a reminder to home own-

ers that they should always be wary of intruders and call the police if they even see signs of break-ins.

On January 19, sometime between 7 and 9:35 pm, the house’s owner, who had forgotten his front door key, decided to try going in by a rear entrance.

“When he went to look in the back of the house, he noticed that the handle of the back door was forced and also damaged,” said Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel. The owner immediately called 911.

However, added Pimentel, the suspect hadn’t managed to get into the premises, although a glass panel on the rear door was broken during the attempt.

Nonetheless, the owner acted properly, he said. “When you see something suspicious, you should call 911,” he said, while adding that only police officers should attempt to determine whether suspects are still in the vicinity.

Break-in at fashion boutique, Jan. 15

Officers from Station 12 dealt with another break-in a few days earlier in a business area of Westmount.

On January 15 sometime between 8:50 pm and 8:30 am the following day, an intruder entered a fashion boutique in a commercial building on Sherbrooke St. while it was closed and stole \$200 from the cash register.

According to the police, an employee from a neighbouring business reported that the front door of the burglarized store was ajar when he arrived for work that morning, even though the boutique’s owner wasn’t present.

An alarm was ringing. A boutique employee who was immediately notified by phone of the break-in noticed after arriving

that the cash register was open and empty.

Police investigators have at least one important lead: a security camera in the boutique recorded a suspect entering through the front door, stealing the contents of the cash register and leaving the same way.

As there was no evidence of the front door being forced, the police are hypothesizing that an extra key belonging to building management might have been stolen and used to gain entry to the boutique.

Intoxicated man behind the wheel on Park Place arrested

A tip phoned in to police at Station 12 led to the arrest of a heavily intoxicated man asleep at the wheel of his car while in possession of narcotics in the late hours of February 1 on Park Place in Westmount.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Stéphan Laperrière, the information was relayed to the police by Westmount Public Security (see story February 9, p. 13), which had first been contacted by a woman who lives on the street.

“The guy was sleeping behind the wheel,” said Laperrière, while adding that the suspect’s vehicle was an Acura SUV. “By the time the police officers arrived around 11:43 pm, they saw the man behind the wheel and that the car radio was playing.

“They opened the door, and he still continued to sleep. They then saw that he had a transparent bag in his hand with a white powdery substance in it. He was later arrested for what they believed was possession of drugs.”

Through all of this, however, Laperrière noted, the 44-year-old suspect and Montreal resident continued to doze, even as the police removed the bag of powder from his hands. “The guy never woke up,” he said, although “they tried for several seconds to wake him up, and he didn’t react. He was very comatose.”

According to the police report, Urgences Santé was called to provide medical assistance. In addition to the charge of being in possession of drugs, he was charged with being in the care and control of a vehicle while impaired. He is scheduled to make a court appearance in a few months, Laperrière added.

Driver charged with leaving the scene, after incident on de Maisonneuve

A hit-and-run incident on de Maisonneuve Blvd. involving a pedestrian who was struck by a motorist, who then drove the victim to her work place, still resulted in a charge of leaving-the-scene for the

driver.

On January 29 around 3:50 pm, according to Laperrière, the pedestrian, a 38-year-old woman, was emerging from the Metro station entrance around 3920 de Maisonneuve near Wood Ave. when she was struck by the vehicle: a black SUV.

“The driver did get out of the car and talk with the person to verify her state,” he said. “The driver even drove the person to her work on Victoria Ave., but the driver then took off.” The driver was described as a white female, around 60 years old, with salt-and-pepper hair.

While the victim’s state following the collision may not have been apparent at first, she was eventually transported by ambulance from her workplace to the Montreal General Hospital to be evaluated. “She had injuries to her back and her legs,” Laperrière said.

As the driver failed to exchange information with the victim following the collision, as required with motor vehicle accidents, she was traced and located by the police and subsequently charged with leaving the scene.

Credit card fraud continues

Staff at Station 12 continue to deal with credit card fraud and identify theft incidents – some of which are proving to be quite costly to the victims. A Westmount couple complained to Station 12 police about a fraud perpetrated against them through their accounts at the Bank of Montreal.

