



Thank you, dear volunteers!



On May 7, we celebrated your contributions as volunteers to your living environments (see page 2). Your work is vital and keeps your community strong. You are all leaders, people that other tenants can turn to and rely on. Thanks to you, the living environments in low-rent housing buildings remain lively and dynamic.

Without a doubt, your volunteer work helps improve the services offered by the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal. You collaborate and make our projects easier, you have your say on budget priorities, and you beautify your environment.

Volunteer work leads to the development of new skills and friendships, which enriches your personal life as well. Every project that you see through gives you a sense of confidence and pride.

In fact, several studies have shown that people who do volunteer work are healthier than those who do not. And it makes sense, since volunteering keeps you physically and mentally active. This is what helps build morale... and generate energy to face future challenges. For everything you do for your low-rent housing environments, we would once again like to say thank you and bravo!

Hélène Bohémier, Acting Director
Social and Community Development Department

An evening to honour your commitment

On May 7, the 131 volunteers invited to our annual recognition evening were showered in appreciation. The atmosphere was magical and vibrant at the Chic Resto Pop. It was an evening of smiles, laughs and positive comments all around. These volunteers came out to represent everyone who offers their time at one of Montréal's low-rent housing projects. They were honoured to receive so much appreciation for the work that they do day in and day out.

For the first time, the organizing committee for the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) invited tenants to get involved in an effort to meet the needs of guests. Tina-Lili Gagné, Estelle Laliberté and Jacqueline Moisan attended two meetings to prepare for the evening and added a new dimension to the event to ensure its success. We should also mention Tina-Lili Gagné's great presence as emcee.

This year, for the OMHM's 50th anniversary, we had a most successful evening in honour of community engagement. And all OMHM volunteers will feel the evening's energy reaching them when they receive their certificate of appreciation for their commitment. Because volunteers are our biggest partners in improving and vitalizing your living environments.



Singer Louis Alary and the Clique vocale choir brought the place to life with their beautiful harmonies before and during the meal, and they hit all the right notes to get guests up on the dance floor at the end of the evening.



The photo booth gave everyone a chance to show their crazy side with a whole slew of props to ensure guests took home memorable photos of the evening.



The organizing committee was made up of women who took care of every little detail to ensure that everyone had an unforgettable evening.



Meeting at the crossroads

Seeking ways to live together in harmony

Art Hive buzzing with activity in NDG

"Art Hives" are community workshops where everyone is treated like an artist. The concept was created some twenty years ago and has spread throughout North America and beyond. Today, there are around forty hives just on the Island of Montréal! And every Saturday from noon to 4 p.m., the common room of Habitations Saint-Raymond, in the Southwest Sector, transforms into a hive.

Maria Clerici, a 75-year-old tenant whose husband died 2 years ago, regularly visits the Art Hive. "It serves as a distraction and helps me relax and forget my problems," she said. Since she started going to the hive, Ms. Clerici has been colouring mandalas and other complex designs. "I wasn't very good at first, but in the workshop we are allowed to make mistakes and are encouraged to



Maria Clerici found solace at the Art Hive after her husband died.

continue." Now, she makes beautiful creations that she is proud of and eager to exhibit or offer as gifts.

It's a café atmosphere at the hive, according to Ruth Boomer, head volunteer in charge. "Some people

come to create and others just stop by to have a coffee and chat. We even get folks who don't speak French or English, but come in to soak up the atmosphere and language." About half of the people who come to the workshop live in this low-rent housing project for seniors, but it also attracts families with children in the area, which creates intergenerational connections.

All the art supplies are provided for free, and volunteers help with activities. "Sometimes, we work on community projects, for example decorating the streets at Christmas, but there is no obligation to participate. Everyone can do what they want, since our only goal is for people to interact through art," added Ms. Boomer, who invites you to check out the Art Hives website at arthives.org.

Volunteer Week

Saluting long-term commitment at Manoir Aimé-Léonard

On April 11, the Centre d'action bénévole de Montréal-Nord honoured the volunteers of Manoir Aimé-Léonard in the Northwest Sector. A small celebration was held, and each volunteer was presented with a certificate of appreciation for their multi-year commitment.

