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Quebecers mourn victims of London, Ont. attack

Cassandra Kerwin
Cassandra@qctonline.com

Quebecers gathered at the Centre culturel islamique de Québec (CCIQ) in Sainte-Foy on June 11 to show solidarity with the victims of the Islamophobic attack in London, Ont. five days earlier. Hundreds of people gathered for a vigil in memory of the four victims and the sole survivor of the deliberate hit-and-run on June 6.

That evening, a man wearing a bulletproof vest at the wheel of a modified pickup truck rammed a Pakistani-Canadian family of five with his vehicle as they walked through a downtown park. Chief Steve Williams of the London Police Service told local media that the attack was premeditated. The alleged attacker, a 20-year-old man, has been charged with four counts of first-degree murder and one count of attempted murder. Two additional terrorism charges were laid June 14. Yumna Afzaal, 15, her parents Salman Afzaal, 46, and Madiha Salman, 44, and her grandmother Talat Afzaal, 74, died at the scene, while her brother, Fayez Afzaal, 9, survived.

As of June 13, a fundraising campaign on launchgood.com had raised over $1.15 million to support Fayez, now orphaned.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Boufeldja Benabdallah, cofounder of the Centre culturel islamique de Québec, speaks on behalf of the local Muslim community at the vigil on June 11.

The attack hit home for Quebec City's Muslim community, especially for the survivors of the Jan. 29, 2017 shooting at the CCIQ, where six people were killed. "Now it is our turn to show compassion for those who are in trouble and who are suffering due to violent acts, like the attacks on the mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand on March 15, 2019, the synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Oct. 27, 2018, and most recently the Muslim family in London," said Boufeldja Benabdallah, cofounder of the CCIQ. People present stood for a moment of silence for the London victims following an Islamic prayer.

Mayor Régis Labeaume spoke about the importance of intercultural dialogue. "This country is changing. Quebec is becoming an increasingly mixed society," he said. "In the face of this normal social [evolution], there is one true solution – peace without hypocrisy, acrimony, or political calculation. As the mayor of this city, of a city that experienced its own Islamophobic attack, I refuse to remain silent in the face of such horrible actions."

"The type of attack that happened awakens a fear that no one in Canada should experience," said Joël Lightbound, parliamentary secretary to the minister of public safety and emergency preparedness and MP for Louis-Hébert, the riding where the mosque is located. "No one in Canada should be worried about their security for reasons of their gender, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation or religion. A lot of headway has been made in recent years by naming things what they are and making Jan. 29 a day of action against Islamophobia. We cannot change what we refuse to see and recognize, which forces us to see the amount of work which still needs to be done."

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Hundreds of people gathered at the Centre culturel islamique de Québec on June 11 for a vigil in memory of the victims of the June 6 truck attack in London, Ont.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

With flowers, members of the local Muslim community gathered at the Centre culturel islamique de Québec.

Partial solar eclipse passes over Quebec City

QCT photographer Lise Lafond sent these photos of the June 10 partial eclipse taken from the shore of Lac Témiscouata.

As the moon partially covered the face of the sun, all that could be seen was one big "smile."

Photos by Lise Lafond

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

The partly eclipsed sun shone eerily through the light clouds in the early morning sky.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

This photo was taken by Cassandra Kerwin shortly after sunrise on June 10 looking east toward the Château Frontenac.

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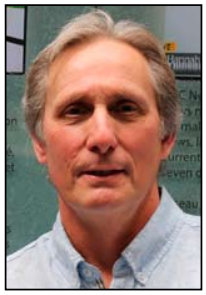
COMMENTARY

When is it appropriate to appropriate hockey partisanship?



PETER BLACK
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER
PETERBLACK@QCTONLINE.COM

Well, the folks managing the CN Tower in Toronto sure lit up irate Maple Leafs fans when they decided last week to light the spire in the red, white and blue of the Montreal Canadiens.

(The Leafs, of course, conveniently lost to the Canadiens in the first round, like pouty drama queens, competing for a fake pandemic Cup evidently being beneath them.)

A tower official explained the move, saying the obelisk's lighting is used to promote awareness of "registered charities and causes." Presumably, in the case of the Canadiens, the cause for the tricoloured flashing was to cheer on a "Canadian team in international sporting competitions." In other words, the last team based in a Canadian city still skating in the cross-border quest for Lord Stanley's silverware.

As the tower is a monument belonging to the government of all Canadians, one supposes there is a certain mandate for the tower managers to use the iconic structure to root for the home side in the interests of national unity and patriotic spirit.

Toronto Mayor John Tory suggested, we assume jokingly, that there should be "a full and complete investigation" into Habs-Tower-gate: "Clearly somebody over there is a Habs fan and they had some kind of bet." We assume Tory was not himself wearing a Habs jersey when he made said declaration, having lost his own Leafs-Habs series bet with Montreal Mayor Valérie Plante.

Meanwhile, the appropriation of hockey partisanship by municipal officials took a new twist in Quebec City when a serious candidate for mayor showed up at a news conference sporting a Canadiens sweater with Carey Price's number 31.

Jean Rousseau, leader of Démocratie Québec, explained the gesture as symbolizing how his party, like the Habs, is underestimated, yet they made it to the last four of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Though surely Rousseau's ambitions run beyond the semifinals of municipal politics, it is a fact that with longtime mayor Régis Labeaume surrendering his chain of office come November, the field is wide open for a less brash underdog candidate.

Rousseau's bold embrace of *les Glorieux* perhaps also signals something other than the triumph of the unlikely competitor. Is he suggesting it is now time to put to rest forever the hope of Quebec City getting an NHL franchise?

With the expansion fee the Seattle Kraken just paid of a hard C$790 million, it's unlikely Videotron Centre operator Quebecor would pony up that kind of cash even if the league was ready to consider locating a 33rd franchise in *la Vieille Capitale*.

At the other extreme of politicizing hockey, there's Luc Ferrandez, the former Projet Montréal councillor and Plateau-Mont-Royal borough mayor turned talk radio host.

He tweeted, once it was confirmed the Canadiens would face the Vegas Golden Knights in the semifinal, "I sincerely hope for a loss for the Canadiens. I hope it hurts and that we tell ourselves forever that we could have won with more Quebec players. PS: I admit that I am less interested in hockey than in the attachment of Montrealers to their team throughout history."

Ferrandez is right about the Québécois count. The Canadiens have only one home player on the roster for the playoffs at the moment – journeyman centre Phil Danault. The Knights, by contrast, have four francos in the lineup, hailing from four corners of the province: Jonathan Marchessault (Cap-Rouge), Marc-André Fleury (Sorel), Nicolas Roy (Amos) and William Carrier (LaSalle).

Among the flood of reactions to Ferrandez's tweet was this snarky comment: "What do you want, more Quebecers or a Cup?" Another added, helpfully, "It's hockey, not politics!"

Yet another raised a prickly dilemma of partisanship: Which team will Céline Dion be rooting for? She, the longtime resident of Sin City who famously donned a Golden Knights jersey during the 2018 playoff run when Vegas made it to the final. She, who was also just as famously pictured in a Canadiens sweater embracing Habs deity Maurice "Rocket" Richard.

Whether or not Canadians in droves hop aboard the Canadiens' Zamboni-pulled bandwagon, you can probably lay a bet with a bookie in Las Vegas that die-hard Habs fans resent just a little bit such unabashed appropriation of their loyalty.

OPINION

White supremacist acts of hate are terrorism

PAULINE KERR
PAULINE@QCTONLINE.COM

Yes, this is terrorism.

A sign carried by a person at one of the vigils held for a London, Ont. Muslim family killed by a young man driving a pickup truck asked if white supremacists who commit such acts are terrorists. They are.

