



BONE FRAGMENTS FOUND BY REM ARCHAEOLOGISTS



On November 27, 2019 the Canadian Press reported that the bone fragments of between twelve and fifteen people, along with some pieces of wood, were discovered the week before by archaeologists digging at the site of a future elevated light rail station near the Black Rock in Montreal. Bound by railway tracks, the archaeologists were lowered by crane into a confined cylindrical hole about 2.3 metres in diameter, the planned site of a future light-rail

system pillar.

Why were archaeologists carefully and respectfully digging at that spot in the first place? The Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation had informed the REM and the city of Montreal about the sanctity of this site and the potential of a mass grave for some six thousand Irish immigrants who had sailed across the Atlantic in 1847, in overcrowded ships, only

NUACHT

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Community Members,

I hope that this issue of Nuacht finds you in a moment of peace and comfort, as we quickly approach the holidays. On these very short and dark days, I am comforted by the festive lights and decorations, and kept busy with preparations for Christmas celebrations. I would like to thank [Martina Branagan](#), [Geoff Kelley](#), [Dave Dubeau](#) and [Ken Quinn](#) for taking the time, during this busy season, to produce this poignant edition of Nuacht. I appreciate their efforts to create this artifact that I hope future scholars will study to see how deeply committed our community is to building a future which celebrates and remembers our past.

At this time, there are almost daily developments and reports from the Montreal Irish Memorial Park Foundation (MIMPF) regarding the discoveries the REM is making while building the rail line next to the Black Rock. We owe a great debt of thanks to the committee members - [Victor Boyle](#); Past-President, [Lynn Doyle](#); [Fergus Keyes](#); Board Member, [Paul Loftus](#), and Past-President, [Scott Phelan](#) – for their diligent and time consuming work on this project over the last several months in particular. Our cover story is dedicated to the discovery of the remains of our Irish brethren found during the REM excavation. These remains, fifteen victims so far, in a very small space, prove beyond the shadow of a doubt what the Irish community has been saying for decades – that these grounds are sacred and should be commemorated respectfully. We will certainly see more on this topic in the weeks and months to come. On behalf of St. Patrick's Society, many thanks to the MIMPF members.

I have had the pleasure of attending several functions this past fall. One was the School of Irish Studies 10th Anniversary party, held at the Mount Royal Club. The event was attended by many well-known friends of the School including former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Honourary Chair Jean Charest, former premiers Daniel and Pierre-Marc Johnson, and Ambassador Jim Kelly. It was wonderful to be part of the celebration. We were treated to a preview of [Lost Children of the Carricks](#), a film by Dr. Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin, Professor and Johnson Chair of Quebec and Canadian Irish Studies. I strongly recommend that you attend the full screening on January 24, 2020. The documentary recounts another important part of the history of the Irish in Quebec. Congratulations to all involved in the evening including Past SPS President, [Michael Kenneally](#), [Rhona Richman Kenneally](#), and Chair, [Pamela McGovern](#), for such a milestone event. St. Patrick's Society continues to value the deep history and connection between us. As a side note, for a great read on the School of Irish Studies, I recommend that you peruse an article written by Past President, [Patrick Shea](#) in the [November 2011](#) edition of Nuacht.

Further congratulations are in order for [RHONA AND MICHAEL KENNEALLY](#), recent recipients of the 2019 Presidential Distinguished Service Award for the Irish Abroad. Details of the award lie further in this issue of Nuacht. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

We are moving closer to our own SPS events, when we will recognize members of our community. This year, not only are we recognizing people, but also significant milestones. To continue the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the School of Irish Studies, we are delighted that [Dr. Graham Carr](#), newly named President of Concordia University, has accepted to be our Guest of Honour at the Ball on March 6, 2020. And what a celebration that will be – [THE EVENT HAS BEEN MOVED TO LE WINDSOR](#) on Peel Street due to construction at the Marriott Chateau Champlain. What an opportunity to return to this historic venue where St. Patrick's Society hosted many events over the years.

In addition, this year marks the 100th Anniversary of CN Rail. Given the connection of the Irish to the railway, it seemed very fitting to invite [Sean Finn](#), Executive Vice-

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Deadline for submissions for Nov. issue: **Jan. 15, 2020**

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

cont. from page 2

President, Corporate Services and Chief Legal Officer of CN to be our Guest Speaker at the Annual Luncheon on March 17, 2020. The event will be held at the Sheraton Centre downtown and should not be missed.

*Finally, **Vice President, Ken Quinn** is seeking nominations for our Community Award. There are so many deserving people to recognize, and we request that you consider nominating someone for the award which will be presented at the Annual Luncheon.*

*We have had some more change in the office. We thank **Darragh Kilkenny-Mondoux** for her work with us during the fall. She is now pursuing other challenges, having received a prestigious grant in order to focus on her artistic pursuits. This sent us back searching for an office administrator. We are very thankful that **Robin Brodrick**, daughter of the late Rob Brodrick, former Board Member, was up to the challenge. Welcome aboard Robin!*

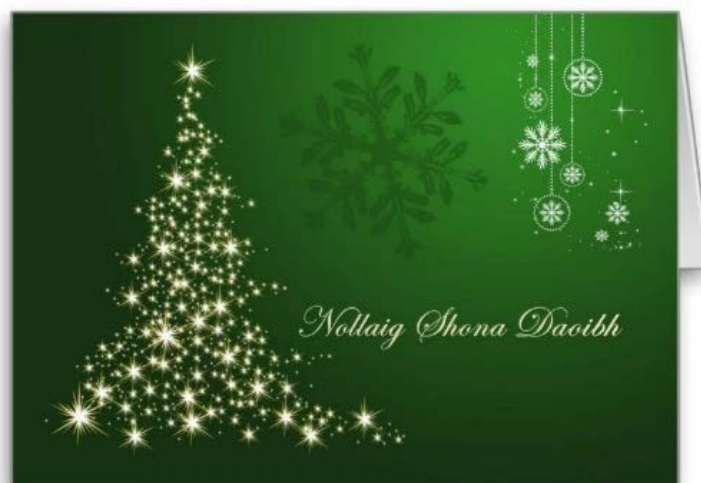
For certain, the Irish love to celebrate Christmas, and the December community calendar has much to offer each of you. Be sure to review the Events Page, where you will find all kinds of opportunity to celebrate now and in the coming months.

With a blink of the eye, 2019 will come to an end, and we will start 2020 – a year that, for so long, seemed futuristic to me. I wonder what 2030 will look like for our community. Amongst other important achievements, I hope that by 2030, we will see the fruition of a memorial park near the Black Rock, and a GAA field secured. Certainly, I hope that in 2030, we are just as committed to celebrating our past achievements and building a stronger future.

Many best wishes to you and your families. Much health and happiness as we enter this next decade.

*Nollaig Shona agus athbhliain faoi mhaise agaibh
(Merry Christmas and Happy New Year),*

*Christie Brown
President
December 2019*



SPS Committee and Event Chairs

Charity Ball	Brian Marcil
Charity Luncheon	Pamela McGovern
Governance and protocol	Christopher Deehy
Investment Committee	Paul Doyle
Golf Committee	Dave Dubeau
Grants Committee	Andrea Bobkowicz
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.

**Thank you to our committee chairs for
all your hard work and dedication to the
society.**

ANNUAL CHARITY BALL

By Ken Quinn

The Society is pleased to announce that **Dr. Graham Carr** has accepted to attend the Annual Charity Ball on March 6th as its **Guest of Honour**.

Professor Carr is President and Vice-Chancellor of Concordia University. His previous leadership positions at Concordia include Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs; Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies; and Chair in the Department of History.

A Quebec native, Graham earned his PhD from the University of Maine. His research focuses on North American cultural history, in particular cultural diplomacy and the Cold War.

