

**Our Annual
General
Meeting will
take place on
Thursday 29th
of March.**

**Make sure to
save this date
in your
calendars!**

**More to come
in our February
issue ...**

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Retrospective of 2017 and looking towards this year

**We've asked the staff to write about
their highlights of 2017 and their wishes
for 2018:**

I had many highlights for 2017, but will settle for two. The first was the Fête de Quartier for the Fielding-Walkley area. I loved watching the residents work together to make this day such a success. We've come a long way since 2011 when we began running the Walkley Centre with Comité Jeunesse NDG (CJNDG) and the CDN-NDG Borough. Without the extreme persistence and hard work of the residents (and the people who support them), I don't think we'd have gotten so far.

My second highlight was to spend a few hours with the young ladies from Place aux Filles, when we went out on a safety audit. If these ladies are our future, then I am not worried. Although they were cat-called during the event, they are willing to articulate both their feelings of security and insecurity. I'd like to wish our Team, Board, Partners and Citizens a very happy 2018!

- Terri Ste.Marie

The highlight of 2017 was including the NDG electoral district in the food waste program. That meant that all of the homes in Notre Dame de Grâce were able to participate. The team spent months on the project, informing residents door to door, updating our social media pages and delivering the bins with the Prevention CDN-NDG team. We finished the year with our door-to-door surveys, finding out how many residents are participating in the program and how they like it.

For 2018, I look forward to offering new environmental workshops, meeting new residents and helping them to adopt a more ecological lifestyle.

- Nikki Schiebel

I had a lot of challenges in my work last year and with the support and dedication of my colleagues who believed in my projects, I have achieved success in all endeavors and we could make a lot of people happy in our community.

Another year and another round of whole new changes will come up but what we need not have to change is the formula of hard work for getting good results. Work hard and keep perseverance to achieve desired success. Hope you unfold new horizons, fulfill new wishes, harbor new hopes and re-discover the strength within you to bring in positive changes at work with the unfolding of the New Year.

Thank you very much to everyone who support my work this year especially to all the people behind the scene THE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS ! without which our work can not be complete.

- Adina Badescu

The year 2017 was a productive year. A lot of success for the environmental workshops in the NDG schools. I had the opportunity to visit several schools to sensitize and introduce the youth to good environmental practices. In addition, the second edition of the "Used School Supplies Collection and Reuse" program was another success for this year too. This project did not only raise the awareness of the residents about the 3Rs principle (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) but also it helped to enhance solidarity and the commitment inside the NDG community, especially since many disadvantaged families in the neighborhood have benefited from this program.

In addition, my wish from last year for the green alley project was fulfilled in 2017! Indeed, since the beginning of the new project management system, we have not had any slowdown or delay in the development of the green alleys. In addition, we have a new green alley in 2017. This is our 8th green alley in NDG.

The year 2017 has been a good year but I wish that 2018 would be much better. I hope this new year will bring more success to all our projects!

- Nouha Dhahri

I came back to work after a yearlong maternity leave at the end of February
Continued on page 2

2017. itself, was a highlight, with lots of mixed feelings! Soon after, we started distributing the brown bins in the NDG District. To me, and despite the challenges, it was altogether a great experience. Obviously, I am pleased that less food residues are being sent to landfills. However, I also enjoyed working with my colleagues from Prévention, and witnessing mutual aid and teamwork, as well as the involvement from the volunteers. I would like to thank all the hard working volunteers who helped us out throughout this project, and those who still do with the surveys.

For 2018, I wish great successes for my colleagues' professional projects, and an abundance of volunteers for the Éco-quartier NDG; in particular for the project of revitalizing St. Thomas' pollinator garden!

- Lysiane Chagnon-Fontaine

What I am thankful for:
I am thankful that I have been able to be part of the same community organization for more than 9 years now. Thankful, that I was able to share with some of my colleagues the ups and downs of this work. I had the chance to learn, grow, and become a better human thanks to this organization. Often lost in the big picture that is this world, I was able to find myself as an individual and for that I thank you.

My wish is that more people start to recognize the great work of the people living in our community.

- Karl Thomas

As most of my work is of administrative nature I can not really say I've had a lot of success stories to tell you!