Unfortunately, too many white supremacists have been given a free pass for less extreme acts over the years. Refusing to hire someone or rent them a house because of colour, culture or gender is a good example. Telling or laughing at racist jokes around the office water cooler is another. So is making disparaging comments about people of other cultures in any context.

These send a double message. The group being targeted feels intimidated and unwelcome, even afraid.

There is another group that is negatively affected – children who look at the perpetrator as someone admirable, as a role model.

It is unlikely the accused killer in London developed his hateful ideas on his own. He learned them from someone, perhaps family members, perhaps friends. As have so many others, he may have found inspiration on websites that have no business being online for anyone to read, no matter what the law has to say about freedom of speech. Surely freedom to live without fear takes precedence.

Unfortunately, a certain mentality has come to the fore in recent years among some high-profile people, including the former American president. Lest we feel superior, Canada, including Quebec, has them too. Openly, even proudly and obnoxiously racist and sexist, they have no filter between brain and mouth, no matter how much damage their words cause.

Whether white supremacist venom is spouted by a one-toothed drunk on a back porch or tweeted by a celebrity or a politician, it is still venom. Make no mistake, it does influence people.

Those of us who were horrified by what happened in London – and one would like to think that means the vast majority of Canadians – have a moral obligation to take action.

It is easy enough to show sympathy for and solidarity with the Muslim community by wearing a purple and green ribbon, but harder to declare the company lunchroom an offensive-joke-free zone – and harder still to tell a respected relative that racist comments are not to be made in hearing range of you or your children.

However, if enough decent and fair-minded Canadians speak up, racism will stop rearing its ugly head. Although there is some dispute about who uttered these words (attributed to Edmund Burke but possibly traced back to John Stuart Mill), there is no question about their truth: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Too many of us have remained silent for too long. The Canada we want has plenty of room for fine, upstanding citizens who come in a rich array of colours, cultures and religions, who wear many styles of clothing and eat a variety of foods. The Canada we want is made better and stronger through diversity.

What we have no time for is those who think it is permissible to verbally or physically assault random strangers they deem unequal.

Please note, the alleged perpetrator of the crime in London has not been convicted in a court of law. As of June 14, he also faces terrorism charges.

QCGN says Bill 96 creates 'rights-free zone'

RUBY PRATKA
RUBY@QCTONLINE.COM

The Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) has warned that if Bill 96 becomes law, it has the potential to create a "rights-free zone" in the province in the name of the protection of the use of French.

QCGN president Marlene Jennings made the statement during a bilingual virtual press conference on June 10. The QCGN has repeatedly raised concerns about the legislation since it was tabled in mid-May.

Jennings, a lawyer and former federal MP, said the group had "undertaken an exhaustive, article-by-article examination" of the 100-page bill. "While this [analysis] is not yet complete, we are now in a position to share our preliminary views on the overall direction established by the bill," Jennings said. "There seems to be a consensus among the general public, particularly among francophones, that this bill is nothing to worry about. We don't share that assessment."

She pointed out that the wide-ranging legislation would involve the modification of 24 existing provincial laws and the federal Constitution Act to recognize Quebecers as a nation with French as a common language.

The QCGN released a 12-page report outlining its main concerns about the new legislation. The report highlighted provisions in the law which apply the Charter of the French Language to businesses under federal jurisdiction, require provincial civil servants to use French in an "exemplary manner" and have the potential to further restrict the ability of the provincial government to communicate with the public and with businesses in English. It also emphasized the increased compliance burden on businesses (businesses with 25-50 employees would be subject to stricter requirements governing French in the workplace) and litigants in court cases (legally recognized organizations involved in court cases must provide certified French translations of English-language pleadings at their own expense).

The report outlined concerns about the expanded enforcement powers of the Office québécoise de la langue française (OQLF) and the potential powers of a new ministry for the French language and a new French language commissioner as outlined in the legislation. It also noted that the same restrictions governing eligibility for English public education would be used to determine eligibility to receive certain government communications in English.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Photo courtesy of QCGN

QCGN president Marlene Jennings is concerned that the changes in language policy proposed in Bill 96 may have wider implications for the respect of individual rights in Quebec.

Coyea-Paquin family participate in Walk to Cure Diabetes

SHIRLEY NADEAU
SHIRLEY@QCTONLINE.COM

This year marks 100 years since the discovery of insulin by Canadian scientists Frederick Banting and Charles Best, as readers may have read in the "From the Archives" article by Lorie Pierce in last week's edition. Canada Post has even created a commemorative stamp to honour the anniversary.

Before the discovery of insulin, people with Type 1 diabetes (T1D – once known as juvenile diabetes*) could expect to live for about a year after diagnosis. Now, people diagnosed with T1D can expect to live long and fulfilling lives with proper management – all thanks to these Canadian pioneers.

The *QCT* recently learned that Marie Coyea and her family are participating in a virtual fundraiser for the Sun Life Walk to Cure Diabetes for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) by walking 100 kilometres.

"I started this commitment on April 6, the 21st anniversary of the date that our daughter was diagnosed with T1D," said Coyea. "So far, I have walked over 267 kilometres, far surpassing my original intention. I need your support. The walk is the largest diabetes fundraising event in Canada that rallies the … community to unite and raise funds for research."

Coyea's daughter, Myriam Paquin, is a living testament to the impact of insulin. "Without it," Coyea explained, "she would never have gone to university and become the social worker that she is today. Imagine the number of families that she will help thanks to the discovery of insulin."

Paquin graduated this spring from the social work program at Université Laval and is now a social worker at the Direction de la protection de la jeunesse (Direction of Youth Protection) for the CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale.

Paquin was diagnosed with T1D when she was only two years old. Two years later, she was the first child her age to be fitted with an insulin pump, a small computerized device that automatically releases insulin subcutaneously, that she had to wear at all times. Myriam now wears a new continuous monitoring system, an "omnipod" with a patch pump, which is changed every three days. This new technology is much more manageable, but doesn't necessarily make her life easy.

By donating to the Coyea-Paquin family fundraising campaign, readers can help fund groundbreaking research that will take important steps toward making new treatments and cures a reality for those living with T1D.

To help, please visit Coyea's JDRF 2021 fundraising page.

** Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is the official medical name of the autoimmune disease that Paquin has been living with for over 20 years. However, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) has never changed its name during that time.*

Image courtesy of Canada Post

Canada Post recently issued this commemorative stamp marking the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin at the University of Toronto.

Photo courtesy of Marie Coyea

This photo of the Coyea-Paquin family – Hélène Paquin, Marie Coyea, Myriam Paquin, who lives with Type 1 diabetes, and Raynald Paquin, with their dog Daisy – was taken during the 2017 JDRF Walk in Quebec City. Due to the pandemic, the walk has been virtual for the past two years.

MEMORIALS AND THINGS OF FAME

Researched and compiled by Lorie Pierce, lorie@qctonline.com

June 15, 1821 – *The Quebec Gazette*

Grasshoppers

We are sorry to hear from every part of the country, accounts of the appearance of immense numbers of grasshoppers, which from the injury done by them last summer, although they made their appearance much later, has occasioned considerable alarm among the farmers.

June 19, 1871 – *The Morning Chronicle*

Seizure of a Schooner – The trade will learn with pleasure that at last one of those seizures has been made, which will go far to vindicate the law in the matter of the introduction of contraband spirits, etc., into the parishes which line the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, en bas. That the fair trader with a family to support should suffer unfair competition on the part of some new and unscrupulous beginners who, instead of visiting the Quebec market for his goods, has them rolled up to his stable door under cover of the night.... On the 9th instant, a Gulf schooner from Labrador ran up to Government wharf at Riviere du Loup, and commenced in the evening to sell liquors and cigars to a few merchants in the neighbourhood. ... [An] officer made a seizure of what had been put ashore from the schooner, and he then returned to Quebec to intercept the vessel, which was on its way to Montreal loaded ostensibly with plaster but also charged with spirits.

