

MLUWC

MONTREAL LAKESHORE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CLUB

Newsletter, September 2020

Volume 63, Issue 1

You are cordially invited to our
**MLUWC 2020/2021 Autumn
"Kick-Off"**



via Zoom

**Wednesday September 16th,
2020**

Time: 7:00 pm

**See page 2 for information on the
program as well as how to sign
up for the Zoom meeting.**

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to the 2020-2021 year. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy the beautiful weather of this past summer and that you are adapting to the new normal we are living during this pandemic. I am grateful to be back at work and to have some extra time to garden (I have a greater respect for farmers) and catch up on my book-club reads.

We are a group of smart, resourceful and strong women and I know that we are more than capable of adapting to life's new challenges.

Our Program Committee kept us busy this summer with fun zoom events and they have put together a great slate of speakers for the new year. We expect to continue to meet monthly on Zoom but we are ever hopeful of meeting, as a group, in the new year. Jane, myself and the Executive Committee are committed to making this as normal a year as possible. Interest groups have been meeting by zoom and even in person.

We are working hard to make our Fall Meeting an interactive virtual experience. This might be a good time to try a new interest group, join our Advocacy group or create a new group.

Linda Sestock

You are cordially invited to our
MLUWC 2020/2021 Autumn "Kick-Off"!



Our Autumn "Kick-Off" will be held remotely via Zoom. You will be able to attend from the comfort of your own home and without a mask.

Date: Wednesday September 16th, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

The **program** for the evening is as follows:

- **7:00pm:** We will start off with a bring-your-own cocktail/beverage with munchies and a little chit-chat to catch up on the latest news.
- **7:30pm:** Meeting/Interest Groups
- **8:00pm:** Our guest speaker **Doug Bellevue**, author of *"Montreal's Golden Square Mile - A Neighborhood"* will entertain us with stories of the residents of the Golden Square Mile.

If you will be attending the evening please
RSVP by clicking on the blue "CLICK HERE TO REGISTER" button below.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

This will take you to a form where you will be asked to enter your name and email address. Within a few days, you will get a confirmation email, with the link to the Zoom meeting as well as some simple instructions.

Looking forward to seeing you ... and don't forget your favorite beverage!!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

PROGRAM

Yes, it is that time again ... The start of a **new MLUWC season**. It has been a difficult summer but we have made it this far! Your MLUWC tried to keep as many of its members connected with its 1st ever summer program and many of our interest groups have also continued to meet during the summer remotely. We have done this while following the government's 2m distance rule from the comforts of our own homes and gardens and all without a mask thanks to technology.

A few notes:

1. To have a **digital copy of our program** as it stands now, please click on the following link: <https://www.mluwc.com/events.html>
(The program will be updated as information becomes available).
2. A **digital copy of the members' directory** will be emailed after September 15 to all members who have paid their 2020/2021 dues.

Signing up for **interest groups** will be done digitally this year. You will soon receive an email with a link to a form allowing you to register for interest groups.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome back, everyone. I hope that all of you have enjoyed a lovely summer, despite the restrictions due to COVID-19

It is time, once again, to pay your MLUWC membership fees. If you have not yet done so, you can pay your fees in one of two ways:

Either

by cheque, payable to MLUWC, for \$120, and mailed to:

Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club
P.O. Box 383
Pointe-Claire, QC
H9R 4P3

Or

Go to our website, www.mluwc.com, click on Membership, scroll down to the PayPal button, click on the PayPal button and follow directions.

If we have not received your membership dues by **September 15**, you will not be included in the members' directory which will be mailed to members shortly thereafter.

Nancy Acemian
Membership Chair

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MAY 31, 2020

Revenue from dues was up slightly from the previous year and also vs. the budget. Revenue from the fall Kick-Off was up significantly, however the AGM was cancelled. We normally price both those events in order to "break-even" so the overall impact on our bottom line is positive.

Our expenses were higher than budgeted due mostly to an increase to \$76 from \$73 per member for our CFUW dues. We had decided that rather than passing this increase along to the members the club would absorb the increase. This was partially offset by lower rent expense due to the cancellation of the last few general meetings because of COVID.