He currently serves on the board of directors of Centraide (United Way) of Greater Montreal. He has served on the board of the Leadership Council for Digital Infrastructure, as president of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, as chair of the Canada-US Fulbright selection committee, and for many years, on the National Capital Commission's Advisory Committee for Communications, Marketing and Programming.

After numerous years at the Marriott Chateau Champlain, the Ball is moving across the street to Le Windsor, site of the 2019 Annual General Meeting. New Chairman, Brian Marcil and his committee are hard at work working on the details of the transition to this elegant new venue.

Even though we are on the move, we will again be entertained by the sweet sounds of the Directors



Showband, along with the fantastic dancers from the Bernadette Short School of Irish Dancing and more.

We will be able to share more details in the next edition of Nuacht. Tickets are on sale on the website. Pricing remains the same as last year:

Corporate Table (10 persons)	\$5,000.00
Regular Table (10 persons)	\$2,300.00
Individual Ticket (member)	\$230.00
Individual Ticket (non-member)	\$250.00
Junior Ticket (18 to 29 years)	\$175.00

Don't delay. Be sure to buy your tickets early.
<https://spsmtl.com/membership/transactions/>



187TH ST. PATRICK SOCIETY LUNCHEON

By Ken Quinn

For the 187th year, your Society is organizing the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, which will be held at Le Centre Sheraton downtown. New committee chair, Pamela McGovern and her committee are working diligently to make sure the 2020 Luncheon is one to remember.

The Society is pleased to announce the Guest Speaker at the Luncheon is Mr. **SEAN FINN**, Executive Vice-President, Corporate Services, and Chief Legal Officer at CN.

Prior to joining CN, Mr. Finn was the managing tax partner with the Montreal law firm Lavery, de Billy, where he was involved in domestic and international tax planning, cross-border financing, and corporate financing and reorganizations.

Mr. Finn graduated from the faculty of law of the University of Montreal in 1981 and completed a Masters degree in tax law at the University of Toronto in 1983. He was admitted to the Quebec Bar in 1983.

On June 6, 2019 CN proudly marked its 100th anniversary. Created by an Act of Parliament, CN has since contributed continuously to Canada's economy and prosperity. Celebrations continue into the Fall of 2020.

Mr. Finn is currently a board member of the YMCA

Foundation of Greater Montreal (since 2000), the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation and Chairman of the Corporate Campaign (since 2005), as well as Swimming Canada (since October 2008). He is well known in his community as a former city councillor and mayor of St. Lambert, where he served from 1994 to 2009.

Mr. Finn is no stranger to the community. A former Society Director, he once served as chairman of the Luncheon Committee. In 2018, he served as Honourary Patron of the Charity Ball and in 2019, was selected as Grand Marshal of the iconic Parade.

We will have much more to say about the Luncheon in the next edition of Nuacht. Tickets are now on sale: <https://spsmtl.com/membership/transactions/>



NUACHT



THE COMMUNITY AWARD 2020

By Ken Quinn

It's that time of year where your Society is calling for nominations for the annual **Community Award**, presented at the Annual Charity Luncheon in March.

Since 1993, the St. Patrick's Society of Montreal has been honoured to recognize an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the Irish Montreal community.

The Community Award has 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.
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.

If you believe someone you know meets these criteria, please complete the online form found here:
<https://shorturl.me/hXhX>

Community Award Recipients

Please be certain to include your full name and contact details as well as the nominee's full name and a brief biography explaining why they are deserving of this honour in the "Supporting information for nomination" field.

The Submission deadline is Monday, January 13, 2020. We look forward to receiving your suggestions and to presenting the Award at the Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

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



Dear fellow Montreal Irish community members and lovers of dance everywhere,

Please join us for our show featuring the music and themes of Tchaikovsky along with the dances and music of Ireland.

VENUE: The Theatre, PIERREFONDS COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL, 13800 Boul. Pierrefonds, corner of St Jean.

There are two shows: 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

TICKETS are available for purchase via EventBrite. Tickets sold out very quickly last year, so, to avoid disappointment, book early.

The link to purchase tickets for the 3 p.m. matinee performance is:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bernadette-short-school-of-irish-dance-an-irish-nutcracker-matinee-tickets-77315894923>

The link to purchase tickets for the 7 p.m. evening performance is:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bernadette-short-school-of-irish-dance-an-irish-nutcracker-evening-show-tickets-77276448939>

If you require assistance, please contact
Dodie Bates: dodiebates1@gmail.com





to meet their death from typhus in fever sheds erected along the banks of the St. Lawrence. In anticipation of the dig, on June 12, 2019, the REM hosted an inter-faith religious blessing at the Black Rock, a three-metre tall boulder erected by Victoria Bridge workers in 1859 that is believed to be the first ever memorial to victims of "An Gorta Mór" (The Great Hunger/Famine). The REM has also ensured that the pillars are being spaced farther apart than usual to avoid disturbing the burial ground more than necessary.

So, might these be the remains of Irish immigrants who died after fleeing the Great Hunger of 1847 in Ireland?



That remains to be seen. The bones have been sent to a REM laboratory for analysis as agreed in the protocol with the Ministry of Culture and Communications, the City of Montreal and the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation. Once the analysis is done, which could take a few months, the remains will be stored at a special City of Montreal site until the excavation is complete when they will be reinterred, hopefully with the same respect shown until now. The REM has promised to set up a meeting with the Montreal Irish Memorial Park Foundation once their analysis is complete.

It has been reported that Elizabeth Boivin, a spokesperson for the Réseau express métropolitain (REM) said that the remains are in good condition and the expectation is that more could be unearthed in the near future, since archaeologists do not yet know how deep the graves lie. Weather permitting, the work will be terminated soon.

For more than ten years, the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation has been trying to have a world class memorial park built at this site to a) remember the more than six thousand Irish victims who died and were buried in the area and also b) pay tribute to all the Montrealers who risked their lives to nurse and care for them including French-Catholic priests and nuns, British military, Montrealers who adopted orphaned children, First Nations who contributed food and money and Montreal's mayor, John Easton Mills, who eventually succumbed to typhus after volunteering to nurse the sick.

Every year Montreal's Irish community join the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) in the annual "Walk to the Stone" to commemorate these victims. Should these remains be those of the Irish victims, it is the Foundation's hope that they will be reinterred at the site and commemorated.

For up-to-date information on the dig, please visit the Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation

JOHN LOYE - IRISH PATRIOT

By Garth Stevenson

A long time ago in March 1962, when I was a very young member of the Canadian Railroad Historical Association (CRHA), I attended the CRHA's thirtieth anniversary banquet in the Alouette Room of Windsor Station. (If you remember the Alouette Room you definitely qualify as a senior citizen!) An old man sitting quietly at the head table was introduced to the guests, or perhaps he was pointed out to me, as John Loye, the founder and first president of the Canadian Railroad Historical Association in 1932.

I was too shy to approach Mr. Loye and introduce myself on that occasion. It was not the last time that shyness would prevent me from meeting an eminent person. (About two years later I failed to meet Pierre Elliott Trudeau, who had not yet become a politician, at a McGill University reception for the same reason.) However, my failure to meet Mr. Loye was perhaps the most poignant of such occasions, for the banquet in the Alouette Room was his last public appearance. He died eight months later at the age of 82.

Many years later, when I was doing some research related to the centennial of Ireland's Easter Rising, I discovered another side of Mr. Loye's career, which predated the founding of the CRHA by several years. Although born in Montreal, he remained deeply interested and involved in the politics of Ireland, the country from which both of his parents had emigrated. This was an interest that he shared with many members of the Irish diaspora and their descendants at that time, and even today.

