



**MONTRÉAL  
SACRÉ-CŒUR  
HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION**

# LIAISON

WINTER 2020 | VOLUME 5 | NUMBER 1

## A LOYAL DONOR FOR 30 YEARS!



**“It’s important to share. I’ve received many things in life. I acknowledge it and give back in turn.”**

– Ms. Berthe Bélanger, loyal donor

*Archival photo courtesy of the donor.*

**Y**ou need only mention Montreal Sacré-Cœur Hospital to get the conversation flowing. Ms. Berthe Bélanger, age 92, begins by commending the excellence and dedication of the Hospital’s specialists. She speaks of the unshakeable faith she has in the institution and the people who work there.

She made her first donation three decades ago, after a full recovery following surgery for a complex fracture of the

wrist. The intervention had been difficult and delicate, but the specialists successfully restored the use of her arm, with no lingering after effects. An immense relief for this classical pianist.

As a result of this unforgettable experience and subsequent visits over the years for other reasons, Ms. Bélanger, herself formerly a trained nurse (having worked chiefly at Notre-Dame Hospital and in the private sector), can confidently claim that Sacré-Cœur’s physicians and medical staff are experts in their fields and good-hearted people to boot.

Ms. Bélanger is healthy, inquisitive by nature, and still has a lively spirit. An avid follower of current events, she is very grateful for the life she has had and believes in the importance of giving back. And she has been doing just that for more than 30 years. She hopes people notice the important role Montreal Sacré-Cœur Hospital plays, and that we owe it to ourselves to support it.

## A NEW CIRCLE TO THANK OUR LOYAL DONORS

LOYAL  
DONORS  
CIRCLE

**30**  
years

and more

The Foundation decided to create the **Loyal Donors Circle** to highlight the commitment of those who, like Ms. Berthe Bélanger, have answered the call for donations for many years: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 years and more. Some of our donors have a professional tie to Sacré-Cœur; they are physicians and employees, active or retired, who want to do more to help support their hospital. Others are patients who received excellent care and are extremely grateful for it. Generous by nature, these donors often prefer to remain low key and out of the spotlight after all these years. Berthe Bélanger agreed to step out of the shadows and grant us an interview. Thank you for your kind words and your commitment to the cause!

Did you know that **53 people** have been making donations to our Foundation for more than 30 years? We thank them for their beautiful, long-lasting history with Sacré-Cœur.

André Bachand  
J. Arthur Barrette  
Berthe Bélanger  
Heinz B. Berrys  
François Bertrand  
Brian G. Bexton  
Daniel G. Bichet  
Bernard Bissonnette  
Sylvie Bouchard  
Pierre Bovet  
Marcel Brabant  
Yolande Caron  
André Cartier  
Françoise Charland Mérel

Jean-Marc Chauny  
Pierre Choquet  
François Collette  
Michel A. Côté  
Ronald Denis  
Réjane Donaldson  
Céline Dubé  
Mario Dugas  
Michèle Dupuy-Godin  
Pierre Forget  
Solange Gagné  
François-Xavier Garneau  
Pierre-Michel Gélinas  
Jocelyne Grenier

Denis Hamel  
Jean-Louis Hamel  
Alain Jodoin  
Fleurète Lajeunesse  
Robert Lanciault  
Réal Lebeau  
André Lebrun  
Raymond J. Lemieux  
Jacques Malo  
Jean-Luc Malo  
Jacques Monday  
Jacques Montplaisir  
Réginald Nadeau  
Donald Palisaitis

Roxane Pichette  
Virginia Popescu  
Robert Primeau  
Thérèse Renaud  
Danielle Sicotte  
Louis A. Tanguay  
Paul Terriault  
Nicole Théorêt  
Doris Thibault  
Germain Trempe  
Benjamin Zifkin

# THE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE, THE HOSPITAL AND THE FOUNDATION: A STORY WITH HEART!

**The Sisters of Providence** are not only at the origin of the founding of Sacré-Cœur Hospital (a former sanatorium) and of our Foundation, but also count among the major donors that have supported the hospital's projects to the tune of over \$3 million.

This religious community, which celebrated its 175 years of existence two years ago, was founded in Montreal by Émilie Gamelin at the behest of Monsignor Ignace Bourget, then bishop of Montreal. It ran the Asile de la Providence, a shelter for senior women and disabled persons started by Émilie Gamelin a few years earlier. The Sisters of Providence devoted themselves to caring for the needy, orphans, the elderly, the sick, the mentally insane, the deaf, and prisoners. Originally known as the Daughters of Charity, at the service of the poor, the community later changed its name to the Sisters of Charity of Providence, and later still to the Sisters of Providence.