June 15, 1896 – *The Quebec Morning Chronicle*

Nautical Deer – An unusual occurrence took place on the St. Lawrence on Saturday morning. As the steamer "Montreal" was on her down trip, and just as she passed the Richelieu River, a large red deer was noticed swimming across her bows…. The noise of the vessel's paddles evidently frightened the deer for it put on a big spurt and swam rapidly across the steamer's bow, and got away.

When near St. Augustin … another deer was seen swimming across the St. Lawrence in front of the steamer. The latter animal seemed also to be in racing trim, for it went through the water at a lively gait. No one on board the steamer ever met with such an experience on the river before.

Wikimedia Commons - Public Domain

Most deer are proficient swimmers and can swim several miles to reach remote islands, or simply cross to the other side of a lake or river.

June 18, 1921 – *The Quebec Chronicle*

Young Mill Hand Stabbed to Death at St. Gregoire

As the result of a tragedy that occurred in the Dominion Textile Mills, Montgomery Falls, yesterday morning before the noon hour, a young employee of the mill named Adrien Vezina, aged 16 years, was stabbed to death, while a fellow employee named Leopold Tardif, was later arrested and locked up in a cell at the Provincial Police Station. Though no one was present to witness the stabbing, it is presumed from after investigation, that the killing of young Vezina was not intentional but rather in the nature of an accident.

The two boys were at work together in a small room by themselves. Leopold Tardif engaged in passing cotton waste to Vezina. The latter held in his hand a jack-knife, which he was using to cut the cotton waste, and it is presumed that the lads commenced to skylark and catch holds so that in their rough and tumble the knife held in the hand of Vezina was turned against his left side, being very sharp and penetrated his body, cutting the upper part of his heart and piercing his left lung.

June 17, 1961 – *The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*

Filter Will Also Mean More Water For St. Foy

When St. Foy city fathers decided to go ahead with the building of a filtration plant last year, they also decided to make sure there would be plenty of water for the city's population. In fact, once the filtration plant is completed, St. Foy's worries about water shortages will be over. At present, this Quebec suburb's drinking water contains two parts per million of iron, 0.5 parts per million of manganese and has a hardness of 380 ppm. But after the filter goes into operation before the end of this year, the iron and manganese deposits in the water will be eliminated while its hardness will be reduced to a negligible amount.

Editor's note: Articles from the archives are reproduced with the original vocabulary, spelling and punctuation. Explanatory notes may be added.

QCGN says Bill 96 creates 'rights-free zone'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Jennings denounced what she called "the most sweeping overrides" of charter rights in Quebec history, overrides which mean that the National Assembly, not the courts, will have the last word in determining the bill's application. She made a parallel with Bill 21, the controversial secularism legislation passed by the Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ) government in 2019, which bans state employees from wearing religious symbols under most circumstances. That law survived a court challenge mostly intact earlier this year, although Quebec Superior Court Judge Marc-André Blanchard expressed concerns in his ruling about "legislative indifference to human rights." Jennings noted that the QCGN had asked federal Justice Minister David Lametti to refer the bill to the Supreme Court, but had not received a commitment on his part.

"These two laws are pulling Quebec in a certain direction, and it's not the direction that Quebec's English-speaking community wants to go," Jennings said. She also addressed recent criticism of the QCGN's stance as alarmist: "If I'm alarmist because I'm worried that Bill 96 creates a charter-free zone where my individual rights and freedoms are suspended without justification or explanation, then call me alarmist."

The QCGN intends to carry out wider public consultations over the next few months in order to prepare testimony to present to the National Assembly this fall. The CAQ majority government is expected to pass the bill by the end of the year.

SLC Class of 2021 lights the way for future graduates

Cassandra Kerwin
Cassandra@qctonline.com

"SLC Class of 2021, you light the way," said Angela Stevens, dean of faculty and professional services and master of ceremonies for the CEGEP Champlain–St. Lawrence (SLC) graduation ceremony, which followed a challenging school year defined by the COVID-19 pandemic. To celebrate this milestone, graduates and their friends and families tuned in to YouTube and Facebook Live to virtually attend the ceremony on June 11.

The virtual ceremony, a first in SLC's 63-year history, was filmed two days earlier in the college auditorium. In accordance with public health regulations restricting large gatherings, only award and scholarship winners and presenters were invited to the live ceremony. A slideshow of graduates opened the ceremony before the camera turned to Stevens, who noted that the graduates' success was in part thanks to the dedication and creativity of faculty and staff who remained open, flexible and present for all students during the past year.

"It was extremely important for us to hold some sort of ceremony to celebrate our graduates of 2021. They are resilient and persevering students. Some of you spent as much time attending classes online as you did on campus," said Stevens.

"For many students, graduating from CEGEP is an impressive educational milestone," said SLC director of studies Edward Berryman. "You've reached your academic goals under extraordinary circumstances, with a total transformation of the learning environment and a profound disruption of your personal and social life. Your graduation comes at a time when we can see the glimmer of a return to normal life."

Berryman noted that the class of 2021 has developed the necessary skills to study from home thanks to technology and to face new challenges in life. "You discovered strengths that you did not expect you had. You learned to adapt more than you ever thought possible. You have witnessed how society as a whole can deal with a crisis of historic proportions," he said. "In the future, we call upon you to [...] find solutions to the next crisis that we will most certainly confront in the decades to come."

SLC presented 21 awards, bursaries and scholarships to 26 students. The highest achieving graduates were Katia-Rein Angat in the arts, literature and communication program, Audrey Lockey in the P.W. Sims business program, Kélyane Desrochers in the social sciences program and Ève Parenteau in the science program and overall academic achievement.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Ève Parenteau was the recipient of the Highest Overall Academic Achievement Award, the Board of Governors' Merit Award and the Highest Academic Achievement in the Science Program Award.

