

# MLUWC

MONTREAL LAKESHORE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB

**Newsletter, January 2023**

**Volume 66, Issue 5**

**Celebrating 65 years of Friendship, Advocacy and Education**

## **JANUARY IS POTLUCK EVENT TIME**

**(See program note)**

**Thank you to members of MLUWC  
executive for organizing and  
providing snacks for the holiday  
celebration**



## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Happy New Year!

Thanks to all who attended our Christmas event at Cedar Park United Church. It was a delightful evening of food and mulled wine and beautiful singing from the Acapella Sounds Chorus. I am extremely grateful to the Executive for providing such a wide variety of tasty sweet and savory finger foods, and particularly to Theresa Sliz, our Hospitality Chair, for making the mulled wine and bringing all the festive elements for decorating the hall.

I continue to be grateful for your generosity. Thanks to you, we raised over \$3,000 for CARE Jeunesse and through a raffle and donations, several hundred dollars for the Scholarship Fund. And I must not forget the ten boxes of non-perishable food for the local food bank! Many thanks to Maria De Wolfe, Mary Vlahos, Patricia DuVal, Sally Gurekian, Nancy Acemian and Carole Newberry for coordinating all these collections. Well done everyone!

The Zoom meeting December 8<sup>th</sup> with Nazanin Afshin-Jam was most informative. Not only did she discuss her own experience as an Iranian immigrant and human rights campaigner, but her hopeful views on a potential change for women's rights in Iran. Thank you to Mariam Ishak and the Advocacy Committee for organizing this event.

Here's to good weather for our potluck events and I look forward to seeing you in February when our speaker will be Jeremy Clarke, Associate Professor at the Concordia Institute for Information Systems Engineering.

I wish all of you happiness and good health for the New Year,

Jane Cowell

## PROGRAM

### POTLUCK, JANUARY 16, 2023

As of December 18, there are two, 5-7 p.m. events and one lunch in-person event with places for a few more ladies.

**Please note:** If anyone can host, and / or participate as a guest, please advise one of us by **Saturday, January 7.**

You can also participate on Zoom on Jan 16th and an invitation will be sent out around Monday Jan 9, 2023.

We wish you all a happy and healthy Holiday Season and hope to be seeing you all soon.

**Carole Newberry:**  
**Suzanne Chaussé:**



**Good food, great conversation, meet new people**

## HOLIDAY CELEBRATION, DECEMBER 2022





Thank you to angels **Nancy Acemian** and **Victoria Pennell** who arranged for the delivery of non-perishable food collected at the party to On Rock Community Services. Thank you to all who donated to this collection.



## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Once again, it's time to begin the process of selecting the slate of officers for the year 2022 -2023. The following extract from the MLUWC Constitution and By-Laws outlines the steps to be followed:

### **ARTICLE VIII - Nominations and Elections**

1. Elections - Officers and Chairs of committees shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Ballots shall be used if there is more than one candidate for any office.

2. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members chaired by the Past-President; one member shall be appointed by the Executive at their January meeting and three members shall be elected from the membership at the regular meeting in February.

3. Duties of the Nominating Committee - a. Inform the membership of the available positions at the February General Meeting and provide nomination forms. b. Recommend a candidate for each office. Each nominee must be a member in good standing and must signify her consent to stand for election. c. Send each Club member a copy of its recommendations at least two weeks before the Annual Meeting, plus a copy of Article VIII Section 4 of the constitution, explaining the procedure for additional nominations. d. Present the proposed slate of officers to the members at the Annual Meeting.

4. Additional nominations must be made in writing to the Nominating Committee at least five days before the Annual Meeting, but consent must be obtained first from the nominee and accompanied by the signatures of five members.

If you are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, please contact me by mid-January. Linda Sestock Nominations committee



**Linda Sestock**

## ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

December was a very busy month for the Advocacy Committee. First, we delivered two cars full of warm clothing collected by Clearpoint School students to Resilience for the homeless indigenous population of Montreal

During the Christmas meeting of December 5, we collected gift cards for C.A.R.E. Jeunesse and have already delivered them. Thanks to your generosity, we collected a little over \$3000.00, which was very much appreciated.

On December 8, we welcomed (via ZOOM) Nazanin Afshin-Jam, who talked to us about the plight of women in Iran. Nazanin is an Iranian- Canadian who has written a book about her story. It was a very interesting and inspiring talk, followed by numerous questions.

Looking forward to the new year, we will be approaching Lester B. Pearson Schoolboard for an essay contest on environment. This contest will be open to students of grades 5 & 6 and will run from January till the end of March. Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top three contestants. One of our members generously offered to subsidize the amount of \$350.00

This contest is a big undertaking and will keep us occupied the rest of the year. We would like to thank Maria De Wolfe, who started the ball rolling for this project.

