

## Green bins on the way!



Public Works storekeeper John Grainger organizes the green bins for distribution.

Starting April 21, Public Works will distribute some 500 of these green bins to residents for the launch of Westmount's new compostable waste collection starting May 12 in the sector bounded by Côte St. Antoine, de Maisonneuve, Lansdowne and Clarke. The new pickup will replace the regular Monday garbage collection. It will be phased in later throughout the city.

**Community profile**  
**The Demergettes p. 18**



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## Greening of 15 Belvedere trailblazes new technologies

# Bronfman house aims for new benchmark

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

One of Westmount's top-rated heritage homes is climbing a steep, twisty road as it sets a new benchmark in the pages of the city's architectural and environmental history.

The century-old Bronfman house at 15 Belvedere Rd. is now half way into a five-year trailblazing project to upgrade it as a showcase for building green, despite construction limitations imposed by its heritage status.

"We're working with experimental methods and technologies," said owner Stephen Bronfman on a recent tour of the work site. "Everything is being scientifically researched.

"I think it will be a benchmark in the country because it's a groundbreaking

project for a large family home in a new field."

This is because the work is pioneering new standards in its aim to gain LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification. This is a set of standards initially created for the construction of large new buildings such as condo developments, rather than a prestige Queen Anne-style house.

### Documenting every step

As a result, every step along the way is being carefully documented and sent out for rulings as efforts are taken to reduce environmental impact during and after the construction process.

Grandson of the late Sam and Saidye Bronfman, and son of ..... Charles, Stephen is a *continued on p. 12*

## Arena think tank attracts many

What type of arena and pool facility does Westmount need to replace the 1957 complex? The wish list kept growing as approximately 130 people attended a public consultation April 12 at Victoria Hall.

"This is an exciting time for all of us to hear your thoughts," said Mayor Marks in opening one of the five hourly sessions. Most city councillors and many city staff members attended.

Feeding on other's comments, people called for finding creative ways of expanding: building underground, upward and even on a new site such as a portion of

nearby mega-hospital land – and/or to LEED (environmental) standards.

Among the requests: more parking, an indoor pool, family changing rooms, a gym, indoor tennis and meeting rooms. Would new facilities increase traffic, bring in more visiting sports teams, destroy the neighbourhood and park? And what about the heritage value of the existing building?

A list of comments will be made public in the next two weeks, said city director general Bruce St. Louis. The city is still receiving comments from residents by mail and email at [assistance@westmount.org](mailto:assistance@westmount.org).

## Paris, Westmount



Westmounter Zoe Claman-De Melo with celebrity Paris Hilton at Westmount-owned Abe & Mary's (4175 Jean Talon W.). Hilton was spotted shopping at the trendy department store on April 6.

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# Street cleaning debate livens council session

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

It was a rare debate and dissenting vote that took place at the Westmount city council meeting on March 31 over what normally would have been a routine purchase.

But when Councillor Kathleen Duncan announced her intention to oppose the acquisition of a sidewalk vacuum machine on grounds the total cost of \$67,702 might be better spent on greener alternatives, the mayor and other council members weighed in against her.

And a debate, unheard of for many years, unleashed a series of civilized arguments that broke the perception of rubber-stamp approvals.

Several councillors stated afterward that other options might indeed be worth looking into, especially given that the machine in question can't always suck up water-soaked paper, alongside parked cars or out of the hose's reach.

But it was the democratic process, in particular, and the return to old-fashioned debate that prompted Mayor Karin Marks to conclude: "It's been a healthy discus-

sion."

One council attender said he had been close to dozing off near the end of the meeting as the new business item was presented by Councillor George Bowser for acquiring the 2008 Madvac "outdoor vacuum litter collector" – when Duncan's words rang out: "I can't vote in favour."

"While the emissions are very low," she explained, "I think we can do more with other options."

## Messy city = crime?

Councillor John de Castell said that while he lauded the goal of getting rid of pollutants, he doubted the way to achieve it was by having a messy city that could lead to rising crime rates. "There's a trade-off."

"It's all about choices," added Councillor Cynthia Lulham, a resident of St. Catherine St. who sees the amount of garbage the Madvac picks up. It was regrettable there was no equivalent electric model, she said.

"I also want a clean city," interjected Duncan, suggesting workers on foot as an option because they had an added benefit of providing "eyes and ears." Westmount has always been a leader in ..... environment measures *continued on p. 17*



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# Aylett wants more respect for trees

By DON WEDGE

Claremont Ave. resident Richard Aylett is calling on the city to include all the significant trees in the inventory of parks that it has commissioned, suggesting that the unusual ones have a descriptive plaque. Aylett is an amateur tree enthusiast, with an interest he describes as “lifelong.”

He is particularly concerned with a rare dawn redwood that grows near the children’s playground in Westmount Park.

Aylett also notes the “huge” poplar in the southwest corner near Westmount Park United Church, as well as the willow near the pond. “There are sure to be other notable trees both public and private,” he adds.

He has written to Mayor Karin Marks and Councillor George Bowser, the commissioner responsible for parks, asking for “more respect” to be shown to the city’s trees.

## Arboreal patrimony

“They form an arboreal patrimony that we should be aware and proud of,” he said.

Aylett is particularly concerned about

the dawn redwood (*metasequoia glyptostroboides*), which he believes to be outstanding.

On a visit to Durham, North Carolina last month, he found a specimen on the grounds of Duke University.

“I discovered it was an extinct species until a few examples were found in north China around 1948,” Aylett explained. “Seedlings were subsequently raised at Harvard University and planted in various gardens worldwide.”

## Still endangered

“The International Union for the Conservation of Nature still regards it as a critically endangered species.”

“City horticulturist Claudette Savaria has

confirmed that the tree is a dawn redwood. It may not have quite the same pedigree as the Durham one, but is an extraordinary tree all the same.

“The sample I saw on the Duke campus was well cared for with access to it restricted by a chain fence. There was a plaque nearby telling the story of the tree,” Aylett said.

He asks that similar care and information be given to Westmount’s special trees.



The dawn redwood, looking east

# Provincial Liberals reject local autonomy

At the recent meeting of the Quebec Liberal Party, Westmount Mayor Karin Marks presented a resolution calling for a Charter of Municipal Autonomy.

The resolution, which proposed the type of charter that exists in BC and Europe to provide local governments with some protection from losing rights or their existence without consultation, was not adopted. “I thought it was a no-brainer,” she said.

Given Westmount’s experience with the forced municipal mergers, Marks said the concept was not to suggest changes to the Canadian constitution, but rather identify at the provincial level “those things that are of local jurisdiction.”

Marks said she had been continuing her attempts to influence Liberal Party policy from within as a member of the local St. Henri-Westmount riding association.

## More lobbying next time

And while MNAs she had spoken to before the vote “seemed comfortable” with the resolution, the membership at large disagreed. Next time, she added, she would do more lobbying in advance.

On the other hand, a second resolution she presented was successful. This one

called on the government to identify new sources of funding for cities. “We currently have the highest percentage of revenue coming from property tax in all of North America,” she explained.

# Earth Hour reduces power by 1%

An analysis of Westmount energy consumption March 29 during Earth Hour indicates a reduction of 1 percent, said Westmount Hydro director Pierre Dubé.

Considering that lighting is 24 percent of consumption, he said, and that it was unlikely people lowered their heating, it appears that Earth Hour produced a saving in lighting of 4 percent, “or 1 percent at the least.”

Usage that night peaked at 51,784 kilowatts at 7:45 pm and dropped to 51,064 kW at 8 pm, the start of the lights-out period, and 50,332 kW at 8:15 pm. Consumption rose to 50,492 kW at 9:45 pm. A normal Saturday would not see much of a decline until around 10 pm, Dubé added.

Figures reported by Hydro Quebec for the province indicated a drop of about 5 percent.

## Letters to the editor

### A SWEENEY FAN

I just want you to know how much I appreciate the *Westmount Independent*. It is great to have Laureen Sweeney again reporting the news of Westmount.

MARY SANCTON, SHERBROOKE ST.

### MAYOR THRILLED TO ‘GET WITH IT’

I was thrilled to see Flora Lee Wagner’s letter imploring Westmount to provide a place for apartment dwellers to take their compost (“Get with it Westmount”, April 2). As we begin our first phase of the household compost pick-up, I hope that all those on that route will be as motivated.

While we have a green waste disposal facility at the Corporation Yard and any resident is welcome to bring grass clippings or small branches, a kitchen waste facility requires much more space and a much more sophisticated facility to assure that there are no odours or vermin.

The question of apartment pick-up of compostables is one that is under study by many. There are some technical difficulties in the size and type of containers, their storage and the necessary liners. I am sure that by the time we have implemented the

first three phases of our household pick-up in early 2009, solutions will be available and we will be able to implement an appropriate process.

It is good to know that we share the same goals. Please know that we are working hard to find the best solutions to accomplish them.

KARIN MARKS, MAYOR  
CITY OF WESTMOUNT

### A MCNEILL FAN

This is to compliment Kristin McNeill on a highly informative interview with Guy Dufort, the aspirant MP for the Conservative Party in the Westmount-Ville Marie riding.

