

■ Toulas Take : Quebecers shouldn't make a martyr out of a murderer p.4

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## Catching some air!



An anonymous snowboarder takes advantage of the last winter snowfall to enjoy some solitary fun at Westmount Park this past Tuesday. Photo: Peter Ford

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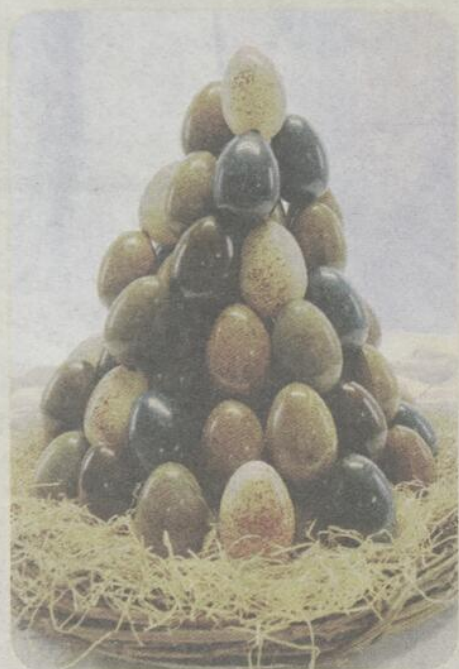
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# Master Traffic Plan recommends traffic signal overhaul

■ MORGAN LOWRIE

Westmount has been managing traffic flow through a series of outdated and sometimes illegal signalization and control methods, the long-awaited Master Traffic Plan found.

The plan, delivered by Genivar to City Council in February, provides the city with an assessment of current conditions and a series of recommendations to guide future traffic policy in Westmount. Goals include traffic management, enhancing active transportation such as walking and cycling, and mitigating the effect of major external projects on the city's borders such as the MUHC.

Genivar found that many of Westmount's traffic signals do not meet the current standards and best practices, and occasionally raised safety concerns. The company recommended a complete overhaul of the physical street light system to one that allows vehicle detection, as well as a review of synchronization.

Traffic calming is also currently accomplished through a network of four-way stops and occasionally mid-block stop signs, which are not legal practices. Instead, Genivar recommended the implementation of practices such as 'road diets,' or narrowing wide roads. This would serve a dual purpose: reducing traffic speeds and allowing the extra space to be used for parking, wider sidewalks or cycling lanes.

Overall, Westmount received high marks from Genivar for walkability and access to public transit, although the report cited several areas where improvements could be made

to ensure wider sidewalks, better lighting, safer crossings and a more inviting atmosphere.

The de Maisonneuve bicycle path, although it manages to serve most of the city's most populated areas, does not meet safety standards, Genivar found. In addition to upgrading that path, Genivar recommended the eventual creation of additional bicycle paths both east-west, possibly along Cote-St-Antoine, and North-South from Greene and Victoria Village.

Genivar warned that the coming of external projects such as the MUHC would affect Westmount, notably in the number of people seeking off-site parking. The rebuilding of the Turcot could also cause congestion problems by closing streets near Westmount.

They suggested that the city put measures in place to address these issues, although they did not offer concrete suggestions as to what those might be.

Other highlights of Genivar's report include:

**FOR PEDESTRIANS:**

- Implement diagonal crosswalks at some intersections.
- Improve streetscaping where pedestrian conditions are not comfortable, especially on underpasses which cross under the Ville-Marie Expressway.
- Develop a new pedestrian link between Summit Park and Mount Royal's other two summits.



Overall, Westmount received high marks for from Genivar for walkability and access to public transit.

