



MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN / LE CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTRÉAL  
*SINCE 1893 /DEPUIS 1893*

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

**MAY 19, 2016**

**Montreal Council of Women**

## President's Report

MCW activities started early in the year following AGM 2015. I represented MCW at the following early events in the summer.

- May 21-24, 2015 – represented MCW at the National Council of Women of Canada AGM in Montreal which was organised by the MCW and the PCWQ.
- June 18-21, 2015 – attended the Canadian Federation of University Women AGM in Quebec City

June 23, 2015 An organisational meeting was held on with outgoing and incoming members of the MCW Board to discuss the activities of the coming year.

September 27, 2015: Seniors Action Quebec – supported federate member SAQs fundraiser: a concert showcasing several local talents including Oliver Jones, Carol McCormick, Bernadette Short Irish Dancers, Christine & Lisa Forget, Skipper Dean & Greg Halpin.

October 24, 2015: attended the Quebec Provincial Council of University Women conference hosted by Sherbrooke and District UWC in Orford, QC which focussed on the impact and challenges of studying far away from home on aboriginal university students.

October 27, 2015: attended Zonta Club of Montreal presentation by Dr. Anna Towers on 'Breast cancer and our failing society: A call for justice". Dr. Towers is an Associate Professor of Oncology at McGill University internationally recognized as an expert on the complications of cancer treatment and as a passionate advocate for better legislation to prevent illness and improve health.

October 28, 2015: supported federate member MLUWCs Scholarship Fundraiser: a concert showcasing the Lyric Theatre Singers presenting the "Best of Broadway". MLUWC raises funds for three university scholarships, 16 bursaries to complete high school diplomas and one CEGEP scholarship for Montreal West Island women.

November 5, 2015: interviewed for CTV news by Tania Krywiak on MCW's opinion regarding gender parity on the Trudeau cabinet – two different news stories ran – one at noon and one at 6 p.m. I was later also interviewed by Annie Demelt of CTV news on the number of women on the Montreal City Council Executive Committee and on Boards in general. I also commented on the progress made in Montreal on gender parity.

Saturday, November 14, 2015: A Special Zonta Awards Luncheon with keynote speaker: Marie-Josée Potvin, Structural engineer at the Canadian Space Agency who spoke on the subject of "Breaking through the Glass Ceiling: Hopes and Fears for our Daughters". The attendees also heard from two very inspiring young women each in their first year of CEGEP. One woman won an award for Public Affairs and the other for Community Service. Zonta also awarded and recognised four other women. The topics addressed were gender discrimination and hopes for the future of women in STEM programmes. Already the young men are more accepting of the young women in these programmes but there is much more progress to be made.

December 2, 2015: attended Ginger Petty's Toy Tea held at Ogilvy's Tudor Hall in Montreal where non-violent toys were collected for donation to children in shelters while we listened to school children entertain us with seasonal music.

MCW meetings for the year followed a theme of **prevention of violence against women**. Starting in September with Hannah Taylor and her Ladybug Foundation to help the homeless; a round table discussion on women's issues with women candidates for the federal elections in October; Dr. Shaheen Shariff explaining rape culture at universities in November; and the Woman of the Year luncheon in December where we honoured June Michell, Co-founder and Executive Director of Women Aware/Femmes Averties as the MCW Woman of the Year for 2015 for making a difference in the prevention of violence against women. The MCW 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book with the beautiful cover featuring the "Famous Five" designed by MCW member Cheryl Braganza was unveiled in December to show the history of the groups and individuals that form part of MCW.

The second half of the year saw us listen to Rachel Zellars speak in February about place names and anti-blackness in Quebec; then Sharon Hackett, of the Conseil des Montréalaises spoke to us in March and explained all that the Conseil is doing to advise Montreal City Council about gender equality and issues of concern to women; and Wanda Bedard of 60 Million Girls spoke to us about their innovative methods to educate girls in Sierra Leone using Raspberry Pi and educational software. The May AGM meeting promises to be a very enjoyable event aimed at raising money in an entertaining manner for the NCWC Development Organisation. The Program Committee has again done a very good job in organising this year's offerings.

March 6, 2016: Playmas Montreal Cultural Association celebrating International Women's Day honoured Ruth Pelletier the President of MCW Federate member Seniors Action Quebec for all her notable contributions.

March 12, 2016: attended federate member Zonta Montreal's International Women's Day celebration and brought greetings from MCW. Guest speaker Sue Ann Cunliffe, corporate communications specialist, spoke on "Women's Empowerment leads to equality" and how we change the world each day.

