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Vol. 29 - 46

Novembre 12, 2021 / November 12, 2021




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Valérie Plante re-elected mayor of Montreal

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| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|
|  | Valerie Plante Projet Montréal - Team Valérie Plante | ✓ 52 % +58643 / 217368 |
|  | Denis Coderre Ensemble Montréal - Team Denis Coderre | 38 % 158725 |
|  | Balarama Holness Montreal Movement | 7,2 % 30200 |

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Valérie Plante triumphant



Valérie Plante waved, laughed, flexed her arms, and jumped up and down as she took to the stage Sunday night to deliver her victory speech.

Plante spoke in front of a boisterous crowd at Olympia Theatre, after being re-elected as mayor of Montreal Sunday night.

“Four years ago, Montrealers elected the first mayoress in the history of Montreal and tonight they are saying, once again, ‘Yes, this mayoress, we want to continue working with her and we trust her,’” Plante told supporters gathered at the downtown theatre.

“Montrealers confirmed 2017 was not a fluke, but the beginning of an era ... and that you can lead the city of Montreal with a smile.»

Plante promises greener city

But Plante, a more progressive option, also said she would pour additional money into public transit and expand the city’s network of bike lanes, as well as put tighter controls on landlords with the cost of housing on the rise.

In her speech, Plante promised to make Montreal a greener city, “where there is innovation, affordable homes, safe streets, where green spaces are many and transit is diversified; where the downtown is dynamic and where community life is vibrant.”

Plante also announced Dominique Ollivier, the councillor for Vieux-Rosemont, would be her second-in-command as president of the city’s executive committee, a position previously held by Benoit Dorais.

Ollivier is also the former president of the city’s public consultation office, OCPM.

“It’s the first time that we’re going to have two women at the head of the city,” Ollivier said in an interview with CBC News. “We’re going to start right away tomorrow working on Montrealers’ priorities, which include housing, security and having less inequality.”

Projet Montréal obtained a majority Sunday night, winning 35 of Montreal’s 65 council seats, more than in 2017. Ensemble Montréal won 24. Before the election, Projet Montréal held 33 seats.

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde, who won as borough mayor in Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension, unseating Giuliana Fumagalli, said Projet Montréal owed its success to Plante’s leadership.

“Valérie Plante as the leader of our party really showed that she can work with everyone, that she’s able to bring people together,” Lavigne Lalonde said.

Coderre conceded victory shortly after Plante’s speech.

“Montrealers have made their choice,” he said. “It’s a great disappointment for myself and my team, but the results are clear. You win some, you lose some.”

Coderre said it was “one of the dirtiest campaigns” he had ever experienced, and that he was particularly disappointed by the low voter turnout. According to Elections Montreal, voter turnout was 36.1 per cent, down from 42 per cent in 2017.

He said he returned to politics because of his love for the city.

“I love you all and you have an extraordinary place in my heart,” he said.

Coderre congratulated Plante, and gave a nod to Balarama Holness, the third-place candidate, congratulating both him and his candidates for running.

“We need to bring back those bridge builders,”

to the English community, Coderre said, alluding to Holness’s vow to have the city designated bilingual.

Here are some of the Projet Montréal key priorities

Public transit: Free for seniors, Metro expansions

- Metro line expansions, including the Blue line extension and the Pink line, which was one of her signature promises in 2017.

- Cut the cost of public transit in half for people aged 12 to 17 and make rides free for seniors.

- Adding 300 buses to the STM network and making all public transit buses fully electric by 2025.

Housing: 60,000 affordable housing units

- Create 60,000 affordable housing units over 10 years, including 2,000 student housing units.

- Set up financial tools to allow the acquisition of affordable rental buildings by non-profits to create long-term housing and to get it out of real estate speculation.

- Implement an “owner certificate” for landlords who own buildings of eight or more units, to protect tenants from renovations and illegal rent increases.

Public security: 250 officers, body cams

- Hire an additional 250 police officers by the end of 2022.

- \$110 million to tackle gun violence and “ensure the safety of Montreal neighbourhoods,” in addition to a \$15 million emergency fund.

- \$5 million to local community groups that work to prevent gun violence.

- Police force will be outfitted with body cameras in 2022.

- The ÉMMIS pilot project, which sends social workers to respond to some 911 calls without police, is also promised to be expanded to all boroughs.

Easier life for Montrealers: More day camps, baby box program

- Setting up a ninth week of day camps to provide more respite for parents and more activities for children.

- A free “baby box” program for Montreal newborns so that every baby in the city has an equal chance at birth.

- Equal opportunities for all Montrealers a guiding principle in the prioritization of services, infrastructure and the creation of green spaces.

- A tax break to homeowners whose property’s municipal evaluation is under \$500,000.

Bike paths: More cycling infrastructure

- More cycling infrastructure, including expanding the Réseau express vélo (REV).

- More bicycle parking and a program to subsidize the cost of family bikes, electric bikes or bikes adapted to those with mobility issues.

Reviving downtown: 24/7 construction, bars open later

- Extend operating hours for restaurants and bars in certain areas of the downtown core and to introduce free evening and weekend parking for the holiday season.

- Designate zones where construction work could happen 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to speed up the process.

- Converting some office buildings into residential properties.

Parc-Extension elects new borough council

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde as new mayor while Mary Deros gets reelected



MATIAS BRUNET-KIRK
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Parc-Extension residents headed to the polls last Sunday and voted overwhelmingly for a change of mayor, electing Laurence Lavigne Lalonde. Electors also cast ballots in district-level elections, voting to re-elect incumbent Parc-Extension City Councillor Mary Deros.

At Montreal city hall, a significant majority of voters decided to re-elect incumbent Mayor Valérie Plante and her party *Projet Montréal*, receiving over 52 percent of the total vote. This put her opponent former Mayor Denis Coderre of *Ensemble Montréal* in distant second place with approximately 38 percent of the vote. Third-party candidate Balarama Holness came in third with approximately 7 percent.