All these activities would have never come to fruition without your support and encouragement, a big THANK YOU for everything.

Wishing all of you and your families a very Merry and festive Christmas and may the New Year fulfill all your dreams.

See you next year.

Stay well & keep safe.

Patricia DuVal & Mary Vlahos



MLUWC  
MONTREAL LAKESHORE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB

In partnership with Lester B. Pearson School Board

# ESSAY CONTEST

The **Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club** ([mluwc.com](http://mluwc.com)) is proposing an essay contest for all students in grade 5 and 6 English and French classes in the Lester B. Pearson School Board. The purpose of the contest is to give young students an opportunity to offer advice to the Prime Minister of Canada on how to solve the climate change challenge.

**CALLING  
GRADE 5 & 6  
WRITERS!**



## CONTEST CHALLENGE:

Students are asked to respond in English or French with an essay of 200-300 words to the **following question**:

**If you had an opportunity to meet with the Prime Minister of Canada, what would you advise him to do to solve the climate change challenge?**

## CONTEST RULES AND TIMELINE

- Deadline for submission of entries is March 30, 2023.
- All entries must include the student's name, teacher, grade level and school.
- A committee composed of members of the MLUWC will choose three finalists for recognition.
- Finalists will be announced by mid-April, and prizes will be awarded.
- All participants will receive certificates of appreciation.



- 1st prize: \$200.00
- 2nd prize: \$100.00
- 3rd prize: \$50.00



Please send all submissions to:

Nancy Battet,  
Educational Services Department, Lester B. Pearson School Board

## **WINTER COAT DRIVE 2022**

### **Feel the Cold, Share the Warmth**

Thank you to the students and parents and Miss Della of Clearpoint Elementary School for collecting winter coats. Two carloads of coats and winter accessories were delivered to a homeless shelter downtown.





## SCHOLARSHIP AND BURSARY COMMITTEE

Applications must be postmarked no later than February 24, 2023



Member of the Canadian Federation of University Women

**If you are involved with other organization(s), church, or perhaps, know a suitable candidate please share the information about the MLUWC university scholarships.**

**Applicants must be registered as full-time university students to apply.**

**Full details available on the MLUWC website ( [mluwc.com](http://mluwc.com) )**

### DID YOU KNOW?

As a MLUWC member you have no doubt heard the names of Margaret Manson, Alberta Shearer, and Amy Williams. Their names adorn three main scholarships of \$2000. each given annually by the Scholarship Committee to deserving students.

But many members may not be aware of the history, and how these women influenced the formation and development of MLUWC. This month the Scholarship Committee has decided to highlight the contribution of Margaret Manson, in the hope that we can continue her legacy by supporting scholarships each year. We will highlight the profiles of Alberta Shearer and Amy Williams in up-coming newsletters.

Linda Ricketts  
Scholarship Committee Member

## MARGARET MANSON. 1922-2000



Margaret was truly the founder of the Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club (MLUWC). Several university grads living on the West Island back in the 50's, received an invitation from the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) to start a new club. Their first meeting was set up in a local church. Hoping for a dozen or so interested people, Margaret was astonished to meet 80 new eager members.

Forming a club involved establishing goals, writing a constitution, setting a fee structure, and adhering to CFUW guidelines. MLUWC received its charter for the club on 15 August 1958. Margaret was President of MLUWC from 1957-1960.

From the start, Margaret found fellowship and satisfaction from the club that gave suburban life a new quality. Remember these were the days when women were identified by their husband's initials, not their personal name. In those times it was unusual for women to combine homemaking and a professional career. Margaret was a fine example of this, raising five children while continuing her work in education and maintaining a leadership role in the community.

Her career included teaching positions and principalships in several West Island primary and high schools. Ecole Primaire Margaret Manson in Kirkland is named after her. She continued her career as an educational consultant until her retirement in 1988. She was a Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal Commissioner and founding member of many community organizations, including the Pointe Claire Public Library, the Kirkland Library, the Stewart Hall Library and St. Columba by the Lake Presbyterian Church.

She was a quiet advocate for women's rights and champion of those who learned differently. Margaret is honoured by the Pearson Education Foundation as the namesake of an award that recognizes a graduate high school student who has overcome significant challenges. In 2001 following her death, the Margaret Manson Scholarship was established by MLUWC to support young women in furthering their studies.

## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE



An immense thank you and congratulations to all of our members who contributed so generously to the Scholarship Fund in lieu of raffle baskets at the December Christmas party! Between the donations and the **Beau Blooms** flower arrangement raffle, donated by Sally Gurekian's daughter, we raised \$1,295.00 for the evening. The recipient of the flower arrangement was Carole Newberry and the lovely door prize of a facial, donated by Studio Karine d.b. was won by Elizabeth Semmelhaack.

