

**MCW Speaker: September 10, 2015**

**HANNAH TAYLOR  
A VERY INSPIRING YOUNG WOMAN**

The opening meeting of the Montreal Council of Women of the 2015/2016 season took place on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at Les Jardins du Canal, 2700 Rufus Rockhead.

Attendees were treated to an outstanding presentation by 19-year-old McGill student, Hannah Taylor. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Hannah experienced a profound awakening for a 5-year-old when she passed a homeless person eating out of a garbage dumpster. Her 5-year-old heart was both confused and sad. Her parents tried to console her and her 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher was sympathetic to the child's sadness. She organized a lunch at school to raise funds and that was the start of Hannah's Vision.

By the time she was 8 years old, Hannah's vision led to the Ladybug Foundation, a registered charity to raise funds and awareness for the homeless and hungry. "Everyone should have a place to sleep at night." To date, over 4.2 million dollars have been raised and Hannah has travelled across North America and parts of Europe also going to parts of Africa, speaking and raising awareness for the homeless. She has many different initiatives including the Education Program to raise awareness in children.

Hannah is passionate and hopeful about her mission. She was named one of the most influential 100 people in Canada and she's all of 19 years old. "Caring gives hope and when you have hope in your heart anything is possible". Her message to MCW was "become a reason for others to be hopeful. Share a little of what you have". Her website can be viewed at [www.ladybugfoundation.ca](http://www.ladybugfoundation.ca)