Our budget for the coming year was prepared in April and approved at the AGM in May. Obviously preparing a budget at this time was more difficult than usual, however, I have met with our Co-Presidents recently and we will continue to monitor our financial situation closely this year in order to minimize the damage to our overall financial position.

MONTREAL LAKESHORE UNIVERSITY WOMENS CLUB
Income Statement

	Actual		Budget	
	June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020		Jun 1, 2019-May 31, 2020	
REVENUE				
MLUWC Dues		22,715		21,600
Advertising		400		400
EVENTS				
Fall Kick-Off - Revenue	3,075		2,340	
Fall Kick-Off - Expenses	<u>-2,867</u>	208	<u>-2,340</u>	0
Christmas Meeting Funds Raised	0		1,500	
Donations - Xmas Fundraiser	<u>0</u>	0	<u>-1,500</u>	0
MLUWC AGM Revenue	0		5,000	
MLUWC AGM Expenses	<u>0</u>	0	<u>-5,000</u>	0
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>23,323</u>		<u>22,000</u>
EXPENSE				
CFUW Membership Dues	15,132		12,880	
Provincial Council of Women	392		368	
Montreal Council of Women Dues	<u>50</u>		<u>50</u>	
Total Memberships		15,574		13,298
Communications - Website	50		100	
Communications - Publicity	<u>92</u>		<u>100</u>	
Total Communications		142		200
Membership	306		400	
Newsletter	0		100	
Program	519		600	
Rent	1,504		1,734	
Hospitality - Other	161		223	
Office, Bank, Postage	520		350	
PayPal Fees	184		275	

Insurance		<u>265</u>		<u>230</u>
	Total Administration		3,458	3,912
Advocacy			120	200
CFUW Convention 2019			3,756	4,000
MLUWC Scholarship Fund			2,000	2,000
Donations - Other			<u>700</u>	<u>450</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE			<u>25,751</u>	<u>24,060</u>
NET INCOME			<u>-2,428</u>	<u>-2,060</u>

Bank balance at 2020.05.31 is \$9,841.86

MLUWC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Did you know that MLUWC's very first scholarship (\$100) was awarded in the fall of 1958? For the next 10 years scholarships were given to high school students from Baie-d'Urfé to Lachine. With the advent of CEGEP's, scholarships to high school graduates were no longer needed and in 1972 the first John Abbott scholarships were awarded. Throughout the 70's, 80's and 90's the number of scholarships and the dollar value of the awards continued to increase thanks to the hard work of Ways and Means Committees (now called Fundraising). Many different events were organized including bake sales, fashion shows, cookbooks, card parties and of course, Theatre Night which became an annual event from 1977 until 2012. Recent events have included musical and comedy performances, as well as last fall's Italian night.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, fundraising will likely take a different form this year ... we will have to wait and see what the Fundraising Committee decides. During this unusual time, we are very grateful for the personal donations we have received from members and friends of the MLUWC.

This year we will award over \$12,000 to West Island women who are continuing their education. In addition to 4 scholarships for university studies, we are proud to provide support to students at John Abbott College, Place Cartier and Centre Jeanne Sauvé Adult Education Centres.

Donating to the MLUWC Scholarship Fund can be done at any time. Credit card donations are accepted online through canadahelps.org. If you prefer, you can write a cheque payable to MLUWC Scholarship Fund and send it to P.O. Box 383, Pointe-Claire, QC H9R 4P3. Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$25 and up.

In accordance with our bylaws, a copy of the Scholarship Fund's financial statement for the year ended May 31, 2020 is presented below.

