

VOTE



CLAIRE MULLINS KRUYT

Candidate for District 2 Councillor

Speaking for all of Westmount

La voix de Westmount

November 1st

10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Roslyn School

4899 Westmount Ave.

Civic Alert

Campaign '09: Who's helping whom tells

By Don Wedge



Hopes that the new council's work would get off to a fast start to tackle the arena renewal situation and other issues were dashed by the flurry of competition for council seats on October 2 – nomination day. Instead of being unopposed, Kathleen Duncan (District 4) and Nicole Forbes (6) had four-week campaigns to run.

They could have joined the acclaimed candidates, Mayor Peter Trent and councillors Patrick Martin (1) and Victor Drury (3) to meet quorum and begin formal council business.

On nomination day, there was even gossip that some councillors had deliberately created competition for Forbes and Duncan. At its centre were the late-hour decisions of Michael Osterland to run in District 6 and Nicholas Smith's switch from his home district (5), where there were five candidates, to become Duncan's lone challenger in District 4.

"Several friends tried to convince me

that it would be better for me and the city," Smith recalled. "I was undecided and sought the opinion of two councillors. One said 'switch' and the other said 'stay,' so I was no further forward."

As he went to city hall with his nomination papers just before the deadline, he decided to challenge Duncan.

Osterland steps in for abortive candidate

Osterland (6) was also a last-minute challenger, collecting the required 25 supporting signatures only on the day of nomination. "I thought someone else on my street was going to run, but she withdrew," he explained.

As longest serving councillor, Cynthia Lulham has been playing a key role as coach to some candidates, particularly newcomers Georges Hébert (5) and Theodora Samiotis (8). She also advised Duncan on her campaign leaflet after the sudden appearance of an opponent.

She has been working hard on her own campaign, too. In one recent four-hour evening session she canvassed de Maison-neuve, Kitchener and Abbott. In the mornings she is campaigning at bus stops as

voters go to work.

Former councillor George Bowser was among supporters canvassing with Hébert.


Nicole Forbes had intended to help other candidates, but had to cut this back to fight for her own seat. Nevertheless, she had a daily wake-up conference call with John de Castell (8).

"John made such a wonderful recovery from his serious illness that it seemed so ironic that he should miss the candidates' meeting at Victoria Hall," Forbes reported. "It was just bad food poisoning and he is fine now."

Though a rookie councillor, Victor Drury is an experienced campaigner and has been helping others, including Lulham and Forbes, but his main effort has gone to supporting Tim Price (2), including canvassing door-to-door.

Are you experienced?

The responses to Paul Marriott's question about candidates' attendance at council meetings surprised some at Meet the Candidates. Only two – Mavis Young and Gary Ike- continued on p. 5



On November 1st

Vote Tim Price

Westmount City Council

District 2

- Long time Westmount resident
- Financial expertise
- Proven management experience
- Significant community involvement
- Engaged in local recreational programs

Authorized by Bob McKenzie


Official Agent for Tim Price

LE 1er NOVEMBRE

VOTEZ

ON NOVEMBER 1st

VOTE



THEODORA SAMIOTIS

Conseillère/Councillor

A NEW VOICE FOR DISTRICT 8

UNE VOIX NOUVELLE POUR DISTRICT 8

Bureau de vote / Polling Station:

Centre Greene (1090 av. Greene Ave.)

Autorisé par Karl Moore, agent officiel / Authorized by Karl Moore, Official Agent

a story of its own

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continued from p. 4

man, both critics of the outgoing council – could claim any frequency, with Nicholas Smith making the effort to attend in recent months.

But I wonder how important such attendance is. It needs to be supplemented with reading the decisional documents. These have been deposited in the library for nearly two decades and recently have been available on the web.

One way for Westmounters to gain insight into council work is through the advisory committees. Each offers some exposure to council's inner working. Georges Hébert is the only candidate in that category. Since retirement he has been active with the Healthy City Project and, for much longer, he has followed some aspects of the agglom council.

Perhaps it should be an unwritten qualification for candidates running in 2013 that they have served on one of the advisories or with the rejuvenated Westmount Municipal Association.

As a Westmount council observer for the last 20 years, I have been struck by the

change that takes place from plain citizen to councillor. The sheer pressure of issues, great and small, is perhaps the biggest factor. Then there is the habit of long meetings (often five or six hours), the need to find consensus, and to feign unanimity outside the committee room. Constituents' out-of-hours phone calls can be wearying, too. Together, they sometimes breed a kind of resistance to the outer world.

The shape of the agglom

The wide support for Peter Trent's return meant there was no contest for the Westmount mayoralty, but several suburbs have such races. These will affect the make-up of his colleagues on the agglom council, and whoever Montreal choses. Beaconsfield even has two candidates challenging the incumbent mayor, former TV journalist Bob Benedetti.

Bill Tierney is being challenged in St. Anne de Bellevue, Bill Steinberg in Hampstead and Vera Danyluk again faces competition in the Town of Mount Royal. There are contests in Senneville, Dollard des Ormeaux and Montreal East. Camp-

bell Stuart is not running for a second term in Montreal West.

Acclaimed and back in office are Bill McMurchie (Pointe Claire), Maria Tutino (Baie d'Urfé), John Meaney (Kirkland), Edgar Rouleau (Dorval) and Anthony Housefather (Côte St. Luc).

We will know the suburban representatives on the agglom council on Sunday night. But it may take much longer to determine who will replace Karin Marks in chairing the mayors' caucus.

Although from the smaller demerged towns, Stuart, Tierney and Tutino, by embracing the ADQ party, played a crucial role in supporting Marks' negotiations to improve the agglom law.

In Baie d'Urfé, the entire council, four women and three men, was acclaimed. Beaconsfield, on the other hand, has 21 candidates competing for the seven positions.

Five of seven seats are being contested in Hampstead and there are 15 candidates for the seven posts in TMR. Côte St. Luc has contests in three of its eight districts with Westmount High vice principal Steven Erdelyi being challenged.

The party system means that there are contests for mayor in all Montreal boroughs, except Ville Marie, which has been disenfranchised. In CDN-NDG, Michael

Applebaum (Union) is being opposed by Brenda Paris (Vision), Jacqueline Sommereyns (Team Louise O'Sullivan) and Carole Dupuis (Projet Montréal).

Another local connection is in Laval, where Greene Ave. real estate agent Lydia Abouljian is one of four candidates opposing Gilles Vaillancourt, who has been mayor for 20 years.

Citizen activist Don Wedge's email address is dwedge@sympatico.ca



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VOTE René Pelletier district #5

Critical issues

- To quickly find a fair resolution to the new sports complex, to be completed on time and on budget.
- Westmount is an environmentally friendly city. But, we need to find a way to work with drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians to ensure safe streets for all users.

Communication

As I campaign, I have tested the idea of quarterly meetings with people from district #5.

The idea has been very well received. Goals:

- (1) to hear the concerns of the residents and
- (2) to communicate what has been happening at council.
- (3) The first quarterly meeting will take place February 1st, 2010 at 7 pm at the Westmount Library.

NEW At our quarterly meetings I will have a guest speaker. **Guest speaker:** Mrs Marianne Zalzal, Director of Public Works and head of Westmount's administrative traffic committee.



I need YOUR vote to open the doors of City Hall

Evelyn Horsky, official agent