Not only did she appear to have diligently prepared for the interview, but she managed to get Mr. Dufort to come up with meaningful and well-worded answers. This quality of interview from both participants is rare, and was truly informative and revealing, setting a high standard.

Good for the interviewer, the interviewee and the reader. IT DOES YOUR PUBLICATION CREDIT.

ERNEST SKUTEZKY, ST. CATHERINE ST.

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Most frequently restocked drop sites: Lobby of 310 Victoria Ave.; Sherbrooke St. exit to Metro grocery store at Victoria Ave. and Sherbrooke St.

Drop notice: Snow conditions may delay us getting around to all of our drop sites on Tuesday of publication week. Whatever the snow conditions, we still aim to reach our “most reliable” drops (Metro on Victoria, Westmount Square and 310 Victoria lobby) on Tuesdays.

EDITOR & PUBLISHER: David Price 514.935.4537

EDITORIAL COORDINATOR: Kristin McNeill  
514.223.3578 – indie@westmountindependent.com

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney  
laureen@westmountindependent.com

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## Civic Alert

## Quiet intro of e-Westmount spurs openness questions

By DON WEDGE



E-Westmount finally made its bow. After years of waiting for an email service that could alert citizens to city affairs, it was launched unheralded and, perhaps, unloved. Is Westmount ready for the electronic age?

That no one was acclaiming the new service's arrival was a pity because it has enormous potential to help citizens and the city.

Last month, an invitation to sign up was placed at the top of the city's home page. After a couple of weeks' silence, finally came a message – a rather well-designed Sports and Recreation e-newsletter, featuring the consultation on what is now defined as the Arena/Pool Renewal Project.

So Westmount, after some years' expectation, joined the e-age.

The local model to compare to is diminutive Hampstead! About twice a week, around midnight, a brief message is sent to subscribers about all sorts of things – social events, service reminders, even a straw poll on whether more should be spent to accelerate snow removal.

Westmount is also slow to offer video of council meetings. Hundreds of North American councils do it. Many of them also archive the webcasts.

**Free to report**

So the idea that Westmount is planning to edit the audio archive of its proceedings seems rather Stone Age. At present, print and electronic media are free to report any intervention at a public council meeting. The original question will certainly be permanently recorded in the official minutes.

But in this new era, the printed word has been supplemented by audio and video and there are concerns that Westmounters may not speak up if their words are to be heard as well as read across the

world.

Given some Westmounters' love of privacy, this is a serious consideration. But council might think of modifying its rules. For instance, name and address, could be written down for the city clerk, a practice in many places.

The city's embrace of the electronic world has so far been limited. Meantime others stepped up, only for their efforts to be damply received.

*Actualités Westmount* newspaper began putting its own recordings of council meetings on its web site, until the city objected. (They are at <http://tinyurl.com/6ej4ot>, including the three-hour Victoria Hall meeting on the artificial turf.)

On the same site, publisher Victor Afriat has archived several recent meetings of the CDN-NDG borough council meetings. They have attracted no protest.

**Welcome in CDN-NDG**

"None at all," borough mayor Michael Applebaum assured me. "We think it is a good thing. The more people interested in what we do the better."

However, he did have some reservations about a video version due to the possibilities of editing.

Then there is the case of the Westmount documents – the papers that provide the background to the decisions that council takes.

A screened version of what councillors receive has been supplied to the WMA ever since early in Peter Trent's mayoralty. Trent also ordered a copy placed at the Library reference desk prior to the meeting for all to see.

However, it is a flawed system because the minutes of the standing committees, where much preparatory work is done, are excessively delayed and very incomplete.

After having been constantly thwarted in his attempts to get fuller, timelier information on the city web site, WMA president Henry Olders scanned one month's documents last fall for members to see on

the association's site.

But although the city had promised to do this, there were major objections when Olders did the work himself.

However, in recent days a new, worrying possibility has emerged. When "one day soon" eventually arrives and council meetings become paperless, there may be the same heavy-handed control on which documents are visible to taxpayers – and when.

Has council really thought out this policy? Olders and the WMA believe more firmly than ever that background information is owed to citizens.

Misunderstanding city decision-making was a big beef exploited by the Save the Park! campaigners last year. Could this be a defining election issue for next year? Council has a year left to get it straight.

Civic activist Don Wedge's e-mail address is [calert@web.net](mailto:calert@web.net).

**On the Market: 109 Upper Bellevue**

This three-storey stone cottage benefits from views of the St. Lawrence River. In fact, the view is what sold the present owners, the Millers. "I fell in love with the view and the location," said Kaiko Miller. She knew that she wanted to buy it "after only 30 minutes."

A large part of the house was added on in 1989. The Millers remodeled after a house that they visited in Montreuil, France. The house benefits from a double living-room – complete with herring-bone oak floors, a wood-burning fireplace and French doors leading out to a stone terrace. As the house is south-facing, the light pours in on a sunny day. Across the foyer is a formal dining room and a small kitchen that opens up to a family room, which could also be used as an eat-in kitchen. Although the property sits close to the street, it has a private, landscaped back garden.

The property has four bathrooms plus a powder room, six bedrooms, a two-car garage and central air conditioning. The laundry room is conveniently located on the second floor.



The master bedroom, complete with an *ensuite* bathroom equipped with an old-fashioned bathtub and separate glass shower, is huge and benefits from the view.

The third floor is almost an apartment unto itself, including a bathroom and deck with views. There is no basement.

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## 3 championships for Westmount hockey

Westmount hockey brought home four first place finishes this year over a mix of Eastern Hockey League ("EHL") finals and invitational tournaments, in addition to strong showings at the league and regional levels.

The final highlights were as follows:

**Atom A:** EHL league championship

**Atom B:** EHL league championship, winner (St. Laurent tournament), finalist (Lac St. Louis regional championship)

**Peewee A:** semi-finalist (Lac St. Louis regional championship)

**Bantam A:** semi-finalist (Lac St. Louis regional championship)

**Midget B:** EHL league championship

Overall standings were buttressed by league victories from the Atom and Midget B players, and it is the first time that Westmount hockey has fielded travelling B teams. The city also "travelled" five A teams, one in each of the Novice, Atom, Peewee, Bantam and Midget leagues.

The EHL consists of Lachine, Montreal West, Mount Royal/Outremont, Côte St. Luc, St. Laurent and Westmount.



Some of Westmount's victors: the Midget B (above) and Atom B teams



## St. Mathias rummage sale attracts shoppers



Organizer Peter Denis, with volunteers Stephen Hinton and Alex Bretson, on April 12. All proceeds from the rummage sale will go to Montreal outreach programs.

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## Indie Briefs...

### Mayor's blood donor clinic

The Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic will take place on Friday, April 18, 2008 from 2 pm to 8 pm at Victoria Hall. It is being run in conjunction with Héma-Québec and the Girl Guides of Canada. The goal is 110 pints of blood.

### Playday at Art-Enfant

Art-Enfant (4968 Sherbrooke St., 514.488.1022, [www.art-enfant.ca](http://www.art-enfant.ca)) will host a free "Webkinz Day Extravaganza" on April 25 (4 to 6 pm) and April 26 and 27 (10 am to 5 pm) for children ages 6 and up.

### Y to offer massager therapy classes

Nathalie Rivard will be offering introductory classes at the Westmount YMCA on massotherapy.

Rivard explains, "I'm a massotherapist and people often ask me: 'How can you give someone a massage for a whole hour or hour and a half? ... So, that gave me an idea of teaching 'monsieur-tout-le-monde' how to give a full body massage to loved ones." For information, call 514.407.6190.

### Philatelic Club to meet

The Philatelic Club of Montreal meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Westmount Public Library. Its next meeting is Tuesday, April 22 at 7:30 pm. For more information, call 514.735.3941.

### Book sale at the Library

The Spring Quality Used Book Sale is on Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27 from 10 am to 5 pm at the Westmount Public Library. An extraordinary selection of books on a diverse range of topics will be for sale, including contemporary classics, bestsellers and prize-winning books, as well older, out-of-print and esoteric titles that cannot be obtained in regular bookshops. Donations can be dropped off at any time at the front desk. For more information, please contact Carolyn O'Neill 514.483.5604.

### Art-Enfant robbed

Art-Enfant was robbed on March 31 at 5:47 pm. A man pretending to be interested in the bicycles on display demanded that the sole employee of the toy store hand over the contents of the cash register. When the employee resisted, the robber showed her the handle of what

## Glassman eyes 2012 Olympics

Westmounter Zach Glassman finished competing at Canada's Olympic swimming tryouts on April 6, and placed 12th (200-meter breaststroke), 32nd (100-meter breaststroke) and 29th (200-meter medley).

Unfortunately, great as those results may be, they don't translate into a spot at the Beijing Olympics. Glassman explained to the *Independent* that only the top two competitors in an event have a chance of going, and even the winner does not go if the benchmark time is not achieved. Nevertheless, at 21, Glassman still feels well placed to attend a subsequent games. Swimmers peak in their mid 20s.