Projet Montréal candidate Laurence Lavigne Lalonde won the borough mayoral race with a total of 16,160 votes, accounting for 53.3 percent of ballots cast. This put her in front of *Ensemble Montréal* candidate Guillaume Lavoie who received 9,747 votes or 32.1 percent, separating them by a margin of 6,413 votes.

Outgoing mayor Giuliana Fumagalli came in a distant third place with 2,324 votes, making up about 7.7 percent of the total votes cast. *Mouvement Montréal*'s Julien Kakpovi came in fourth with 1,662 votes while Clément Sauriol of *Action Montréal - Équipe Gilbert Thibodeau* came in fifth with 430 votes, accounting for 5.5 percent and 1.4 percent respectively.

New borough Mayor

"THANK YOU to the citizens of Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension," said mayor-elect Lavigne Lalonde after her victory. "It was so inspiring to meet you, discuss your ideas, projects and concerns," she said.

"You spoke to me about the environment, housing, transport and inequalities. I heard you and look forward to working with you and for you," she added before thanking her team of volunteers and all the other *Projet Montréal* candidates who ran with her, including City Councillor candidate in Parc-Extension Genevieve Morency, who came in second place.

"The diversity of this borough is its wealth and that wealth is precious. Together we will bring that forward," she added, before thanking incumbent Mayor Valérie Plante for her work over the past four years and all other candidates who also ran for office.

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde was previously a City Councillor for the district of Maisonneuve-Longue-Pointe in the borough of Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve and was also a member of *Projet Montréal*'s executive committee.

Parc-Extension district

In the district of Parc-Extension, City Councillor Mary Deros of *Ensemble Montréal* kept her seat with 2,871 votes, accounting for 43 percent of the ballots cast. First elected in 1998 under the *Vision Montréal* banner, this will be her seventh mandate.

"I'm looking forward to another mandate," said Mary Deros the day after the election. "I thank the citizens for their support for the seventh time and I pledge to continue to work for the betterment of Parc-Ex," she continued.

"It's a bittersweet victory, not having Coderre as Mayor of Montreal and not having Guillaume Lavoie as borough mayor, but I'm a pragmatist," she explained, adding that "this is what the people chose, I will work with it and make sure that Parc-Ex is not forgotten in all this."

The veteran City Councillor said she was looking forward to working with the new



Re-elected incumbent Parc-Extension City Councillor Mary Deros with her Brother Bob, her son Costa and husband Peter

mayor adding that her priority was to serve all residents regardless of their political affiliations. "I don't plan to play political games," Deros added.

The runner up Genevieve Morency, who ran as a rookie candidate with *Projet Montréal*, came in second with 2,539 votes. She was followed by Leonora Indira King of *Quartiers Montréal* with 8.8 percent and Mohammad Yousuf of *Mouvement Montréal* with 8.5 percent.

Outgoing mayor

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde will replace outgoing Mayor Giuliana Fumagalli, who had previously been a member of *Projet Montréal* but was ousted after a scandal in 2018. She founded the party *Quartiers Montréal* which she said has a more tailored and local approach in addressing issues in the borough.

"Thank you to all the voters, the volunteers who stayed tirelessly committed. You have my gratitude," said the outgoing Mayor. Although Fumagalli did not win her race, she and her team celebrated what they saw as a successful and positive campaign.

"I created the only party in Quebec to present all-female candidates. I went and found them one by one in their neighbourhoods, where they were doing great work, and now they have a taste and a passion for municipal politics," she explained, adding that this was a success in itself.

Although none of the party's candidates were elected, *Quartiers Montréal* will continue its work in the community and may potentially be back for the 2025 elections. "Our movement will continue to work for the betterment of the residents of our borough," she noted.

Low turn out

With polls now closed and all ballots counted, it quickly became clear that turnout at this election was particularly low. Across Montreal, only 36.87 percent of eligible voters cast a ballot.

That number in the borough of Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension was virtually identical, with only 36.85 percent of the 84,548 eligible voters casting ballots. In the district of Parc-Extension, the percentage was even lower with only 35.64 percent of electors voting, amounting to 6,817.

The district also has a large proportion of residents not eligible to vote in elections, with only 19,125 registered voters in a population

of approximately 28,775.

Elected officials in municipal office serve four years mandates, with the next election set for November 2025. The first borough council meeting of the new government will be held virtually on Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 6:30 PM.

| | | |
|--|--|---------------------|
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| | Genevieve Morency Projet Montréal - Team Valérie Plante | 38 % 2539 |
| | Leonora King Quartiers Montréal | 8,8 % 569 |
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E-mail: editor@newsfirst.ca

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



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

Layout: Media Trek

Distribution: TC. TRANSCONTINENTAL/DIFFUMAG

Printing: TC. TRANSCONTINENTAL

National Representation:

RÉSEAU SÉLECT

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Project funded in part by

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OPINION & Editorial



How to get Canada off the health care teeter-totter

Medicare struggles from funding thrown at the same tired ideas rooted in similar political traditions

Liberalism works when you are healthy but fails when you fall ill.

Classical liberalism emphasizes autonomy, individual freedom, and free markets. These ideas have fuelled centuries of wealth and prosperity.

Modern liberalism, in contrast, pursues central decision-making and equality of outcome. Despite similar names and obvious differences, neither type of liberalism provides arguments for everything patients need.

When classical liberalism fails in patient care, it creates space for modern liberalism. Modern liberalism then applies central decision-making, which creates inefficiency and bureaucracy. This, in turn, creates a call for efficiency, deregulation, and policy based on economic liberalism.

This seesaw creates a policy teeter-totter with each type of liberalism pumping furiously at either end.

