



2ND TERM FOR IRISH PRESIDENT

You might be wondering what the President of Ireland is doing on the front page of Nuacht when we usually cover a local story. Well, on November 11th, 2018 a delighted President Michael D. Higgins made history when he was inaugurated as President of Ireland for the second term in St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle, promising to work together to leave no-one behind.



President Michael D. Higgins receiving the seal of office

Seventy-seven year old President Michael D. Higgins is the ninth President of Ireland, and the fifth President to serve two terms in office.

President Higgins was re-elected for a second term in October, 2018 with 822,566 votes, or 56% of the vote, the largest number of first preference votes ever in a Presidential election in Ireland.

The Constitution of Ireland stipulates that the President of Ireland be inaugurated on the day following the expiry of the term of office of the preceding President. This year, the date of the inauguration coincided with the centenary of the cessation of the hostilities of the first World

War. Conscious that many Irish people wanted to participate in morning commemoration ceremonies, and of the invitations to members of the Government to represent the State at ceremonies abroad, the President asked that the inauguration be held in the evening of November 11.

At the behest of the government, the President himself attended the Armistice Day centenary commemorations at Glasnevin Cemetery, in memory of the thousands of Irish men and women who died in the First World War.

In 2014, President Higgins and HRH the Duke of Kent had unveiled a Cross of Sacrifice to honour Ireland's war dead at Glasnevin Cemetery in

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NUAcht

January 2019
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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we begin a new year, I would like to offer my best wishes to you and your families for a happy and healthy 2019. The start of a new year is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, as we eagerly anticipate the upcoming events in 2019.

At our Annual General Meeting last November, I was humbled to be elected as your President. I look forward to serving the community this year with an incredible slate of Board Members. As I take on the Presidency, I am aware of the large shoes I have to fill following the Presidency of Scott Phelan. Once again, I would like to thank him for his tireless efforts during his term. He brought the Society forward and I intend to continue the momentum he has created. We also owe a great debt of thanks to his wife, Paula for her patience and dedicated support.

I'd also like to congratulate all of our Board of Directors who were elected into office at the AGM. In particular, I would like to welcome our newest elected members: Ms. Martina Branagan, Mr. Geoffrey Kelley, Mr. Brian Marcil, Ms. Maureen McCormick, Ms. Mary McGovern, Ms. Pamela McGovern, Ms. Caitlyn Moynahan, and Ms. Andrea Stanford. Their expertise and enthusiasm will surely benefit not only the Board, but the entire Society.

Since the last edition of Nuacht, there have been a number of important events including the highly successful Annual Golf Tournament. Led by Mr. Dave Dubeau and his trusty band of committee members including Wayne Hogan and Paul Doyle, it was yet another job well done. We all have about six months to get ready for the next tournament!

The 13th Annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture, Commemorating the Irish Famine: Sites and Dynamics of Memory, was brilliantly delivered by Dr. Margaret Kelleher from University College Dublin. The lecture was particularly significant and poignant for us as Montrealers as we continue to provide input, and reflect on, the future of the Black Rock and the creation of a Montreal Irish Monument Park. All those in the room appreciated the depth of Dr. Kelleher's knowledge as well as her touching reflections on Irish famine memorials around the world. Many thanks to The School of Irish Studies for their continued support and expert execution of this event.

The Irish Community certainly enjoys celebrating the holiday season. I have never attended so many events in such a short period of time, and enjoyed every one.

From the United Irish Societies' Christmas Basket Raffle, to the various sister society receptions and community concerts (including our own), each celebration reminded me of how much enjoyment we take as a community while raising funds for those less fortunate.

Our own Society's Christmas Concert was a spectacular way to begin the holiday season. Held in a wonderful new venue, the incredible line-up of talent left us all excited for the beginning of a month of celebrations. Many thanks to Carol McCormick, Lynda Premerl and their committee members, for their dedication to the revival of this popular event.

I also had the opportunity to attend my favourite new holiday tradition: The Irish Nutcracker presented by the Ville Marie Feis Inc., in association with The Bernadette Short School of Irish Dance. If you didn't this year, be sure to attend next year. It is impressive to see so much professional talent here in Montreal.

As I look forward into 2019, I certainly hope that each of you has made a new year's resolution to attend as many of our events as possible! We are but a few weeks away from the next "green season" of events and I encourage you to buy your tickets right now. Each of our events, from the Annual Charity Ball to the Annual Luncheon, are not just important traditions, they are critical for the Society to meet its mission of Cultural, Educational and Charitable support. I enthusiastically invite you to gather your friends and family, and plan to participate in these celebrations.

[Cont. on page 3](#)

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Deadline for submissions for Feb. issue: [Jan. 22, 2019](#)

THE COMMUNITY AWARD 2019

The Community Award was first presented in 1993, with two distinct goals:

1. To honour a person within the Irish community who has served in low-profile positions yet who has worked wholeheartedly for the good of the whole community.



Guess who?

2. To honour a Montrealer, of Irish descent, who has assumed a broader mandate to serve beyond the borders of our local Irish societies. His/her achievements bring honour to us all and it is fitting that we acknowledge such commitment.

Previous winners are listed on our website here: <https://spsmtl.com/our-history/community-award-recipients/>

The closing date for nominations for the 2019 Community Award is January 28th 2019.

To submit your nomination, please go to this link: <https://bit.ly/2QU6VhA>

President's message cont. from page 2

You will enjoy every minute while supporting a number of wonderful community initiatives.

Best wishes for the new year. Bonne Année!
Athbhliain faoi mhaise agaibh!

Christie Brown
January 2019



SPS Committee and Event Chairs

Charity Ball	Ken Quinn
Charity Luncheon	Carol McCormick
Governance and protocol	Christie Brown
Investment Committee	Paul Doyle
Golf Committee	Dave Dubeau
Grants Committee	Christie Brown
Membership Committee	Ken Quinn
Nominating Committee	Scott Phelan
Strategic Planning	Vacant
Youth Wing	Vacant

Advertising Rates for Nuacht

Size	One issue	Four issues	Saving
Card size	\$75	\$200	\$100
1/4 page	\$150	\$350	\$250
1/3 page	\$200	\$500	\$300
1/2 page	\$250	\$700	\$300

All submissions are to be forwarded directly to our editor, Martina Branagan at nuacht@spsmtl.com

The deadlines for submissions are usually: September 15th, November 15th, January 15th and May 15th.