**FOR CYCLISTS:**

- Upgrade the De Maisonneuve bicycle path and investigate cycling routes along Cote-St-Antoine, Victoria/Grosvenor, Greene, and/or Westmount avenue
- Modify zoning by-laws to add bicycle parking to new developments. Improve on-street parking.
- Improve the winter cycling network
- Investigate the provision of cycling turning boxes or bike boxes at intersections where many cyclists make left-turns

**FOR TRAFFIC CIRCULATION:**

- A default speed limit of 40 km/h, with 30/km zones used only in front of schools or parks with play equipment.
- Use 'road diets' on roads such as The Boulevard, Westmount Avenue, De Maisonneuve and Sainte-Catherine.
- Upgrade traffic signals and co-ordination
- Investigate use of mobile photo-radar

**FOR PARKING:**

- Parking
- Review on-street parking regulations

- Zonal resident on-street parking permits
- Encourage conversion of existing off-street parking to "public" parking, including park and walk

City council plans to officially adopt the plan in the spring, and will begin implementing some recommendations by summer. Residents are invited to read the plan on the city's website ([www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)) and to give their feedback.

## ERRATUM

An unfortunate typo identified Roslyn school as Rolsyn last week. We regret the error.

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# Quebecers shouldn't make a martyr out of a murderer

No roses for Paul from community still haunted by FLQ terror



**Toula FOSCOLOS**  
Toula's Take  
toula.foscolos@tc.tc

Amir Khadir's declaration yesterday that he intends to table a motion in the National Assembly to honour the late Paul Rose, the Front de Libération du Québec (FLQ) terrorist who was arrested and imprisoned for Pierre Laporte's murder, left many supporters and fans of Québec Solidaire dumbfounded.

Myself included.

In the official press release issued yesterday, Khadir offered his condolences to Rose's family and expressed gratitude for a man who spent his "entire life, convinced of the necessity to fight for national liberation and Quebecers' social emancipation."

"After the dramatic events of October, 1970," Khadir continues in the press release, "[Rose] chose to continue his fight by democratic means and by involving himself in citizen's concerns."

What Khadir is referring to, of course, by "dramatic events of October, 1970" are the terrorist activities of the FLQ and Paul Rose's involvement in them. Over a seven-year period, the group was responsible for over 160 violent incidents which killed eight people and injured many more, including the bombing of the Montreal Stock Exchange in 1969. These attacks culminated in 1970 with what is commonly referred to as the October Crisis, in which British Trade Commissioner James Cross was kidnapped and Quebec Labour Minister Pierre Laporte was murdered.

The most heinous of those acts was undeniably the cowardly kidnapping of Laporte on October 10, 1970, in front of his home while he was playing football with his nephew. Seven days later, the FLQ announced that he had been executed. He was strangled (police reports point to extreme force used and the evidence suggests that he was possibly strangled with the medallion that was around his

## EDITORIAL CARTOON

PASCAL ÉLIE

Charbonneau gets 18-month extension



own neck), his body stuffed in the trunk of Paul Rose's car and abandoned. The note sent to police by his kidnappers notifying them that Pierre Laporte had been executed snidely referred to him as the "minister of unemployment and assimilation."

A former Le Devoir journalist, Laporte, whose family goes back many generations in Quebec, had worked tirelessly to expose corruption during the Duplessis era, and at the time of his death was Labour Minister with the Robert Bourassa government. In other words, he was one of those French Quebecers on whose behalf Rose claimed to be fighting for.

Laporte, who was 49 years old at the time of

his death, left behind a wife, children, and the children of his late brother he was also responsible for. Paul Rose and his brother were eventually arrested and tried for his murder and served time in prison for their crimes.

These are the "dramatic events" Khadir conveniently glosses over in his press release while praising Rose's social implication and lifelong fight for Quebec sovereignty.

I have always appreciated Québec Solidaire's stance on social justice and women's equality. I have nothing but admiration for Francoise David's grace and gumption in the political arena. I have, on many

Continued on page 10 ▶▶▶

### The Parish of the Ascension of Our Lord

(Sherbrooke St. at the corner of Clarke Ave.)

Welcomes all to our Easter Celebrations!



#### Passion Sunday Weekend

Saturday, March 23, 5 p.m.,  
Sunday, March 24, 10:30 a.m.

#### Holy Thursday, March 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8 p.m.

#### Good Friday, March 29

Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3 p.m.

#### Holy Saturday, March 30

Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3 to 4 p.m.  
Easter Vigil at 8 p.m.

#### Easter Sunday, March 31

Celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord  
10:30 a.m.

We invite all parishioners, former parishioners and visitors to join in celebrating with us this Holy Season.

