News on tenant action in Montreal's low-rent housing

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2016 Elections A crucial time for the OMHM

One of the most important moments for the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) is here. On April 26, your delegates will be meeting to elect two tenants to sit on the Board of Directors (BOD) for the next three years. This will also be the time to select tenant representatives for the Selection Committee and the Committee on change of housing for bio-psycho-social reasons.

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The tenants who will be elected to the BOD and the two other committees will participate fully in the discussions and decisions these bodies will undertake.

The newly elected members will be starting in their new roles almost right away. At each meeting, they will discuss with other members of the body to which they have been elected and will present the concerns expressed by OMHM tenants. They will play a key role on these bodies. As a matter of fact, thanks to them, OMHM management will have a better understanding of your day-to-day and future priorities.

I have had a chance to meet with tenant members of the Board of Directors in recent years and I could see that they are generally well informed, are all devoted to you and carry out their tasks dutifully. I am convinced that the members elected in 2016 will be cut from the same cloth and that we will be able to continue to move forward together for the well-being of tenants in low income and other affordable housing.

Let me remind you that the actions of your elected members enrich the decisions made by the three bodies, in line with your needs. This is why these elections are so crucial, not just for you but for the OMHM as well.

As an OMHM tenant, your responsibility is to ensure that delegates have been appointed to represent your low-rent housing tenant association and that they will vote on election day.

To help you make your choice, the next few pages introduce you to the candidates running for the various positions. I hope the delegates turn out in large numbers on voting day to represent your views.

Robert Satoelle

Robert Labelle Chair, OMHM Board of Directors

ELECTION DATE APRIL 26, 2016 (see details on page 4)



WHO ARE THE CANDIDATES?

The next few pages introduce you to each candidate running for the seven vacant positions. Find out why they are running and what issues they are eager to discuss within OMHM bodies.

Board of Directors Candidates



Ghislaine Laramée Résidence Saint-Eugène (seniors)

President of the Tenant Association in her seniors' residence, this former lawyer and mediator wants to continue to serve others. "What else is there if not a chance to give back?" she says, promising to defend the interests of all OMHM tenants.



Joseph-Émile Plante Les immeubles Benny Farm (seniors)

"In my opinion, the OMHM is an intergenerational, multicultural community. I want to promote better communication between the OMHM and its tenants," says this former communicator, who hopes to stand up for seniors in expressing their needs and interests.



Jacques Bradet

Habitations Sainte-Brigide (seniors)

Transparency between OMHM administrators and tenants is important for Mr. Bradet. "I want to know that they're listening to us and, above all, that they're hearing us—particularly when it comes to seniors' physical and mental safety."



Francine Cayer Résidence Le Mile-End (seniors)

An outgoing tenant member of the OMHM Board of Directors, Francine Cayer is applying again to continue her commitment to the OMHM and its tenants. "I give a voice to those who don't have one," she says, wishing for "a better atmosphere in our buildings, mutual respect and pride in living where we live."



Narges Khorsand Habitations Victoria-Barclay (famillies)

"I am fair, just and honest. People's well-being in their homes is important to me. My strength is finding effective solutions."



Nicole Vallières Habitations Richmond (famillies)

Looking for a representative who listens to you and who is deeply committed? Then Nicole Vallières is definitely your candidate. She wants to continue the work she began during her first term: to help and to inform you.

Board of Directors Candidates (cont'd)



Dorothée Preston Habitations Crémazie

Habitations Cremazie (seniors)

"It takes dedicated people to give their time and love so that things change," says Dorothée Preston, who championed seniors' rights for two years within the Association québécoise de défense des droits des personnes retraitées et préretraitées (AQDR).



Francine Dagenais Les Jardins Châteauneuf (seniors)

"Help tenants break the isolation" is the challenge that Francine Dagenais has undertaken. If elected, she will encourage the creation of tenant associations, which she feels are a solution to isolation.



Mohammad Reza Koochekian Saboor Habitations Du Fort (seniors)

Attentive and understanding, Mohammad Reza Koochekian Saboor is committed and always ready to lend a hand. His many years of experience with seniors will most certainly be an asset for the next team.



Mina Mabssout Habitations Joliette (famillies)

"Playing a role in my community and contributing to the success of projects is what interests me," says Mina Mabssout.



François Dagenais Habitations Thomas-Chapais (famillies)

A natural unifying force, François Dagenais wants to help "break down the walls of silence" and promote meeting opportunities for people from around the neighbourhood. There is no doubt that his experience on the Board of Directors of the Habitations Thomas-Chapais Tenant Association will come in handy.



Sylvain Labrecque Habitations Jacques-Cartier (famillies)

"I would like to be your voice, be the one to bring your needs to light and defend them." This is the goal Sylvain Labrecque wants to achieve. This man with a passionate heart who cares about improving services for tenants cannot wait to get started.



Liliane Synnott Habitations De Terrebonne (seniors)

"I would like to get more involved in managing our housing. You can be sure that I will be a great listener. I am very motivated, and I am bilingual," says Liliane Synnott.

The big moment is almost here!

Every three years, the Comité consultatif des résidants (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) is responsible for organizing elections. In so doing, it ensures that tenants of the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) are properly represented on the bodies governing this organization.

Tenant associations must submit to the OMHM the names of the delegates with voting rights by April 8, 2016. It is vital for all delegates to be present on voting day at Centre Saint-Pierre so that the elections are reflective of what you want to see happen!

How the elections are held

The ENHARMONIE CCR and the delegates of low-rent housing tenants will meet in an election meeting on April 26 to elect the tenant representatives, in accordance with the procedures established by the two CCRs.



Members of the low-rent housing Comité consultatif des résidants (Advisory Committee of Tenants) Members of the provisional ENHARMONIE Comité consultatif des résidants

When and where

- Date : Tuesday, April 26, 2016
- Heure : 1:30 p.m.
- Lieu : Centre Saint-Pierre (Room 200) 1212, rue Panet Montréal H2L 2Y7 (Beaudry metro station)

A snack will be served.



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