



Votre conseillère  
de Parc-Extension,  
toujours à votre service  
  
 Your city councillor  
in Park-Extension,  
always at  
your service

**MARY DEROS**  
 Conseillère du District  
de Parc-Extension

514 872-3103 | mary.deros@montreal.ca  
 405, ave. Ogilvy #103, Montreal QC H3N 1M3

Villeray  
Saint-Michel  
Parc-Extension  


# Nouvelles

# PARC-EXTENSION

# News

Le seul journal de Parc-Extension depuis 1993  
 The only paper in Park-Extension since 1993

Commission scolaire English-Montreal  
 English Montreal School Board

Centre de l'Éducation des Adultes  
 High School of Montreal

**ENGLISH IMPROVEMENT COURSES &  
 FRENCH SECOND LANGUAGE COURSES CCBE**

Sherbrooke

3711 rue de Bullion, Montreal, QC H2X 3A2  
 514-788-5937 | www.hsmontreal.ca

**\$100 for  
 3 months**



**newsfirst**

Vol. 28 - N° 10

15 mai, 2020 / May 15, 2020

450-978-9999

www.px-news.com

editor@newsfirst.ca



## Feeding those in need

PAGE 6

Community organizer Abdul Waheed handing meals to smiling residents.



## Reopening the schools...

PAGES 14-15

**On reprend graduellement  
 ses activités en continuant  
 de se protéger!**

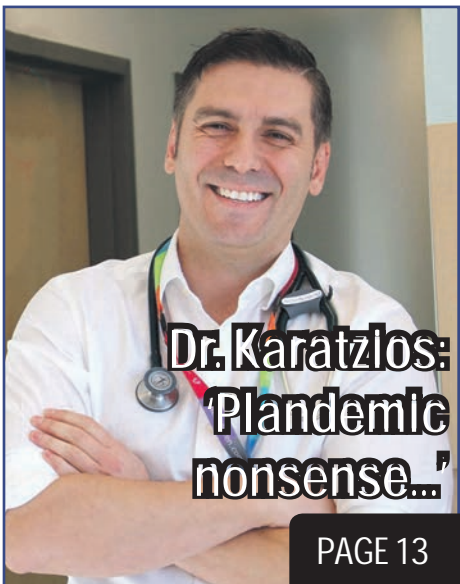
Information et conseils à l'intérieur.

**We can gradually restart  
 normal activities  
 while protecting ourselves!**

Information and advice inside.

Votre  
gouvernement

Québec



## Dr. Karatzlos: "Pandemic nonsense..."

PAGE 13



## Remembering Robert Bourassa's political reign...

PAGE 16

Thinking of selling your home?  
 Call me today for a FREE  
 evaluation with no obligation.

514.993.5010  
 agentvk@gmail.com

Voula Kottaridis

Agence immobilière  
**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
 HUMANIA CENTRE






# Pour reprendre graduellement les activités en toute sécurité, on continue de se protéger.

La relance graduelle des activités des divers secteurs économiques et des entreprises est une responsabilité partagée. Chacun a son rôle à jouer pour que tout reste harmonieux et sécuritaire.

[Québec.ca/relance](https://quebec.ca/relance)

Votre  
gouvernement

Québec 

# Borough council meets amid pandemic

The Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension borough council on May 4 saw important announcements and debate for citizens of Park Extension. The borough mayor announced measures to aid the borough, which has been hit hard with COVID-19. Park Extension councillor addressed local residents who lost loved ones. During the question period, councillors answered pertinent questions, including concerns about socio-economic disparities and neighbourhood cleanliness.



**AVLEEN K. MOKHA**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The Parc-Extension News  
avleen@newsfirst.ca

In her opening statement, VSP borough mayor Giuliana Fumagalli announced that the borough will initiate the second phase of installing a sanitary corridor on Jarry Street, between Boulevard Saint-Laurent and Saint-Denis street.

Park Extension councillor Mary Deros opened her statement by addressing parents getting ready for schools to reopen. "Dear Park Ex residents, if the situation allows, do not forget to remind your children of all the rules to respect for their safety," Deros said. "They will have to have new habits with their friends and teachers." Deros also acknowledged that many infected people in the district are elderly.

"Unfortunately, there have been several deaths of this vulnerable population, which is why I offer my sincere condolences to the families and loved ones of the deceased."

Deros extended her wishes for a happy Eid to the Muslim community, which began celebrating Ramadan remotely. Last, she thanked community organizations fighting the pandemic with an "iron-clad fist" by providing service to the vulnerable.

During the question and answer period, borough mayor Fumagalli answered citizens' concerns on the following matters:

## Digital divide

Vanessa Tremblay asked, "The crisis linked to the pandemic has magnified certain problems existing in Saint-Michel, which certain organizations have denounced for a long time. The lack of affordable housing for families and the overcrowding that results from it, the digital divide are two examples among many. In the very short term, is it possible to support families and citizens, with low-cost tablets and more WIFI terminals in the neighborhood in order to reduce the digital divide?"

Fumagalli said that she understands the need for technological resources to help families break from the isolation of confinement and home.

Home of Haiti, an organization in Saint Michel, has obtained 500 tablets with internet connection. These tablets will be handed to families in need for three months.

"I will also follow up with the city center to have more technological resources," Fumagalli said. "In addition, a working committee is looking at gradually reopening libraries to allow access to computer stations." However, Fumagalli stressed that reopening library spaces depends on the directives of DRSP, the Regional Directory of Public Health for Montreal.

## Sanitary corridors

Multiple residents questioned the borough council about the installation of sanitary corridors, which are a way to increase the space available to pedestrians.

The city of Montreal first installed a sanitary corridor in neighbouring Plateau Mont-Royal during the Easter weekend, using metal fences to widen the sidewalk. The city has expanded the initiative to eight boroughs.

Louis-Philippe Codère said, "Given the success of the sanitary corridor on Jarry and its appreciation

and given the current situation in the borough and certain hot spots, do you plan to set up this kind of initiative? I believe that each district [of VSP] deserves to have its health corridors, especially because we are one of the most densely populated boroughs in the city."

Fumagalli responded that the borough has great concern for Saint-Michel, which is one of the districts hit hardest by COVID-19. "The borough is studying different scenarios in our three districts," Fumagalli said. "Our teams are working on a plan that we want to introduce to you as soon as possible."

Till the day of the council meeting, only one sanitary corridor has been installed in the borough, along Jarry street in Villeray. VSP resident Samiha Hossain was concerned about Park Extension.

"There are the Parc-Ex streets being used for essential services (markets, pharmacies, etc.) which have been left out of the discussion," Hossain said. "Are plans under discussion for health corridors on Parc-Extension streets like Jean-Talon Ouest?"

Fumagalli assured that there is no question of forgetting Parc-Extension or Villeray, but that the borough must proceed in stages.

"The borough wishes to set up a second phase of the Jarry Street sanitary corridor, between Saint-Laurent and Saint-Denis before the end of the week [of May 4]," Fumagalli said.

## Street safety

Another resident asked about concrete actions the borough is taking to make streets pedestrian-friendly.

"The SPVM [City of Montreal Police] reported that incidents of excessive speeding by motorists have increased and this is very visible on the streets of the borough," Jonathan De Luca said. "What additional and concrete steps is the borough taking to make the streets healthier and safer for residents?"

Fumagalli responded that the borough is working with the city on this matter.

"The borough coordinates with the City of Montreal, which has mandated a large mobility plan in the context of Covid-19," Fumagalli said, adding that such a plan will be for all boroughs in the city of Montreal.

## Bicycle paths

Last August, the city council voted to extend its network of bicycle paths. In December, the borough council discussed what the vote means for VSP. The council proposed the extension of a new bicycle path on avenue De Chateaubriand in Rosemont-Petite-Patrie, the use of Lajeunesse street for the new express bicycle network (REV), and the construction of a new cycle path on Villeray.

Gerald Greco asked, "Given the current context and that we are seeing more cyclists this year, what is the borough doing to accelerate these plans?"

Fumagalli confirmed that the borough is facing budget cuts, which means councillors will have limited ability to prioritize certain projects. However, developing a cycling path on Villeray and the express bicycle network are still on the council agenda.

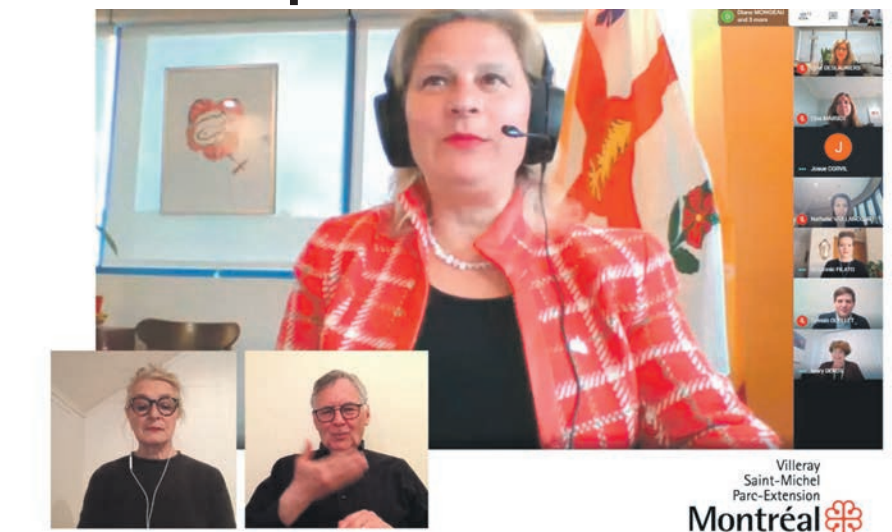
"Sanitary corridors will be a temporary solution to give space for cyclists during the summer," Fumagalli added.

## Deconfinement

Deconfinement refers to the protocols determined by the government to safely loosen social distancing rules used in a public health emergency. Director of Carrefour Populaire Simon Ambeault was concerned about the lack of space for community organizations.

He wanted to know measures the borough can take other than suggesting working from home, which is not possible for community workers that need to visit citizens.

"What concrete actions can the borough take [...] to guarantee that Community organizations



can fulfill their mission under favorable conditions and meet the needs of Saint-Michel?" he asked.

Fumagalli explained that community organizations will experience gradual and progressive deconfinement.

"There could therefore possibly be space loans between organizations to maintain social distancing while meeting everyone's needs," Fumagalli said. "I invite you to communicate your premises needs to the district crisis cells." At the same time, Fumagalli reminded Ambeault that deconfinement will happen with instructions from the public health.

"A committee is currently examining the decompartmentalization of certain activities for a gradual reopening of the facilities, but they will always be according to the recommendations of the Public Health Department."

## Green lanes

Green lane projects convert small alleys into green spaces. The main goal of green lanes is to

lessen air pollution.

Claude Duval was concerned if the borough could financially support his green lane development projects on Jarry street, Gounod street, and at the intersection of Saint-Hubert / Saint-André, given budget cuts announced by Montreal Mayor Valerie Plante.

"The borough is indeed facing budget cuts," Fumagalli acknowledged. "But the green lane projects in question are maintained."

## Street cleaning

Another resident, Fanny Lemay, inquired about enforcing appropriate disposal of trash.

"The alleys are filled with garbage at any time of the week," Lemay said.

Fumagalli responded that the COVID-19 health emergency has delayed cleaning operations. However, "spring cleaning will resume very soon." Fumagalli recommends calling 311 at any time to report garbage disposed incorrectly on the street.