Heather Hamilton
MLUWC Scholarship Fund

Montreal Lakeshore University Women's Club				
SCHOLARSHIP FUND				
Financial Statements				
		As at		As at
		May 31, 2020		May 31, 2019
<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>				
Bank Account		\$ 30,638.74		\$ 25,248.08
Investment Account at cost		\$ 154,723.52		\$ 153,638.74
Market value at May 31, 2020 \$166,454 (May 2019 \$167,500)				
Due from MLUWC		\$ 120.00		
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>\$ 185,482.26</u>		<u>\$ 178,886.82</u>
Scholarship Fund Balance		\$ 185,482.26		\$ 178,886.82
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		<u>\$ 185,482.26</u>		<u>\$ 178,886.82</u>
<u>INCOME STATEMENT</u>				
REVENUE:				
General Donations - receipts issued		\$ 2,695.53		\$ 2,633.18
Misc. Donations - not receipted		\$ 4,846.33		\$ 3,067.34
Fall fundraiser ticket sales		\$ 7,930.00		\$ 10,948.00
Spring fundraiser				\$ 2,339.00
Christmas raffle		\$ 1,542.00		
Other fundraising activities		\$ 5,342.50		\$ 7,053.00
Investment income		\$ 1,084.78		\$ 5,775.58
TOTAL REVENUE		<u>\$ 23,441.14</u>		<u>\$ 31,816.10</u>
EXPENSES:				
Donations		\$ 1,542.00		
Scholarships paid		\$ 6,000.00		\$ 10,800.00
Fall fundraiser expense		\$ 9,077.63		\$ 5,688.70
Spring fundraiser expense				\$ 350.96
Supplies, services and gifts				\$ 420.27
Post Office box rental		\$ 135.09		\$ 132.22
Bank charges and investment fees		\$ 90.98		\$ 252.38
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$ 16,845.70</u>		<u>\$ 17,644.53</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES		<u>\$ 6,595.44</u>		<u>\$ 14,171.57</u>
Scholarship Fund, Beginning of Period		\$ 178,886.82		\$ 164,715.25
Scholarship Fund, End of Period		<u>\$ 185,482.26</u>		<u>\$ 178,886.82</u>

SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATION FORM

Donation Form

MLUWC Scholarship Fund

Charity Registration Number 85457 5289 RR0001

Personal donation Company donation

In Memory/In Honour

I enclose my donation of \$ _____

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

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

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Email: _____

You can also make secure online donations using your credit card through CanadaHelps.org. Visit mluwc.com and click on

Donate to the Scholarship Fund.

For: In Memory or In Honour

Please complete the following:

Honouree Name: _____

Notification Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov. _____ Postal Code _____

Send to:

MLUWC Scholarship Fund

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

Thank you for your support!

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

I am pleased to report that the Scholarship Committee was able to award three scholarships and one bursary this year. It was a bit of a challenge due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic but our committee persevered adapting to new ways. I would like to thank Nancy Acemian for facilitating our Zoom meetings and our interview team members who met with the applicants. Unfortunately, due to the instability of the adult education sector we were unable to award the 16 bursaries to adult learners. We hope to address this in the new school year when we are assured that classes are in session (on-line or in person).

Here are the 2020-2021 MLUWC Scholarships and Bursary recipients:

Amy Williams Scholarship (John Abbot College):



Carolanne Carr, Université de Montréal, School of Veterinary Science

Margaret Manson Scholarship:



Sarah Daoust-Boucher, Université Laval, Masters, Speech Therapy

Alberta Shearer Scholarship



Narjes Hashemi, PHD, Philosophy Educational Studies, McGill University

Bursary



Justine Soles, Bachelor of Education (Kindergarten/ Elementary), McGill

Making a donation to the MLUWC Scholarship Fund is easy and can be done at any time. Credit card donations are accepted through canadahelps.org. If you prefer, you can write a cheque payable to MLUWC Scholarship Fund, complete the form below and send it along with your cheque to P.O. Box 383, Pointe-Claire, QC H9R 4P3.

Submitted by Maria De Wolfe
Chair, Scholarship Committee

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Hello everyone. Welcome back. I hope that you all enjoyed your summer and found new ways to discover and explore the little gems and activities in and around Montreal. I hope you all feel refreshed and are looking forward to the golden days of fall that lay ahead.

Our fundraising committee met last month to discuss how we would replace our usual fundraising events with smaller more personalized activities in light of the current COVID-19 restrictions. We hope to share these ideas with you next month and we would welcome any suggestions you may have to support the Scholarship Fund in the upcoming season.

I would like to re-introduce the members of our Fundraising Committee for 2020-2021. They are Anne Brohan, Margaret Czalbowska, Jane Edwards, Franca Ferrara, Sally Gurekian, Carole Newberry and Mary Vlahos. Thank you, ladies, for your support once again, to an invaluable link of our club.