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# Series of robberies targets local businesses

■ MORGAN LOWRIE

In the early hours of the morning on March 12th, Tony's Shoes on Greene Avenue was vandalized and robbed by thieves who made off with more than \$150 – just the last in a series of break-and-enter burglaries that have targeted businesses in the Westmount area.

The Tony's shoes robbery followed a pattern that is becoming familiar to local officers. At 5:20 in the morning, the burglar kicked in the front door of the well-established commerce, triggering store's alarm. He moved quickly to the cash register, opened it, and made off with the money, leaving by the same door.

This robbery is the fifth to occur in Westmount since February 28th. All the incidents have followed the same pattern – kicked-in door, disregard for the alarm, and a quick cash-register grab.

The high number of incidents in quick succession and the similarities between them have led police to suspect that the same one or two people could be responsible, according to Station 12 constable Caroline Gauthier.

Three of the burglaries occurred on Sherbrooke Street: two on the night of the 28th within 15 minutes of each other, and a local restaurant on March 9th. On March 1st, a high-end boutique on Greene Avenue was

robbed.

A sixth and a seventh burglary occurred just outside Westmount's borders.

Security cameras have captured images of suspects, including a white male, ages 35-40, wearing a black jacket, hoodie, tuque, and gloves. Another surveillance video showed a suspect with a large mustache, which may have been fake.

In two cases, police have recovered discarded cash register drawers near the crime scene.

Police are urging both business owners and residents to be vigilant.

"Don't leave anything in the cash register,

even small change," Gauthier advised local merchants.

"Even \$20 is worth it to them; they aren't looking for a big hit." She suggests leaving the cash drawer open and empty and leaving on lights inside.

Lights triggered by motion-sensors may also act as a deterrent.

Gauthier is also asking the public to call police if they see any activity that may be suspicious.

"We don't want people to hesitate to call us," she said. "Don't worry about bothering us. If you see anything, or have any doubts, let us check it out. That's what we're there for."

## Westmount celebrates with 5th Earth Hour event

Earth Hour is a worldwide event organized by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and held towards the end of March annually, encouraging households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one hour to raise awareness about the need to take action on climate change.

This year the event takes place on Saturday March 23rd and the City of Westmount will be hosting its 5th Earth Hour event at Victoria Hall from 6 to 10 p.m. Organized by the Westmount Healthy City Project Earth Hour Committee, there will be activities, entertainment and displays for all ages and everyone is welcome to turn off their lights for one hour and come join the celebration.

Inside Victoria Hall there will be booths and displays with environmental protection and energy conservation as the main themes.

Dr. Anthony Moffat Professor Emeritus in Astronomy of the Université de Montréal will MC the evening. Guest speaker Professor Martin Aubé of the Sherbrooke CEGEP will speak on "The adverse effects of blue-rich white-light devices on the night sky". He will explain how this type of light negatively affects our sleep patterns, confuses birds and other wildlife and prevents urban dwellers from appreciating the night sky. The Burton Street Singers will be on hand to provide musical entertainment. There will be storytelling in both English and French, continuous screening of the film, *Planet Earth*. Simply Wonderful Catering will provide delicious, hot soup, snacks and drinks for sale – bring your own cup and get a discount. The Westmount Municipal Association invites residents to participate in the Inter-District Earth Hour

contest at <http://www.wma-amw.org> for a great prize.

At 8:30 p.m. Earth Hour officially begins with a lights out in the Park. The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada will once again invite the public to gaze through telescopes at the heavens, a very popular activity for young and old. Meanwhile activities will continue inside Victoria Hall 'til 10 p.m.

The public at large is invited to attend and admission is free.

City of Westmount Earth Hour Event 2013  
March 23rd from 6 till 10 p.m.  
At Victoria Hall  
4626 Sherbrooke St W  
More information at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)  
in the calendar or 514 989-5226



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John Schwinghamer is a Portfolio Manager with ScotiaMcLeod associated with the Jacques Maurice Group. John is frequently in the media on BNN, CBC, CTV, CJAD and others.

