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

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Fresh faces heading up the CCR



From left to right, the three people at the helm of the CCR: Sylvain Labrecque, Secretary; Marie Benoite Bukuru, Vice-chair; and Jacques Bradet, Chair.

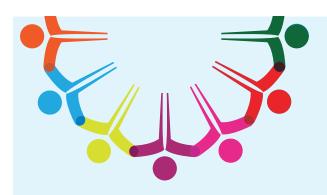
On February 7, members of the Comité consultatif des résidants (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) of the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM) met to appoint the individuals who would be taking up the positions of chair, vice-chair and secretary. They chose:

- · Jacques Bradet, from Habitations Sainte-Brigide, as Chair;
- Marie Benoite Bukuru, from Habitations Sackville, as Vice-chair; and
- Sylvain Labrecque, from Habitations Jacques-Cartier, as Secretary.

These three members will be guiding the CCR's work over the next year. "We plan to start by forming subcommittees in charge of examining and documenting problems that always come up in discussions with the OMHM," said the new chair, Jacques Bradet. Some of the problems he mentioned included safety, sanitation, mental health, maintenance, communications and employability.

Mr. Bradet also wants to put the CCR's advisory role back on the agenda. "For that, we have to explore the issues by gathering information. We also have to establish better collaboration between tenants and, if possible, employees out in the field, not just senior management," he pointed out. "It's only once a problem has been properly documented, as well as how it is being handled, that the CCR can fulfill its role adequately and really put solutions out there for the OMHM Board of Directors," he added.

Jacques Bradet ended by reiterating that CCR members are there to serve OMHM tenants. "We want to make our volunteering constructive, draw the OMHM's attention to tenants' problems and enhance our approaches to really improve living environments." The Chair invites you to write to the CCR at their email address: ccr.mtl@gmail.com.



Celebrate community and volunteer service

Because **every little** bit counts!

Join us on April 27, 2017!

Full details on page 3 and on the enclosed invitations.

With spring comes a lot to say



Let's start by extending a warm thankyou to Richard Marchand and Chantal Daneau, who made sure that the work of the Comité consultatif des résidants (CCR or Advisory Committee of Tenants) ran smoothly following the departure of former chair Richard Fitzgerald last fall. The members of the new liaison committee were appointed on February 7 (see article on page 1), the date on which

Mr. Marchand left the CCR. Ms. Daneau, however, is continuing her work as one of the tenant representatives for the Northwest Sector within the CCR.

These changes have not prevented CCR members from working hard. The top issues for 2017 were determined during the most recent set of meetings and include sanitation, safety, maintenance and repair standards, and mental health. These issues often come up in CCR discussions with the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM).

Added to that is the stairwell and common area renovation project in family buildings that the OMHM launched to improve living environments. The OMHM developed a five-year plan to

renovate 1,541 stairwells, that is about 300 a year. The goal is also to encourage and mobilize tenants to help keep their environment in good repair.

Lastly, I invite you to get involved in every forum that is open to you. Come out to your sector committee meetings. They are an opportunity for employees and tenants to talk about improving services for tenants. Also, be sure not to miss the Fédération des locataires de HLM du Québec (FLHLMQ) convention on June 9 and 10 at Université Laval in Québec City. The event will give the FLHLMQ a chance to address the theme of standing up to hate together and to propose an action plan that fosters exchanges between low-rent housing tenants and harmonious relations, free of racism or prejudice.

I wish you all an inclusive spring!



Esther Giroux, Director
Social and Community Development Department

Upcoming training sessions in 2017

These free training sessions provide the tools you need to fulfill your role. Make the most of it!

Theme	Date	Address	Metro station
Financial management	Thursday, March 23	Habitations De l'Érablière 1745, rue Notre-Dame Ouest	Georges- Vanier
Public speaking	Tuesday, April 11	Habitations Monkland 5959, rue Monkland	Villa-Maria
Roles and responsibili- ties of a tenant committee	Thursday, May 4	Habitations Plateau Mont-Royal 465, avenue du Mont-Royal Est	Mont-Royal
Financial management	Thursday, June 8	Habitations Jarry 8087, rue Berri	Jarry

Sessions are held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in a low-rent housing project near a metro station. Lunch is included, but participants' transportation costs may be borne by tenant associations. To confirm your attendance, contact Suzanne Morissette by phone at **514 872-2104** or by email at **suzanne. morissette@omhm.qc.ca.**

Please note that courses are held in French. Theme is given in English for your information.