Regards,

Victoria Pinnell
Fundraising Chair (vpinnell@gmail.com)

ADVOCACY

We would like to welcome back all of you to the start of a new year, albeit, a much different one. At our last two general meetings (February and March), we collected \$436 in support of AJOIE. This amount bought a large “virtual” brick for their wall that has our name on it. We received a much-appreciated response from them which is reprinted below.

Going forward with the year, we will be holding monthly meetings (dates to be determined) so that we may continue our tasks and goals.

Anyone interested in joining the Committee, please contact Patricia DuVal or myself, you are most welcome. Our first virtual meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 2 at 7:00 pm.

Regards
Patricia DuVal
Mary Vlahos
Co-chairs



**Ricochet
(Hébergement/Homes)**

15632, boul. Gouin O. Ste-Geneviève, Québec H9H 1C4
tel: 514-675-4450 /
fax: 514-675-4425
www.ricochetwestisland.com

Montreal, July 10th 2020

Montreal Lakeshore University Women’s Club (MLUWC)
P.O Box 383 Pointe-Claire, Qc H9R 4P3

Subject: Gratitude for the MLUWC’s members donation to Ricochet
(Hébergements/Homes) through the *One Brick at a Time 2019-2020 Campaign*.

Dear members of the MLUWC,

Ricochet (Hébergement/Homes) would like to thank you for your financial contribution to the first housing resource for young people at risk of residential instability in the West Island. Working together is a key component in the fight against youth homelessness. Together, we can improve the quality of life or our youth.

Ricochet consists of two components : social housing with community support AND a short-term housing resource. More specifically, your support will enable Ricochet to reach its financial goal to establish the building of a short-term shelter. As a community, it is our responsibility to provide vulnerable youth with a safe place where they can meet their basic needs and have what is necessary to develop their life plan and flourish in the community.

Again, we thank you for your consideration towards Ricochet’s project. Together, we will fight homelessness in the West Island.

Please accept our best regards.

Tania Charron, Executive Director and Founder Ricochet (Hébergement/Homes)



COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

A Commissioner of Oaths certifies the oath or “solemn affirmation” of a person upon documents such as: diplomas, birth certificates and other records.

This is a free service. If you need a Commissioner of Oaths, please contact either:

Victoria Pinnell (vpinnell@gmail.com) or Jennifer Ferguson (dd.ferguson@sympatico.ca)

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathy to Victoria Pinnell and her family on the passing of her mother, Connie Chandler, in July.



**REPORT FROM MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN (MCW)
LE CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTRÉAL**

"A Voice for Women in Montreal" for 126 years

Given this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 global pandemic, many, if not all of the not-for profit organizations, are facing challenging times and adapting to what may become the "new normal" in carrying out their mission. We are all in this together and even though we cannot safely gather in person, MCW and its Board of Directors have found creative ways to communicate, share our experiences and attend program event meetings virtually via Zoom in 2020/2021.

- The *June 2020 BULLETIN* invited MCW members to submit a one-page testimonial (or ½ page) with pictures (optional) that will be collated for the "MCW Journal of a Pandemic", a special project initiated by Maria Peluso, VP Government Affairs and Advocacy.
- At the MCW's ANNUAL GENERAL meeting, held virtually on May 21, 2020, we honoured our "**Woman of the Year**", **Sheila Goldbloom**, and presented her with a LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. Her inspiring presentation reflected, not only her distinguished career as a social worker, teacher and volunteer with more than 50 years of community involvement, but also her deep concerns for seniors, especially those living in long term care facilities. She concluded by saying, that "most importantly we need to look at strategies for encouraging seniors to stay active and involved". MLUWC members, Renate Sutherland was re-elected as MCW Treasurer and Chitra Chopra was elected to the position of Councillor and Chair of the Resolutions Committee.
- Two MCW Emergency Resolutions on "Long-Term Care" and "Seniors' Bill of Rights" will be submitted to the National Council of Women's AGM, to be held virtually on October 23rd and 24th, 2020 in Ottawa.

UPCOMING PROGRAM EVENT, virtual via Zoom which requires registration

GENERAL MEETING: Thursday, September 3, 2020 (midday) "Welcome Back", – launch of the 'Pandemic Journal' and celebration of the new MCW website and logo.

