

## From bingo nights to ID<sup>2</sup>EM grants How to get funding



*With funding from the New Horizons program and the Northwest Sector, Ms. Daneau managed to equip the Habitations Gérard-Poitras' common room with a beautiful kitchen.*

Some tenant associations liven up their community with courses, outings, performances and more. A basic grant can't pay for it all. So, how do they do it?

Chantal Daneau, of the Northwest Sector's Habitations Gérard-Poitras, explains how she manages to organize activities, parties, homework clubs and more.

### Putting the common room to work

"A tenant association's main resource is its common room," Ms. Daneau tells us, because the associations can rent it out under their agreement with the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal. For example, residents and neighbours can use the common room for weddings, and local community and government organizations can use it for their events.

### Using local resources

The first to contact are the people focused on improving life in the neighbourhood: elected municipal officials and MNAs because they have discretionary budgets; borough

officials able to lend equipment for events (tents, tables, barricades, etc.); police and firefighters who hand out Christmas gifts to children, etc. "Once they get to know you and realize that you're serious, they often recommend other resources and call you back to ask if you need anything," she says.

### Making friends and getting organized

Interpersonal abilities, politeness and good listening skills are essential when it comes to seeking out funds. Ms. Daneau reminds us: "You also have to be ready to donate your time and have the organizational skills needed to mount well-documented projects." Sometimes, one person can do it all. But it's best to rely on other tenants with useful skills (accounting, for example) to build a strong team.

In conclusion, she suggests starting out with small projects, like bingo games. With time, experience and a growing network of contacts, an association can then set its sights on larger subsidies, like the ones provided by New Horizons and ID<sup>2</sup>EM\*.

*\*To see the list of ID<sup>2</sup>EM-funded projects, click on "Liste des projets financés 2018-2019" at [rohq.qc.ca/projets-sociocomm/](http://rohq.qc.ca/projets-sociocomm/) (French only).*

# Recruits and veterans team up on the CCR

On November 19, 20 and 21, your representatives elected tenants to sit on the Comité consultatif des résidents (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) of the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) until 2021. The outcome strikes a promising balance between representatives returning for another term and new faces.

The common rooms were packed for the event. The large turnout is a positive sign. In most cases, there were more candidates than positions to be filled, and sometimes a second vote was needed to decide between two representatives. However, more work remains to fill vacant positions in the East Sector to represent families and people living alone.

Naturally, the major issues for tenants resurfaced during candidate presentations:

- improved services and maintenance;
- support for the disadvantaged and the voiceless;
- effective communications with the OMHM; and
- opportunities for growth through mutual assistance.

The newly elected are already working hard for you, after holding their first meeting on November 26.

## A renewed auditing committee

During the same meetings, tenant representatives elected the members of the Auditing Committee for a two-year term. Two or three times a year, these tenant volunteers are asked to assess the general condition and maintenance of randomly selected buildings in sectors other than their own. They are supported in this task by OMHM managers. Their report guides the Direction de la gestion des HLM (low-rent housing management department) in improving its services.



*With a good turnout in each sector, meeting attendees had their pick of inspiring candidates.*

## ELECTED CCR MEMBERS

	Seniors	Families and people living alone
<b>Southwest Sector</b>	Carole Guilbault <i>La Seigneurie des Rapides</i>	Richard Gagné <i>Îlots Saint-Martin</i>
	Giovanni Iuliani <i>Clotilde-D'Amico</i>	Sean MacKenzie <i>Îlots Saint-Martin</i>
	Raymond Saulnier <i>Des Fleurs A</i>	Suzanne Payant <i>De l'Érablière</i>
<b>Northwest Sector</b>	René Cordero <i>Saint-Roch</i>	Marianne Contreras <i>Saint-Michel Nord</i>
	Mario Di Chiaro <i>Boyer</i>	Richard Raymond <i>Madeleine-d'Ailleboust</i>
	Roger Maheux <i>De La Mennais</i>	Amélie Jacqueline Sokpoly <i>Meunier-Tolhurst</i>
<b>East Sector</b>	Monique Belisle <i>Adélard-Langevin</i>	Tina-Lili Gagné <i>Saint-André</i>
	Claire Cassault <i>Les Jardins Angevin</i>	2 positions to be filled
	Francine Dagenais <i>Les Jardins Châteauneuf</i>	

## AUDITING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

East Sector	Northwest Sector	Southwest Sector
Yvon Fugère <i>Saint-Timothée</i>	Chantal Daneau <i>Gérard-Postras</i>	Robert Vallée <i>Rosaire-Destroismaisons</i>
Michel Miron <i>Pie-IX</i>	Marie-Soleil Hamelin Beaucage <i>Robert-Papin</i>	Suzanne Payant <i>De l'Érablière</i>
Silvia Rocha** <i>Sainte-Brigide</i>	Gabrielle Boulanger** <i>Emmaüs</i>	Michel Guénette** <i>Richmond</i>

\*\* Alternate in case a committee member cannot be present on an inspection day.



# Innovating to fight bedbugs

Some vulnerable tenants have difficulties joining the fight against bedbugs, especially when it comes to preparing their homes in order for an extermination treatment to be effective.

The Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) has therefore proposed a pilot project to local organizations in the Southwest Sector, with financial support from the City of Montréal and the Société d'habitation du Québec. Tenants recruited in Little Burgundy will help residents in low-rent housing prepare for treatments and follow instructions.

Armed with training in prevention and preparation, they will guide and support these tenants for as long as the situation remains problematic. If the pilot project yields good results, OMHM may expand it to include other neighbourhoods.