Glassman is no stranger to improving performance. As a coach of the Westmount Dolphins (along with his sister Leah), the Columbia University student has been a part of a team that was last out of 22 teams four years ago and went on to be first in the "A" section last year. Initially, "West Island friends laughed at the Dolphins," said Glassman.

No one is laughing as Glassman continues to swim and train, even if – for now – "Swimming does come second to academics."



Zach Glassman

## No April fooling: biodegradable takeout



From left: Denis Lépine, David Carrier of Avec plaisirs and Danielle Sisti of CFMB.

Westmounter Denis Lépine hosted a lunch on April Fool's Day at the Westmount greenhouse. Among the invitees were Danielle Sisti – host at CFMB (1280 AM), Victoria Village's only radio station – and David Carrier of Avec plaisirs (514.272.1511, [www.avecplaisirs.com](http://www.avecplaisirs.com)), the order-in service that provided the meal.

Avec plaisirs' boxed lunches are 100% biodegradable and cost approximately \$12 plus delivery. The cardboard box is best recycled through traditional recycling, but

the hard shell and sandwich wrapping are actually compostable. Carrier attended a recent meeting of International Caterers Association and found no product like it in North America.

Lépine also treated the greenhouse staff to lunch. Employees will be doing a composting experiment on the packaging.

Unbeknownst to many Westmounters, the greenhouse has tables available for bring-your-own dining, just like a park.

## ...more Indie Briefs

appeared to be a gun. The culprit fled with \$150, heading west on Sherbrooke St.

Judi Meade, the owner of Art-Enfant, is installing surveillance cameras as well as a panic button, "which will hopefully act as deterrents."

The suspect, who has not been caught, is a French-speaking white male in his mid-forties with dark hair and eyes. He measures about 5'7", smells of cigarettes and has one missing tooth at the front.

## Westmounter Norma Shearer to be on stamp

Born and raised in Westmount, Hollywood film queen Norma Shearer will appear on a Canada Post stamp later this year. One of the great actresses of the silent era, Shearer was among the handful of recipients in 1991 of Westmount's civic honours bestowed posthumously on certain distinguished former residents.

Born in 1902 (or 1900, sources vary), she lived as a child at 507 Grosvenor, moved to Columbia Ave. and attended Westmount High. Shearer spent most of her adult life in California but returned to Westmount in 1941 to promote wartime Victory Bonds, reportedly attracting 60,000 people to Westmount Park. She died in 1983.



From left: Norma Shearer, Chief Dan George, Marie Dressler and Raymond Burr.

Shearer is known for traditional roles in movies like *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as more daring ones in *The Divorcee*, for which she won an Oscar, and *A Free Soul*.

Shearer lived as a child at 507 Grosvenor Ave., but her family moved in 1918 when her father's business collapsed.

The Shearer stamp is a part of the "Canadian in Hollywood – the Sequel" series, which also includes Marie Dressler, Raymond Burr and Chief Dan George. The first series was composed of John Candy, Lorne Greene, Mary Pickford and Fay Wray. The Shearer stamps are scheduled to be on sale June 30.



Did you know Westmount's  
**CONTACTIVITY CENTRE**  
for people 60+  
has an Arts & Crafts group?  
For information call  
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Westmount vous informe...

Westmount vous informe...

## Westmount Page

www.westmount.org  
info : 514 989-5200

Vol. 2/8

Publié par Westmount • Published by Westmount



## TRAVAUX PUBLICS

**Collecte des résidus alimentaires**

Le personnel des Travaux publics distribuera les nouveaux bacs verts aux maisons unifamiliales de la zone 8 situées entre le boulevard de Maisonneuve et le chemin de la Côte St-Antoine, de l'avenue Clarke à l'avenue Lansdowne, au cours de la semaine du 21 avril. Veuillez noter que la première collecte des résidus alimentaires et de jardinage se tiendra **le lundi 12 mai**. Pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter notre site Web.

**Nid-de-poule? Avisez-nous!**

Si vous voyez un nid-de-poule dans n'importe quelle rue à Westmount, veuillez aviser la Ville immédiatement afin que le personnel des Travaux publics puisse le réparer. La ligne d'urgence – 514 989-5311 – est accessible 24 heures sur 24, sept jours par semaine. Vous pouvez aussi communiquer avec la Ville à partir de notre site Web, ou par courriel à [assistance@westmount.org](mailto:assistance@westmount.org).

**Distribution d'arbres**

La Ville de Westmount offre des arbres sans frais aux résidents. Vous pouvez obtenir un arbre de votre choix, à savoir un sorbier *Cardinal Royal*, un lilas *Ivory Silk* ou un orme *Accolade*. Les bons de commande à cet effet sont disponibles à l'hôtel de ville, à la Bibliothèque et à partir de notre site Web jusqu'au 16 avril. Info : 514 989-5213. 🌳



## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

**Collecte de sang du maire**

La collecte annuelle de sang du maire se tiendra le vendredi 18 avril de 14 h à 20 h au Victoria Hall. Donnez du sang, donnez la vie ! Info : 514 989-5265. 🌳



## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

**Conférences culturelles –  
International Artist Outreach**

Cofondateur du collectif international pour les arts *La Raza*, Scott MacLeod présentera le mercredi 16 avril à 19 h un diaporama décrivant les activités de ce collectif qui a pour mandat de sensibiliser la société par le muralisme, la musique et l'activisme

## DATES À RETENIR

**Jusqu'au 19 avril**

Exposition : Œuvres de Mary Landry, Brian Merrett et Frederic Smith  
La galerie du Victoria Hall

**Le 18 avril – 14 h**

Collecte de sang du maire  
Victoria Hall

**Le 28 avril – 20 h**

Séance du conseil  
Hôtel de ville

pour des hospices et missions à travers le monde.  
*Présentation en anglais.* Info : 514 989-5386.

**Vente de livres des Amis**

Les Amis de la bibliothèque tiendront une vente de livres les samedi 26 et dimanche 27 avril, de 10 h à 17 h, dans la salle Westmount de la Bibliothèque. Info : 514 483-5604. 🌳



## SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

**Restrictions de stationnement -  
entretien des rues**

Les restrictions de stationnement permettant l'entretien des rues sont maintenant en vigueur. Veuillez vérifier les panneaux de votre secteur.

**Parc Summit - période migratoire**

Rappel aux propriétaires de chiens : durant la période migratoire des oiseaux, soit du 15 avril au 15 juin, les propriétaires promenant leurs chiens au parc Summit doivent les tenir en laisse en tout temps. 🌳



## SPORTS ET LOISIRS

**Entraîneurs recherchés**

Westmount est à la recherche d'entraîneurs bénévoles pour ses équipes de baseball de niveaux novice, moustique et T-Ball. Aucune expérience n'est requise. Toute personne intéressée est priée de communiquer avec le Service des sports et loisirs au 514 989-5353. 🌳



## PUBLIC WORKS

**New Kitchen and  
Garden Waste Collection**

Public Works personnel will distribute new green bins to all single-family homes in zone 8 - between De Maisonneuve Boulevard and Côte St-Antoine Road and from Clarke Avenue to Lansdowne Avenue - during the week of April 21. Please note that the first kitchen and garden waste collection will take place **on Monday, May 12**. For more information on this exciting new programme, please consult our Web site. Info: 514 989-5268.

**See a pothole...Let us know!**

If you find a pothole on any street in Westmount, contact the City immediately so that Public Works personnel can repair it as quickly as possible. The Public Works emergency phone line – 514 989-5311 - is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You can also contact us through our Web site, or by e-mail at [assistance@westmount.org](mailto:assistance@westmount.org).

**Special Tree Distribution**

The City of Westmount is offering one free tree to residents from the following selection: *Cardinal Royal* Mountain Ash, *Ivory Silk* Lilac and *Accolade* Elm. Order forms are available until April 16 at City Hall, Westmount Library and on our Web site. Info: 514 989-5213. 🌳



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic**

The annual Westmount Mayor's Blood Donor clinic will take place on Friday, April 18, between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Give blood. Give life. Info: 514 989-5265. 🌳



## LIBRARY

**Cultural Lecture Series –  
International Artist Outreach**

Cofounder of the international art collective *La Raza Group*, Scott MacLeod will present a digital slide presentation describing the endeavors of this art collective and its mandate to do outreach through muralism, music activism, and fundraising for

## DATEBOOK

**Until April 19**

Exhibition: Works of Mary Landry, Brian Merrett et Frederic Smith  
Gallery at Victoria Hall

**April 18 – 2 p.m.**

Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic  
Victoria Hall

**April 28 – 8 p.m.**

Council Meeting  
City Hall

organizations worldwide. This event will be held on Wednesday, April 16 at 7 p.m. Info: 514 989-5386.

**Friends of the Library  
Quality Book Sale**

The Friends of the Westmount Public Library will be holding a book sale on Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Westmount Room of the Library. All proceeds from this sale go towards purchasing new books for the Library. Info: 514 483-5604. 🌳



## PUBLIC SECURITY

**Parking Restrictions - Maintenance**

Please be advised that parking restrictions for street maintenance are once again in effect. Check the street signs in your area to avoid potential fines.

