

Side by side: The neighbouring communities of St. Columban and Gore



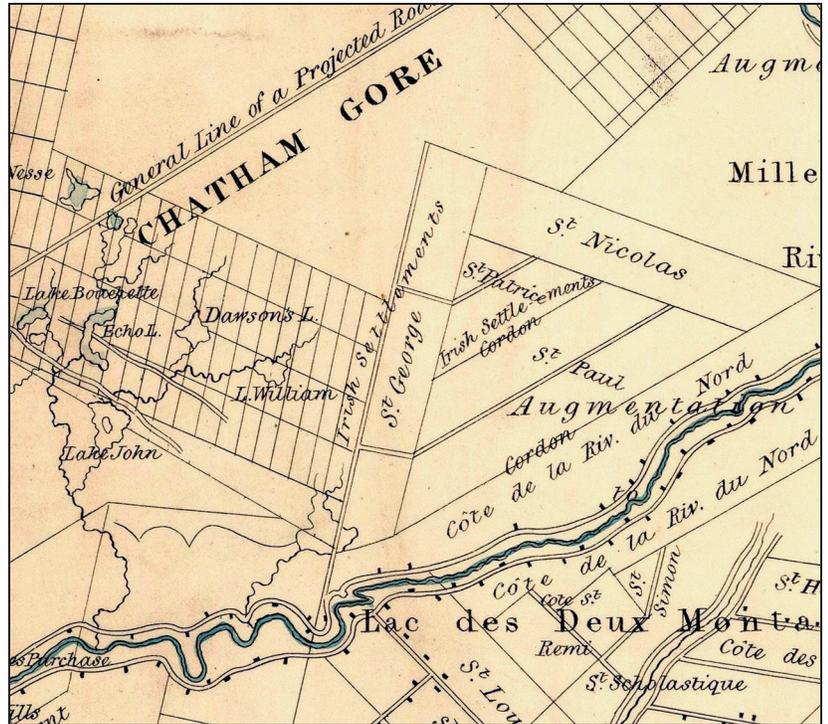
By Louise Johnston

Readers of *NUAcht* will be familiar with St. Columban through several articles published over the years. Thanks to the hard work of Fergus Keyes the cemetery has been restored and the history of the community is enjoying a revival.

My colleague Luc Matter and I have been working on a history of Gore, a small township immediately adjacent to St. Columban on the west side, and not long ago we began comparing the settlement patterns of these neighbouring communities. We have found some interesting convergences and divergences.

The township of Gore is so named for its shape and its positioning. In surveyor's parlance, a "gore" is an irregular piece of land often lying between two larger divisions. In this instance, Gore is wedged between the Seigneuries of Argenteuil and Deux Montagnes to the south and east respectively, and the townships of Chatham and Wentworth to the west.

Lumbermen and settlers began arriving in Gore in the early 1820s and in 1826 a group of 33 men petitioned the Governor General for permission to remain on the land. By



A portion of James Wyld's Map of the country around Montreal, 1837. This map is an exact copy of Joseph Bouchette's 1831 map of Montreal and surrounding area. The straight roads connecting St. Columban (Irish Settlements) and Gore are projected, not actual. They were eventually constructed sometime in the 1840s.

1832, the first four ranges had been surveyed and in that year 72 farming families—having fulfilled their "settling duties"—were issued letters patent for their lots.

Who were these settlers? The vast majority were newly arrived Irish Protestants and like the Irish who moved to St. Columban, they were part of a wave of pre-famine immigrants who left

Cont. p.6

NUAcht

November 2014
Vol. 27, Issue 4

I N S I D E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oyster party now a perennial favouritep.3 • Three Society events to keep you busy.....p.5 • The FIS End of Summer Party 2014.....p.8 • Fifty years later ... and a night to be remembered p.9 • Questions about the ICCC ... and the answersp.10 • Irish Dancing Championships showcase local talent p.11 • Don't miss Cine Gael's opening night – January 23..... p.12 • Show & Tell ... for grownups: the Irish Montreal edition..... p.13 • Kahnawà:ke – Mohawks and the Irish Famine.....p.14 • Travelling abroad this winter? Consider these tips..... p.15 • Les Irlandais de souche p.16
----------------------------	---

A word from the President

It is hard to believe we are fast approaching the Christmas Season. Our calendars are filling quite quickly with many events through the month of December. The executive and board look forward to seeing you at Hurley's Pub on December 11th for our members' Christmas Reception (details on p.5). I hope that we will see a great turnout of Society members.

The dates and locations for our two major events have been set. The St. Patrick's Ball will be held on March 6th and the St. Patrick's luncheon will take place on March 17th. Both events this year will be held at the Chateau Champlain Hotel. I would encourage our members to reserve the dates for these two events and join other Society members in attending both the ball and the luncheon. These two events are important fund-raising activities for the Society; they enable us to continue to support and sponsor many Irish cultural events. This year our guest of honour at the ball and our guest speaker at the luncheon will prove most interesting. We are waiting for final confirmations from our invited guests and will advise you early in January of their attendance.

During the past month, we have had several resignations from the executive committee. Jim Kellett, our treasurer has moved to Singapore with his family and Marilyn Meikle has stepped down from the role of vice-president. On behalf of the board and members, I wish to thank both Jim

and Marilyn for their dedication and work on behalf of the Society. Because of their departure, the board has appointed Ken Quinn as vice-president, Laurie Bennett as treasurer, and Carol McCormick as secretary. Laurie will be a new addition to the board and executive with an extensive background with the Montreal Alouettes, formerly as vice-president of finance and currently vice-president of administration. Ken and Carol both have a tremendous history with Montreal's Irish culture and with our Society. I look forward to working closely with the new members of our executive team.

Christmas is always a hectic season. Please take some moments to reflect and enjoy your time with family and friends. On behalf of the board and the executive, may we wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and here is to a great 2015.

Jim Killin
November 2014



Important notice regarding future issues of *NUACHT*

To help keep expenses in check and to combat the rising costs associated with producing *NUACHT*, beginning with the next issue copies will be mailed uniquely to those members for whom the office has no e-mail address on record.

The newsletter will continue to be added to the St. Patrick's Society's website. Those members whose e-mail addresses are on record will also continue to receive notification when the latest edition is available on the website.

If you have any questions, concerns, content suggestions, or if you have an e-mail address but also wish to continue receiving a printed copy of *NUACHT*, please contact Ken Quinn, whose e-mail address is ken.quinn@videotron.ca and who can be reached at (514) 247-3296.



We would like to thank the following who contributed articles to this issue of *NUACHT*:

Dave Crandall	Paul Loftus
Paul Dunne	Johnny Maloney
Stephen Fogarty	Jim McDermott
Lisa Forget	Ken Quinn
Ruth Hanna	Rose Quinn
Dana Hearne	Matina Skalkogiannis
Louise Johnston	Patrick Short
Michael Kenneally	Michelle Sullivan
Jim Killin	Christine Zachary Deom

If you would like to submit an article for the next or future issues, we would love to hear from you.

Editor



NUACHT, Community Newsletter of St. Patrick's Society of Montreal

Editorial Board: Anne Forrest (Editor)
E-mail: nuacht@spsmtl.com
Ken Quinn
Jim Killin

Proofreading: Maura Druda

Advertising: Erin Matheson
E-mail: office@spsmtl.com

Printing: Centre de copie commerciale
460 St. Catherine Street West
Montreal, QC H3B 1A7
Tel.: (514) 842-2545

Subscription: \$25.00 per year

Please address all contributions to the Editor at the Society Office.

Tel.: (514) 481-1346 Fax: (514) 481-9048

E-mail: office@spsmtl.com
St. Patrick's Society of Montreal
St. Patrick Square
6767 Côte St. Luc Road, #1
Montreal, QC H4V 2Z6
www.spsmtl.com

Deadline for submissions for next issue: February 9, 2015

News from the Society

Oyster party now a perennial favourite

By Dave Crandall

Thursday, October 23, 2014 started off as another drab fall day in Montreal. Under normal circumstances, the light drizzle and brisk wind would have kept most people at home, curled up by the fire, sipping on Irish coffee. These were not normal circumstances. For the third year in a row, the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club and St. Patrick's Society teamed up to put on a vodka-oyster party to raise funds for the Society and the Rugby Club.

This year the event was held at Hurley's Irish Pub, a favourite spot of both the Society and the Rugby Club. With live music by Solstice and oysters courtesy of the Old Port Fishing Company and Notkins Restaurant, you knew the 90+ attendees were in for a good time! The beer – courtesy of Les Brasseurs RJ, maker of an assortment of fantastic beers including Belle Gueule – and vodka drinks were flowing freely and the food and oysters were top notch. The crowd was a great mix of Society members, rugby players, supporters and friends. The fantastic Hurley's staff and our oyster shuckers extraordinaire, Colin and Ali, kept things running and kept people smiling. Although not a contest per se, I was informed that Bob McDevitt – long-time member of the Rugby Club – had taken home first prize on the evening with a total of “five dozen on the half shell and a substantial amount of wine.” Well done, Bob!

I would like to thank in particular the organizing committee, without whom the vodka-oyster party would not have been possible: Louise Guimond, Erin Matheson, Seymour Ward, Mark Gallagher and Jim Kellett (our dearly departed* board member of the Society and Rugby Club, the founder of this great event).

On behalf of the organizing committee as well as both the Society and Rugby Club, we want to thank everybody who contributed to the event. The funds raised on that evening go to support a number of different initiatives, including our friends at the South Shore Shrine Club, as well as the Verdun Mini Rugby Program, a program designed to introduce the next generation to the sport of rugby and to the ideals that this sport represents.

