

An evening when all the stars were shining!



Here are three of the volunteer stars that shone brightly on the evening of May 7.

1. **Nicole Binette Guay**, a kind-hearted woman who has organized numerous parties over the past 14 years in the De Salaberry housing project in the northwest sector.
2. The Plateau Mont-Royal housing project, in the east sector, has in **Monique Gauthier** an astute administrator who never hesitates to offer assistance to the tenants.
3. Dynamic and generous, **Iluminada Averion** is recognized for her landscaping work on her balcony and around the Place Newman housing project in the southwest sector.

On May 7, 2014, some 250 volunteers were hosted at the Plaza Antique, on Sherbrooke Street East, for the Community Activity and Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. The red carpet was rolled out and a photographer welcomed the guests at the entrance to make this evening memorable from start to finish.

Unique entertainment

To express their appreciation for the commitment of these volunteers, the employees of the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) presented a musical number that was created especially for them! Serge Villandré, Assistant Executive Director, Low-Rent-Housing Management, and Nathalie Morin, Director for the promotion of social development and consultation, sang their appreciation to the tune of *Star d'un soir*. A group of dancers and singers from the Service du développement communautaire et social, including Director Esther Giroux, accompanied this performance, which put a smile on everyone's face. Volunteer Beverley Derooy also contributed spontaneously by singing a tune *a cappella* with great emotion and talent.

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A year of positive results



For a little more than a year now, we have been conducting consultations on the operations of the Advisory Committee of Tenants (Comité consultatif des résidents, or CCR) and the sector and sub-sector committees. This exercise has revealed numerous strong points in these participating entities, but also elements that could be improved.

Early last October, we presented results in the three sectors and to the CCR that generated a lot of interest. Five tenant representatives have volunteered to take part in the task force that will explore, over the next few months, ways to inject new dynamism into the sector committees. We will get back to you with more detail on this subject in a future edition.

For its part, the CCR will implement the recommendations related to its operations. In fact, it has been thoroughly committed all year long to continually improving the pertinence of its actions. It has formed several committees to analyze in detail such questions as the assistance to be provided to tenants and their associations, the welcoming of new tenants and problems with maintenance and repairs. You should be proud of your representatives; they are committed to presenting your concerns to the Office's administration and, above all, to returning to you with solutions.

We have also continued to hold information meetings for tenants not represented by an association. These meetings, which have been held in the three sectors over the course of the year, inform the tenants about the participatory bodies and the services of the Office.

With 2014 drawing to an end, it is time to prepare your annual activity reports. We will soon be sending you the form to be filled out to obtain your 2015 subsidies. In the meantime, I sincerely hope you have a wonderful holiday period and that you start the new year filled with joy.

Esther Giroux
Director
Service du développement communautaire et social

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Personalized tributes

Between the appetizer and the main course, employees from the OMHM and members of the Advisory Committee of Tenants (Comité consultatif des résidents, or CCR) took to the microphone to pay a personal tribute to each of the stars being honoured. They started by saluting the efforts of 11 young volunteers and then praised the work of 34 adult volunteers that the tenant associations of the OMHM consider to be models of commitment to their housing projects.



To a tune sung by Serge Villandré and Nathalie Morin, the social and community development team gave a performance to thank the volunteers for their commitment.

After enjoying a great meal, while viewing and discussing their photos on a large screen, the guests continued to celebrate and danced to music chosen for the occasion by the DJ. Judging by the comments received, the evening was much appreciated and put joy in the hearts of all the participants.

A video of the event is available on the OMHM website. Check it out at www.omhm.qc.ca, under "OMHM tenants," "Community living in public housing."

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Ccr

The Advisory Committee of Tenants (Comité consultatif des résidents, or CCR) is your spokesperson. The OMHM consults it on all important issues and it works to improve the quality of your living environment. The CCR represents the entire tenant community.

Tenants' Annual General Assembly

A lively and rewarding meeting

On October 23, some 45 representatives attended the Annual General Assembly of the tenant representatives of Montreal's low-rent housing projects. Three elected members of the Advisory Committee of Tenants (Comité consultatif des résidents, or CCR) hosted the day: Nicole Vallières, from the Richmond housing project (Southwest), Richard Fitzgerald, from the Terrasse Ontario housing project (East), and Marie-Benoite Bukuru, from the Sackville housing project (Northwest).