Guest speaker: Rola Kpoubeissy, PhD post- doctoral fellow UQAM-main interest: Teachers professional development in multiethnic context.

For more information: Renate Sutherland 514-695-1970 or email renate.sutherland@bell.net

Renate Sutherland
MCW Representative

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS NOVEMBER 2021 PETITION on VOTING BY MAIL

The MCW is concerned about the challenges for the next 2021 municipal elections and offers an opportunity for you to exercise your voice.

There is a realistic possibility of COVID-19 being with us for some time. Our next municipal elections will be held in the month of November 2021. Voting in person presents a number of risks in a COVID-19 environment.

- Many polling stations where voting takes place are in senior residences or schools
- As distancing cannot be guaranteed, line-ups to vote pose health risks and contribute to spreading the virus with crowds of people
- Given the risks posed to their health with in-person voting, senior citizens, single-parent families, and the disabled are less likely to exercise their right to vote

Voting by mail is already allowed in the majority of 50 states of the United States and in many countries. It gives those who are uneasy about congregating in what might be a crowded voting station, another way to cast their ballot. Voting by mail however is not just a health measure, it is also a proven, convenient and safe way to boost participation in elections by making it easy to vote.

In order to permit voting by mail for the next municipal election in 2021, the Quebec Election laws will need to be amended.

MNA David Birnbaum, representing D'Arcy-McGee in the National Assembly has provided an official government petition for people to sign urging the government of Quebec to permit voting by mail. The online petition is cogent, well-written, and the procedure is easy.

Please use either the English or French link and follow the instructions. It only takes a few minutes. The more signatures that are gathered the more influence we will have in convincing the government to modify the electoral law to allow this voting option.

English, <https://www.assnat.qc.ca/en/exprimez-votre-opinion/petition/Petition-8431/index.html>

French, <https://www.assnat.qc.ca/fr/exprimez-votre-opinion/petition/Petition-8431/index.html>

I thank you for signing this important petition and urge you to share this information with all your networks. In the era of COVID, voting by mail is an important health measure that protects our seniors and the most vulnerable.

Maria Peluso, VP Government Affairs
Montreal Council of Women

On Wednesday, August 12, the Program Committee organized a Zoom presentation on the History of Jewellery by Linda Richer. Here is a summary of her remarks.

THE HISTORY OF JEWELLERY

PRESENTED BY LINDA RICHER
OWNER OF ROBERT RICHER JEWELLERS, DORVAL

According to the Biblical story of Eve, self-awareness is what made us human. New research indicates that self-adornment does indeed seem to be an archaic human trait of consciousness far earlier than previously recognized.

Most of us think of homo sapiens as very basic beings in the sense that they filled their basic needs like food and shelter and reproduction, but they were much more than that. Fresh analysis reveals that beads date from 100,000 to 135,000 years ago. Such personal ornaments, along with art, are generally considered as archeological proof of an aptitude for symbolic thinking. Findings show that there was a deliberate selection of shells intended for symbolic use. There is evidence that points to beads being used in gift-giving systems which function to strengthen social and economic relationships. From the onset, jewellery was more than an aesthetical artifact, it had an important societal role.

As time went on, there was a transition from nomad life into settled social order. Societies tended to seek establishment on the banks of rivers for ease of transport, availability of water, and of course, food. But in these rivers, they also found minerals, alluvial deposits of gold and precious stones – things that sparked!

One of the first cultures to develop goldsmithing was the Varna civilization (4500 BC) in Eastern Bulgaria, near the Black Sea. One of their burial pits contained more gold than was discovered in the entire world for that period. That says a lot about Varna riches as well as the importance attributed to jewellery and adornments.

Among some of the most ancient examples of jewellery are those found in Mesopotamia dating back to 4000 BC, and the fascinating thing is that this jewellery represents almost every kind of jewellery developed throughout the course of history. They had crowns, combs, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, pins and brooches – even thigh bracelets!