Rates do not include layout or art. Please submit all art work in JPEG/PDF, sized accordingly. Rates do not include GST and PST, if applicable.

THE ANNUAL CHARITY BALL 2019



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2019

MARRIOTT CHATEAU CHAMPLAIN

6:30 p.m. cocktails



8:00 p.m. piping in of Head Table and Dignitaries,
followed by dinner and dancing

GUEST OF HONOUR

THE HONOURABLE CATHERINE MCKENNA

Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Canada

THE DIRECTOR'S SHOWBAND

EMCEE

Kim Sullivan

Global TV Media Personality



Corporate table : \$5,000

Member table: \$2,300

Non-member ticket: \$250

Member ticket: \$230

Junior ticket (full time student under 25 years): \$ 175

NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE!

By Carol McCormick, SPS Luncheon Chair

According to the history of St. Patrick's Society Luncheon and as far back as we can go, there has never been a Prime Minister of Canada as Guest Speaker. We are happy to say, we will break that record in 2019 when we will have former Prime Minister, The Right Honourable Brian Mulroney as our Speaker, who will be introduced by last year's speaker, The Honorable Jean Charest: two great speakers who will entertain us as we have never been entertained before.



- Members of the Society \$85.00
- Non-Members \$95.00
- A Member Corporate Table \$1,700.00*
- A Non-Member Corporate Table \$1,900.00*

*Acknowledgements both on screen and in the Brochure with Logos

We will continue to have our Raffle that helps increase the revenue we use to help our community as well as our four colour brochure for our advertisers and supporters. Raffle prizes will include:

1. Two (2) tickets to Ireland courtesy of Aer Lingus
2. Foursome for the 2019 St. Patrick's Society Golf Tournament
3. Tickets to the 2020 St. Patrick's Society Ball

The luncheon on March 15th, 2019 will also be a memorable one for many other reasons, not least of which will be Mr. Mulroney celebrating his 80th birthday. We are hoping that some, if not all members of his family will attend. We will have surprises for him as well as for everyone at the luncheon.



This year's luncheon celebration will be held at

the Centre Sheraton on Boulevard René Lévesque with a delicious three course meal along and a bottle of red and white wine at each table.

We are expecting a full house and strongly suggest you get your tickets as soon as possible. The cost will be as follows:

This is not the end of the surprises for the Luncheon. You will have to attend to find out the rest. Save the date: **Friday, March 15, 2019.**

I am very proud and grateful to have a committee to work with me: Christie Brown, Ann Marie Butts, Ann Marie Côté Louise Guimond, Katie Irving, Paul Loftus, Leigh MacIntyre, Ann McMahon-Rusnak, Brian Payne, Kimberly Payne, Scott Phelan, Ken Quinn, Patrick Short and Maura McKeon.

We are hoping tickets will be ready for you to buy just in time for Christmas Gifts. So, make this one of the events you can't miss for the 2019 February/March Saint Patrick's Festivities.

Katie Irving, our Office Administrator, (514) 481-1346, is waiting for your call to book your tickets before we are sold out!

We wish to thank the following who contributed articles and/or photos to this issue of NUACHT:

Christie Brown	Marion Mulvenna	Ken Quinn	Jérémy Tétrault-Farber
Pat Short	Jim McDermott	Tim Hine	Martina McLean
Carol McCormick	Bernadette Short	School of Irish Dancing	

90TH YEAR FULLY BEHIND THEM

By Ken Quinn

Montreal's Irish community is a well established and cherished community in the greater Montreal area. One need only look at the flag of the City of Montreal to see the shamrock in a place of prominence.

On October 26, 2018, United Irish Societies (UIS) of Montreal members and friends gathered at Buffet Il Gabbiano in LaSalle to celebrate 90 years of the UIS in the community. Originally conceived in 1928 as an umbrella organization including



L to R: Jane Skelton, Lynn Doyle, Karen Bright and Lynda Premerl

Irish societies such as St. Patrick's Society and the Ancient Order of Hibernians as well as English Speaking Catholic parishes as member organizations, the UIS has organized Montreal's iconic St. Patrick's Parade since 1929. No longer an umbrella group, the UIS consists of many members eager to contribute to its success either through volunteering on Parade Day, volunteering or contributing toward their Christmas Basket Program, or by simply attending meetings.

Attendees mingled freely in a wonderful setting while music played in the background, nibbling on hors d'oeuvres and looking forward to the coming "Irish season". Featured throughout the evening was a slideshow photo presentation of members and friends, past and present, in addition to a table of memorabilia including several photos, retired parade badges and sashes,



90TH YEAR FULLY BEHIND THEM

either donated to the UIS or borrowed for the evening. Available for purchase that evening were copies of a book written by the late UIS historian, Don Pidgeon filled with historical facts, articles, and other interesting tidbits.

The ever popular Rick Clahane and Sean O'Donnell took to the stage first, filling the dance floor by playing numerous crowd favourites. DJ Shawn Doyle was busy all evening spinning his tunes. Three and a Half Men, a band I have not previously seen, played several sets of popular songs to the delight of all in attendance. What would an Irish community event be without Irish dancers? The dancers from the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dance thrilled everyone present with several wonderfully choreographed numbers, clearly demonstrating passion for their art. All showed their appreciation with a rousing ovation.



L to R: Catherine Polson & Carly Meredith



L to R: John McDonaugh, Gregory Kelley MNA, Andrew Fogarty and Sandy McDonaugh

With their 90th year fully behind them, the UIS now looks forward to the 196th Consecutive St. Patrick's Parade, in March as well as the 200th anniversary of the Parade in several years' time.



L to R: Denis Trudel, Ann-Mary Butts and Carol McCormick



L to R: Ken Quinn, Peggy Hopkins and Fergus Keyes



L to R: Tim Furlong, Paula Kelly-Phelan and Scott Phelan

YEAH, YEAH, YEAH, HE KEEPS ON...

By Jim McDermott



Selfie: Jim McDermott and his daughter, Mary Anne

Back in September, my daughter Mary Anne and I went to see Paul McCartney at the Bell Center. From the moment he took to the stage in front of a full-house (20,000 people), he launched into a fabulous rendition of "A Hard Day's Night" that brought the audience instantly to their feet, to sing along with him.

