



# UWCM

University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

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## APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER

### HOME DINNERS

April 17, 18 and 19

Instead of our usual monthly Club Atwater dinner, get together with a smaller group in a member's home and enjoy a friendly potluck dinner. A welcomed change of pace, it also helps members, new and old, get to know each other better. We have limited space, so please get in touch immediately to join in — host or guest, it's your choice!



**To be a host**, choose one of the dates and decide how many guests you can handle.

**To be a guest**, submit your name and mention any mobility or food restrictions. Your assigned hostess will let you know what dish she would like you to bring.

For the sake of all concerned, changes will be kept to a minimum. **Please contact Donna Jensen by April 1.** (

### QUEBEC PROVINCIAL COUNCIL Annual General Meeting

Saturday, April 28, 9 to 3:30 pm  
(Breakfast from 8:30 am)

All members are invited to attend the Quebec Council of University Women's Clubs annual general meeting. It's a good chance to meet members of our sister clubs and to learn a bit more about what we all do.

Herb Linder Annex (Hôtel de Ville de Beaconsfield)  
307 Beaconsfield Boulevard, Beaconsfield  
Accessible by bus #211 from Lionel-Groulx station

**Guest speaker:** Rachel Kiddell-Monroe  
McGill University: Médecine sans Frontière



**Cost: \$35 per person**, including continental breakfast, coffee break, lunch. Free parking. To register, return registration form (on the last page of this newsletter) with a cheque payable to *MLUWC* before April 15. Plus, please email Carolina Soulié to confirm.

([mluwc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mluwc.treasurer@gmail.com))

**Deadline to register: Sunday, April 15**

### COACH HOUSE VOUCHER

An added benefit to your membership! Host one personal event in the Coach House — for free!

Member name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Event Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time (start / end): \_\_\_\_\_

*Please contact Annette Rudy to submit your request.*



## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

### Olympes de la Parole Awards Ceremony

In keeping with United Nations goals to ensure inclusive quality education for all, the University Women's Club of Montreal chose this year to initiate the first North American *Les Olympes de la Parole* competition.

Student teams from three high schools submitted their projects that would explain how access to new technologies could contribute to the empowerment of Indigenous girls and women in Canada, aligning with the general subject of communication technologies that transform lifestyles.

After many months of dedicated hard work (and mentoring from UWCM members Zofia Laubitz, Judith McTavish, and Yvonne Saleh), submissions were judged by a Steering Committee composed of Liz Annesley, Elaine Bander, Deirdre Diome, Cheryl Hayes, Slavena Kiryakova, Dominique Racanelli, Saôde Savary, and Earlyn Sharpe.

On April 6 at the **Atwater Library**, the UWCM will showcase the results. Join us to help celebrate the hard work and applaud the winners. Light refreshments will be served at evening's end.

### Petition for fair labour standards



Our February speaker, Professor Adelle Blackett, asks that we sign the petition organized by CISO and CQFD to insist that Canada ratify Convention 189. These groups have already ratified the international labour standards in support of fair wages and decent conditions for domestic workers, of which there are approximately 150,000 in Canada alone. The petition is available

online (in French at <https://petitions.noscommunes.ca/fr/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1568> and in English at <https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-1568>). Please share far and wide these links to the official letter of support. Contribute to the voices of domestic workers here and abroad who are fighting for respect and basic rights. It is time for Canada to once again display its support for human rights and ratify Convention 189.

#### Board meeting highlights



- Discussed obligations of the Nominating Committee.
- Received a report on membership renewals.
- Debated alternative venues to Club Atwater during renovations.
- Received update on implementation of Ethics Panel.
- Discussed details for Les Olympes awards ceremony.
- Packed donated bras to prepare them for shipping.

#### DEEP CONDOLENCES...

To the family and friends of former UWCM member **HELEN WARD**, who passed away suddenly in hospital on February 19 in her 91st year.



## EVENTS CALENDAR — APRIL 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2	3	4	5	6 Les Olympes de la Parole awards ceremony	7
8	9	10	11 BOD meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17 HOME DINNERS	18 Ladies Who Lunch HOME DINNERS	19 HOME DINNERS	20 Art & Architecture at the MUHC	21 MCW "Woman of the Year" Luncheon
22 	23 Women's Issues	24	25	26 50/50 DAY (global initiative for gender equality)	27	28 Provincial Council AGM
29 Outdoor Ladies	30					

**NEXT MONTH:**  
 May 16 - AGM and dinner

### Free the Girls



With an additional donation of 559 bras from Villa Maria High School and 200 more bras to come from Carrefour des Femmes de St-Laurent, we have now collected over 1,500 bras. Our initial 408 donated bras represent six weeks' inventory for one woman entrepreneur in Mozambique. We have packed up all donated bras. Shipping to Mozambique will happen later this month.