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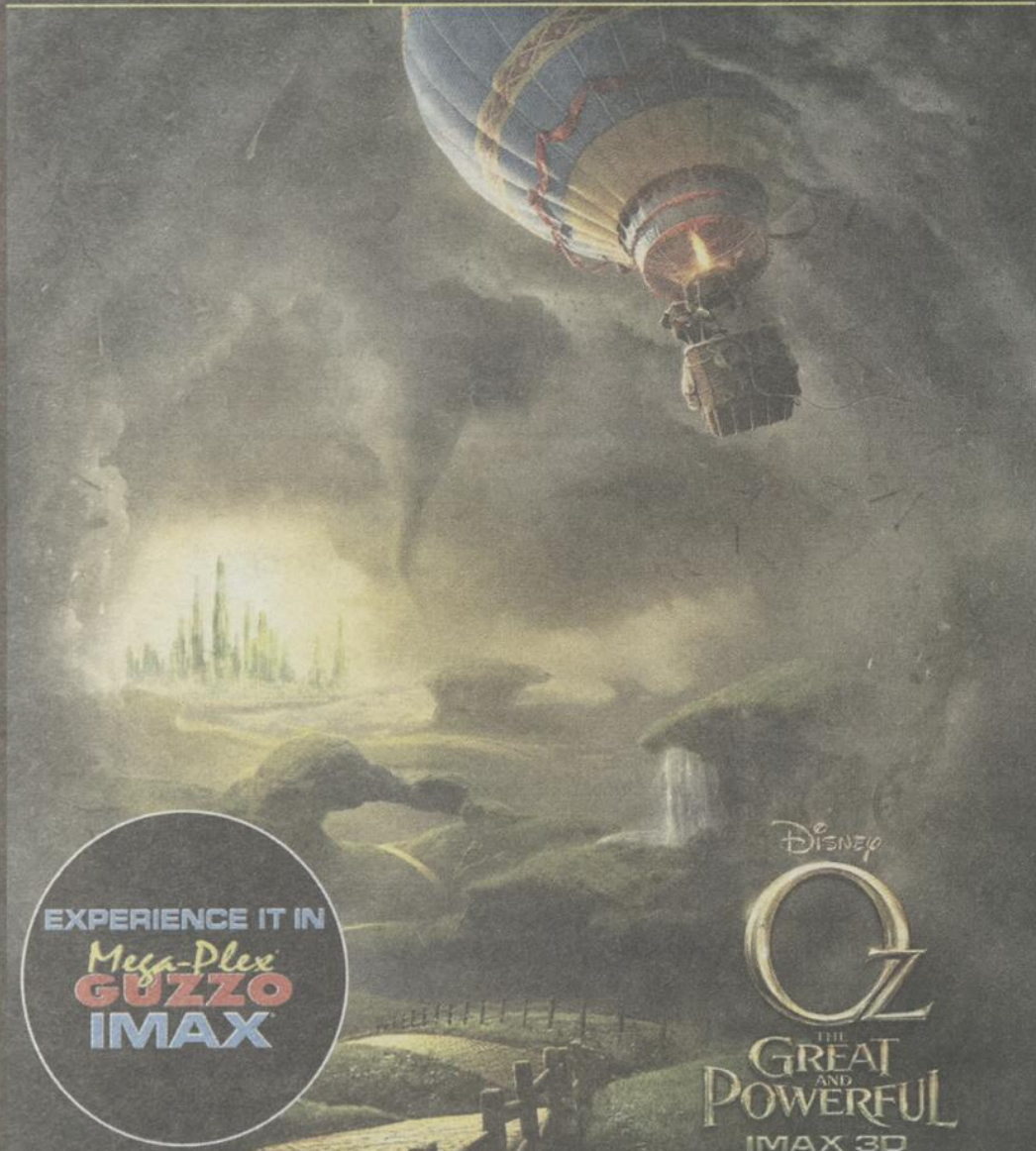
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## St. Valentine's Day contest



Our lucky winner of a \$50 certificate at Westmount Spa, Bonnie Cappell.

The winner of the Centaur Theatre tickets, Felicia Battigalli, is 100 years old! She's seen here with her daughter Anita

Westmount resident Christina Bovsu, is the lucky winner of a \$50 gift certificate at the Westmount Salon Spa.