McCartney generously crammed a remarkable three hours of music into that evening's concert, without an intermission. He sang thirty-nine songs in a high, energetic display of [Beatlemania](#) revisited. In between songs, Paul wooed his audience with his good old Liverpool Irish charm. What I enjoyed most about the show was the lovely cross-section of people, French and English. And, surprisingly, there were more millennials than baby boomers singing along, in close harmony, yet everyone there, seemed united together, with one heart and one beat. It was also nice to see some of the older folks, with walking sticks, happily rise up from their seats to sing and sway to the electrifying atmosphere. There is no doubt that the nostalgia of the Beatles music has a bonding attraction at a deep unconscious level. Even my grandchildren are huge fans of "Yellow Submarine".

Towards the end of the concert, as the music crescendoed, my daughter unexpectedly put her arms around my shoulder and hugging me, said "Thanks Dad, this show has been fantastic". Paul McCartney's soulful voice at 76 years old still possesses amazing energy and new vitality. And yeah, yeah, yeah, he keeps on... keeping on, with his delightful inspiring tones.

2ND TERM FOR IRISH PRESIDENT [CONT. FROM PAGE 1](#)

Dublin. The Cross of Sacrifice at Glasnevin was the first to be erected in the Republic of Ireland and honours servicemen who died in the First and Second World Wars.

His Presidential address is reminiscent of the ideals of the 1916 proclamation. It was interesting to hear that he "would like to see the commemoration of the foundation of our democracy spark a debate about the values, na fiúntaisí, the principles required in today's Ireland." Another point that stood out for me was the recognition that our history is not monochrome: "The coming years will see the commemoration of challenging, often difficult, periods of our history. This task will require sensitive thought, reflection and understanding - an ethics of memory and a narrative of hospitality, enabling different versions of shared events to be placed side by side, uncomfortable truths acknowledged."

It was not the speech of an elder politician, "put out to pasture" as a figure-head but rather a vital, vigorous, hopeful politician who claims that "The version of Ireland which can best represent our people at home and abroad is one which draws on traditional genius and contemporary creativity, deep connections and new solidarities, respect and transformation." He asserts that he will be the voice of Ireland on the global stage, from climate change and sustainability, to violence against women and building better relationships... and above all "a President for all the people, for those who voted for me and those who did not."

This is a man who walks the talk and answers his emails... Now, all we need is the diaspora vote!

by Martina McLean



ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

Parade Queen Selection Evening

Saturday February 2, 2019

Calling Montreal women of Irish descent to the United
Irish Societies' most esteemed competition

**Grand Prize:
Trip to Ireland!**

Participants must be between 18 and 25 years of age and permanent residents
of Montreal or surrounding areas

For more information, contact
cmurphy2_3@msn.com

www.montrealirishparade.com



United Irish Societies of Montreal



@uismtl



uismtl

1918, A SPOT ON IRISH HISTORY

By Martina McLean

1918 marked the end of the First World War. Yes, that was an important milestone in Ireland as elsewhere. 1918 was also the first time Irish women who owned property, were permitted by law to vote (representation of the People Act) and stand in parliamentary elections on the same terms as men. Under the Parliament (Qualification of Women) Act, on December 14, 1918, British and Irish women voted in a Parliamentary election for the first time. Representing St. Patrick's, a Dublin constituency, from a cell in Holloway prison, after having her death sentence commuted by virtue of her being a woman, Countess de Markievicz, of the eighteen women candidates, became the first woman to be elected to the House of Commons / British Parliament at Westminster. However, she did not take her seat there. Instead, true to her beliefs, she joined the revolutionary first Dáil, becoming the first female Teachta Dála (TD) and the first female minister in western Europe. Furthermore, in 1922, she spoke in favour of lowering the voting age for women from thirty to twenty-one.

Unfortunately, with the Irish Free State's Constitution in 1937, much of what had been won in terms of equality was lost again. Why? It was deemed unnatural for women to be involved in the political arena when their purpose in life was to procreate. So, the suffrage activists suffered much - sexually, physically and emotionally - at the hands of and against the loud voices of educated and respected men in the community who sought to silence them once and for all (see the Library of Trinity College, Dublin for artefacts). Not only that, in preparing for the various exhibitions, it was discovered that there is difficulty in retrieving women's voices from the archives due to the destruction of their records!

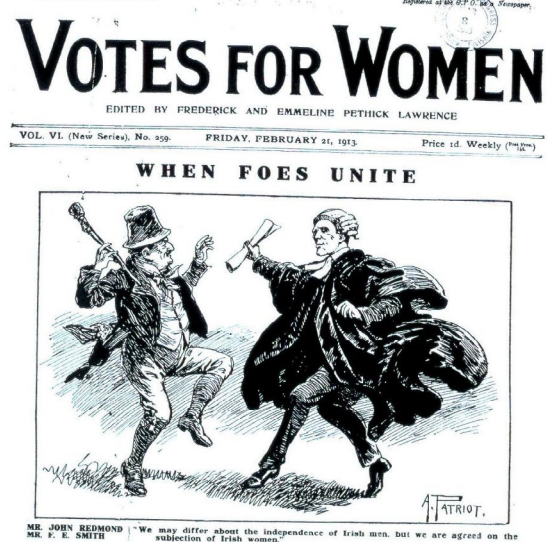
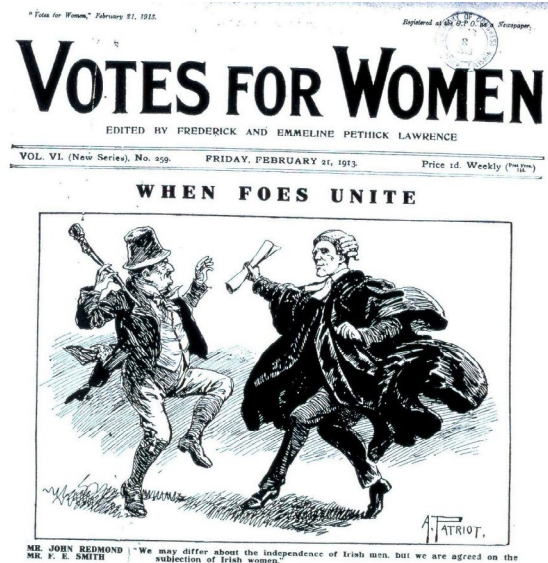
That's why it's important to commemorate the 100th anniversary. We should all know and understand this embarrassing part of our shared history, especially young people. Our right to vote should not be taken for granted or lack of esteem for politicians be the reason for apathy and lack of involvement.

