

MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN – LE CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTRÉAL

In this issue

President's Message
September meeting
Luncheon
Page 1

Shirley Gyles: New MCW
President
NCWC 123rd AGM
Page 2

War Flowers: Elspeth
Angus' Collection of
Letters from WWI
Membership Renewal
Page 3

Announcements
Page 4 - 6

Bulletin Editor and
Layout: I. Godefroy

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow MCW Members:

It is my distinct pleasure, as new MCW President, to welcome everyone to our 2016 -2017 session commencing September 8, 2016. Per usual our monthly meetings will be filled with important and interesting information, and yes, fun.

Our new board is comprised of course, of veteran members but also a few, self-motivated new members, each and every one conveying their own expertise and understanding to the board; we are truly fortunate. Our programs promise to be both interesting and exciting bringing together talented women from various walks of life and social arenas.

This year, we plan to hold two meetings during the evening, instead of the afternoon. Those meetings will be held on October 6 2016 and April 6 2017. The exact time has yet to be determined.

I look forward to an exciting year, which promises to be both informative and insightful. Most importantly I welcome new members and all our returning members and look forward to meeting and chatting with each of you. One last note, please feel free to contact me at any time if you have anything that you wish to share or perhaps could add to the improvement of MCW. Warm regards.

Shirley Gyles - President

MCW WOMAN OF THE YEAR, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2016, OMNI HOTEL, MONTREAL



PENNY RANKIN
Co-chair of Refugee Support
Program at the St. Matthias'
and St. Mark's Anglican
Churches.

GUEST SPEAKER, SEPTEMBER 8 MEETING

Her speech entitled *Statistics and Strategies: A Crisis Unfolding*, will focus on the refugee status around the world as well as her own experience in sponsoring a Syrian couple to Canada.

Please join us for this very inspiring presentation.
New members and guests are welcome.

MCW SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon on September 8, 2016 at the cost of \$10.00 per person, payable at the door. The address is: 2700 Rufus Rockhead, Montreal.

Please advise Shirley Gyles if you plan to attend at: [450-672-7181](tel:450-672-7181) or e-mail: sagyles@sympatico.ca

Welcome to Our New President: Shirley Gyles



Shirley recently took office as MCW's President after having served as Executive Vice-President and Bulletin Editor for two years. Prior to that, she held other positions on the Board, including those of Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Membership Secretary.

Shirley has been the President of the Coloured Women's Club for over 25 years. And has also served on other boards including the NCC (Negro Community Centre), the South Shore Black Community Association and the Rev. Charles H. Este Scholarship Committee at Union United Church. She was MCW's Woman of the Year in 2002.

Between 2006 and 2008, Shirley worked, on a contractual basis, as Regional Coordinator for the United Nations Association in Canada. She worked in close liaison with UNA-Canada's Project Team to implement projects in each region, to reach out to various communities and develop additional local partnerships.

Born and raised in Montreal, Shirley grew up and lived in Montreal East until she married and moved to the South Shore, where she still resides. She is retired after working for AT&T for close to 40 years as a Traffic Controller. Upon her retirement, Shirley went back to school and followed her passion, Black History, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia University, majoring in History with a minor in Professional Writing. She is the proud mother of two sons and four grandchildren.

Shirley is taking over from Dr. Chitra Chopra who served as MCW's President for two years during which she led the organisation in a very efficient and dynamic manner to what it is today: an organisation proud of its past while looking ahead to a bright future for women in Montreal.

Isabelle Godefroy

NCWC 123rd AGM - Saskatoon

The NCWC 123rd AGM, their program theme, "Safety and Security of Persons" was held in Saskatoon from June 9th to June 12th; it was an enjoyable and most engaging experience. Women from all across Canada came together for four days of lively debate, business, and the renewal and making of new friendships. There was also time to sightsee and see a little bit of Saskatoon and what it has to offer. It was also a time to relax and reflect.