John Loye was born and lived his entire life in Griffintown, the Montreal neighbourhood that was founded by Irish immigrants and that remained the stronghold of their descendants until it was depopulated and destroyed by Mayor Jean Drapeau's urban renewal projects in the 1960s, shortly after John Loye's death. John Loye's maternal grandmother, Margaret Dowling, remembered until the end of her life a childhood experience of meeting a starving refugee girl, who had just escaped from the great famine of the 1840s, at the corner of Notre Dame and McGill streets. Loye himself was impressed as a boy by observing the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway's Victoria Jubilee Bridge, incorporating the piers of the old tubular bridge which dated from 1860. This event, within walking distance of his home, may have sparked his interest in railway history.

Although the Easter Rising of 1916 was crushed by the British army within a few days, the Irish war of independence began as soon as the war against



John Loye, in typical Irish dress for cold weather, date unknown, but probably in the 1930s. (Ronald S. Ritchie collection)
Historian and former Member of SPS died at 82 in Nov. 1962

Germany ended in 1918. Loye's papers at Concordia University indicate that he was in touch with other Irish patriots, in Canada, Ireland, and the United States, by this time. In 1920 he founded the Montreal branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom, an organization that already existed in the United States. In the same year delegations of Irish Montrealers travelled to Plattsburgh and later to Ogdensburg to meet Eamon de Valera, the future president of Ireland, who was unable to cross the Canadian border because of his role in an armed rebellion against the Crown. It is not known whether Loye was part of either delegation, but it seems likely that he was, since he had received a postcard from someone who had described an earlier de Valera speech in New York City as "something I will never forget." Newspaper clippings describing the Plattsburgh and Ogdensburg excursions have been preserved in his papers.

Loye also became acquainted with a woman named Katherine Hughes, who provides an interesting, although probably coincidental, link with Canadian railroad history. Miss Hughes, who was originally from Prince Edward Island, had lived in Alberta for several years and had become friendly with the famous missionary, Father Albert Lacombe, whose biography she subsequently wrote. In 1914, a year before his death, Sir William Van Horne, who had also been a friend of the missionary, asked her to write his biography too. She completed a first draft of this work but by that time her involvement in Irish revolutionary politics made her name too controversial to appear on the title page. Her manuscript, slightly revised, appeared in 1920 as *The Life and Work of Sir William Van Horne* under the nominal authorship of Walter Vaughan, who edited her manuscript and at least had the decency to acknowledge her contribution to the book in his preface.

Miss Hughes was de Valera's principal agent and contact person in Canada and in that capacity she persuaded Loye to merge his newly formed Montreal branch of the Friends of Irish Freedom with another Canadian organization, the Irish-Canadian National League. The successor organization would be called the Self-Determination for Ireland League of Canada and Newfoundland (SDILC). At its peak this organization had more than 50,000 members organized into branches named after Irish heroes. The Griffintown branch, of which John Loye was the chairman, was named after Theobald Wolfe Tone, who had tried to free Ireland from British rule with the assistance of revolutionary France in 1798.

As the choice of name indicates, Loye was one of the most radical members of the SDILC, which included a fairly wide range of opinions on the Irish question. (The NDG branch, in contrast, was named after Thomas d'Arcy McGee, who had become a loyal British subject and a Conservative MP in Ottawa.) Loye corresponded frequently with Frank Walsh, one of de Valera's principal supporters in the United States, and sometimes made suggestions about how to improve the effectiveness of the IRA in its war against the British. Some weapons of American origin were shipped to the IRA through the port of Montreal, but it is not known whether Loye was involved in this.

The Anglo-Irish treaty signed in December 1921, after nearly three years of warfare, offered

Ireland (excluding the six northern counties) the status of a British dominion similar to Canada, with a governor-general representing the Crown. This compromise divided the Irish nationalist movement between those, like Michael Collins, who accepted dominion status at least for the time being, and those, like de Valera, who insisted on a republic outside the Commonwealth. The difference of opinion led to a brief but tragic civil war in Ireland and also divided the Irish movement in Canada. The president of the SDILC, an Irish Protestant named Lindsay Crawford, supported the treaty, as did most Irish Canadians. John Loye, and Katherine Hughes, both diehard republicans, opposed the treaty and the Irish Free State which resulted from it. However, the pro-treaty side won the civil war and Ireland did not fully sever its ties with the Crown until 1949.

The outcome of the civil war led to the dissolution of the SDILC and seems to have ended Loye's involvement in revolutionary politics. However, he remained active in the Irish community of Montreal and designed most of the floats for the St. Patrick's Day parade until 1933. From 1934 until 1957 he was president of the United Irish Societies of Montreal, which sponsored the parade. For more than half of those years he was also president of the CRHA, which he and several associates had founded in 1932, largely to prepare for the centennial of Canada's first railway, the Champlain and St. Lawrence. John Loye was also the designer of the CRHA logo, incorporating a sketch of Canada's first locomotive, the Dorchester, which still appears on the front cover of *Canadian Rail*.



An account of the first half-century of the Canadian Railroad Historical Association

Robert V.V. Nicholls

On the evening of March 15th, 1932, at the Chateau de Ramezay, Montreal, seventeen members of the Antiquarian and Numismatic Society met at the conclusion of an exhibition of railroadiana, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the granting of a charter to Canada's first public railway, the Champlain and St. Lawrence Rail Road. Victor Morin, president of the Society was in the chair and John Loye outlined the nature of a proposed society of railway historians and enthusiasts. At the conclusion of the gathering fourteen signified their intention to join such a group. The Canadian Railroad Historical Association was established forthwith, and John Loye and Robert R. Brown were chosen to be interim president and secretary, respectively. These men would play outstanding roles in the affairs of the Association for many years. The title, Railroad, rather than Railway, was selected because the Champlain & St. Lawrence had been deemed to be a rail road rather than a rail way. That is, the North American custom was followed when naming the society rather than the British.

LIFE ON EXCHANGE IN DUBLIN

By Mara Lamont

Each day, I awoke to the smell of hops wafting in through my window. Living in the heart of Dublin, I was just a stone's throw away from the Guinness Brewery. Every time I left my apartment, I was greeted by the giant Guinness sign and I couldn't help but smile, thinking of the beautiful city I was living in, filled with history, culture, and a lot of beer.

With deep Irish roots descending from the Lamont, Hegarty, Duffy and Flanagan lineages (who all immigrated to Montreal), I strived to connect with my Irish heritage while I was on exchange from McGill University. It did not take long. The Irish, and the city of Dublin, in particular, are warm and all embracing.

Trinity College is the oldest university in Ireland and it definitely has that feel. Strolling through the grand entrance on the cobblestone walkway, I felt I was transported back in time to when students wore robes to lectures and did all their research with encyclopaedias. Marking the centre of campus is the bell tower (right). Rumour has it that if you walk underneath while the bell is ringing you will fail all of your exams – while probably more folklore than fact, I didn't take that chance! The campus also features the Long Room. If you are a booklover like myself, you will be in awe.

Strikingly beautiful, you can't help but feel like you've stumbled onto the set of Harry Potter. Beside the Long Room is a museum featuring the Book of Kells, a ninth century manuscript, as well as other historical Irish books and artifacts. The Campus is definitely worth visiting if you're ever in Dublin. **TOP TIP:** If you befriend a Trinity student, they can even give you access to the exhibits and

the Long Room for free! Although I had an amazing time at this university, much like McGill, it is very academically demanding, so if you're looking for an easy **A** on your exchange, you may want to reconsider.