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# Westmount musicians get a taste of Havana

MORGAN LOWRIE

The Westmount Youth Orchestra got to escape the snow and soak up some Latin rhythms during a recent one-week trip to Cuba.

The concert tour and cultural exchange organized by the Cuban Ministry of Culture and Kosa music, offered the musicians numerous experiences including playing in the famous "Havana Libre" hotel.

According to KoSa director Aldo Mazza,



the highlight of the experience was a shared concert with the Amadeo Roldan Conservatory orchestra, who had rehearsed and prepared the same piece as the Westmount musicians, and were able to perform harmoniously with their Canadian counterparts.

The musicians were also given the opportunity to soak up the local culture by attending numerous musical and theatrical events, admiring Cuba's architecture and enjoying the scenery.

Many of them also gave back, by donating musical equipment and clothing to the Cubans.

"We know that despite the linguistic barriers, music is the only universal language," Mazza said. "It transcends all social and political and other boundaries."

For more information on KoSa, visit their website at [www.kosamusic.com](http://www.kosamusic.com).

## celebrating the miracle of Faith at Easter

*As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we hope you'll share in the joy this blessed season brings to bear. May His love and sacrifice warm your heart and lift your spirit at Eastertime and always.*

### Palm Sunday March 24

8:00am - Palm Sunday Liturgy  
10:30am - Palm Sunday Liturgy & Choral Eucharist

### Maundy Thursday March 28

7:30pm - Pediluvium  
Commemoration of the Last Supper  
Stripping of the Altar

### Good Friday March 29

12pm (Noon) - Good Friday Liturgy with Reading of the Passion  
7:30pm - Choral Evensong

### Easter Day March 31

8am - Easter Holy Eucharist  
10:30am - Easter Choral Eucharist

You can now download the Liturgy for the services on your iPhone or other hand-held device, by going to [www.stmatthiaswestmount.com](http://www.stmatthiaswestmount.com), select the Worship page, and click on the Liturgy for the day.

### St. Matthias' Anglican Church

The Revd Kenneth M. Near, Rector  
131 Côte St. Antoine Rd.  
(corner Metcalfe in Westmount)  
514.933.4295

*I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Passover Holiday!*

## Marc Garneau Member of Parliament Westmount Ville-Marie



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[marc.garneau@parl.gc.ca](mailto:marc.garneau@parl.gc.ca)

## Westmount community calendar

### WHA TALK ON MOUNTAINSIDE UNITED CHURCH

On March 21, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Westmount Public Library the Westmount Historical Association is organizing a public talk about Mountainside United Church. The speaker is Dr. Edwin Coffey, Secretary, Board of Trustees.

Dr. Coffey will give an illustrated talk on the history of the congregational roots of Mountainside United Church on The Boulevard in Westmount. The church originated with the first congregation of Montreal Presbyterians in 1786. After building the first church in 1792 on St. Gabriel Street, in Old Montreal, there followed seven additional amalgamations within this church lineage, the most recent being Erskine and American United Church on Sherbrooke Street.

Admission is free for WHA members, \$5 for non-members

### ANNUAL SPRING FLOWER SHOW

From March 28 until April 20, Westmount residents can come out to the Conservatory and the Greenhouses and enjoy the annual display of spring flowers, including narcissus, tulips, lilies and many others, in the Westmount Conservatory. The floral exhibition will be open daily to the general public as follows:

Monday through Friday - 10 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday - 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The display is expected to last approximately 3 weeks depending on the condition of the blooms.

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## **KELLS SECONDARY**

6865 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W.  
Montréal, Québec H4B 1T1

Tel: 514.485.8565

**7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, April 3rd**

**KELLS ACADEMY**

**www.kells.ca**

# Former Westmounter Noah Richler in town for a fascinating lecture

Author and former Westmounter Noah Richler hits town this week to give the annual J.R. Mallory Lecture for the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada (MISC).