**Summit Park Migratory Period**

Dog owners should take note that during the bird migratory period - April 15 to June 15 - dogs in Summit Park must be kept on leashes at all times. 🌳



## SPORTS AND RECREATION

**Baseball, T-Ball Coaches needed**

Westmount is looking for volunteer coaches for the City's T-Ball, Novice baseball and Mosquito baseball leagues. No experience is necessary. If you'd like to share your time, please contact Sports and Recreation at 514 989-5353. 🌳

**Westmount, à votre portée.** Pour toute question ou commentaire, veuillez nous contacter :  
**Westmount at your fingertips.** Contact us with any comment or question:

**www.westmount.org**  
**assistance@westmount.org**



# Westmounter Allister heads up new SPCA board

BY KRISTIN MCNEILL

A changing of the guard at the Canadian SPCA of Montreal ushers in a new board, which promises to be more inclusive and transparent, and work more closely with volunteers and the community, according to acting executive director Jamie Allister, a Westmount resident. At a special meeting of members initiated by Allister and other dissatisfied board members on April 9, six new directors were elected by acclamation to the board, including Allister's wife Jayne Arden, herself a volunteer dog walker for the shelter and Alanna Devine, a Westmount resident and lawyer involved in animal law issues. Approximately 300 members and the press attended the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, Allister was appointed acting executive director, acting *pro bono* in this capacity, to replace the embattled Pierre Barnoti, who has left on indefinite sick leave. Barnoti was not present at the meeting. Allister will remain in the position until a new executive director is hired.

The meeting was called in order to fill the seats vacated by three board members

who resigned – a necessity to remain a functioning board.

The SPCA, situated at 5215 Jean Talon W., has been scrutinized by animal activists and the media in recent months over the shelter's debt and fundraising tactics.

## Many questions

The atmosphere was noticeably tense during the two-hour meeting with several members interrupting the proceedings. At the end of the meeting, members peppered the new board with questions about immediate plans for animal welfare, including the problem of feline rhino and canine kennel cough and what many are claiming is a high rate of euthanasia.

In an interview the next day, Allister said while he was not prepared for the media scrum that night, he was prepared for heated debate and knew that members "would let off some steam and that

this would be a forum for that."

Some members criticized the board for not communicating details about the special meeting. Allister stated "we were blocked from getting the members' list. The administration, backed by the other board members, would not give us the list

of members. Legally, our choices were to go to court or make the best attempt [at reaching all the members]. We did our best." He said they sent out a press release and created a special website and that they had "done their job" as evidenced by the 300-plus turn out, versus the traditional attendance of 35 to 40 members.

In answer to the recurring question of whether or not there would be an audit of the organization's \$4 million debt, Allister replied the new board would not commit to a costly forensic audit until it had met and examined the finances. In the meantime, Revenue Canada would conduct its regular audit. He said while the board would not ignore the concerns over the financial situation, the priority would be to have the animals fed. "The story for the moment is that we're really interested in running a shelter. We want the community to get involved, and we want to save as many animals as we can. We don't want to be in the media making headlines."



Westmounter Jamie Allister, the SPCA's acting executive director replacing Pierre Barnoti, answers members during question period.



**WESTMOUNT:** Restore this handsome mansion or keep as 2 homes for revenue. Ideal location on sophisticated street near private schools, Greene Ave., transport. Fabulous woodwork & stain glass. 5 fireplaces **\$2,200,000**



**CND – NEW LISTING!** Det. high end duplex with large garden. 2 garages, near schools, shops, metro. Top-of-the-line renos. Bsmt apt. ideal for inlaws or teens. Ground level with 4 bdrms available to new owner. **\$749,000**

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**WESTMOUNT:** Wonderful stone 3 storey John Hand on sought-after street near parks & private schools. 7 bedrooms, garage, garden. **\$1,295,000**



**HAMPSTEAD CHARMER!** Huge land surrounds this unique home. Ideal for inter-generational family, home office, handicap access, 4 entrances, fireplace, woodwork, greenhouse. Much more! **\$1,075,000**



**WESTMOUNT. NEW LISTING.** What Westmount lovers love about Westmount! This lower condo has it all! Woodwork, lead windows, fireplace. Renov. granite kitchen. Recently fin. bsmt with high ceilings, new bath, garage, separate entrance & heating. **\$659k.**



**WESTMOUNT ADJ.** Bright Edwardian semi-detached. Immaculate 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, huge skylight. Fin. Basement. Garage. Walk to downtown, Mount Royal Park, private schools. **\$749,000.**

## WESTMOUNT RENTALS

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**DOWNTOWN.** Bright, young condo on 10th floor of doorman building with indoor pool. Balcony. Renovated kitchen with granite counters. Stainless appliances. Bathroom recently renovated. Wood floors. Steps to shops, museums, universities. **\$275,000.**

# The Inventory: Houses on the market

The Inventory is content provided by the Westmount Independent, and is compiled from public sources and parties that contact us. To find a brokered property's listing agent and additional information, please go to [MLS.ca](http://MLS.ca). Both listing agents and agents working with buyers have more information (including the address of all listed houses) available to them on a private network.

\$439,000 104 Abbott Ave.  
 \$459,000 Address unavailable  
 \$469,000 4866 St. Catherine St.  
 \$557,000 421 Claremont Ave.  
 \$559,000 4840 St. Catherine St.  
 \$565,000 address unavailable  
 \$575,000 71 Columbia Ave.  
 \$598,000 64 Bruce Ave.  
 \$639,000 12 Chesterfield Ave.  
 \$649,000 address unavailable  
**\$649,000 322 Prince Albert\***  
 \$669,000 57 Columbia Ave.  
 \$675,000 8 Burton Ave.  
**\$675,000 116 Lewis Ave.\*/\*\***  
 \$679,000 60-62 Columbia\*  
 \$689,900 address unavailable  
 \$695,000 306 Roslyn Ave.  
 \$699,000 46 Windsor Ave.  
 \$739,000 550 Lansdowne Ave.  
 \$799,000 9-11 Parkman Place  
 \$815,000 337 Metcalfe Ave.  
 \$819,000 Chesterfield Ave.  
 \$825,000 4742 The Boulevard  
 \$846,000 380 Lansdowne Ave.  
 \$875,000 588 Lansdowne Ave.  
**\$875,000 353 Metcalfe Ave.\***  
 \$895,000 612 Grosvenor Ave.  
 \$899,000 427 Mount Pleasant Ave.  
 \$919,000 544 Claremont Ave.

**\$925,000 149 Côte St. Antoine Rd.\***  
 \$928,000 1 Severn Ave.  
 \$935,000 330 Victoria Ave.  
 \$939,000 4293 de Maisonneuve Blvd.  
 \$945,000 657 Lansdowne Ave.  
 \$998,000 address unavailable  
 \$999,000 4450 de Maisonneuve Blvd.  
 \$1,075,000 318 Côte St. Antoine Rd.  
 \$1,095,000 4308 Montrose Ave.  
**\$1,095,000 4350 Westmount Ave.\***  
 \$1,095,000 792 Upper Lansdowne Ave.  
 \$1,098,000 628 Victoria Ave.  
 \$1,150,000 84 Belvedere Rd.  
**\$1,150,000 611 Victoria Ave.\***  
 \$1,150,000 464 Victoria Ave.  
**\$1,155,000 address unavailable\***  
 \$1,190,000 576 Côte St. Antoine Rd.  
 \$1,195,000 4258 Dorchester Blvd.\*\*  
**\$1,195,000 address unavailable\***  
 \$1,249,000 667 Belmont Ave.  
 \$1,250,000 629 Belmont Ave.  
**\$1,275,000 754 Upper Lansdowne\***  
 \$1,279,000 377-379-381 Clarke Ave.  
 \$1,290,000 4306 Montrose Ave.  
 \$1,295,000 636 Murray Hill Ave.  
 \$1,295,000 4335 de Maisonneuve Blvd.  
 \$1,299,000 address unavailable  
 \$1,299,000 782 Upper Belmont  
**\$1,300,000 528 Mount Pleasant Ave.\***  
 \$1,325,000 20 Renfrew Ave.  
 \$1,325,000 356A/B Olivier Ave.  
**\$1,350,000 22 Arlington Ave.\***  
 \$1,399,000 530 Mt. Pleasant Ave.  
 \$1,467,000 address unavailable  
**\$1,475,000 54 Aberdeen Ave.\***  
 \$1,495,000 631 Roslyn Ave.  
 \$1,495,000 459 Mount Pleasant Ave.  
 \$1,495,000 738 Upper Belmont Ave.  
 \$1,495,000 322 Elm Ave.  
 \$1,498,000 36 Anwoth Rd.  
 \$1,550,000 561 Grosvenor  
 \$1,575,000 3720 The Boulevard  
**\$1,575,000 10 Willow Ave.\***  
**\$1,595,000 366 Kitchener Ave.\***  
**\$1,595,000 3249 Cedar Ave.\***  
 \$1,595,000 488 Elm Ave.

