



UWCM NEWSLETTER

February | 2023



*Click on
these
icons!*



THE UWCM MEETING ROOM

Atwater Library
Club Room #7
1200 Atwater Ave.,
Westmount,
Québec H3Z 1X4

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PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Leah Trineer

Where did January go!!! I found myself saying that often this past week, especially when I had to flip the page on my rooster calendar that hangs in my butler's pantry. I am happy to say that the longer days are making me feel like I have a renewed sense of energy and that nicer days are around the corner, I hope that you are too!

I have received great feedback from the members who participated in "Home Dinners". There were four altogether, three in the evening and, for the first time, a fourth held over the lunch hour. All were a great success and happily, we had a few of our newest members in attendance. A few of their photos from home dinners are shown here. We had a fabulous evening at the Robbie Burns Dinner held at the Faculty Club at McGill University and the photo from that event can be seen on page 7.



Valentine's Day is coming up and the following night is our February dinner at Il Cortile. Il Cortile has been a favourite restaurant of many Montrealer's for years and has been the location of our February dinner for the past two years during a month when La Classes is not able to accommodate us. Our own Lorraine O'Donnell will be our guest speaker, lots of information about Lorraine and the dinner can be found below.

February is Black History Month and while there is much to learn and celebrate all year through, let us take this opportunity to participate in many of the activities that are being offered, especially this month. A link with some interesting activities has been provided to you in this newsletter. If any of you would like to participate in attending any of the events going on and are looking to find UWCM friends to attend with you, let us know and we can circulate an invitation to others or announce it at our dinner on the 15th.

INTEREST GROUPS - ACTIVE AT THIS TIME



We encourage anyone interested in creating or inspiring an interest group to do so.

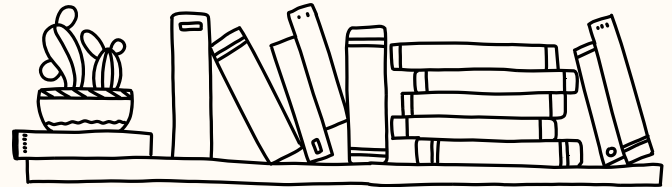
Each interest group that is active and would like to be included in the monthly newsletter must send their update to Emma by the last weekend of each month to be included in the proceeding month.

TRAVEL CLUB

Andrea de Gosztanyi is the Convenor of the Travel Group.

Next meeting on **Tuesday February 14th 3:30-5pm**. Our theme will be Iceland, and our guest presenter will be Margarita Schultz.

Several members have travelled there and some of us have this destination on our radar. Looking forward to a lively discussion and hints!!



BOOK CLUB BUDDIES

The group will meet on **the third Monday of the month between 3:30 and 5:30 in the Club Room at the Atwater Library.**

The next meeting is **Monday, February 20.**

Each member selects a book to recommend to the group on a rotational basis. Currently, the group is full. If this is of interest in a second Book Club please let us know.



INTEREST GROUPS

MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY GROUP

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts is presenting a beautiful exhibit dedicated to the development and innovation of Women in design. If you are interested in attending the exhibit it is open to the public on February 16th.

Let us know if you have an interest in organizing a guided tour.

Follow the link to book tickets [HERE](#).



SOCIAL MEDIA

SEEKING INTEREST in a group interested in learning the social media basics for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

We have tentatively arranged a presentation on social media basics with the Atwater library to host the lesson.

This will be a daytime presentation. Please email Olga if you are interested in attending. Please include a preferred weekday.

At this time the group needs a minimum of 3 people to be established.

COFFEE KLATCH

This group **meets on the second Friday morning of the month, anytime between 7:30 and 9:30 A.M. at the Avenue G coffee shop** on Greene Avenue (just south of Sherbrooke and Greene).

BRIDGE 1 & 2

CALL TO ACTION

The advanced bridge group is looking for one more player at the appropriate level to join them.

The bridge for beginners group is looking for someone willing to teach others how to play.