The failure of liberalism cannot be solved by more liberalism. Only a coalition of classical liberalism plus conservatism will allow Canada off the health policy teeter-totter.

How liberalism fails

Successful ideas explain reality and suggest solutions to life's messiest problems. Political ideas fail when they do not reflect reality or cannot explain human experience.

Given liberalism's dominance in Canadian politics, we should ask how it performs for patients. Does it make sense when patients need it most? Classical liberalism delivers advanced technology, therapeutics, and almost magical cures, but can it deliver care to patients?

Classical liberalism fails to fit patient care in two areas. First, it fails in trauma and acute care. Car crashes and strokes often create dependent, comatose patients. Free agents lose control, and agency passes to a third party.

An unconscious patient is not a rare or special case of information asymmetry, common in professional relationships. Unconsciousness is not a theoretical gap market thinking can overcome; it is an infinite and insuperable knowledge gap. And it occurs hundreds of times each day across Canada.

In an emergency, agency does not pass from patient to friends or family. It passes to emergency medical services, hospitals, doctors, nurses, and a host of others. The coordination required to guarantee a seamless net of tertiary care inevitably involves central authorities. Government monitors performance, upholds standards, and maintains order, even in health systems that embrace private care.

Liberalism's second failure occurs with chronic disease. Chronic disease is more common than acute, impacts more people, and requires care over decades. In between visits for medical care, patients need help with everything from scheduling and transportation to buying groceries and changing cat litter. Even with extensive formal community care services, isolated patients struggle. Informal social supports often determine how long patients live independently.

Hospitals provide services and are filled with

caring people, but institutions cannot care. Only individuals care for other individuals. Patients need connection to individuals inside the bonds of social obligation: friends, family ties, or social groups.

For people who become acutely incapacitated or chronically debilitated, classical liberals offer solutions like designating a power of attorney for care or making prior arrangements with friends and family to act on an individual's behalf. But these good ideas sound less like classical liberalism and more like organic groups and social fabric found in conservatism.

These patients are depending not on large institutions but on something like Edmund Burke's "little platoons," which conservatives have always identified as the key to a healthy life.

Symbiosis

Liberalism and medicare share a symbiotic relationship – each benefits the other. This is obvious for modern liberalism: medicare needs a big state, which requires the central decision-making favoured by modern liberals. But symbiosis also applies to classical liberalism.

In acute care, free agents need rescue – not rights, property, or the contracts liberalism provides. In an emergency, the only agent obligated to help is the same agent which sustains the liberal order (Hobbes' Leviathan). Thus, maximizing liberal freedom creates a mandate for a robust welfare state to rescue individuals when they fall ill.

However, the symbiosis falters in community care. Individuals with chronic illness need connections liberalism cannot promote, and no state can provide.

Extrapolating government involvement

The need for central authority in acute, traumatic, and rare advanced treatments invites the same assumption for chronic care. If the sickest patients need government, shouldn't government help with everyone else?

Framed this way, modern liberalism has led the discussion on medicare. With deference to central control, it assumes that the solution for the first failure of liberalism will solve the second also.

Conservatives find themselves in a similar bind. They support what works. If central control helps patients bleeding at the side of the road, why oppose it for non-acute and chronic care?

Too often, Canadian conservatives claim a "Tory touch" and the assumption that big state solutions are part of their true-blue identity. Or they suggest a dab of economic liberalism here, some tightened accountability there, but offer few ideas which reflect anything rooted in philosophical conservatism.

Conservatism defined

Some people reduce conservatism to nostalgia. Others paint it as protection of privilege, status, and power – a European conservatism. However, Canadian Anglo-American conservatism has too little history for robust nostalgia

and no aristocracy to protect.

The historic alliance between classical liberals and conservatives also creates confusion.

Anglo-American conservatism is founded on an appreciation for traditional institutions, civil associations, and moral norms which have arisen over time. These time-tested ideas have been ratified by experience.

Where liberalism favours freedom over social obligation, conservatism sees social obligation as an inescapable fact of life (e.g., family). Classical liberals often assume aspects of conservatism, without explicit defence.

Conservatism takes a skeptical stance towards theoretical or grand ideas such as equality or social justice. Conservatism prefers facts and events – real things and real people. It seeks to improve what works, which means conservatives often support liberal or progressive policies.

Fostering connection

Little platoons can happen by accident, but most do not survive without support. Everyone is born into a family, but it takes effort to keep one together. The state could make things easier.

For example, many families place relatives in long-term care because they have no other choice. The current policy environment makes life hard for families to keep grandma home. Could we reverse incentives so it becomes attractive and easy to keep grandma where she wants to be, at home with a family who loves her?

Every citizen needs the opportunity to be part of a social network of his own, regardless of how he defines it. But this will not happen without a policy environment that fosters the formation of those connections.

A conservative solution

If we won agreement to let grandma stay at home as long as possible, we would still face the policy teeter-totter. Classical liberals would seek aligned incentives, crisp key performance indicators, and clear lines of accountability, from the ground up. Modern liberals would want the same, from the top down. Classical liberals might offer incentives and tax breaks to keep grandma home; modern liberals might suggest more homecare or social services – each liberal pumping furiously.

Both kinds of liberals love modern theories of public management almost as much as they love drafting new policy. They both view social problems in generic terms – an ageing society, isolated seniors – instead of specific, local problems. Generic terms justify grand, one-size-fits-all policy solutions. Solving the specific needs of grandma's living alone holds less appeal.

Conservatives worry more about creating new, bad policy than winning support by 'fixing' old issues with the latest management theories. Complex social problems mean trade-offs and imperfect solutions.

Conservatives would start with the (painfully) slow process of understanding the problem. Instead of discussing generic grandmas, we

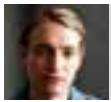
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Your new mayor

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde clinches
mayorship in VSP



Lalonde participated in a food giveaway drive at Parc Metro station, organized by Mahmood Baig. Photo: Laurence Lavigne Lalonde via Facebook.