**\$1,595,000 359 Redfern\***  
 \$1,670,000 24 Melbourne Ave.  
 \$1,690,000 175 Cote St. Antoine Rd.  
**\$1,695,000 320 Côte St. Antoine Rd.\***  
 \$1,750,000 352-354 Elm Ave.  
 \$1,785,000 4287 Sherbrooke St.  
 \$1,790,000 3284 Cedar Ave.  
 \$1,799,000 311 Kensington Ave.  
**\$1,825,000 25 Oakland Ave.\***  
 \$1,825,000 3605 The Boulevard  
 \$1,845,000 address unavailable  
**\$1,850,000 757 Upper Belmont\***  
 \$1,995,000 110 Upper Bellevue Ave.  
 \$1,999,000 30 Surrey Gdns  
 \$2,000,000 487 Mount Pleasant Ave.  
 \$2,195,000 25 Bellevue  
 \$2,200,000 or \$7,000/monthly 365 Redfern Ave.  
 \$2,250,000 The Boulevard  
 \$2,349,000 or \$15,000/monthly 65 Belvedere Rd.  
 \$2,399,000 29 Forden Ave.  
 \$2,400,000 3255 Cedar Ave.  
 \$2,400,000 address unavailable  
 \$2,448,000 address unavailable  
 \$2,475,000 455 Roslyn Ave.  
**\$2,499,000 4354 Westmount Ave.\***  
 \$2,675,000 3745 The Boulevard  
 \$2,699,000 118 Upper Bellevue Ave.  
 \$2,988,000 70 Belvedere Pl.  
 \$2,990,000 address unavailable  
 \$2,995,000 38 Belvedere Ave.  
 \$2,995,000 736 Lexington Ave.  
 \$3,150,000 526 Clarke Ave.  
 \$3,195,000 address unavailable  
 \$3,200,000 3262 Cedar Ave.  
 \$3,250,000 630 Clarke Ave.  
 \$3,500,000 109 Upper Bellevue Ave.  
**\$4,250,000 address unavailable\***  
 \$4,495,000 address unavailable  
 \$4,985,000 address unavailable  
 \$5,380,000 3803 The Boulevard  
 \* New listing (could have been listed previously) since April 2 publication of The Update.  
 \*\* Private sale.



4866 St. Catherine St.



630 Clarke Ave.

3803 The Boulevard (not pictured) has been the most expensive listing since the Jan. 30 Inventory; and 104 Abbott Ave. (not pictured) has been the least expensive listing since the Feb. 20 Inventory. For a bit of variety, here are photos of the second most and the least expensive "address available" listings (above), plus one house in the middle (below). For 109 Upper Bellevue, see p. 5.



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**Westmount.** Near Montrose – 1st time on the market in 43 years! Awesome views from every level of this 5 bedrooms elegant extra spacious 2 story semi detached. with ground floor den, sunroom, garage and garden. **Asking \$1,300,000**

Virtual tour at [McGuiganpepin.com/1427564](http://McGuiganpepin.com/1427564)



**Westmount.** Spacious s/d house in A1 location – the flat- steps from Westmount Park, and every amenity Ten-foot ceilings with ornate moldings, skylight, newer windows, playroom. 4+1 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen. Ext. pkg for 3 cars. Ideal family house. **Asking \$999,000**

Photos: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1410550](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1410550)



**Westmount.** Minty-built A/C townhouse in 'mint' condition. Not ready for a condo? Here's a perfect downsizer in prime location on the flat. Luxurious and affordable with every comfort and convenience. 3 bdrm, 2 f/p, 2 car integrated garage. **Asking: \$875,000**

Virtual tour: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1432521](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1432521)



**Westmount.** Beautiful duplex in lower Westmount, steps to Greene Ave. In both units 3 bedrooms, finished basements, independent parking, outdoor area and balconies. Upper unit has been upgraded. Stone walls, wood floor. Occupancy as per leases. **Asking \$679,000**

Virtual tour: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1342727](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1342727)



**Westmount.** Set in an elegant row of charming Victorian townhouses (1898), steps from Greene. Four bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 powder room, 11-ft ceilings, new oak floors. Fin. basement, prize-winning private fenced garden, pkg. **Asking \$598,000**

Virtual tour: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1399557](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1399557)



**Westmount.** Bright English style cottage renovated with taste, on quiet cul de sac, 3 bedrooms, MBRD+++ , wood floor, fire place, playroom, bedroom + bathroom in basement. Extended kitchen w/dinette, pkg for one car. **Asking \$575,000**

Photos: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1395608](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1395608)



**Notre Dame de Grâce.** Rare find! Architecturally interesting 50's gem! Quality renovated, very bright, contemporary 3 bdr + den, deluxe custom kitchen. This unique, efficient home sits on a 5000 sf lot/mature per. gdn, great street, schools, parks and commuter train. **Asking \$442,000**

Virtual tour: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1413003](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1413003)



**Le Sud Ouest.** Great loft with wall to wall windows with city views. 11-ft ceilings, originals beams, brick wall. Huge windows on this corner unit, over looking the canal, bike path, walk to Old Mtl, downtown. Garage, gym locker. **Asking \$299,000**

Photos: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1407510](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1407510)



**Notre Dame de Grâce.** Clean and bright lower co-op. Two bedrooms, open living room/dining room, eat-in kitchen, finished renovated basement, wood work, gorgeous garden, garage. Close to all services, transportation, residential neighbourhood. **Asking \$289,000**

Virtual tour: [www.mcguganpepin.com/1421719](http://www.mcguganpepin.com/1421719)

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Exclusive broker for Westmount



# Bronfman house goes green

*continued from p. 1*

board member of the Suzuki Foundation.

“I like to walk the talk,” he explained. “We’ve got a great property here. So why not take it to a new level into the next century for our family and as a showcase for building smart and thinking ahead in building in a green way?”

To undertake the challenge, he assembled a large team headed by lead architect Andrea Wolff of Architem and contractor Garry Garbarino that includes interior designer Cynthia Adelson and landscaper Stuart Webster, all Westmount residents.

## Building new addition

The work includes shoring up the house to correct settlement, building a new foundation and rebuilding a large terrace. A 1928 addition at the back of the house has been demolished to make way for a larger kitchen and family room. The home’s interior has been stripped to bare bones to improve the efficiency of the exterior envelope and is to be rebuilt preserving the ground floor’s architectural features.

A large two-storey basement is being built into the vacant land to the east along with a tunnel to the garage/guest house.

The new basement will be covered in part by the new addition; the rest by landscaping – “the ultimate green roof”, Wolff called it.

A pool house is to be rebuilt; both accessory buildings with green roofs. A special driveway paving stone will be laid to make the site more permeable.

## Sustainable features

The main house and accessory buildings will be heated and cooled by ground source heat. Water, including the pool, will be heated by solar panels. Large cisterns will collect rain and groundwater runoff for use in toilets and irrigation.

Tons of rock from excavation work has been carted away, crushed and returned for landfill. Washing stations were established to minimize dust while a barrier of bales of hay was set up to help prevent sediment from flowing down the street and clogging sewers.

An electric crane was brought in to lift equipment silently over a large tree that is to be preserved.

Excavation was scheduled for the winter when windows are closed to minimize noise pollution, contractor Garbarino explained. A specialized mini-backhoe with catalytic converter was also brought from Japan for excavation under the house to protect workers from diesel fumes.

Building materials include soy-based insulation, non-toxic glues and energy efficient windows. Old bricks, roof shingles, wood floors and panelling have been dismantled for the work and are to be reused.

## Follow-up program

“We’re taking the green approach even though it may not necessarily translate into LEED points,” Wolff explained. “We’re recycling 99 percent of construction waste because Stephen believes in it. We’ll be doing a follow-up program after a year to learn from the experience and see if our simulations and assumptions work



*In front of the house, from left: Stephen Bronfman flanked by contractor Garry Garbarino (left) and architect Andrea Wolff.*

out.”

The construction challenge for Garbarino has been to put together a group of sub-contractors experienced in high-end heritage housing and restoration niche work that are also big enough to handle all the paperwork and documentation required.

## A Robert Findlay house

Designed by noted Westmount architect Robert Findlay, the house was built in 1906 for George Sumner and acquired in 1926 by Sam Bronfman, whose wife Saidye lived there until her death in 1995. Stephen bought the property from family members in 1995 with the view that it would be the home for his own family one day.

Now, almost 15 years after Saidye’s death, he said, “I have fond memories of

this place. I was married here. As a child, I swam here. I ran up and down the hills and I’m going to bring my own son, Sam, back to the family home. So it’s coming full circle.

“We amalgamated what used to be two cadastral lots to protect the property in perpetuity from subdivision.”

## Preserving the elegance

While in the end, some proportions may change from the original, Bronfman said, “the aim is to preserve the elegance of the ground floor including my grandfather’s study, which will be mine, and the sunroom that was my grandmother’s favourite spot.”

Though he did not disclose the anticipated cost of the project, city permits valued at more than \$7 million were issued in 2007 alone.

“It’s still prohibitively expensive to do what we’re doing, so it has to be a work of art and love.”

Then he added, candidly: “If I were fully committed to living green, I should probably be living in a small eagle’s nest. But I’m living the life I live – the life I’m used to. I drive a hybrid. But I also have a Porsche.”