If you are interested in either one of these opportunities please email Olga.



INTEREST GROUPS

WOMEN'S ISSUES GROUP

The next dinner at the McGill Faculty Club is on **February 23rd, Thursday, at 6 pm.**

We will discuss some issues that women are concerned about. Please come with discussion prompt ideas.

With the Resolutions Committee being organized, this dinner could be a great opportunity to establish potential ideas for next year.

Please let Olga know if you are coming as she needs to make a reservation at the Faculty Club.



FOR OTHER INTEREST GROUPS THAT ARE RUNNING CAN BE FOUND BELLOW.

YOU CAN STILL SIGN UP FOR THEM BY EMAILING BARBARA WITH YOUR NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION. THE SUBJECT LINE IS THE CLUB YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN.

INTEREST GROUP CONVENER/ ORGANIZER

FIRESIDE GARDENING
ELAINE BANDER

ARTS AND CRAFTS
DIANNE THEORET-MAJOR

STAGE AND SOIREE
LIZ WIRTH AND OLGA SHEVCHENKO

MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY - TBD

BOOK CLUB #2 - TBD

AFTERNOON TEA - TBD

LADIES WHO LUNCH
LAURETTA ALEXANDER AND ADELE HEBERT

WINE TASTING
EMMA MAJOR

BRIDGE FOR ADVANCED PLAYERS
SANDRA BRODSKY

BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS - TBD



INTEREST GROUPS

ATWATER LIBRARY LECTURES AND LUNCH

The Atwater Library Lunchtime Series features once-a-week presentations by leading writers, musicians, intellectuals, scientists, and many more people sharing their knowledge and experience with the Atwater Library community. **These events usually take place on Thursdays (but sometimes other days), from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. Located in room 7 after the lecture.**

Below is a list of Atwater Library events scheduled for the next month. These events will be virtual but in February we'll resume hybrid and in-person events.

Click [HERE](#) for the whole list of this season's upcoming events.

Thursday, February 9, 2023 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm

IN PERSON AND BY ZOOM: Author Marc Raboy gives a presentation on his book *Looking for Alicia: The Unfinished Life of an Argentinian Rebel*, winner of the Quebec Writers' Federation's 2022 Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-fiction. To REGISTER and get the Zoom link, click [here](#).

FRIDAY, February 17, 2023 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm

IN PERSON ONLY: To celebrate BLACK HISTORY MONTH, the IMANI Gospel Singers, directed by Marcia Bailey, perform a program of spiritual music and discuss the evolution of Black gospel music.

Thursday, February 23, 2023 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm

IN PERSON AND BY ZOOM: Author Mark Abley gives a presentation on his new book, *Strange Bewildering Time: Istanbul to Kathmandu in the Last Year of the Hippie Trail*. With financial assistance from the Canada Council for the Arts through The Writers' Union of Canada. To REGISTER and get the Zoom link, click [here](#).

Thursday, March 2, 2023 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm

IN PERSON AND BY ZOOM: Author Amal Elsana-Alh'jooj discusses her inspiring memoir *Hope is a Woman's Name*. "The book covers a journey that has taken her from a childhood herding sheep in her own Bedouin village in the Negev desert to a life of international activism for peacemaking and minority rights." — review in Policy Magazine. To REGISTER and get the Zoom link, click [here](#).

Thursday, March 16, 2023 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm

IN PERSON AND BY ZOOM: IRISH CELEBRATION – Concordia University Irish Diaspora Professor Jane McGaughey profiles the podcast *The Irish in Canada*. With Irish music. To REGISTER and get the Zoom link, click [here](#).



NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Robbie Burns



Members attending the Robbie Burns event hosted through McGill.
From left: Olga Shevchenko, Susan Button, Joan Hagerman, Leah Trineer,
Donna Jensen, Anelia Wright. (Photo by Dominic Varvaro.)