Registration started on Thursday the 9th as those from out of town took time to pick up their packages and familiarize themselves with their surroundings. The opening reception followed in the evening and was held at the University Club of the University of Saskatchewan. Some participants had flown in the day before.

The Plenary Sessions which were held during the day covered the official AGM meeting and lunch on Friday, and on Saturday the guest speaker was the **Honourable Ralph Goodale**, who is Canada's Minister of Public Safety. Friday evening was spent at the Forestry Farm House where participants a most enjoyable meal and enjoyed a fascinating presentation with a historical overview of the farm and the work being carried at the Forestry Farm Park and Zoo, an opportunity to visit that one should not miss should the opportunity present itself.

The banquet was held on Saturday evening, again a formable presentation, this time by neurosurgeon, **Dr. Ivar Mendez**, who is the Freed H. Wigmore Professor and Unified Head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Health Region. He was the Chairman and Founding member of the Halifax Brain Repair Centre and also head of the Division of Neurosurgery at Dalhousie University and the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Dr. Mendez is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Mendez gave a most captivating and fascinating discourse on the use of remote-presence robots for medical care in neurosurgery and has performed the first long distance telementoring neurosurgery in the world. In 2013 he reported the first experience in remote programming for neuromodulation devices. As you can appreciate, aside from the business at hand, resolutions etc., NCWC's AGM provided a most informative and rewarding experience which I thoroughly enjoyed.

Shirley Gyles

War Flowers: Elspeth Angus' Collection of Letters from WWI

It was the instantly recognizable photo of Elspeth Angus, long-time supporter of MCW, on the second page of the Montreal Gazette July 28, 2016, which drew my attention to the article, Memory Blooms in upcoming multimedia exposition, "WAR FLOWERS".

Elspeth Angus's collection of meticulously preserved letters sat undisturbed in the drawer of a child's dressing table and then in conservation boxes for generations: hundred's of hopeful dispatches from her grandfather, Lieutenant-Colonel George Stephen Cantlie, sent from the epicentre of the First World War.

Pressed between the pages and lovingly addressed to Cantlie's infant daughter, "Wee Celia", were a number of faded paper-thin flowers, plucked from the gardens and fields around Europe. Angus, now 86, didn't know that she was also holding on to what experts believe is the largest collection of dried flowers from the First World War.

As an adult, Celia gifted the letters to Angus, her niece, who maintained a fascination with them over the years.

Bruce Bolton, executive director of the Macdonald Stewart Foundation, contacted documentary film maker Viveka Melki when the letters came into his possession. Angus left the letters in Bolton's care at the Stewart Museum – a Montreal institution that deals primarily with the preservation of historical documents and other heritage items.

Angus's collection became the creative conduit behind the touring multimedia exposition called War Flowers, opening next year throughout Canada and France, one that it's curator, Melki, believes 'pushes innovation' and highlights the contributions that Canadians made during war time.

In the planning stages of War Flowers, Melki had the collection identified by botanist Celine Arsenault, who then traced their origins in Europe. One red poppy is believed to have been picked from Flanders Fields.

Melki was inspired by what each flower represented in the Victorian era – elements like solitude, love, kindness – and used those meanings to assemble a "memory station" for 17 memorable Canadians. The daisy which traditionally represents motherhood, is attached to Julia Drummond a woman who lost both children at a young age yet went on to work extensively with the Red Cross as a "mother to many".

War Flowers, says Melki, is about telling a story and not letting it die

I recommend that you read the entire article which you will find online: Lindsay Richardson, Montreal Gazette publisher July 28 2016.

War Flowers will debut in 2017 at Les Jardins de Metis in Grand-Metis, Quebec and will tour a number of locations including the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, Vimy Ridge in France and Montreal's Chateau Ramezay.