“Somebody was able to steal their identity to get money from their accounts into another account,” said Laperrière, referring to the couple’s holdings as “high value” and the amount stolen as exceeding \$100,000.

He said the police investigation is taking place in conjunction with BMO’s security department. “It’s an investigation that’s ongoing, so we don’t have any further information on the suspect for now.”

A second fraud incident, this time involving a credit card, was also reported to local police recently. According to Laperrière, a 31-year-old Westmount woman’s identity was used to open a credit card account, although the fraud was discovered before any charges could be racked up.

All the same, he noted, in cases like this, the credit card company will usually assume responsibility for any losses, and they will do an investigation to try to find the perpetrator. “Once they have the most information possible, they will usually give it to the police,” he said.

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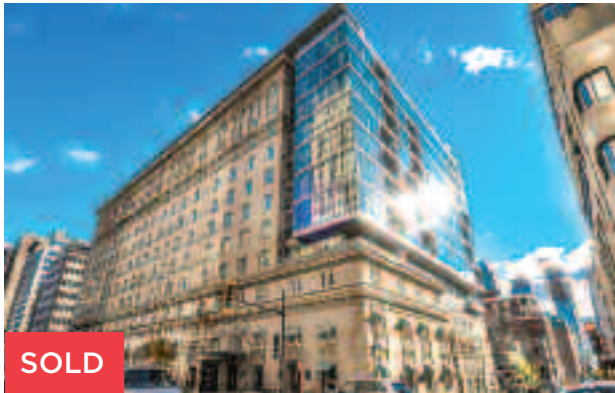


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# Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps Camps

## Part 2 of the Independent's series on summer camps

# Teens can gear up to become counsellors at Westmount Y

By JOANNE PENHALE

The counsellor-in-training (CIT) program is one of many day camps at the Westmount YMCA coordinated by Jonathan Kruidbos, 29, who took the CIT program at 16, and later taught it himself.

He now coordinates youth programs at the Westmount Y while finishing a degree in child developmental psychology at Concordia University.

*What is the CIT program?*

It's a three-week program for teens between 15 and 17 to give them experience and knowledge about working with kids in a generalized child-care setting, and more specifically, a day camp setting.

The first week, the emphasis is on theories about working with kids: the adult-based approach, the child-based approach, child-protection policies, YMCA policies, kids' rights, how



Daycamp coordinator Jonathan Kruidbos at the Westmount Y on February 2.

to recognize signs of abuse or neglect and what to do if that's suspected.

We cover the temperaments and qualities of kids at different ages, and we give examples of games to play and songs to sing.

The second week, CITs are introduced to the kids – they spend time with groups, participate in activities and really interact. The third week tests their knowledge: they animate games, lead

songs and take initiative to engage with the kids.

Our camp is unique because this YMCA is specialized in special needs integration. So we have accessible camps that integrate neuro-typical kids with kids with special needs. Children learn from each other. CITs also get that exposure then too.

*How many CITs are in one cohort and how many cohorts are there each summer?*

We average about five kids per session and have three three-week sessions.

*Do teens need to qualify for the program?*

No, they are technically still campers. If they meet the basic requirements to enter camp, they can enter the program.

*Do they get a certificate when they pass?*

Yes, it's almost like a letter of recom-

mendation. It's not an officially recognized certificate, but it can lend weight to job applications.

*Does everyone pass the course?*

To date, yes, but it is possible not to.

*Do CITs generally become YMCA counsellors or counsellors at other camps?*

There's been a variety of outcomes. Sometimes we'll never see someone again or they will come work here or they will end up in other Ys, or other camps.

*How has the CIT program changed since you took it?*

Originally, each individual Y had its own program, each with its own flavour. The day camps are now under one umbrella and everything is becoming standardized. This is the first year we'll have a standardized CIT program in all the Ys.

Also, there's more emphasis now on theory to better understand children. Troubling behaviour may at first elicit a reaction of strictness, but when counsellors understand why a child is acting a certain way they can help diffuse or regulate or diminish disruptive behaviour. So instead of time-outs, for example, a counsellor can assess why a child is acting a certain way and then try to help out with a more understanding approach.