In the Houses of the Oireachtas Vótáil 100 Programme Booklet, the Ceann Comhairle, Seán Ó Fearghail TD states that "The fundamental importance of this period in Irish society cannot be understated as it allowed, across a series of key dates, a burgeoning movement towards equality to be enshrined in Irish law. 1918 marked an important beginning on a journey towards full electoral equality and it is important that we reflect on these events, celebrate how this has enriched public life and consider how

modern Ireland has been shaped by this period in our history."

What upsets me is that after all the work of the suffrage movement, it took gender quotas in the 2016 general election for there to be a significant increase in women's representation. Even still, of the 158 TDs in the Dáil, only 35 are women (22%) and of the 60 senators in the Seanad, there are only 19 women (32%).

Why aren't more women politically involved? That's the million dollar question around the globe, isn't it? Actually, why is the turnout to vote so low in general?



Should you visit Ireland before St. Patrick's Day, I'm told The National Gallery of Ireland, in collaboration with the Houses of the Oireachtas, is hosting an exhibition on the life of Countess de Markievicz which began on October 27, 2018.

For teachers and pupils/students, here is a good site for further information and age appropriate resources: <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/visit-and-learn/teachers-and-students/>

MANNA FOOD BANK

By Martina McLean

NUACHT



The Manna Food Bank, run by former UIS president, Joseph Quinn, is an organization that has been feeding the less fortunate citizens of Verdun since 1985 when it was set up by two parishes in Verdun, Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes and Saint-Clément.

Dawson Community Centre has been a terrific partner to Manna as it has grown over the years as well as the Verdun Municipality. Manna serves approximately 5,000 Verdun citizens each year, between 1,400 and 1,500 families.

They pick up food once a month, at no fee! Their premises are open at 666, Woodland St. in Verdun, 514-993-5797, each Wednesday and Friday morning from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Contributions come from many sources including annual financial donations from St. Patrick's Society and other sister societies (United Irish Societies of Montreal and Erin Sports Association Inc.), as well as local businesses such as Michel Lang, pharmacist at Pharmaprix Champlain and other local organizations such as CN Pensioners Association and the Knights of Columbus.



David Lametti, LaSalle Émard Verdun honours Joseph Quinn for his contribution to Manna Food Bank at Buffet Il Gabbiano.

Some other organizations provide food. Between April 1st, 2017 and March 30th, 2018, Montreal Harvest donated 21,060 kilograms of food valued at \$105,219. This year, the SouthWest United Church and Grace Church both donated their Thanksgiving Harvest to Manna. Manna volunteers picked up and delivered over one hundred and fifty cases of non-perishable food donated by Saint Thomas More Church. Borough Councillor, Luc Gagnon was also there to help Manna.

Without the assistance of all these individuals and organizations, Manna Food Bank would not be able to give out the amount of food they offer.

They are always in need of contributions: food, cash, time and energy. Please contact them on 514-993-5797.



Michel Lang presents cheque to Joseph Quinn of Manna Verdun



L-R: George O'Reilly, Brian McBrien, Susan Mooney, and Joseph Quinn helping at one of the three HOT DOG FUNDRAISERS held annually

NEW SEASON FROM CINÉ GAEL MONTRÉAL

By Tim Hine



As our 2019 programme begins to take shape, the Ciné Gael Montréal team is very excited about our 27th season of bringing Irish and Northern Irish films to our faithful Montreal audience. The adrenaline thumping, award winning, **BLACK 47** will open our season on January 11th. Set during the famine in 1847, it is a beautifully filmed revenge drama against the government establishment. Our closing film on May 3rd is Frank Berry's **MICHAEL INSIDE**. It is a powerful, and at times heart breaking, film about a family fighting the vicissitudes of birth and geographical fate, described in THE GUARDIAN's review as "fierce and engrossing". Our ever-popular evening of award winning Irish short films will also be back.

It has been a particularly bumper year for documentaries and we hope to bring many to Concordia University's de Sève screen. We have two confirmed. For those of you who were at Hurley's Pub this summer, for the launch of Rónán Mac Con Iomaire's superb book **ROCKY ROS MUC: SEÁN Ó MAINNÍN**, we are delighted to bring the film version to our screen this season. We also have **NO STONE UNTURNED**, by the acclaimed documentary filmmaker, Alex Gibney. It is an incredibly detailed and shocking investigation of the unsolved case of a massacre in a tiny pub in Loughinisland, carried out while the patrons were watching the Republic of Ireland play in the 1994 World Cup. Negotiations continue on others, so please check our website at www.cinegaelmontreal.com for details. We update the site as soon as we confirm films.

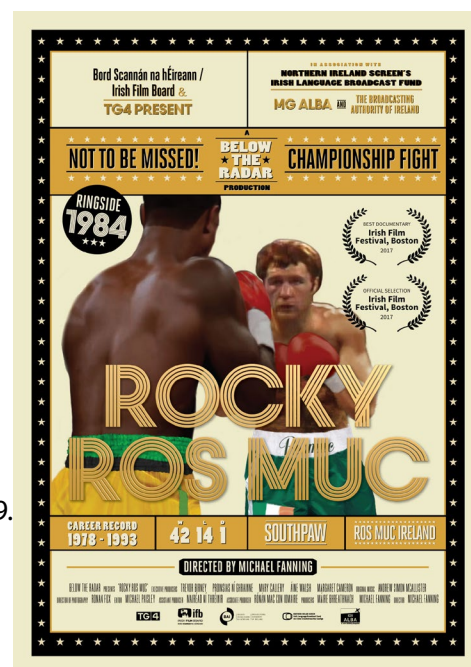


Our screening dates are listed below:

Friday, January 11th , **BLACK 47**
 Friday January 25th , **NO STONE UNTURNED**
 Friday February 8th
 Thursday February 28th **ROCKY ROS MUC**
 Friday March 8th
 Friday March 22nd
 Friday April 5th **SHORTS**
 Friday April 12th
 Friday May 3rd **MICHAEL INSIDE**

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. We hope to see you all in January 2019.