Pour plusieurs musulmanes et musulmans, la célébration de l'aïd se vivra différemment cette année. Vos élus vous souhaitent de profiter de cette journée qui marque la fin du mois de jeûne pour passer un bon moment à la maison.

Your elected officials wish you to enjoy the Eid celebration safely.

## AÏD MOUBARAK



**Giuliana Fumagalli**  
Mairesse d'arrondissement  
Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension  
(514) 872-0755

Villeray  
Saint-Michel  
Parc-Extension

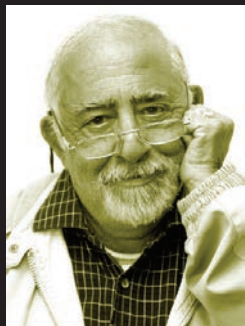


Cabinet de la mairesse  
405, avenue Ogilvy, #103  
Montréal (Québec) H3N 1M1  
(514) 872-8173



## Parlez-moi d'humour

Alcide Borik



### Voyage dans le futur (les propos du confiné)

Les gens sensés n'ont pas besoin d'une machine à voyager dans le temps pour figurer la vie qui les attend dans un monde sans Covi.

Pour ma part, je me vois héler un trishaw afin qu'il me conduise au galop en pédalant et suant sur son engin surmonté d'un parapluie, d'un pare-neige à travers les barrages de santé-sécurité-travail quadrillant une ville grouillante (à une distance de deux mètres). Nous recevrons alors, au moment où nous l'attendons le moins, un halo antiviral prévu pour tuer les virus, les anti-virus, et même parfois, les porteurs de virus... Eh oui ! On ne fait pas d'omelette sans casser des œufs et notre qualité de vie ne sera plus la même qu'avant que Coronamachin ou autre fièvre jaune ne nous arrive de Chine, de Pékin, de Hong-Kong, et autres comuno-complices!

Nous roulerons alors dans le milieu des avenues rendues étroites, car les trottoirs élargis permettront à la population de marcher parmi les plantations de fleurs multicolores, de magasiner dans des souks en plein air, d'y déguster de délicieuses crevettes à la sauce piquante accompagnées de purée de mouches fraîches arrosée d'un soupçon de jus de papaye... Nous défraierions la course au moyen de généreux billet gracieusement offerts par nos premiers ministres, dont la partie transparente... (des billets, bien sûr) diminuera de jour en jour!!! Les autres voies permettront aux véhicules collectifs urbains de se faufiler entre les passants porteurs de perches de deux mètres dotées d'accroche-masques de rechange et de pompes à 99.99% désinfectantes en engraisant au passage les cultures maraîchères logées dans des stationnements désaffectés et désinfectés.

Quant à la mairesse de Montréal toujours en "sansT", elle ne vivra plus que dans l'attente de ce "T" qui fera d'elle, bien entendu, la maîtresse de Montréal !

## To re-open or not re-open schools is the question by educators and parents

When school buildings started to close down due to coronavirus, many teachers and parents thought the disruption would only last a couple of weeks. As school closures extended, many have clung to the idea that if they made it to the Fall, life would return to normal. That's not looking so certain now.

Teachers' unions are warning that sending educators into crowded buildings without widespread testing and extensive and proper preparation for COVID-19 will simply amount to an unacceptable risk. This is unequivocally the worst time in educators', students', and parents' lives. Officials are flooded with questions that they have no fail-proof answers to except, "it will be done slowly and starting with the youngest kids." And worries about a second wave of infections have left many wondering what once felt far-fetched: Should students just keep staying at home?

Students and teachers not returning in the Fall would bring a host of challenges. Parents would have to face the continued burden of finding or arranging emergency child care, limiting their ability to kick start the economy. Students without computers are disadvantaged, and students refusing on-line Special Education services would almost go without the support they would have received in person.

But COVID-19 can be deadly. Reopening schools will require reasonable assurance to teachers, students, and parents that they're safe. There has to be a system in place testing all students and staff such as daily temperature checks, and tracing of those who come into contact with someone who shows symptoms. Even though there may be eagerness to return to the classroom, no student, teacher, staff member should be back in school until reliable protections are in place. Surely, the government has taken this into serious consideration before announcing the reopening of schools.

The question is: Why haven't school boards been preparing for a return to school, having advanced notice that the school shutdown would probably be ending, in May? There was ample time to secure the schools with the necessities in order to be reasonably ready for school re-entry. QESBA (Quebec English School Board Association) once again has taken an unwelcome and unprecedented stance in interfering in what is none of their business. The angry-phones are attacking the Ministry of Education for announcing an early return to school, according to them. Is it really early? Two months later? The Ministry of Education can't be blamed for the school boards not doing a lot more than they've done in preparation for that day to come — reopening of school doors.

In response to QESBA's press release, the EPCA, English Parents' Committee Association of Quebec has expressed its disappointment with the position QESBA has taken. "The group representing Quebec's 9 English school boards has declared that no English school board will open until individual boards have decided for themselves, notwithstanding the government and Ministry of Education's decision," the QESBA lobby group has arrogantly and inappropriately stated. EPCA has countered with the legal response that "as the official voice of parents and students in Quebec's English public schools, EPCA is best placed to relay the preoccupations of parents and is surprised that others have chosen to speak on our-your-behalf, and taken such a public position without properly consulting Quebec's English school parents' committee."

Surprisingly or not so surprisingly, QESBA comments on, criticizes, analyzes what is the obvious —imperfections of a plan which in reality belongs to the school boards. Then, why hasn't QESBA dutifully handed over the \$800,000+ membership fees collected back to the school boards -- money that comes from the public purse and belongs to the students. The membership fees used to fight Bill 40 without the stakeholders' consent will certainly buy plenty of hand sanitizer, soap, paper towels, masks, plastic barriers and more, much more, during this very difficult economic time. Is QESBA turning COVID-19 into a political agenda through false and illegitimate representation for our students not to return to school?

Remote learning may be the new normal until schools have a robust system in place such as contact tracing. Schools are to space desks six feet apart, limiting students to 15 per class, and limiting how much student groups mix. Yet, there's no mention of teachers, students and staff of wearing masks and if there are provisions for plexi-glass divisions between the teachers' desks and the students. After all, bank tellers and pharmacies have provided this division. Why not schools, through their school boards? Schools are planning for multiple scenarios but have no clear idea what they are and how they'll work.

The educational Big Wigs are considering how they can cut down on the time children spend in big groups and institute some form of social distancing. That means closing the cafeteria and playgrounds, dispensing with assemblies and extracurricular activities, and monitoring bathrooms. Even with these changes, whether it's possible to keep kids apart from their classmates in any meaningful way is far from clear. More sweeping efforts to keep students apart by educating different groups in shifts with different teachers, or on alternate days, wouldn't fully solve the conundrum facing working parents for Pre-K to grade 6, but it would be a step in the right direction.

However, each school board has decided to handle the matter differently and how they see fit. Some unanswered questions are: Should schools be considering whether they should invest in different school desks, install plastic barriers, or outfit buildings with hand-washing stations, changes to the physical structure of the buildings and transportation. These type of things are different under normal circumstances. Trying to, on the fly, outfit the buildings in a way to stay six feet apart throughout the course of the day and wash their hands every hour isn't exactly a small task. And, some are worried even if they come up with solid plans for reopening schools, parents will choose to keep their children home. Parents want answers and they're frustrated about that. School boards must provide those answers.

The nine English school commissions represent over 100,000 students. The frustration of the teachers and parents is clearly demonstrated by the petition circulating which has already collected over a quarter million signatures requesting that schools reopen in September. Yes, the government hasn't helped matters with its flip-flop on whether teachers and staff aged 60-69 can and will be expected to return to the re-opened opened schools, another conundrum faced by school boards, but the question still stands — Will September be any different than what we have now? Can anyone really tell? Not likely! Damned if you do, damned if you don't.

Renata Isopo

The views, opinions and positions expressed by columnists and contributors are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of our publication

**Nouvelles**  
**PARC-EXTENSION**  
**News**

3860, boul. Notre-Dame, # 304,  
Laval, QC H7V 1S1  
Tel: 450-978-9999 • Fax: 450-687-6330  
E-mail: editor@newsfirst.ca

Distribué dans le district  
de Parc Extension.  
Distribution in the  
Park Extension area. H3N



**Publishers:**  
George Bakoyannis  
George S. Guzman

**General Director:**  
George Bakoyannis

**VP Sales & Marketing:**  
George S. Guzman  
sales@newsfirst.ca

**Graphic Design:**  
Elena Molter  
Thomas Bakoyannis

**Advertising Consultants:**  
Peter Stavropoulos  
peter@newsfirst.ca

Jean Paul Chamberland

**Editorial Staff:**  
Martin C. Barry  
Avleen K. Mokha  
Renata Isopo  
Savas Fortis  
Dimitris Ilias  
Fabienne Mercier  
James Ryan  
Alberto del Burgo

**Layout:** Media Trek  
**Distribution:** TC. TRANSCONTINENTAL/DIFFUMAG  
**Printing:** TC. TRANSCONTINENTAL

QCNA Member of  
Quebec Community Newspapers Association &  
Canadian Community Newspapers Association



**National Representation:**

RÉSEAU SÉLECT

TEL.: 1-800-361-7262 ext 241056

Project funded in part by

Canada

W W W . P X - N E W S . C O M

Toute reproduction des annonces ou informations, en tout ou en partie, de façon officielle ou déguisée, est interdite sans la permission écrite de l'éditeur. Le Journal Nouvelles Parc-Extension ne se tient pas responsable des erreurs typographiques pouvant survenir dans les textes publicitaires, mais il s'engage à reproduire uniquement la partie du texte où se trouve l'erreur. La responsabilité du journal et/ou de l'éditeur ne dépassera en aucun cas le montant de l'annonce. Les articles publiés expriment l'opinion de leurs auteurs, mais pas nécessairement celle de la direction.  
**Publishers' Liability for Error:** The publishers shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. The publishers' liability for other errors or omissions in connection with any advertisement is strictly limited to publication of the advertisement in any subsequent issues or the refund of any monies paid for the advertisement. Articles published reflect writers' opinions, but not necessarily the opinion of this newspaper.

ENTIRE CONTENTS COPYRIGHT 2020

# Internet giants should pay their share

*Newspapers have never been so loved — and never been so neglected.*

The thirst for coverage of how the COVID-19 pandemic is turning the world upside-down has doubled, even tripled, the audiences of news publishers over the past two months. Readers have turned overwhelmingly to trusted news sources for information on the impact of the deadly virus on their communities.

Skyrocketing demand for your products is supposed to drive revenues in the same direction. Yet the very existence of many news outlets is in question as they deal with falling revenues that have caused layoffs, pay cuts and closures.

In the news business, as in so many areas, the COVID-19 crisis has highlighted and magnified a festering problem — publishers are not paid for content that is widely used in the digital world.

The big search and social platforms sell billions of dollars of advertising, but don't share it with news publishers who generate content that attracts a lot of eyeballs to those platforms. It's a bit like a TV network broadcasting a concert by Celine Dion, but not paying for her songs.

It will take action by the federal government to tackle this problem. The COVID-19 experience shows why action needs to be taken now.

Other governments have acted. Australia has announced it will force Google and Facebook to pay for news content, sharing ad revenues with publishers. The Australian government fast-tracked plans to do this because of the collapse in news-media revenue related to COVID-19.

Google and Facebook have some programs to support journalism, but they have always refused to negotiate any kind of comprehensive compensation for the content of news publishers that appears on their platforms.