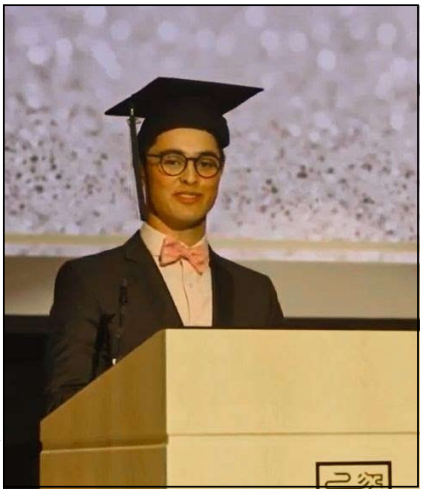


Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

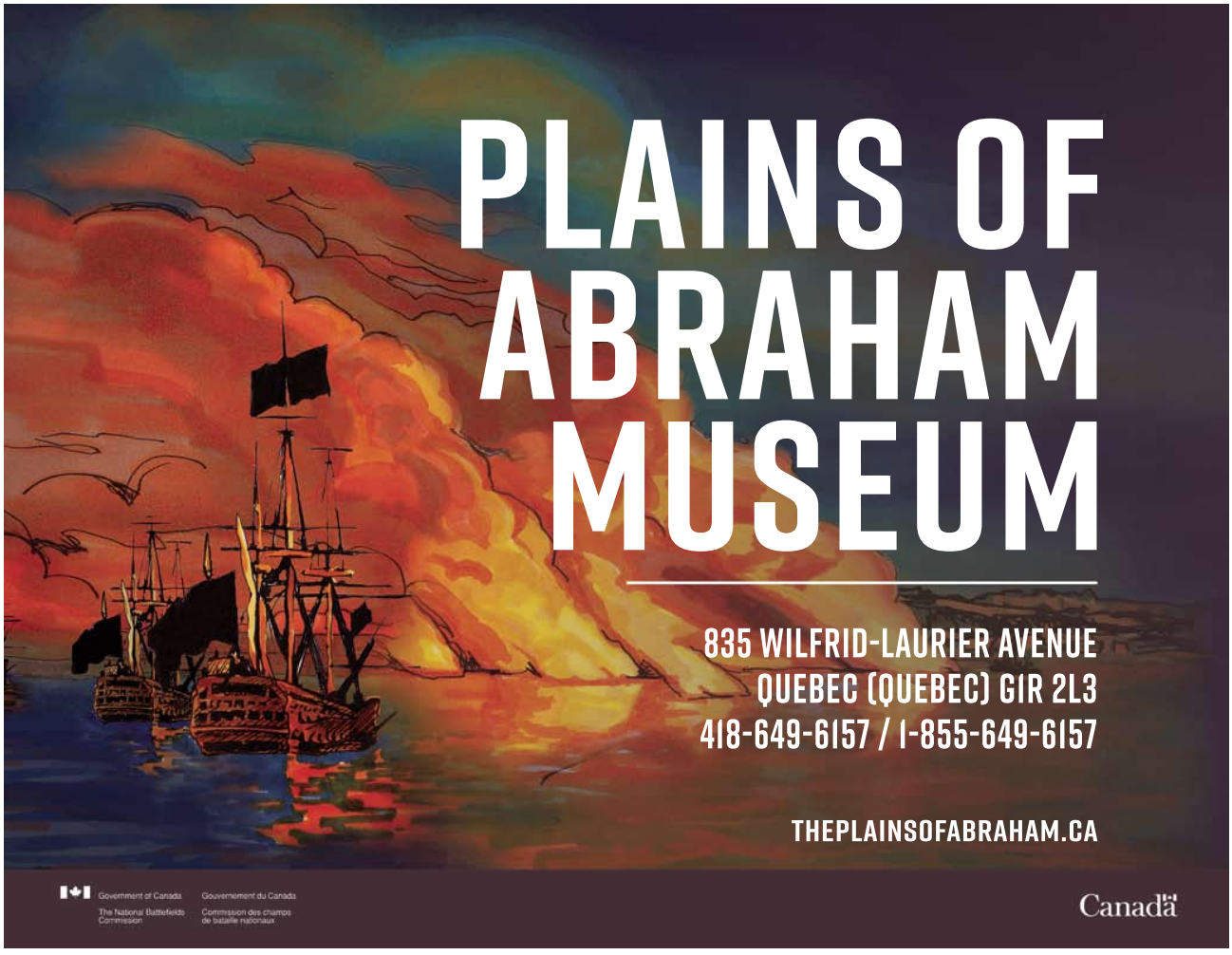
Émile Pinel, president of the SLC Student Association and recipient of the St. Lawrence Alumni Foundation Award, gave the closing speech at the graduation ceremony held in the college auditorium.

Following the distribution of awards, Émile Pinel, president of the SLC Student Association and recipient of the St. Lawrence Alumni Foundation Award, acknowledged that he could be meeting certain students and faculty for the first time as he gave his speech. "In my opinion, the role of a president mainly requires leadership in order to achieve success. [...] I might be your elected leader, but please know that you are all my leaders," he said. "Your resilience and will to achieve your goals during this historic period we call COVID-19 will always be a source of inspiration for me."

Looking back on the past 18 months, Pinel said, "We, the St. Lawrence family, were separated from each other and left on our own without any means to interact. Who would have thought that studying in bed would become a thing? Who would have thought that the highlight of our passage at St. Lawrence would be confinement and online studies? On this positive note, I'd like to personally congratulate each one of you and wish you success in your projects."

The graduation ceremony video ended as it started, with a clip of the graduates, this time, however, tossing their mortarboard caps into the air.

Those who missed the ceremony can still watch it on the SLC Facebook page or YouTube channel. A full list of award winners will be posted along with this article on the *QCT* website.



Slide into Village Vacances Valcartier Waterpark

Cassandra Kerwin
Cassandra@qctonline.com

Summer is just around the corner and Quebecers could not be more excited. The terrasses are open and full, COVID-19 case numbers are declining and vaccination rates are rising. The Village Vacances Valcartier (VVV) Waterpark is now open and plenty of visitors have already wet their feet in the many pools.

Before going to the park, visitors must purchase tickets or season passes online. "This is our way of controlling the number of customers and not disappointing people who make the 20-minute drive from Quebec City," said Sandra Nadeau, principal director of sales, marketing and communications with Groupe Calypso Valcartier. "Customers must also wear a mask while inside our facilities. We will provide masks to parents and children who don't have them handy. Our outdoor bar is even open! There is nothing like a cool cocktail on a hot day by the pool.

"We are happy to open this year after being closed last summer. Our customers will test our latest slide, the Eldorado," said Nadeau. "Standing at 10 storeys high, this part of our phase one $10-million investment offers an adrenaline rush of a ride. Visitors start standing up and when the countdown stops, they 'freefall' through a transparent plastic tube for a few seconds before sliding through spirals to land in a pool. This is a favourite of young adults and fathers. [There is] a possibility of six more slides to come in phases two and three over the next eight years." Another adrenaline rush can be found at the Turbo 6 ride with six parallel tubular slides.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

The giant wave pool at the Village Vacances Valcartier Waterpark is always a great way to get a taste of open-water waves.

The VVV Waterpark offers a variety of slides for visitors of all ages. The most popular is the giant wave pool. The Mirage, with its shallow water, slides and sandcastle features, is popular with parents watching their toddlers. Children enjoy the nearby Pirates' Pool with water cannons and pistols. "Due to public health measures, we will not be operating the giant bucket that topples when full and spills its contents onto people gathered below," said Nadeau.

"The waterpark remains our main attraction this summer, while the indoor Bora Park, with its constant air temperature of 30 degrees Celsius, 15 water slides, wave pool, family pool, double surf and adventure river, is highly popular with our hotel and campground guests year round," she added.

For tickets and information on the Village Vacances Valcartier Campground, Hôtel Valcartier, Waterpark, Bora Park and Aroma Spa, visit valcartier.com.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Everest, the legendary water slide at Village Vacances Valcartier, is a fan favourite.

Picasso. Figures has arrived at the MNBAQ

Adapted from a Press Release
by Shirley Nadeau
Shirley@qctonline.com

Picasso. Figures, which highlights the work of Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), a legendary artist and a somewhat controversial individual, opened in an exclusive Canadian exhibit on June 12 at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ). The assembled masterpieces celebrate the human figure, the artist's favourite subject.

Designed by the Musée national Picasso-Paris in collaboration with the MNBAQ, *Picasso. Figures* comprises 76 works, including 47 major paintings from its remarkable collection, produced between 1895 and 1972. The thematic retrospective explores more than 75 years of the artist's career and focuses on six themes: Female, Cubist, Magic, Sculptural, Disfigured and Late Figures. It also assembles a remarkable collection of Picasso's sculptures.

The exhibit features a tribute to six of Picasso's muses. Although he was praised for his art, many biographies also give an account of his reprehensible behaviour toward women. The MNBAQ decided to pay tribute to the women in his life, since Picasso's work is closely linked to his love life, in which passion, violence and destruction are intertwined.

Opening a Dialogue About Body Liberation, a separate group exhibit rooted in the contemporary world, echoes the artist's works. Picasso rejected the diktats of the aesthetic canons linked to the representation of the human figure, which enabled the MNBAQ to address contemporary social concerns and offer relevant, thoughtful reflections on body diversity. "The complementary approach focuses on openness, rapprochement with others and active participation in debate in our society aimed at improving it," noted Jean-Luc Murray, director general of the MNBAQ.

A unique audio guide created for the twinned exhibits allows visitors to discover Picasso's universe and listen to a dialogue about the relationship between the artist and his muses, cultural boycotts, the representation of non-gendered bodies or the idea of inner beauty.