We hope to see you next year for more oysters!

* Lest there should be some confusion, please note that Jim Kellett is alive and well and living in Singapore!

Photos: Dave Crandall



Gus O'Gorman, Andrew Dawe, Mike Magee, Manon Belair, Alistair O'Hara and Sharon McArthy



Eddy Brennan, Seymour Ward and Neale McDevitt



Stephane Boucher, Dave Crandall, Mark Gallagher and Mike Magee



III News

The Irish Immigrant Integration Initiative of SPS will be hosting a special workshop in conjunction with Youth Employment Services Montreal on Tuesday, February 10th, from 6:00 to 8:00. The workshop will focus on developing job-search skills to find meaningful employment in Montreal. Attendance will be by pre-registration only. For full info and to register, visit the III website <http://www.irishinitiative.org/>

Irish food culture comes alive at Concordia's annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture

By Dr. Michael Kenneally

The association between Ireland and food has long been a complicated one, made especially poignant during the years of the Famine, when so many Irish people died of hunger and malnutrition. Irish food has also been subjected to stereotypical images associated with the international celebration of St. Patrick's Day, especially in North America, where green beer, Irish coffee, and corned beef and cabbage are the principal dishes that come to mind.

In recent years, Irish chefs, food producers, and many local artisans, along with the Irish Government itself, have attempted to broaden public perception about Irish food. In particular, scholars at various institutions are conducting research, holding conferences, and publishing academic papers, with the intention of tracking a long and diverse tradition in Ireland of producing and consuming a wide array of food that is both varied and delicious.

One of the most pivotal figures in this movement, because he combines professional experience as a chef with his research and teaching in Irish food studies, is Dr. Máirtín Mac Con Iomaire. Mac Con Iomaire, a professor in Culinary Arts in the Dublin Institute of Technology, gave the ninth annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture in Irish Studies at Concordia, on October 17th. Previous speakers in this high-profile series include former Prime Minister Dr. Garret FitzGerald, journalist and author Fintan O'Toole, Abbey Theatre Director Fiach McConghaill, and the well-known Irish food personality Darina Allen. Dr. Mac Con Iomaire was introduced by Rhona Richman Kenneally, a Professor in Concordia's Department of Design and Computation Arts and a Fellow of the School of Canadian Irish Studies. Dr. Richman Kenneally is, herself, an authority in Irish food studies, having undertaken a major, funded project to explore changes in everyday habits of cooking and eating within the Irish home during the mid-twentieth century. This research has already led to a number of publications by her, and is the subject of a monograph to be published in the future.

Professor Mac Con Iomaire's lecture was inspired by Professor Richman Kenneally's research, which aims to challenge the cliché that Ireland does not have a vibrant food culture. This misconception has been articulated even by scholars, including one well-recognized professor at New York University who wrote that: "The Irish experience with food—recurrent famines and an almost universal reliance on the potato, a food imposed on them—had left too painful a mark on the Irish Catholic majority to be considered a source of communal expression and national joy." This professor went on to add that whereas "neither the potato diet nor the Famine (or continuous famines) alone determined Irish food practices, together they combined powerfully to repress an expressive culture based on food." To move beyond this position and explore Ireland's actual, diverse and fascinating food heritage, Professor Mac Con Iomaire offered his audience a fascinating and comprehensive account of the variety of food that was produced and consumed in

Ireland, from ancient time to the present. Equally important, he offered convincing evidence of how Irish food culture has, throughout the ages, been celebrated through other genres as well, for example in songs and poetry. In his lecture, entitled "Exploring the 'Food Motif' in songs from the Irish tradition," Mac Con Iomaire complemented his analysis with snippets of songs and verses of poetry, and thus made the evening as entertaining as it was informative. Some of the songs he referred to gave extended lists of food served at both ordinary and special meals, from all kinds of fish (salmon, trout, cod, hake, herring, mackerel, etc.) and seafood (oysters, crabs, lobsters, scallops, etc.) to every imaginable dish made from beef, lamb, pork, chicken, duck, geese, wild game and wild fowl. When one adds the cheeses, breads, vegetables, beers and wines that were also consumed in the various regions of Ireland during its history, the full and rich range of Irish cuisine becomes apparent. Such discovery, by the way, was also experienced by Queen Elizabeth during her recent visit to the historic English Market in Cork, a city with a longstanding and substantial Irish food tradition, including local favourites such as tripe and drisheen. No one planning to visit Cork should miss this exceptional feature of the city, not to mention the excellent restaurant that offers a fun bird's-eye view of the bustling scene in the foodhall below.

Professor Mac Con Iomaire also mentioned the number of first-rate restaurants to be found, with a little effort, in all parts of Ireland, as well as the number of local food producers that are offering an exceptional array of delicious and high-quality delicacies. Food export is at the forefront of the economic recovery now taking place in Ireland, and partaking of this edible bounty has become one of the added pleasures for tourists visiting the country. The Burren Food Trail, for example, is a wonderful, well-organized excursion through County Clare that identifies great food stops along the way, and features a schedule of festivals, talks, and other events to tempt any gastronome (plus a variety of non-food related activities as well). Such an extraordinary region of Ireland geographically—with a unique geology and plant-life not found anywhere else in the country—is the perfect landscape to complement the fabulous ice-cream, cheese, artisanal beer, smoked salmon, and other treasures in store for the tourist. So, on your next trip to Ireland, your visit can become even more memorable if you make the effort, in addition to stopping at such predictable sites as the Guinness Storehouse, and such distillers as Tullamore Dew and Bushmills, to track down some of the many fabulous restaurants, farmers markets and local producers of everything from seaweed to bread, chocolate to smoked mackerel, and sausages to spring lamb. Bon Appetit!



Photo: Ken Quinn

Dr. Máirtín Mac Con Iomaire



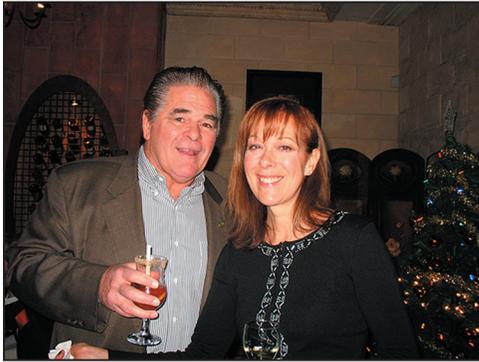
Three Society events to keep you busy

Christmas Reception for members

This year's annual pre-Christmas celebration will take place on Thursday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. The venue is Hurley's Irish Pub at 1225 Crescent Street. Members and spouses or guests are invited to get together and enjoy festive music as they look back over the past year.

Please advise Erin no later than December 8th if you are planning to attend what is sure to be a most entertaining evening.

office@spsmtl.com or (514) 481-1346



Eddy Brennan and Lynda McAssey-Premierl at the SPS Christmas Reception 2013



Irene Woods and Fiona McGeachy at the SPS Christmas Reception 2013

The Ball and Luncheon 2015

As this edition of *NUACHT* goes to press, details of the St. Patrick's Society's Annual Charity Ball and Annual Luncheon are still being finalized. Details of the Ball that are known are that it will be held on March 6th at the Marriott Chateau Champlain Hotel. Returning to entertain guests for a second year is the award winning The Directors Showband, whose extensive repertoire will undoubtedly get the guests off their seats and onto the dance floor.

After trying something different last year, the St. Patrick's Society's Annual Luncheon is returning to its roots in 2015 and being held on March 17th. However the Luncheon is moving to the Marriott Chateau Champlain after countless years at its previous location.

Further details will be published in the next edition of *NUACHT*, through e-mail to St. Patrick's Society members, on our website,



Aislin, Tom Mulcair and Paul Doyle at the SPS Luncheon 2014

and via social media channels such as Twitter and Facebook. You may also call the office at (514) 481-1346.



Cornwall Irish memorial dedication October 18th, 2014

By Johnny Maloney

A Celtic cross monument was erected on the site of the original Quarantine hospital in Cornwall's Lamoreaux Park near Pointe-Mal on October 18th 2014. The monument is dedicated to the memory of the 52 Irish emigrants who perished there from typhoid fever. Two hundred and thirty four emigrants arrived at the hospital between June 14th and October 18th 1847. The names of the deceased are contained in a recently discovered hospital logbook.

Among those at the dedication ceremony were his Excellency Dr. Ray Bassett, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada. Mr. Robert Kilger, Mayor of Cornwall and Ms. Katie Burke, Cornwall Irish Memorial Committee.

The list of private and corporate donors to the Celtic Cross Fund includes some names that might be familiar to Montrealers: BGL Brokerage, Borden, Ladner, Gervais, Janice Maloney-Brooks, and John Maloney.



Side by side (cont.)

Louise Johnston (PhD. McGill) lives in Lachute, Québec and is currently working on a history of the township of Gore. Her active interest in local history dates to the 1980s when she produced a small volume on the Anglican Church in Gore entitled Chronicles of a Country Church. She was editor of the English-language newspaper in Lachute for several years. Her maternal ancestors were Irish Protestants who immigrated to Canada in the early nineteenth century and settled in Gore. Their surnames were Westgate and Moore.

their homeland to escape religious discord, periodic crop failures, chronic food shortages and rising prices and disease.