The death of Mother Gamelin from cholera in 1851 did not deter the Sisters of Providence from pursuing the expansion of their activities in Montreal. Among these, they opened the Institut des Sourdes-Muettes for deaf-mute girls in 1851, the Saint-Jean-de-Dieu asylum for the mentally handicapped in 1873, and dispensaries to treat the poor for free in 1863, 1874 and 1885. Today, the Sisters of Providence continue their mission of helping the underprivileged in Canada, the United States, Cameroon, Chile, Argentina, Egypt, the Philippines, El Salvador and Haiti. Their mother house is still in Montreal.



## A WOMAN OF HEART AND SOUL

**Sister Claire Houde** was a member of our board of directors for 32 years, a position she held until May 2019. Provincial superior of the Sisters of Providence, Émilie-Gamelin province, Sister Houde is a seasoned manager. Her skills as mediator, her humanity, and her financial acumen, honed at the HEC, have greatly served Sacré-Cœur Hospital and our Foundation. The members of the Foundation's board of directors and the Hospital team thank her for her devotion!

## A SOLID PRESENCE IN AHUNTSIC-CARTIERVILLE



Sister Émilie Gamelin

The Sisters of Providence have always looked after Sacré-Cœur Hospital, which was rebuilt on Gouin Blvd. in the Ahuntsic-Cartierville district in 1926, on a lot purchased by the community and belonging to it until very recently. Having their mother house as well as residences nearby, the Sisters created numerous charitable organizations that are now operated by non-religious entities. The Cartier Émilie thrift shop that provides clothing and furniture to the underprivileged; La Corbeille Bordeaux, a food bank that helps area residents in need; and the Maison de la Famille, which helps parents

in difficult situations, all saw the light of day thanks to the Sisters of Providence.

"We were doing what others could not or would not do. We continue to go where we are needed," explains Sister Claire Houde, provincial superior of Émilie-Gamelin province. The community's founder, Émilie Tavernier-Gamelin, was beatified in 2001. In 1960, an Office of the Cause was set up to monitor the process for her canonization.



To find out more about the Sisters of Providence, visit their Web site: [providenceintl.org](http://providenceintl.org)

## MAJOR CAMPAIGN

*It all starts with your signature*

**\$35 MILLION** to carry out these projects financed 100% by the Foundation

Visit our Web site for more information about these projects.

SPINAL CORD  
INJURY UNIT

OUTPATIENT  
CLINICS  
PAVILION

MENTAL HEALTH  
CENTRE

INTEGRATED  
RENAL SUPPORT  
CENTRE

CANCER CARE  
CENTRE

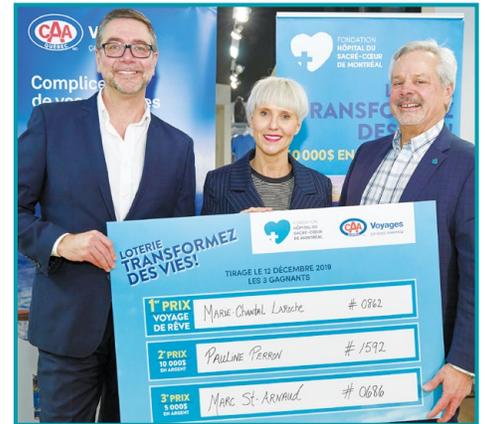
RESEARCH AND  
TEACHING

## THREE HAPPY WINNERS

On **Thursday, December 12**, the draw for the *Transform Lives!* lottery was held as part of our *It all starts with your signature* major campaign. Present were CAA-Québec's VP Travel Services, Philippe Blain; the Foundation's spokesperson, Pénélope McQuade; and Foundation CEO, Paul Bergeron.

In addition to **first prize** winner Ms. Marie-Chantal Laroche, the draw made two other people happy. As shown in the photo, a **second prize** of \$10,000 was won by Ms. Pauline Perron, and a **third prize** of \$5,000 was awarded to Mr. Marc St-Arnaud.

This first *Transform Lives!* lottery raised \$82,000 for the *It all starts with your signature* major campaign. Look for its return next year and stay tuned for ticket sales, slated to begin this summer.



Ms. Marie-Chantal Laroche,  
1<sup>st</sup> prize winner

## A GIFT FROM HEAVEN!

The afternoon of December 12 truly changed the life of our *Transform Lives!* lottery grand prize winner. **Ms. Marie-Chantal Laroche** was thrilled when she got the call from our spokesperson Pénélope McQuade breaking the good news. In fact, she was still a little bewildered by it all when she picked up her prize a few days later.