Canadian daily newspapers have valiantly kept churning out the news over the past decade while watching revenues fall by 50 per cent, to \$1.6 billion in 2018. That content often generates the clicks that generate internet ad revenues, which more than quadrupled over the decade, to \$7.7 billion. Facebook and Google have gained a chokehold selling ads on their platforms, and account for three-quarters of the online ad market in Canada.

Newspapers have developed significant digital businesses, selling advertising and subscriptions, but the revenues generally fall far short of supporting the robust newsrooms that were traditionally underwritten by print advertising.

In this environment, something had to give eventually. COVID-19 has burst it wide open. In COVID-19 terms, this case has gone from testing positive to requiring attention in the intensive care unit.

The federal government has provided extraordinary short-term measures to support workers and businesses, including the news industry. However, a more lasting, sustainable solution is needed to ensure independent, fact-based journalism is alive and healthy across Canada in the future.

The federal government could mandate a system of royalties in which the internet giants would have to negotiate payments with a coalition of publishers.

This kind of system has long existed in the music industry. It's why TV stations can't steal Celine Dion concerts and radio stations have to pay to play songs.

Organizations representing musicians, songwriters and publishers collect royalties on their behalf every time their work is used commercially, from radio stations to bars, restaurants and even gyms. These groups have their own challenges with the internet, and argue digital platforms are reaping massive value from their work without proper compensation.

However, the basic system generates hundreds of millions of dollars for music creators and performers. SOCAN, which represents creators and publishers, reported 2018 royalties of \$375 million. That amount would pay for the salaries in all the newsrooms of all the daily newspapers in Canada. And it's five per cent of internet advertising in the country.

Google and Facebook support some journalism, but the support is limited. Both have announced COVID-19 emergency relief funding. Facebook's emergency funding paid a maximum of US\$5,000 per publication.

In 2018, Google announced the Google News Initiative, a plan to invest US\$300 million over three years to fight misinformation and bolster journalism. The American News Media Alliance estimates that in the same year, Google earned US\$4.7 billion in the United States through news-related search and Google News.

The Facebook Journalism Project provides assistance such as newsroom training and an accelerator program to help digital publishers develop their businesses. But there is no direct funding of newsrooms. It's like paying for guitar lessons for musicians, but not paying them to perform.

(Full disclosure: the *Winnipeg Free Press* has received funding from Facebook as part of its accelerator program and its emergency COVID-19 relief.)

In the COVID-19 crisis, news publishers across the country have proven once again just how important their performance is to informing Canadians. It's time for the federal government to push Facebook and Google to provide real support for our newsrooms so they can keep doing this vital task.

*This is an op-ed written by News Media Canada chair Bob Cox. It was published Tuesday, April 28, by the Winnipeg Free Press.*

## An urgent message to the Government of Canada from the publishers of Canada's major newspapers

Around the world, governments are moving to correct an historical inequality that dates back to the birth of digital media platforms.

In April 2020 alone, Australia and France both announced plans to make sure Google and Facebook pay their fair share, instead of exploiting tax loopholes while making billions of dollars off the back of original content producers.

***We, the undersigned publishers representing the vast majority of Canadian newspapers, call on Ottawa to follow the example of France and Australia.***

The situation is urgent, with media companies suffering huge advertising revenue declines because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Other governments recognize the need for speedy intervention. Both France and Australia have set deadlines to have mandatory solutions in place by July. That means paying for copyrighted content and sharing the advertising dollars and data that flow from it.

We encourage the Federal Government to follow the advice of its own expert panel set up to review the Broadcasting and Telecommunications Acts, which recommended similar measures. The model exists. The need is clear. Let's apply those principles of fairness in Canada, and do it now.

Respectfully,  
George Bakoyannis  
George Guzman  
Co-publishers



John Boynton  
Publisher



Bob Cox  
Publisher



Phillip Crawley  
Publisher and CEO



James C. Irving  
Vice President



Jonathon J.L. Kennedy  
President and CEO



Pierre-Elliott Levasseur  
President



Andrew MacLeod  
CEO



Brian Myles  
CEO



Rick O'Connor  
President and CEO



Lyne Robitaille  
Senior VP  
Newspapers, Magazines, Distribution and Printing  
Quebecor, President and Publisher



# Free meals for those in need

Residents of Park Extension join in an effort to distribute meals to residents in need. The effort began on Friday, May 1, few days after the Muslim community began to celebrate Ramadan. Food distribution will happen on May 15 and on May 22.

Abdul Waheed is the main organizer to distribute meals in Park Extension.



**AVLEEN K. MOKHA**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
For The Parc-Extension News  
avleen@newsfirst.ca

## Ready to serve meals No questions asked

Dishes are prepared by cooks at Dera Restaurant, a restaurant located on Jarry street that serves Pakistani cuisine. Meals include dishes like chicken biryani, along with fried snacks like samosas and pakora (vegetable fritters).

Waheed explains that if someone was referred or reached us for a meal, they have tried to accommodate their request.

Most importantly, his group asks no questions from any of the people who can benefit from the meals. "There is no demarcation of the age and status of the people who could benefit from the meals. Our volunteers and donors commit to serve the maximum possible individuals with our limited resources." Waheed is trying to accommodate dietary restrictions, although he cannot guarantee accommodations will always be possible. He shared that a family requested for vegetarian meals. The restaurant

prepared a vegetarian biryani for the family. Waheed requests such requests get made latest by Wednesday night for the distribution on Friday.

His group is considering offering more kinds of meals, depending upon the amount of donations received.

"Other options like a plate of Shish-Taouk or providing fresh fruits like an orange and a banana, with each meal served are under consideration," Waheed said, stressing that everyone would need to agree unanimously.

## Growing demand

On May 1, funding from the Canada-Pakistan Association will distribute free meals in the neighborhood. Up to 40 meals were available in Park Extension, with up to 200 meals for the greater Montreal region.

Funding for the first round of distribution came from the Manzoor Haque family and Mahmood Ul-haq, president of the Canada-Pakistan organization. However, since the effort received traction, Abdul Waheed and other members of Park Extension began sponsoring meals.

For the second round, Waheed purchased 100 meals. More than 90 meals were delivered on Friday, May 8.

"There are many vulnerable families in the neighbourhood," Waheed said. "Our objective for the neighbourhood is to give food in this hour of need."

Waheed's group needed volunteers to distribute meals to residents who cannot pick them from Dera Restaurant. More than 90 meals were delivered on Friday, May 8. Rachel Shugart, Hugo Marto, Helen Halyard Cube, Sara Javed, and Guillaume Paquin are some of the volunteers who distributed meals.

## Financial sponsors from Park Extension

Waheed has had 24 donations so far, ranging between \$12 and \$100 through electronic sponsors. Some donors from Park Extension include Amanda Piedimonte, Julia Wilkie, David Lyle Peter Kuyek, Sasha M. Dyck, Mary Lynn Deachman, Bita Mary, Dexter Xurukulauriya, Seema Afzal, Helen Halyard Cube, Laura Wills, Sandi Ponente, Justin Khan, KerryAnn Cochrane, Judith Rouan, Camille Audet, Anna Mayberry, and Sophie Ferron. Some donors prefer to stay anonymous.

One of the sponsors, Laura Wills has lived in Park Extension for 12 years. Wills says she is thinking of Muslim families that are fasting for Ramadan. Ramadan began this year on the evening of April 23 and will last till May 23. "People gather in the streets, people from all over the world," Wills said. "People dress up nicely and look so happy. It's really one of the happiest times in the neighbourhood." During Ramadan, Muslims also try to practice the tenant of zakat or charity. "I thought donating was a perfect opportunity to help out," Wills said.

Still, the biggest contribution comes from Waheed himself, who has committed an amount of \$200.00 for this cause, so far it is the highest amount donated or committed.

"A few donors have committed for the next two weeks as well," he said. "However, the number of donors has decreased significantly from the first two days." Waheed's commitment

Waheed manages the organizational aspect of distributions. Waheed allocates certain hours of each day and the whole of Friday to distribute meals.



"I can say I am giving about 20-24 hrs a week for this cause," he said. Waheed receives donations, compiles the list of donations, announces them in Pandem!Ex, Park Extension's Facebook group for mutual aid. This way, he aims to be transparent about the received money.

Simultaneously, he receives requests for meals. Then, he prepares a list to assign families to volunteers, contacts volunteers and delegates them to families. Waheed struggles with knowing he cannot help everyone, like families that called him up on Friday evenings after all the meals were distributed.

"I wish I had resources that I could have bought the sorrows and miseries of the people of my neighborhood and I have replaced them with joys and pleasures," Waheed said.

"Although we had not fulfilled all the requirements of that family, I imagine that we have given her a sense of Canadian touch where people are united in a mosaic, through thick and thin and where we care about the less privileged to our level best."

Meals can be collected on Friday evening at the intersection of D'Anvers and Bloomfield Avenue. The group plans to distribute food on Fridays May 15 and May 22. If you are a member of Park Extension, you can contact community organizer Abdul Waheed at 514 516-8582 to indicate you need a meal or to assist with delivering meals.

# Borough mayor calls on residents to volunteer locally

(PXN) Guiliana Fumagalli, mayor of Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension borough, asks residents to respect public health guidelines and to volunteer if they are able to do so. Fumagalli lent a hand on May 1 to Afrique au Féminin and PEYO, which are community organizations distributing food to residents. To limit the spread of COVID-19, the mayor encourages Park Extension residents to follow public health instructions. These include coughing into your elbow, washing hands frequently, keeping distance from others, and wearing face coverings in public. Fumagalli says that the fight against the coronavirus requires everyone's participation. "Containment does not affect the wealthy and the less fortunate in the same way," Fumagalli said. The borough mayor invites all those who have the capacity to volunteer to register on the government site [jebenevole.ca](http://jebenevole.ca).



Guiliana Fumagalli, mayor of Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension borough assisting volunteers at PEYO and Afrique du Feminin. Photos: VSP Borough



**SÉCURITÉ**  
**SPARTAN**  
SECURITY

Burglar • Fire • Cameras • Intercoms

**(514) 289-8585**

*20 years at your service!*

**24 HOUR MONITORING**

**ALARM SYSTEM INSTALLATION +  
12 MONTHS MONITORING!**

**\$499<sup>99</sup>**

**System Includes:**

- 1 x Alexor 9155 main alarm unit
- 1 x WT5500 wireless 2 way keypad
- 1 x WS4904P wireless motion detector
- 2 x WS4945 wireless door/window sensors
- 1 x WT4989 wireless 2 way key chain remote with icon display
- 1 x battery backup, power supply, telephone jack
- Incl. 1 year monitoring



**In order to  
gradually restart  
activities safely,  
let's continue  
to protect ourselves.**

The gradual restarting of activities in various economic sectors and businesses is a shared responsibility. Everyone has a role to play to keep things orderly and safe.

[Québec.ca/recovery](https://quebec.ca/recovery)

# COVID-19 screening clinic coming to Park Ex

(PXN) A mobile testing clinic will be set in an STM bus to test residents for coronavirus (COVID-19). Screening begins in CIUSSS West Central's territory tomorrow, May 13. Next week, the clinic will be set up in Park Extension.

Under the responsibility of Montreal's Regional Public Health department, the mobile clinic is operated in partnership with the public health team and staff of the CIUSSS West Central Montreal.

## Screening clinic schedule

Tuesday 19, Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 May: Parc

Extension, in front of 7569 Terrasse St-Roch

The bus will remain in the same location for 3 days before moving to higher priority areas.