March 23, 2016: attended a reception hosted by the Mayor of Montreal, Denis Coderre and Executive City Councillor, Manon Gauthier celebrating two extraordinary women "Batisseuses de la Cité" to mark International Women's Day: Olympic medalist and sports journalist Myrtle Cook who worked to promote women in sport and Sylvie Bernier, Olympic gold medalist diver who works to promote a healthy lifestyle.

April 14, 2016 : attended a Conseil des Montréalaises conference on « Les Montréalaises et le transport collectif: constat et enjeux. » The focus of the presentation was collective transportation and "Entre deux arrêts" a programme where women can ask for the bus to stop at a place other than at designated bus stops during the later hours of the evening for reasons of security. The STM also presented the results of their survey on the service.

April 23, 2016: attended Quebec Provincial Council of University Women AGM – hosted by federate member University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

I would like to commend all the members of the Board and also all the many other Federate and individual members who worked hard all year to produce insightful, informative and enjoyable meetings and events.

I thank you all for the opportunity to serve MCW over the past two years. I am pleased to hand over the helm to my successor who will no doubt do MCW proud as she leads us forward under a new vision. I now look forward to working with a new team as MCW continues to flourish with renewed energy.

I wish my successor and MCW every success as I pass on the baton.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chitra Chopra  
President

### **Treasurer's Report 2015-2016**

As Treasurer of Montreal Council of Women for the 2015-2016 year, I have performed all of my duties as required. I have collected all monies due and paid all approved bills. I have kept a record of all entries and prepared a Financial Report, a Balance Sheet and an Operating Statement for the period, also a Budget for the 2016-2017 year. Sheila Allan has audited the books for the 2014-2015 year.

The bank balance at April 30, 2016 is \$3091.31. We have two GICS. MCW has a GIC in the amount of \$5019.94 and WOTY \$2007.98. The Welcoming Committee is responsible for the float of \$50.00.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Laven Nichols  
Treasurer

### **Education Report**

Since assuming the position of convenor of Education, I have assisted the VP Programs by helping plan the program for the year 2015 -2016 and by booking speakers for MCW monthly meetings. I booked the speakers for the September, March and April meetings. I have also assisted in providing relevant content for the website and the bulletin.

Respectfully submitted,  
Isabelle Godefroy  
Convenor of Education

## Executive Vice-President's Report

As Executive Vice-President I have assisted the President, wherever and whenever possible and assisted by covering various other board duties when required.

We have been without a permanent secretary for some time now so I was also assigned the task of Acting Secretary. In my capacity as Exec VP I am the Editor of the Bulletin. I was also on the committee to put the MCW book together highlighting the various group and individual members that make up MCW. The book is now on sale for \$20.00. I was Chair of the WOTY committee and also a member of the Nominations Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shirley Gyles  
Executive Vice President

## VP Administration Report

The By-Laws of the Montreal Council of Women were last updated in May 19 2004. This year amendments were proposed to clarify and to bring the By-Laws in line with Council's current procedures. The proposals were first reviewed by the Board of Directors and then sent to all members for their comments. At the Annual General Meeting May 19 2016 a motion will be made to approve the amended and distributed By-Laws. With that approval a copy will be forwarded to the National Council of Women of Canada.

A review of the Procedures Manual was made and requires a second critique which would include broadening the scope of the manual e.g. including Constitution, By-Laws, etc. such that Board members need one reference document.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marjorie Windeler  
VP Administration

## Resolutions Report

The following seven resolutions and one policy update were received from the National Council of Women for consideration and comment for voting at the June 2016 NCWC AGM.

1. Better Quality and Cruelty Free Meat - *Proposed by the Oakville and Area Study Group*
2. National Dementia Strategy - *Proposed by St. Catharines & District Council of Women*
3. Plastic Microfibres in Bodies of Water - *Proposed by St. Catharines & District Council of Women*
4. Wireless Communication – A Hazard to Humans - *Proposed by Jeannette Logan, NCWC VP Environment*
5. Paid Apprenticeships & Internships – *Proposed by Gisele Saurette-Roch, NCWC Convener of Employment and Economics*
6. The right to Potable Water on First Nations Reserves - *Proposed by the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba*
7. Updated and Adequately Funded National HIV/AIDS Strategy - *Proposed by St. Catharines & District Council of Women*

**Update #1.** Cessation of the Use of Solitary Confinement in Federal Prisons - *Proposed by Gracia Janes, NCWC Environment Convener*

MCW voted in favour of resolution numbers 2 and 7, and the vote was against resolution numbers 1, 3 and 5. Resolution numbers 4, 6 and the update were accepted with MCW proposing amendments.