*Do you have any advice for teens who take the CIT program?*

Patience. And remember you are there to learn but also still have fun. For a lot of people in the childcare field, I've found the biggest thing that keeps them there is that they get to stay connected to that inner child.

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# Parked car related to money pick-up?

A patroller noticed a car parked February 2 at 11:53 pm near the TD Bank at Claremont and Sherbrooke, Public Security officials said. Two men were inside with the

headlights turned off and the motor running. Just then a Garda armoured vehicle pulled up and the agents entered the bank machine area. The information was re-

layed to Garda to warn the agents. As soon as they returned into the truck, the car departed. A description of the car and a licence plate number were subsequently

given to Garda for information in the event it might have been related to the pick-up.



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## AVIS PUBLIC

### AVIS DE RECOURS POSSIBLE AUPRÈS DE LA COMMISSION MUNICIPALE DU QUÉBEC AFIN D'EXAMINER LA CONFORMITÉ DES RÈGLEMENTS N° 1494 ET 1495 AU PLAN D'URBANISME ET AU SCHÉMA D'AMÉNAGEMENT ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DE L'AGGLOMÉRATION DE MONTRÉAL

À toute personne habile à voter sur le territoire de la Ville de Westmount (la « Ville »).

#### 1. Adoption des règlements 1494 et 1495

Dans le cadre de l'adoption du Schéma d'aménagement et de développement de l'agglomération de Montréal (le « Schéma »), la Ville a adopté lors de la séance ordinaire du 1<sup>er</sup> février 2016, les règlements suivants :

- Règlement 1494 intitulé « Règlement visant à modifier de nouveau le Règlement 1303 concernant le zonage – schéma d'aménagement et de développement de l'agglomération de Montréal »; et
- Règlement 1495 intitulé « Règlement visant à modifier de nouveau le Règlement 1305 sur les plans d'implantation et d'intégration architecturale – schéma d'aménagement et de développement de l'agglomération de Montréal ».

#### 2. Demande d'avis de conformité à la Commission municipale du Québec

- 2.1 Toute personne habile à voter sur le territoire de la Ville peut demander par écrit, à la Commission municipale du Québec (la « Commission »), son avis sur la conformité des règlements 1494 et 1495 au plan d'urbanisme et au Schéma.
- 2.2 La demande doit être transmise à la Commission dans les 30 jours qui suivent la publication du présent avis à l'adresse suivante :

Commission municipale du Québec  
10, rue Pierre-Olivier-Chauveau  
Mezzanine, aile Chauveau  
Québec, QC G1R 4J3

- 2.3 Si la Commission ne reçoit pas de demande d'au moins 5 personnes habiles à voter sur le territoire de la Ville, les règlements 1494 et 1495 seront réputés conformes à compter de l'expiration dudit délai de 30 jours. Si la Commission reçoit une telle demande d'au moins 5 personnes habiles à voter sur le territoire de la Ville, elle devra donner son avis sur la conformité dans les 60 jours suivant l'expiration du présent délai de 30 jours.

#### 3. Consultation

Toute personne peut consulter cet avis et ces règlements et en obtenir copie au bureau du greffe situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount, du lundi au vendredi de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30 ou sur le site Web de la Ville, sous la section « Avis publics ».

DONNÉ à Westmount, ce 16 février 2016.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### POSSIBILITY OF RECOURSE BEFORE THE COMMISSION MUNICIPALE DU QUÉBEC TO EXAMINE THE CONFORMITY OF BY-LAWS 1494 AND 1495 WITH THE PLANNING PROGRAMME AND THE LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF THE URBAN AGGLOMERATION OF MONTRÉAL

To all qualified voters on the territory of the City of Westmount (the “City”).

#### 1. Adoption of By-laws 1494 and 1495

As part of the adoption of The Land Use Planning and Development Plan of the Urban Agglomeration of Montréal (the “Plan”), the City adopted at its regular sitting held on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, the following By-laws:

- By-law 1494, entitled “By-Law to further amend Zoning by-law 1303 – Land Use Planning and Development Plan of the urban agglomeration of Montréal”; and
- By-Law 1495, entitled “By-Law to further amend by-law 1305 on Site Planning and Architectural Programmes – Land Use Planning and Development Plan of the urban agglomeration of Montreal”.