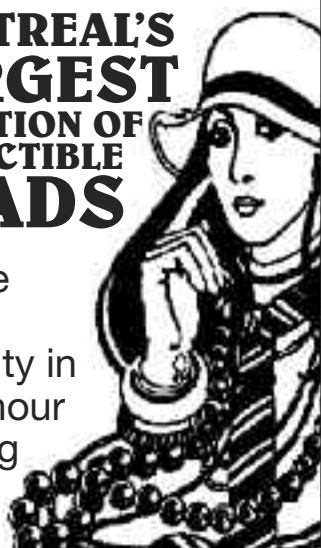
No matter how hard he tries to maintain the core of the property, he said, “I know some people will say ‘Well the staircase isn’t exactly the way I remember it.’”

But it’s his home now, he added. And he’s going to extraordinary measures to preserve it as a family legacy and a showcase for environmental experimentation.

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## Underdog

By FERN BRESLAW

Stevie the Wonder Dog is blind. Yes, he came out that way and though he sometimes winds up wagging his tail at a wall, he would still best be described as “handicapable.”

In fact, Stevie is a little like a blind



person and a seeing eye dog in one. He comes equipped with a great personality, a killer nose and a set of ears that make a game of fetch seem completely normal.

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All of this is wonderful, only Stevie would be put down the second he stepped into most shelters. He was rescued and adopted as a puppy and unfortunately is now looking for a new home. At the age of three, his family up and moved to England, and decided not to take him along for the ride.

Find out more about adopting Stevie the wonder dog by contacting Sophie at [sophiesdogadoption@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiesdogadoption@hotmail.com).

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## 221B is now on Sherbrooke St.



From left: David Kellett, Mac Belfer, Paul Billette and Carol Abramson. Photo: Isaac Olson.

Members of The Bimetallic Question, a 29-year-old group dedicated to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes, take part in a quiz on “The Adventures of Beryl Coronet.” The quiz is just one of many activities the “Sherlockonians” partake in on the first Thursday of every second month. Meeting at the Westmount Public Li-

brary, the literary group delves into Doyle's long list of works based on Holmes, a character the group refers to as “The Master.” Co-founder David Dowse said all are welcome to the meetings. The next meeting will be held at the Westmount Public Library on Thursday, June 5 at 6:30 pm. The next quiz? “The Crooked Man”.

## What's Cooking in Westmount? Shrimps and scallops

By ANTHEA DAWSON



I noticed an interesting thing the other night as I was perusing the aisles at Metro on Victoria Ave. Since I deal with food all day long, I find it difficult to get inspired when it comes to dinner – it is getting harder and harder to find things that jump right out at me off the shelf.

I usually just reach for the trusty standbys of salad fixings and chicken breast or salmon for the grill, but with mostly imported veggies still on the shelves and it still being a little chilly to be flaring up the BBQ, I realized that I was in a bit of a cooking rut. But then I passed through the seafood section at Metro and was struck by the new (or new to me, turns out it has been there for a few months) addition of the frozen seafood “bar” – bins of frozen shrimp of varying sizes, and scallops, right there in freezer sealing bags for you to pick yourself.

*Not revolutionary, but...*

Now frozen shrimp and scallops are hardly revolutionary, but they are usually found behind the seafood counter or in the depths of the frozen food section. Somehow I would always overlook them

unless I was in search of them for a specific recipe, but when I passed the “bar” I was instantly inspired.

The selection is great: shrimp both cooked and raw, from the tiny little Matan (or “crevettes nordiques”) to beautiful jumbo tiger shrimp and bay scallops. And the price is great too: \$9.99/lb for each kind, and you can take as much or as little as you like. Thoughts of shrimp stir-fries and phad Thai and seared scallops over linguine instantly popped into my head.

Shrimp probably runs a close second to salmon when it comes to popularity – even most non-seafood eaters can usually be tempted by a succulent grilled shrimp. They are delicious and extremely healthy, low in calories and saturated fat, and also a great alternative to calorie-heavy beef and salmon.

A four-ounce serving of shrimp supplies 23.7 grams of protein (that's 47 percent of the daily value for protein) for a mere 112 calories and less than a gram of fat. It is also a very good source of vitamin D and vitamin B12. Compared to a three-ounce portion of salmon that contains 12.6 grams of fat and 281 calories, it's a pretty lean alternative.

The cooked shrimp and the raw 21/25 (which refers to how many shrimp in a pound) come peeled and de-veined with only their tails on, which is lovely. The raw

## 9 Lives: Celeste

By LYZANNE

Meet Celeste: As you can see, she is a beautifully marked, shorthair calico.

Celeste was found after having been abandoned and she has truly come a long way. She is almost a year old now and has had all her basic health needs attended to. She has been spayed, and has had all her tests and shots. She is very sweet and friendly, and asks only for a place to curl up in your lap and feel loved. She enjoys classical music and interactive playtime!



Please call to find out more about Celeste at Gerdy's Rescues. Gerdy's pager is 514.203.9180. You can email at [info@gerdysrescue.org](mailto:info@gerdysrescue.org) or go to their website [www.gerdysrescue.org](http://www.gerdysrescue.org)

Artwork by Laura S. Cohendet

21/25 shrimp are my favourite: they are big and plump, but cook quickly and you don't need too many of them to make a filling and delicious appetizer or main course. The bigger tiger shrimp (13/15) are great for the grill, and only a few go a long way, as they are extremely filling. They come de-veined, but unpeeled, which keeps them succulent while they cook.

### They all start frozen

Since we don't live in Florida or South Carolina, all the shrimp we receive in Montreal is frozen (even if it's “fresh” behind the fish counter, it was frozen at some point). “Green shrimp” (a term that refers to shrimp that has never been frozen) is sadly impossible to find up here, but frozen is a still a great substitute. To thaw, the best way to deal with shrimp is to run them under cold water in a colander until they are soft, and then keep them in the fridge until you are ready to use them.

Their cooking time is extremely fast so you want to make sure all of your other dinner prep is done before you start cooking them. There is nothing worse than an overcooked, rubbery shrimp. As soon as their tails are curled, and they are nice and pink (and they have lost their gray, opaque colouring), they are done!

I hope you find inspiration at the seafood bar as I did! Happy cooking!

## Roslyn readies for 100th year



From left: Jasmin Uhtoff, chair of the Roslyn School Foundation; Joan Rothman, former school commissioner; Jim McMoran, Roslyn principal; and alumnus Bob Asch.

Roslyn School turns 100 this year and the preparations are well underway. Pictured above are some of the attendees at the April 3 meeting of the centenary committee, which took place at the school to finalize scheduling.

The centenary events – which aim to bring back as many alumni as possible – take place Friday, May 30 from 5 to 9 pm and Saturday, May 31 from 10 am to 2 pm. For more information and to register for information updates, go to [www.roslyn-schoolfoundation.ca](http://www.roslyn-schoolfoundation.ca).

## Marianopolis hosts free arts festival

Marianopolis' annual, free springtime ArtsFest takes place April 14 to 18. The school is making a special effort this year in light of its centennial.

Among the events scheduled to have been held on April 15 were a reading by Tony O'Neill, author of *Digging the Vein*, *Seizure Wet Dreams* and *Songs From The Shooting Gallery*; a series of films on Cuba; and a vernissage, "For the Love of Art".

Among the events to be held:

### Thursday, April 17

- Arts bazaar. 12:45 pm in the Student Lounge.
- Poet's cafe. 12:45 pm in the Amphitheatre.
- Student films/videos. 4:15 pm in the Amphitheatre.
- Dirty Laundry Cabaret. An exhibition of art plus readings, music and conversation. 5:30 pm in the Art Studio, A-404.

### Friday, April 18

- A special concert featuring alumni and current students. 7:30 pm at the Auditorium.

Marianopolis is located at 4873 Westmount Ave. For more information call 514.931.8792 or go to [www.marianopolis.edu/artsfestconcert](http://www.marianopolis.edu/artsfestconcert).



Marianopolis arts students at work.

## Spring into art at the McClure

BY ROBERT GALBRAITH

The Visual Arts Centre of Westmount is holding its "Annual Student Exposition 2008" at the Galerie McClure, located at 350 Victoria Ave. The show will expose over 300 works of art, including oil paintings, water colours, pastels, charcoal drawings, acrylics, ceramics, jewelry, digital photography and other art forms.

The works represent the contributions of some of the 3,500 students who partake yearly in the Art Centre's classes. "The show displays the work that the students do here in a real, professional art gallery. It inspires the students," said Victoria LeBlanc, executive-director at the Centre.

"We have a real abundance of advanced artists because more and more students are staying in the programs longer and becoming accomplished artists, so the quality of work is very impressive. But it also includes the works of absolute beginners. It's a great opportunity for all the students to get their work exhibited to the public," commented LeBlanc.

Manon Lacroix is the registrar at the Arts Centre and last autumn decided to take a course in collage. "I wanted to get a better understanding of what goes on during the courses and found it to be very spontaneous and a great way to have fun. There is a variety of different students that I met and a nice atmosphere. We all learned from each other." Although her course ends in mid-April, Lacroix says she will probably take another course this autumn.