The tenant committee has been led by Andrée Legault for the past five years. It organizes several popular activities including Internet workshops, sugar shack outings, community dinners and picnics. Their activities attract people from the low-rent housing building, but also from the surroundings. "We don't do this for the recognition," said Ms. Legault. "What gives us a sense of recognition is when our work is done and we see people coming here and enjoying themselves." The committee is preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Manoir in June. Ms. Legault hopes that this will be a great opportunity for tenants to show their commitment.



Isabelle Desrochers, Director of the Centre d'action bénévole de Montréal-Nord, with Andrée Legault, Chair of the Tenant Committee, at the small celebration at Manoir Aimé-Léonard.

New tenant committees

Nearly 20 elections were held since the beginning of 2019. Congratulations to the newly elected members. Thank you for your commitment to vitalizing your living environments.

NORTHWEST SECTOR

André-Corneau **S**

Eliscar, Silfise
Leduc, Michèle
Pham, Van Hue
Vallières, Raynald
Vigneault, Rose

Emmaüs **S**

Boulangier, Gabrielle
Fournier, Thérèse
Jalbert, Louise
Pitre, Marcel
Regnier-Beaumier, Monique

Pelletier **F**

Fortin, Guylaine
Lemieux, Rosie
Léveillé, Karine
McGraw, Jeannie
Naoussi Mbienda, Francine

Saint-Roch **S**

Abal, Juan Antonio
Bétancourt, Armando
Cordero Bonilla, Rene
Ostorga, Maria Francisca
Savard, Dorothée

De Pontbriand I **S**

Beauchamp-Bazinet, Rachel
Le Duc, Nicole
Loparis, Ghislaine
Martel, Michel
Sénécal, Francine

André-Grasset **S**

Comeau, Michael
Ianniruberto, Marie
Pelletier, Monique
Richard, Raymonde
Selmoni, Hasan
Soto, Gabriel

Maison Badeaux-Sauvé **S**

Darouni, Hayat
Grainger, Diane
Icho, Fahime
Khoury, Jeannette
Lefebvre, Pâquerette

Saint-Marc **S**

Bourgeois, Serge
Gallant, Michel
Hrycak, Mary Ann
Lessard, Ginette
Paul, Monique

De La Mennais **S**

Bonnier, Solange
Foucreault, Mario
Nadeau, Chantal
Potvin, François
Vachon, Céline

SOUTHWEST SECTOR

De Carillon **S**

Boucher, Diane
Boucher, Gaétan
Dallaire, Guy
Nadeau, Pierre
Rollin, Michel
Théberge, Christine

Maison Malo **S**

Corbin, Bertha
Haines, Diane
Labine, Patricia-Joyce
McLean, Michael
Vincent, Rollande

EAST SECTOR

De Lanaudière **S**

Bellefeuille, Carmen
Brown, Normand
Thériault, Daniel

Jardins Châteauneuf **S**

Cinq-Mars, Liliane
Dagenais, Francine
Généreux, Aline
Guillotte-Joly, Jacqueline
Verreault, Irénée

Jacques-Cartier **F**

Anzer, Jamila
Asma, Mohamed-Rachid
Labrecque, Sylvain
Roussy, Doris

Hôtel-de-Ville **S**

Banville, Françoise
Blackburn, Denise
Browne, Glenmore
Houle, Christian
Lapointe, Noëlla

De Marseille **S**

Bélanger, Solange
Brûlé, André
Legault, Julie
Lambert, Francine

Manoir Charles Dutaud **S**

Bellefleur, Aube
Ménard, André
Paradis, Claude
Rutkauskas, Alexander

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.



The tenant association elects the members of its tenant committee (or board of directors), which administers and manages the association's assets and funds. In consultation with members, the committee organizes community life, in other words, it coordinates association activities.

Making the most of summer

A small reminder to help everyone through summer: it is important that tenant associations open their air-conditioned common room to all residents during the hotter days. This gives people suffering from the heat a bit of a break, and at the same time promotes neighbourliness.