Was Picasso a misogynist? Using this straightforward question as a starting point, Emilia Philippot and François Dareau of the Musée national Picasso-Paris produced a catalogue that includes over 100 illustrations and a complete chronology of the artist's life. The 176-page book *Picasso. Figures* is available at the MNBAQ bookstore-boutique in French and English.

For more information and to reserve time-slot tickets to the exhibit, which will be open until Sept. 12, visit mnbaq.org.

Photo by Shirley Nadeau

Emilia Philippot, chief curator and head of collections of the Musée national Picasso-Paris, explains the context of *Reading Woman,* a painting of Marie-Thérèse Walter, Picasso's much younger lover and muse. The quote on the wall above by author and journalist Mickaël Bergeron reads, "The image of the passive muse is a myth. I think the muse's personality has more influence than their physical appearance."

Gosselin backs subway plan; mayor calls it 'hoax'

Peter Black
Local Journalism
Initiative reporter
peterblack@qctonline.com

City hall Opposition and Québec 21 leader Jean-François Gosselin has unveiled a 13.5-kilometre subway line as his structured transit vision for the city, and is promising to make it the main issue in the coming municipal election.

The underground system, called VALSE (*véhicule automatique léger souterrain électrique*), would have 17 stations along a line running from Parliament Hill below Boulevard René-Lévesque and Boulevard Laurier, ending at the Aquarium du Québec, with another branch running west to a terminus at the Revenu Québec building on Rue de Marly.

The VALSE would connect to 4.5 kilometres of trambus and reserved lane routes serving suburban areas.

In making the announcement at a June 10 news conference, Gosselin said he backs an underground system because it is more suitable for the climate of the city, and it will not "disfigure" streets as he said the tramway system proposed by the current administration would. He said the subway would also be much faster than the tramway.

"It's a project that will position Quebec City among the world leaders of public transit," Gosselin said, noting it could be built for less than the $3.3 billion budgeted for the tramway.

That claim drew withering fire from Mayor Régis Labeaume, who called Gosselin's plan "a huge hoax." The mayor said digging the tunnel for a subway would cost twice as much as Gosselin estimates, at least $6 billion. Gosselin and Labeaume used different engineering data sources for their respective calculations.

Gosselin vowed to take the debate over the two visions to voters in the next election. "Starting today," Gosselin said, "I will work to publicize this project so that the residents of Quebec City give us the mandate to carry it out the day after the elections."

The Labeaume administration's current plan has the qualified support of other municipal parties. That plan, however, hit another stumbling block recently, when two consortia bidding for the project dropped out, leaving only one contender. The city will now split the call for tenders in two, one for building the line and the other for supply and maintenance of the rolling stock.

Because of the setback, the estimated completion date of the tramway has been pushed back a year, to 2028.

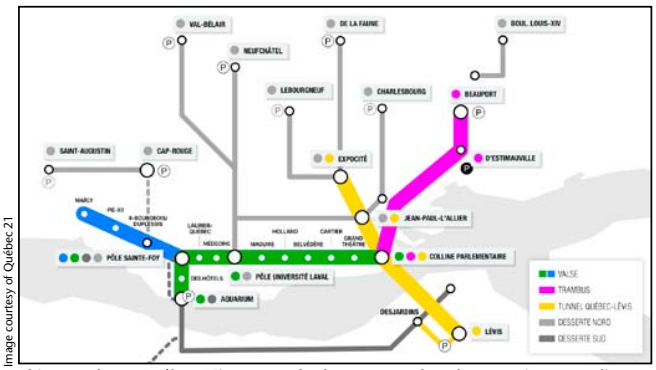


Image courtesy of Québec 21

This map shows Québec 21's proposed subway network and connecting street lines.

Even once vaccinated, you still need to protect yourself.

Let's work together to keep respecting health measures so we can protect each other.

Québec.ca/coronavirus

Votre gouvernement

Québec

‘Phantom’ Joe Malone officially welcomed to Place Jean Béliveau

Cassandra Kerwin
Cassandra@qctonline.com

Residents have been admiring the large statue of hockey player “Phantom” Joe Malone and the Quebec Bulldogs mascot since early April, but the Ville de Québec and the Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec officially unveiled it on June 10.

The statue is the third of five commemorative works of art along the Allée des légendes du hockey (Legends’ Alley) at Place Jean-Béliveau.

The sculptures honour hockey players who have left a positive mark on the Capitale-Nationale region. Malone, who played for the Quebec Bulldogs from 1908 to 1917, was selected because he was known as a gentleman both on and off the ice, with a passion for hockey and for Quebec City. He won two Stanley Cups during his time with the Montreal Canadiens (1917-1924), set many records (some of which still stand) and was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1950.

Malone’s granddaughter, Kathleen Montpetit, gave some insight into the man inside the Bulldogs uniform. “He was a genuine, loving, funny gentleman. He was always present in our lives,” said Montpetit, whose sister Mary Malone was also present at the ceremony. “One memory that stands out is of Grandpa Malone watching the hockey games on Saturday nights. He always sat in the same place with his legs crossed, completely into the game and really annoyed when fights interrupted it. Our grandfather never spoke about his career or exploits. His humbleness was one of his qualities. Our father would have been very proud that Quebec City honoured Joe Malone.” Much of the family knowledge of Malone’s story came from the rigorous research of his son, Joe Malone, Jr.

Montpetit praised artist Frédéric Laforge for his sculpture, saying, “It is so beautiful, innovative and evocative. It’s a great representation of the spirit of Phantom Joe Malone. On behalf of our family, I thank everyone who participated in making this project a reality. I thank [local sports reporter] Marc Durand for his passion for hockey and for the Quebec Bulldogs. He shone a real light on Joe Malone, his talent and the era in which he played.”

“It is an honour to pay tribute to Joe Malone and present my sculpture, my largest project yet,” said Laforge. “My original objective was to create a playful contemporary work of art accessible to the public, linking the past to the present while staying true to Malone. Like the playoffs, Malone reminds us that hockey has always been a part of our collective identity.”

After these speeches, Deputy Premier Geneviève Guilbault and Mayor Régis Labeaume unveiled the model of the next public art project planned for the Allée des légendes: a giant mural of hockey legends Jean Béliveau, the Stastny brothers, Joe Malone, Réal Cloutier and Guy Lafleur. A giant transparent vinyl mural will be placed on the glass wall of the Pavillon de la Jeunesse by September. It will measure almost 60 metres long by seven metres high. The $50,000 cost will be paid by the Ville de Québec and the Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

In this group photo at the foot of the latest work of art to join the Allée des légendes at ExpoCité are, top row, Coun. Alicia Despins, artist Frédéric Laforge and Mayor Régis Labeaume; front row, Kathleen Montpetit, Deputy Premier Geneviève Guilbault, Mary Malone, sports reporter Marc Durand and Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec CEO Marie-Claire Ouellet.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Artist Frédéric Laforge spoke at the unveiling of his stratified statue of “Phantom” Joe Malone and the Quebec Bulldogs mascot. To the right are Coun. Alicia Despins and Mayor Régis Labeaume.

Photo by Cassandra Kerwin

Kathleen Montpetit paid tribute to her grandfather, “Phantom” Joe Malone.

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OSQ announces a joyous 2021-2022 season

Shirley Nadeau
Shirley@qctonline.com

Details of the first half of the 2021-2022 Orchestre symphonique de Québec (OSQ) season were presented during a press conference held at the Grand Théâtre on June 10.

Joël Brouillette, director of artistic administration, and Carl Langelier, director of communications and marketing, also introduced the orchestra's newly invited principal guest conductor Bramwell Tovey via Zoom. Tovey will direct the orchestra and provide artistic guidance for the next two years, while administrators search for a permanent replacement for outgoing musical director Fabien Gabrel.