*In the home of a tenant with vulnerability issues, a helper assists in managing clothing that was in contact with bedbugs. He places it in airtight garbage bags until he can put it through the dryer.*

## The CCR holds a memorable meeting



On October 30, the Comité consultatif des résidents (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) invited tenant association representatives to a general meeting spiced up with a touch of creativity. Together, participants came up with skits on the various problems they encounter in their dealings with the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM). In the afternoon, they broke off into half a dozen workshops on various topics to discuss solutions and then presented their respective proposals. To wrap up the day, delegates greeted Sylvie Simon, Assistant Executive Director of Low-Rent Housing, with a touch of humour and a wall of flowers (representing the OMHM's successes) and flower pots (representing desired improvements). Everybody left smiling and very motivated to continue working together.

## Upcoming training sessions

These sessions will give you the tools to fulfill your duties successfully. Don't miss this opportunity! They are free and up to three members per association can attend.

**Please note that the locations have yet to be determined, ensure you confirm the location when you register at 514-872-2104.**

A snack will be served. Transportation costs for participants may be covered by the tenant associations.

Date	Title	Time
March 19, 2020	Atelier d'aide à la rédaction des demandes de subvention (in French)	
	• East Sector	1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
	• Northwest Sector	1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
	• Southwest Sector	1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
March 26, 2020	Workshop on how to write a grant application (in English)	1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

**THE WORK OF THE CCR**

Over the last few years, the Comité consultatif des résidents (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) has been actively involved in a number of projects, including updating the housing transfer policy, the OMHM's strategic planning and annual budgets, improving maintenance and other matters that touch the daily lives of low-rent housing tenants.

## New tenant committees

The members of seven tenant committees were elected in the early fall of 2019. A new association was formed in the Southwest Sector. Well done, congratulations and keep up the good work in the coming months!

### EAST SECTOR

#### Du Parc Frontenac **S**

Argini, Patricia  
Garcia Giraldo, Luz  
Stella  
Godon, Pauline  
Ladouceur, Diane  
Pomminville, Maurice

#### Saint-André **F & S**

Dubé, Sylvain  
Gagné, Tina-Lili  
Laliberté, Marc-André  
Mazumbar, Evans  
Pelé, Anna  
Roussel, Lucienne  
Thibault, Serge

#### Parthenais **S**

Facchini, Nicole  
Hayse, Florence  
Ouimet, Louis  
Rocray, Liliane  
Senneville, Denis

### SOUTHWEST SECTOR

#### NEW ASSOCIATION

#### Rosaire-Destroismaisons **S**

Aspin, Gail  
Brown, Judith-Ann  
Cochrane, William  
Vallée, Robert

#### Curé Vianney-Savaria **S**

Joe, Jacqueline  
Joly, Lorraine  
Maybury, Jean-Guy  
Prud'homme, Yves  
Sabourin, Monique  
Sévigny, Lise  
Thuot, Pierre  
Walton, Delia

### NORTHWEST SECTOR

#### Jean-Talon **S**

Bajhat, Naureen  
Gnanapiragasam, Bridget Packia  
Logeswaran, Selvamalar  
Zukowska, Marianna

#### Meunier-Tolhurst **F**

Bedjedi Ndengue, Rose  
Gandol Kabo, Ildjima  
Goupil, Irene  
Joseph, Raynald  
Rosira, Erika  
Sokpoly, Amélie Jacqueline

**S** OMHM low-rent housing for seniors

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

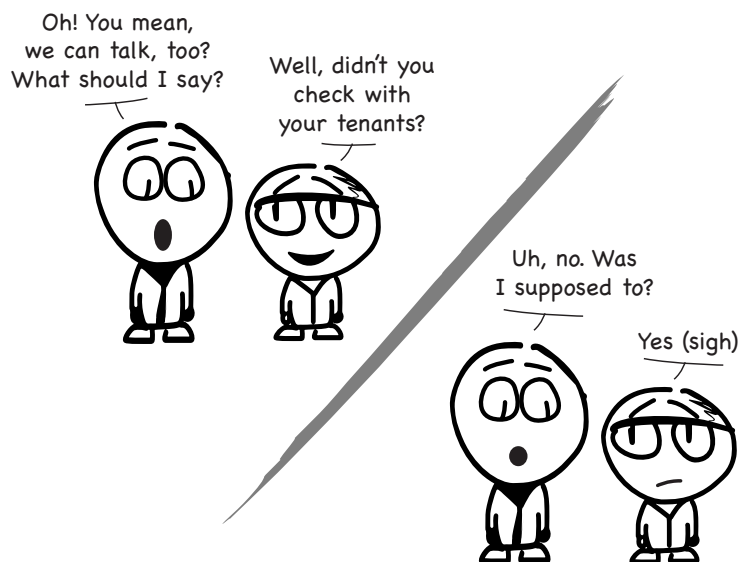
This information is provided as a guideline and is subject to change as tenant associations evolve.

## Democracy: A user's guide

Have you ever wondered what makes a good tenant representative? It's simple! You need someone who knows how to:

- **listen**, to understand all tenants' needs;
- **speak out**, to shine a light on tenant concerns at sector committee meetings;
- **participate**, to propose solutions during discussions with OMHM employees and representatives of the Comité consultatif des résidents (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants); and
- **inform**, to sum up these discussions for association members.

Briefly put, you need someone who is open, dedicated and hungry to learn. You need someone special!



## Opening a dialogue with your borough: It can be done

When Habitations André-Corneau tenants found out that the City planned to build a garage behind their building, they took action. There was no way they were going to sit back while their quality of life disappeared in the noise, dust and commotion of trucks!

After taking several steps with the borough council, they arranged a meeting with the project leaders. At this highly

informative meeting, residents learned that the garage project was still under review.

From now on, the association has a direct link to the municipal employees in charge and, if the project moves ahead, mitigation measures will preserve their quality of life. What a great example of tenants in action!



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