Like their countrymen in St. Columban, the Irish of Gore were farmers. Both groups cleared the land, produced potash, raised crops and animals, built houses, mills, churches and schools and made new lives for themselves in the foothills of the Laurentians. As with St. Columban, the land in Gore is notoriously rough and difficult to farm and is inclined (as the locals say) to grow rocks in abundance.

know that in the Rebellion of 1837 some men in St. Columban, as members of the Reform Association, attended Patriotes rallies in St. Benoit and Ste. Scholastique. We also know that Orangemen of Gore conducted themselves in a less than exemplary manner at Grand Brûlé.

Oddly enough, linguistic differences could have been a barrier to communication. The following story illustrates this point. In the summer of 1841 James Hammond and his son David went out one evening in search of their cows.

They lost their way in the woods, wandered into Morin, which was then an unbroken wilderness, and, finally, came out in St. Columban, ten miles distant, in a direct line from home. There, at Phelan's store, Mr. Hammond learned where they were. In their wanderings they had travelled many miles in a circuitous route, and though they came to a shanty or two in the forest, they could learn nothing, as they contained only women, who could not speak English; and, indeed, they were too much frightened at the appearance of a stranger to say anything. The lost man and boy were absent three days, and their neighbours had been out searching for them in all directions. (Thomas, p. 439)

The settlement and growth of the two communities were almost mirror images of one another. During the 1820s, 30s, and 40s, the population in both areas grew steadily and by the 1851 census St. Columban had 888 inhabitants, Gore about 976. As famine had swept through Ireland in the 1840s, both groups welcomed new immigrants from the old country. In addition, both benefitted from a very high birth rate.

By the late nineteenth century, the population in the two communities began to decline as people moved to the cities or migrated to other parts of the province and the country in search of better jobs and/or land. In so doing, both helped to create something of an Irish Diaspora on this continent—many, many people across Canada and the United States trace their roots in North America to these two small communities. Unlike St. Columban, some descendants of the original Irish families who settled Gore still live in the township and more live in Lachute and surrounding area.

If they shared much in common, they also had their differences. The two groups were on opposite sides of the proverbial religious divide. The Irish of St. Columban were predominantly Roman Catholic from such counties as Kilkenny, Carlow, Kildare, Wexford, Westmeath, Tipperary and Armagh. The Gore Irish were Protestant from the counties of Sligo, Mayo, Cavan, Wicklow, Donegal, Down and Monaghan.

What they thought or saw of one another is difficult to ascertain as the documentary evidence is slim. Roads connecting the two settlements did not exist until at least the 1840s. We do

What language did the women speak? In all likelihood Gaelic. James Hammond was probably an English speaker. In his study of St. Columban, Claude Bourguignon notes that in the 1830s many of the people in the parish spoke only Gaelic (p. 53). A fair number of people in Argenteuil were Gaelic speakers, but they were for the most part Scots immigrants who lived in the communities of St. Andrews, Chatham and Harrington.

If there were Gaelic speakers in Gore, I am sure we would all like to think that, from time to time, they enjoyed conversing in this lovely ancient language with their neighbours in St. Columban. *Cinnnte!*

Sources:

Bourguignon, Claude, *Saint-Colomban: Une épopée irlandaise au piémont des Laurentides*. Éditions d'ici là, 1988.

Johnston, Louise and Luc Matter, *Story of Gore*, The Gore Express, Township of Gore, Québec, May 2012; Nov. 2012; June 2013; July 2014.

Thomas, Cyrus, *History of the Counties of Argenteuil, Que., & Prescott, Ont., from the Earliest Settlement to the Present*. John Lovell & Son, 1896. Available on archive.org

For histories of St. Columban please see <http://www.stcolumban-irish.com>.



An old-fashioned Christmas concert promises to delight all

By Lisa Forget

This year, 2014 will mark the twelfth annual St. Gabriel Parish Benefit Christmas Concert, directed by Terry Clahane (St. Gabriel Parish organist and choir director) and long-time friend and collaborator, Lisa Forget.

Amid the glow of a hundred candles, this old-fashioned Christmas concert features the St. Gabriel Choir, Christine Forget, Geraldine O'Donnell, Francis Baddeley, Lisa Forget, and many others, including this year's guest performers Pierre Ladouceur (*Les Miserables*), Carol McCormick (St. Patrick's Basilica's soprano soloist), Peter Fox (star of 2011 tribute to Elvis), and violinist Nika Cantabile – all of whom donate their time and talent.

This event filled with Christmas favourites such as "Adeste Fideles," "White Christmas," "O Holy Night," "I'll be Home for Christmas," "Christmas in Killarney" and a host of musical gems in between, promises an evening that is sure to entertain you and light the flame of your Christmas spirit. All proceeds from the concert benefit the charitable work of St. Gabriel Parish. After the performance, all in attendance are invited to enjoy dessert and coffee in the parish hall.

This year's Benefit Christmas Concert takes place at 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 7th in St. Gabriel Church located at 2157 rue Centre, Montreal, Quebec.

Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$15 (\$5 for children 10 and under) and available by calling 514-937-3597.

**St. Gabriel Parish Benefit
Christmas Concert**
Directed by Terry Clahane & Lisa Forget



Sunday, December 7th, 2014
2157 rue Centre, Montreal, Qc
Concert begins at 7:00 pm
Doors open at 6:15 pm
Tickets: \$15.00
(\$5 for children 10 yrs and under)
 Available by calling the rectory at 514-937-3597
 All proceeds benefit St. Gabriel Parish

As the chairperson of last year's St. Patrick's Society Christmas Concert, I'd like to inform everyone that the Society made the decision to take a step back from organizing a Christmas concert in 2014 in order to recharge its batteries and come up with some new and exciting performers and improvements for 2015. On behalf of SPS, I encourage everyone to support and attend St. Gabriel's Christmas Concert.

Lynda Premerl



Oktoberfest attracted over 60 Innisfail members

By Rose Quinn

Our special event of the fall, the Oktoberfest, proved highly successful. The turnout was very encouraging and judging from the feedback, the evening was one that may well be repeated.

A picture is worth a thousand words (we're told), so here are a few mementoes of hours of fun at the Legion on October 27th.



Lining up for the buffet

Be sure to join us for Innisfail's next happening: our Christmas Party on December 5th. The price for members is \$5.00 and only \$10.00 for their guests. As usual, we'll be at the NDG Legion at the corner of Addington and de Maisonneuve.



Jan Chlumswky – the one-man band



Sandy and John leading the dance

Photos courtesy of John Gilroy



The FIS End of Summer Party 2014

By Paul Loftus

Montreal's Federation of Irish Societies held its second annual End of Summer Party on September 18 at the Irish Embassy Pub and Grill. Over 200 of Montreal's Irish community turned out – a number that greatly exceeded the expectations of the organizers. The attendance was a complete cross section of Montreal's Irish and the age range was 18 to 94. The Guest of Honour was Ray Bassett, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada.

MC Paul Loftus started the formalities by first introducing his fellow directors of The Federation of Irish Societies, Victor Boyle and Ronan Corbett. He thanked his two co-founding directors Ken Quinn and Mike Kennedy, both former presidents of the United Irish Societies of Montreal.

Next, Lisa Forget spoke about her new musical *Danny Boy* by Lisa and Chris Barillaro, an extract of which will be performed at the Calixa-Lavalée Theatre. Among others, the cast includes Kathleen McAuliffe from Dublin, a former Bunratty Castle entertainer, and the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancers. When three of the Montreal Irish Community's most dynamic women get together, you can be sure you're in for something special. For further information lisaforget@sympatico.ca

Paul then introduced Devin Shanks, President of the Montreal Celtic Society who provided information about the first Celtic Convention to be held in Montreal on the weekend of May 2 and 3, 2015. This is a recently formed organization representing the Irish, Scottish, Welsh, Manx, Cornish and Bretons. The convention is expected to attract Celts from across Canada. Any Celtic organization can participate at no cost as exhibitors or by selling merchandise. The convention will also include Celtic music and a range of lectures on matters of interest to the Celtic community. Further information is available at www.montrealcelticsociety.org

Victor Boyle named the presidents or representatives of the Irish organizations who were present. Ancient Order of Hibernians (himself), Cine Gael (Lynn Doyle), Erin Sports Assoc. (Tim Furlong), Gaelic Athletic Assoc. (Ronan Corbett), Innisfail Social & Sports Club (John Gilroy, past-president), Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce (Jim Kellett, director), Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club (Frank Rooney, past-president), SIAMSA (Denis Martin), St. Patrick's Society (Jim Killin), Tara Golf Assoc. (John O'Shea, past-president), United Irish Societies (Beverly Murphy), University College Dublin Alumni Assoc. (Paul Loftus).

Presidents of other organizations attending were: Dr. Esther Benzra, British Quebec Business Coalition; Tony Kez, The Hungarian Chamber of Commerce; Devin Shanks, The Montreal Celtic Society; and Byron Toben, immediate past president of the Montreal Press Club.