Tim Hine and all of us at Ciné Gael Montréal.



ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

By Ken Quinn Photos: Ken Quinn and Group: Montréal Pipes and Drums

The selection of Jérémy Tétrault-Farber as recipient of the St. Patrick's Society Graduate Scholarship is a fitting one. The Society has a long standing relationship with the Montreal Pipes & Drums and Jérémy is their **Pipe Major**. Having spent numerous evenings with Jérémy over several months as he combed through the United Irish Societies' archives for pertinent material, I am confident he will succeed in his studies.



Mr. Scott Phelan
President
St. Patrick's Society of Montreal
6767 Côte-St-Luc Rd, Suite 1
Montreal, QC H4V 2Z6



November 6, 2018

Dear Mr. Phelan,

I am honoured to receive the Saint Patrick's Society Graduate Scholarship. My deepest thanks to the Saint Patrick's Society and the School of Irish Studies for their ongoing support of re- search initiatives in Irish history and culture in Montreal, in Quebec, and further afield.

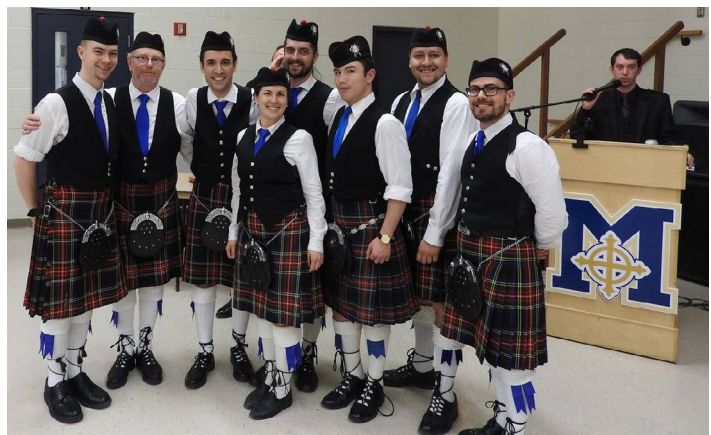
This scholarship is especially meaningful to me, as I hold the Saint Patrick's Society close to my heart. As Pipe Major of the Montreal Pipes and Drums, I have the honour of leading the only independent civilian pipe band in the city. For the past many years the band has marched in Montreal's Saint Patrick's Day parade as part of the Saint Patrick's Society's marching unit. This annual performance in support of the Saint Patrick's Society is a privilege for the band, and a highlight of our piping-and-drumming year, no matter how cold the wind, nor how icy the streets.

I have also explored the Society's history at length as part of my research. My thesis (which I intend to defend in 2019) explores the evolution of Irish traditional music in Montreal since the 1970s. I have tapped the Saint Patrick's Society's rich archives to shed light on the Society's important role in funding and promoting the performance and transmission of Ireland's traditional music. Among other insights, I discovered that the Society once had its own pipe band; its members wore Irish kilts supplied by the Society and performed at various functions between 1965 and 1967.

I look forward to continuing my research on Irish traditional music in Montreal over the course of the coming months.

Many thanks once again for making my research possible.

Jérémy Tétrault-Farber



A CRACKER OF A SHOW

by Martina McLean

Photos: The Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing

What a show!!! Spectacular! The second edition of The Short School's Irish Nutcracker was a hit!

The 2nd annual "Irish Nutcracker" took place on December 16, 2018 at the Pierrefonds Comprehensive High School Theatre.

The dancers from the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing accompanied by invited musicians, Jonathan Moorman and Seán Dagher retold the classic Nutcracker story with an Irish twist!



Jonathan Moorman and Seán Dagher



Ciara received a special Nutcracker toy from her Uncle Ryan at her family's annual Christmas céilí. When her Irish Nutcracker came to life, Ciara traveled with him to a dreamland of Irish snowflakes, sugar plum fairies and candy canes which delighted the packed auditorium! The dancers of all ages were magnificent, performing with heart in delightful costumes, against an ever changing backdrop of great lighting.

The Bernadette Short School of Dancing is very proud of the dancers and thanks the many dedicated volunteers for helping with the costumes, sets, tickets, and so much more! "A true team effort and wonderful sense of community!"

Here are a few souvenir photos to whet your appetite for next year's performance! Not to be missed!



THE IRISH NUTCRACKER

NUACHT

Cont.



SPS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

By Martina McLean

Photos: Ken Quinn

On a cold and frosty December 1, 2018 at 7 p.m., in downtown Montreal, twinkling with decorative street lights, the 22nd Annual St. Patrick's Society of Montreal's Christmas Concert took place at a new venue, the Centre Mont-Royal Theatre/Symposia at 2200 Mansfield, Montreal at the corner of Sherbrooke St. West.

With family in tow, we were dropped off right outside, no worries about slip-sliding our way down any slopes! We were greeted by a friendly security agent - a good sign - who directed us to the hall upstairs. What a lovely, big surprise! How modern and spacious between each row, with not a bad seat in the house from which to view the performers.

The acoustics were terrific too. We were treated to a concert



in two halves with a line up of well rehearsed performers. The show began with a beautiful performance by **The Bernadette Short School of Irish Dance**. Soprano Colleen Bartley followed them. *Spectacular* was the word used! The Yellow Door Choir sang some Christmas favourites. **The McGill Choral Society** had fun and sang a great selection with energy and panache.

As with every concert, we always have our favourites. Our young people left us in no doubt about their preferences at the end of the evening. They absolutely loved the professional and jazzy 438 Tactical Helicopter Squadron Canadian Armed Forces Band under the leadership of Captain Sparrow - it was the rendition of the grinch song that bowled them over with lyrics such as "The three words that best describe you are as follows, and I quote *"Stink, stank, stunk!"* and they were delighted that there was a reprise of that song as the encore. They also loved The McGill Choral Society because they were excited by some of the chances they took in their song choices. And the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing was a surprise - they hadn't expected any Irish dancing at a Christmas Concert!



Concert Chairperson **Carol McCormick** and co-chairperson, **Lynda Premerl** kept the proceedings going as natural Emcees for the evening.