The clinic will be open every day from 10am to 4pm. Residents can come without appointment if they:  
 Are presenting flu-like symptoms, or  
 Are not presenting symptoms but have been in contact with someone who is confirmed positive for Covid-19.

All physical distancing, hygiene and protection measures will be put in place for both staff and residents being screened.



# City implements new measures to support businesses hard hit by the pandemic



**The City of Montreal announced emergency aid of \$5 million to support metropolitan businesses, on May 7. Through emergency aid, the City aims to take targeted measures to support businesses which have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those in the social and cultural industries.**



**AVLEEN K. MOKHA**  
 Local Journalism Initiative Reporter  
 For The Parc-Extension News  
 avleen@newsfirst.ca

"The current context has major repercussions on Montreal businesses and, since the start of the crisis, the City has not hesitated to act," Montreal mayor Valerie Plante said in a press

briefing. "Today we are announcing additional measures in the form of grants that will provide direct support to merchants, social economy businesses and those in the cultural sector."

Luc Rabouin is responsible for economic and commercial development and design as a member of Plante's executive committee. He believes the measures respond to the needs of businesses affected by the COVID-19 emergency.

"Montreal merchants are resilient and do everything they can to organize themselves and to survive the slowdown in activities caused by the health crisis," Rabouin said. "We have heard their requests. The new measures are the fruit of our collaborative labour to support merchants with concrete solutions."

## Subsidy for merchants

While businesses are likely to reopen soon, sanitary and social distancing measures will be imposed on commercial establishments. That is why the City is investing \$2 million in a temporary subsidy fund to support merchants.

## Key details about the subsidy fund are as follows:

The temporary subsidy fund is managed by the PME MTL network, which is the business support network of the City of Montreal;

The City's contribution of \$2 million will be added to the existing support of \$1 million from the Commercial Entrepreneurship Fund. Taken together, the amounts available add up to \$3 million;

The fund has flexible and accessible criteria to support commercial entrepreneurs in the consolidation of their activities;

The fund will be available until September 30, 2020; and

Merchants will receive support from specialist advisers from the PME MTL network.

## Crowdfunding campaign for businesses

The City will also support a crowdfunding campaign initiated by La Ruche, the Commercial Development Companies (SDC), trade associations, and the Desjardins Group to support businesses in Montreal.

The 'Heart to Purchase' campaign will allow residents to support businesses by buying gift cards, which can be exchanged in local businesses. Desjardins Group will donate an amount of gift card sales to community organizations in Montreal.

## Subsidies and technical support for social economy businesses

The City has set aside \$2 million to support social economy businesses.

Businesses can receive direct funding of up to \$50,000 through the Social Economy Development Fund (FDES), which is managed by PME MTL, Montreal's support network for businesses;

Conditions to access the fund will be eased. Particularly, applicants need to give a down payment of only 10% for consolidation projects.

Money from the FDES will cover various expenses associated with working capital, such as salaries, current operating expenses or payments to suppliers. The FDES will also cover expenses made in order to adapt to the COVID-19 context, such as the cost of setting up electronic commerce.

## Online financial management and human resources training

The City is also offering businesses free hours of personalized advice: legal, finance, accounting, communication, information technology, and so on.

To provide advisory services, the City partnered with specialist organizations such as Telescope Network, the Sectoral Workforce Committee - Social Economy Community Action (CSMO-ESAC), and the Consortium of Resources and Cooperative Enterprises.

## Support for cultural organizations

Cultural organizations will receive access to technical support, valued at \$ 300,000.

In addition, the City has reserved \$500,000 to support private non-subsidized performance halls such as independent cinemas and alternative performance spaces.

"These play an important role in cultural vitality and help make neighborhoods inclusive and lively," the press release said.

Several cultural enterprises, since they are social economy enterprises, may benefit from measures put in place for these enterprises. Cultural businesses are also eligible for other assistance, such as the \$40 million emergency assistance offered through the PME MTL network.

**Voula Kottaridis**  
 Real Estate Broker  
**514.993.5010**  
 agentvk@gmail.com

**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
**HUMANIA CENTRE**  
 Agence immobilière 450.682.2121

Excellent Service Exceptional Results

MLS: 12466356

**SOLD!**

•VILLE ST-LAURENT•  
 Townhouse situated in great area if St-Laurent offering 3 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Many renovations, new kitchen, bathroom, playground redone. Great space and garage.

MLS: 25457401

•CHOMEDEY• OPEN CONCEPT SPLIT!  
 Situated in great area of Chomedey. Offering 3 good size bedrooms, family room, playroom. Very bright, high ceilings, huge backyard. Close to all schools, shopping and highways.

MLS: 25457401

Established niche manufacturer/wholesale fashion accessory company; Design, manufacture medium to high end jewelry since 1994. Trade shows, including booth display, flexible lease, website, retail/wholesale. Turnkey operation, inventory, perfect for new designer, or individual wanting to access the design world.

**PROTECTION ROYALE**

- Delays and Withdrawals
- Special assessments for co-ownerships
- Legal Assistance
- Latent Defects

MLS: 25457401

**SOLD!**

•PARC-EXTENSION- CONDO!  
 Beautiful and bright open concept unit situated in Parc-Extension. Offering 2 bedrooms 1 bath with shower, laundry area, large windows with very high ceilings. 2 balconies, close to all shopping and University de Montreal. Amazing views! A Must See!! Impeccable unit.



# On reprend graduellement ses activités en continuant de se protéger!

Au cours des prochaines semaines, les activités reprendront de façon graduelle au Québec, et ce, toujours avec l'accord et la collaboration des autorités de santé publique. Ces différentes réouvertures se feront par phase, selon le type d'activités et les zones géographiques. Pour connaître les différentes phases de réouverture, consultez le site Web du gouvernement du Québec : [Quebec.ca/coronavirus](http://Quebec.ca/coronavirus)

**En tout temps, il sera essentiel de continuer à respecter les consignes, afin de limiter les risques associés à la propagation du virus.** Par ailleurs, si vous présentez des symptômes de la COVID-19, il est important de respecter les recommandations d'isolement à la maison pour éviter de transmettre la maladie à d'autres personnes.

Votre  gouvernement

## On respecte les consignes sanitaires

Après avoir fréquenté tout lieu public, surveillez vos symptômes et respectez les consignes sanitaires suivantes :



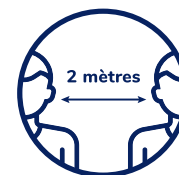
- Lavez-vous souvent les mains à l'eau courante tiède et au savon pendant au moins 20 secondes.
- Utilisez un désinfectant à base d'alcool si vous n'avez pas accès à de l'eau et à du savon.
- Observez les règles d'hygiène lorsque vous toussiez ou éternuez :



Couvrez-vous la bouche et le nez avec votre bras afin de réduire la propagation des germes.



Si vous utilisez un mouchoir en papier, jetez-le dès que possible et lavez-vous les mains par la suite.



- Si vous devez sortir, maintenez autant que possible une distance d'au moins 2 mètres (environ 6 pieds) avec les autres personnes qui ne vivent pas sous votre toit.
- Portez un couvre-visage lorsqu'une distance de 2 mètres entre les personnes ne peut pas être respectée.
- Si vous êtes malade, évitez le contact avec les personnes plus vulnérables, dont les personnes âgées, les personnes ayant un système immunitaire affaibli et les personnes ayant une maladie chronique.
- Évitez le contact direct pour les salutations, comme les poignées de main, et privilégiez l'usage de pratiques alternatives.



- Évitez tout rassemblement intérieur ou extérieur avec des personnes qui ne vivent pas sous votre toit.

## Port du couvre-visage

Le port du couvre-visage est recommandé dans les lieux publics lorsque la distanciation physique n'est pas possible. Cela peut se produire, par exemple, en se rendant à l'épicerie ou en prenant le transport en commun.

**Le port du couvre-visage dans les lieux publics doit obligatoirement s'accompagner des autres mesures de protection, comme l'application des mesures d'hygiène.**

Si vous êtes malade, restez à la maison. Si vous devez vous rendre à la clinique ou à l'hôpital, portez votre couvre-visage jusqu'à ce qu'on vous donne un masque de procédure.

Les enfants de moins de 2 ans, les personnes avec des difficultés respiratoires, les personnes handicapées ou incapables de retirer leur couvre-visage sans l'aide d'une autre personne ne devraient pas en porter.

Pour savoir comment utiliser correctement votre couvre-visage ou comment en fabriquer un, consultez les capsules d'information qui se trouvent sur le site Web du gouvernement du Québec :

**[Québec.ca/couvre-visage](https://quebec.ca/couvre-visage)**



Foulard



Couvre-visage en papier ou en tissu



Bandana ou autre tissu

## Ressources

Si la COVID-19 vous inquiète ou si vous présentez des symptômes comme l'apparition ou l'aggravation d'une toux, de la fièvre, des difficultés respiratoires ou une perte soudaine de l'odorat et du goût sans congestion nasale, vous pouvez composer le 418 644-4545, le 514 644-4545, le 450 644-4545, le 819 644-4545 ou le 1 877 644-4545 (sans frais) ailleurs au Québec afin d'être dirigé vers la bonne ressource. Pour les personnes malentendantes (ATS), il est possible de contacter le 1 800 361-9596 (sans frais).

[Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)

☎ 1 877 644-4545

Québec 

# We can gradually restart normal activities while protecting ourselves!

In the coming weeks, activities will gradually resume in Québec, with the consent and collaboration of public health authorities. The reopenings will occur in phases, depending on the type of activities and the geographic zone. You can check information about the reopening phases on the Government of Québec website: [Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)

Throughout this process it will remain essential to abide by protective health directives, which limit the danger of the virus spreading. If you have COVID-19 symptoms, it is equally crucial to follow the recommendations for home isolation in order to avoid transmitting the disease to others.

## Abide by the protective health recommendations

After you go out in public, monitor yourself for symptoms and abide by the following recommendations.



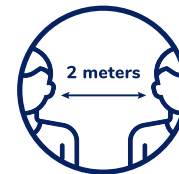
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm running water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand rub if soap and water are not available.
- Practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette:



Cover your mouth and nose with your arm to reduce the spread of germs.



If you use a tissue, dispose of it as soon as possible and wash your hands afterwards.



- If you must go out, stay at least 2 meters (around 6 feet) away from people who do not live in your household.
- If you are unable to stay at least 2 meters away from others, wear a face covering.
- If you are sick, avoid all contact with more vulnerable people such as seniors and people whose immune system is weakened or that have a chronic disease.
- Avoid direct contact when you greet someone, such as shaking hands, and use alternative ways to greet people.



- Avoid all indoor or outdoor gatherings with people who do not live in your home.

## Face coverings

Wearing a face covering is recommended in public settings whenever physical distancing is not possible. For example, this could be when you go shopping for groceries or take public transit.

**When you wear a face covering in public, you must also follow other safety measures, such as hygiene.**

If you are sick, stay home. If you must go to a medical clinic or the hospital, wear your face covering until you are given a procedure mask.

Children under 2 years of age and people with respiratory difficulties or who are handicapped or unable to remove their face covering without help, should not wear one.