A dot that makes all the difference!



There was an error in the December 2016 issue, in the article in which the CCR asked you to send in your news and photos for publication on its Facebook page. Please note that the correct email address for the CCR has a period after "ccr" and should be: **ccr.mtl@gmail.com**. Our apologies for any inconvenience this error might have caused.

All OMHM tenant associations can announce their activities and submit photos taken during their events for publication on the following Facebook page: CCR Comité consultatif des résidants des HLM de Montréal. Go ahead, send us your information and be sure to "Like" the page!

To write to the CCR: ccr.mtl@gmail.com



Meeting at the crossroads

Seeking ways to live together in harmony

A workshop brings them together

The residents at Manoir Aimé-Léonard and Manoir Gouin, in the Northwest Sector, had some fun and excitement this winter. About 20 seniors got an introduction to computers during workshops put on by Insertech, a workplace integration company specializing in information technology.

"The participants are just thrilled," said Andrée Legault, Chair of the tenant committee at Manoir Aimé-Léonard, who coordinated the workshops with Insertech. "Some of them had never been near a computer. The course teaches them the basics and gives them the resources they need to get by on their own, play online games or stay in touch with friends and family," she added. Since the instructor had two assistants, the course was really personalized, which participants greatly appreciated.

Céline Chicoine, the coordinator at Insertech, pointed out that the free on-site training—equipment included!—encourages interaction. The proof, she says, is in the fact that "participants organize activities to



On February 21, workshop participants were very focused and excited to learn how to browse the web.

practise together and learn more. Even the young instructors get an intergenerational experience out of it, which broadens their skillset."

Ms. Legault believes that training sessions such as these give tenants from the two residences a chance to learn something new, but also to get together and break the isolation in which they find themselves day in and day out. "It is a privilege to have this workshop designed for seniors."

If you live in a seniors' residence and your tenant committee wants to offer this training, talk to your community organizer!

Because every little bit counts!

The ceremony recognizing community and volunteer service will take place on Thursday, April 27, as part of Volunteer Week under the theme *Celebrate community and volunteer service: because every little bit counts.* The reception will be held at Plaza Antique, 6086 Sherbrooke Street East, in Montréal, starting at 5:30 p.m.



Well-known actress Suzanne Champagne will host the evening on April 27.

The friendly actress Suzanne Champagne will host the evening. She will be going around to talk to you about your projects and achievements, and to gather anecdotes and highlights. Ms. Champagne wanted to tell you this: "When the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal asked me if I wanted to host this evening, I jumped at the chance. I can't wait to meet you all and to get to know you. I already know how important of a role you play in your community, and I want to hear about your small and not-so-small projects that make a difference in your living environments. See you soon!"

This evening is dedicated to you because we want to tell you how great of a job you have done and to express our gratitude. Come to celebrate you!

Enclosed are two invitations for two members of your tenant committee. Please remember to confirm your attendance. All the information you need is on the invitations.

Dynamic screens

Many of you have noticed that some of the dynamic screens in high-rise buildings have not been working recently and that most have yet to be repaired. Different problems are behind these breakdowns and, despite the monitoring system that has been set up and the continued efforts of our teams, the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal is still unable to fully resolve the situation.

We have made numerous attempts to resolve these problems with our supplier over the past few months, without success. Until a new technical solution is found, the malfunctioning screens will continue to be out of service. Also, as of the end of the month, all dynamic screens will be disabled because the contract with our supplier is expiring on March 31. Thank you for your patience and understanding. Feel free to share this information with your neighbours.

New tenant committees

Since the start of November 2016, 135 tenants were elected to represent their neighbours in 28 buildings and low-rent housing groupings.

