



Meet your newly elected members

The tenants that now make up the Comité consultatif des résidents (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) of the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) were elected in April in the three sectors by tenant association representatives. Together with your two representatives on the Board of Directors, Ghislaine Laramée and Sylvain Labrecque, the CCR members take your needs and expectations into account in their discussions in order to make recommendations and provide opinions to general management and to the Board. The CCR contributes to the OMHM decisions that affect you.

At their first meeting on April 24, the CCR members elected their liaison committee: Richard Gagné, Chair; Sylvain Labrecque, Vice-Chair; and Tina-Lili Gagné, Secretary.

A meeting to get to know one another better

The OMHM arranged a meet-and-greet so that members could get to know one another and chat with the Executive Director and several OMHM directors. This initiative was much appreciated, especially since the experience is a first for close to half of the elected members. Executive Director Danielle Cécile took the floor and stressed that the OMHM's relationship with tenants will be defined by three key words: openness, support and collaboration.

Tenants then expressed their commitment. "I wanted to get involved with the CCR because I care about the living conditions of people in low-rent housing. I want to speak on behalf of the silent majority and future generations," said Carole Guilbault, a recruit from Habitations La Seigneurie des rapides. Joanne Aubin and Gaétan Gauvin, both from Habitations Séguin, added: "On the CCR, we speak directly with OMHM management. We are the voice of all the tenants, and we want to work on improving living environments." See page 2 for a complete list of CCR members.



Members of the CCR, joined by Robert Pilon from the FLHLMQ (top left) and, below him, Lorena Garrido, Director of the Social and Community Development Department.



A meet-and-greet brought together the CCR, the Executive Director and OMHM directors.

Committed to moving forward



I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the new members elected to the Comité consultatif des résidents (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) in April. I thank them for their commitment and look forward to working with them in the future.

The elections to select these representatives were supposed to have taken place in December 2017. However, they were postponed until spring 2018 because the OMHM Board of Directors had asked the Social and Community Development Department to analyze the various tenant participation forums for all buildings administered by the OMHM. A working group, made up of tenants, a representative from the Fédération des locataires de HLM du Québec (FLHLMQ) and employees, was created and will be submitting its recommendation to the Board by the end of June.

I am delighted to see that all the wonderful ID²EM projects presented in this issue are thriving. The subsidies you received will allow you to come up with your own solutions to the problems you are facing. By fostering mutual support and engagement, these initiatives will improve your living environments in tangible ways. If you have a project in mind for next year, check with your community organizer about the deadline for submitting applications.

The annual meeting of social and community workers from the Regroupement des offices d'habitation du Québec on May 16 and 17 was packed full of attendees discussing and exchanging thoughts and ideas. This is an important event, and one of our community organizers sits on the organizing committee. Many initiatives carried out in Montréal were presented at the meeting, whose theme was *L'accompagnement social pour mieux vivre ensemble*. Our workers came away with new ideas to accompany you in building social togetherness.

Now that summer is upon us, take advantage of the nice weather to garden and beautify your balconies and plots! And, when the heatwaves come, remember to take precautions against heat stroke and to open the air-conditioned common rooms to tenants. Have a wonderful summer!

Lorena Garrido, Director
Community and Social Development Department



Liaison Committee members, from left to right: Richard Gagné, Tina-Lili Gagné, and Sylvain Labrecque.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF DES RÉSIDANTS (CCR) BY SECTOR

REPRESENTATIVES FOR SENIORS	REPRESENTATIVES FOR FAMILIES AND PEOPLE LIVING ALONE
EAST SECTOR	
Serge Arbour Terrasse Ontario	Joanne Aubin Habitations Séguin
Monique Belisle Habitations Adélarde-Langevin	Tina-Lili Gagné Habitations Saint-André
Françine Dagenais Les Jardins Châteauneuf	Gaétan Gauvin Habitations Séguin
SOUTHWEST SECTOR	
François Mikhail Habitations Adrien-Trudeau	Sean MacKenzie Îlots Saint-Martin
Carole Guilbault Habitations La Seigneurie des rapides	Richard Gagné Îlots Saint-Martin
Raymond Saulnier Habitations des Fleurs	Suzanne Payant Habitations De l'Érablière
NORTHWEST SECTOR	
René Cordero Habitations Saint-Roch	3 vacant positions*
François Marquis Habitations D'Auteuil	* Elections will be held in June during a Sector Committee meeting
Jacqueline Moisan Habitations Émilien-Gagnon	

ID²EM projects liven up your environments

Fourteen initiatives for sustainable development, mutual support and engagement (Initiative de développement durable, d'entraide et de mobilisation or ID²EM) received funding this year to improve your living environments. We present below an overview of three of them, one from each sector, and a list of other funded projects on page 4.

Growing a community garden of flowers and vegetables

"I think people need to go outside. Tending to a garden is always good for morale and mental health," says Lorraine Bédard, Chair of the Tenant Committee for Habitations **John-Patterson** in the **Southwest Sector**. But, how do you offer this type of activity in a 102-apartment building with many seniors who use wheelchairs, four-wheel scooters or walkers?