Marjorie Windeler

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please note that **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** was due in May and we thank you if you have already completed and submitted your renewal information. If you haven't yet renewed, please send completed form and check to:

Montreal Council of Women
P.O. Box 72117
151 Atwater Ave.,
Montreal, QC H3J 2Z6

Membership fees:

Individual Member - \$35

Federate Member (1 - 99 Members) - \$40

Federate Member (100 Members and over) - \$50.

The renewal form can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on September 8, 2016.

MCW Membership - mcwmembers@gmail.com

2016 WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The 2016 Woman of the Year is a woman who has made a special contribution towards the prevention of suicide.

The yearly award luncheon will take place on Thursday, December 8, 2016 at the OMNI Hotel in Montreal.

Deadline for submissions: October 22, 2016

Nomination forms will be sent out in a few days and is also available online at www.montrealcouncilwomen.org.

WOMEN'S ART SOCIETY OF MONTREAL



September 20, 2016

The Women's Art Society of Montreal presents artist **RITA BRIANSKY** - *I was born with a pencil in my hand*, from 1:30 to 2:30 PM at the McCord Museum, 690 Sherbrooke West. Non-members: \$ 10.00.

September 27, 2016

The Women's Art Society of Montreal presents artist **GERRY L'ORANGE** - *Ghosting Patricia*, from 1:30 to 2:30 PM at the McCord Museum, 690 Sherbrooke West. Non-members: \$ 10.00.

For more information, please consult the society's website: www.womensartsociety.com.

WOMEN AWARE/ FEMMES AVERTIES

As a proud new member of the MCW Board, I would like to mention that I have landed here via my work with Femmes Averties/Women Aware, a charitable organization I have been associated with for nearly a decade.

Women Aware works to prevent domestic violence through:

- Long-term support programs led by survivors of abuse & private counseling
- Education & prevention programs.

An important component of our work is that Women Aware teaches youth and young adults within the Greater Montreal area school system some of the preventive measures necessary to diminish behaviour patterns that can lead to domestically violent situations and relationship abuse. Using inter-active presentations which lead to dialogue, the program is tailored to mainstream, high-risk and special needs students, with the goal of eventually changing the way we, as a society, think about, talk about and respond to this crime.

Last year, the MCW honoured June Michell, our very deserving Director, by having made her the recipient of the annual Woman of the Year Award which gave a big boost to our cause. We are grateful and hope we can continue to work together to eradicate violence and abuse, in all its forms, by being vigilant, by speaking out, by committing time and resources whenever and wherever possible. This is a societal issue which affects everyone.

Support Line/Ligne d'écoute

Montreal: [514-489-1110](tel:514-489-1110)

Toll free / sans frais: [1-866-489-1110](tel:1-866-489-1110)

Ingrid Berzins



University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.
 Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc

UWCM Opening Fall Dinner Meeting
 Meet with old friends; make new ones,
 welcome potential new members, and sign up
 for the Interest Groups of your choice.

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Cocktails: 6:00 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM

**Atwater Club, 3505 Atwater Avenue,
 Montreal, H3H 1Y2**

Tickets: \$31.04 Members - \$50.00 Non-members
Contact by September 15: 514-935-2431 or 514-
 934-1362 or e-mail: uwcm@uwcm.com.



Centre des Femmes West Island
 West Island Women's Centre

11 Rodney, Pointe-Claire
 Quebec H9R 4L8
 Tel: 514.695.8529

The West Island Women's Centre, a Centraide-supported agency, is holding registration for new members for its upcoming fall session.

Registration sessions will take place on Thursday, September 8, 2016, from 9-11 AM, 1-3 PM, to 6:45 - 7:45 PM. After that date, registration continues Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 12 PM and 1 to 3 PM. Classes begin the week of September 19.

For the complete course list, please consult the Women's Centre's website: www.wiwc.ca.

Please note that free childcare is available for most daytime classes. For more information, please call 514-695-8529 or email: womenscentre@wiwc.ca.

The Auxiliary of the Montreal General Hospital

CARD PARTY LUNCHEON

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

11:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Livingston Hall, 6th floor MGH

Spread the word, invite friends and family. All card games, Bridge and Mahjong - Bring your own cards or tiles.