Details of the upcoming season were revealed and five musicians played excerpts from various pieces, including the "Ode to Joy," the fourth movement of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, to be presented on Nov. 3 with soloists and choir.

The first item on the 2021 program is an evening of romantic Russian music on Sept. 16, with guest conductor Olari Elts and soloist Rachel Barton Pine, who will play Tchaikovsky's magnificent *Concerto for Violin*. Also on the program are Rachmaninov's *Symphonic Dances* and the exuberant ouverture from Mikhail Glinka's opera *Ruslan and Lyudmila*, inspired by a poem by Alexander Pushkin.

Tovey will direct an evening of spectacular symphonic music on Sept. 22 and 23. *A Thousand Natural Shocks*, by Canadian composer Kelly-Marie Murphy, was commissioned by the CBC at Tovey's request, for his first concert as musical director with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in 2000. Also on the program is Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 2* with guest pianist Stewart Goodyear.

Music lovers are in for a treat on Oct. 3 for an evening of Beethoven, Dvořák and (wait for it…) McCartney, proposed by Canadian Opera Company musical director Johannes Debus, who will be on the podium that evening. Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7* and Dvořák's *Concerto for Violin*, with soloist Victor Julien-Laferrière, will be on the program along with Paul McCartney's impressive classical work *Spiral*.

Agent 007, a.k.a. James Bond, will be at your service on Oct. 8 and 9 as Jeans 'n Classics presents music from classic Bond movies such as *Goldfinger, Skyfall* and *Live and Let Die*. Guitar, drums, electric bass and keyboards along with singers will add to the adventurous evening.

The young Italian conductor Valentina Peleggi will direct the OSQ at the Palais Montcalm on Oct. 13 as the orchestra plays Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, Saint-Saëns' *Concerto for Piano No. 2,* with soloist Inon Barnatan at the keyboard, and Dvořák's *New World Symphony No. 9*.

On Nov. 3, the OSQ and choir offer an "Ode to Joy" – part of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, with Eivind Gullberg Jensen directing and soloists Lauren Margison (soprano), Allyson McHardy (mezzo soprano), Éric Laporte (tenor) and Thomislav Lavoie (bass).

There will be all this and so much more before the end of the year, including Les Matins en Musique and Le Concert Famille. For the complete program and to order tickets or subscribe to a series of concerts, visit osq.org.

Photo by Shirley Nadeau

Joël Brouillette, the OSQ director of artistic administration, and Carl Langelier, director of communications and marketing, were overjoyed to announce the program for the 2021-2022 season and introduce conductor Bramwell Tovey via Zoom. Tovey will be the principal guest conductor of the orchestra for the next two seasons.

Photo by Shirley Nadeau

OSQ musicians Catherine Dallaire, Pierre Bégin, Jean Michon, Blair Lofgren and Lambert Chen played an excerpt from the fourth movement of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, the "Ode to Joy" which will be sung by soloists and the orchestra choir during the Nov. 3 concert.

SPORTS SPORTS

Junior baseball season delayed until June 25

Luc Lang
LucLang@qctonline.com

The Ligue de Baseball Junior Élite du Québec (LBJEQ), forced to delay its 2021 season due to public health regulations, will finally start its regular season on June 25.

"Our players, just like everyone else in our society, have gone through some difficult times these past 15 months," said league president Rodger Brulotte in a June 8 press release. "It's with great pleasure that we are starting our 2021 season 20 days earlier than last year."

According to Brulotte, launching the season was a team effort that involved the league, public health authorities and Baseball Québec, the provincial federation that oversees all baseball leagues in the province.

The defending champion Québec Diamants, along with the Charlesbourg Alouettes and the 11 other teams in the league, will play a 32-game season. Like last year, all the regular season games will be played within the teams' respective divisions. This means the Diamants and the Alouettes will play the Saguenay Voyageurs and Trois-Rivières Aigles between June 25 and Aug. 28, the last day of the regular season.

The teams have been playing preseason games since June 14. This is the league's 75th season and activities to mark the anniversary will be announced throughout the year.

For the Charlesbourg Alouettes, the 2021 season will see the arrival of a former Québec Capitales player as head coach. Josué Peley, who also worked with the Toronto Blue Jays as a trilingual translator for several years, will manage the team. It will be the first managerial job for Peley, who was a member of Canada's national baseball team during its ultimately unsuccessful attempt to qualify for the 2020 Olympics.

The Alouettes will be playing on new artificial turf at Parc Henri-Casault, as city employees have finished replacing the natural grass that had been a fixture of the park since its opening.

The Québec Diamants will also have a former Capitales player as their skipper. Former starting pitcher Karl Gélinas, holder of numerous team records with the Capitales, has left the field to become the Diamants manager.

The Alouettes' season will start when they visit the Diamants at Stade Canac in Limoilou on June 25.

Photo by Luc Lang

Former Québec Capitales pitcher Karl Gélinas, seen here in action in 2019, has left the mound to manage the Québec Diamants.

Équipe Québec stays atop division despite long road trips

Luc Lang
LucLang@qctonline.com

They knew that it would not be an easy year, but Équipe Québec is battling hard every game and the results are positive for the Fleurdelysée in Frontier League action.

Équipe Québec played a three-game series in Augusta, N.J., from June 8 to 10 against a familiar foe from the defunct Can-Am League, the Sussex County Miners. After winning the first game 14-9, Équipe Québec lost the following two games 8-1 and 4-1.

After their games in New Jersey, Équipe Québec had a 567-kilometre bus ride and arrived in Washington, Penn., at 5 a.m. on June 11.

Équipe Québec's bats were far from sleepy as the team got 11 hits off the Washington Wild Things pitchers and won the first game of the series 3-2. A single by Jonathan Lacroix, combined with an error from Washington third baseman Brian Sharp in the seventh inning, scored Gift Ngoepe and Jack Barrie to give Équipe Québec the victory. Newly acquired pitcher Pablo Arevalo faced 16 hitters, allowing two hits and no runs in three-and-two-thirds innings pitched in his first start with the team.

On June 12, Frontier League pitcher of the week Miguel Cienfuegos was on the mound for Équipe Québec. Even though Cienfuegos had another solid outing with only one run given up in four innings pitched, it was the Wild Things hurlers who completely shut down the Équipe Québec offence, allowing only six hits and striking out 12 batters. Washington won 3-0.

On June 13, the team from *La Belle Province* played the last game of the series against the Wild Things, losing 7-6. Équipe Québec had an early 4-0 lead but Washington came back to tie the game with four runs in the bottom of the fourth inning and scored two more runs in the bottom of the sixth. Équipe Québec battled back and tied the game at the top of the eighth, but the Wild Things drove the winning run home in the bottom half of the inning.

After a day off to travel the 800 kilometres from Pennsylvania to Joliet, Ill., Équipe Québec played the Slammers from June 15 to 17. The team is then headed to Kentucky for another three-game set, this time against the Florence Y'alls from June 18 to 20. After that, Équipe Québec travels to Avon, Ohio, to face the Lake Erie Crushers in a three-game series that starts on June 22.

To see the team's most up-to-date stats, visit frontierleague.com.

Photo courtesy of Jean Grignon-Francke - Équipe Québec

Équipe Québec catcher Ruben Castro (right) dashes back to first base to avoid being picked off by a Sussex County pitcher in Frontier League action in New Jersey last week.

MondoKarnaval brings world music to Quebec living rooms

ADAPTED FROM A PRESS RELEASE
BY RUBY PRATKA
RUBY@QCTONLINE.COM

MondoKarnaval is excited to announce this year's summer virtual concert series, which will have world music lovers singing and dancing in the comfort of their living rooms!