MATIAS BRUNET-KIRK
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The people of Villeray—Saint-Michel—Parc-Extension went to the polls last Sunday in Montreal's municipal election. Electors decided to vote in majority for Projet Montréal's Laurence Lavigne Lalonde, who will serve as the boroughs' new mayor.

With several years of experience in politics, this is the first time she has been elected mayor of a borough. She had previously worked as a City Councillor in the cities' south-east and also sat on the executive committee.

Her candidacy was announced on Jun. 15 and ran her campaign against outgoing Mayor Giuliana Fumagalli, Ensemble Montréal's candidate Guillaume Lavoie and Mouvement Montréal's Julien Kakpovi. She won with 16,160 votes accounting for over 53 percent of ballots cast.

But who is she and what is her vision for the borough? With her victory now sealed, citizens can start to look at what to expect during her mandate in the coming four years.

Who is she?

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde is no stranger to politics. She was elected in the borough of Mercier—Hochelaga-Maisonneuve in the district of Maisonneuve—Longue-Pointe in the Nov. 2013 election.

Lalonde was a member of Valérie Plante's executive committee at Montreal City Hall and was responsible for files such as environmental transition, *place for life* and urban agriculture. In her previous mandate, she was the deputy leader of the official opposition and vice-president of the committee on finance and administration.

She has also sat on several boards of directors, including those of PME Montréal, Climate Caucus and the Greater Montreal Climate Fund.

Platform promises

Lavigne Lalonde made clear she would quickly get to work on several of her campaign promises. Among others, she promised to complete long-awaited social housing projects in the borough, including Plaza Hutchison and the Villeray Chinese Hospital.

As for transport, her local platform outlines that her administration would ensure the completion of both the Ogilvy and de l'Épée

railroad crossings, as well as completing the borough's bicycle path network.

She also promised to develop a greening plan and substantially increase green space and parks in the neighbourhood. This includes an increase of up to 10 percent of agricultural spaces in the borough.

Lavigne Lalonde also wants to study the possibility of developing a trade fair on Saint-Roch during the summer, as well as developing a strategy to keep the borough clean and free of garbage.

Diversity as boroughs' greatest wealth

Lalonde will therefore be moving from a position as a city councillor to that of Mayor in the city's second largest borough, where she now lives with her family.

"I want to get involved in the district where I grew up and where I chose to raise my family, Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension," stated Lalonde when her candidacy was announced in June.

"I want to work with the population of the borough to better protect tenants, to make our commercial arteries more attractive, to diversify green spaces and to make safe the major arteries that cross our neighbourhoods," she added.

Lalonde also said that she felt the boroughs' greatest wealth is its diversity and added that it should be better protected. She further underlined that point in a victory message thanking electors for their vote and congratulating all other candidates who ran in the elections.

Experience overseas

With a bachelor's degree in psychology from the Université de Montréal and a master's in international development from the University of Paris I: Panthéon-Sorbonne, Lalonde has worked in development and community organizing both in Canada, Latin America, Asia and Africa.

In 2011, she worked as a project manager at the Les Jumeleurs community space in Saint-Michel, where she implemented a business plan for a social economy project while also recruiting new volunteers for the organization.

Lalonde also worked overseas with several non-governmental organizations such as the French Red Cross and Oxfam Québec, both in Laos and Peru.

Lalonde's first council meeting will be held on Nov. 23 at 6:30 PM.

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Parc-Extension élit un nouveau gouvernement

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde nouvelle mairesse; Mary Deros réélue.



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Les résidents de Parc-Extension se sont rendus aux urnes dimanche dernier et ont voté en majorité pour un changement de leurs gouvernement local, en élisant la nouvelle mairesse Laurence Lavigne Lalonde. Les électeurs ont également réélu la conseillère municipale doyenne de Parc-Extension, Mary Deros.

À l'hôtel de ville de Montréal, une majorité d'électeurs ont aussi décidé de réélire la mairesse Valérie Plante et son parti Projet Montréal pour une deuxième fois, en obtenant plus de 52 % des voix. Son adversaire, l'ancien maire Denis Coderre d'Ensemble Montréal, s'est retrouvé en deuxième position, avec environ 38 % des voix. Balarama Holness du nouveau parti Mouvement Montréal est arrivé en troisième place avec environ 7 % des votes.

La candidate de Projet Montréal, Laurence Lavigne Lalonde, a remporté la course à la mairie de l'arrondissement avec un total de 16 160 voix, représentant 53,3 % des bulletins de vote. Elle a ainsi devancé le candidat d'Ensemble Montréal, Guillaume Lavoie, qui a obtenu 9 747 votes, soit 32,1 %, ce qui les sépare par une marge de 6 413 voix.

La mairesse sortante Giuliana Fumagalli est arrivée en troisième position avec 2 324 voix, soit environ 7,7 %. Julien Kakpovi, de Mouvement Montréal, est arrivé en quatrième position avec 1 662 voix, tandis que Clément



Sauriol, d'Action Montréal - Équipe Gilbert Thibodeau, est arrivé en cinquième position avec 430 voix, soit respectivement 5,5 % et 1,4 %.

Nouveau maire de l'arrondissement

« MERCI aux citoyennes et citoyens de Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension », a publié la mairesse élue Lavigne Lalonde à ses partisans après sa victoire. « Ce fut si inspirant d'aller à votre rencontre, d'échanger sur vos

idées, vos projets et préoccupations », a-t-elle ajouté.

« Vous m'avez parlé d'environnement, de logement, de transport, d'inégalités. Je vous ai entendu et j'ai hâte de travailler avec vous, pour vous », a-t-elle ajouté avant de remercier son équipe de bénévoles et tous les autres candidats de Projet Montréal qui se sont présentés avec elle, dont la candidate conseillère municipale dans Parc-Extension Geneviève Morency, arrivée en deuxième position.

