



University Women's Club of Montreal Inc.

Club des Femmes Universitaires de Montréal Inc.

Report to CFUW-Quebec Council, November 17th 2018

MEMBERSHIP

1. 78 paid members as of November 2018, including 2 student members.
2. 10 potential for January
3. We introduced an «honorary membership award» in May 2018 for members who have been actively involved in the Club and who although physically unable to participate, are still supporting the Club activities.
4. Our recruitment strategies are: (i) word of mouth (ii) Club promotion through social and community activities.

ADVOCACY

Olympes de la parole competition

- Theme reflects the UN review theme which will be debated at the sixty third session of the UN [Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW63) in New York on March 2019 : «*Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development*». Our participants are asked to reflect on *the impact of poverty on the empowerment of women and the development of girls in Canada*.
- 20 students from 4 participating schools: Kahnawake Survival school, Ecole International Marie de France, The Scared Heart of Montreal and Villa Sainte Marcelline.
- Launch scheduled for December 6th, 2018 at the Forget House on Sherbrooke Street. So far, we have 45 confirmed registrations and we are anticipating 20 more
- Awards ceremony scheduled for May 2019.

Shoe Boxes Project

This project fits in our 16 days of activism against gender- based violence. This year we selected Her Street to give our Shoe boxes. Our Publicity Chair, Judith Mc Tavish, will present this project to the Quebec Council today.

Her Street

- We delivered 40 Kg of Hygiene Products to Her Street last July. We also developed a collaboration with them. We provide them help based on their specific needs and we offer them platform to share their story in helping homeless women in Montreal. When one knows that violence against women leads to poverty and homelessness, one needs to support Her Street.

Others

- Signed petition for Canada to ratify Convention 189 on the Rights of Women workers
- Sent letters to MP's and prime Minister Trudeau to support adoption of Universal Pharmacare
- 1000 umbrella Centraide March
- Vigil for the missing aboriginal girls and women at the Coach house
- We are planning the Rose Button campaign on December 5.

COMMUNICATION

- We communicate through our monthly newsletter, through our Website and Facebook platform.
- We did a promotional interview at MaTv - Ère Libre. Replay schedules are on Videotron Website.
- UWCM received the Special project Awards for the Olympes de la Parole and the International Committee Awards for Free the Girls project.
- We have published an article about the Olympes de la Parole in CFUW-the Communicator.
- We sent Le Conseil pédagogique interdisciplinaire du Québec an article about Olympes de la Parole to be published in their Quaterly Newsletter.

COLLABORATION, LINKS WITH OTHER GROUPS AND CFUW

- **Black History Month-** We are collaborating with the CIDIHCA (Centre International d'Information Haitienne, Canadienne et Afro -caribéenne to present: Haitian women artists: perspectives from Now and then. Our speaker is art curator Dominique Fontaine who has just completed a curatorial project: *Here We Are Here: Black Canadian Contemporary*, displayed at the Montreal fine Arts Museum along with the Picasso and Africa Exhibit in the Summer of 2018.
- **International Women Day-** We are planning a luncheon to discuss about the history of Women and the Vote in Quebec.

- **CHIR-** With support from Kahnawake elders and school board, we have applied to participate as an idea presenter at the CHIR Idea Fair and Learning Circle scheduled for June 18 to 20, 2019. The goal is to present the Olympes findings on mental health and see if CIHR would want to pilot a project on Raspberry Pie Technology.
- **Stella Musica-** Collaboration with Stella Musica: Olympes participants will have mentorship on public speaking in order to participate at a round table during Stella Musica festival in March 2019.
- Collaboration with the Montreal Council of Women in all activities
- Collaboration with high schools in Montreal for the Olympes de la parole competition
- Collaboration with Forget House for Olympes de la Parole launch.

SCHOLARSHIP/FELLOWSHIP

Foundation Annual giving and several fund -raising events

INTEREST GROUPS

À la carte – Successful one-time activity

- President’s Cocktail discussion group. Every 2 months. Goal= to promote the Club among new and potential members.
- Robert Burns’ night.
- Montreal TEDx- We are organizing a UWCM to attend TEDx Montreal on December 8 at Concordia University.

Others interest groups:

- Ladies who lunch, Outdoor ladies, Stage & Soirée, Travel group, Wine and cheese appreciation, Bring a book-Take a book.

SUSTAINABILITY AND GOVERNANCE

1. Stable finances
2. New advocacy activities seem to attract new members
3. Respectful policy in place: no complaint received so far
4. Board functioning at very minimal capacity: (i) The VP had resigned due to new business acquisition (ii) the Social Media chair is empty (3) the advocacy chair is empty (4) The dinner program chair is empty.
5. Foundation has adopted a co-presidency model that seems to work well.

6. Recruiting new members as well as members' involvement in Club activity is still a challenge.
7. Club House lease coming to terms. We have put in place a relocation committee to find new club house and new restaurant for dinner program. Work is progressing well.
8. Cross-marketing with schools participating in the Olympes de la parole competition.

Submitted by S. Savary
UWCM president