Just down the River Liffey from my apartment is Temple Bar, one of the most electric areas in Dublin. Although The Temple Bar pub that shares its name with the area is known as a Dublin staple, it can be quite expensive and a bit of a tourist trap. In the same area is Oliver St. John Gogarty's, a more reasonably priced bar, with almost daily live music on two different floors, great pints, and a good Irish Breakfast for when you need to recover the morning after. It also happens to be my favourite bar in the city. If you're looking to party, Bad Bob's is a bar/club with different floors that always plays good tunes, with a wide array of people from across Europe. If you're looking for a typical college hangout, check out Copper's – they play throwback music and everyone is always having a good time. **TOP TIP:** if you're ever able to go to Dublin



IN "BEAUTIFUL" DUBLIN

Cont. from page 10

on St. Patrick's Day, start off by going to the parade, then try bar-hopping to a few of these spots. It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience, especially if you're Irish! Just make sure you go in a group and stay safe because as the night grows closer, the alcohol gets harder.

If you're like me, you love cute clothes and deals - check out Penney's! It's like a mix of Winner's, H&M and Forever 21 with even cuter clothes and homeware, and you won't break your budget. Most of the mid-range shopping can be found on Henry Street alongside Penney's with stores ranging from Mango to Pull&Bear. If you're looking for a more attractive view and a grander experience, hit Grafton Street. Although one of my favourite streets in Dublin, most of the stores are unaffordable on a student budget. Nevertheless, it is a worthwhile experience to walk down the street with a nice cup of tea, window shopping, with street artists singing in the background. Once you reach the end of Grafton Street, you will see St Stephen's Green - a beautiful and historic park you must check out before you leave Dublin, preferably in the warmer months so you can witness its amazing flower garden. Just around the corner is my favourite café - Beanhive. They make great food and the most amazing coffee; they will even draw little designs with chocolate syrup on your cappuccinos and lattes - perfect to drink while you browse the park.

A few tourist attractions that I think are worth visiting in Ireland are the Guinness Storehouse, St James's Gate Brewery; the Cliffs of Moher; and Kilmainham Gaol (Dublin Jail). The Guinness Storehouse gives you a full immersive experience, starting from what goes into the beer to the history of Sir Arthur Guinness, to the making of their iconic ads, to the best part - a complimentary pint at the end of the visit, poured by the new expert - you! Just a couple of hours outside Dublin are the Cliffs of Moher. I recommend taking

a Paddywagon tour as you make some great stops along the way and the drivers are very entertaining and knowledgeable. In fact, I even shed a tear when my

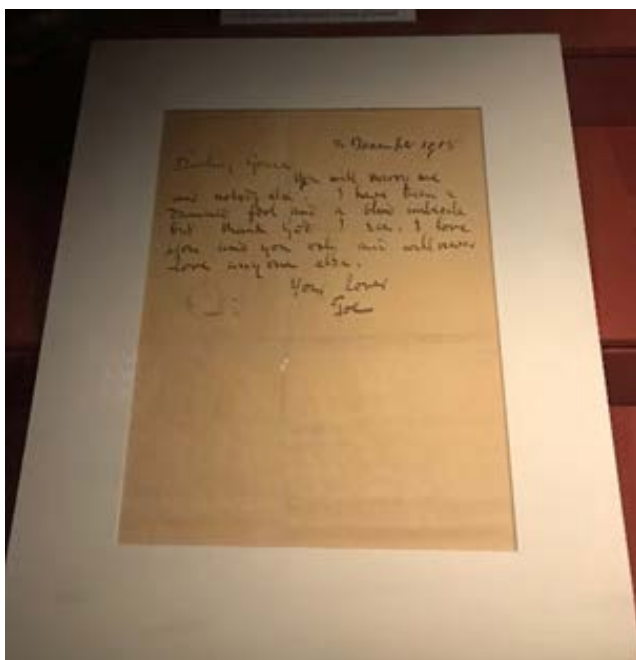
bus driver said "Welcome Home" to all of us who had families that were forced to leave all those years ago. Walking across those cliffs is truly a spiritual experience and I would say it's the one thing you must do outside Dublin. Lastly, and one of my favourite experiences, was Kilmainham Gaol. Usually, I prefer to tour museums at my own pace, but for this, you must get the guided tour. The guide truly painted a picture of all that went on there, showing us the cells and giving us in-depth details of where political leaders were kept for unjust reasons, and stepping foot on the exact site of their execution. One story sticks with me - they allowed one of the Politicians to marry his childhood sweetheart, just minutes before he was put to death. The note reads "Dear Grace, You will marry me and nobody else. I have been a damned fool and a blind imbecile and I thank God I see. I love you and you only and will never love anyone else. Your love, Joe". If you want more heart-wrenching stories such as this one, that will also educate you on the history of the country, you must visit Kilmainham Gaol.

The city has changed. Much of Ireland but especially Dublin has become as diverse as cities like Montréal or Toronto. As such, Dublin is a cosmopolitan city, home to many of the high tech/Silicon Valley companies such as Google and Facebook. One thing that has not changed, however, is the raucous conversations with Dublin cabbies. They are a cultural treat! Within five

minutes, you know everything about them, their families and how their kids want to move to "America" (anything across the Atlantic Ocean), when they finish school.

Overall, living in Dublin was an amazing experience, and I miss it every day. My time there certainly gave me a deeper understanding of how the Irish live their daily lives and, interestingly, how Dubliners are perceived by the rest of the world. Many visitors adopt the Irish way of life, a love for family, friends and long stories told over a nice cold Guinness or a warm cup of tea. If you ever get

the chance to go, make sure to really embrace the Irish culture, and check out a few spots recommended by this self-proclaimed insider.



CINÉ GAEL MONTRÉAL 28TH SEASON - SAVE THE DATES

By Ken Wilson

Ciné Gael Montréal will return for an excellent 28th season of the best Irish cinema on Friday January 24, 2020. As we forge through an especially dismal and snowy autumn season, the committee members are keeping busy continuing the vital search for films worthy of presenting. Meanwhile, the constantly-evolving film presentation schedule is slowly taking shape though it truly is a labour of love to curate the best possible combination of films. This annual film-fest is a great antidote to the cabin fever that sets in after Christmas and offers an entertaining outlet for fans of all genres of film. Ciné Gael continues to delight its patrons more than two decades after it began and it's no surprise that it remains the longest-running film festival screening Irish films outside of Ireland.

While many of the films have yet to be determined, we can reveal the all-important dates to mark on your calendars (all films are presented on Fridays except where noted):

Jan. 24, 2020
 Feb 7, 2020
 Feb 21, 2020
 Mar 6, 2020
 SATURDAY, MAR 28 2020
 Apr 3, 2020
 Apr 17, 2020
 May 1, 2020

This year, we are very excited to kick-off the new season, in collaboration with Concordia University's School of Irish Studies, with a presentation of the **LOST CHILDREN OF THE CARRICKS**, on Friday, January 24, 2020.



It is the remarkable story of one coffin ship that sailed from Sligo, Ireland in 1847, at the height of the Irish Famine, filled with 173 tenants from one of the many estates belonging to British Foreign Secretary, Lord Palmerston, followed by the tracing of descendants living in the Gaspé region and the extraordinary reunion of an Irish family divided by 168 years of history and 3,000 miles of ocean. This is one film not to be missed!

As mentioned, this evening is a collaboration with the School of Irish

Studies and as with all of our opening nights, a reception will follow where those having purchased tickets from Ciné Gael Montreal will be welcomed to sample some wine and hors d'oeuvres in a friendly gathering of Irish cinéphiles. A membership for the 2020 season will cost \$85. Admission to individual films will cost \$12 with the exception of the opening night with reception where the cost is \$20 and the closing night gala where the cost is \$25.

If you would like to reserve a ticket for the opening night or purchase a season pass, please contact Antoine Maloney. For more information visit our website at <https://cinegaelmontreal.com/>.