« La diversité de cet arrondissement est une richesse et cette richesse est précieuse. Ensemble nous allons la mettre de l'avant », a-t-elle ajouté, avant de remercier la mairesse Valérie Plante pour son travail au cours des quatre dernières années.

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde était auparavant conseillère municipale du district de Maisonneuve-Longue-Pointe dans l'arrondissement de Mercier-Hochelaga-Maisonneuve et était également membre du comité exécutif



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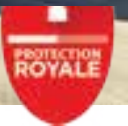


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District de Parc-Extension

Dans le district de Parc-Extension, la conseillère municipale Mary Deros, d'Ensemble Montréal, a conservé son siège avec 2 871 voix, soit 43 % des suffrages exprimés. Éluë pour la première fois en 1998 sous la bannière de Vision Montréal, il s'agit de son septième mandat.

« Je me réjouis d'un autre mandat », a déclaré Mary Deros au lendemain de l'élection. « Je remercie les citoyens pour leur soutien pour la septième fois et je m'engage à continuer à travailler pour le bien-être de Parc-Ex », a-t-elle poursuivi.

« C'est une victoire douce-amère, de ne pas avoir Coderre comme maire de Montréal et de ne pas avoir Guillaume Lavoie comme maire d'arrondissement, mais je suis pragmatique », a-t-elle expliqué, ajoutant que « c'est ce que les gens ont choisi, je vais travailler avec et m'assurer que Parc-Ex ne soit pas oublié dans tout ça. »

La doyenne du conseil d'arrondissement a déclaré qu'elle avait hâte de travailler avec la nouvelle mairesse, ajoutant que sa priorité était de servir tous les résidents, quelles que soient leurs affiliations politique. « Je n'ai pas l'intention de jouer à des jeux politiques », a ajouté Mme Deros.

Genviève Morency, qui s'est présenté comme candidate recrue de Projet Montréal, est arrivée en deuxième position avec 2 539 voix. Elle était suivie de Leonora Indira King de Quartiers Montréal avec 8,8% et de Mohammad Yousuf de Mouvement Montréal avec 8,5%.

Mairesse sortante

Laurence Lavigne Lalonde remplacera la mairesse sortante Giuliana Fumagalli, qui était membre de Projet Montréal jusqu'à son expulsion du parti après un scandale en 2018. Elle a fondé le parti Quartiers Montréal qui, selon elle, a une approche plus adaptée et locale pour aborder les enjeux de l'arrondissement.

« Merci à toutes les électrices, électeurs, les bénévoles qui se sont engagés sans relâche.

Vous avez toute ma gratitude», a déclaré la mairesse sortante. Bien que Mme Fumagalli n'ait pas remporté sa course, elle et son équipe ont célébré ce qu'ils considèrent comme une

campagne réussie et positive.

« J'ai créé Quartiers Montréal pour que notre arrondissement soit mieux desservi avec des candidates représentatives et ancré dans nos quartiers, » a noté la mairesse. « Notre formation

« *La diversité de cet arrondissement est une richesse et cette richesse est précieuse. Ensemble nous allons la mettre de l'avant* »,.

politique a été la seule à présenter une équipe uniquement de femmes au Québec.»

Bien qu'aucun des candidats du parti n'ait été élu, Quartiers Montréal poursuivra son travail dans la communauté et pourrait éventuellement être de retour aux élections de 2025. « Notre mouvement continuera à travailler pour le mieux-être des résidents de notre arrondissement », a-t-elle noté.

Faible taux de participation

Après la fermeture des bureaux de vote et le dépouillement de tous les bulletins, c'est vite devenu clair que le taux de participation à cette élection était particulièrement faible. Dans l'ensemble de Montréal, seulement 36,87 % des électeurs admissibles ont voté.

Ce chiffre était pratiquement identique dans l'arrondissement de Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension, où seulement 36,85 % des 84 548 électeurs admissibles se sont rendus aux urnes. Dans le district de Parc-Extension, le pourcentage était encore plus bas avec seulement 35,64 % des électeurs éligibles ayant voté, soit 6 817 personnes.

Le district compte également une grande proportion de résidents n'ayant pas le droit de voter aux élections, avec seulement 19 125 électeurs inscrits sur une population d'environ 28 775 personnes.

Les élus municipaux siègent un mandat de quatre ans, ainsi la prochaine élection est prévue pour novembre 2025. La première réunion du conseil d'arrondissement du nouveau conseil se tiendra virtuellement le mardi 23 novembre à 18h30.