Paul then called on the next speaker, Fergus Keyes, director of the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation. He informed the gathering that the proposed park will be situated close to the Irish Memorial Rock on Bridge Street. It is intended that the park include a clubhouse/museum and a Gaelic football/hurling field. For further information check www.montrealirishmonument.com



Photo: Ken Quinn

Directors of the Federation of Irish Societies (L. to R.) Ronan Corbett, Victor Boyle, Ambassador Bassett and Paul Loftus

Next up was Ronan Corbett in his capacity as president of the Montreal Shamrock's GAA Club. Ronan displayed the two cups the Gaelic football team won this year, the Quebec Cup and the Eastern Canadian Championship Cup. This is the first year of this championship which was played in St. John's Newfoundland. The competing teams were St. John's, Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal and Ottawa. The Montreal Shamrocks defeated the Halifax Gaels in the final with a score of 0-9 (9) to 1-1 (4). For further information on the GAA in Montreal please contact montrealshamrocksgaa@gmail.com or phone Ronan Corbett at (514) 817-7115 or check out their website at www.montrealgaa.com

The next speaker was Frank Rooney, a past-president of the Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club (MIRFC). Frank displayed the two cups the rugby club won this year. It won the Quebec Super League by defeating Ottawa Indians 31 to 15 and the Quebec Super Reserves League by defeating St. Anne's 17 to 12. The finals were played at the MIRFC grounds at St. Julie in front of over 1,000 fans. MIRFC also won the Super League in 2010 and 2011. Information on the MIRFC can be obtained by checking their website at www.montrealirish.com

Following Frank was the main speaker, His Excellency Ambassador Ray Bassett. Ambassador Bassett had just returned from Ireland and made a special trip to be in Montreal for the event. The Ambassador first thanked the three directors of the FIS for such a wonderful evening, remarking on the variety of organizations represented and the large turnout. He had some good news about improvements in the Irish economy and informed us about the increase in jobs and the corresponding decline in emigration. He admitted that there's still a way to go, but Ireland is on its way to recovery.

Throughout the evening, music was provided by SIAMSA including Denis Martin, president of SIAMSA (Montreal), Harold Brooks (Dublin), Gemma Brooks (Ballina, Co. Mayo) and Luce Bernard (Montreal).

Paul ended the formalities by thanking owner Paul Quinn, manager Joe Cannon and the staff of the Irish Embassy Pub and Grill. 

Fifty years later ... and a night to be remembered

By Jim McDermott

The passing of Ian Paisley on September 12th aged 88, conjures up for me a kaleidoscope of memories. The self-professed leader of Unionism who had lambasted every other unionist leader for over fifty years – if they dared show any sign of compromising with Nationalists or Republicans – found in his declining years that his own ultimate agreement to go into government with Sinn Fein baffled his supporters and angered many of his lifelong followers. It's quite remarkable that a man who had divided opinion so extremely for much of his life should in death bring such positive comments from right across Ireland's political spectrum. The reason, of course, was his role in creating a more stable power-sharing Northern Irish administration. Those who knew the 'holy terror' say he could be a very likeable person in private, the polar opposite of his ranting, his calculating, and sometimes sinister public persona. It was truly amazing to see the magnanimity displayed by so many in their tributes, which was in marked contrast to the bitter comments Paisley had uttered in the past about Catholic Church leaders on their deaths. Not surprisingly, Sinn Fein's Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness, in his tribute said, "Very sad to learn that Ian Paisley has died. My deepest sympathy to his wife Eileen and family. Once political opponents – I have lost a friend."

Flashback! Five Decades Belfast, September 19th, 1964.

It's a Saturday evening, I'm an exuberant seventeen-year old in the company of an old schoolmate Tonto, and a mutual friend Seamus. It's closing time at a Belfast city pub, and we're enjoying the laughter while reminiscing and hoisting pints of the black stuff.

I vividly remember how we all fancied going for a meal at a popular fish and chip shop that was renowned for its scrumptious and mouth-watering golden batter, located on the Lower Falls Road about a twenty-minute walk. On the way, we were feeling quite famished, but, as we drew closer to our destination, we encountered a brouhaha taking place on Divis Street. A squad of RUC men (Northern Ireland's bigoted police force) lined the road blocking the way to the Lower Falls Road.

Apparently, an objection had been lodged by Paisley, simply because an Irish flag was unfurled in the window of a Sinn Fein election office. To Paisley that display of Ireland's flag was sacrilegious and anti British. The fire and brimstone evangelist was seeing ruby red, which prompted him to call upon his mob of mindless followers that resulted in a thousand unruly Unionists pounding the pavements of the Catholic neighbourhood.

The madness of such a rally was temporarily called off when the RUC succumbed to the garrulous politician's demands. Nevertheless, they themselves forcefully entered the Sinn Fein office, removing the flag. Such an act of disrespect had bitterly angered the Nationalist and Republican community. That fateful night in September 1964 my friends and I got caught up in the middle of the chaos. It was surreal to witness the police engaged in a galloping baton-charge.



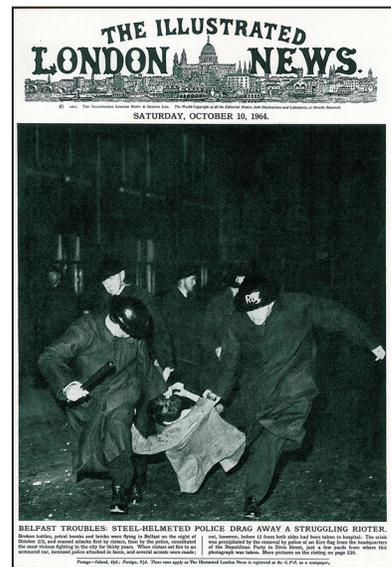
Jim attempting to deter his friend Seamus

Seamus moved dangerously close to the blockade and foolishly exacerbated the situation by performing an impromptu finger-pointing protest. I also made a daft retrograde step by following him, but on reflection it might have been just teenage curiosity as I tried to act as an intermediary. As I was trying to pull him away, I heard one of the cops call out "Let them pass," so we passed. I was gullibly thinking fish and chips at last, but I was sorely mistaken when the contemptuous cops started to circle us in an intimidating manner. Within a few seconds, we were apprehended, then bundled into the back of a land rover. I'll never forget the abuse that took place inside the vehicle. I was forced to lie down while two RUC men on either side of me kicked my ribs, twisting my arms and legs. I remember thinking what a relief it would be to get out of that hellhole.

After what seemed an eternity, the land rover came to a sudden halt. Seamus and I were jostled into the police station, again receiving more abuse while running a gauntlet of swinging truncheons. I got a blow to the elbow that stung like an electrical shock. The thugs knew exactly where it hurt. In the early hours of Sunday morning, my parents were alerted. They had to present themselves before I could be released on bail. The

following Tuesday, in court, an incompetent magistrate handed me a ridiculous sentence of 18 months. I was gobsmacked by this crazy miscarriage of justice. Fortunately, my parents scraped together their hard-earned savings in order to hire a barrister. Two months after sentencing, my case went before Belfast's high court where the judge unceremoniously tossed it out the window. That was the moment that changed my life.

Ah, Belfast, my place of birth and city of the unexpected!



Jim being dragged away by the police

Questions about the ICCC ... and the answers

By Ruth Hanna

Why did/does the Montreal-Irish community need a chamber of commerce? How are you different from other Irish organizations?

Back in 1991, the mandates of Montreal's many Irish organisations ranged from sporting, to political, cultural, language, religious and musical, but none offered a business angle. A group of four Irish nationals felt the need to set up a business association to foster trade and investment between Ireland and Quebec in addition to serving to promote members' own businesses. The organisation transitioned into the Montreal chapter of the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce, which now forms part of a Canada-wide network of chambers. For twenty-three years, the ICCC has been the respected voice for Quebec-Ireland trade and commerce.

Unlike some Irish organisations in Montreal, the ICCC has been non-sectarian and non-political from its inception. It is probably the Montreal-Irish organisation that entertains the strongest, direct links with its counterpart organisation and government agencies in Ireland. All of its presidents to date have been Irish nationals. In contrast with most Montreal-Irish organisations, we hold year-round activities. And, to the best of our knowledge, the ICCC is the only Irish organisation in Montreal that is part of a national network.

How many members do you have and what is the profile of an average member?

We currently have some 90-something members on our books, in addition to our corporate members. The average individual member is male, of Irish heritage, holds at least one university degree, and is employed in the service industries. That said, our female quotient is on the up. And, the age of an average member has been downwardly revised. The average corporate member is also involved in the service industries.

Apart from organising pub nights, what do you actually do?

- Through our trade committee, we speak for and promote Ireland-Quebec businesses and trade and commerce. See our major achievements below for more details.
- We facilitate business networking through our meetings and receptions, informal events, conferences and seminars, and links with the ICCC national network and European chambers of commerce. Our two-minute mike night in October was a strong hit with many SMEs coming forward to tout their businesses!
- We provide an information forum for business professionals in addition to opportunities to work with government and regulatory agencies to advance Canada-Ireland trade and investment, and its associated practices and policies.
- Our business seminars provide personal development opportunities.
- Through our communications platform (interactive website, newsletters, lively LinkedIn and Twitter accounts), we offer company showcasing and product promotion opportunities.

- We organise Irish community events such as our annual Tourism Ireland night and act as a conduit for selected Irish community events.

- Influence – we act as advocates for improving Ireland-Canada business relations and conditions.

What are your major achievements in the past 1-2 years?

- Through the March 2013 creation of the trade committee, we expanded our outlook to become a Quebec-based resource for inbound and outbound trade, trade, commerce and investment between Ireland and Canada.

- In September 2013, we participated in the Business Gathering in Dublin, a one-day forum organised by the Ireland-Canada chambers of commerce, Enterprise Ireland, ICBA, the IDA and Conach International.

- We hosted a successful business breakfast for Michael Noonan, Ireland's Finance minister, in March this year at Deloitte's Montreal office that was well attended by investors, corporate executives and ICCC members.

- The ICCC hosted an ICBA trade visit from its Irish counterpart, the ICBA, in October 2014. The high-profile one-day schedule comprised a business breakfast, a conference-lunch and a meeting with Mayor Denis Coderre. At the McCarthy Tétrault-sponsored luncheon, keynote speaker Jean Charest discussed CETA and Ireland-Canada economic relations.