Despite that, it's been a year with a lot of changes in terms of staff but I can say with pride that we have still many staff who celebrated their 10th year with us and even several that has been here longer than that. It warms my heart to know that I've been sharing so many great moments with them over the years.

As with any long term relationships there are times when things are not so easy! My colleagues, I appreciate them all and would not like to change them.

My wish for the upcoming year is to keep our team intact and I also hope that our organization can continue with all its' programs and projects and most of all, some real stability so that we can all concentrate on our mission, objectives and serving our citizens without all the time worrying about the future.

I wish you all a wonderful 2018 and that you will have happy times ahead.

- Brigitte Chretien

The year 2017 was a growing period for me. I learned a lot about myself and about life in general. I had my baby in September 2016 and was fortunate enough to be able to spend 10 months at home with her. Having her literally changed my outlook on life and gave me more determination to accomplish things that I am truly passionate about. I feel so grateful to be working with all the motivated people here at Éco-quartier NDG. It is so refreshing to be surrounded by people that are really dedicated to their work because they believe in making a difference.

My wish for 2018 is to continue to sensitize the citizens of NDG through all of our platforms. I also wish a lot of success to all of our future projects as well as my colleagues at Éco-quartier and Prévention CDN-NDG.

- Catherine Tetreault

The Year 2017 was a Momentous Year in my life and I have come to realise that my best times are when I perform positive actions without an audience. Once again brown compost bin deliveries played an important role at Eco NDG this year. The used school supply collection and distribution was also a big success in 2017.

My wish for the Year 2018 is for everyone to concentrate on staying healthy and wise !

- Bill Roy

My highlight for 2017 is that I started working as outreach worker for youth in CDN. I was missing working with youth so having this opportunity really fills my

heart with joy!

My wish for 2018 is that all levels of government continue to give us money and that all my colleagues, me included, can keep doing their great Work!

- Annie Thifault

My highlight of 2017 is that I got this opportunity of taking on task of doing interventions amongst the seniors in Côte-des-Neiges.

For 2018, I hope to continue to make myself known in the community and to build bridges with other community groups in the borough.

- Laura Chéron-Leboeuf

2017 was a year filled with changes. Our colleague Julie decided to explore and fulfill new challenges outside of Prévention CDN-NDG and we welcome two new colleague for two new projects. I want to thank Ramaëlle Duquette and Lysa Janelle for their implication and love for these awesome new projects! Because of you, youth in the neighbourhood have access to great empowering and artistic activities.

For 2018, I wish to see and hear more of youth's projects, talents and ideas. I am very lucky to work on a everyday basis with such talented and creative youth and I wish I can continue to use my role and my work to raise their voices and share their concerns and ideas!

- Fanny Lavigne

The highlight of 2017 for me was definitely having the opportunity to facilitate two of the resident youth (one from Walkley center, the other from Loyola Center) to come to borough council meetings and to meet the candidate meetings to ask their elected officials what commitment they are prepared to make to ensure that the centers (and the NDG Food Depot) have a home when their leases expire.

Taking into consideration the recent involvement and efforts of the Fielding Walkley youth and how it has significantly shifted the dynamic in mobilization, I look forward to continuing to encourage

Continued on page 3

From page 2
ing the movement of more youth,
children, and seniors joining in the
efforts of the Fielding Walkley Resi-
dent Group by initiating more in-
tergenerational activities and
workshops in 2018.

- Jennifer Chapman

2017 was a very busy year as
usual and I am thankful as always
for the welcoming feeling from all
of our schools and centers as well
as for the last 17 years. I go into
my 18 th year this year feeling

very proud of the work I have
done. I look forward to 2018 being
the same - safe, healthy and
happy.

I would like to thank my collea-
gues, all of our partners and insti-
tutions for the work they have
done and will do this year to
make CDN-NDG a better place.

- Joseph Lambert

My highlight of last year was the
record amount of bicycles we
were able to get engraved in
partnership with Police stations 11

and 26. I also like to highlight the
biking safety sessions we did at
the Simonne-Monet school.

I'm hoping we will be able to con-
tinue service our community and
citizens in the borough this com-
ing year and hope for a peaceful
and healthy year for everyone!

- Eero Piilokivi

I wish you solidarity for 2018, be-
cause if " alone we go faster, to-
gether we achieve more "
(Unknown). - Ramaëlle Duquette

Pictures from our Christmas Party



Home safety and security tips for apartment dwellers

Home safety and security is important wherever you live, especially if you're an apartment dweller. Apartments can be easy for burglars to access if residents aren't security conscious.