You can learn more about the correct use of a face covering and how to make one by viewing the short videos on the Government of Québec website:

**[Québec.ca/couvre-visage](https://quebec.ca/couvre-visage)**



Scarf



Face covering made of paper or a tightly woven fabric



Bandana or a tightly woven fabric

## Resources

If you are concerned that you might have COVID-19 or have symptoms like the appearance or worsening of cough, fever, difficulty breathing and/or loss of smell or taste without nasal congestion, call one of the following phone numbers: 418 644-4545, 514 644-4545, 450 644-4545, 819 644-4545 or 1 877 644-4545 (toll free throughout Québec) to be directed to the appropriate resource. If you are a hard-of-hearing person, call 1 800 361-9596 (TTY toll free).

**[Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)**

**1 877 644-4545**

**Québec** 

# Plandemic: A rebuttal

*Plandemic, an upcoming documovie has caused a stir among a North American population that has to deal with an avalanche of information concerning COVID-19. Dr. Christos Karatzios, Assistant Professor of Paediatrics/ Infectious Diseases at the Montréal Children's Hospital, decided that enough was enough with the conspiracy theories which in the end endanger public health. Here is his rebuttal:*

So many people have sent me the video clip of a supposedly upcoming "documovie" called "PlanDEMic" asking me what I think?

So...what do I think? It's like sending an FBI agent a link to the X-Files series and asking if it is true.

Is the world this gullible and dangerously naive? Or are you on the fence or actually secretly/publicly believe that this pandemic is a colossal hoax in order for the "Deep State" or "Illuminati" or some other malevolent secret society (these people target the WHO and the UN now) to set up a "One World Government"? Have all the doctors and nurses and health care workers who have fought to save the lives of all those unfortunate people who have died or come near death from COVID-19 been secretly working for this evil society? Have all those families who lost loved ones been lying to everyone? Ask yourselves if you are willing to accept this shameful theory. Have we lost all faith in our doctors and nurses? How dangerous is that for the fabric of our society?

So what do I think of Judy Mikovits, who is the "protagonist" of this trash that is supposedly a "documentary"? Here we go:

Almost everything she says is a lie. She has a bone to pick with Anthony Fauci it seems. She also has a new book and needs to make money after being stripped of her job and being arrested for falsifying data and stealing lab material including laboratory cells delivered to her house "by mistake".

She was hired in the 90s by an alcohol, tobacco, and gambling magnate in the US Midwest who has a daughter with the controversial "Chronic Fatigue Syndrome". She was a paid researcher in his lab and she had a vested interest to make the link of a mouse retrovirus (similar to HIV) as a cause of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. His "institute" had a vested interest to come up with results so then they could create some form of therapy or cure for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. She manipulated data and came up with results that were later retracted completely from the medical literature because no one was able to reproduce them ever again.

Does this remind you of Paul Wakefield and his study of a link between MMR vaccine and autism? It should. Robert Kennedy Jr, the lead antivaxer in the USA, is Judy Mikovits's friend and collaborator. He is a supporter and sponsor of her. He wrote the prologue for her recent book. So when she says she is not "anti-vaccine" in the video, she lies. In the past she has claimed that 30% of global vaccines contain a cousin of HIV and are making us ill. In the video she claims that the flu shot makes people susceptible to "coronavirus". By the way, she laments how patents and "Big Pharma" have tainted science. Does she forget how Paul Wakefield actually had a secret patent to create his own measles vaccine while discrediting the established MMR? Oops. How about the fact that she worked for a millionaire tycoon out in Nevada to find the "cure" for "Chronic Fatigue Syndrome"? Oops.

She even performed another study for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (after the original was criticized by everyone) that showed no link with the mouse retrovirus and she even admitted to this. Her colleagues on the original Science paper that was retracted admitted to faulty science. She was eventually fired from that institute and then stole its lab material.

This is what she was arrested and not for "speaking the truth".

What she says about HIV and coronavirus are dead wrong.

What she says about the flu shot "causing coronavirus" is completely false. The army study she quoted did not claim what she claims it did:

The study concluded that when you vaccinate people against the flu...you get immunity and stop seeing as much flu and start seeing other common viruses being more prevalent (such as cold viruses like the simple cold coronaviruses and human metapneumoviruses)...Because you are getting rid of the main culprit of respiratory disease in the winter (the flu). Therefore, you can see the background noise with common cold viruses that is usually drowned out by the massive flu when there's no vaccine.

**This was the highlight of that study:**

1. We examined virus interference in a Department of Defense dependent population.
2. Vaccinated personnel did not have significant odds of respiratory illnesses.
3. Vaccinated personnel were protected against influenza.
4. Odds of virus interference by vaccination varied for individual respiratory viruses.

So what she is saying is nonsense to those not trained to pick up the gibberish she is peddling. It is dangerous nonsense during a deadly pandemic and she is simply crazy.

I think I almost fell off my chair when she stated that masks activate our own covid and we get reinfected.

The same people behind this video are the same people who believe vaccines kill, who believe Bill Gates will inject us with microchips, who believe that 5G is what is causing COVID-19, who believe that the lockdowns that happened to **save our health care system** before the first wave were wrong, and they are the same people who are out protesting in the US to open beaches and casinos and whatever they deem necessary.

I think that's all I have to say about this person and anyone similar to her. Beware of quacks! She and others are allowed to be storytellers but if she is endangering public health, she will find herself behind bars again.

I have a job to do for which I gave an oath when I accepted to sacrifice my youth, to eventually be able to save lives; Your lives and the lives of your children.

Enough.

**Christos Karatzios, MD**

Associate Investigator, RI-MUHC, Glen site  
Child Health and Human Development Program  
Centre for Innovative Medicine  
Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics,  
Faculty of Medicine, McGill University  
Department of Pediatrics, Division of Infectious  
Diseases, MUHC

# Dr. Alan Green: Extended COVID-19 shutdown best for recovery

**With COVID-19 still spreading and uncertainty remaining as to whether there will be second wave of the virus next fall, questions are being raised as to the approach that should be taken – with economic recovery paramount in many people's minds.**

**According to the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, there are more than three million confirmed COVID-19 cases in 185 countries and territories. And without any doubt, the coronavirus pandemic is having a devastating impact on the global economy.**



**MARTIN C. BARRY**  
marty@newsfirst.ca

## The economic impact

Many businesses have been closed for nearly two months, which has caused layoffs and furloughs. Countries are creating economic recovery plans and guidelines for reopening businesses in phases with proper precautions.

But how long can an economy feasibly remain closed down? Should government officials give in to growing public impatience and begin to allow life to come back to normal? Or should they continue, at least for now, with the shutdown?

Should they consider taking a systematic approach – acknowledging there will be an estimated "collateral" casualty count – as measured against damage to the economy from a continuing shutdown? Or do we go on pursuing COVID-19 protective measures until infection and mortality rates reach safe and satisfactory levels – no matter how long that takes if this proves to be necessary?

## Virus must be contained



"We're hearing a lot of people and politicians who look at the economic damage, which is awful, and say *Oh gosh, we have to re-open to save the economy*," says macro-economics expert Dr. Alan Green, department chair and associate professor of economics at Stetson University in Central Florida.

"But what I'm saying, and what I think every economist that I've seen publicly say something is saying, is that they're doing it backwards. Even if you legally allow everything to re-open, the economy's not going to recover until the virus is contained."

On the one hand, he maintains, dropping

enforced protective measures won't necessarily help to restart the economy. As people begin circulating openly once again, remnants of the highly contagious SARS-CoV-2 virus will begin spreading again, sickening more people while causing the level of public fear and apprehension to escalate once more.

## Could backfire, says economist

"Part of this instinct to try and move quickly to re-open in order to get the economy going really is probably going to backfire," Green said.

"What will have to be the priority is the public health aspect of broader testing, knowing where the virus is, waiting until case loads have declined, to a point where you can actually keep testing and tracing. So that once we re-open, if there are outbreaks in different areas, we can close them off more precisely."

As for the alternative argument, that we should balance potentially escalated casualties against the greater economic losses from not moving forward faster, Green said he has a problem with that line of thought.

## Says health should come first

"It assumes that the total number of deaths from the virus is kind of fixed and inevitable," he said. "It implies that a lot of people are going to die either way, so we might as well trudge on ahead and get the economy moving. But the total number of deaths is not fixed at all. It's completely dependent on the public health response."

"And again the point I'm trying to drive home as an economist is that if we kind of proceed, and there are going to be some deaths but we're just going to try and open the economy, people are going to be afraid and they're not going to participate in the economy and we will still be in a major recession. And they'll be justified in being afraid, because people don't want to die and people don't want to get their family members sick. So if the virus is not contained, then there's no way things go back to normal."

## Maintain shutdown, he says

His advice? "Keep the economy closed down longer, which we can afford to do, dramatically ramp up testing so we can know where the virus is, and then trace people who've got it," said Green. "And although it's still a bit early, that seems to be working, at least in some other places."

He argues that in emphasizing the importance of the human toll, in the long run this will favour a better economic outcome. "Because if we contain the virus, then we can actually re-open with less fear because we'll have more accurate information, more people will come back and participate. So you get a much better economic recovery with the right public health measures."

EVALUATION GRATUITE / FREE EVALUATION

**COMMISSION**  
**2.99%\***

Certaines conditions s'appliquent\* / Certain conditions apply\*



**Carol Deros**  
Courtier immobilier  
Cell.: 514-258-8845

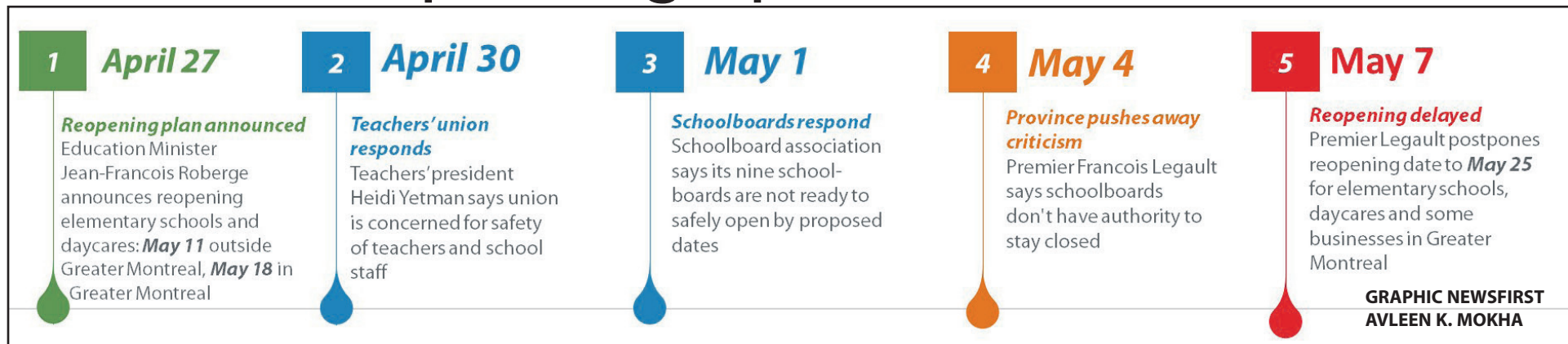
**George Tellides**  
Courtier immobilier  
Cell.: 514-258-1829

**Soula Tellides**  
Courtier immobilier agréé  
Cell.: 514-927-3721

**ROYAL LEPAGE** LE CARREFOUR | AGENCE IMMOBILIERE  
Française indépendante et autonome  
B. 450 231-4222 F. 450 231-4223  
3090, boul. Le Carrefour bur. 304,  
Laval, Qc H7T 2J7

*Toujours là pour vous rendre service!  
Always at your service!*

# School reopening sparks debate



Quebec is the one the worst provinces in Canada, with COVID-19 cases beyond 30,000. Still, the province announced the gradual reopening schools end of April, despite a daily rise in cases of 900 cases. In the days following this announcement, provincial officials received significant criticism from members of the public. Parents, school staff, and schoolboards feel that reopening this summer creates more issues than it solves.