We thank all our members for helping these survivors of sex trafficking in under-developed countries become autonomous entrepreneurs and viable members of their community.

[FreeTheGirls.com](http://FreeTheGirls.com) offers a way to empower women to follow a path toward a more optimistic future.

### Did you know?

UWCM has contributed to these organizations in lieu of a speaker's fee at our monthly dinners:

- *Maude Abbott Medical Museum*: documents the study and practice of medicine at McGill and associated hospitals (November)
- *One Equall Musick*: a non-profit collective chamber choir specializing in early music (December)
- *La Maison d'Haiti*: defends the rights of Quebecers of Haitian origin and immigrants and their participation in society (February)
- *The Jewish National Fund*: plants trees in Israel (March)



## INTEREST GROUPS

### WOMEN'S ISSUES

**Monday, March 26, 7:00 pm (Coach House)**

We will continue to review and discuss resolutions proposed by our CFUW sister clubs to influence the conditions of women and girls from local, national or international domains. Learn more about the process on our website (<https://uwcm.com/resolutions/>), join the conversation and be part of the solution.

**Monday, April 23, 7:00 pm (Coach House)**

*Topic and speaker still to be determined*

Share views in a friendly and collegial atmosphere. Become empowered by enriched perspectives and the power of women thinking together!

Convenor: Nadia Ramundo

### LADIES WHO LUNCH

**Wednesday, April 18, 12:30 pm (RSVP by April 12)**

Ferreira Café

1446 Peel St. (Peel metro)

Convenor: Laretta Alexander

### ART & ARCHITECTURE AT THE MUHC

**Friday, April 20, 2:00 pm** (1051 Decarie Boulevard)

This free one-hour tour will focus on the art and aspects of the architecture of the Glen site. We will meet at the main entrance of the Royal Victoria Hospital. Very knowledgeable guides will be open to any questions. You must register — **before April 6** — with Valerie Aitken ([valerie.aitken@gmail.ca](mailto:valerie.aitken@gmail.ca), 514-933-2981) to take advantage of this special tour.

### OUTDOOR LADIES

**Sunday, April 29, 11:00 am**

*Parc Jean-Drapeau*

Hoping for spring-like and sunny conditions, we will meet at the Jean-Drapeau metro station (yellow line) at 11:00 am. We will walk around the park and explore both islands. Some paths are gravel but easy to walk. If there is time, we can visit the Biosphere (\$15). Optional lunch at the casino or back downtown. Please contact the convenor if you are coming so we'll wait for you.  
 Convenor: Carly Pepler



### Members supporting education through MWAA

Former membership chair Anelia Wright (centre) seen here at a McGill Women's Alumnae Association (MWAA) event in February where it presented fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, and graduation prizes to women studying at McGill University.

Keynote speaker was UWCM member and Member of Parliament for Chateauguay-Lacolle Brenda Shanahan (centre, back row).





## Vice-President's Message

Dear members,

Unexpected professional opportunities and other commitments promise to become too great for me to be able to continue to fulfill the requirements of my position as vice-president, and I feel it is best to make room for someone else effective May 16, 2018.

I intend to remain an active member of the UWCM and look forward to sharing many more wonderful moments with like-minded women who are eager to learn, create new experiences and work together to improve the lives of other women.

It has been my pleasure to serve on the board of the UWCM. With visionary leadership and a strong board, I've enjoyed the privilege of meeting many passionate women and participating in the launching of new initiatives. I am so proud of all we have accomplished in the past year and I have no doubt the board will continue these successes in the future.



Sincerely,  
*Nadia*

### ODE TO ROBBIE BURNS

A light-hearted look at the life of Robbie Burns  
 Burns Night at the Coach House, January 23, 2018

We are the members of the UWCM  
 Strong Montreal women... the crème de la crème

Sipping Scotch in our own wee house  
 And reciting your poem, *Ode to a Mouse*

Being unconventional when we play  
 We've moved your birthday up one day

No haggis tonight, that's for sure  
 Just wee poems, not all pure

Born in Highland county of Ayr  
 You bedded lassies, more than your share

Thirteen children by four women you had  
 Tsk tsk, Robbie. You were certainly bad

But you weren't just a simple bard  
 You wrote and worked very hard

Squeezed in a mere decade of your life  
 Tales of love, beauty and strife

Hundreds of poems and so many songs  
 I guess they made up for some of your wrongs