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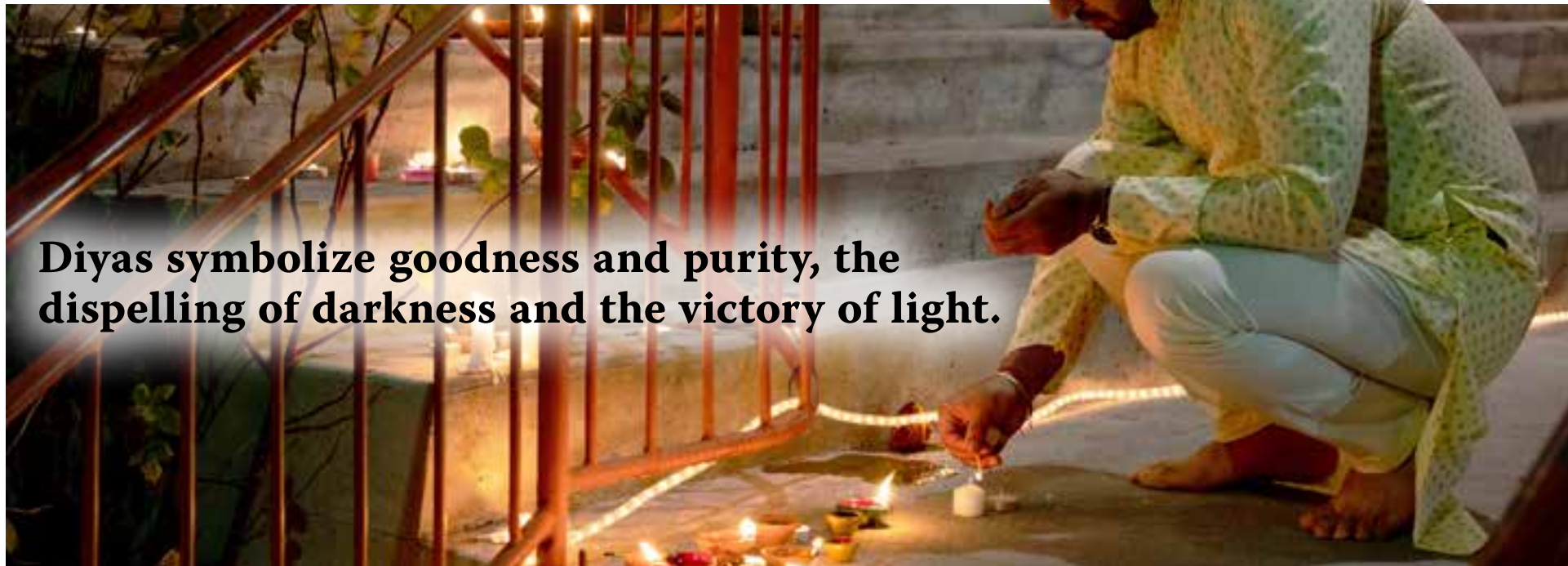
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Festival of lights

Parc-Extension celebrates Diwali on a *hopeful note*



Diyas symbolize goodness and purity, the dispelling of darkness and the victory of light.



MATIAS BRUNET-KIRK
matias@newsfirst.ca

A man lighting a diya, a small oil lamp, on the steps in front of the Shree Ramji Temple in Parc-Extension. Photo: Matias Brunet-Kirk - NEWSFIRST

It was fanfare and fireworks across Parc-Extension last Thursday, as the Hindu, Sikh and Jain communities of Parc-Extension celebrated Diwali, the festival of light and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.

Diwali marks the start of a new year as families and friends come together to celebrate a fresh start. Festivities include the lighting of fireworks and family feasts, where *mithai*, a type of Indian sweets, are served and gifts are shared.

People highlight the occasion by lighting *diyas*, small oil lamps, and by making intricate mandala-like *rangolis*, colourful circle patterns created using coloured fine powder and sand. Worship ceremonies are held in temples to celebrate the Hindu goddess Lakshmi, who symbolizes the three virtues of wealth and prosperity, fertility and abundant crops, as well as good fortune.

Usually celebrated between mid-October and mid-November, the festival generally lasts five days during the Hindu lunisolar month of Kartika. The date marks the end of the monsoon

season in the Indian subcontinent and the start of more calm and pleasant weather.

Shree Ramji Temple

People of all ages, from young children to elders, gathered on Thursday night at the Shree Ramji Hindu Temple on Durocher Ave. to partake in a religious ceremony known as a *Puja*.

Festival-goers gathered in the large ceremony hall to pray and sing songs in front of the alters, as the sound of the bell installed at the back of the room rang out. People sang and clapped along as they offered prayers before the deities.

Once the ceremony concluded, people picked up sweets and desserts being offered in the front hall before exiting to the front where fireworks were set off and *diyas*, small oil lamps, were lit to symbolize goodness and purity, the dispelling of darkness and the victory of light.

Fireworks and music resounded across Parc-Extension as people celebrated the start of a new year and the hopes of a brighter future. Many were happy to be able to finally celebrate with their

friends and family once again, seeing as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic had restricted celebrations last year.

5 days of celebration

This special day is celebrated every year by millions of people around the world at the end of the harvest. "Diwali is a big festival for Indians," said CB Singh, president of the India Canada Association Of Montreal.

"They call it the victory of the devil to goodwill," said Singh, adding that "god sends us from dark to light." The celebration lasts five days, with many different ceremonies and cultural events taking place.

Singh explained that families gathered at home to worship both the gods Ganesha and Lakshmi, hoping for prosperity in the new year. "Most of the time they do it at their home and after that, they go to the temple," said Singh, explaining that it is an opportunity to meet, socialize and celebrate with relatives and friends.

"Most of the time, they have a big feast and all the different cultural programs," added Singh, comparing it to being "just like Christmas."



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Worship ceremonies are held in temples to celebrate the Hindu goddess Lakshmi, who symbolizes three virtues: wealth and prosperity, fertility and abundant crops, as well as good fortune. Matias Brunet-Kirk - NEWSFIRST

CAPE releases a platform to map evictions in Parc-Ex



MATIAS BRUNET-KIRK
matias@newsfirst.ca

Amid an increasingly frantic housing and rental market, many tenants in Parc-Extension are being priced out of the neighbourhood they have long called home. Activists and residents have been pressuring the government for more robust measures, like rent registries, to help combat the phenomenon.

The Parc-Ex Anti-Eviction Mapping Project hopes to do just that, with the release of its new online platform that maps evictions and rent increases throughout Parc-Extension. Using data compiled by local organization Comité d'Action de Parc-Extension, the collective created two separate interactive maps.

The first map displays both the locations and reasons behind evictions in the neighbourhood, as well as the last price paid by the tenant. The second map revolves around community initiatives that aim to counter the crisis in Parc-Ex, featuring various interviews and information.

"The Parc-Extension Anti-Eviction Mapping Project aims to raise awareness about the effects of gentrification in Parc-Extension and other neighbourhoods in Montreal," wrote the organization in a statement, adding it wanted to hold politicians, businesses and other institutions "accountable for their impact on gentrification."