The exhibition, which took four days to arrange and mount, will be viewed by an expected 500-plus visitors and will run until the April 23. The hours are from noon to 6 pm, Tuesday through Friday and from 10 am to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday. For more information you can contact the Visual Arts Centre at 514.488.9558 or on the web at [www.centredesartsvisuels.ca](http://www.centredesartsvisuels.ca).

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## Retail Watch BY ANNIKA MELANSON

### Wafu shakes up salad dressing business

The word “wafu” means Japanese-style. Last July, Westmounter Arabella Decker joined the creator of the Wafu brand, Mari Toyota, and became the co-owner of Mari's Foods Inc., the producers of Wafu Japanese vinaigrettes. Toyota was born in Japan to restaurateurs. She is one of Canada's few Japanese chefs licensed by the city of Tokyo.

Decker is passionate about the Wafu brand. She draws on her 12 years of global brand strategy and marketing expertise at Ogilvy & Mather in consumer packaged goods to expand it.

#### Decker & Dove

In fact, while working at Ogilvy & Mather's London offices, Decker and her team were the wizards who wrote and launched the strategy for the Dove “Campaign for Real Beauty”, which increased Dove's business by 20 percent.

Wafu vinaigrette has existed since 1999. In fact, it won the New Best Product Award in 2000 at the Canadian Grand



Arabella Decker samples her products.

Prix New Product Awards. Wafu is versatile and can be used as a marinade with chicken, a sauce with salmon, a dip for sushi or veggies, a basting sauce on grilled shrimp or simply as a salad dressing.

What's next for Wafu? A light version of the original vinaigrette, containing half the calories as well as a new line of flavours, which will be launched over the course of the summer.

“Wafu has got a buzz going,” said Decker, “once people get it into their mouths and taste it, they fall in love.” Wafu is available in Quebec, Ontario and parts of the northeastern United States. Decker even has orders from Europe and the UK. To get your fix, head over to Metro, Les 5 Saisons, National, Miyamoto or Marché Westmount Square.

### Airbrush event at UGG

The UGG store (4891 Sherbrooke St, 514.907.7844) hosted an “Airbrush Event” on April 2. UGG fans and fashionistas were in attendance to purchase new pairs of boots or slippers, and have them per-



Chloe Anassis, with her mother, Mylene Dumoulin, at UGG.

sonalized onsite by airbrush artists.

Sushi and cupcakes were provided while customers browsed through the store. Westmounter Chloe Anassis had a pair of boots airbrushed with her name and stars “to give them their own feel,” said Anassis.

### Chiro + Physio Westmount expands due to high demand

If you have had an injury that restricts your movement, Chiro + Physio Westmount (4823 Sherbrooke, 514.937.6550, www.chiropiusphysio.com) may be the place for you.

Chiro + Physio, which opened in 2004, offers patients a unique option for rehabilitation. Due to a high demand, the clinic expanded last November. Owners Paul Knechtel, chiropractor, and Josée Remillard, physiotherapist, offer one-on-one professional physiotherapy and chiropractic care. The clinic is the only one in Montreal to offer both treatments from the same office.

Both Knechtel and Remillard graduated in 1986 – Knechtel from the Palmer College of Chiropractic in Iowa (named for the founder of chiropractic) and Remillard from McGill University's physical therapist program. “Our clientele come from all over: the South Shore, Laval, the West Is-



The Chiro + Physio team: Josée Rémillard (physiotherapist), Paul Knechtel (chiropractor) and Shannon Lamontagne (administrative assistant).

land, Lorraine, LaSalle, as well as Westmount,” said Shannon Lamontagne, the clinic's administrative assistant. On March 27, there was even a client from England.

Chiropractics and physiotherapy have been known to compete, but at this clinic, they complement each other. Some patients see both Knechtel and Rémillard, when it is determined that the patient may benefit from both treatments. “When we work together, we do tremendous things,” said Rémillard.

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# THE WESTMOUNT LAURENTIDER

## Spring hiking in Parc Tremblant

Hikers are well served by Parc Tremblant with many trails to choose from, such as La Roche and La Corniche which lead to spectacular views. Others, such as the Chute aux Rats, ends at the base of a beautiful waterfall. Pack a lunch and a thermos of hot coffee and enjoy the great outdoors and the fresh spring air *en famille*.

Following is a list of hiking trails by level of difficulty:

**Easy:** L'Envol Trail is 5 km one-way. It begins in the l'Envol parking lot and ends with a lovely panoramic view.

La Chute aux Rats Trail is an easy, 3-km loop that starts in the parking lot of La Chute aux Rats, at the St. Donat reception center on Autoroute 125, and loops to a refuge on the far point of the trail, then back along Lac Lahore.

Lac de l'Assomption Trail is an easy, 3.4-km loop. The trail begins in the l'Assomption parking lot and climbs to the lookout tower with an elevation gain of 185 meters.

**Intermediate:** La Corniche Trail (1.6 km) and La Roche Trail (2.4 km) are intermediate hikes. Their stone paths climb steadily to views of Lac Monroe. The elevation is about 250 meters.

**Expert:** Lac Ernie to Lac des Sables to Chute aux Rats Trails is an expert, 30-km hike. This is a backpacking trail that begins at the parking lot at Chutes Croches and travels 5 km to Lac Ernie. It continues 10 km to Lac des Sables, with two particular points of interest along the way. It then takes you another 15 km through a wooded area with two lookouts on the way to Chute aux Rats.

Sentier du Centenaire is another expert trail, 10 km one way. This demanding trail has an elevation change of 400 meters but rewards hikers with 9 interesting points and lookouts.

Source: [www.out-there.com/tremblan.htm](http://www.out-there.com/tremblan.htm)



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## Investors Group supports McGill Cancer Centre



Consultants from Investors Group's Westmount office presented a \$4,667 cheque to the McGill Cancer Centre on March 27. The goal was to help the centre continue its innovative research into cancer-fighting drugs, especially biological ones. From left: Joseph Milo and Isabelle Thibault (Investors Group), Dr. Sarita Benchimol (McGill), Gail Skutezky and Babis Chronopoulos (Investors Group), and Dr. Maxime Bouchard (McGill).



Among the new arrivals at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff are:

### Magazines

"The needles and the studies done: a scientist mother looks at vaccines", by Sari Weston in *Brain, Child: The Magazine for Thinking Mothers*, Vol 9, Issue 2, p. 28.

"The social psychology of success: how to break free of others' expectations", by S. Alexander Haslan in *Scientific American Mind*, April 2008, p. 24.

### Books on CD

*The Gathering* by Ann Enright. Winner of the Man Booker prize, *The Gathering* is a deeply insightful family saga, steeped in secrets and intrigue.

*Mister Pip* by Lloyd Jones. This modern tragedy chronicles modernity's creeping advances on an indigenous population through the eyes of 13-year-old girl. Short-listed for the Man Booker prize.

### Adult English

*The Calling* by Inger Wolfe. Sixty-one, divorced and a semi-recovering alcoholic, Hazel Micallef is the epitome of the anti-hero in this excellent literary thriller. According to the book jacket, "Inger Wolfe is the pseudonym for a prominent North American literary novelist" and there is plenty of online speculation about the author's true identity.

*Arthur Schwartz's Jewish Home Cooking: Yiddish Recipes Revisited*. Schwartz wanted both to rescue almost-forgotten dishes and to update these traditional recipes to make them healthier and somewhat more contemporary. His lengthy, informed head notes provide background.

### Adult French

*Tels des astres éteints* by Léonora Miano. The winner of the 2006 *Prix Goncourt des Lycéens* comes back with this story about the travails of three Africans living in Paris. A fine character study of a rebellious Cameroonian young man from a well-to-do family, his childhood friend who is proud of his roots, and a pure and militant Guyanese woman.

*Journal 1942-1944* by Hélène Berr, who was 21 years old when she started writing her diary. Her life started slipping in 1942 when Vichy enacted anti-Jewish laws. She died in Bergen Belsen a few days before the camp was liberated. Her manuscript was kept by her family for 50 years before being published.

### Children's

*Steven Caney's Ultimate Building Book*. This comprehensive guide filled with thousands of illustrations will help builders of all ages understand how structures work – and provide inspiration for constructing their own!

*Yoga Kids: favoriser le développement intégral de l'enfant par le yoga* by Marsha Wenig presents more than 50 yoga poses using easy-to-follow, colour photographs. It includes yoga routines to help children cope with many common situations, such as calming down, getting ready for a test, or even riding in a car, as well as help for children with special needs.

### Reference

*Réussir au Québec: guide des études et des carrières pour immigrants*  
2008 *Standard Catalog of World Coins*.

continued from p. 3

and should actually make a choice to walk the talk, she said.

In this case, said Councillor Patrick Martin, the Madvac could do the work of some three people whose cost, as unionized workers, would be "enormous."

### Labour cost versus capital cost

"I was concerned about that myself," Duncan explained. But after speaking with the Human Resources director to ascer-

tain the differential, she concluded that given the seasonal duration, the labour cost was not disproportionate. "We're trying to be as sustainable as possible. So I would welcome the possibility of looking at other options."