SOUTHWEST SECTOR

Saint-Raymond S

Bagarone, Maria Clerici, Davide Houari, El Mostafa Leduc, Diane

Monkland S

Shera, Sandra A. Grana, Ibtihaj Aumond, Jennifer Zouaoui, Madjid

Maison Lizette-Gervais S

Leclair, Johanne Delburgo, Alberto Marsot, Gaétane Lemaire, Richard

Clotilde-D'Amico S

Sévigny, Diane Trottier, Cécile Goulet Déragon, Suzanne Lécuyer, Suzanne Thibodeau, Andrée

John-Patterson S

Briand, Fabiola Brisehois Suzanne Vir, Joane Bédard, Lorraine Huxley, Colette Bilodeau, Aline Martin, Denise

Adrien-Trudeau S

Smith. Harold Leduc, Lise Mallette, Carol Mikhail, François Gauthier, Marie-Thérèse Trinque, Marcel

Fernande-Rochon-de Gongre S

Damico, Carmel Caya, Pierrette Wade, Yvette Durocher, Claudette Giguère, Louise Chartier, Pierre

NEW ASSOCIATIONS

Desnoyers, Saint-Antoine, Bourget F

Robertson, Alice Diboune, Habiba Langlois, Colette Constantin, Francine Robertson, Nathalie

De Montmagny S

Martin, Jacqueline Lamothe, Rolland Doucet, Jacques Blais, Renelle Banks, Gloria Delisle, Suzanne

NORTHWEST SECTOR

De La Visitation **F**

Pépin, Manon Richard, Patrick Lemoyne, Yves Trempe, Serge

Rousselot S F

Munoz Bautista, Lidia Marina Khan, Pri Zada Imran Arumugam, Palaninathan Lagacé, Brigitte Revolus, Chantale

Crémazie S

Guérard, Nicole Tran, Tat Hoa Turner, Jenny

De Bellechasse S

Carrière, Micheline Lalancette, Marie Ange Trépanier, Francine Lafrance, Carmen Lagacé, Malvina

NEW ASSOCIATION

André-Corneau S F

Vigneault, Rose Liard, Danielle Eliscar, Silfise Tanguay, Michèle Pham, Van Hue Hurtado Cardens, Teresa

EAST SECTOR

Du Fort S

Bogetic, Milorad Sparks, Tamara Renee Kennedy, Stanley Kelly, Nancy

Terrasse Ontario A et C S F

Arbour, Serge Kerkes, Jozef Hébert, Pierrette Pineau, Rachel Lefebvre, Colette

Papineau C et D, Beaudry, Montcalm F

Mara, Astou Quintana Ugando, Maidel Akter, Fatema Montero Rodriguez, Yisppsy Carducci, Franca Bianca Quintana Ugando, Maidel

Hôtel-De-Ville S

Blackburn, Denise Browne, Glenmore Houle, Christian

Viauville S

Bissonnette. Nicole Ladouceur, Marcel Labonté, Louise

Longue-Pointe S F

Gilbert, Gisèle Agnellini, Carlo Larose, Réjean

Hochelaga S F

Filiatrault, Roger Christin, Diane Lecours, Normand André, Rose Guerline Dessureault, Roger Joseph, Linda Goddard, Mireille

Laporte S

Viel, Roger Larose, Jacqueline Richer, Ginette Laroche, Nicole

Sainte-Catherine-d'Alexandrie S

Brunet, Monique Martel, Monique Léveillé, Réjean Green, Francine Grenier, Suzanne

Pierre-de-Coubertin S

Rondeau, Jean-Pierre Corneau. Nicole Dubé. René Paquin, Robert Goulet, Nicole Deschênes, Lucille

Parthenais S F

Thibault, Ginette Goulet, Nicole Sanscartier, Rolande Senneville, Denis Facchini, Nicole

Desjardins S

Vallières, Raynald

NEW ASSOCIATIONS

Bressani, Lise Lévesque, Thérèse Noël, Jocelyne Hervieux, Lise Riffon, Michel

Martineau, Henriette Gagnon, Antonin

De Lanaudière S

Fiset. Hélène Bellefeuille, Carmen Thériault, Daniel

Saint-Timothée

S F

Halliwell, Kenneth John Fugère, Yvon Malouf, Jocelyne

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



Interaction is published by the Communications Department of the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal 415, rue Saint-Antoine Ouest, 2e étage, Montréal (Québec) H2Z 1H8 www.omhm.qc.ca

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