And perhaps the most famous jewellery belongs to the Egyptians (3100 BC) which showed an incredibly high degree of mastery for goldsmithing. Egyptian jewellery was mostly in silver due to its abundance and they often made use of stained glass instead of gems giving their work a far greater variety. The jewellery produced by the Egyptians was of superb quality and of a high degree of refinement that has rarely been surpassed or even equaled in the history of jewellery. As early as these times, we see the use of tools, technical processes such as welding, alloys, filigree, stone-setting and enamelling – and this is the foundation of jewellery making as it stands today!

In ancient Rome (800 BC), jewellery was used to an extent never seen before and not to be seen again until the Renaissance (1400).

Man quickly understood that beyond the form there was a purpose to jewellery. It was highly valued and highly portable and quickly became a symbol of financial security. You may recall that gold was one of the precious gifts brought to Jesus as a baby.

Most cultures recognize the exceptional value of these precious metals and gemstones and their contribution to our daily lives. They are perceived as security, harbingers of good luck and good fortune, and they underline the important events throughout our lives.

We can all relate to a piece of jewellery that has been significant in our lives for the memories and emotions it has generated for us. It often links us to relationships in a manner that defies time and reconnects us in a way that safeguards the moment and intention for which it was given or received. The best example of this is the engagement ring. It was just a ring until it was chosen and offered as a symbol of ever-lasting love between two people.

Gold's first recorded price (the gold standard) was in 1792 at \$19.39US an ounce. It remained at that rate until 1933 when it slowly inched its way up until in 1975 when it was over \$139.39 an ounce. And the uncertainty of the COVID pandemic has caused the price of gold to shoot up. It went up to \$2076 during in the week of August 12, 2020! And look at the situation in Lebanon today. Their currency is worthless but if they have gold, they have financial security.

Only 48.5% of gold is extracted for jewellery use and 75% of diamonds are extracted for industrial use.

Our daily lives are made better in countless ways by gems and precious metals.

Here are some examples that you may not necessarily have heard of:

- Scanner glass at the grocery store check-out counter is corundum. Corundum is the family of gems that included sapphires and the ones used in grocery stores are lab grown. Corundum is also used in some watch crystals, the tip of the rollerball pens, sand paper;
- Some modern watches use quartz for incredible precision;
- NASA uses gold because of its great qualities: it never rusts or oxidizes which is a great asset for space travel; it is highly conductive for heat and electricity;
- Diamonds are used for asphalt cutters, scalpels, dentistry tools;
- Silver is used for mirrors as it is the most reflective of minerals.

As there doesn't seem to be much on TV these days, check out our YouTube channel (Robert Richer) on which we have lots of informative videos to entertain you. We also have a Facebook page and I hope you will check that out as well.

Thank you so much for having me. I hope you enjoyed my presentation and that hopefully you learned something about jewellery. A special thanks to Nancy for her technical wizardry!



Please go to our website - www.mluwc.com

Click on the Facebook icon on the bottom right of the home page

We have over 420 likes and 450 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 3000 points. However, recently a very generous person, who wishes to remain anonymous, donated almost 50,000 points. A very respectable amount that our Club can use for different purposes.

We would like to extend our most sincere thanks to this member and encourage others to follow her example.

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

INTEREST GROUPS

A **new** interest group is being proposed:

WALK & TALK

After so much isolation and, in many cases, inactivity, a walking group is being re-established. All ages and abilities are welcome! We will choose destinations in advance, meet up and walk for about one hour in a socially distanced manner each week. An opportunity for social interaction, exercise and exploring different parks, villages and neighbourhoods across the West Island and possibly beyond. There is no commitment to show up each and every week, but you must agree to be responsible for one week during the fall whereby you choose the destination, and email the others where to meet up. Monday mornings from September 21st until the snow flies!
For more information, contact Jane Cowell-Poitras.

ADVOCACY

Our first virtual meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 2 at 7:00 pm.

Mary Vlahos

BON APPÉTIT

Our dining club is a dynamic group of approximately 50 club members, who enjoy dining together and sharing the gastronomy of restaurants in and around the West Island. We average between 15 and 20 diners an outing.

We meet the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm for the dinners and 12:00 pm for the luncheons. Each outing requires two ladies to organize. They will inform the members of the date, time and location of that month's restaurant and request confirmation of their presence. They will also call and reserve the restaurant, arrange preferred seating, method of payment and review menu.