We will continue to conduct the **Scholarship Fundraising Drive** which began in **September** and will continue until **April 2023**.

Credit card donations are accepted online through [www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/10093](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/10093) or with a cheque payable to; **MLUWC Scholarship Fund** and sent to **P.O. Box 383, Pointe-Claire, QC H9R 4P3**. Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$25 or more.

It is our hope that the Fundraising Committee we will be able to conduct a mini- Mothers Day fundraiser in partnership with **Beau Blooms in May**. Details will follow.

A **Fundraising Dinner** is planned for Wednesday, April 19, 2023, to commemorate the Club's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Enoteca Monza Restaurant on Blvd. Saint-Jean in D.D.O. Details will follow.

Members of the Fundraising Committee are; Anne Brohan, Sally Gurekian, Carole Newberry and Mary Vlahos. Should any MLUWC member wish to join our committee, you would be most welcome.

Victoria Pinnell  
Fundraising Chair

# SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

## Donation Form

### MLUWC Scholarship Fund

Charity Registration Number 85457 5289 RR0001

Personal donation ☐

Company donation ☐

For: In Memory ☐

or In Honour ☐

In Memory/In Honour ☐

Please complete the following:

Honouree Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Notification Information:

Please make cheque payable to **MLUWC Scholarship Fund**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$25.00 and more.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

MLUWC Scholarship Fund

P.O. Box 383, Pointe-Claire,  
QC H9R 4P3

You can also make secure online donations using your credit card through CanadaHelps.org.

Visit [mluwc.com](http://mluwc.com) and click on: Donate to the Scholarship Fund.

Thank you for your support!



## INTEREST GROUPS

**New Wine tasting group proposal: Are you interested in joining a new wine tasting group. If so, please contact Nicole Larocque at : (nicole\_d\_laroque@sympatico.ca)**

## ARMCHAIR TRAVEL

On January 24 Gilda Martinello will show us her wonderful pictures of Africa which she took on her recent safari with three other members of our club.

We get together at 7:00 for chat and business and begin our “ travel” at 7:30p.m.

Merry Christmas from Armchair Travel!

**Joyce Schaaf**

## BOOK DISCUSSION I

2023 will begin with Damon Galgut 's 2021 Booker prize winner **“The Promise”**. We have been invited to meet Wednesday, January 11 at 1p.m. at Christa's home on Winston Circle, weather permitting. Faithful Zoom is always a backup. As usual, a decision will be made closer to the date.

We had a great discussion on Agatha Christie, her life and mysterious disappearance at our last meeting. She was a lady ahead of her time! We wish everyone a Happy New Year, and hope we discover some exciting new books to explore and discuss in the coming year . .



**Marg Nicoll-Griffith and Judy Kelley**

## BOOK DISCUSSION II

Book Club II will meet on Zoom on Thursday, January 19 at 1 p.m. Sandra Smith will review the novel **"Violetta"** by Isabel Allende.

**Susan Pick Vadivel**

## COFFEE TIME

Welcome to **Coffee Time** on Wednesdays at 10:30a.m. via Zoom. No reservations required. This is a group that was formed last year when we were in lockdown to keep in touch on a weekly basis. I must admit I didn't expect it to still be going on. So, we decided to make it an official Interest Group for the coming year. A topic of conversation is suggested for each week in the invite sent out on the Monday or Tuesday before. It is a chit chat group where we share laughs and opinions from the comfort of our homes. Hope to see some new faces. All are welcomed!



**Nancy Acemian**, Coffee Time Coordinator and MC

## DINNER CLUB

On November 27, our ladies visited **La Serenata Restaurant in D.D.O.** It was a wonderful evening with 11 diners. The food was excellent, and the service was outstanding. One restaurant certainly to repeat next season!

January 26 at noon, we will visit Le Surcouf in Ste Anne de Bellevue for a lunch. It has been our practice to do a couple of luncheons in January and February, as weather and driving conditions are quite unpredictable particularly at night. If you would like to assist with the organizing of this luncheon, please contact Sally or myself. Details to follow.

Wishing you all a joyous and happy holiday with your family and friends and the very best for the New Year.

**Group leaders:**  
**Sally Gurekian**  
**Victoria Pinnell**

## **EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION I**

Our first book club meeting of 2023 will be on Tuesday January 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Kathleen McGrath. We will be discussing the book **“Once There Were Wolves”** by Charlotte McConaghy. Looking forward to seeing everyone to bring in the New Year.