- We now have fourteen corporate members. This is an all-time chamber record, because Quebec has not tended to be a major destination for Irish foreign direct investment and vice versa.

- Last September, we launched a mobile-responsive new bilingual website with RSS feed from our social media platforms. It is very user-friendly, and has greatly facilitated and reinforced communication with members and the business community.

Does the ICCC share any synergies or similarities with SPS?

Throughout the years, we have helped promote selected SPS events. In addition, the ICCC is a strong supporter of the SPS-sponsored Irish Immigrant Integration Initiative. Since the summer of 2014, we have been collaborating with SPS and UIS in welcoming newly arrived Irish to our monthly Craic agus Comhrá networking evening.

Like SPS, the ICCC is a non-profit organisation. However, unlike SPS, we do not have a charitable or social mission. Like the Society, the ICCC holds events all year round. However, as we do not have a cultural facet to our mandate, it is business as usual during the "green" season.

The ICCC and SPS share some of the same members. We are a strong believer that membership of two complementary organisations with non-competing mandates and history can but strengthen the Irish community. In other words, "un c'est bien, mais deux c'est mieux."



Irish Dancing Championships showcase local talent

By Pat Short

The World's qualifying event, or Oireachtas Eastern Canada was held over the November 14th weekend at the Fairmont Hotel and attracted 835 dancers from Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Competitions included Solo step dancing and Figure Ceilí dances. The greater Montreal area was very well represented by the Moran, Rousseau, Short and Young schools.

Among those who qualified at this event from the Bernadette Short School were **Emile Choenier-Shields**, **Casey O'Brien-Jussaume**, **Spencer Geary**, **Guillaume Choeniere-Shields**, **Kevin Paquette**, **James Houghton** (First Place under 17), **Lucas Lawton**, **Orla Mahon**, and **Gabrielle McBain**. Others who qualified at the North American Championships last July from the Bernadette Short School were **Liandra Doonan** and **Sarah McNally**. A young prodigy, **Aselin Bates**, placed first in the Under 8 yrs. at the Oireachtas, but is too young to qualify for the World's. From the Moran Academy, Rebecca Mitchell qualified for the World's (ladies 20 and over.)

Expat Montrealer **Michael O'Gorman** (son of Karen and Gus), who now lives in Belfast, is a former dancer with the Bernadette Short School and has his own Irish Dancing school called Cosa in Airde based in Bangor, Co Down. At the *Oireachtas Uladh* (Ulster) he had a World's qualifier. **Debra Dixon** placed 7th in the competition and we look forward to seeing her and Michael in Montreal in March.



Debra Dixon and Michael O'Gorman

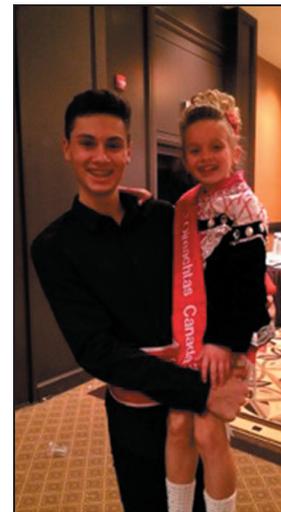


Janice Young TCRG, and Shauna Young U20, 9th place

The Young Academy sent one dancer to the All-Ireland's held at City West Golf & Country Club over the October 26th weekend. **Sauna Young** gave a great performance for the Young Academy which is celebrating its 5th Anniversary this year.



Winners of four hands group: Lily Chafetz, James Houghton, Meaghan Kilmartin and Lucas Lawton



James Houghton and Aselin Bates



Dancers from the Young Academy of Irish Dance

Feis Vieux Quebec held its first event in Laval University on September 27th. The Feis attracted almost 400 dancers and was a great success. Organized by the Shannon-based committee of the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing, **Kerry-Anne King** and **Wanda Leahy** headed up the group.

The following former dancers with The Bernadette Short School have recently passed the exam set by the Commission in Ireland and are now certified teachers: **Casey Costello** (Pointe-Claire), **Ali Walker** (Chateauguay) and **Natasha Woytiuk** (Pointe-Claire). Congratulations to all.

Photos selected by Editor



A suggestion for your Christmas gift list

Under This Mantle of Snow and Other Stories

By Harold Griffin

Borealis Press • 284 pages, \$19.95

Reviewed by Anne Forrest

Six years ago, I had the pleasure of reviewing Harold Griffin's collection of short stories, *fragile boys, fragile men*. This month, I immersed myself in *Under This Mantle of Snow*, Griffin's second anthology.

For me, the most engaging story, "Under This Mantle of Snow," was the first; it was also the longest. A comment that I made in 2008 was that Griffin excels at characterization. That still holds true for the most part. Pierre Boudreau, the narrator in this story is probably the most credible character in the entire book. Transplanted from Brampton to a rural community in western Quebec, the 12-year old, using a stream of consciousness technique, describes what has happened and is happening to him, particularly in his new school. We meet his best friend – not a great role model – Norman Gratton, several teachers, and Sylvie on whom Pierre has crush. His family also comes alive: a beer-drinking mum, a loving but absentee truck-driving father, and three siblings. The story revolves around a stolen gun ... but I'll say no more.

The remaining nine stories were far less satisfying (yes, I read them all). In two of them, we are reacquainted with Alphonsus, a Quebec City native who figured prominently in Griffin's earlier publication. I didn't like Alphonsus then and appreciate

him even less now. Many of the characters, although well drawn, come across as insecure and self-pitying. The endings of the stories were often inconclusive. However, I must congratulate Griffin on the authenticity of his settings. It was very easy to picture where the action was occurring.

If Griffin has one weakness it is that his choice of words is sometimes pretentious. He has an extensive and remarkable vocabulary, but he would be better served if he used simpler language. Occasionally he repeats an adjective or verb instead of using a synonym. There were few typos, but I did notice Lady Gergory (Gregory?).

It is in using the voice of a young boy (as in the first story and later in "My Little Bro Leonard" that Griffin is at his best. However, I question if Brian would have understood "exasperated" and "impressive."

Finally, my congratulations to Monica Brinkman whose beautiful stained glass mosaic was chosen as the cover illustration. 



Don't miss Cine Gael's opening night – January 23

By Dana Hearne

We are still in the tracking and viewing stage of the planning process for our up-coming season, but we would like to give you a preview of some of the films we are looking at.

A Nightingale Falling (Directors Garret Daly and Martina McGlynn) is a story set in Ireland during the War of Independence. Two sisters' lives are changed forever as they take care of a wounded soldier. It is a tragic love story of a household and its inhabitants, caught in the crucible of dark deep secrets.

Glassland Director Gerard Barrett won critical acclaim for his first feature film *Pilgrim Hill* (2012). As a result there was lots of buzz around his second feature *Glassland*, which was screened at the Galway Film Fleadh this year. In this film "Jean (Toni Collette) is slowly killing herself with alcohol and John (Jack Reynor), her son, is her only hope of survival. His family situation is causing him enormous strain and possibly putting his life at risk also.

Poison Pen is a film made by the Masters Students of Filmbase, one of the leading film training centres in Ireland. It was

directed by Steven Benedict, Lorna Fitzsimons and Jennifer Shortall and the students were awarded first prize at the 2014 Green Film Making Competition for European Students. The film tells the story of high-brow author PC Molloy who, when he is forced to write for April Devereaux's gossip magazine *Poison Pen*, is not only caught up in a world of stars and their secrets, he is also in danger of becoming a celebrity himself.

GOLD (Director Niall Heery) is an offbeat comedy about an estranged father Ray (played by David Wilmot) who returns to his hometown after an absence of ten years in order to reconnect with his daughter Abbie (played by Maisie Williams) and ex-wife Alice (played by Kerry Condon). The film begins with his making an unwelcome appearance at the family home for the first time in 12 years. In the interim, Alice has hooked up with the self-important, mildly deluded Frank (James Nesbitt), Ray's former gym teacher, and Abbie has developed ambitions to become an athlete.

Broken Song is a beautifully photographed, award-winning documentary about working class Dubliners using rap music as a tool of empowerment and artistic expression that has created a

Cont. p.13

November 2014

Show & Tell ... for grownups: the Irish Montreal edition

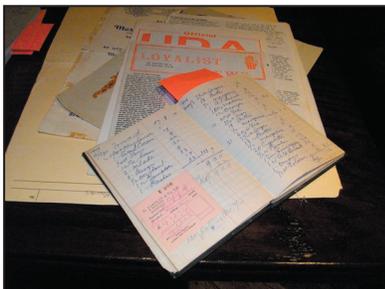
By Michelle Sullivan

“Stories live in your blood and bones, follow the seasons and light candles on the darkest night – every storyteller knows she or he is also a teacher.”

– Patti Davis

There’s a generosity that comes with the sharing of stories. So, it was a small but generous group of Irish Montrealers who came together last October 22nd at the Irish Embassy Pub to participate in the first Show & Tell for Grown-ups ever held in Montreal. This international movement led by the Association of Personal Historians encourages the sharing of personal history through the use of objects. As an APH board member, I was eager to bring this terrific initiative to the Irish Montreal community, sure that the evening would be one of compelling stories. And Irish Montrealers did not disappoint!

Paul Dunne was kind enough to break the ice, sharing books and ephemera with the group and relating them to his own story as a young Irishman. A few items stood out for me, including a series of UDA posters and the ledger Paul’s mother



Paul Dunne’s mother’s ledger

used for the household bookkeeping in the 1940s, with entries in pounds, shillings and pence. Knowing that Paul’s mother passed away a few months ago made the artefact that much more precious, and it was a treat to skim through it. Each object came with its own story, including Paul’s thoughts on what it was like to travel as a young man and to have the world and its different viewpoints open up to him.