Central to the debate are doubts about schools' ability to reopen safely and equitably. This feature story gives a comprehensive look at the hard questions that have come up during the discussion on reopening schools.

## The main timeline

On April 27, Minister of Education Jean-François Roberge detailed Quebec's plan to gradually re-open schools. Key dates from his briefing were:

- By May 11, elementary schools and daycares outside Greater Montreal will reopen;
- By May 19, elementary schools and daycares in Greater Montreal will reopen;
- High schools, CEGEPs, universities will not open till at least the end of August.

Ten days later, on May 7, Quebec Premier François Legault pushed the reopening date for elementary schools and daycares in Greater Montreal by a week. "Today we're seeing that the conditions to keep our initial reopening calendar in Montreal are not met, for the moment," Legault said on May 7.

## Mixed messages

The infographic included with this story shows how the provincial response changed in a matter of few days. Once Roberge announced the reopening plan, the union of teachers in Quebec expressed concerns about

the safety of teachers and school staff. Quebec public health director Dr Horacio Arruda was present during the reopening announcement and said public health would work with the Ministry of Education to provide masks, if teachers wanted them. In the early weeks of the emergency, Dr Arruda said that face coverings can give a false sense of security. Since mid April, public health began "strongly recommending" people to wear face coverings, though they are still not mandatory.

When reopening was announced, Dr Arruda said masks will be required for situations where social distancing cannot be maintained, like for daycare workers. However, since then public pressure means that elementary school teachers will also wear masks. Derrek Cauchi, principal of Sinclair Laird elementary school, placed an order for masks, based on estimates, a week after Roberge's announcement on April 27.

## Powerplay

A major stakeholder in this debate made headlines with a statement on May 1 in which they criticized the province's reopening plan for being hasty. Quebec English Schoolboards' Association (QESBA) represents nine schoolboards in Quebec.

"Rather than inspiring confidence in the public, this hastily announced plan by the government has had the effect of significantly raising anxiety and stress levels among teachers and parents in particular, as well as the general population," the QESBA statement said. "This is clearly evidenced by a petition to delay school reopening until September, already signed by over a quarter of a million citizens." A public display of powerplay followed. On the COVID-19 press briefing on May 4, Legault pushed away criticism by saying schoolboards cannot stay closed – if they were not ready, they should get started. "It's not the schoolboards' choice," Legault said on the May 4 press briefing. "It's the parents' choice."

When pressed about QESBA's statement, Legault said that schoolboards "still" have two weeks. Just two days later, Legault postponed

reopening schools in Greater Montreal.

"The switch up of dates has been really stressful," Joanna Peters, parent of two, said. Peters sits on the English Montreal School Board Parents' Committee (EMSB), which supported QESBA's statement. "I felt happy that somebody stood up for what seemed to be obvious."

## The economic incentive

The week the province announced schools would reopen, officials also announced that retail businesses and certain non-essential services would reopen. For many parents, being able to send their young children to school or daycare lets them return to work. Given that the pandemic has caused a record rise in unemployment, reopening schools and daycares might be the silver lining parents need. Putting aside schools and daycares, parents turn to family members or babysitters. But here also communication felt mixed. Previously Dr Arruda said grandparents can work in daycares with children but not watch their grandchildren because these are different relationships. Dr Arruda has since changed his view, by saying that grandparents under 70 that are otherwise healthy can start watching their grandchildren.

"It's a big relief for parents, but not all parents that their grandparents in this country or in this province," chair of EMSB Parents' Committee Caroline Phaneuf said.

Push for schoolwork

Roberge said parents will not be required to send their children to school, but admitted a greater push for children. "Teachers and students are not on vacation," Roberge said on April 27. "Now, we are being more demanding."

However, parents and principals doubt that reopening schools will help children that were already struggling. "All our effort to reopen school would be better spent serving online platform and focus on children with special needs, with depression, and with domestic issues," Peters said. Principal Cauchi doubts that significant changes to grades will happen. "I'm not convinced that children are be-

ing put at the forefront of this discussion. We were told the year is over. So there's not much incentive from the grading perspective." Roberge had also stressed in his briefing that parents should be "facilitators" instead of being teachers. Peters says that parents of children that were struggling will only struggle more with a hasty reopening. "Parents just can't do it all," Peters said. "We're running after children, we may have parents to take care of. We're disinfecting groceries and laundry, we're cooking at home more than usual, just trying to fit it all in is hard."

## Challenges with reopening

Can social distancing be enforced at school? How?

Some ways schools will enforce social distancing include:

Putting marks on the floor to help children keep distance

Having a maximum of 15 students per classroom, half of the usual limit for elementary school

Rotating recess breaks to limit children playing outside

Taking more breaks for handwashing

Monitoring children during group activities  
But parents are concerned if social distancing is realistic for elementary schoolchildren.

"It's already hard for children to not touch their classmates," Sabrina Pagano, mother of a child at Carlyle Elementary school, said. "It's hard enough to get them to sit down at their desks."

Shortage of staff may be the biggest hurdle to making sure children can follow safety guidelines. Sinclair Laid Elementary has 1 teacher for every 20 students. Fewer teachers will come back because some have serious health concerns; others will stay at home because they are at-risk for complications if they got COVID-19 of past conditions like cancer.

How will children be assessed? Starting when? Schools will separate an optional and non-optional period for assessment. The period from March 12, when the COVID-19 emergency began, to April 27, is confirmed to be optional. Presumably, once robust online learning can

▶ Continued on page 15

## SAVE MONEY

Print your cheques with us with confidence

**FULL BANKING  
SECURITY  
ELEMENTS**

**450 978-9999**



We print all kinds of cheques  
**Personal or Business  
CANADA or USA**

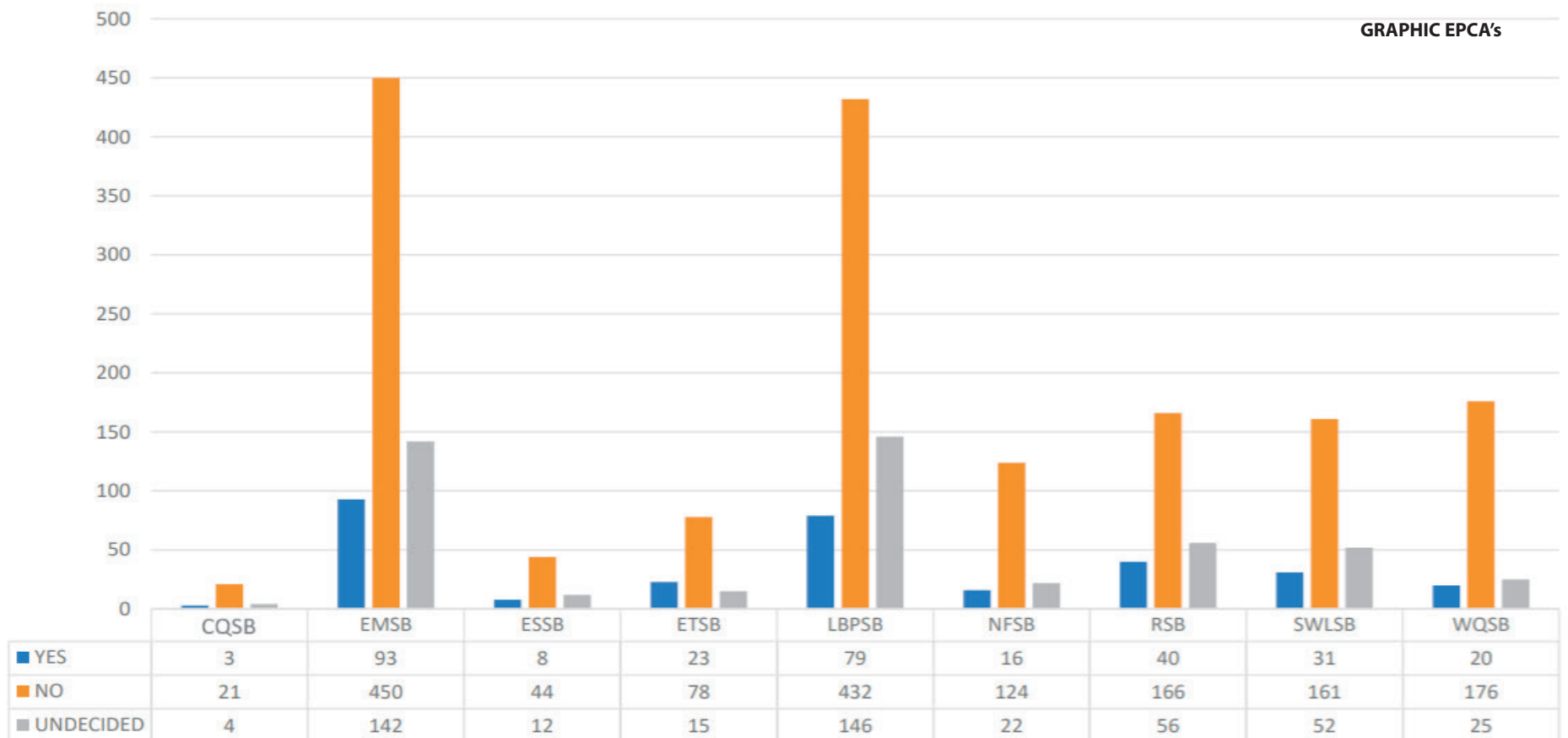
**250 for \$87  
500 for \$127  
1000 for \$187**

**MEDIA-TREK**

# Parents want clear directives from province leaders

ELEMENTARY - Will you be sending your child(ren) back to school?

GRAPHIC EPCA's



◀ Continued from page 14

be provided, a non-optional assessment will begin.

The start of a non-optional period has not been announced as of this week.

It's not clear how children will be assessed. Teachers are told to follow up with families, and possibly they will monitor progress more closely.

"Sometimes you can't prove what their child did even if they worked all day," Peters said, referring to activities like conjugating verbs online. "Parents of students at risk of failing need to know how much they can show there has been effort to learn at home." The assessment period will end Jean-Baptiste Holiday, June 21. Contracts for school workers end July 1.

As a principal Cauchi says the number of staff members depend on the number of students that parents send.

"Numbers of parents need to be such it warrants calling people to work," Cauchi said. "If I have children in the school, I can't order my whole staff. No [minimum] number [of students] has been given to me, but I may get different instructions closed to the reopening date."

### What happens if someone in the school gets COVID-19?

Principals receive protocols from the Education Ministry. "The release talks about having an isolation space," Cauchi said. But the province has not yet said if schools will close again if an outbreak takes place.

### What about school busses?

School busses will have a vacant bench behind and in front of each child. This rule means fewer children can get on the bus, and multiple trips might be needed. A school of 200 elementary students, Sinclair Laird hires two school busses. Multiple trips may work for smaller territories like Park Extension but may not be realistic for bigger neighbourhoods.

"Some busses drive 45 minutes," Phaneuf said.

"If there are multiple trips, does this mean some kids will reach school three hours late?" Busses will install plexiglass barriers for the safety of drivers, many of whom are older. They may wipe or disinfect seats between runs. However, many schools share busses, meaning bus drivers visit multiple neighbourhoods. Parents may find it easier to walk or drive their children to school.