**Linda Ricketts**

## **EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION II**

Our hours and dates have changed... We now will be meeting monthly every 3rd Wednesday at 1:30 -3:30pm. We will start meeting at the Pierrefonds library as of January 18th. We will be reading the **“The English Princess”** by Claire McHugh. Happy Reading!

**Luhan Wabbeh and Diane Gibb**

## **FRENCH CONVERSATION**

French Conversation will meet virtually on Zoom at 9:30a.m. on Friday January 20, 2023.

**Janet Anderson**

## **MYSTERY BOOK CLUB**

To start our year off, Judy Couillard will be reviewing **“The Heron’s Cry”**, by Ann Cleeves, the second in her **“Two Rivers”** series. We will meet on Zoom on Wednesday, January 11.

**Gilda Martinello**



Our sincere condolences are extended to **Heather Hamilton** for the loss of her mother.



On this page, we announce activities that are going on in the community, e.g., breakfasts, concerts, etc. as well as other topics that may be of interest to our members but are not directly associated with our Club, e.g., commissioner of oaths. If you have any items you would like published on this page, please email the information to ([mluwc.newsletter3@gmail.com](mailto:mluwc.newsletter3@gmail.com)).

## **Lakeshore Chamber Music Society**

On Friday, January 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m., the Lakeshore Chamber Music Society will present a concert with

**Morin Trio**

**Featuring:**

**Gerry Morin, cello**

**Sylvia Brun, piano**

**Stephanie Morin, flute**

**Programme will feature works by Donkin, Hoover, Delius, Villa-Lobos, Farrenc**

**Location: Union Church**

**24 Maple Avenue**

**Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue**

**Tickets are available at the door: \$20 for adults; \$10 for students; free for 16 & under**

**The concerts are sponsored in part by the Conseil des arts de Montréal.**

**<https://www.lakeshorechambermusic.org/>**



## COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

Do you know the role of a Commissioner of Oaths?

It is an individual who is empowered to certify the oath or “solemn affirmation” of a person upon documents such as diplomas, birth certificates and other records.

If you need this service, please contact **Victoria Pinnell** (vpinnell@gmail.com), or **call Jennifer Ferguson** (514-697-7663 between 9am and 5pm)



Please go to [www.facebook.com/MLUWC](https://www.facebook.com/MLUWC)

We have over 500 likes and over 600 followers! Remember to like our page and share it with your friends!

Many of our new members mention Facebook when asked how they heard about the MLUWC



## We're also on Instagram



### AIR CANADA AEROPLAN PROGRAM

Back in 2012 MLUWC got an Aeroplan number that would give the opportunity to our members to donate their Aeroplan points if they so wished. The minimum donation is 1000 points. Until this year we had accumulated **57,846 points**.

Please contact either Connie Ellis or Mary Vlahos for more information.



## Let's Get Excited About Travel Again!

Senior Discovery Tours takes care of all your travel details, so all you have to do is enjoy our beautiful world. As Canada's largest and most trusted operator of escorted tours and cruises for over 45 years, our tours are designed to provide peace of mind for the mature traveller who enjoys a carefree experience.

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*For every MLUWC member that travels with Senior Discovery Tours,  
the MLUWC will receive a 4% commission per booking!  
Please contact Joyce Schaaf (joyceschaaf@gmail.com) for booking details.*

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# January

# 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy New Year	2	3 Evening Book Club I 7:30pm	4	5 Advocacy Committee 7:30 Zoom	6	7
8	9	10	11 Coffee Time 10:30 Zoom Book Club I 1:00pm Mystery Book club Zoom	12	13	Zoom14
15	16 Potluck Events	17	18 Coffee time 10:30, zoom Evening Book Club II 1:30pm Library	19 Book Club II 1:00pm Zoom	20 French Conversation 9:30 Zoom  February Newsletter deadline	21
22	23	24 Armchair Travel Zoom 7:30pm	25 Coffee time 10:30, Zoom	26 Dinner Club Noon Le Surcouf	27	28
29	30	31		29 Evening Book Club I 1:30pm	30	31
:						



**Newsletter Editor: Maria De Wolfe** [mluwc.newsletter3@gmail.com](mailto:mluwc.newsletter3@gmail.com)

I take full responsibility for all errors, omissions or spelling mishaps and incorrect punctuation. If you would like me to correct an error in the next newsletter, please email me at:

[mluwc.newsletter3@gmail.com](mailto:mluwc.newsletter3@gmail.com).

If you would like to contact someone mentioned in the newsletter but you don't have their email address, please send a message to the email above and I will forward it.

**Proofreaders: Janet Ankorn and Gilda Martinello (Many thanks)**

**February Newsletter Deadline: January 20, 2023**