The prize puts an end to what has been a difficult time of suffering for her and her two children. A diagnosis of breast cancer in 2017 turned their lives upside down. Now they can afford to take a trip together to Thailand, an activity they look forward to planning in minute detail over the coming months. It is worth noting that Ms. Laroche opted for the \$25,000 cash prize rather than the \$35,000 luxury voyage or the \$30,000 travel credit.

For the full article, visit our Web site and go to the *Testimonial of Patients* section.

## COMMITMENT BY MR. RAED BECHARA, PARTNER OF THE GALA DES ÉMILIE'S GREEN PLAN

Last October, Industrie de palettes Standard (IPS) became the partner of the Gala des Émilie's new Green Plan. The company's president and CEO, Mr. Raed Bechara, already a member of the Foundation's board of directors, has committed to supporting the Foundation over the next five years through this \$40,000 partnership that promotes ecologically responsible initiatives within the framework of the annual gala event.

Among the actions taken during the Gala, the Foundation, in collaboration with the Sheraton Hotel,

distributed surplus food and materials through La Tablee des chefs. Thus, the charitable organization Pro-Vision Laval received 20 kilograms' worth of food, or 65 portions.

Sound environmental practices are deeply ingrained in IPS's operations. Founded in 1997, the company specializes in the recovery and repair of wooden pallets, which helps preserve some 530,670 trees annually. It is the province's largest recycler of wooden pallets.



Mr. Raed Bechara

# DES GALA ÉMILIE

## A HEARTWARMING EVENING

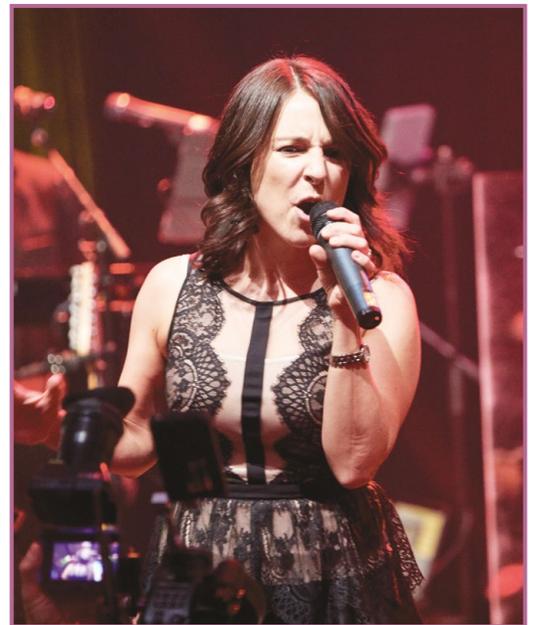
The Gala des Émilie gathered nearly 700 participants from the business and medical communities and raised \$600,000. The event was presided by honorary co-chairs **Claude Gagnon, President of Operations for BMO Financial Group, Québec**, and **Mario Therrien, Senior VP and Head of Strategic Partnerships at the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec**. This impressive result was made possible by the commitment and financial support of these two co-chairs, who played their role with panache, and the amount is added to the sums raised by the major campaign.



Left to right: Paul Bergeron, CEO of the Foundation; Mario Therrien, Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec; Claude Gagnon, BMO Financial Group; Frédéric Abergel, president and CEO of the CIUSSS NIM; Bernard Pitre, chairman of the board of the Foundation.



Photo: Pénélope McQuade, who co-hosted the evening with Philippe Fehmiu.



An emergency physician at Sacré-Coeur Hospital, Dr. Judy Morris was a natural on stage, delivering an enthusiastically received performance with the musicians of Glam.

## MORE THAN \$376,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SMALL EQUIPMENT

While the Foundation relies on the *It all starts with your signature* fundraising campaign to finance some ambitious projects, each year it also meets more modest requests from various departments and services of the Hospital. Since 2016, about 150 pieces of small but very useful equipment have been purchased for a total of more than \$376,000. These include wall-mounted sphygmomanometers, intravenous kits, volumetric pumps, pressure apparatus, geriatric armchairs, machines for patient transfer, spirometers, and more.



## A NEW TOOL FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL ASTHMA

Occupational asthma is the most widespread chronic occupational respiratory disease in industrialized countries and the second-most in developing countries.

Around the world, but particularly in developing countries, it remains unrecognized and misdiagnosed. As a pilot project, **Dr. Eva Suarthana and her team** have developed a clinical model for estimating the risk of occupational asthma among workers presenting serious respiratory problems and who are exposed to an environment containing agents with high molecular weights, such as flour, allergenic animals, latex, and so on. This diagnostic tool is available online.

Dr. Suarthana and her team have also received a grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to develop and validate similar models for workers exposed to agents with low molecular weights (mainly chemicals), such as the isocyanates found in automotive paint, red cedar, etc.