### What about children with special needs?

Some children with special needs take smaller vans, which cannot seat multiple children while keeping a 2-meter distance. Pagano shares the frustration of such families in her friend group.

"They are outraged. They feel like their children are like lab rats and guinea pigs for an experiment."

Others think seeing friends will help children cope.

"Kids get depressed when they are isolated," Peters said. "It's discouraging to not get that connection and not know when things will end."

Depending on the child's kind of needs, sending them back can be a big impediment. For example, children on the autism spectrum (ASD) rely on routines. Abrupt changes can cause meltdowns, making it difficult to adjust to new distancing rules or to learn from teachers they haven't met before.

### Trial run

Province has stressed that coming out of the COVID-19 emergency needs to happen in stages.

"The idea is to not precipitate anything, but to proceed gradually," Legault said on April 22.

"The key criteria is health. I want everyone to feel safe. I don't think it would be a good idea to wait until September 1 to return one million children to schools."

In this way, reopening on the 25th functions as



**Scellant Propre**

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ASPHALT  
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OIL BASED SEALER PROTECTION

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



## WE REPAIR

- Cracks
- Pot Holes
- Edges of Garage Entrances
- Replacement of Drains

**BEFORE**
**BEFORE**




**AFTER**
**AFTER**




CALL NATALE FOR A FREE ESTIMATION **514-777-3774**

15 mai, 2020 / May 15, 2020 • Nouvelles Parc-Extension News • 15

# Quebec Liberals celebrate Robert Bourassa's legacy and impact

Former insiders recall October Crisis and launch of James Bay Project

They recalled their times living or serving alongside one of the most highly-regarded political leaders ever to govern Quebec



Looking back on former Liberal Premier Robert Bourassa's accomplishments and political legacy, it's sometimes a little hard to believe that during the mid-1970s he was looked upon by many as the most reviled political figure in Quebec.

As leader of the PLQ – a party that always strove to be in the middle of the political spectrum, while trying to reconcile both ends – Bourassa's downfall was almost inevitable during that highly nationalistic era.



**MARTIN C. BARRY**  
marty@newsfirst.ca

## A rock and a hard place

He would find himself caught between the increasingly powerful sovereignist forces in Quebec – demanding greater protections for the French language and culture – and the English-speaking minority, protesting the degradation of their rights. The Anglos would largely abandon the Liberals in 1976 – allowing the PQ, for the first time, to form a government.

Many aspects of Bourassa's political life came up during an online homage held by the PLQ in a Zoom videoconference channel last Saturday morning for card-carrying party members and their guests.

## 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event

The virtual gathering marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of April 29, 1970 – the date when Robert Bourassa formed his first provincial government and, at age 36, became the youngest premier in the history of Quebec.

Bourassa would go on to win four mandates, although in two distinct time frames – 1970-1976 and 1985-1994 – periods that are sometimes referred to as Bourassa I and II.

Eight former insiders (including his daughter,



Seen in this screen capture from the PLQ's online videoconference last Saturday are (clockwise from top left, ending in the centre) ex-Bourassa chief of staff Guy Langlois, former Bourassa director of communications and ex-PLQ d-g Ronald Poupart, current PLQ d-g Véronique Tremblay, ex-Bourassa press attaché Sylvie Godin, former Bourassa cabinet minister Raymond Garneau, former Bourassa chief of staff John Parisella, Bourassa's daughter Michelle Bourassa, and Jean Masson, the first president of the PLQ's youth commission.

as well as a past Liberal Minister of Finance) recalled their times living or serving alongside someone that historians have come to regard as one of the most successful political leaders ever to govern Quebec.

Among the more noteworthy instances

recalled during the videoconference: Guy Langlois, who was Bourassa's chief of staff in Quebec City in 1970, remembered the moment when he and Bourassa first learned of the events that would trigger the October Crisis.

## Kidnapping of James Cross

"We had gone to New York to meet John Rockefeller," said Langlois. [Bourassa had travelled to the U.S. to seek financing for the massive James Bay hydroelectric project.]

"So we came back to Montreal and we met with Jérôme Choquette, the Minister of Justice, at a hotel on Côte de Liesse where he briefed us on the situation following the kidnapping of James Cross."

A short time later, in Sorel about 60 kilometres east of Montreal where Bourassa (who had married into the wealthy Simard family) would spend time with his wife and in-laws, Choquette informed him over the phone that Liberal Labour Minister Pierre Laporte had by now also been taken hostage by the Front de Libération du Québec.

## Start of October Crisis

Langlois said he told the one police officer assigned to stand outside to guard Bourassa that he should go fetch the handgun he'd left in his car, and call for additional police reinforcements to protect the Premier from the impending terrorist threat.

According to Langlois, Bourassa then placed a call to Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in Ottawa, and convened an emergency meeting of the provincial cabinet at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal. "That was the beginning of the October Crisis," Langlois said.

## A 'loss of innocence'

Bourassa's daughter, Michelle, was only four

years old when the October Crisis erupted. She said she can still remember the night she was scooped out of bed, placed in a car and driven off in a motorcade guarded by motorcycle police to a safe place.

"For me the October Crisis, I think, was a kind of loss of innocence," she said, recollecting that around the same time she was also with her parents in their living room at home when the FLQ Manifesto was read out on TV. And she remembered when the news of Laporte's death was announced.

On a happier note, Ronald Poupart, who was Bourassa's director of communications and at one time also the PLQ's executive-director, recalled what was undoubtedly to be Bourassa's and the Quebec Liberals' proudest accomplishment – the James Bay project.

## James Bay Project

According to Poupart, Bourassa and the PLQ leadership made the conscious decision to shine a spotlight on the announcement as an optimistic counterpoint to the negative impact the October Crisis had on Quebec.

[Bourassa had been working on a vision of the James Bay project since at least 1969 when he was still a PLQ backbencher; he then made it a plank in his platform for the Liberal leadership, before going on to win the 1970 election.]

Ironically, according to Raymond Garneau, who was Treasury Board President in the Bourassa cabinet, the Parti Québécois, which had elected its first MNAs to the National Assembly in 1970, were critical at that particular time of such large hydroelectric projects – preferring nuclear energy instead.

"Imagine today, if we had chosen to launch ourselves into nuclear energy," noted Garneau. "What a disaster it would be because of all the environmental concerns."



First comeback: October 15, 1983, Robert Bourassa wins PLQ leadership  
PHOTO: Archives The Greek Canadian News



# THAT'S WHAT I'M THINKING

Robert Vairo



## Will the real leader please stand up!

Robert Bourassa. On this 50th anniversary of his election, you can't help but wonder how much better he would have handled this pandemic. I reported regularly, some times daily on Bourassa for then PULSE NEWS in the 70's, 80's and 90's. I know that Quebecers had the utmost respect for one of the great, some say the most successful Premier, who first and foremost was an economist, but one who ruled with compassion and kept the party where it belonged, in the center of the political spectrum. Quebec enjoyed the best of economic times with Bourassa at the helm. Not the warmest of orators, but an intelligent and very sensitive man whose devotion was totally to Quebec. His persona would never have allowed our long term homes to reach the shameful state that exists today. He would have held health and the economy in balance, a record Quebecers would have lauded. But we will never know with certitude, because that was then, and this is now.

True leaders stand out in times of crisis, like Ontario's Doug Ford. Ford speaks from the heart in simple everyday language. He's genuine, empathetic, and tough. When President Trump stopped our N95s to Canada, Ford said "now we know who our friends are". When Trump suggested reopening the borders with Canada, "Absolutely not. I don't want them (Americans) in Ontario". And he does not want Quebecers in Ontario either. Note the road block to Gatineau cottage country. His approval rating has soared to an astounding 83% according to latest survey. On the recent assault rifle ban, an upfront challenge to Ottawa. "Put the money at the border" because that's how illegal guns get into Canada. So I find myself watching Ford the most, then Premier Francois Legault, who use to have a reassuring image, still enjoys popularity rating in the 90% range. But error after error have spelled disaster. The first to close schools in Canada, the first to reopen. Anxious to spark the economy, he reasons teachers back in the classroom would care for the children of the employees back on the job. He has lost control of the massively layered bureaucracy governing long term care homes. Understaffed, underpaid, with no real infection control, plagued with staff walk outs. Legault's call for volunteers to put a stop to our dying seniors has been a failure. So it's now the always reliable army at our seniors' homes!

Have you watched Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC's chief health physician? She is cautious, calm, communicates extremely well with her audience, like a kind, reassuring nurse at your bedside. The result, BC first to flatten the curve. She is so popular, her BC designed and manufactured John Fluevog shoes sold out.

In the neighbouring province, Alberta's head physician, Dr. Deena Hinshaw is more popular than anyone in her government at 88% approval according to the latest poll. Unlike Quebec, Alberta has limited bureaucracy for quick and effective decisions. Except for the meat processing plants fiasco, Alberta is a leader with massive early testing and a low threshold of reporting so that public health rushes into seniors homes to offer immediate support. They love Hinshaw out west, even selling out of a "periodic table dress" she wore one day.

At the federal level Dr Teresa Tam, taking a lot of heat for relying on WHO, which in turn relied on China's false data. Despite several premiers outcry, she was late to advise her boss to close borders to the US. She was late screening at our airports, late in closing the border to China, with no mention of Taiwan. Taiwanese were wearing masks long ago and reacted swiftly. One of the first to successfully shut down the virus. But Tam took her cue from the WHO, which does not recognize Taiwan. Seems many Canadians forgive. Her almost daily appearance, and tax payer paid commercials have vaulted this virtually unknown to fame.

Top expert on infectious disease, the tireless Dr. Anthony Fauci, in quarantine, now getting body guard protection because of threats on his life. Why? Because he speaks the truth, and the truth hurts. Isn't it refreshing to hear leaders like Dr. Fauci speak to us clearly and frankly, often contradicting his boss President Trump and still have his boss's back. Not an easy task when the boss is President Trump. Fauci boldly predicts the virus will return this autumn (US election) and the hand shake is history. By the way, if Trump fires him, he has a job. Said Italian infectious disease director Dr. Giuseppe Ippolito, "The world needs Fauci!"

The governor of New York, "Andrew Cuomo takes charge" Rolling Stone magazine. He is the boss. Governor Cuomo and his virus infected younger brother are a hit on CNN. The governor regularly challenges Trump. Cuomo is genuine, factual, bold, and wise. On reopening the economy "We have to temper our desire and emotions with our intelligence". On schools of tomorrow, "revolutionize" and "re imagine" education. Thumbs up.

Justin Trudeau is a smooth politician. He has eastern Canadians in the palm of his hand despite the fact he exploited COVID-19 to try to give himself unlimited and unchecked taxing and spending powers till the end of 2021. Canadians are nonetheless thankful for generous and much needed direct deposits to mitigate total economic collapse. Trudeau, and his hair's daily appearance have bounced his popularity to 73%.

My favourite leader is 39 year old New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. Her leadership style makes her "the most effective leader on the planet" THE ATLANTIC. She is soothing, reassuring, with a firm reign on authority and credibility. "We will see results" she said weeks ago. And they have. New Zealand is Virus free today.

Let's not forget the leaders who are not on screen every day. The leaders of the front line health workers. Thank you.

In the end, true leadership is having our own sovereign decision makers. No WHO, no external influence, but reliance on Canada's brains in health, food, transport, manufacture of essential products. All MADE IN CANADA. I'm waiting for that day.

In the meantime, stay a hockey stick length away, eh.

That's what I'm thinking.