Fergus Keyes told us the important history of the Black Rock and its ties to the community and to the Irish Montreal

immigrant experience. Denis Sampson read from his memoir *A Migrant Heart* and shared touching family stories with us. Denis Martin and Patricia Burns shared family photos and, in Denis’ case, the curious story of picnickers sitting on chairs in the back of a truck as it carried them to their destination. As for me? I came with the



Patricia Burns sharing memories

prayer book my Irish father had with him as he escorted my Québécoise mother to mass the morning after meeting her at a Montreal dance club. I admit I had an ulterior motive in mind, hoping someone in the crowd would remember the Talisman Club located on Ste Catherine street in the mid-60s. Alas, it remains family lore. Unless you remember it.

My gratitude to Denis Martin, Luce Bernard and Gemma and Harold Brooks of Siamsa, who added such a wonderful touch to the evening by entertaining us with Irish music between each story. The evening wouldn’t have been the same without you. And to the friendly staff of the Irish Embassy Pub, who welcomed us with a smile and let us take over their back room. Finally, many thanks to those who chose not to share a story, but rather graced us with their presence. It was a lovely evening and I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

Until next time!

Michelle Sullivan

PR consultant and aspiring personal historian
Board member of the Association of Personal Historians
personalhistorians.org



Cine Gael (cont.)

stir on the festival circuit. This is the feature debut of the film’s director, Claire Dix, a Cine Gael favourite whose short films have all been shown in previous seasons (thanks to David Hanley for this overview).

Miss Julie is a drama film written and directed by Liv Ullmann, based on the play of the same title by August Strindberg and starring Jessica Chastain, Colin Farrell and Samantha Morton. In 1890, in Fermanagh, during the course of a midsummer night, Julie (Jessica Chastain), the daughter of the Count, an Anglo-Irish aristocrat, attempts to seduce her father’s valet, Jean (Colin Farrell). The affair quickly goes to some dark places, with power and class playing a key role.

And finally, of course, Cine Gael Montreal will again present our ever-popular evening of recent award-winning shorts curated by Heather Macdougall and Kester Dyer. Heather sends the following information: “While the final line-up has not yet been confirmed for this year, we have already received a number of submissions and expect to have at least one of the filmmakers in attendance to introduce the screening.”

Screening dates	
January 23	April 11 (Saturday)
February 6	April 24
February 27	May 7 (Thursday)
March 6 & 7 (TBC)	

Awards banquet rounds off MIRFC's season

By Dave Crandall

The Montreal Irish Rugby Football Club held its annual awards banquet on Saturday, November 8th. The event was held at Magnans Tavern in Pointe St. Charles – a landmark institution in the Point which will, sadly, be closing its doors this December.

It was a special year for the Montreal Irish (side note: “Montreal Irish” is the colloquial term for our rugby club, not to be confused with the Irish of Montreal or Montreal’s Irish; we apologize for the confusion this has and will surely cause, though we see a strong potential for a Monty Python skit) as our men’s teams had won the Quebec and Eastern Ontario Premier Division Championship as well as the Quebec and Eastern Ontario Reserve Division Championship. Spirits were high and members of the Montreal Irish were in a decidedly festive mood. The attendees for the night consisted of many of the club’s current players, fantastic coaches and athletic therapists, alumni and old boys. It was a great party, indeed! Mark Gallagher, former president of the rugby club, remarked: “The banquet is always more fun when you win. Having won the two provincial championships, as well as of all the Quebec Rugby 7s tournaments, you knew this would be a good one!” Robert Meunier, the current club president, added: “It was another successful year for the club. The men’s teams set out some lofty goals at the beginning of the season – and the lads made it happen! For our women’s team, it was a more difficult year,

but the women faced the challenges head on; next year is shaping up to be a good one for our women’s programme.”

The banquet is a way for the rugby club to thank its members and to celebrate accomplishment on and off the field of play. Numerous awards were handed out on the day, including awards for rookie of the year (Samantha LaPlante, Marc-Antoine Bourget), most improved player (Marvin Taylor, Rana Fahmy) and most valuable player (Cristyn Edwards, Rob Law, Xavier Lindley, Fred Gignac, Tim Yaworski). The final award of the evening – named the Jimmy Gordon award after one of the rugby club’s most dedicated members – was presented to Donald



Photo: Dave Crandall

Xavier Lindley, Don Chartrand, Tim Yaworski, Fred Gignac, Cristyn Edwards, Marvin Taylor, Marc-Antoine Bourget, Rob Law and Rana Fahmy.

Chartrand. Don has been instrumental in helping set up one of our mini rugby programmes, as well as helping bring our fantastic sport to schools across Montreal and the South Shore.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the planning committee of Joseph Fitzmorris, Stephane Boucher, Cristyn Edwards and, especially, Conor O’Hara, for putting together this great evening.

For more information on the Montreal Irish or to join the club (side note: our youngest playing members are four years old in our rugby minis programme and our oldest playing member this year was 67 years old playing in an old boys game), please visit www.montrealirish.com



Kahnawà:ke – Mohawks and the Irish Famine

Excerpts from The Canada Times (October 2014)

By Christine Zachary Deom,

Chief, Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke

The Mohawk Community of Kahnawà:ke, with a population of 8000 persons, 6500 normally resident on the territory, lies on the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, directly across from



The jingle dress dancers

Photo: MCK Communications

the city of Montreal. Most of Canada is unaware of the significant part our community has played in Canadian History. Kahnawà:ke has had a historic and a military liaison with the French and the English over the three hundred years of colonization and our people have played a tremendous role in the protection and establishment of Canada.

Our international outlook was also significantly recognized when in the late 1800s the Irish were experiencing their potato Famine. Our community was not affluent, but, according to a strong oral tradition, it collectively made a small contribution to Irish famine relief.

We’ve also assisted in the development of the sport of lacrosse in Ireland. In 1876, Kahnawà:ke played an exhibition game of lacrosse in Belfast along with the Montreal Lacrosse Club. This was the beginning of lacrosse in Ireland thanks to Kahnawà:ke. Ten years after the exhibition games in Belfast, an All-Ireland team arrived in North America. The New York Times (<http://www.irelandlacrosse.ie/home/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/1886-8-Aug-NY-Times-article.pdf>) reported the names of the Irish players and their clubs indicating the existence of several club teams which had developed in the ten years since the 1866 visit to Belfast.

For complete newsletter, go to:

<http://www.canadarailwaytimes.com/about-us/latest-newsletter/>



Travelling abroad this winter? Consider these tips.

Stephen Fogarty
Citizenship and immigration lawyer

Christmas and New Year's vacation time often brings with it an occasion to travel, or at least to plan a trip. With increased security issues considering the rise of terrorist regimes and health concerns worldwide following the outbreak of Ebola, border control agents you will encounter abroad, and when returning to Canada, are more likely than ever to apply regulations "by the book." Here are some suggestions to help ensure you have a problem-free holiday or business trip.

First of all, do not depend on the "expert knowledge" of friends who might have travelled a year or two ago to your destination(s) of choice; travel regulations change frequently.

The Canadian government has a very valuable website for persons heading abroad with information about virtually every country in the world. This website is <http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>.

On this website you will find advice to restrict or even avoid travel to certain countries and parts of countries, consideration of whether there is political unrest, information on health issues, local customs, safety and crime, and similar points of interest. There is also a summary of entrance and exit rules for each country, with a link to the website of the Embassy or High Commission of that country serving Canada.

As stated on this website, "No matter where in the world you intend to travel, make sure you check your destination country's travel advice and advisories page twice: once when you are planning your trip, and again shortly before you leave. If the region or the country you will be visiting becomes subject to a [travel advisory](#), your travel health insurance or your trip cancellation insurance may be affected."

Speaking of insurance, as a savvy globetrotter you will want to purchase or ensure that you hold full medical and accident insurance for outside of Canada, even if the country you are visiting does not require it. Quebec Medicare will not cover all your out-of-country expenses, and your current life or accident insurance may have restrictions on coverage for certain foreign travel, even if there is no Canadian government "travel advisory" issued for that destination.

If you are a permanent resident but not a citizen of Canada, for some jurisdictions abroad the rules governing your admissibility there may be those pertaining to nationals from your country of citizenship, rather than your status as a PR of Canada. To be sure for your particular situation, visit your destination country's diplomatic website serving your country of citizenship.

It is advisable to check your passport's expiry date well in advance of travelling, and renew it if needed. Some countries have a six-month passport validity rule, meaning they may not admit you, even for a short visit, if your passport is set to expire in less than six months from your date of entry. Other countries might admit nationals from certain countries so long as the person's passport does not expire

prior to the scheduled return date. (The USA has just such an agreement for Canadians, Irish citizens, and UK nationals.)

Border agents worldwide are becoming stricter in ensuring that visitors have a place to stay and sufficient funds to pay for their visit, as well as for their trip back home. It is advisable to travel with a copy of your hotel or resort reservation, as well as being prepared to demonstrate your ability to access funds if needed. If you are staying with friends, make sure you have their full name, address, email and telephone details with you in case the border agent wants to check. Likewise, have in your possession a print-out of your return airline booking.

It is also a sound idea to register with the Canadian authorities before travelling abroad. This way you can be traced and contacted by the Canadian Embassy in the event of a natural disaster or civil unrest in your destination country, or an emergency back at home. Here is the link for this free service: <http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/registration>. The Irish government offers a similar service for Irish citizens.