Evictions and gentrification

The project was launched last Thursday at Parc Metro with the projection of two films. The first highlighted the eviction mapping project, which displays a variety of properties where people have been evicted or renovicted in the neighbourhood, using data compiled since 2017.

This includes information on repossessions, evictions to enlarge, subdivide or change the use of a dwelling or major renovations and to generally keep track of the number of evictions happening in the area. CAPE stated that in 2021 alone the number of evictions reported to them had doubled.

"We have witnessed a significant increase in requests for support from tenants since 2017," said Sepideh Shahamati, member of the Parc-Extension Anti-Eviction Mapping Project, adding that "evictions were mostly concentrated in the south of the neighbourhood between 2017 and 2019, but are taking place throughout the neighbourhood since 2020."

The group nonetheless highlighted that this was only "the tip of the iceberg" as many evictions and repossessions still went unreported to CAPE.

Community initiatives

The second map developed in the project shows some of the efforts of residents and local



CAPE held a press conference at the William-Hingston Centre last Wednesday to announce the launch of the new platform. Photo: CAPE

organizations at fighting residential displacement, gentrification and landlord abuses. These include videos, interviews and the locations of various organizations.

The map highlights the work of residents in developing campaigns to push the city to acquire land for social housing and in creating initiatives to provide new community spaces. Users can watch interviews with activists and get more information on community organizations.

"Neighbourhood residents have been mobilizing to respond to the housing crisis, as we've seen with the creation of the Coopérative Un Monde Uni and the struggle for the acquisition of 700 Jarry West," said Adama Diallo, member of the Coopérative Un Monde Uni board of directors.

"The Cooperative is ready to develop a project with social housing and community spaces, which will meet the needs of Parc-Extension tenants," added Diallo as an example.

Legislative solutions

Although the organizations behind the project hope to help better represent the issues that many Parc-Extension residents face, they also posit that more has to be done legislatively at both the municipal and provincial levels to truly address the problem.

"We need strong, concrete measures right now to better protect tenants on the private market, both in Montreal and elsewhere in Quebec," said Marion Duval, community organizer at the *Regroupement des comités logement et associations de locataires du Québec* (RCLALQ).

"Rent control is one of the best strategies to rein in evictions since the majority of them

are motivated by the desire to drastically raise rent," she added. "There is also growing interest in establishing a lease registry at the municipal level, but we also need the provincial government to take responsibility and implement a national lease registry," said Duval.

As more data is gathered by CAPE, the contents of the map will grow. "Evictions are increasing in the neighbourhood, but residents are organizing and resisting the housing crisis. The two maps seek to highlight both the depth of the problem and the solutions put forward by tenants," said Celia Dehouche, community organizer at CAPE.



CAPE stated that in 2021 alone the number of evictions reported to them had doubled. Photo: CAPE



The Parc-Ex Anti-Eviction Mapping Project hopes to do just that with the release of its new online platform that maps evictions and rent increases throughout Parc-Extension. Photo: CAPE

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3 high-paying jobs that don't require a degree

Are you looking for a high-paying job but don't want to invest in a lengthy university degree? If so, here are a few options you may want to consider.



1. BUS DRIVER

A high school diploma, commercial driver's licence and clean driving record are all you need to become a bus driver. If you enjoy spending time behind the wheel, this may be the perfect job for you.

2. FLIGHT ATTENDANT

Many airlines only require flight attendants to have a high school diploma. This is because they typically provide in-house training and are prepared to fully acquaint staff with the protocols and procedures of the profession. Becoming a flight attendant could be right for you if you love to travel and thrive on a busy schedule.

3. FIREFIGHTER

In most cases, a high school diploma, first aid training and CPR certification are the only formal education requirements needed to become a firefighter. These professionals must also pass a written and physical exam before they're deemed fit for duty. If you're looking for a challenging yet rewarding career, firefighting could be a great fit. To discover other options, consider taking an online career aptitude test to help you understand which careers match your skills and interests.

Continued from page 4

need to know more about grandma herself. Is she one person or three: an ambitious woman in her early 80s, a slightly confused one in her late 80s, or a demented lady with papery skin and chronic wounds in her mid-90s? Or none of these? One individual could be all three in the span of a few years.

We might start with issues facing young grandma(s). In her early 80s, grandma has the wits and plans of a younger person but not enough strength to see them through. She needs a bit of help, but not so much it impedes her style. She is too healthy for homecare but too poor to hire help. If she lets out a room in return for low rent and yard work, she might find herself worse off with OAS clawbacks on top of bigger grocery bills, blocked toilets, and the bother of having a renter around. She could barter material resources for required help, but government does not make it simple. Or she could take in family to help. But at her young-ish age, it might mean more nuisance than help. Of course, all these concerns would change by her late 80s.

A policy approach based on conservatism might look more like local, organic problem solving than grand, one-size-fits-all policy solutions. Conservatism starts from a view of society as a complex whole requiring long-

term investments instead of quick returns based on annual budgets.

Conservatism plus classical liberalism

Little platoons are just one of many conservative ideas. Smart people should be able to use conservatism to suggest many other policy options.

This raises a bigger question. Aside from so-called "socially conservative" issues, why have so few conservative ideas been tabled in healthcare?

If not lack of knowledge, perhaps it reflects a lack of belief. Perhaps modern conservatives are mostly just classical liberals? Maybe most self-described conservatives are just liberals who lean right? Or perhaps conservatives and classical liberals have become competitors, each vying to dominate centre-right discourse, not working together as well as they might?

Medicare does not struggle for lack of ideas or funding. It struggles from funding thrown at the same tired ideas rooted in similar political traditions. Classical liberalism offers many good things, but it fails patients in important ways. Absent outside input, liberalism guarantees stasis in Canadian healthcare: a furious teeter-totter between two kinds of liberalism. A partnership with conservatism would help.