The proposed amendments and comments were sent to the NCWC Resolutions Convenor in March 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chitra Chopra  
Resolutions Chair

## Report of the Hostess Convener

During the year lunch has been provided for six meetings. An outside caterer was used for part of the requirements with Federate members, Canadian Hadassah -WIZO and Contactivity Seniors Centre, generously hosted the lunch for two meetings. Federate members who host a luncheon have the opportunity to give a short presentation on the activities of their group. In addition, some individual members kindly contributed items for some of the meetings with The Balfour Club giving a special Jewish desert for the April meeting.

A big thank you goes to the members who have graciously volunteered to set up the room and clear it up after the meeting. These are Jane Wigglesworth, Marjorie Windeler, Mary Lennon, Charlotte Bouie and Lois Bydwell. Also a big thank you goes to Sandra Heijl for her excellent work at the reception desk.

Frances Gregory  
Hostess Convener

## Program Report

Six meetings were organized by the Program Committee during the 2015-2016 season as follows:

**September 10, 2015** - we welcomed Hannah Taylor as our first guest speaker for the year 2015-2016. Hannah is a 19-year old McGill student hailing from Winnipeg, Manitoba. At the age of 8 she created the Ladybug Foundation, a registered charitable foundation that raises funds and awareness for people who are homeless and hungry.

**October 1, 2015** - A ROUND TABLE MEETING Panel Discussion took place. Two candidates who ran in the last Federal elections participated. They were Alexandra Mendès for the Liberal Party and Anne Lagacé Dowson for the NDP. The Honourable Eleni Bakopanos served as moderator.

**November 5, 2015** - Dr. Shaheen Shariff was our distinguished guest speaker at our meeting in November. In continuing with our theme for the year, "Violence against Women," Dr. Shariff spoke about "Rape Culture at Universities."

**February 4, 2016** – Me Rachel Zellars, an attorney and PhD. Candidate in education at McGill University spoke on her research which focuses on the history of slavery in Canada, in addition to an interesting and riveting discourse on Place Names Symbols and Antiracism in Quebec.

**March 3, 2016** - In keeping with the theme gender parity of the International Women's Day Campaign, Montreal Council of Women featured two dynamic speakers at the March 2016 meeting. Cathy Wong, President and Sharon Hackett, Vice-President of the Conseil des Montréalaises gave a presentation entitled "Gender Equality in Montreal" followed by a lively question period.

**April 7, 2016** – Wanda Bedard, President and Founder of the 60 Million Girls Foundation spoke on Rachel Raspberry Pi: Innovation in Girls' Education in the developing world.

**May 19, 2016** - In addition to the above mentioned program, the committee planned the silent auction which is being held in conjunction to the MCW Annual General Meeting.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and thanks to the Program Committee members, Nadia Baraghi, Isabelle Godefroy, and Mary Lennon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan Macklin  
Vice President, Program Committee

## Nominations' Committee Report

As chair of the committee, I am pleased to present the following slate of Directors and Officers for the year 2016 – 2017. The slate was approved by the Board of Directors on April 7, 2016. It will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting on May 19, 2016.

I greatly appreciate the efforts of the Nominations' committee: Bonnie Destounis, Marilyn Berger, Joan Macklin and Shirley Gyles.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Isabelle Godefroy, Chair

### **NOMINATION COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED SLATE FOR 2016-2017**

Chairperson, Isabelle Godefroy – Convener of Education

Committee Members: Marilyn Berger, Bonnie Destounis, Shirley Gyles, Joan Macklin

#### **APPOINTED**

Hon. President –  
Hon. VP –  
Hon. Councilor –

Past President	Chitra Chopra
President	Shirley Gyles
Exec. VP	Isabelle Godefroy
Secretary	Dolly Dastoor
Treasurer	Pat Nichols

VP Membership	Marilyn Berger
VP Admin	Mary Pallett
VP Gov. Affairs	Chitra Chopra
VP Programs	Joan Macklin