A CCR that knows its business

In the morning, the session leaders presented the report of the CCR and reviewed the initiatives undertaken in 2014, including the major RAM (replacement, amelioration and modernization) projects and budget, assistance to tenants and their associations and the welcoming of new tenants. A discussion period followed, to allow the tenant representatives to state their priorities for 2015.

A number of questions were raised, such as «what to do about the loss of autonomy of our neighbours?» and «how to know how much time is allowed to move when an apartment becomes too big or too small?» The members of the CCR answered all the questions and encouraged the tenants to use the various resources available to them.

Instructive presentations

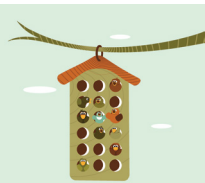
In the afternoon, Ms. Bukuru, Ms. Vallières and Mr. Fitzgerald explained in detail the participatory bodies that are accessible to residents and the way they interact. Following that, Serge Villandré,

Assistant Executive Director, Low-Rent-Housing Management, presented the three videos *Knocking at the right door* that clarify who to contact when you have a problem. You can watch these videos at www.omhm.qc.ca, under the "Current tenants" section, click «OMHM Tenants," then «The OMHM at your service." Mr. Villandré then described the roles of the various members of the local support team and answered questions from the tenant representatives.

At the end of the day, several representatives thanked the CCR for its conscientious work and the wealth of content of the assembly: more informative than ever.



The members of the Advisory Committee of Tenants (CCR), elected in December 2013, presented their first report to the Annual General Assembly on October 23, 2014.



Meeting at the crossroads

Seeking ways for different cultures and generations to live together

All together at the beach!

One of the challenges facing a tenant committee is organizing get-togethers that are fun for everyone. «In summer, a trip to the beach at Cap Saint-Jacques is always a success for the tenants of the André-Grasset housing project in Ahuntsic, because families just dream about outdoor activities," explains Claire Katma, a community outreach worker involved in the OMHM's Living Diversity project.

The concept is simple: everyone brings their barbecues and their food; the tenant committee supplies the briquettes. The participation fee covers admission to the beach and part of the cost of transportation by bus. The difference comes from the committee's budget.

«Each time, it has been a memorable sharing experience,» adds Ms. Katma. «Last year, a woman made sticky rice for everyone, and another offered tea. The people are very generous and proud to have you taste their specialties.» Claire Katma also noted that "some elderly people complimented the parents because they found their children to be well brought up and helpful." After such a beautiful day, the smiles and hellos are more frequent in a housing project.

New tenant committees

Numerous elections have been held in the low-rent housing projects since last spring. We have counted 31 of them, including 2 that gave birth to new associations. Our congratulations to the 165 newly elected representatives and thank you for committing to this great adventure!

EAST SECTOR

Plateau-Mont-Royal **S**

Denise Gagnon
Monique Gauthier
Simone Fortier
Jean-Claude Sauriol

De Maisonneuve **F**

Afaf Lemnour
Dilroba Islam
Mounira Khalek
Rajaa Samir
Samira Azzouz
Serge Arbour

Hôtel-de-Ville **S**

Denise Blackburn
Noëlla Lapointe
Pierrette Grenier
Christian Houle
Denis Marisseau
Glenmore Browne

Des Pointelliers **S**

Huguette Giroux
Thérèse Guilbault
Jacqueline Marcotte
Francine Boisjoly

Viauville **S**

Diane Émond
Josette Duguay
André Lafleur

Les Jardins Angevins **S**

Claire Cassault
Claire Richardson
Lise Galipeau

Les Jardins Chaumont **S**

Jacques Pilote
Claudette Baron
Yvonne Audet

NORTHWEST SECTOR

NEW ASSOCIATION

Boyer **S**

Ginette Richer
Jeannine Gendron
Lise Chrétien
Marie-Anne Allard
Nicolas Dattoli

André-Grasset **F**

Danielle Dupéron
Drenimi Seid Djimet
Eminne Versaillau
Hakima Amroune
Samira Wardi