Dr. Eva Suarthana

This research work is supported by the Jacques and Michel Auger Foundation, a big contributor to the Foundation, as well as by various Canadian health research funds.

### TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MORE

## AN EVENT FOR LEARNING AND CHARITY

Professor Victoria Callocchia, from the Saint-Laurent Adult Education Centre, began an activity with the students in her French course that evolved into a fundraising opportunity: the Bookstore Project. A used book sale, held October 30, 2019 in the cafeteria, raised \$425.80. The profits were turned over to the Foundation.

### A project with many steps

The project began with the students forming groups to conduct research on local charitable organizations and their respective missions.

Each group selected one organization and delivered a presentation in support of that organization to the other groups. Next, the students held a secret ballot to pick the overall preferred charitable organization. The Montréal Sacré-Cœur Hospital Foundation emerged as the winner of that election. The students also learned about the books to be sold on October 30 so they could summarize them and make reading suggestions to the buyers at the book sale.

### A rewarding experience

The students were glad to participate in the Bookstore Project. They enjoyed the teamwork and being able to help others. The activity enhanced their public speaking skills and boosted their self-confidence. "It was also an excellent way to learn about the charitable organizations in Montreal," explains Ms. Callocchia during a meeting on the occasion of the donation being presented to the Foundation's representatives, Ms. Isabelle Rondeau and Ms. Kettia Louis. A wonderful initiative that has benefited all the participants as well as Sacré-Cœur.



## DONATE TO

the *It all starts with your signature* major campaign and help us transform lives!

BY PHONE  
514-338-2303

ON OUR WEB SITE  
fondationhscm.org

BY SENDING  
ISIGN TO 30333



## OUR SACRÉS-JEUNES, YOUTH WHO ARE DEVOTED TO THE CAUSE

Our Sacrés-Jeunes, the Foundation's youth wing, held their third cult evening last **October 17** under the theme *Viva Portugal!* at Lisboa Porto restaurant in Montreal. The evening helped raise \$13,100. Guests enjoyed a four-course meal, Portuguese music, prize draws and a silent auction. All proceeds from the evening will go to Sacré-Cœur Hospital's Mother-Child Unit.



## 2020 EVENTS CALENDAR



**FRIDAY  
MAY 8**

**LOCATION:  
PLACE BELL, LAVAL**



**SATURDAY  
JUNE 13**

**LOCATION:  
MRC DEUX-MONTAGNES**



**TUESDAY  
JUNE 16**

**LOCATION:  
GOLF SAINT-RAPHAËL,  
L'ÎLE-BIZARD**



**WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 2**

**LOCATION:  
RBC'S PRIVATE SALONS,  
MONTREAL**



**THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 22**

**LOCATION:  
HÔTEL SHERATON LAVAL**

FOR EVENT INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION  
514-338-2303 – [fondationhscm.org](http://fondationhscm.org)



### PLANNED DONATIONS

## PLANNED DONATIONS: A RECORD-SETTING YEAR!

The year 2019 was a record-setting one for planned donations to the Foundation. Indeed, bequests from wills and donations of shares or other securities together totalled over **\$2 million**. Some of these donations were earmarked for specific projects, while others came with no particular stipulations on how the funds were to be used.

Eleven people designated the Foundation as the beneficiary of part or all of their succession, for a total sum of **\$1,823,000**. The bequest amounts varied between \$100 and \$617,000.

It was also an exceptional year for donations of shares or other securities, with over **\$210,359** raised. Seven people made such donations which ranged from \$1,188 to \$52,625.

Making this type of donation is often simpler than one may think. To find out more, contact Marie-Claude Tellier. You can also consult the Planned Donations tab on the Foundation's Web site.

**M<sup>e</sup> Marie-Claude Tellier**  
Director of Major and Planned Donations  
[marie-claude.tellier.cnmtl@ssss.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:marie-claude.tellier.cnmtl@ssss.gouv.qc.ca)  
514-338-2303, ext. 7683



Your generosity helps us  
**TRANSFORM LIVES.**

Thank you for your support.

### YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION



ONLINE



IN  
PERSON



BY  
CHEQUE



BY  
PHONE

### Montréal Sacré-Cœur Hospital Foundation

5400 Gouin Blvd. West, Montreal, Quebec H4J 1C5

Telephone: 514-338-2303

Toll free: 1-866-453-DONNEZ

Fax: 514-338-3153

[fondation.hsc.cnmtl@ssss.gouv.qc.ca](mailto:fondation.hsc.cnmtl@ssss.gouv.qc.ca)

[fondationhscm.org](http://fondationhscm.org)