When returning to Canada, it is important to keep in mind that the Canadian authorities have imposed strict controls to deal with the Ebola menace. If you have caught a fever while on your trip and are exhibiting signs of illness when landing, be prepared to answer a lot of questions regarding your illness and whereabouts when clearing Canadian customs. The Canadian government has sweeping powers for health screening and other measures under the Quarantine Act.

Remember to keep your receipts for inspection by the Canadian border control officers to prove the value of any purchases you made outside of Canada. Under NAFTA, Canadian citizens and permanent residents benefit from a special exemption. Personal use items labelled as made in the USA, Mexico or Canada must be declared, but do not count toward your personal limit for duties. Full info on duties and exemptions may be found on the Canada Border Services Agency website.

And finally, you might think yourself a budding comedian, but airplanes, airport security and customs zones are not the place to try out your one-liners. Most especially, any attempts at humour dealing with terrorist or public health issues must be avoided. Happy trails!

Stephen Fogarty is a member of the Quebec Bar and of the Law Society of Upper Canada. He is Honorary Legal Advisor to the Embassy of Ireland, a member of the SPS Board, and acts as chair of the IIII committee. Stephen practices citizenship and immigration law at his office Fogarty Law Firm in Montreal: website www.fogartylaw.ca. The views in this article are his alone and not those of any other person or organization. This article is for information purposes only and is not intended to give or to replace legal advice.



Les Irlandais de souche

By Paul Dunne

We first raised the idea – the UIS and ourselves - to “green” city hall for St. Patrick’s Day under the “old” regime and never got past the “the answer is no, what was the question again?” from the bureaucrats. I will always remember Gerald Tremblay as a nice man. Completely ineffective as a mayor but a nice man. And everything he has said since leaving office suggests that he would like “nice man” to be his legacy. That bar is so low, it will be buried by the first winter snow flurry. That’s what we got used to until recently. It was either nice but ineffective or corrupt and ineffective. Ineffective so became the norm that we forgot what is was like to have a mayor who actually had a vision that lasted more than 24 hours into his term of office. This year, we asked Denis Coderre to green city hall. Denis Coderre said “let there be (green) light” and the following week there was.

Denis is of course the latest of a distinguished group of luminaries boasting Irish heritage so, as we define it, he is a member of our community and we should recognize him as such. We can invite him to join or just skip the intermediary steps and make him an honorary member. This category is available but underused and if we want to raise our profile in the francophone community in particular, extending the

honour generously to well-known politicians and celebrities would be an effective way of doing it. Behind the big names there are thousands if not hundreds of thousands of francophone Quebecers with Irish heritage. We boast about this fact, yet the face of Irish community in Quebec is essentially anglophone with a brogue. We should not forget our common historical past – how we lost our language and adopted the tongue of the colonizer. And we should never forget the kindness of francophone families that adopted Irish orphans during the famine years. It’s our turn now to adopt a francophone.

As a start, we should approach the leaders of the francophone community who are of “soft” Irish heritage like Denis Coderre and Xavier Dolan (I don’t know if he’s Irish but that family name is common in Ireland) and the many other celebrities who wear green on St. Patrick’s Day. What Quebec needs after that last cold bitter winter is a united community and who better to build bridges than the community that gave Montreal the Victoria bridge (or should we campaign to have it renamed St. Patrick or Darcy McGee or maybe we’ll find Maurice Richard was Irish too?!)



Latest from the United Irish Societies

Christmas Draw

The UIS Christmas Draw has been taking place since 1967 when \$154 was donated to the Montreal Children’s Hospital for the purchase of a special wheelchair. By 1992, the total prizes increased to \$2,000, also in effect today. The purpose of this project was to have a self-financed, membership-driven event that helps less fortunate members of the community at a time of the year when they are at their most vulnerable. Members are encouraged to sell tickets and they may submit names of families in need. If you are interested in purchasing or selling tickets please contact Jane Skelton at (514) 486-4918 or jeskelton@videotron.ca.

This year’s draw takes place on Sunday, November 30th at St. John Brebeuf Church in LaSalle. All of the profits of this project go towards feeding approximately sixty families, primarily in the Southwest / Verdun / LaSalle boroughs in the City of Montreal.

2015 Dignitaries and Award Winners

The dignitaries and award recipients as selected by the United Irish Societies for the 2015 season are:

- Grand Marshal – **Geoffrey Kelley, MNA**
- Chief Reviewing Officer – **Elizabeth Quinn**
- Simon McDonaugh Humanitarian Award Recipient – **Mabel Fitzgerald**
- Liam Daly Heritage Award Recipient – **Siamsa School of Irish Music**



One of the Easiest Choices and Best Decisions You Will Ever Make.

At Kells Academy students don't get lost in the shuffle. That's because we design an individualized academic program for every student, built around their needs and talents. Small classes, individualized instruction and a flexible approach to learning are what distinguish Kells from other schools. We are proud to say it works.

To learn more visit www.kells.ca or call 514-485-8565



Kells Academy
Call us about our
Student-for-the-day Program!

Kells Secondary School
6865 de Maisonneuve West,
Montreal, Quebec H4B 1T1

Kells Elementary School
2290 Cavendish,
Montreal, Quebec H4B 2M7

Kells Academy is an English Private School. No certificate of eligibility is required.

News from the School of Canadian Irish Studies

Michael Kenneally, Principal

By Matina Skalkogiannis

Good news

- The National University of Ireland has announced that its Chancellor, Dr. Maurice Manning, will confer an honorary doctorate on **Michael Kenneally**, Professor and Principal of the School of Canadian Irish Studies, for his contribution to Irish Studies. The ceremony will be held at Royal College of Physicians on December 2, 2014.
- **Camille Harrigan**, multi-scholarship winner and MA student in Canadian Irish Studies, won the Emerging Scholar award at the American Conference for Irish Studies West in Santa Fe, New Mexico this past weekend. Camille's paper "Colonized Bodies: The Discursive Use of Women's Bodies in Ireland and North America" was a sophisticated exploration of the female body as a symbol of 'terra nullius' and justification for colonial sovereignty. The theme of the conference was "Ireland and the Indigenous."
- **Carine Brunet**, undergraduate student in the Major in Canadian Irish Studies, was one of the students honoured at the Dean's Awards Evening on October 15, 2014. Carine achieved the top 1% grade point average among all the Arts and Science students in the 2013/14 academic year.

Highlighted courses for the winter semester (January to April 2015)

Irish Film Studies

IRST 398G / FMST 398Z (3 credits)

Prof. Emer O'Toole

Friday 8:45 — 12:45

Examine the oeuvres of key Irish directors, including Neil Jordan, Pat Murphy and Jim Sheridan. Engaging with – among other themes – Ireland's treatment of its Travelling Community, the Northern Irish 'Troubles,' and Dublin's gangland culture, this course offers students images of Ireland both picturesque and gritty, both mythologized and human.

Contemporary Irish Theatre

IRST 398T / THEA 398H (3 credits)

Prof. Emer O'Toole

Tuesday, Thursday 11:45 — 13:00

Discover the panorama of Ireland's vibrant contemporary theatre landscape through the works of major Irish playwrights, including Marina Carr, Brian Friel, Martin McDonagh and Ursula Rani Sarma, as well as emerging dramatic voices, such as Colin Teevan and Lynda Radley.

'Oíche airneál' – Irish language classes for learners at intermediate level and those with fluency in Irish

Craic, conversation and good company. All welcome!

Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. with Dr. Daithí Mac Fhlaithimh (Ireland-Canada University Fund Scholar).

McEntee Reading Room, Hall Building 10th Floor, Room H1001.01, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve West

CONTACT:

Daithi.MacFhlaithimh@concordia.ca

Apply for a major in Canadian Irish Studies

Study Ireland and the diaspora at the School of Canadian Irish Studies! Applications for the fall of 2015 can be submitted until March 1, 2015.

See <http://www.concordia.ca/> for details on how to apply.

*For information or registration assistance, contact
Matina Skalkogiannis:*

514-848-2424, ext. 8711

cdnirish.fas@concordia.ca



McConomy Collard Eustace INC.		FAMILY LAW SOLUTIONS EN DROIT DE LA FAMILLE
AVOCATS MÉDIATEURS COACHS	ATTORNEYS MEDIATORS COACHES	mceavocats.com tel. 514.866.4666 fax 514.866.4667

NUACHT Advertising Rates

	<u>Per Issue</u>	<u>Yearly (4 Issues)</u>
Business Card	\$75.00	\$250.00
Quarter Page	\$150.00	\$500.00
Half Page	\$250.00	\$800.00
Full Page	\$400.00	\$1,300.00

Canada & Québec Immigration



ÉTUDE LÉGALE
FOGARTY
LAW FIRM

514 289-9289 www.fogartylaw.ca


THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL OF MONTREAL
 Est. 1861

My School, My Home
Sacred Heart

BURSARY PROGRAM AVAILABLE



STUDENT FOR-A-DAY

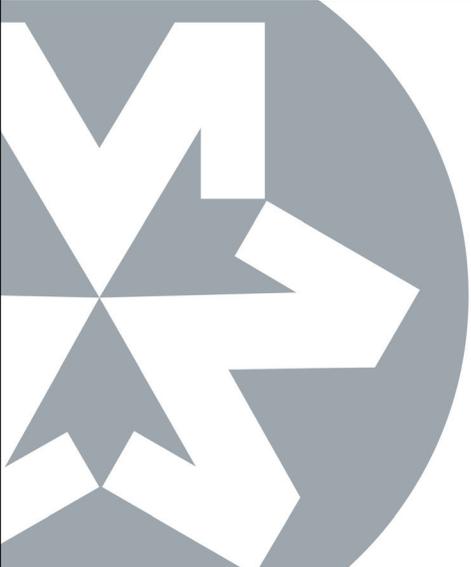
To learn more:
sacredheart.qc.ca or call 514.937.2845
 3635 Atwater, Mtl, QC H3H 1Y4







Please note that we welcome your opinions and would appreciate feedback on the contents of *NUACHT*. Send your comments to nuacht@spsmtl.com



Wealth preservation is about patience and perseverance. MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier is Canada's oldest independent brokerage firm, with over 160 years of experience and more than \$4 billion under management. Everything we do is based on our core values of integrity, independence, service, performance and trust. We offer investment services ranging from brokerage to fully integrated wealth management. Our reputation is founded on principles of service, integrity, independence and discretion.