Councilors:	Druse Bryan, Bonnie Destounis
Convener Archives	Shirley Gyles, Bonnie Destounis and Marjorie Windeler
Conv. Arts & Heritage	Mary Lennon
Conv. Bulletin	Isabelle Godefroy
Conv. Constitution and by-laws	vacant
Conv. Correspondence Sec.	Druse Bryan
Conv. Directory	Chitra Chopra and Marilyn Berger
Conv. Education	Vivianne Silver
Conv. Environment	vacant
Conv. Health, Child and Welfare	Nadia Baraghi
Conv. Hostess & Welcoming Comm.	Board members will be taking turns to provide lunch
Conv. Publicity	Marilyn Berger
Conv. Public Relations	Isabelle Godefroy
Conv. Resolutions	Marjorie Windeler
Conv. Seniors	Ann Schuster
Conv. Women's issues and advocacy	Ingrid Berzins
Conv. WOTY	Isabelle Godefroy

Webmaster:	Chitra Chopra
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Nominations Committee	TBD October 2016
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**MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN / CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTREAL****FINANCIAL REPORT MAY 01, 2015 TO APRIL 30, 2016**

	<b>ACTUAL TO DATE 2015- 2016</b>	<b>BUDGET 2015- 2016</b>	<b>VARIANCE 2015-2016</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Membership ( Ind 1365 + Feds 1585 + Patrons 240 )	3190.00	4500.00	-1310.00
Lunches (May, Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb, Mar & Apr.) + Donations	1991.00	2180.00	-189.00
NCWC/AGM Sponsorship	463.93	0.00	463.93
GIC Interest	0.00	54.00	-54.00
GIC	0.00	2400.00	-2400.00
120th Anniversary ( Book Sales)	1420.00	1000.00	420.00
	<b>7064.93</b>	<b>10134.00</b>	<b>-3069.07</b>
<b><u>DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>			
Office-hall Locker ( May to April.)	300.00	300.00	0.00
Office-hall rent ( May, June, Sept, Oct, Nov, Mar & Apr.)	840.00	960.00	120.00
Archives	0.00	100.00	100.00
120th Anniversary Book	5717.71	5000.00	-717.71
120th Anniversary Refund	100.00	0.00	-100.00
MCW AGM ( Annual Report )	0.00	75.00	75.00
NCWC AGM ( Reg 310 + 3 Nights room rental 358.71 )	668.71	560.00	-108.71
Annual Fees to National	374.00	514.00	140.00
NCWCDO Donation	125.00	125.00	0.00
PCWQ Fees	20.00	30.00	10.00
Audit	100.00	100.00	0.00
Board ( Bylaws & Resolutions Copies 110.03+Mail 19.32 )			
)+Treasurer 26.57	155.92	150.00	-5.92
Bulletin (Copies 193.76 + Mail 195.49 + Env. 15.24 + Labels 17.24)	421.73	400.00	-21.73
Directory	0.00	250.00	250.00
Procedures Manual	0.00	200.00	200.00
Lunches ( Visionaire Mar & Apr 638.69 + Misc Supplies 141.21)	779.90	350.00	-429.90
Table	95.41	0.00	-95.41
Membership	0.00	75.00	75.00
Post Office Box	172.46	200.00	27.54
Public Liability Insurance	328.09	350.00	21.91
Filing Fee	34.00	35.00	1.00
Bank Charges ( Chqs 69.40 + S/C 7.04)	76.44	60.00	-16.44
Web Site ( Design 569.13 + Updates 149.47 + Annual Fee 80.48)	799.08	300.00	-499.08
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>11108.45</b>	<b>10134.00</b>	<b>-974.45</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>-4043.52</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-4043.52</b>
<b>FLOAT</b>	<b>-50.00</b>		
<b>B/Fwd @ April 30, 2015</b>	<b>5588.45</b>		
<b>MCW TOTAL TO DATE</b>	<b>1494.93</b>		
<b>WOTY</b>	<b>880.43</b>		
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>2375.36</b>		
<b><u>GIC INVESTMENTS</u></b>			
MCW/CFM matures May 27, 2016	5019.94		
WOTY matures May 27, 2016	<u>2007.98</u>		
Total GICs	<u>7027.92</u>		