RSVP : The Auxiliary of the MGH - 1650 Cedar Avenue, Montreal. Tel: [514-934-1934](tel:514-934-1934) ext. 43009
mgh.auxiliary@muhc.mcgill.ca

The RBC Art and Heritage Centre

Remembrance Day Exhibition

November 21 - December 2, 2016

Montreal General Hospital with the Juno Beach Centre

Explore the role of Canadians at home and abroad during WWI and WWII.

Highlights include the role of Montreal doctors and nurses as well as original artefacts such as Dr. John McCrae's poem *In Flanders Fields*.

For more information and tours, please contact: heritage@muhc.mcgill.ca.

You are invited to the

**32nd Annual
Tel Hai Bridge and Mahjong Luncheon
in support of CHW projects in Israel**

Wednesday, September 7, 2016
at Elm Ridge Country Club
851 Cherrier, Ile Bizard
Lunch 11:00 am - 11:45 am / Bridge 12:00 pm

Everyone is welcome to play!
**Duplicate and Rubber Bridge,
Mahjong and Canasta Players**

Various ticket donation categories

To register, phone 514-933-8461


CHW

Children
Healthcare
Women



The Coloured Women's Club

Founded 1902 - Member of the Montreal Council of Women
is proud to host

DINNER GALA - TRIBUTE
IN HONOUR OF

Mr. Otis Grant

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2016
COCKTAILS AT 6:00 PM
DINNER AT 7:00 PM

OMNI HOTEL
1050 Sherbrooke St. W. Montreal, QC

Come and celebrate the accomplishments and
contributions of WBO Middleweight Boxing
World Champion, Educator, Role Model and
Community Worker.

Entertainment provided by Montreal's
own soul singer **Mr. Skipper Dean**



Mr. Skipper Dean



World Champion
Boxer



Community Worker



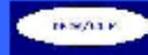
Role Model



Educator

Tickets: \$150.00 ~ Information: Salon Rayshell:
514.481.2635 ~ 450.672.7081 ~ 514.488.3284 ~ 514.696.7944
Email: sagyles@sympatico.ca.
All proceeds will go to the Coloured Women's Club Scholarship Fund.

**MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN / LE CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTREAL
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**



PLEASE CHOOSE ONE: **INDIVIDUAL** **FEDERATE**

INFORMATION REQUIRED: INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OR FEDERATE PRESIDENT AND REPRESENTATIVES

Name of Applicant:
(President's Name if Federate)

Name of Federate:	Number of Members:
-------------------	--------------------

Email Address:

Address:	Province:	Postal Code:
----------	-----------	--------------

City	Telephone:	Cell:	Fax:
------	------------	-------	------

REPRESENTATIVE TO COUNCIL (FEDERATE):

Name:

Email:

Address:	Province:	Postal Code:
----------	-----------	--------------

City:	Telephone:	Cell:	Fax:
-------	------------	-------	------

REPRESENTATIVE TO COUNCIL (FEDERATE):

Name:

Email:

Address:	Province:	Postal Code:
----------	-----------	--------------

City:	Telephone:	Cell:	Fax:
-------	------------	-------	------

ANNUAL FEES

INDIVIDUAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	Member	\$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	Patron Member	\$60.00
-------------------	--------------------------	--------	---------	--------------------------	---------------	---------

FEDERATE	<input type="checkbox"/>	1- 99 Members	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	100 + over Members	\$50.00
-----------------	--------------------------	---------------	---------	--------------------------	--------------------	---------

PAYMENT

Please make your cheque payable to: **Montreal Council of Women**

RETURN ADDRESS

Please return the completed form with your cheque to the Membership Secretary.

Marilyn Berger
Membership Secretary

P.O. Box 72117, 151 Atwater Ave.

Montréal, QC H3J 2Z6

Revised June18, 2014/SG