2019 PRESIDENTIAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

By Martina McLean

On November 21, 2019, President Michael D. Higgins presented twelve people with the 2019 Presidential Distinguished Service Awards, at a ceremony in Áras an Uachtaráin (the official residence and workplace of the Irish president). These awards were created in 2011 to recognize the service given to Ireland or to Irish communities abroad by members of the Irish diaspora. Throughout his term in office, President Higgins has emphasized the global nature of Ireland's cultural heritage, the significance of the diaspora and the common history and identity we share "despite the borders, oceans and miles that may separate us".



Front row, fourth from the right, [RHONA RICHMAN KENNEALLY](#), standing beside President Michael D. Higgins. [MICHAEL KENNEALLY](#) in the second row, fourth from the right.

The Award designers: Spear Product Design.

Concept: an open door, leading to the landscape of Ireland, captures the welcoming nature of both the Irish people and Ireland as a nation

There are six categories: Arts, Culture and Sport; Business and Education; Charitable Works; Irish Community Support; Peace, Reconciliation and Development; and Science and Technology. This year a total of 189 nominations were considered and the level and breadth of the achievements were outstanding. Two members of Montreal's Irish Community were honoured, namely Michael Kenneally, principal of the School of Irish Studies, Honorary Consul General of Ireland, past President of St. Patrick's Society and recipient of many other awards, and Rhona Richman Kenneally, professor in the Department of Design and Computation Arts, Fellow of the School of Irish Studies and editor of the Canadian Journal of Irish Studies. They received the Presidential Distinguished Service Award in the category of Business and Education, in recognition of their contribution to strengthen and reimagine the landscape of Irish Studies and in particular, for establishing the School of Irish Studies at Concordia University. How fitting an honour during the 10th anniversary of the school.

For Michael Kenneally, the award recognizes the support and close relationship of Montreal's Irish community and the progressive interdisciplinarity of the school's approach. The School is unique in many ways. Since its inception, its founders recognized the unique needs and identity of a Canadian Irish diaspora and focuses on the multicultural backdrop of Montreal, Quebec and Canada. Its interdisciplinary reach encompasses literature, language, history, design, film, theatre, art education, ethnomusicology, economics, geography, politics and performance studies. Although it is an undergraduate academic unit, the school has been able to offer studies at the graduate and postgraduate levels, via the Humanities PhD and Individualized MA and MSc programs, currently boasting more than twenty-five graduate students. The school also serves as a hub within the Montreal and Quebec Irish communities.

Michael and Rhona join the ranks of previous honorees: Canadian peacekeeper, John de Chastelain (2017), movie star, Liam Neeson (2017) and former Canadian finance minister, Jim Flaherty (2014, posthumous). Yet, they recognize the generous funding to the school from the Irish community and the crucial role of the independent Canadian Irish Studies Foundation which has raised more than \$7 million, ensuring the continuity of the school and funding packages to students. The icing on the cake is how the award raises awareness "of the interest abroad in Ireland and Irish culture, and of the people who volunteer with such dedication."

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARTIN MURPHY

By Martina McLean

On November 6, 2019 at the 11th Annual Community Leadership Awards gala held at St. James Club in downtown Montreal, Martin P. Murphy was presented with the Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) **Sheila and Victor Goldbloom Distinguished Community Service Award** for his community advocacy.

The QCGN's Goldbloom Distinguished Community Service Award celebrates individuals who, like the Goldblooms, have dedicated their lives to ensuring English-speaking Quebec remains a vibrant community within Quebec and Canada.

Reading about the lives and legacy of the Goldblooms, it is clear why Mr. Murphy deserves this award. It is not only about what he has achieved but his attitude, approach, sense of duty, rigour, humour, and gentlemanly decorum. The profile that emerges is that of a leader, committed and understanding, with vision, courage, realism and compassion. He was the QCGN's first president, helped establish the organization's current by-laws and structure and spent many years defending Quebec's English-speaking minority since the founding of QCGN in 1995 and has never missed a QCGN Annual General Meeting since. The groundwork began in 1994 with Hugh Maynard, the first chairman of the QCGN's Management Working Group. At the time, Murphy was working full-time as executive director of the ESCC and that organization afforded him the time to visit many English-speaking community groups across the province, in order to bring people closer together to "better manage projects and program funding priorities."

In 1999, he negotiated an equitable increase in funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage for QCGN. Beverley Caplan, former manager of Canadian Heritage said that Murphy wrote the best and most complete briefs, was always prepared for meetings, and even after the extremely testy negotiations about funding, would never allow the conflict to get personal.

In 2006, during the fourth of his five years as president, the QCGN was formally recognized as the official representative of Quebec's English-speaking community by Ottawa's Department of Canadian Heritage. "The value of the QCGN means that we can have collective action to address the issues affecting our vitality," said Murphy. "The organization encourages dialogue, collaboration and advocacy."

A graduate of Cardinal Newman High School (1952), Murphy began his career in marketing and research at Canadian National Railways (CNR). After a decade with the company where he appreciated that he had great prospects, he nonetheless felt unfulfilled and took a year off to study for a teaching certificate. So, began thirty-three years of vocation to education, seventeen of which he served as director of curriculum services at the Baldwin-Cartier school board. Then, Murphy engaged in a third career at the English-speaking Catholic Council where he served as executive director for seventeen years before "retiring" in 2012. While there, the ESCC presented twenty briefs at federal and provincial public consultation hearings.

His volunteer work reflects his concern for education, health and human rights. During his term as President of the Provincial Association of Catholic Teachers (1966-1967), there were five weeks of Quebec teachers strikes, (at the time, they were the lowest paid teachers within Canada) with the result that salaries were adjusted retroactively. He also served as President of the Directors of English Schools (1982-84; 1990-1991), Director of the Canadian Teacher's Federation, President of the ESCC (1992-1994), the first Chairman of the CHSSN, Community Health and Social Services Network (2000-2003), Member of the Advisory Board of Seniors Action Quebec (2012-present) and more. All the testimonies speak to how he earned respect, was looked up to and deemed "the best person to have on your side."



QCGN President, Mr. Geoffrey Chambers presents the award to Martin Murphy (left)

"THE BEST MAN TO HAVE ON YOUR SIDE"

Cont. from page 14

THE QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUP NETWORK

The QCGN is a not-for-profit organization, funded by the Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage. It links more than fifty organizations across Quebec. A centre of evidence-based expertise and collective action, the QCGN identifies, explores and addresses strategic issues affecting the development and vitality of the English-speaking community of Quebec and encourages dialogue and collaboration among its member organizations, individuals, community groups, institutions and leaders.



Martin with his family

THE GOLDBLOOM AWARD

The Goldbloom award was established in honour of Victor Goldbloom (1923-2016), pediatrician, politician (MNA for D'Arcy-McGee) and Commissioner of Official Languages and his wife, Sheila Goldbloom (née Barshay), former professor in social work at McGill University and mentor to many people. Engaged citizens and community leaders, passionate about the issues of the day and committed to human rights and the family, the husband and wife team were recipients of the Ordre national du Québec and the Order of Canada. The Sheila and Victor Goldbloom Distinguished Community Service Award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to strengthening the English-speaking community and to building bridges of understanding between Quebecers of different backgrounds.