A deadbolt increases your safety

Make sure you have a deadbolt lock with a solid door frame. Replace any spring-latch type locks as they are easy for burglars to unlock. Many thieves have perfected the art of "loiding." Loiding is a technique they use where they simply slip a plastic card, such as a credit card, against the latch tongue in order to depress it. Therefore, having a good deadbolt lock can offset this type of activity. However, if there is enough space between the door and frame, a burglar can still gain access with a hacksaw or power tools. Nevertheless, this type of activity takes a little bit of time, which isn't exactly beneficial to an intruder.

Don't announce it to the world if you live alone or when you're away

If you live alone, you don't need to announce the fact to strangers. Therefore, don't put your first name on your mailbox. Label your mailbox so that only your last name appears. If you live in a building where you buzz people in, don't allow anyone you don't know to pass through the door. Instead, refer them to the manager. Also, if you plan to be on vacation, put a hold on your mail until you return. Never leave any notes to friends, workmen or family members on your door.

Install a solid core wood door

If the entrance door to your apartment has a hollow core, have a solid core wood door installed instead. If there is too much room between an existing door and its frame, reinforce it by using a panel of 3/4-inch plywood and attach it to the door. Make sure if you have a door with hinges on the outside that you remove the door and reset the hinges so they are set on the inside. Any door hinges on the outside make it easy for a burglar to simply remove the hinge pins and gain entry into your apartment.

Secure your sliding door and windows

Protect your windows by installing

one or more solid locks and burglar-resistant glass. Install a portable door and window alarms or a removable wireless system. Add a locking sliding window bolt on any sliding windows. It will deter a burglar's efforts even if he breaks the glass. You can also make it harder for a thief to gain access if you set a metal bar on the inside bottom track and any sliding doors or windows.

Make sure certain areas are well-lit and smoke detectors work

Make certain areas, such as stairwells, entryways and parking lots have sufficient light. If they don't, report the problem to the management. Also, check out the smoke detectors in the common areas and make sure they're in working order. Do the same for the smoke detectors in your apartment as well. Make sure you have enough light in each room, especially the hallway and entryway.



Not the way your building intercom should be looking like.

Using the intercom

Consistently using your apartment's intercom is one of the best ways to improve apartment safety. Understanding how intercoms work, and how to best use them to control who comes into your building, should be a top priority.

Among the first things you should do when renting an apartment is test the intercom and buzzer.

Check to see that the buzzer outside the front door sounds in your apartment when someone presses it. When pressing the buttons on

the intercom, the person on the other end should be clearly audible; and they should be able to hear you, too. Test the button that unlocks the front door. If any of these items is malfunctioning, have your landlord commit to fixing them, in writing, before signing the lease.

After moving in, establish a plan for using the intercom to screen visitors. Your plan should include checking the front door area to see if there is a safe way to verify the identity of someone you're unsure of. Many buildings have glass doors or windows which allow you to see who is standing outside your front door. If possible, find a way to view the person outside without letting them see you. Criminals sometimes ring buzzers to determine who is home. This allows them to monitor your movements so that they can return when you're away to break into your apartment.

Each time you answer the buzzer, ask who is there before buzzing them in. Make a habit of doing this even when you're expecting someone. Never assume that you know who is ringing your buzzer. If the person at the other end asks who you are, don't tell them. They should know who you are, if they have a legitimate reason to ring your buzzer. Respond by asking them who they are looking for. If they can't prove that they know you and that you should know them, refuse to let them in.

If they persist, call 9-1-1!

Never let anyone in because they say that they're visiting another apartment. Instruct them to buzz the other apartment. If they claim that the other buzzer isn't working, call or knock on that apartment's door to alert them of a visitor. Even when visitors identify themselves as being from a legitimate delivery company, don't take it for granted that they really are legit. If not, go to the front door to see who is there. By remembering to use the intercom to screen visitors, you can keep strangers out of your building and greatly enhance your safety.

All this useful info on home safety comes from www.apartmentratings.com

If you need to have your intercom, doors, locks or windows verified please contact Tandem CDN/NDG (514-736-2732) for a FREE visit.