



President's letter

As is the tradition, shortly before the beginning of December, it is my role as President to provide you with an update on the events that have marked our Club over the course of the year to date and with information on coming events.

It goes almost without saying that 2017 has been a roller-coaster year. We launched the Club's 110th year with an opening Gala in January with Mr. Paul Desmarais Jr., an event that was a resounding success. Shortly thereafter and for the rest of the first quarter, we faced a significant and unexpected drop in usage of the Club by members.

Link to photos: <http://bit.ly/UCMGalaJanvier>

As was mentioned at the Annual General Meeting, we put in place precise growth objectives (KPI) at the beginning of the second quarter of the year to reduce our anticipated deficit. We also made an appeal to members to actively recruit new members of the Club and the decision was made to remain open all summer to increase usage.

It was in September, based on the results of the first half of the year which confirmed that the financial objectives for the were unattainable, that the Strategic Committee recommended to Council that the Club sell the Clubhouse and cease operations at 2047 Mansfield. This Committee, comprised primarily of former treasurers, past presidents and former members of Council, was mandated to explore all options to ensure the viability of the Club.

On October 11th, the Club once again shone on the occasion of an intimate gathering featuring a panel discussion, brilliantly hosted by Julie Quenneville, with four former Quebec Premiers. The members present were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Premiers, and Chef Capel served a gastronomic experience worthy of the greatest chefs on the planet!

Link to photos: <http://bit.ly/UCMGalaOctobre>

A Special General Meeting of the members was held on October 18th, at the conclusion of which members enthusiastically supported the congratulations by Past President of the Club, Mr. John J. Peacock, to the officers, the members of council and managers of

the Club for all the work done to prepare for this meeting and the steps undertaken to ensure a smooth transition, the successful management of the months to come and the mandate for the sale of the building. A new page in our history is being written. A short summary of the message published a few weeks ago regarding the Club's transition appears below.

“Moving the Club's activities in 2018: a project for the future”

Dear members,

After more than a hundred years of history, the quality of the service offered to members of the University Club of Montreal and their satisfaction remain our highest priorities. Following the Special Meeting of the members of the Club held on October 18th, at which several important decisions to ensure the sustainability of the Club and the preservation of its history were presented, we are pleased to announce the results of this evening.

In light of the fact that the Clubhouse, located at 2047 Mansfield, requires major renovations, the decision was made to sell the building and relocate our activities for a period of one year. It is on a very positive note that I am announcing that as of January 2018, Club activities will be moved to the Saint-James' Club premises at 1145 Union Avenue.

Accordingly, activities at 2047 Mansfield, will officially end on December 22, 2017. This decision will not affect our commitments and the holding of any events between now and then; we thus invite you to enjoy our Clubhouse from now to the end of the year.

The mandate for the sale of the Clubhouse will be given to the CBRE, a reputed real estate brokerage firm. The proceeds from the sale will first be used to meet our financial commitments, and thereafter to plan the future and to define the new model and place of business of the Club.

The continuity of activities at the Saint-James' Club starting in January

Starting in January 2018, as a permanent member of a reciprocal club in residence, you will receive the same services at the Saint-James's Club as you have at the University Club of Montreal. Exclusive events, meeting rooms and lounges, restaurant with an exceptional wine list, banquet rooms for up to 225 people, and more, will be at your disposal!

Rest assured that the preparations are already underway and that our joint teams are ready to welcome you warmly to continue to ensure that you live a unique experience. In addition, the Club's activities will continue as usual most notably due the presence of

several members of the service team and Julia Kampis, our Director of Membership Services.

The review of the year would not be complete without mentioning the accolades and testimonials offered in praise of Ron Meisels, honoured at the Members' Annual Dinner held on October 30th. With none other than Reford MacDougall as the Master of Ceremonies, the evening was a success. His son, David, wrote and performed a song (to be sung to the tune of The Northwest Passage) in honour of his father and his significant contributions to the Club over the years. Congratulations Ron!

Link to photos: <http://bit.ly/RonMeisels>

The Meisels Passage

*Ah for just one time,
We should take the Meisels Passage
To find the underground
That he joined to such acclaim.
Safe from the cold ice,
We will tread our path in comfort,
To write the Club's next chapter: At St. James.*

*Facing certain injury
From wobbly dining seats.
Meisels showed tenacity
'Till changes were complete.
Members names are bronzed in glory
On each strong and sturdy chair.
So tomorrow safe can sit Monsieur Coderre.*

Chorus: Ah, for just one time...

*Ron's sat on more committees that
Most other members dare.
House, Finance, and Program,
I hear next he'll start child care.
Sperare Optimum
During Annual Theatre Night,
Ron will find his second calling in limelight*

Chorus: Ah, for just one time...

*Is he then so different
From Others of this place?*

*Like them he strove for a better life
While running the rat race.
Recognized by Club and friends,
Ron will think that's so sublime,
As the last one named within the "Nobbs" design*

Chorus: Ah, for just one time...

On the last day of October and on November 2nd, we welcomed Montreal mayoral candidates Denis Coderre and Valérie Plante for a lunch during which they shared the broad strokes of their platforms with us. This exemplifies the tenacity of our committee members who were able to organize such excellent events, upon such short notice.

On November 9th, the Clubhouse was officially put up for sale. You will find a copy of the CBRE offer and a confidentiality agreement that you can return to them if you wish to obtain additional information. Already, several prospective buyers have visited the Club. We will keep you informed of developments and, prior to the closing of any transaction on the Clubhouse, another Special General Meeting will be held at which members will be called upon to vote on the proposed transaction.

Annual dues pricing for 2018

Among the additional documents enclosed, you will find the list of annual dues for 2018. Several categories have seen their dues decreased significantly for next year. Please note that all contributions to the capital improvement fund will be suspended for a period of one year. I wish to remind you that the revenue from annual dues for the coming year will remain the property of the University Club of Montreal. This revenue will be used to pay the fixed costs of the building and the salaries of two employees (the General Manager and the Controller) who will remain in office during the beginning of this transition. Your support is more important than ever as it will determine the business model for the future of the Club.

If you have any questions regarding your membership status, please communicate with Julia Kamps, Membership and Marketing Manager, at 514-288-0201, extension 258, or by email at julia.kamps@ucmontreal.ca. You will receive the invoice for your annual dues of 2018-2019 on February 1st, which is due, as usual, upon receipt.

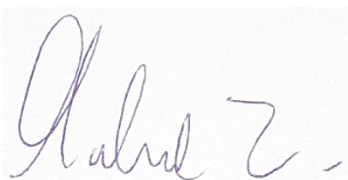
I wish to invite you to take note of the programming for January 2018 in our new location at 1145 Union Street. Register now by contacting Julia, as indicated in the announcements.

There are still many activities taking place in our Clubhouse up to December 22nd. I hope you will join us in large numbers, among family, friends or colleagues. Don't miss the Children's Christmas Party brunch, with Santa Claus, on Sunday, December 10th.

In closing, I invite you to read and respond to the invitation by Thomas Leslie to thank the employees of the Club. This initiative will allow us to offer them a special night in their honour with gifts worthy of their dedication and loyalty to us and to the Club.

On behalf of the Executive, the members of Council and the various committees, the management of the Club and all employees, we wish you the very best for the holidays and a Happy New Year.

Remembering our past, writing our future!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gabriel Z.', is shown on a light-colored background.

Gabriel Zaurrini, President

List of documents:

- CBRE offer
- Calendar of events in December
- Posters for upcoming events in January (Saint-James)
- Letter from Thomas Leslie
- Annual dues pricing for 2018
- FAQ