#### 2. Application for a notice of assessment of the conformity to the Commission municipale du Québec

- 2.1 Any qualified voter on the territory of the City may apply in writing to the *Commission Municipale du Québec* (the “Commission”) to examine the conformity of By-laws 1494 and 1495 with the Planning Programme and the Plan.
- 2.2 The application must be transmitted to the Commission within 30 days after publication of this notice at the following address:

- 2.3 If the Commission does not receive applications from at least five qualified voters from the territory of the City, By-laws 1494 and 1495 will be deemed in conformity. If the Commission receives applications from at least five qualified voters from the territory of the City, it shall give its assessment of the conformity within 60 days of the expiry of the delay of 30 days.

#### 3. Consultation

Any person may consult this notice and by-laws and obtain copies at the Office of the City Clerk located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount, from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on the City's Website, under “Public Notices”.

GIVEN at Westmount, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February 2016.

Martin St-Jean  
Greffier de la Ville/City Clerk



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# Mouton Noir opens officially



The official opening of the Mouton Noir Café at the Westmount recreation centre took place the evening of February 4. It was attended by Mayor Peter Trent, members of city council along with locals and a few tired sports enthusiasts leaving the ice.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

## LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

<b>Estate/Moving sale</b>	<b>Handyman/Assistant</b>	<b>Come sing with us!</b>
Second sale: Parking available from 9:30am to 2:30pm. 1875 Rene Levesque W. Friday & Saturday Feb. 19 and 20, from 9:30 am to 3 pm. Many more new items added: Art, linens, bicycle, aquarium, jewelry, African art, armoire, pine & mid-century furniture.	<b>Available</b> For maintenance, small repairs or accompaniment, free evaluation & references available. 514-946-3003.	Choeur Anima Musica, a mixed choir of adults in NDG, Knox Crescent United Church on Tuesday evenings. You are welcome to come and try out; some experience in choral singing and sight reading is preferred, additional training offered. Info: www.animamusica.org or 438-384-9217.

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## Open garage door found at 3 am

Public safety officers found a garage door open on Sunnyside at 3 am February 8, Public Security officials said. An interior door leading to the house was unlocked. When a resident was contacted, she stated the door was defective and she was out of town. As officers were attempting to close it, “a 70-year-old man” opened the inside door and stated, in fact they were both home. The man, described as the homeowner, subsequently closed the garage door.

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# Glamorous gala at MMFA raises \$1 million



## Social Notes from Westmount and Beyond

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The annual Montreal Museum of Fine Arts' (MMFA) ball is always the most sought-after gala in town. Held on November 21, this year was no exception. It was sold out in October. "Living Art Loud," the event's 55th edition, broke a record with 850 in attendance.

The gowns were the most glamorous ever and ranged from a sensationally simple couture sheath-style (**Isabelle Marcoux**, Transcontinental board member, there with her husband **François Olivier**, who is the company's president/CEO); and winter-white satin with voluminous skirt (**Isabelle Hudon**, CEO Sun Life Financial, attending with hubby **Gilles Coulombe**); to a red-carpet-sweeping gown (Westmounter **Mary Daily-Desmarais**, with hubby **Paul Desmarais III**); and stunning turquoise (Westmounter **Alexandra Mac-Dougall**, committee member, there with

husband **Hubert Colas**).

Co-chairs were Westmounter **Calin Rovinescu**, Air Canada CEO (attending with his wife **Elaine**); CIBC president/CEO **Victor Dodig** (with his wife **Maureen**); and **Richard Speer** (with fiancée **Ruby Brown**).

Marking its 50th anniversary, the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, represented by its chairman **Robert Tessier**, who attended with his wife **Denyse**, was the ball's guest of honour.

The steering committee was chaired by Westmounter **Tania Dupont** (there with hubby **Eric Michaud**). Committed committee members included Westmounters **Claire Webster**, **Julie-Katherine Turcotte**, as well as **Ruby Brown**, **Véronique Thibault**, **Anne-Marie Côté**, **Mélanie Vaugeois**, **Roula Rossy**, **Katia Robillard**, **Haida Nahfaoui**, **Maria Varvarikos**, **Pascale Chassé**, **Danielle Champagne**, **Marie-Annick Boisvert** and co-presidents of the Volunteer Association of MMFA **Caroline Savic** and **Michèle Plourde**.