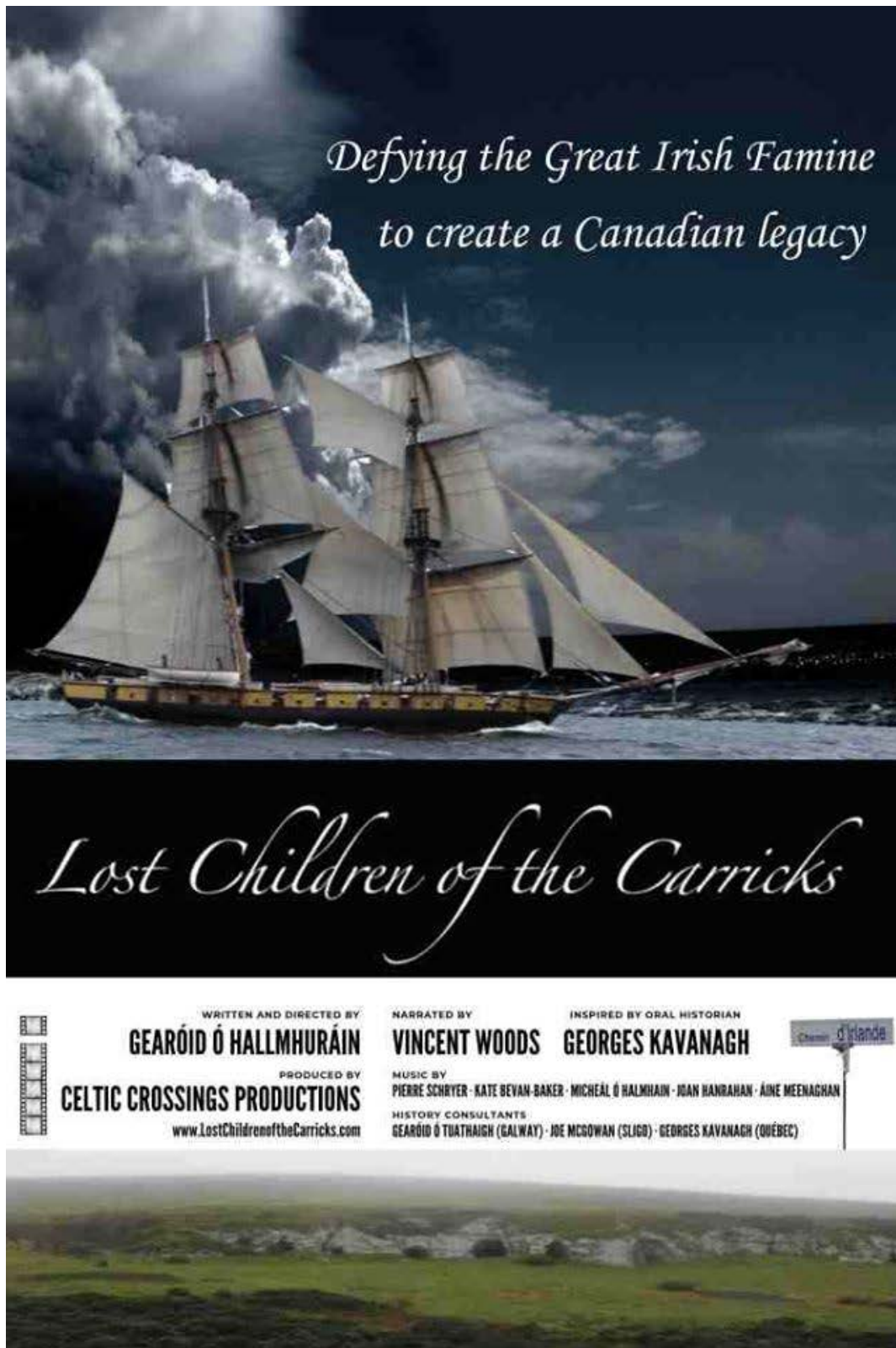
Quebecers can nominate whoever they feel is worthy of the Goldbloom award by contacting the QCGN directly. The nominee may not currently hold a political position and can be from anywhere in Quebec, any walk of life, young or old, professional or volunteer, as long as they have had an impact on the English community in some lasting way.

FOR INFORMATION: Government of Canada's "Action Plan for Official Languages – 2018-2023: Investing in Our Future" <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/official-languages-bilingualism/official-languages-action-plan/2018-2023.html>

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AROUND TOWN

NUAIGHT



The School of Irish Studies and Ciné Gael Montreal
present
a screening of
LOST CHILDREN OF THE CARRICKS
Directed by Dr Gearóid Óhallmhuráin,
Professor and Johnson Chair of Quebec and Canadian
Irish Studies.

Friday, January 24, 2020
at 7:00 p.m.

D.B. Clarke Theatre,
Concordia University's Hall Building,
Lower Level

ICCC 28TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS PARTY

By Carol McCormick

On Wednesday, December 4, 2019, the Ireland Canada Chamber of Commerce - Montreal Chapter, better known as the ICCC, celebrated its 28th year of existence.

For the past three years, the members ("individual" and "corporate") have enjoyed a private venue on the 3rd floor of the Bier Markt on René Lévesque boulevard. This year, close to fifty people mingled there with complimentary drinks, hors d'oeuvres and door prizes. Members paid \$20.00, non-members \$25.00 and corporate members received two complimentary tickets.



Duck wings, pulled pork tacos, spring rolls and burger rolls were just some of the delights that guests feasted on. Chocolate fondue and "beignets" completed the evening's gourmet finger foods. But that was not all. Beautiful gift baskets from Bramble House, Epices & Tout and ROI Investments added to the number of prizes that were drawn. White and red wine bottles were donated by RAM Canada Inc. and a lovely bottle of whiskey from CN was auctioned. Bier Markt also surprised us with two gift certificates.

Among our guests was Ambassador Kelly, who is a great supporter of the ICCC and always makes a point to come and share a glass and conversation with our members.

This year, the ICCC Board of Directors agreed to present to our Corporate Members a framed certificate for their participation, making our Chapter a viable and worthwhile organization for companies here in Montreal to work together and expand their services among themselves and in Ireland.

Corporate members in attendance and recipients of their framed certificates were: Investissement de Québec, Barry's Tea, ROI Research on Investment, Ogilvy & Ogilvy, Fogarty Law Firm, McCarthy Tétrault LLP, JPDO Finance

& Accounting, LIDD Consultants, and Power Corporation of Canada.

Other corporate representatives who were not able to attend on the night were: CN, Expedia CruiseShipCentres, Elektra, Invest Northern Ireland, Tourism Ireland, Aer Lingus, IDA Canada, B.G.L. Brokerage Ltd. IPL Plastics, Robert Half, Aer Rianta International(North America)Inc. Intact Financial Corporation, McKibbin's Irish Pub, Hurley's Irish Pub, Transat A.T.

We would certainly love to count you in as either an individual member or a corporate member. For more information, please see our website: www.iccmtl.com, email: office@iccmtl.com or call me: 514-386-8082.

On behalf of the ICCC, I would like to wish you and your family the very best of the Holiday Season and a wonderful New Year!

Hope to see you next year at our 29th Anniversary Christmas Party.



The Federation of Irish Societies
La Fédération des organisations Irlandaises
Cónascadh na gCumann Gaelach
Montreal



"Unity in Our Community"

6th Annual FIS Christmas Party

**Le Vieux Dublin Pub
636 Cathcart**

**Monday, December 16, 2019
5:30 p.m.**

Special Guests: TBA

Background Music by The GAA Musicians

MC: Paul Loftus

Bring Your Friends and Meet Some New Ones

Happy Hour Prices until 8:00 p.m. and Complimentary Finger Food

ANDREW BROOKS NEVER LET HIS BATTLES WITH CANCER GET HIM DOWN

By Daniel Nolan The Hamilton Spectator, Nov 4, 2019

With all the trials and tribulations in his life, Andrew Brooks never let them get him down.

Brooks was born with neurofibromatosis, a disease which causes cancerous tumour growth. He had his first battle with two brain tumours when he was three and he endured treatment and therapy before being declared in remission at the age of fourteen.