You, to Scotland, are number one  
 Their beloved poet, their native son

Your image is on stamps – bank notes too  
 The world can't get enough of you

*A Red, Red Rose* is well-known banter  
 As is your famous *Tam o' Shanter*



Michael Jackson, Bob Dylan too  
 Created works inspired by you

President Lincoln could recite you by heart  
 With one wee exception: *Ode to a Fart*

Pardon the political dig added below  
 (I can be very silly, as you well know)

If it were Trump, he'd have re-tweeted  
 That sound, on a toilet, made when seated

France, Africa, and New Zealand too  
 All have statues honouring you

You penned some very bawdy works  
 A lesser-known fact re your quirks

Some of your works were hidden away  
 But permit me to quote, if I may

Poems written for your drinking pals  
 About sex and how best to pleasure gals

Something about *Nine Inch Will Please a Lady*  
 Oh dear, dear Robbie, weren't you shady

One nickname for yourself was Spunkie  
 Were those inches somewhat clunky?

For those who want their curiosity sated  
*Merry Muses of Caledonia* are poems X-rated

You died at 37, far too young  
 Leaving poems unwritten, songs unsung

A toast from us lassies, so fine and so fair  
 To Robbie Burns, Scottish poet... extraordinaire!

Written and read by Judith McTavish  
 (in her best Scottish brogue)



## Concordia Fellowship

In February, the Montreal *Gazette* reported that our very own UWCM member, Miriam Roland, a “steadfast champion” of Concordia University for the last 30 years, has made a \$3-million gift to the university to create the Miriam Aaron Roland Graduate Fellowship to support Concordia research. This gesture promises to “attract and retain the best and brightest PhD students, enhance its research profile and reputation, and encourage interdisciplinary cooperation.”



We applaud Myriam’s philanthropy in support of education in general and Montreal’s Concordia University in particular.

## CFUW News

Candidates for our national Board of Directors:

National President

Cheryl Hayles, CFUW Oakville  
 Grace Hollett, CFUW St. John’s

VP, International Relations

Carol Motuz, CFUW Kitchener-Waterloo  
**SAÔDE SAVARY, UWC MONTREAL INC.**

VP, Membership

Madeline Kalbach, CFUW Calgary  
 Lynne Kent, UWC Vancouver

The election of candidates will take place by online voting during the June 23 first-ever Electronic Annual General Meeting.

**We are proud that our president is a candidate for the distinguished position of Vice-President, International Relations. We wish her the best of luck in the upcoming election.**

## Membership Directory

We warmly welcome our newest member:

Tamara Pressman, Westmount,  
 (McGill B.Mus., B.A.)

Newsletter editor: Donna Jensen  
 Copy-editing and proofreading services:  
 Zofia Laubitz

**POSTPONED!**  
 New date to be announced soon.

***Black, White, and Re(a)d:  
 How to Tell Real News  
 From Malarkey***

Unfortunately, this workshop has been postponed and the new date still needs to be determined. McGill University librarians Emily Kingsland and Katherine Hanz will cover the history of fake news as well as today’s online troll farms. You’ll learn how to test tweets, compensate for personal biases, and unearth the truth. Sign up to join in a lively and informative discussion. Free for members; \$15 for non-members.

MONTREAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN  
 CONSEIL DES FEMMES DE MONTRÉAL  
*Since 1893 / Depuis 1893*



**WOMAN OF THE YEAR  
 MARGARET TRUDEAU**

Saturday, April 21, 11:30 am  
 Mount Stephen Hotel  
 1440 Drummond



Tickets: \$75  
[mcwinformation@gmail.com](mailto:mcwinformation@gmail.com)  
 Info: Shirley Gayles or Joan Macklin

**REGISTRATION FORM – FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION**

**CFUW Québec Provincial Council AGM – Saturday, April 28, 2018**  
**Conseil Québécois des associations de la FCFDU AGA, Samedi 28 avril 2018**

Name - Nom: \_\_\_\_\_

Téléphone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email - Courriel: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Position dans le Club position (if applicable, si pertinent): \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any food allergies – Avez-vous de allergies alimentaires?

\_\_\_\_\_

Pour réserver veuillez s.v.p. retourner ce formulaire avec un chèque de 35,00\$ payable au **MLUWC** et ce, avant le 15 avril 2018.

To reserve please return this registration form with a cheque for \$35 payable to **MLUWC** by April 15, 2018.

**Envoyez à - Send to: Carolina Soulié**

[mluwc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mluwc.treasurer@gmail.com)

Veuillez s.v.p. me confirmer le nombre de participants de votre Club par courriel ou par téléphone avant le 15 avril 2018.

Please confirm the number of members from your club who will be attending the meeting before April 15, 2018, by email.

[mluwc1@gmail.com](mailto:mluwc1@gmail.com)