Each room had a different edgy décor,

*Please send information on your  
upcoming spring event to  
[redgrave@videotron.ca](mailto:redgrave@videotron.ca).*

thanks to the creativity of **Lysanne Pepin**, florist.

**Isabelle Long** and **Dominique Houle**

The amazing dinner ..... continued on p. 14



From left: **Brian Levitt**, **Calin Rovinescu**, **Tania Dupont**, **Nathalie Bondil**, **Victor Dodig** and **Richard Speer**.  
Photos courtesy of MMFA

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Paul Desmarais III and Mary Dailey-Desmarais.



Alexandra MacDougall and Hubert Colas.

Social Notes cont'd. from p. 13

was created by chef **Helena Loureiro** (of her eponymous restaurant) working with the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth's **Marc Lan-**

**tanf** and pastry chef **Patrice Demers**.

Noted amidst the dazzling drama were Westmounters gallerist **Mark Leibner** and his wife **Louise, Hélène Desmarais**, **Mitch Garber**, Cirque part-owner and Caesars Acquisition CEO, with his wife **Anne-Marie Boucher**; as well as WANT Les Essentiels co-founders **Dexter Peart** and twin **Bryon**; Sid Lee CEO **Jean-François Bouchard** and his wife **Vidéotron** pres/CEO **Manon Brouillette**; **Margaret Trudeau** and daughter-in-law **Zoé**

**Trudeau**; Canadian Heritage minister **Mélanie Joly** and her husband **Frédéric Drouin**; Stingray head **Eric Boyko** and **Audrey Vallières**, **Paul Pathy**, president and co-CEO Fednav and his wife **Marie Michelle**; and the MMFA's director/chief curator **Nathalie Bondil**; philanthropist **Michel de la Chenelière**, (sporting a radiant red bow tie) and board chair **Brian Levitt**. (His bow tie was tartan.)

The city's most prestigious party raised \$1 million.

Miss Vicky's cont'd. from p. 3

children five and under for more than a quarter century, latterly offering its program from 9 am to 1 pm.

The school's position, Naday said, is that parents do not pay for the 8:30 am "drop-in" period. "It is impossible to have all of the children arrive at the same time." Such an arrival period is also "common practice at other Jardins d'Enfants, daycares and schools," she maintains.

The school's operating hours have been in contention with the government since October 2013. This resulted in the school discontinuing a 90-minute "à la carte" afternoon program in the church basement.

The timing of the government's intervention in this respect came on the heels of the city's amendment of its zoning by-law September 3, 2013. This allowed for a pre-school use to be added to those for St. Matthias' (see September 10, 2013, p. 1).

In January 2014, an "à la carte" program

called "FunZone" started up in the church basement under separate ownership from Miss Vicky's and with a new rental agreement with the church.

While no mention of this was made in the government notice to parents, Naday said in a background letter to parents dated February 11 that FunZone had also received a closure notice for March 11.

"At the same time," she wrote, "I wish to thank you for the outpouring of support and reassure you that I am confident that Miss Vicky's will continue to offer a wide range of programming in a nurturing environment for years to come."

For the last month, an advisory team has been working at the ministerial level to find a solution, according to public relations consultant **Jonathan Goldbloom**. It also includes lawyer **Julius Grey**.

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2016.02.16 • Vol. 4/03

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# infoWestmount

## HÔTEL DE VILLE

### SPVM : vaste collecte de livres

Le Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM), en collaboration avec le projet *Mes livres, mon refuge*, invite les citoyens à participer à une collecte de livres afin d'offrir de la lecture aux enfants qui séjournent dans les maisons d'hébergement pour personnes victimes de violence. Apportez vos livres au 21, rue Stanton **au plus tard le 29 février**. Info : westmount.org.