# Classifieds

Deadline: WEDNESDAY before publication at 1 p.m.

FOR SALE SERVICES ARTICLES WANTED FINANCIAL SERVICES COURSES EMPLOYMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**978-9999**  
**THE LAVAL news** **News** **Nouvelles PARC-EXTENSION News**



ES HEALTH & WELLNESS SNOW REMOVAL PSYCHICS VACATION & TRAVEL MATCHMAKING

### 200 AUTOMOTIVE

**WANTED CLASSIC CARS**  
 - Any Condition:  
 Porsche  
 356-912-911-930;  
 Mercedes  
 190-230-250-280-300;  
 Jaguar  
 XKE, XK120/140/150;  
 Split Window  
 Corvette OR any  
 European/British Cars.  
 Rusty, Rotten or Show  
 Car. FINDER FEE PAID  
 \$\$\$\$! CALL Chris  
 613-894-1141 or car-  
 hunter472@gmail.com.

### 300 FOR SALE

QCNA offers a one-order, one-bill service to advertisers. Call us for details

on reaching English Quebec, and through classified ads French Quebec and every other Canadian province & territory. 819-893-6330.

### 605 EDUCATION

**PRIVATE COURSES:** Elementary, High School, College. **MATH:** Arithmetic, Problem Solving, Algebra, Calculus. **FRENCH:** Reading comprehension, writing, conversation. **SCIENCES.** Professional Tutors. Referred since 1993. Philippe 514-574-9623.

### 900 HEALTH

GET UP TO \$50,000 from the Government of Can-

ada. Do you or someone you know Have any of these Conditions? ADHD, Anxiety, Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Depression, Diabetes, Difficulty Walking, Fibro-

myalgia, Irritable Bowels, Overweight, Trouble Dressing...and Hundreds more. ALL Ages & Medical Conditions Qualify. ALL QUEBEC BENEFITS 1-(800)-211-3550

**TESTAMENTARY GIFT**  
 To support the fight against cancer  
 Free flyer

1 888 939-3333 | www.cancer.ca

**WE BUY GOLD AND DIAMONDS**  
 - For over 38 years -  
 450-681-1363

**Before selling elsewhere, come see us!**

Mon. to Wed. - 10am to 5:30pm  
 Thurs. and Fri. - 10am to 7:30pm  
 Saturday - 9am to noon  
 Sunday - Closed

**solutionrl.com**  
 \*No price by phone

**Same address since 1989**  
 1799, boul. Curé-Labelle, Chomedey (North of St-Martin)

**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
 HUMANIA CENTRE

**Free evaluation of your home with no obligation!**

**Voula Kottaridis**  
 Real Estate Broker

514.993.5010  
 agentvk@gmail.com

# In Memoriam & Obituaries

**UNITED**  
- THROUGH DISTANCE -



## ACCESSIBLE

Our team has adapted to the new reality so you can mourn without added worry. You can now safely interact with your loved ones using the new technology that we've implemented.

We're here to guide you when selecting these new options and we're committed to meeting your needs in a responsible manner.

## SERVICES

- Arrangements via telephone or virtual meetings
- Celebration with your family present (according to current recommendations)
- Live webcast of the ceremony (funeraweb.tv)



514 871-2020  
12 locations on the North Shore of Montréal

[dignitequebec.com](http://dignitequebec.com)

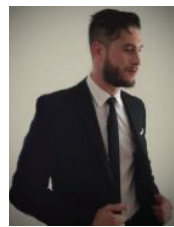


450 463-1900  
5 locations on the South Shore of Montréal

**CENTRE FUNÉRAIRE  
CÔTE-DES-NEIGES**

514 342-8000  
chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges  
Montréal

**Dignity**  
MEMORIAL  
 LIFE WELL CELEBRATED™



**VOLAKAKIS CADIEUX, Alexander**  
1995 - 2020

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Alexandros Volakakis Cadieux on May 04, 2020. He leaves to mourn his parents Stephane Cadieux and Vasiliki Volakakis, his brother Constantinos Volakakis Cadieux, his grandparents Louise Cadieux, Constantinos and Niki Volakakis, uncle Dimitri Volakakis (Angie), aunt Panagiota Volakakis (Costa), and his cousins Niki, Ioannis, Konstantinos, Yanni and Nikolas and all of the Marchand, Pagé, Yannios and Volakakis family members.



**VACHON, Léo**  
1931 - 2020

In Montreal, on May 04, 2020, at the age of 88 years, passed away Mr. Léo Vachon. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Pierrette Carbonneau, his sons Sylvain (Anne-Marie) and François Vachon, his granddaughter Annabelle and Rosalie, his sister Cécile (Joe Postigo) and many nephews and nieces.



**BLOUIN, Léopold**  
1930 - 2020

In Montreal, on Wednesday May 6, 2020, at the age of 89 years, past away LÉOPOLD BLOUIN husband of the late Cécile Gosselin. He is survived by his children Jean-Pierre (Brigitte Dugas), Lucie, Nicole, Carole, Claude (Sawsan Mikhail), Sylvie (Luke McCrory), his grandchildren Audrey, Joanie (Simon Beaulieu), Jacinthe (Laurent Mong), Cassandra, Nicolas and Catherine as well as relatives and friends.



**VÉZINA, Jacques**  
1938 - 2020

On May 6, 2020, at the age of 82, Jacques Vézina, passed away after having fought long and hard against Alzheimer's. He leaves to mourn his lifelong accomplice, his wife Jeannine, his three children Pierre (Diane Ranno), Dominique (André Besner), Patrice (Christine Robillard), his five grandchildren Maude (David), Raphaël (Jeanne), Justin (Judith), Anne-Sophie, Marie-Pier, as well as her brothers-in-law, nephews, nieces and many friends.



**ÆTERNA**  
Complexe funéraire • Funeral Complex

*Honor and celebrate life  
in accordance to your traditions, values and customs,  
while easing your experience during the difficult moments.*

**55 Gince, Montreal • 514.228.1888 (Day & Night)**  
[www.complexeaeterna.com](http://www.complexeaeterna.com)

# HOROSCOPE

Week of May 17 to May 23, 2020

The luckiest signs this week:  
GEMINI, CANCER AND LEO



**ARIES**  
You'll spend a lot of time with demanding children this week. You might need to drive them around, but take advantage of the situation and have some fun together.



**TAURUS**  
Pay attention to instructions to avoid doing the same thing twice at work. Expect some miscommunication this week and double-check your information.



**GEMINI**  
A closer look at your budget will reveal you have the means to start a project that's close to your heart. Some details regarding your love life will need clarification.



**CANCER**  
Your leadership skills will increase tenfold this week and a substantial pay raise awaits. Take the time to negotiate with people before making a decision that concerns them.



**LEO**  
A dip in your energy will remind you to take better care of yourself. A new diet or treatment will improve your quality of life and help you accomplish your goals.



**VIRGO**  
Your love life and social life aren't always compatible, and you'll need to make a choice between the two. You'll also have to adjust your priorities to balance fun and responsibilities.



**LIBRA**  
You'll be inspired to redecorate and take on larger projects at home. Thankfully, your friends will be more than happy to lend a hand.



**SCORPIO**  
You'll start planning your summer vacation. Don't hesitate to tighten your belt to save up for a dream trip or a pilgrimage that'll reinforce your spirituality.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
Emotions may run high this week, but you won't lose your cool. You'll even be able to make people around you smile during tense situations.



**CAPRICORN**  
You'll be in an excellent position to conclude an important negotiation at work. The result will prove profitable and make everyone involved happy.



**AQUARIUS**  
You'll have to take on more responsibilities when one of your colleagues is unexpectedly absent. You may fall behind on your work, but you'll benefit in the long run. A promotion is in the works.



**PISCES**  
An accomplishment you're very proud of will be recognized and appreciated. Your romantic partner will pay attention to your wishes and propose big plans for your relationship.



## CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 985

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19			20	21			
				22		23					
24	25	26	27			28		29	30	31	32
33				34				35			
36				37				38			
				39				40			
41	42	43	44			45		46	47	48	49
50					51	52		53			
54					55			56			
57					58			59			

Copyright © 2014, Penny Press

### ACROSS

- Cease
- Soak
- Fifty percent
- Encourage
- Road covering
- Oblong
- Skin opening
- Metallic rock
- Staple food
- Hi-fi
- \_\_\_ out (distributed)
- Pilgrim John \_\_\_
- Look forward to
- Extreme
- Grassy spread
- Waterlogged
- Soda choice
- Pushes against
- Answer
- Noodles
- Zany
- Yearned
- Cropland measure
- To each his \_\_\_
- Holler
- Front of the leg
- Holiday egg drink
- Furthermore
- Withheld
- View
- Honk

### DOWN

- Has dinner
- Horse's gait
- Folklore giant
- Social equal
- Bar seat
- Rowing blade
- Ready the oven
- Bugle
- Enthusiastic
- Tie, as shoes
- Ran off
- Wear away
- "Stand \_\_\_ Deliver"
- Put clothes on
- High peak
- Children's card game
- Dazzle
- Office holders
- Cold cubes
- Beat walker
- "\_\_\_ I Need"
- Put
- Arms
- Place to get fit
- Large rodent
- Sprinkling
- Cher film
- Pang
- Leak
- Copper coin
- Shellfish
- Doughnut feature
- Slacken
- Plummet
- Deep sorrow

# Sudoku

PUZZLE NO. 710

						4		9
	4		2	5	9	6		
1								3
		6	1		4			2
	3	8		9				
		1		2				
		7						6
	2		6			9		
	6		9				7	8

### HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: **You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.**

### Last Issues' Answers

## CROSSWORDS

S	T	E	M		P	E	E	R		S	P	A			
C	O	L	A		L	Y	R	E		M	A	P			
A	R	M	S		Y	E	A	H		A	C	E			
B	E	S	T							S	E	A	L	E	D
					E	B	B	S		A	W	L			
R	E	T	R	E	A	T			R	E	E	D	S		
O	A	R			D	R	E	G	S		S	E	A		
D	R	A	W	S			E	N	A	C	T	E	D		
					M	O	P			L	U	L	U		
T	A	P	E	R	S						S	N	A	P	
E	L	L					E	A	S	T		T	O	G	A
A	T	E					A	F	A	R		O	N	E	S
M	O	D					D	E	W	Y		M	O	S	S

## Sudoku

6	1	2	8	9	3	5	7	4
4	3	5	1	2	7	9	6	8
8	9	7	6	4	5	1	2	3
2	4	3	5	8	9	6	1	7
7	6	8	4	1	2	3	9	5
9	5	1	7	3	6	4	8	2
5	8	9	2	6	4	7	3	1
1	7	6	3	5	8	2	4	9
3	2	4	9	7	1	8	5	6



Following the most recent requests from the provincial government regarding the spread of COVID-19, we wish to confirm that all Cinemas Guzzo will be closed until March 26th.

As usual, we are monitoring the situation very closely and will adjust as necessary based on requests from the authorities. Our priority will remain above all else, the health of our employees and the public.

The Cinemas Guzzo Team

# A2 AUTO

*Professional Auto Body Repair & Painting*

- Insurance Work Accepted
- All Work Guaranteed
- Expert Color Matching
- Factory Genuine Parts
- Import Car Specialists
- American Muscle Cars
- Towing
- Major & Minor Repairs



**FREE ESTIMATES!**

**Ari: 514-476-4565**

**1385, Boul. des Laurentides, local 103, Vimont, QC H7M 2Y2**