Patricia Laven Nichols  
MCW/CFM Treasurer

**MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN / CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTREAL****BUDGET MAY 01, 2016 TO APRIL 30, 2017**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
	<b>2016-</b>	<b>TO</b>	<b>2015-</b>
	<b>2017</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>2015-</b>
		<b>2015-</b>	<b>2016</b>
		<b>2016</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Membership ( Ind 1575 + Feds 1750 + Patrons 360 )	3685.00	3190.00	4500.00
Lunches (May, Sept, Oct, Nov & Feb, Mar & Apr) + Donations	2000.00	1991.00	2180.00
NCWC/AGM Sponsorship	0.00	463.93	0.00
GIC Interest	0.00	0.00	54.00
GIC	0.00	0.00	2400.00
120th Anniversary ( Book Sales)	2500.00	1420.00	1000.00
	<b>8185.00</b>	<b>7064.93</b>	<b>10134.00</b>
<b><u>DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>			
Office-hall Locker ( May to April.)	300.00	300.00	300.00
Office-hall rent ( May, Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb, Mar & Apr.)	840.00	840.00	960.00
Archives	100.00	0.00	100.00
120th Anniversary Book	0.00	5717.71	5000.00
120th Anniversary Refund	0.00	100.00	0.00
MCW Stationary Brochures 150 + Stationary 100 )	250.00	0.00	0.00
MCW AGM ( Annual Report )	75.00	0.00	75.00
NCWC AGM ( Reg 310 +Air Fare 1200.+ Hotel 4 Nights 600.00 )	2110.00	668.71	560.00
Annual Fees to National	422.00	374.00	514.00
NCWCDO Donation	125.00	125.00	125.00
PCWQ Fees	30.00	20.00	30.00
Audit	100.00	100.00	100.00
Board Expense	150.00	155.92	150.00
Bulletin (Copies 300.00 + Mail 150.00+Stationary 50.00)	500.00	421.73	400.00
Directory	250.00	0.00	250.00
Procedures Manual	200.00	0.00	200.00
Lunches	700.00	779.90	350.00
Table	0.00	95.41	0.00
Membership	75.00	0.00	75.00
Post Office Box	200.00	172.46	200.00
Public Liability Insurance	350.00	328.09	350.00
Filing Fee	35.00	34.00	35.00
Bank Charges	15.00	76.44	60.00
Web Site ( Annual Fee 100 + Updates 300 )	400.00	799.08	300.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>7227.00</b>	<b>11108.45</b>	<b>10134.00</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>958.00</b>	<b>-4043.52</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>FLOAT</b>		-50.00	
<b>B/Fwd @ April 30, 2015</b>		<b>5588.45</b>	
<b>MCW TOTAL TO DATE</b>		<b>1494.93</b>	
<b>WOTY</b>		<b>880.43</b>	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>		<b>2375.36</b>	
<b><u>GIC INVESTMENTS</u></b>			
<b>MCW/CFM matures May 27, 2016</b>		<b>5019.94</b>	
<b>WOTY matures May 27, 2016</b>		<b><u>2007.98</u></b>	
<b>Total GICs</b>		<b><u>7027.92</u></b>	

Patricia Laven Nichols  
MCW/CFM Treasurer



**MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN/CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTREAL**

**BALANCE SHEET MAY 01, 2015 TO APRIL 30, 2016**

<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>2015-2016</u></b>	<b><u>2014-2015</u></b>
MCW/CFM	1494.93	5538.45
WOTY	880.43	242.16
MCW GIC	5019.94	5000.00
WOTY GIC	2007.98	2000.00
NCWC/AGM Sponsorship A/C	0.00	1815.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>9403.28</b>	<b>14595.61</b>
Less Liabilities	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>	<b>9403.28</b>	<b>14595.61</b>

<b><u>GIC INVESTMENTS</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>RATE</u></b>	<b><u>TERMS</u></b>
MCW GIC Issued April 22, 2015			
February 17, 2016	<b>5019.94</b>	0.400	100 days
WOTY GIC Issued April 22, 2015			
February 17, 2016	<b>2007.98</b>	0.400	100 days
<b>Total GICs</b>	<b>7027.92</b>		

**Patricia Laven Nichols**  
**MCW/CFM Treasurer**

## ADDENDUM

### Membership Report

Federate members: 34  
Individual members: 26  
Patrons: 2

2 new federate members joined our ranks: Women Aware/Femmes Averties and Auberges Shalom pour Femmes

In the coming year more focus will be on membership renewals as well as attracting new members to our fold. A brochure has been revised and printed and will be used to publicize who MCW is. Phone calls will be made as a gentle reminder to pay dues in a timely fashion. Personal contact makes a difference.

Respectfully submitted  
Marilyn Berger  
Membership Secretary