People remembered to bring non-perishable food items to help the Manna Verdun Food Bank. There were also poinsettias for sale, the proceeds of which also went to the Manna Verdun Food Bank. Joseph Quinn from Manna Food Bank spoke about the organization's history and work and expressed his appreciation for the donations that evening.



AROUND TOWN



The Irish Women's Network was founded by Mary Monks Hatch in British Columbia in April 1998.

The purpose of the Network is to provide women of the Irish diaspora with opportunities for networking, conversation, and mutual support.

Mary Monks Hatch was inspired by the actions of the President of

Ireland at the time. At her inauguration in 1991, President Mary Robinson spoke of the seventy million people worldwide who can claim Irish heritage and committed her Presidency to cherishing the Irish diaspora. She lit a candle in the window of Áras an Uachtaráin to signify the love and remembrance in Ireland for the diaspora.

As last year's **Nollaig na mBan** was such a well attended and terrific evening, The Irish Women's Network-Quebec will meet again at the McEntee Reading Room, 1001.1, Concordia Hall Building from 15:00-18:00 for a potluck and networking on the 6th January, 2019, little Christmas or Women's Christmas. We look forward to seeing you in great numbers!

All Irish women or would-be Irish women are welcome. Please bring something to share.



Ciné Gael Montréal, founded in 1993, is about to start its twenty-seventh season. Once again they'll be presenting their season's films at Concordia's J.A. DeSève cinema (see schedule to the right).

As they start this twenty-seventh season, "we must thank the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal for their sustained, strong support over all our first twenty-six years, as well, as Ireland, through its Embassy in Ottawa, continues to be a strong supporter of

Ciné Gael Montréal 2019

1919

Ciné Gael Montréal Irish Film Series 2019 ...our 27th

All screenings are at J.A. DeSève Cinema, Concordia University, 1400 de Maisonneuve West, at 7:15 PM, unless otherwise indicated. **Cost?**

Our opening film of the season is **Black '47** set in 1847, the worst year of the Great Famine which beset Ireland from 1845 to 1852. 72 years later, in January 1919, Ireland's first Dáil (An Chéad Dáil) was **Dáil Éireann** as it convened from 1919-1921. We're now 100 years on, and it's also the 100th anniversary of the formation of Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Our banner this season celebrates those anniversaries, with a colour photograph of the men of that **Dáil Éireann**, and the logos of the celebrations of the Dáil and of DFAT. [more](#)

Friday, Jan 11th :: Opening Night & Reception	Black '47 (2018)	more	watch a trailer
Friday, Jan 25th	No Stone Unturned (2017)		watch a trailer
Friday, Feb 8th	Float Like a Butterfly (2018)		watch a clip
Thursday, Feb 28th	Rocky Ros Muc (2017)		watch a trailer
Friday, Mar 8th			
Friday, Mar 22nd			
Friday, Apr 5th :: Evening of Irish Short Films			
Friday, Apr 12th			
Friday, May 3rd :: Closing Gala	Michael Inside (2017)		watch a trailer

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our efforts. Many thanks are also due to Hurley's Irish Pub who generously hosts our committee meetings and some of our Membership Evenings, and we are indebted to all of you who offer so much enthusiasm. All our sponsors, vital to our success... Thanks to all."

The 2019 *Opening* is Friday, January 11th, with a glass of wine offered afterwards.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



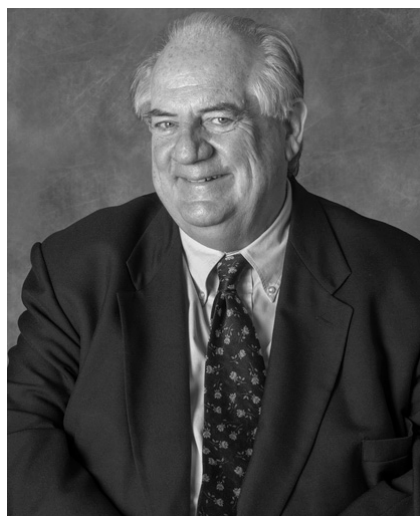
Fondation
du complexe de santé
Reine Elizabeth

Queen Elizabeth
Health Complex
Foundation

Un organisme qui recueille des fonds afin de promouvoir, d'appuyer et de préserver les soins de santé fournis par le complexe de santé Reine Elizabeth.
An organisation that raises funds to promote, support and preserve the healthcare services provided by the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex.

Richard McConomy has been named president of the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex Foundation where his wife, Pierrette Sévigny, serves on the Executive Committee.

The Queen Elizabeth Health Complex Foundation was founded in 2000 to promote, sustain and preserve the healthcare services provided by the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex, a not-for-profit medical establishment that receives no government funding.



Running in the family - why jog when you can jig?

At the 21st Annual Féile Nollaig feis in Ottawa on Saturday, November 10th, at Confederation High School, 1645 Woodroffe Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, **Thomas Black**, grandson of Pat and Bernadette Short, placed 1st in the Under 6 Beginner Reel.



A second granddaughter...

UIS Chief Deputy Marshal, Danny Doyle Jr. and his partner, Nicky Picher, recently welcomed their daughter, **Quinn Doyle** into the world. All are healthy. Grandparents, Cathy and Danny Doyle are excited to have a second granddaughter.

IN MEMORIAM

Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a n-anamacha!

Daniel J. Sullivan



Daniel J. Sullivan (Dan) peacefully passed away on March 4, 2018, husband of Gillian Mary Cave, father of Patricia (John Dinardo) and Peter, and proud grandfather of Katrina and Kyrá.

Dan is survived by his brother, Dr. James D. Sullivan (Janice), his nieces Melodie, Chloë, his nephews Christopher (Teresa), Frank (Anouk), and Gabriel, as well as cousins in Ontario.

A graduate of Loyola College, B.A. and of McGill University's Faculty of Law, he also attended York University's management course. He was among the first graduates of C.I.R.E.M.

His business career was entirely in the area of financial institutions, trust companies and banks. He earned two fellowships from the Trust Institute of Canada, and a FCIS from the Institute of Corporate Secretaries.

Dan also served as a warden of St. Patrick's Basilica for many years.

Graydon Fyckes

Graydon Fyckes, beloved husband of Marlene Demers, UIS, died at Ste. Anne's Veterans Hospital on November 8, 2018, in his 90th year.