Given the current restrictions associated with COVID-19 and gatherings, the Bon Appétit Club will not be dining together until further notice. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Victoria Pinnell (vpinnell@gmail.com)

BOOK CLUB I

Our September meeting will be held Wednesday, September 9 at 1:00 pm. The venue is weather dependent, hopefully a garden setting, but failing that a Zoom setting. A decision will be made in time for everyone to be "on board" either with Zoom hosted by Judy Kelley or out, either in Judy's or Renata Bagga's garden.

We will review two books: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman, and Redhead by the Side of the Road by Anne Tyler.

Marg Nicoll-Griffith and Judy Kelley.

BOOK CLUB II

Our plan is to have monthly meetings the third Thursday of the month, and for now, they will be Zoom meetings. Our next meeting is September 17 at 1:00, when Marilyn Flaherty will be reviewing the book Becoming by Michelle Obama. Our membership is presently complete at 12 members.

Hélène Quaid

EVENING BOOK CLUB 1

At our last book club meeting on May 26, we decided on the book selections for the coming season. We chose American Dirt by Jeannine Cummins to be discussed at a Zoom meeting on August 25. We decided to start a month earlier than usual, as we anticipated more free time to devote to reading! Our selection on September 22 will be The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi. Typically, our monthly discussions are on the 4th Tuesday of the month, and with 12 members; we are presently full, either for our usual home get-togethers or more recently Zoom meetings.

Linda Ricketts

EVENING BOOK CLUB 2

We meet the third Tuesday of every month. Throughout the summer, we meet via Zoom. On September 15, we will discuss Beartown by Fredrik Backman. As always, we meet at 7:00 pm.

Amy Dhindsa

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Due to the cancellation of performances by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, we will not be meeting for the foreseeable future.

Maria Cranker

MUSIC HISTORY

Due to the COVID pandemic, the Music History group will be taking a break until the situation improves.

Joan Dyer

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

The Mystery Book Club met three times this summer via Zoom and we discussed these books: I'll Never Tell by Catherine McKenzie in June, The Long Call by Ann Cleeves in July and The Huntress by Kate Quinn in August. We are meeting on Wednesday, September 9 at 1:00 to discuss Eight Perfect Murders by Peter Swanson. The discussion will be led by Gilda Martinello. If the weather is good, we will meet in Liliana Perodeau's garden, otherwise it will be via Zoom.

Gilda Martinello

NEW BOOK EXCHANGE

Unfortunately, the New Book Exchange group will not meet this year.

BJ Bell

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Photography group will meet on Zoom on the second Tuesday of every month at 2:00 pm. We will talk about our images as well as about the technical aspects of photography. Sometimes we will do photography outings.

As we meet on Zoom, the group can accept new members

Maria Korab-Laskowska (mariakorab@gmail.com)

TETE-A-TETE

French Conversation is meeting on Zoom on Friday September 18 at 9:30 am.

Janet Anderson

WINE APPRECIATION 2

Our group met throughout the summer via Zoom. We also met in person at Sheila Perkin's home on August 20. Here is a picture of all of us enjoying a glass of wine and most importantly, each other! We will continue to meet via Zoom this year. Unfortunately, our group is full and we are unable to accept any new members. However, if you are interested in being a spare, please contact me.

Diane Gibb



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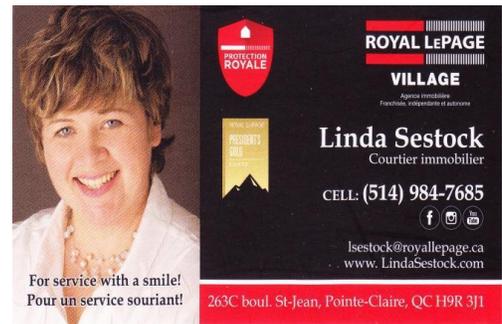


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SEPTEMBER 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2 7:00 Advocacy	3	4
7	8 2:00 Photography	9 1:00 Book Club 1 and Mystery Book Club		11 Newsletter Deadline
14	7:00 Evening Book Club 2	16 7:00 Kick-Off	17 1:00 Book Club 2	18 9:30 French Conversation
21	22 7:00 Evening Book Club 1	23	24	25
28	29	30		

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