On **June 25**, Brazilian singer-songwriter **Rommel Ribeiro** will keep the party going with his rhythms, which mix elements of Brazilian pop, Afrobeat, reggae, funk and jazz. His songs, sung in Portuguese, French, Spanish and English, and the high quality of his compositions have earned him a number of prizes, notably the Prix de la diversité Montréal in 2010 and Révélation Radio-Canada 2012-2013 in the world music category.

On **July 9**, Innu singer-songwriter **Florent Vollant** will grace the MondoKarnaval stage with his show, *Mitsha Meshkenu*. He will draw the virtual audience into his world suffused with boreal light. *Mitsha Meshkenu*, which is also the name of Vollant's 2018 album, means "the great road" in Innu. The name refers to Highway 138, which crosses Quebec from the U.S. border to the village of Kegaska on the Lower North Shore, a road Vollant knows well. *Mitsha Meshkenu* is Vollant's sixth solo album, composed of 11 tracks with country, folk and Tex-Mex flavours. It was awarded the SODEC-RIDEAU European broadcasters' jury prize in February 2018.

On **July 23**, festive local ensemble **V'là le Bon Vent** will take the stage. This troupe has shared Quebec culture through song and dance for more than 60 years. They have sung with the greats here and elsewhere, including Gilles Vigneault, Jean-Pierre Ferland, Félix Leclerc, Céline Dion, Charles Aznavour, Perry Como, Foreigner and many more. Their show will include songs from Quebec's greatest performers, with a nod to Québécois traditional music and to French classics, in a straightforward acoustic style.

On **Aug. 6**, travel to the Balkans with **Murmurosi**. The duo's musical roots are in Ukraine, the home country of singer Natalia Telentso. They perform folk songs with original music and compositions, including favourites from Serbia, North Macedonia and Greece. In 2020, Murmurosi launched their first album, *Bohutyn*. The name is a tribute to the village where Telentso's grandmother was born, and the album follows the twists and turns of village life.

On **Aug. 13**, singer **Paula Alecu** will take listeners to her native country, Romania. Known for her varied repertoire and her melodious voice, she needs no introduction in Canada's Romanian community. Inspired by her love of folklore and her desire to transmit her cultural inheritance to future generations, she's happy to sing anywhere as long as she's making audiences happy.

On **Aug. 27, Richy Jay** will close the concert series with Caribbean-inspired urban rhythms from his most recent album, *Caribbean Soul*. This album, released in 2019, is a celebration of the performers of the Haitian diaspora, of Africa, of the Caribbean and of Quebec. Born in Port-au-Prince, Richy Jay, known offstage as Richard Verdieu, is an emerging talent who has already released three solo albums and won a number of prizes. Propelled by his charm and talent, Richy Jay's music can be heard onstage and on the radio around the world. Don't miss this!

Photo by Danielle Burns from QCT archives

The theme of the 2019 MondoKarnaval was "A Voyage to the Caribbean." There will be no parade again this year, but there will be online concerts.

All performances will be broadcast live on the MondoKarnaval website, Facebook page and Youtube channel and on the La Scène Lebourgneuf website starting at **8 p.m.** There will be no live audience at the venue. For further details, visit mondokarnaval.com.

Grand Marché celebrates second anniversary

DANIELLE BURNS
DANIELLE@QCTONLINE.COM

The Grand Marché is celebrating the second anniversary of its move from the former Old Port location to its current home in front of the Videotron Centre.

There was a hum of activity for the festive two-day anniversary celebration over the June 12-13 weekend, much of which took place outdoors. The market was abuzz with free beer and food tastings, birthday cake, music and the sound of people enjoying themselves.

Christine-Judith Pelletier's outdoor plant kiosk, Les Créations Fleur et Papillon, is open Thursday to Sunday until fall, with help from her children and her partner. Pelletier sells hardy plants, mostly perennials, cactuses and succulents as well as some tropical plants.

Pelletier gives a percentage of the kiosk's sales to Operation Enfant Soleil. Her 11-year-old daughter Mollie has been known to make balloon animals to solicit donations for the cause. As her mom helps another customer, Mollie wraps up an air plant, adds a brochure with information on its care to the bag and handles the payment with ease.

One permanent fixture at the market is the SNO Microbrasserie Nordik, owned by American expat Daniel Lowing. Lowing and his microbrewery did not have it easy after the pandemic hit in March 2020. The newly started business didn't qualify for many government aid programs, but Lowing and his wife, Marie-Ève Leblond, kept it afloat by starting a drive-through service, and quadrupled their can sales in the first month. In January, they began distributing their beer to grocery and convenience stores. Lowing said in an email that the customer response has been "great" since they reopened at the end of May. "Our patio has been full every weekend, starting even at noon!" he wrote. He hopes this trend will continue all summer and increase if concerts and hockey games return to the Videotron Centre.

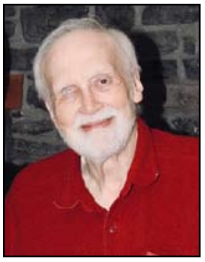
Photo by Danielle Burns

Two enormous cakes like this were served to the public over the weekend for the second anniversary of the Grand Marché, courtesy of L'Érablière Godbout and strawberry vendors.

As for the status of the market on its second anniversary, Lowing said, "You have no idea how well things are going!"

OBITUARY

Keith Mather WHITE



On April 24, 2020, Keith Mather White passed away at Saint Brigid's Home in Quebec City, at the age of 90. Keith was born Keith Mather Rowland in Toronto, Ont. on June 19, 1929 to Herbert Lake Rowland and Marjorie Helen Mather. He was taken to Cleveland at a young age, to live with his great-aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Roland White.

He later returned to Canada, where he received his Bachelor of Science from Sir George Williams College in Montreal. Keith continued to migrate back and forth between the U.S. and Canada, working as an engineer and a sometime student, eventually receiving his Master of Science from the University of Miami. Keith eventually settled in Montreal to live full time and work as a teacher, specializing in math.

Keith was also a brilliant musician and pianist, and very active in the local jazz community. In 1952, he founded the Jazz Workshop along with Paul Bley, whose mission was to create a haven for musicians, by musicians. Some of the many notable players included Willy Girard, Michael Donato, Mark "Wilkie" Wilkinson, Pepper Adams, Jackie McLean, Rene Thomas and Nelson Symonds.

After retiring as a teacher, Keith spent the later part of his life in Quebec City and Rivière-du-Loup. Despite suffering macular degeneration, which left him almost completely blind by the age of 45, Keith continued to enjoy entertaining his close friends and relatives with his proficiency at piano, and in particular his love of "boogie-woogie" music. He made numerous recordings of his own playing, as well as curating an extensive and thorough archive of almost every jazz musician ever published. On any given night you could find him wearing his Bose headphones, eyes closed in a peaceful smile, listening to his beloved "sounds." Keith also enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, playing cribbage, swimming every day, being with his many dogs and cats throughout the years, and of course, a great joke and a sharp wit. He has written a number of books on both mathematics and jazz.

Keith's only marriage was to Jeannine Marie Cossette, who passed away in 1984. He spent the latter part of his life with his longtime girlfriend Rachel Gingras, who passed away in 2018. His brother Robert Franklin White, sister Eleanor Jones and cousin Barbara Williams have also passed away in recent years.

Keith is survived by his sons André White and Erik Van Wyck, and his grandson Niko Van Wyck. His granddaughter Aspasia Van Wyck was tragically killed in 2017. Keith has been laid to rest at St. Bartholomew Anglican Church in Rivière-du-Loup, Quebec.

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(Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph Corporation Inc.)