He was a proud veteran of the Korean war, served as a member of the Royal Canadian Regiment (1951-1952), a member of the Royal Canadian Legion for over 65 years, and a loyal and devoted fan of the Boston Bruins.

Mourning his loss are his children, Neil (Mary Anne), Keith (Louise) and Joy; stepchildren, Norman and Lorraine (Normand); grandchildren Elayne, Stephanie, Sam, Alexi and Jack; and great-grandson Ravyn.

He is fondly remembered by his comrades at the Royal Canadian Legion, Verdun Branch #4, fellow members of the Erin Sports Association, and many other friends and family.



Graydon Fyckes, courtesy UIS



Father George Oakes

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of beloved Father George Oakes. Predeceased by his mother, Elizabeth Oakes-Nicholson (nee Cornell), his father, George W. Oakes and his brother, Ross Oakes, he will be deeply missed by his cousin, Patricia Howe-Loebach of London, Ontario and her family Michael, three daughters and grandchildren, and many other cousins and their families.

Father George was ordained a priest at St. Patrick's Basilica on November 4, 1978. He served as a deacon at St. Monica's (1977) and as a priest at Resurrection of our lord (1978 - 1986), St. Ignatius of Loyola (1986 - 1988), St. John Brebeuf (1988 - 1989) and St. Thomas More as pastor (1989 - November 30, 2018).

Our most sincere sympathies to his family, friends and parishioners.

THE SCHOOL OF IRISH STUDIES TURNS 10 IN 2019!

By Marion Mulvenna

In 1991, Concordia University began offering courses in Irish history and literature, and established an Irish Studies Public Lecture Series. Funded initially by St. Patrick's Society, the number of courses would increase throughout the 1990s.

With the creation of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation (CISF) in 1996, Irish Studies began to expand rapidly, resulting in the establishment of the Centre for Irish Studies, as well as a minor in Irish Studies in 2002.



Left to right: Scott Phelan, President of the St. Patrick's Society; Pamela McGovern, Chair of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation; Rhona Richman Kenneally, Fellow of the School of Irish Studies and Editor of the Canadian Journal of Irish Studies; Margaret Kelleher, Chair of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama, University College Dublin; Michael Kenneally, Principal of the School of Irish Studies, Concordia University; His Excellency Jim Kelly, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada.

Concordia approved the creation of the School as an independent academic department in 2009, giving it the authority to hire its own professors and develop unique programs.

The School now offers 25 courses per year in 12 disciplines, with an annual enrolment of more than 1,200 students. The Irish Studies Public Lecture Series continues to proudly present the annual St. Patrick's Society Lecture for the past 13 years. With the largest turnout to date, this year 150 people attended as St. Patrick Society President, Scott Phelan introduced Dr. Margaret Kelleher, Chair of Anglo-Irish Literature and Drama at University College Dublin who spoke of Commemorating the Irish Famine: Sites and Dynamics of Memory.

In 2019, to mark its 10th anniversary, the School will organize a series of academic events showcasing the extraordinary growth of Irish Studies at Concordia; members of the community will be especially welcome to participate in these celebrations.

WRITERS READ

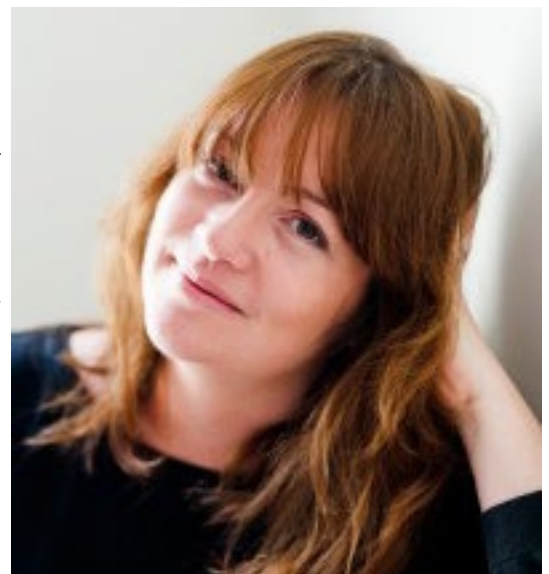
By Marion Mulvenna

Save the date:!

On Thursday, March 21st, Irish author, Eimear McBride will share some of her work as part of the Concordia University Writers Read program, co-sponsored by the School of Irish Studies and the Department of English.

Eimear McBride is the author of two novels. *A Girl Is a Half-formed Thing* (2013) won the inaugural 2013 Goldsmiths Prize and the 2014 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction, the Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year, the Desmond Elliott Prize and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize. Her second novel, *The Lesser Bohemians* (2016), won the James Tait Black Memorial Prize.

Eimear McBride was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2018.



Irish Studies Courses - 2018/19

FALL/WINTER 2018/19

The Irish Language and its Culture I
The Irish Language and its Culture II

WINTER 2019

The Irish in Canada
Celtic Christianity
History of Early and Medieval Ireland
Independent Ireland from the Civil War to the Celtic Tiger
Irish Children's and Young Adult Literature
The Irish Literary Revival
Irish Film Studies
Intercultural Ireland: Film, Theatre and TV
The Politics of Northern Ireland
History and Memory in Ireland

cdnirish.concordia.ca



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR IRISH STUDIES 2019 CONFERENCE

By Marion Mulvenna

IRISH BODIES AND IRISH WORLDS

29 May to 1 June 2019

To be held this year at the School of Irish Studies, Concordia University

Bodies – the human body, textual bodies, bodies of knowledge, bodies of water – are central to the numerous disciplines that form Irish Studies. Knowledge about Irish identities has been embodied through physical performance, articulated through literary and cultural bodies of work, and imagined as watery avenues of migration, exile, and diaspora. In turn, these bodies operate in, are influenced by, and also influence in their own right the world around them. The built environment, the natural world, fictional literary worlds, the transatlantic diaspora – all become ways to deconstruct and add nuance to multiple meanings of Irishness in a globalized society.

Confirmed keynote speakers for CAIS 2019 are Professor Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck, University of London), Professor Rhona Richman Kenneally (Concordia), award-winning author Kevin Barry, and Olivia Smith, co-editor of Winter Papers. Certain evening programming will be open to the general public.