NEW ASSOCIATION

J. Ernest-Paquin **S**

Catherine Plamondon
Denise Chapleau
Eva Bleau Benjamin
Pauline Barsalou
Benoît Laverdière
Bertrand Castonguay
Rose Bourguoin Legault

Laure-Conan **S**

Rose-Marie Lambert
Annette Verilli
Josephina Ruffolo

Rosemont **F**

Macha Daméus
Monica Ivanna Corrales
Sandy Kewell
Zohra Benkebouche
Malherbe Minault
Sergio Luna Villanueva

Cousineau **S**

Ginette Legault
Aroussiaq Djizmedjian
Diane Grisé

Meunier-Tolhurst **F**

Irène Goupil
Kynsley Ogé
Basilice Irivuzimana
Marie-Yolène Alsidas
Sifa Clarisse
Reynald Joseph
Tony Efrain Arriola Valle

Parc Royal **F**

Atika Mjidila
George Basile
Jamila Sqalli
Ludmyla Yastremska
Badia Basser
Marc Milord
Olga Kadeniski

Manoir Roger-Bernard (876)

Edward Staniewicz
Esther Falconer
Grace Brookes
Sandra Cleary
Shirley Birch Voce

Saint-Michel Nord **F**

Elizabeth Cruz
Monique Sauvageau
Tishmaine Jackson
Maria Lopez
Marie-Josée Ramirez Khawly
Vivienne Boston

Jean-Talon **S**

Lydie Gisèle Guebediang
Ysabel Martinez
Desiderio Van der Host
Mazit Abdelkader
Mo Elmasri
Omar Amar

Saint-Firmin **S**

Georges Léger
Gisèle Lebeau
Karina Nicole Paquin
Anne Larente
Christiane Leblanc

Manoir Gouin **S**

Alice Héту
Jeanette Provost
Louise Quesnel
Nicole Hébert
Paulette Archambault
Richard Prévost
Ronald Horwood

Jean-Valets **S**

Hagop-Magar Albertian
Martha Pariveedee Permaul Sym
Rosika Bekiarian
France Gill
Maritza Obaldia
Pierre-Joseph Florival
David Vijayaratham

Manoir Aimé-Léonard **S**

Diane Tardy
Andrée Legault
Claire Desjardins
Diane Tremblay
Rachel Nadon

S OMHM low-rent housing for seniors

F OMHM low-rent housing for families and people living alone

This information is provided as a guideline and is subject to change as tenant associations evolve.



A strong association is one that treats all its members equally. Each association has its by-laws so that all its members follow the same rules. This avoids a lot of problems between tenants.

SOUTHWEST SECTOR

De Carillon **S**

Jean-Pierre Malette
Ginette Primeau
Sylvie Lalonde
Madeleine Dufour
Juanita Carroll

Des Oblats IV **S**

Cecilia Burton
Irène Gibson
Patricia Moore

Richmond **F**

Nicole Vallières
François Barbin
Pierre Morin
Sylvain Dépatie

Lavoie **F**

Felix Chenderi
Jaspal Bedi
Annette Jean
Aziza Alliova
Dina Niyazov

Elena Rotaru
Ikram Mechtouf
Laverne Roseta Davy
Lenuta Pop
Lidi-Maria Costache

Des Fleurs **S**

Georges Éric
Raymond Saulnier
Jeannette Caissy
Jeannine Chaussée
Marcel Bernard
Yvette Le Caër

Domaine des Rapides **S**

André Limoges
Diane Daigneault
Ginette Demers
Henriette L'Écuyer
Marie-Orietta Beauregard
Miranda Mallet
Monique Leduc

Résidence Westmount **S**

André Lecours
Peter Yardley
Huguette Croteau
Janis Spielman
Rosemary Mackell

De l'Érablière **F**

Anthony Jackson
Christina Lareau
Denise Melançon
Ginette Sauvageau
Mario Mainville
Piotr Kryszcuk
Sheila Flint

Adrien-Trudeau **S**

François Mikhaïl
Henriette Tanguay
Lise Leduc
Marcel Tringue
Marie-Thérèse Gauthier