LEARN THE SIGNS TO HELP

THE
VIOLENCE
AT HOME
SIGNAL
FOR HELP



1. Palm to camera and tuck thumb



2. Trap thumb

**It might not be happening to you but
you can help someone else.
This sign is commonly used during
video calls.**





Every February, people across Canada participate in Black History Month events and festivities that honor the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities. By acknowledging these contributions, we give voice to the voiceless and enrich our society and our knowledge with the diversity of people of African descent who contribute to Canada in all fields of endeavor, whether it be the sciences, the arts, or public policy. If Canadian society were truly diverse. Inclusive and equal for all – there would be no need for Black History Month. Recognizing, celebrating, and promoting Black accomplishments should not be relegated to one month a year but a normal daily practice. Even though we have come a long way, we need to look no further than local and international news to know that we must do a lot better.

We recognize that history is often in the control of the conqueror and only recently in the last few decades has a piercing light been shed on what Canadians thought they knew to be true and the great omissions in our learned history. In order to learn and understand the full truth, to be empathetic and true allies of our black brothers and sisters – to ensure that our society is moving in the right direction of equality and inclusiveness for all, we are obligated to listen to their stories and experiences in their own words and to take responsibility for our actions which may or may not contribute to ensuring everyone's rightful inclusion in Canadian society.

We have put together a short list of ideas and resources to explore the rich and extensive history of Black communities in Canada – not just for Black History Month but for every day.

THINGS TO DO:

1. Support Black-Owned Businesses
2. Learn About Noteworthy Black Figures and Their Contributions
3. Donate to Charities That Support Anti-Racism Equity and Equality
4. Purchase, Read, and Share Books by Black Authors
5. Support and Learn About Black Women
6. Participate in Online Events
7. Attend Virtual Black History Month Celebrations & Events

FOLLOW THE LINK [HERE](#) FOR MONTREAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

DINNER IN FEBRUARY AT IL CORTILE

For reservations, please be in touch with Sheila Mohammed.

NOTE! You must make your reservation.

OUR SPEAKER



Lorraine O'Donnell (our guest speaker) manages the Quebec English-Speaking Communities Research Network (QUESCREN) at Concordia University. Her background is in history and community development. Lorraine's Ph.D. research looked at the role of women at The Eaton's retail company.

The Parti Québécois adopted Bill 101, formally known as The Charter of the French Language, in 1977. It called for French to be the language of work, business, and government in Quebec. What did this mean for English speakers, whose roots went back centuries in the province? Her presentation will give some answers to this question, looking at issues like education, communities, and identity. These are topics that she has explored with colleagues in a recent book.



Menu

Antipasto a Scelta

Caprese (Mix Salad with Tomatoes and Bocconcini)

Eggplant, Melted Provolone Cheese and Tomato Sauce

Stracciatella Soup

Crepe filled with Ricotta and Spinach, Safran Sauce

Grilled Vegetables

Secondo A Scelta

Linguine with Tomato Sauce

Gnocchetti In Gorgonzola Cream Sauce

Vegetarian Lasagne

Rice, diced Shrimp and Creamy Safran Sauce

Pappardelle in Wild Mushroom White wine

DINNERS AT LA CLASSE - MARCH

The next dinner will be back at our beloved La Classe Restaurant, on March 15.

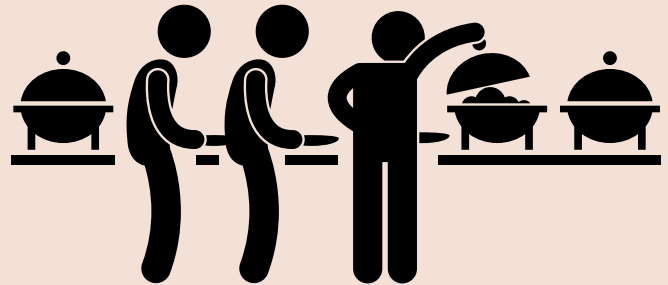
Reminders:

- Please bring cash to pay for your dinner (\$30 tax included)
- Wine and liquor at the bar with debit/ credit available.
- Special coffees cost extra.