2600 boulevard Laurier, bureau 202
(Place de la Cité)
Québec, QC G1V 4T3

Tel.:**418-650-1764**
Fax:**418-650-5172**

reception@qctonline.com
www.qctonline.com

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- EDITOR & PUBLISHER - *Stacie Stanton*
- GENERAL MANAGER - *Taylor Ireland*
- ADMINISTRATION & ADVERTISING - *Zach Shoub, zach@qctonline.com*
- CIRCULATION- *Arianne Halpin, circulation@qctonline.com*
- ASSIGNMENT EDITOR - *Shirley Nadeau*
- COPY EDITORS - *Pauline Kerr & Ruby Pratka*
- JOURNALISTS - *Peter Black, Danielle Burns, Bill Cox, Pauline Kerr, Cassandra Kerwin, Lise Lafond, Luc Lang, Charles André Nadeau, Shirley Nadeau, Lorie Pierce, Ruby Pratka*
- ONLINE UPDATING - *BBJ, Inc.*
- PHOTOGRAPHER- *Jonathan Letellier-Black*
- GRAPHIC DESIGN - *Cheryl Stabinski*

Your feedback is always welcome. You may submit letters and comments on our website at qctonline.com, by email to editor@qctonline.com, by fax to 418-650-5172 or by mail to *Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph*, 2600 boulevard Laurier, bureau 202, (Place de la Cité), Québec, QC G1V 4T3. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Anonymous material will not be published. For more information, please call 418-650-1764.

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Community Calendar of Events

Imagine Picasso is spending the summer at the **Quebec City Convention Centre** from **June 16 to Sept. 6**. This huge immersive exhibit offers a fresh perspective on the Spanish artist's work. Spectators will view more than 200 of his paintings projected in a constantly changing format on floor-to-ceiling screens. Order your tickets at imagine-picasso.com.

June 17 to July 4 - The Festival Jazz en juin (et juillet) **de Québec** is back! More than 100 Quebec musicians will charm music lovers with 16 concerts at the Impérial Bell, Studio TELUS at the Grand Théâtre and the new Salle Arquemuse in Saint-Roch, or via livestream. The event is twinned with the project *Québec animée* organized by the Ville de Québec. Twenty-one groups and some 60 musicians will offer impromptu performances in 21 parks and iconic places in the city. For details and tickets, visit festivalquebecjazzenjuin.com.

Discover the 11 Indigenous nations living in Quebec at the **Kwe! festival** from **June 18 to July 4**. An outdoor exhibit at Place Jean-Béliveau will bring to life the sights and sounds of Indigenous communities and territories. Booths at the Grand Marché will also allow festival goers to discover traditional hunting and gathering methods and taste First Nations cuisine. Livestreamed concerts and craft demonstrations will also be featured on the festival's Facebook and YouTube pages.

The **Morrin Centre** has planned several events that will be held both online and in person:

* On **June 18 at 7:30 p.m.** enjoy ***Some Enchanted Evening 2*** with songs from *South Pacific, Hit the Deck, Oklahoma* and many more! Seven singers and a pianist will bring you back to the era of Doris Day, Gene Kelly, Judy Garland, Rita Hayworth and Audrey Hepburn. Please note that this event will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity (31 Rue des Jardins).

* On **June 23 at 7:30 p.m. Bernard Crustin** will give an online demonstration of **traditional Québécois storytelling**, followed by a workshop. To register for these events, visit morrin.org/en/event.

June 25, 26 and 27 - SNACS Entrepreneurs will be holding a summer **book fair** in the gymnasium of Quebec High School, 945 Avenue Belvédère. The book fair will run on **Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** All books $3. Only credit and debit card sales will be accepted (no cash). If you have used books in good condition to donate, you may do so from June 23-26. For more information, call 418-570-8355.

Note: *If there is a community event you would like to have publicized, please let us know by email at least two weeks in advance (shirley@qctonline.com).*

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Researched and compiled by Lorie Pierce, lorie@qctonline.com

Reliving the coronation of King George V

On June 22, 1911, Prince George of Wales succeeded his father Edward VII on the throne as King George V.

On the day of his father's death in May 1910, George wrote in his diary, "I have lost my best friend and the best of fathers…. I never had a [cross] word with him in my life."

A year later, the editorial in the *Quebec Chronicle* stated, "Today the eyes of the Empire are turned towards the solemn and magnificent ceremony in Westminster Abbey where His Majesty, King George V, is being crowned King of Great Britain and the Overseas Dominions."

Local celebrations included numerous church services, an elaborate formal dinner given by Lt.-Gov. Sir François Langelier at Spencer Wood, gaily decorated buildings, and for Imperial Bank employees, a bonus in pay equal to five per cent of their yearly salary. Readers of the *Quebec Chronicle* had the choice of purchasing an expanded 10-page issue for one cent or a 112-page illustrated supplement for 25 cents.

Over in London, England, "Dense crowds of people… began to leave their homes and make their way towards the centre of the city. Late trains and streetcars poured tens of thousands into the capital until the streets overflowed. The entire police force came on duty and kept pedestrians in circulation, although they were compelled to stop all vehicular traffic."

As spectators moved into place, "60,000 troops were preparing for their strenuous duties…. Several regiments who are camped in the outlying district started out tonight for their appointed positions along the route amid the cheering of the crowds."

In preparation for the festivities, "large tents [were] erected in the palace yard where 3,550 meals were served during the course of the day." A 10-foot-high cake, made by the royal confectioners for the occasion, was topped with "two temples of sugar, various statuettes and figures, and a full rigged ship – all in white sugar – the whole being surmounted by a crown on a cushion" … with "hand-painted miniatures of the King and Queen surrounded by the rose, shamrock and thistle."

The investiture ceremony of King George V and Queen Mary took place at noon. "Their Majesties, with gleaming crowns on their heads and gorgeous robes outspread behind them, the great Cullinan diamond flashing from the Imperial crown, all the nobles of the throne in quaint costumes of ancient offices, with a few modern uniforms, the four peeresses attending the Queen in shimmering gowns, pages in light-blue and white grouped behind them, an array of church dignitaries robed in scarlet and gold, formed the centre of the picture."

The royal couple's children also played a prominent role in the ceremony. "Below the King and Queen were the young Prince of Wales [future King Edward VIII] … Just above the altar to the right of the King ... was the girlish Princess Mary, wearing the coronet of a peeress … and the three younger Princes in Scotch kilts."

Throughout the Abbey, "Yeomen of the Guard with halberds* lined the aisles ... and in the greatest boxes rising high against the walls and filling the transepts and galleries were 7,000 spectators, forming blocks of quivering variegated colour. In one group were the future rulers of most of the kingdoms of Europe… In another was the diplomatic corps, competing with the royalties in the splendor of their uniforms and decorations."

The ladies in attendance "were arrayed in court costumes ... many wore tiaras" and "there was a treasure of precious stones never before collected in one place and costly enough to buy the ships of the British navy."

King George V remained on the throne for 25 years, until his death in 1936 at the age of 70.

**A halberd is a two-handed pole axe, formerly used in battle, and later as ceremonial arms carried by officers and bodyguards for dignitaries.*

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This painting of King George V in coronation robes (circa 1911) is from the Royal Collection.

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SERVICE GUIDE

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(The Book of Common Prayer)
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418-653-9432

Chalmers-Wesley United Church
78 Rue Sainte-Ursule, Quebec, QC G1R 4E8
Minister: Rev. Andrew K. Lairenge

Until further notice, please join us for live worship services via Zoom on Sunday at 11 a.m. Call or email the church office for the link information.
Church secretary: 418-692-2640
Email: chalmers-wesley@qc.aira.com
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Sunday at 10 a.m.
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All Masses are celebrated in English.
E-mail: office@stpatricksquebec.com
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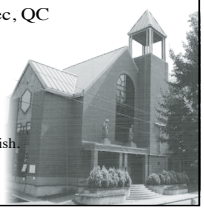

Each vaccination brings us closer to this moment.

Follow the vaccination sequence planned for your area, and book an appointment online at

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