Mayor Marks had the last word saying: "We have to replace a vehicle." The Madvac's emissions were a great deal less than one car and cleanliness was an important priority. "But we'll look for alternatives."

In the absence of Councillor Guy Charette, the vote was carried six to one.

## In the Community: The Demergettes

# Demergettes evolve into volunteer network

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Of the hundreds of volunteers who worked tirelessly for Westmount's demerger movement, a group of about a dozen women who staffed the Défusion Westmount office have stayed together, branding themselves as "Demergettes."

The strong bond they forged in their common mission has carried them forward into becoming a team of volunteers that swings quickly into action when needed to help at Westmount events such as the Halloween house or recreation registrations.

"When you go through a struggle together and form such a close team as we did," says Wanda Potrykus, "you want to keep getting together, so we've formed a little volunteer network."

### Varied background

And for both Wanda and Eve Aspinall, the key to their bond is the way they came together as Westmounters with varied skills from many different backgrounds and across all age and social strata "to get back what we had lost."

As Aspinall explains, "There was a hard core of us who even worked at the office

on the weekend. We are a bilingual group that's so different one from another. But we like each other very much." For Aspinall, a former counselling psychologist who worked on updating the voters' list and was in charge of drivers, the office work "was an opportunity to prove I was still capable after years out of the workplace."

"We're very proud to be volunteers for the city," says Louise Girouard, who was regarded as a mainstay at the office.

Everyone had a specialty, she says. Nicole Gareau helped with computers while outspoken demerger advocate Gisèle Brisebois and Mara Moriducci ensured the "blue ribbon brigade" always had enough of the demerger symbol to keep replacing the ribbons torn down.

Moriducci, an architect who now lives in Italy, still keeps in touch with the team and lunches with them on frequent visits to Westmount.

"One of Westmount's great strengths is its volunteers," explains Nicole Forbes. "It's why we are able to accomplish so much."

As the hired manager of the Défusion office that was funded by the Association of Citizens for the Preservation of Westmount – a non-profit group set up by the city before the forced mergers to coordinate an eventual demerger campaign – Forbes' role was also to liaise with the association and demerger groups in other municipalities.

She subsequently won a seat on the current city council, saying, "The reason I decided to run for council is because I realized that becoming a councillor was like an extension of all the work I had been doing."

Another Demergette and longtime community volunteer, Francie Montgomery, recalls how she stopped by the office one day just after it was being set up, "and I just stayed on and stayed on.



Among the Demergettes at a recent lunch meeting are: standing from left, Diana Hendy, Juliette Fortier and Louise Brisebois; seated, Nicole Forbes, Eve Aspinall and Helen Rainville.

I loved it.

"Everybody was so different but got along so well that we're now here to be called upon when needed. I really marvel at that."

And, somewhat ironically, one could say that the harder the Demergettes worked for demerger, the closer they came to merging into their own long lasting team of community volunteers.

## Selwyn abroad



From the left: Ali McLean and Zoya Chaudhry (Trafalgar); Cameron Mitchell (Selwyn House); Jordan Lipkin (Lower Canada College); Matthew Holy, Louis Gervais and Lucas Vannelli (Selwyn House).

Photo by Isaac Olson.

Through a company called Power Trips Incorporated, grade 11 students from Selwyn House spent their recent spring break giving impoverished communities in the Dominican Republic a helping hand. Westmount-adjacent schools Trafalgar and Lower Canada College also sent students.

The travellers did everything from sort-

ing donated goods to building and repairing schools.

"We spent 336 hours in DR (Dominican Republic) and not one of those hours was wasted," said Lucas Vannelli. "Every hour counted toward a great experience that I'll never forget."

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Confidential Evaluation of Your Home



Off.: (514) 482-3347  
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timothy.gelfand@remax.net



Rudyard Kipling's

# THE JUNGLE BOOK

Adapted by Tracey Power  
Directed by Dean Patrick Fleming

April 25 - May 4, 2008

TICKETS SELLING FAST!  
TICKETS/INFO: (514) 845-9810  
www.geordie.ca

# Properties to love



Groupe Sutton  
centre-ouest inc.  
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www.suttonquebec.com



## WESTMOUNT Mount Pleasant

One of a kind property on 9500 SF of land. This fabulous property has spacious rooms, offers views and a great location. A great investment!!  
Asking \$2,000,000



**SOLD**

## WESTMOUNT Somerville

Bright, renovated, 3 bdrm row house with exquisite garden in Victoria village.  
Asking \$795,000



## WESTMOUNT Murray Hill

NEW!! Beautiful 4 bedroom semi-detached located on one of Westmount most desirable street. Beautiful floor plan, 3 fireplaces, deck and garden.  
Asking \$1,295,000



## WESTMOUNT Lansdowne

Beautiful, quaint 4 bdrm semi-detached with garage. All renovated and beautifully located.  
Asking \$945,000



## WESTMOUNT ADJ. Trafalgar Place

Rarely on the market! Charming 3 bdrm townhouse situated on heritage garden steps to Beaver Lake and Downtown. Unique opportunity!  
Asking \$549,000



## NUN'S ISLAND Sax Phase I

Beautiful open concept condo with luxurious kitchen; two bedroom converted into one. Great alternative to downtown living, close to transit transportation, shopping and cycling paths. Outdoor pool.  
Asking \$379,000



## DOWNTOWN HABITAT '67

Architectural masterpiece! Beautiful 3 bdrm condo with amazing views of the city. Very bright, partially renovated.  
Asking \$795,000

# and live

Deeply rooted value



## Marie Sicotte

Affiliated Real Estate Agent Groupe Sutton Centre-Ouest BKR

514.953.9808 [msicotte@sutton.com](mailto:msicotte@sutton.com)

# JOAN & JILL PRÉVOST

Affiliated Real Estate Agents

## TOP 1% ACROSS CANADA\*



Joan Prévost

Cell: 591-0804



Office: 514 934-1818  
www.joanprevost.com



Chartered Real Estate Broker

Heritage

4 Westmount SQ., #110  
Westmount



Cell: 915-1696 Jill Prévost, BComm

### WHETHER BUYING OR SELLING, OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU IS...RESULTS!

#### WESTMOUNT FEATURED PROPERTIES



**KITCHENER: AT LAST!** The perfect 4+1 bedroom renovated family home on the flat with a cross hall plan, central air, garage, garden & lovely detailing throughout. Situated in a prime location and fabulous for entertaining; you have been waiting for this one! Asking \$1,595,000.



**RENFREW:** Handsome sun-filled tudor 4 bedroom home with a cross hall plan located on a wonderful family street in mid-level Westmount. With its large master bedroom with walk-in and ensuite, 2 skylights, semi-finished basement ready for a fabulous playroom & bedroom, 2-car integrated garage + 4 car parking and a small garden, this home is waiting for your special touch! Asking \$1,325,000



**MONTROSE:** Wow! Something different in mid-level Westmount! One step into this one-of-a-kind detached 5 bdrm home & you will be impressed at how it unfolds into 3000+sq.ft of gracious living space! W/central air, granite eat-in kit, 2-car garage 4 baths & views you must see to believe! Asking \$1,095,000.



**EDGEHILL:** Spectacular, elegant and meticulously maintained 4-storey stone residence offering views, central air conditioning, granite kitchen, incredible woodwork, 5+1 bedrooms, master ensuite, amazing lower level den ++. This home is for the most discriminating family who enjoy entertaining on a grand scale! Asking \$3,275,000



**RAMEZAY:** Here is your opportunity to own a part of Ramezay! A large split-level home situated on over 10,000 sq. ft. of land on one of the most desirable streets in Westmount. With southern views, this 4+2 bdrm home with 2 car garage is awaiting your special touch. A renovators' dream! Asking \$1,695,000.



**HOLTON:** Wow! The 3-storey home you've been waiting for on the flat! A traditional English style home featuring 5+1 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen, master with ensuite, finished basement, 2 fireplaces, 4 skylights, central air/vacuum, double garage + 2 ext., 2 large terraces ++ Simply move-in! A pleasure to show! Asking \$1,550,000.



**LANSDOWNE:** Wonderfully bright & completely renovated 3 bdrm corner townhouse with private garden, 2-car garage, 2 wall mounted a/c units, beautiful mouldings & detailing throughout, large finished basement, 2 fireplaces++ Simply move right in to a lovely home on the flat and enjoy Westmount! A pleasure to show! Asking \$895,000



**4977-79 GROSVENOR:** Renovated Lambert duplex w/occupancy in remodeled upper! With its fireplaces, skylights, sun-drenched balconies, lovely garden, bachelor w/sep. entrance & 3-car garage, this duplex is priced to sell below evaluation! Hurry!! Asking \$699,000



**SHERBROOKE W.** Turn of the century semi-det. 4+1 bdrm home situated next to Westmount park & close to Victoria Village shopping! With its beautiful mouldings & detail, fireplace, stained glass, skylight, exposed brick, finished. bsmt, rear deck & private garden; this family home is a pleasure to show! Asking \$679,000

### OUR SUCCESS IS MEASURED... ONE FAMILY AT A TIME