La Classe this month is hosting an exciting buffet for us to attend.

For reservations, please be in touch with Sheila Mohammed.

NOTE! You must make your reservation known to Sheila



RECOMMENDED READING FOR OUR APRIL SPEAKER

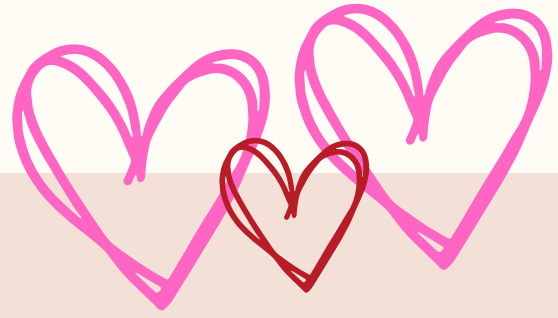


Amal Elsana Alh'jooj

If you are interested in reading this book before the dinner follow the link provided to purchase the book. [HERE](#)

Amal is the author of *Hope is a Woman's Name*, a personal memoir that recounts her experiences. Dr. Amal Elsana is the Founder and Executive Director of PLEDJ (Promoting Leadership for Empowerment, Development and Justice), which brings her vision of empowering the most marginalized communities to address intractable social problems to the local, national, and international levels.

FOUNDATION NEWS



by Donna Jensen, UWCM Foundation Chair

WHEN: Our main fundraising event will be held on the evening of **April 27, 2023.**

WHAT: Enjoy a bilingual presentation entitled Cartooning as a Communication Tool by Terry "Aislin" Mosher and Jacques "Boris" Goldstyn.

WHERE: Atwater Library Auditorium

FROM: Marie Bourbonniere, Veronica de la Collina, Maryse Igenito, Donna Jensen, Barbara Kerr, Ilea Tant, Anelia Wright (Fundraising Committee)

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE ON THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Every year, our University Women's Club receives resolutions from the Canadian Federation University of Women (CFUW). These resolutions deal with areas of concern to Club members - topics may be related to the environment, health, politics, and women's issues in the broadest sense.

All clubs are asked for their input on these resolutions prior to being voted on at the CFUW general meeting. Since there are 95 CFUW clubs with a total of over 7500 members across Canada, the resolutions we propose carry some weight. Over the years our resolutions have played an important role in advocating for the rights of women and children.

As we prepare for this year's resolutions we are looking for volunteers to help study them and decide if and how they should be presented. This ad hoc committee only meets a few times for exciting and important discussions.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Linda.



CFUW NEWS

The link to the website for the members-only portal is [HERE](#).

As a member, you are welcome to access the exclusive side of the CFUW website. Please feel free to discover more information and details regarding international club news.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

A new Member's Directory will be published next month for the membership year 2023. Should you have any changes to your contact information, please submit it to our Membership Chair, hannah.trineer.roberts@gmail.com

Please note the following corrections to member's contact information:

In the Member's Directory of last spring, the contact info for Lorraine Gosselin should be as follows:

Lorraine

Please note that for the time being, Lorraine is not reachable by email; please feel free to give her a call.

FEBRUARY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 Deadline for newsletter submissions	30	31	BOARD MEETING	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Pearls Event	9	10 Coffee Klatch	11
12	13	14  Travel Club	DINNER	16	17	18
19	20 Book Club Buddies	21	22	23 Woman's Issues Interest Group	24	25
26 Deadline for newsletter submissions	27	28	1	2	BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH Dominique Racannelli - Feb 12 Donna Jensen - Feb 15 Emma Major - Feb 19	

If you have not given your birthday yet please email Emma Major at majoremma101@gmail.com

MARCH

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 Deadline for newsletter submissions	27	28	BOARD MEETING	2	3	4
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19	20 Book Club Buddies	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1