The ordeal left him blind and suffering from epilepsy and in 2016 he was diagnosed with glioma (a type of brain and spinal cord tumour) and went for treatment at the Juravinski Cancer Centre. The disease and treatment eventually made him rely on a wheelchair earlier this year.

Yet Brooks — who died at age 28, on September 23, at St. Peter's Hospital — graduated from high school and college and worked at two jobs. Inspired by a brief meeting with Lance Armstrong at a Toronto conference he became an avid cyclist and helped found a now annual cycling fundraising event in 2007 at his high school called [Inside Ride](#) to raise money for childhood cancer charities.

In 2008, he took part in the first [Sears National Kids Cancer Ride](#) between Vancouver and Halifax. He rode with 49 others across the country — he was the youngest participant and his mother Janice went along — and raised \$50,000 that year (including participation in Inside Ride) to put toward childhood cancer charities and pediatric oncology programs and centres.

"I never heard him complain a single day," said his sister Hannah Brooks, 29, a research co-ordinator at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.

"He was never upset. If you asked how he felt about this, he would say 'I'm living for today.' He would say, 'No, I'm happy.' When he came into a room he had the biggest smile on his face."

The family is setting up a scholarship in Brooks' memory at his former high school, White Oaks Secondary School in Oakville, where his sister says "he flourished." It will help special needs students and, with the support of family, friends and anyone who was touched by Brooks, it has hit \$10,000 since his death. The goal is \$20,000 but his sister said they will raise as much as they can.



Andrew William Brooks, May 2016
Terry Fox Humanitarian award, July 2009
Photo: Courtesy of the family

"We will start with White Oaks but depending on how much money the community can raise, we hope to spread it widely," she said. "Andy dreamed big — we want his legacy to do the same."

Brooks was born in Montreal and attended public school here. His father, William worked in the pharmaceutical industry, including being a clinical director at Apotex Inc. The family moved to Oakville in 2006 and then Hamilton in 2013. His mother is a reverend deacon at the Anglican Church of the Ascension, in downtown Hamilton.

Brooks graduated from a one-year program for special needs adults at Mohawk College in June 2016. He worked at a McDonald's restaurant in Oakville and, after coming to Hamilton, landed a job as a service clerk at the Fortinos grocery store on Dundurn Street. He was likely a well-known sight to some shoppers because he went up and down the street retrieving errant shopping carts.

He enjoyed comic books, travelling ("his bucket list included the Grand Canyon and we did that," said his sister) and playing games on his Xbox. He was so well associated with Xbox that after he was cremated he was buried in a hollowed-out Xbox.

"It's kind of weird, but he would have totally laughed and thought it was great," added Hannah. "He was just a very happy, happy kid."

Brooks is survived by his parents, William and Janice, and sisters, Hannah and Greer, who is a hairstylist. He was predeceased by his longtime guide dog, Boston. The scholarship is at haltonlearningfoundation.ca/andybrooksscholarship.

dnolan@thespec.com; 905-526-3351 | @dandundas

Note from the editor:

Our condolences to Andy's family including his dad, Bill; his mom, Janice, former Chair of Montreal CCE; grandfather, Johnny Maloney, long time member and friend of SPS, playing his cordovox at many, many events; as well as his sisters, Greer and Hannah, who is working on raising funds for the scholarship in Andrew's memory. May he rest in peace!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

NEXT STOP: STATION JOHN EASTON MILLS



It is completely inappropriate to name the Griffintown REM station after former Premier, Bernard Landry.

During the great hunger of 1847, many heroic individuals cared for the thousands of Irish famine victims who landed at the quays of Montreal, diseased and dying.

For me, one man in particular stood out — John Easton Mills, then mayor of Montreal, who provided care and comfort to the tortured souls, in “fever sheds” and died from typhus as a result.

His name deserves to be inscribed at the new station in the area where so many died.

It would be bewildering — even sacrilegious — to ignore Griffintown’s Irish heritage.

Jim Mc Dermott, St Laurent



Top Global Tweets



Niall Burgess

@NBurgessDFAT | 5,373 followers



Sad news that Ireland’s oldest diplomat, Séan Kennan died today, aged 100. Born the same year as our diplomatic service, he was one of its fine practitioners, serving as Ireland’s first Permanent Representative in Brussels and also as Ambassador to  and  Ar dheis Dé...



38 243

14:13, 8 Nov 2019 · [View on Twitter](#) · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

IN MEMORIAM

H.E. SEÁN KENNAN

H.E. Sean Kennan, Ambassador of Ireland to Canada, from 1978 to 1983 passed away November 8, 2019 at the fine age of one hundred years. He was the tenth Head of Mission for Ireland in Ottawa.

According to Niall Burgess, Secretary General at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland, HE Kennan was Ireland’s oldest diplomat, born the same year as Ireland’s diplomatic service and one of its fine practitioners, serving as Ireland’s first Permanent Representative in Brussels and also as Ambassador to Australia and Italy.

His Excellency and Mrs. Séan Kennan were the St. Patrick Society’s guests of honour at the Ball, in 1982.

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

Christie Brown
Pat Short
Mara Lamont
Rita Legault

Ken Quinn
Ken Wilson
Brian Marcil
Martin Murphy

Marion Mulvenna
Robin Brodrick
Pamela McGovern
Katia Toimil-Bramhall

The Montreal Irish Monument Park Foundation

Daniel Nolan
Garth Stevenson
Carol McCormick
Mario C. Melillo
Maxwell photography

SPS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & CHRISTMAS RECEPTION

By Ken Quinn

Robert Burns once wrote "The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry" and the last few months have been evidence of this for us at SPS! Immediately following the 2018 Annual General Meeting, discussions were held and plans were made to hold the 2019 Annual Meeting in late September, more likely early in October.

The bold idea behind planning an earlier AGM was to give the new Board more time to form committees and plan events for the 2020 season. Unfortunately, circumstances did not play in our favour in this regard. The transition from one office administrator to another set us back a little, which is normal in any transition. The auditor, also, could not begin the audit when we would have liked. We are happy to say that we are now back on track.

No need to fear about the consequences of these delays – our events are well advanced in their planning. Benjamin Disraeli is known to have said "Diligence is the mother of good fortune". The Society was thrown an additional curve ball when we were advised the Grand Ballroom at the Marriott Chateau Champlain would be unavailable to us for the Annual Charity Ball in March due to construction. Your Ball Committee was already diligently

at work studying alternatives in case the construction bumped us out. Included in those was the Le Windsor, a location we have not used in several decades. We are extremely excited to be able to offer our members and guests this new experience for the Ball this March 6, 2020.



We are also pleased to be able to offer Le Windsor as the location for the Annual General Meeting coupled with the Christmas Reception after several years at the Montreal West Curling Club for the AGM and upstairs at Hurley's Irish Pub for the Christmas Reception. While both locations are great friends to the Society, they each pose barriers

to our mobility-reduced members. We look forward to returning to these fine locations in the future for events. We hope to see you at the AGM and Christmas Reception.

WHEN: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
WHERE: LE WINDSOR, 1170 rue Peel, Montreal H3B 4P2
RSVP: office@spsmtl.com or (514) 481-1346
 The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Christmas reception at 7:30 p.m.



A NEW ADDITION TO THE SPS FAMILY

Welcome to **CARA GRACE**, newest member of the Julie Dunn and Conall Francoeur family.

Cara Grace is being cradled by her very happy, big brother, Cashel recently.



DR. KATHLEEN REICHS, C.M.

By Martina McLean

Kathleen Reichs, C.M. was named honorary Member of the Order of Canada on November 21, 2019 for her scientific contribution as a forensic anthropologist and her literary contribution as a crime-fiction writer.

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada, invested three Companions, five Officers and thirty-one Members into the Order of Canada during

a ceremony at Rideau Hall, on Thursday, November 21, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. The ceremony can be viewed online at www.gg.ca/live.