With advice from Sentier Urbain, Ms. Bédard and her volunteers will create a flower and vegetable garden in raised boxes. This will make planting and maintenance easier. Most tenants will be able to participate and add some life to their yard. Each gardening activity—sowing seeds, planting, upkeep and harvesting—will be a chance to connect, share knowledge and break loneliness.

Eating at affordable prices, it's possible!

In downtown Montréal, tenants find it difficult to eat inexpensively because affordable food resources are scarce. In the **East Sector**, the OMHM proposed a project, with the support of the tenant committees for Habitations **Sainte-Catherine-d'Alexandrie**, **Saint-André**, **Terrasse Ontario** and **small family buildings**. The Centre communautaire et de loisirs Sainte-Catherine-d'Alexandrie will lead this initiative.

The project essentially consists of nutrition and affordable cooking workshops based on tenants' recipes (enhanced by a nutritionist) and tips for avoiding waste. This will be complemented by neighbourhood walks so that tenants can learn more about their food resources. The project will affect 432 people living in 3 high-rise buildings for seniors and about 15 small buildings for families. It will give them an opportunity to get to know one another better and socialize through food.



Mending the social fabric by sewing together

The committee for Habitations **André-Grasset**, in the **Northwest Sector**, is setting up a sewing workshop with the participation of Entre-maisons Ahuntsic. Once a week, a seamstress will teach tenants to repair or make clothing and other fabric items. There will also be time for free sewing. Danielle Duperron, a committee member and project leader, believes that "this will promote intercultural connections, improving the atmosphere and living conditions."

Habitations André-Grasset has 99 apartments for families, of which 60% are single parents. Mothers rarely go out and struggle to develop social connections. The Tenant Committee reaches out to some of them, who had the idea of the sewing workshop. A multicultural community kitchen event will also be held every two weeks to solidify the relationships created through the sewing workshop.

Once a week, a seamstress will teach tenants to repair or make clothing and other fabric items.



Spring was in the air when Lorraine Bédard and Suzanne Brisebois took to their shovels to prepare the site.

New tenant committees

Since February, 14 elections took place in Montréal's low-rent housing buildings, including 4 to create new tenant associations. Congratulations to all those newly elected members who are improving quality of life where you live!

SOUTHWEST SECTOR

NEW ASSOCIATIONS

Richmond **F**

Flores Villegas, Delmy Guadalupe
McTavish, Donna
Skerrett, Sandra
Morissette, Jean-Daniel

Résidence H. F.-Malo **S**

Corbin, Bertha
McLean, Michael
Labine, Patricia-Joyce
Lauzon, Claudette
Haines, Diane

Plamondon **S**

Baranova, Valentina
Subramaniam, Krishnathasan
Modlinsky, Carolyn
Andren, Helen
Rodricks, Clare Jessica

Montmorency **S**

Duclos, Manon
Coveyduck, Donald
Godi, Chantal

Fernande-Rochon de Gongre **S**

Wade, Yvette
Calzada, Angela
Gingras, Michel

Monkland **S**

Gheorghe, Lidia
Watts, Marion
Aznaourian, Dmitri
Clyke, Grace
Ta, Binh
Simeonova, Cvetana
Tyson, Dora

NORTHWEST SECTOR

NEW ASSOCIATION

Gabriel-Sagard **S**

Lebœuf, Guylaine
Caitak, Raquel
Rodriguez, Maria Hortensia
Martinez, Lourdes

Saint-Marc **S**

Dubé, René
Corneau, Nicole
Heycak, Mary Ann
Paul, Monique
Sperano, Francine
Gallant, Michel
Couture, Mireille

De Bellechasse **S**

Lagacé, Malvina
Lafrance, Carmen
Dupuis, Manon

Henri-Gratton **S F**

Vilsaint, Marie Violette
Abdelmalek, Ennaji
Frangipane, Monique
Busque, Réjean

Pelletier **F**

McGraw, Jeannie
Léveillé, Karine
Rousseau, Yelda
Fortin, Guylaine

EAST SECTOR

Terrasse Ontario A et C **S**

Hébert, Pierrette
Renaud, Pierrette
Pineau, Rachel
Arbour, Serge
Lefebvre, Colette

Hôtel-De-Ville **S**

Browne, Glenmore
Blackburn, Denise
Houle, Christian

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.

Other 2018 ID²EM Projects

Sector	Building	Project name
Northwest	André-Corneau De La Visitation Meunier-Tolhurst Rosemont	Dynamic seniors garden together Cook'Art workshops Collective community kitchens Taking root for a sustainable future!
Southwest	Côte-des-Neiges De Carillon De l'Érablière Duff-Court HLM de la Petite-Bourgogne	A garden for all Carillon: gathering a community around its garden and market Health through gardening Duff-Court in a pot Café-Market of Little Burgundy: an integrated food channel
East	La Pépinière	Vert l'harmonie—Let's cultivate our future
Southwest and Northwest	Alexandra, Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, Saint-Raymond, Saint-Sulpice	Art Hives in low-rent housing, year 2



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