### Taxes foncières : 1<sup>er</sup> versement le 26 février

Dates limite pour les versements des taxes foncières 2016 : le 26 février et le 27 mai. Info : westmount.org.

## SPORTS ET LOISIRS

### Inscriptions : activités printemps et été

**À compter du 16 février en ligne ou en personne au CLW.** Consultez votre répertoire des activités (disponible en ligne au [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)). **RAPPEL IMPORTANT** : avant de pouvoir activer votre compte électronique pour effectuer des inscriptions en ligne, vous devez présenter deux preuves de résidence au bureau du CLW. Info : 514 989-5353.



### CLW : Café Mouton Noir

Le café du Centre des loisirs de Westmount est ouvert. Consultez le menu au [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

**Le mercredi 17 février, 10 h 15.** Le Groupe de poésie de Westmount compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Bienvenue à tous. Info : 514 989-5299.

### Cercle de lecture *Finnegans Wake* de Joyce: The Boaters and Sifters of ALP

**Le mercredi 17 février, 19 h.** Vous êtes invités à vous joindre au groupe de lecture afin de plonger tête première dans une discussion passionnée sur l'œuvre magistrale de James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*. Apportez votre copie du livre. Info : 514-989-5299.

### Club de lecture en français

**Le lundi 22 février, 13 h.** Orhan Pamuk. Info : 514-989-5299.

### Club de lecture en anglais

**Le mardi 23 février à 19 h.** *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* de Carson McCullers. Info : 514-989-5299.

## Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 7 mars

### Ciné-club

**Le vendredi 19 février, 14 h.** *Suffragette*. Info : 514-989-5299.

### Teen Tour Theatre : « *The Secret Life of Girls* »

**Le dimanche 28 février, 13 h 30,** Victoria Hall. Une pièce de Linda Daugherty avec mise en scène par Aviva Wolman-Wener. Un aperçu honnête de la vie des adolescentes et du monde de l'intimidation juvénile. 10 à 17 ans. Info : 514 989-5229.

### Films pour la semaine de relâche

**Le lundi 29 février et le mardi 1<sup>er</sup> mars, 14 h,** Salle Westmount. Veuillez vous inscrire au comptoir des enfants. En anglais. Gratuit. Info : 514 989-5229.

### Inscriptions : activités printemps et été

**À compter du mercredi 9 mars.** Veuillez vous inscrire au comptoir des enfants. Info : 514-989-5299.

## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

### Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

**Du 4 au 27 février.** Œuvres de Catherine Benny, Shahrzad Ghaffari et Homeira Mortazavi. Lundi au vendredi, 10 h à 21 h ; samedi et dimanche 10 h à 17 h. Venez rencontrer les artistes et la conservatrice de la galerie, Victoria LeBlanc, **le mardi 23 février à 19 h.** Info : 514 989-5521.

### Série conférences Ville en santé: Les soins à domicile pour ses proches et pour soi-même

**Le jeudi 25 février, 19 h,** Bibliothèque. Conférencière invitée : Joan Foster, infirmière. Info : 514 989-5284.

## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

### Paiement par plaque : période de démonstration

Les résidents de Westmount sont invités à faire l'essai des nouveaux parcomètres **paiement par plaque** présentement en démonstration à l'Hôtel de Ville et au CLW. Info : westmount.org.

### Avez-vous votre permis pour chien 2016 ?

Les agents de la Sécurité publique de Westmount vérifient présentement les permis de garde pour chiens dans les parcs canins. Les résidents de Westmount doivent se procurer leur permis annuellement, ainsi que les non-résidents qui veulent utiliser les parcs canins. Évitez une contravention de 76 \$ en vous procurant votre permis 2016.



## CITY HALL

### SPVM: Giant book drive

The Montreal Police Department (SPVM), in partnership with *Mes livres, mon refuge*, is asking for contributions of books to be given to children staying in domestic violence shelters. Please bring the books to 21 Stanton Street **on or before February 29**. Info: westmount.org

### Property tax - first installment February 26

The tax installment deadlines for 2016 are February 26 and May 27. Info: westmount.org.

## SPORTS & RECREATION

### Registration: spring & summer activities From February 16 online or in person at the WRC.

Consult your activity guide (also available online at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org)). **IMPORTANT:** before being able to activate your account for online registration, you must present two proofs of residence at the WRC office. Info: 514 989-5353.