LIVE AND WORK IN IRELAND

Since 2003, Ireland's Working Holiday agreement with Canada has offered Irish and Canadian young people between the ages of 18 and 35 the exciting opportunity to experience living and working abroad.

The Programme gives Canadian youth the chance to progress their career ambitions, connecting with leading global companies located in Ireland. The programme also fits in with many work experience commitments as part of University curriculums.

Ireland, the only English speaking country in the Eurozone, offers the warmest of welcomes to students from all over the world - 35,000 international students from 161 countries enjoy Ireland's vibrant culture each year. The friendliness and hospitality for which the Irish people are renowned contributes to the ease with which overseas students adapt to the way of life in Ireland which, together with Canada, is one of the friendliest and safest countries in the world.

Ireland offers two visas under the Programme, which are open to Canadian youth living both in and outside Canada:

1. The Working Holiday Authorisation, valid for two years, is open to Canadian citizens aged 18-35. This open work visa allows young Canadians to travel and work in Ireland, or to progress their chosen careers through employment in Ireland that is related to their degree and/or professional experience.
2. The International Co-op Internship Authorisation, valid for one year, is for students who intend to complete a paid work placement or internship in Ireland. It is open to Canadian citizens aged 18-35 who are registered students at post-secondary institutions.

Eligible applicants may participate in both the International Co-op Internship category and the Working Holiday category, in any order. Applicants may participate in each category once only.

Applications for the Programme are processed by the Embassy of Ireland, Ottawa, and are accepted either directly to the Embassy (Working Holiday Authorisation, International Co-op Internship Authorisation or through SWAP Working Holidays). Passports must be valid for 30 months from the date of entry into Ireland.

Qualifying applicants are issued with an Authorisation which they must carry with them when they travel to Ireland and produce upon request. The Authorisation is activated by arrival of the holder in Ireland. The Authorisation must be activated within twelve months of issue or it will lapse. The holder is subject to normal border immigration controls upon arrival in Ireland.

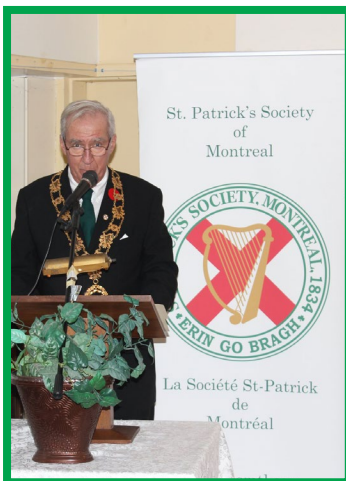
Within one month of arrival in Ireland, holders of Authorisations must register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) and will be issued with a Registration Card on payment of the appropriate fee; the current fee is €300 (this is subject to change).

Together, the Authorisation and GNIB Registration Card allow a participant to seek employment in Ireland without the need for a work permit. There is no maximum period on the time spent with any one employer within the validity of the Authorisation. It is not possible to extend the period of validity of an Authorisation. However, eligible applicants may participate in both the International Co-op Internship category and the Working Holiday category, in any order and any time frame within the age limits. Applicants may participate in each category once only. In the case of a successful application to a second category while in Ireland, the applicant should leave Ireland on the expiration of their current Authorisation and re-enter on the new Authorisation. They should then re-register with GNIB.

Canadian citizens living both in and outside Canada are eligible to apply. Canadian applicants living outside Canada should enclose a certified copy of their passport. Canadian citizens living in Ireland at the time of their application should enclose a copy of their passport stamped as "original seen" by their local Garda Station, and will then need to leave Ireland before re-entering with the Authorisation and registering with GNIB in order to activate their new status.

2018 SPS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On November 8, 2018, SPS members gathered at the Montreal West Curling Club to be updated on the health of their Society as well as to vote on the slate of directors for the upcoming year.



Scott Phelan presents his presidential report



Treasurer Andrea Bobkowitz presents her financial report



Kim Hogan presents her report on the Strategic Planning Committee



Carol McCormick spoke about the upcoming Christmas Concert and the 2019 Annual Luncheon



Nominating Committee Chairperson
Paul Dunne presents his report



President Scott Phelan thanked outgoing directors, Fergus Keyes, Maura McKeon and Conor Barry while honoring their service and loyalty to the Society and Board



Immediate Past President, Scott Phelan transfers the chain of office to President Christie Brown



President Christie Brown and Immediate Past President, Scott Phelan

Photos: Ken Quinn

2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2019

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION
Jan 6	Irish Women's Network-Quebec, McEntee Reading Room, 1001.1, Concordia Hall Building, 3-6 p.m.	martina.branagan@gmail.com
Jan 11	Opening Night Gala, Ciné Gael, de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Jan 25	Ciné Gael, "No stone unturned", de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Feb 2	UIS Queen's Selection Evening, EVO, 777 Blvd Robert-Bourassa, Montreal	cmurphy2_3@msn.com
Feb 8	Ciné Gael, film to be confirmed, de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Feb 22	St. Patrick's Society Annual Charity Ball	office@spsmtl.com
Feb 28	Ciné Gael, "Rocky Ros Muc", de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Mar 8	Ciné Gael, film to be confirmed, de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Mar 9	Irishman of the Year Breakfast, EVO, 777 Blvd Robert-Bourassa, Montreal, 9 a.m.	timber32@sympatico.ca / 514-713-3207
Mar 10	UIS Mass of Anticipation, 2157 Rue Centre, Montreal	president@montrealirishparade.com
Mar 15	St. Patrick's Society Annual Luncheon	office@spsmtl.com
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day Parade	president@montrealirishparade.com
Mar 22	Ciné Gael, film to be confirmed, de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Apr 5	Ciné Gael, film shorts, de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Apr 6	UIS Awards Banquet and Dinner & Dance	president@montrealirishparade.com
Apr 12	Ciné Gael, film to be confirmed, de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
May 3	Ciné Gael, "Michael Inside", de Sève cinema, 1400 Boulevard de Maisonneuve O, Montréal	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Jun 6	SPS General Meeting	office@spsmtl.com
Jun 12-16	Bloomsday Montreal, various locations (https://bloomsdaymontreal.com/)	bloomsdaymontreal@gmail.com
Jun 18	SPS Charity Golf Tournament	office@spsmtl.com



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