Shawn Whatley

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HOROSCOPE

Week of **NOVEMBER 14 TO 20, 2021**

The luckiest signs this week:
GEMINI, CANCER AND LEO



ARIES

Your mind will run wild with ideas. You'll start all sorts of projects without necessarily finishing them. You'll also suggest a number of activities to your loved ones. At work, a certain task will take longer than expected.



TAURUS

Stress will drain your energy. It's important to rest, but you might also need to take steps to adapt your lifestyle for the better. Among other things, you may want to take up a practice of a more spiritual nature.



GEMINI

You'll enjoy a fairly active social life. Even if you want some alone time this week, there will always be someone around to break your isolation and put a smile on your face. Let the changes you experience guide rather than hinder you.



CANCER

At work, you'll be in charge of an important meeting or an event that brings a lot of people together. You'll be able to combine work with play, and you can expect a fun atmosphere at the office. You'll be more efficient in a relaxed environment.



LEO

You might not have intended to take a romantic trip with your partner, but you'll make it happen. Be sure to maintain your focus if you're taking any kind of training course. At work, take the time to analyze the smallest details.



VIRGO

Your emotions will likely get the best of you. This is a situation where you'll have to learn to let go, and you may embrace a more spiritual perspective. If you're part of a couple, you need to make more time for fun.



LIBRA

Since you tend to lack patience with your significant other, it would be a good idea to break up your routine so you can bond while having an exciting adventure together. In your professional life, you're brave enough to make big changes.



SCORPIO

You're able to handle any emergency that comes up. This is an ability that will eventually pay off at work. As for your love life, it's the little things that show how deep your feelings are for one another.



SAGITTARIUS

If there's some friction in your relationship, you might have a tendency to settle things too quickly. At work or elsewhere, you'll manage to garner respect in a chaotic situation, which will be a source of pride for you.



CAPRICORN

You'll need to be patient with a family member. You might be inspired to get out the holiday decorations and give your home a deep clean. The idea of moving could become a real possibility.



AQUARIUS

You'll need to travel a lot, either for work or personal reasons. You'll be able to resolve a conflict that's dragged on for a long time by speaking up. Avoid criticizing your significant other for simply being clumsy.



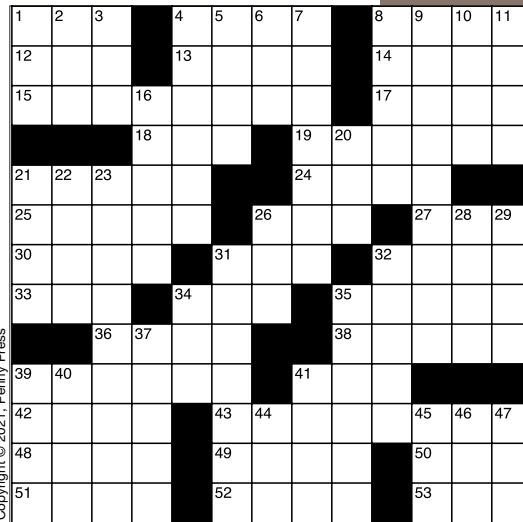
PISCES

If you're in a precarious financial situation, you'll stumble upon a winning formula to get you out of your predicament. You won't bite your tongue this week, and speaking up could get you into your boss' good graces.

Coffee Break

CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 101



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ACROSS

1. Astern
4. Tiers
8. Inky stain
12. Body of water
13. Hero's tale
14. Theme-park feature
15. Lantern fuel
17. Prop for Child
18. Not pro
19. Most up-to-date
21. Memo taker
24. Basks in the sun
25. WWII craft: hyph.
26. Four-footed friend
27. Metal container
30. Man in the _____
31. Defective firecracker
32. Vein of ore
33. Risk money
34. With it
35. Recurring event
36. Weeding implements

DOWN

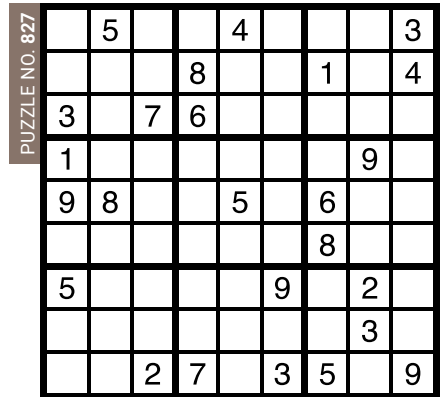
1. Solicit
2. Doctor's charge
3. Pave
4. St. Tropez, e.g.
5. Sincere
6. Take first place
7. Perfumed
8. Color of chocolate
9. Farm animals
10. Keats poems
11. Camping item
16. Arctic or Pacific
20. Consume
21. Lacking sensation
22. Wind instrument
23. Appetizing
26. Baby beagle
28. Unoccupied
29. Require
31. Warp
32. Stretching the truth
34. "___ So Shy"
35. Alleges
37. Greased
39. Hole-punching tools
40. Detergent
41. Tell a secret
44. Tropical serpent
45. Additionally
46. Doll or kite
47. Shepherd's charge

Sudoku

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.**

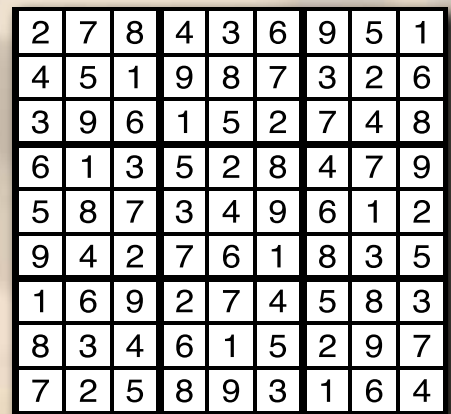


Last Issues' Answers

CROSSWORDS



Sudoku



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