### WRC: Café Mouton Noir

The Westmount Recreation Centre's café is now open. Consult the menu at [westmount.org](http://westmount.org).

## LIBRARY

### Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

**Wednesday, February 17, 10:15 a.m.** The Westmount Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together working with themes proposed by members. All welcome. Info: 514 989-5299.

### Reading group for Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*: The Boaters and Sifters of ALP

**Wednesday, February 17, 7 p.m.** Join the circle skimming the surface or sifting through the layers of Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. Bring an open mind and a copy of the book. Info: 514-989-5299.

### Film Club

**Friday, February 19, 2 p.m.** *Suffragette*. Info: 514-989-5299.

### French Book Club

**Monday, February 22, 1 p.m.** Orhan Pamuk. Info: 514-989-5299.

### English Book Club

**Tuesday, February 23, 7 p.m.** Carson McCullers' *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*. Info: 514-989-5299.

### Teen Tour Theatre: *The Secret Life of Girls*

**Sunday, February 28, 1:30 p.m.,** Victoria Hall. A play by Linda Daugherty, directed by Aviva Wolman-Wener. In this honest and unflinching dramatization of young teen-girl angst, a window is opened into the tumultuous and destructive world of girls' bullying. For ages 10 to 17. Info: 514-989-5229.

## Next Council Meeting Monday, March 7

### March Break Movies

**Monday, February 29 and Tuesday, March 1, 2 p.m.,** Westmount Room. Please sign up at the Children's desk. In English. Free. Info: 514 989-5229.

**Children's Spring Session : registration From Wednesday, March 9.** Please register at the Children's Desk. Info: 514 989-5229.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Gallery at Victoria Hall - Exhibition

**February 4 to 27.** Works by Catherine Benny, Shahrzad Ghaffari et Homeira Mortazavi. Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat & Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come meet the artists and the gallery curator Victoria LeBlanc on **Tuesday, February 23 at 7 p.m.** Info: 514-989-5521.



### Healthy City lecture series: Caring for yourself and your loved ones at home

**Thursday, February 25, 7 p.m.,** Library. Join us for the first of the spring series. With Joan Foster, B.N. Info: 514 989-5284.

## PUBLIC SECURITY

### Pay-by-Plate demonstration period

Westmounters are invited to try out the new **pay-by-plate** parking stations now on demonstration at City Hall and the WRC. Info: westmount.org.

### Do you have your 2016 dog license?

Westmount Public Safety officers are currently verifying dog runs and park areas for 2016 Westmount dog permits. Westmount dog owners are obliged to purchase a dog permit annually. Non-residents that wish to use the City's dog runs must also obtain a Westmount permit. Please ensure your licenses have been renewed to avoid being issued a \$76 ticket.



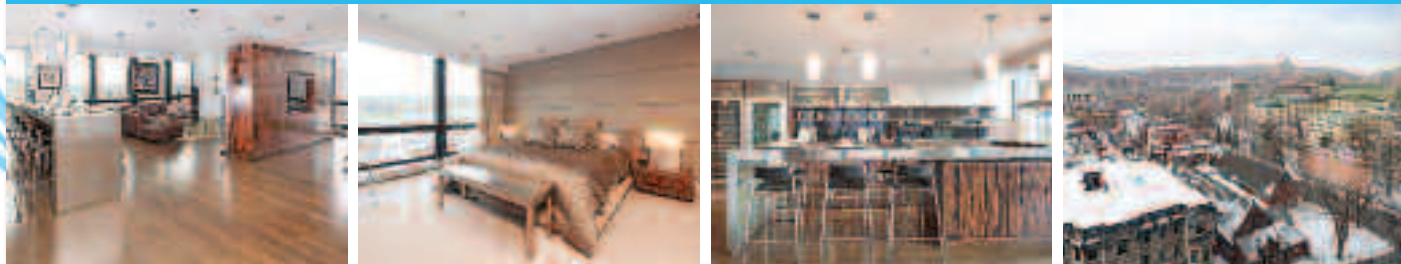




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