Proud supporters of the St Patrick's Society of Montreal



MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier Inc.
Service to Investors Since 1849

Place du Canada, 1010 de la Gauchetière West, Suite 2000, Montréal, Québec H3B 4J1
 (514) 394 - 2633 www.3macs.com



People in the news ...

The Society would like to welcome the following individuals who have become members during the past few months: **Laurie Bennett, Marc Brosseau, David Crandall, Jim Donovan, Steven Flynn, Stephanie Ghio, Jim Kearney, Eva Genevieve Kennedy, Paul Woods Lafleur, Don Lafontaine, John G. Lynch** (from Naples Florida), **Kathleen McCormick, Cormac McGrath, Emlyn Nardone, Janson Quessy, Monica Quinn,** and **Julia Smith** (Junior Member).

On September 24th at 8:08 p.m., **Maeve Francoeur** and **Greg Dobney** welcomed their first-born child, **Keira Mary** to the world. Born at the Kingston General Hospital, beautiful Keira weighed in at 8 lb 3 oz. Proud grandma and SPS member, **Patty O'Connor** and grandpa, **Emmett Francoeur** were there to share in the excitement. Equally proud are **Julie Dunn** (SPS board member) and husband **Conal Francoeur**, Maeve's twin brother.



Maeve and Keira Mary

Several *NUACHT* readers have enquired about **Ned Eustace's** condition now that he has returned from Sierra Leone. This is what the intrepid traveller had to say. "After 21 days of self-imposed semi-isolation it's good to have most people more comfortable in my presence. However, I am appalled by the politicisation of the epidemic in the US. In Canada on the visa question we have yet another display of ignorance in the face of science and the advice of the WHO by the Harper government. It's time to focus on West Africa."

This issue of *NUACHT* marks a milestone for **Anne Forrest**. Just over 12 years ago she was invited by the then president of SPS, **Pat Dunn**, to take over the role of editor of the newsletter as **Mary McDaid**, the former editor, had assumed more responsibility in her position at McGill and no longer had the time to continue the work. It was with great trepidation that Anne began the awesome task of getting to know and appreciate Montreal's Irish community. She was also somewhat intimidated by her mentor, **Ned Eustace**. However, as time passed, she benefitted from his guidance and terrific sense of humour. She is also indebted to **Maura Druda** for her conscientious proofreading. Since 2002, *NUACHT* has evolved from an eight-page publication to one that has been 24 pages for the past four years. What you are reading now is the 50th newsletter produced by Anne. We are told that there will not be a presentation of a gold watch to mark the occasion.



In and Around town

Meet Harold Griffin

Plan to be in Lachine on Sunday, November 30th. There will be reading, book signing, live music, a cash bar and catharsis – all master minded by Harold Griffin, author of *Under This Mantle of Snow and Other Stories* (reviewed on p. 12). This event will take place at the Royal Canadian legion, 3015 Henri Dunant, Lachine from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. It promises to be a fun way to spend the last day of November.

ICCC's Christmas Reception

On Tuesday, December 2nd, the Ireland-Canada Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Christmas Reception. For the third consecutive year, this will take place in Le Westin Hotel, located at 270 St-Antoine St. West in Old Montreal. Tickets (\$75.00 for members) and \$85.00 for guests) include an open bar, canapés and a brie station. During the evening, entertainment will be provided by Siamsa's talented fiddler, Kate Bevan-Baker. In addition, there will be many great door prizes. Tickets may be purchased online using ICCC's secure PayPal facility. Simply click this link to the special ICCC Christmas Reception webpage: <http://www.icccmtl.com/event/iccc-christmas-reception/>

Save the date: February 7, 2015

For nearly 60 years, the United Irish Societies has organized a contest to select a queen and princesses for the annual parade. Originally called the Queen's Pageant and held at the Sailors' Club in Old Montreal, today the Selection Evening is a public speaking contest. To be eligible to compete, a contestant must be single, between the age of 18 to 25, of Irish descent, a Canadian citizen and permanent resident of the Montreal area. The five winners (Royal Court) are offered an opportunity to explore their Irish roots, meet new and interesting people, attend gala events, travel to Ireland (Queen) and receive many gifts. Would-be contestants should contact Colleen Murphy cmurphy2_3@msn.com

This year, the Selection Evening takes place on Saturday, February 7th, at 7:00 p.m. at Buffet Sorrento, 1275 Dollard, LaSalle. Tickets are \$25 (adults) and \$12 (children under 12) and may be obtained from Elizabeth Quinn equinn17@videotron.ca. Please note that no food is served but there is a cash bar and lots of great entertainment throughout the evening.

Save another date: March 28, 2015

Once again Quebec City will be holding a St. Patrick's Parade. No details are available other than that it will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2015.



2014-2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2014-2015

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION
Nov. 27	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Nov. 30	UIS General Meeting & Christmas Draw, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Dec. 2	ICCC's Christmas Reception, Westin Hotel, 270 St- Antoine St. West, Montreal, 6:00 p.m.	anne@icccmtl.com
Dec. 5	Innisfail Annual Christmas Party (members \$5.00/guests \$10.00), NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Dec. 7	St. Gabriel Parish Benefit Christmas Concert, \$15.00 & \$5.00), 2157 rue Centre, Montreal, 7:00 p.m.	St. Gabriel Rectory 937-3597
Dec. 11	SPS Members Christmas Reception, Hurley's Irish Pub, 1225 Crescent St., 7 p.m.	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Dec. 20	UIS Christmas Basket Delivery, 567 Parc du Marguerite Bourgeoys, 8:00 a.m.,	Jane Skelton 486-4918
Jan. 16	Innisfail "Kick-Off" Céili, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve, 7:30 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Jan. 18	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Jan. 23	Ciné Gael, Opening Night and Reception, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Jan. 29	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Feb. 6	Ciné Gael, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Feb. 7	UIS 60 th Queen's Selection Evening, Buffet Sorrento, 7:00 p.m.	cmurphy2_3@msn.com
Feb. 15	UIS General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Feb. 26	ICCC <i>Craic agus Comhrá</i> , The Irish Embassy Pub & Grill, 1234 Bishop St., 5:30 p.m.	contact@icccmtl.com
Feb. 27	Ciné Gael, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Mar. 6	St. Patrick's Society Annual Ball, Marriott Chateau Champlain	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Mar. 6/7	Ciné Gael Weekend, (TBC) DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Mar. 14	Erin Sports Irishman of the Year Breakfast, Sheraton Centre, \$60.00	Tim Furlong 713-3207
Mar. 15	UIS Mass of Anticipation, St. Gabriel's Church. 11:30 a.m.	dad.jr@hotmail.com
Mar. 15	UIS General Meeting, St. Gabriel's Church, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Society Luncheon, Marriott Chateau Champlain, reception 11 a.m., lunch noon	Erin Matheson 481-1346
Mar. 22	UIS 192 nd Consecutive St. Patrick's Parade, noon	director@montrealirishparade.com
Mar. 28	UIS Awards Banquet & Dinner Dance, Buffet Sorrento, 6 p.m.	sdoyle@firstonsite.ca
Apr. 11	Ciné Gael – n.b. Saturday – DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
Apr. 17	Innisfail Pasta Night, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve, 7:30 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
Apr. 19	UIS Mass for Deceased Members, St. John Brebeuf Church, 11:00 a.m.	Danny Doyle 767-0045
Apr. 19	UIS Annual General Meeting, St. John Brebeuf Church, LaSalle, 1:30 p.m.	president@montrealirishparade.com
Apr. 24	Ciné Gael, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
May 2	Innisfail Mass for Deceased Members, St Patrick's Basilica, 12:10 p.m.	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
May 7	Ciné Gael, Closing Night and reception, DeSève Cinema, Concordia	Lynn Doyle 481-3503
June 5	Innisfail AGM, NDG Legion Addington/de Maisonneuve	Rose Quinn 450-671-7217
June 16	SPS 20 th Annual Golf Tournament, Club de Golf Bellevue	Erin Matheson 481-1346

6767
chemin Cote St Luc

Appartements pour personnes autonomes 55+
Abordable * Vie Communautaire * Securitaire



3 1/2

514-481-9609

Unique apartments for autonomous living 55+
Affordable * Community * Security

www.spsquare.ca



ANDREA T. BOBKOWICZ

Sun Life Building
1155 Metcalfe Street
Suite 1438
Montréal, Québec H3B 4S9
Telephone: 514-871-4339
1-866-843-3088
Fax: 514-843-4447
E-Mail:

andrea.bobkowicz@nbfc.ca