Author Kathy Reichs uses her vast knowledge and personal experiences to create stories that are suspenseful, engaging and technically detailed. She is internationally acclaimed for her mystery series, *Bones*, (twenty-four books and counting, featuring Temperance Brennan - Kathy's doppelganger) and its TV adaptation. Like the series' protagonist, Dr. Reichs is often called upon by police departments and government agencies as an expert in criminal trials, for her insight into criminal investigations in Canada and elsewhere, sometimes even endangering her life. Her creative work has been widely embraced and translated into some thirty different languages. Fans here in Canada appreciate her portrayal of the city of Montréal and the province of Quebec.

Dr. Kathy Reichs studied anthropology at American University and earned her Ph.D. in skeletal biology and archaeology from Northwestern University while raising three children. Her interest in forensic anthropology came after being asked to look into some cases by local authorities. Reichs eventually took a position as a professor of this topic at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. In 1986, Reichs published an academic reference book entitled *Forensic Osteology* and in 1997, followed with a companion volume *Forensic Osteology II*:



Thank you! I am so honored.
Photo: <https://twitter.com/KathyReichs>



Advances in the Identification of Human Remains. Reichs first came to Montreal from 1989 to 1990 on an academic exchange at McGill and Concordia universities with a view to improving her French. She became the only certified French-speaking forensic anthropologist in North America.

Her motivation in working *with* the dead is to work *for* the living - to help prevent another victim.

Our readers may remember her keynote address at the SPS Annual Luncheon in 2012. What I'd like to know is whether she ever did pen the murder mystery book featuring the SPS... Do write to us and let us know.

Born in Chicago, Dr. Reichs has Irish roots from both of her parents.. She has done some ancestry research: her forebears include McCarthys, Walls, Tullys and Caseys. A frequent visitor to Ireland, Dingle, Galway and Dublin are among her favourite places. Two of her children are Kerry and Brendan (her co-author on the young adult books series *Virals*). She shares her time between Charlotte, North Carolina and Montreal, Quebec.

The Order of Canada is one of our country's highest civilian honours. Its Companions, Officers and Members take to heart the motto of the Order: *DESIDERANTES MELIOREM PATRIAM* (They desire a better country).

Created in 1967, the Order of Canada recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. Appointments are made by the governor general on the recommendation of the Advisory Council for the Order of Canada. You can nominate someone at www.gg.ca/en/honours.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



MONTREAL IRISH COMMUNITY RECOGNIZED BY IRISH PRESIDENT

Pictured at the recent ceremony at Arás an Uachtaráin receiving the **Presidential Distinguished Service Award** for the Irish Abroad from President Michael D. Higgins are Rhona Richman Kenneally and Michael Kenneally. They were recognized for their work in Montreal's Irish community over forty years and in particular for the creation of the School of Irish Studies at Concordia University. Of the 189 nominees from around the world, twelve individuals were chosen from Brazil, Britain, Canada, England, Honduras, Spain, Tanzania and the United States.

Comhghairdeas libh!



Miles Murphy, School of Irish Studies, (above)
Concordia University
Major, Irish Studies

named

ARTS AND SCIENCE SCHOLAR

This title is awarded to students with a grade point average in the top 1%.

Comhghairdeas leat, a chara!



Congratulations to two new doctors (above) at the School of Irish Studies: Dr. Linda Fitzgibbon (centre) and Dr. Jérémy Tétrault-Farber (right) with their professor, Dr Gearóid Óhallmhuráin (left)

*Comhghairdeas leis
an mbeirt agaibh!*

AWARDS – 2019 – IRISH SOCIETIES



GRAND MARSHAL
Shawn O'Donnell
Sacred Heart School

Erin Sports Association
IRISHMAN OF THE YEAR FOR 2020
Joseph Quinn



CHIEF REVIEWING OFFICER
Steve Garnett
Montreal Auxiliary Firefighters



LIAM DALY HERITAGE AWARD
Solstice

SIMON MCDONAUGH
HUMANITARIAN AWARD
Organizing Committee of the
Annual New Year's Eve Show at
Ste. Anne's Hospital

CÉAD MÍLE Fáilte...

Welcome to **Robin Brodrick**, SPS's new interim-office administrator. Robin replaced Darragh Mondoux in late November so that Darragh could focus on her artistic pursuits, funded through an exciting government grant.

Robin has been an active member of the Montreal Irish Community. She was first introduced to St. Patrick's Society by her late father, Rob Brodrick who was a Director on the Board and Chair/Co-Chair of several committees including the Annual Christmas Concert and Parade Contingents back as early as 2000. A recent graduate from Concordia University, she majored in Irish Studies and specialized in Leisure Sciences. She is an executive member of the Innisfail Social and Sports Club and was selected as a 2017 Princess of the Montreal St. Patrick's Parade.

She is very excited for this new opportunity and can be reached by email at office@spsmtl.com



2019-2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS / CLÁR IMEACHTAÍ 2019-2020

DATE	EVENT	FURTHER INFORMATION
Dec 15	The Irish Nutcracker, Pierrefonds Comprehensive Highschool Theatre	http://shortschoolirishdance.com/irishnutcracker
Dec 16	6 th Annual FIS Christmas Party, Le Vieux Dublin Pub, 636 Cathcart	ploftus@colba.net
Dec 17	SPS Christmas Reception, Crystal Lounge, Le Windsor, 1170 rue Peel, Montreal, 7:30 p.m.	office@spsmtl.com
Jan 11	UIS: Kickoff Fundraiser Dance, 8 p.m., Location TBA, \$25	fundraising@montrealirishparade.com
Jan 24	Lost Children of the Carricks, D.B. Clarke Theatre, Concordia University's Hall Building, Lower Level	irishstudies@concordia.ca
Jan 24	Ciné Gael Montréal, Opening Night, Lost Children of the Carricks	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Feb 1	Queen's Selection Evening, EVO Centreville, 7:00 p.m.	cmurphy2_3@msn.com
Feb 7	Ciné Gael Montréal, de Sève Cinema	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Feb 8	Chateaugay Queen's Selection Evening. 55+ Center, 5:30 p.m.	cviha@outlook.com
Feb 8	Soulanges Queen's Selection Evening, Willows Inn, Hudson	kbell044@hotmail.com
Feb 21	Ciné Gael Montréal, de Sève Cinema	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Mar 6	Ciné Gael Montréal, de Sève Cinema	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Mar 6	SPS Annual Charity Ball, Le Windsor, 6:00 p.m.	office@spsmtl.com
Mar 14	Irishman of the Year Breakfast, EVO Centreville, 9:00 a.m.	timber32@sympatico.ca
Mar 15	UIS Mass of Anticipation, St. Gabriel's Church, 11:30 a.m.	seniorvp@montrealirishparade.com
Mar 17	187 th Annual Luncheon, Centre Sheraton, 11:00 a.m.	office@spsmtl.com
Mar 21	Hudson St. Patrick's Parade, 2020	soulangesirishsociety@gmail.com
Mar 22	197 th St. Patrick's Parade, Downtown, 12:00 a.m.	director@montrealirishparade.com
Mar 28	Ciné Gael Montréal, (Saturday)	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Mar 29	Chateaugay St. Patrick's Parade, Chateaugay, 1:00 p.m.	cviha@outlook.com
Apr 3	Ciné Gael Montréal, de Sève Cinema	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
Apr 4	UIS Awards Banquet & Dinner Dance, EVO Centreville, 6:00 p.m.	coach_shawn12@hotmail.com
Apr 17	Ciné Gael Montréal, de Sève Cinema	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com
May 1	Ciné Gael Montréal, de Sève Cinema	info@cinegaeldomontreal.com



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