"Well, (MISC Director) Will Straw and I shared the floor at an event in Montreal, and I was very taken with how he spoke," says Richler. "We chatted, and he invited me, in the wake of the publication of my last book, *What We Talk About When We Talk About War*, to speak at the Institute, and I'm completely pleased to do that."

Richler's lecture is titled, *Landscape and Canadian Political Destiny: Does the Territory Even Matter?* "What I'll be talking about is the idea of place, and if we can draw from it robust connections, arguments to how we determine our relations between ourselves, and our domestic and foreign policy," says Richler, on the phone from his Toronto home. Richler currently divides his time between Toronto and Nova Scotia.

The author and public intellectual has devoted much of his career to pondering big questions facing Canada. "What I am trying to do, in all of my work, is to establish the idea

of Canadian difference," Richler says. "What lessons do we draw from the territory? To my mind, those include ones addressing one of the most important Canadian issues of the day, which is the nature of our relations with the aboriginal communities, and the nature of our pluralistic society."



Richler has enjoyed a long and successful career as a writer and documentary filmmaker. His first book, *This Is My Country, What's Yours? A Literary Atlas of Canada* (McClelland & Stewart, 2006), won the 2007 British Columbia Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, was nominated for the 2006 Nereus Writer's Trust Non-Fiction Prize and, among many plaudits, chosen as one of Canada's Top Ten Books of the Decade by Macleans.ca. *What We Talk About When We Talk About War* (Goose

Lane Editions, 2012), was long-listed for the Charles Taylor Award, shortlisted for the Shaughnessy Cohen Award for Political Writing and a finalist for the Governor-General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction.

Richler has also produced and hosted

documentaries for BBC Radio, and written here in Canada for the CBC Radio Ideas series. His work has also been featured in such publications as the *Globe and Mail*, *The Toronto Star*, *Maisonneuve*, *Walrus*, and *The National Post*, of which he is a founding staff member.

Richler continues to follow the national issues of the day, and has plenty to say about the recent Idle No More movement, in which First Nations people rose up on the ground and through social media to protest the federal government's recent omnibus budget bill, which Idle No More supporters said violated Native land treaties.

"I'd say that my talk points in that direction, and addresses that (movement)," says Richler. "I think we should certainly be paying attention to it. I think that as the pattern of news, it was a flash in the pan, and people have now generally forgotten about it – that's what happens all the time in Canada," Richler says. "It has to do with people's attention spans, and a pretty jaded idea of what's important."

Richler also has plenty to say about the media coverage of Chief Theresa Spence's hunger strike. The First Nations Chief made headlines during the Idle No More

movement by going on a six-week hunger strike near Parliament Hill to protest substandard living conditions on her Northern Ontario reserve of Attawapiskat. "The

sometimes-venal mockery that Chief Theresa Spence was subjected to was at times shameful," says Richler bluntly.

But Richler says there are solutions to be found. "Rather than speak of assimilation, what I like to talk about is participation, and there are easy ways of doing that," says Richler. "The thing about Canada is that our blessing is also our curse – we are endowed with plenty of space. At its best, it means plenty of room to reinvent ourselves and be free, at its worst it means we never have to meet each other, so most people in Canada will never even meet an Aboriginal person in their lives."

Richler says he's looking forward to his visit to Montreal. "What I love about Montreal is that all sorts of ways of living your life are on display so it's possible to make your mark in all sorts of ways," he says.

Richler's lecture starts at 5 p.m., at the Birks Heritage Chapel (3520 University Street). Admission is free, and a reception will follow the lecture. As space is limited, registration is strongly encouraged. Online registration is available at [www.mcgill.ca/misc/events](http://www.mcgill.ca/misc/events)



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►►► Toula's Take continued from page 4

occasions, praised them as a solid alternative for people wanting to vote for a separatist party that has always appeared much more inclusionary in nature than the PQ. But Khadir's comments are unacceptable to me – and many, many others.

Even if you are a staunch separatist dreaming of the day that you see Quebec form its own nation, there is nothing worth honouring in Paul Rose. This is a chapter of its history Quebec should be ashamed of; not be praising. It honours no one to glorify violence and to elevate a murderer into a martyr – least of all lifelong separatists who have fought and campaigned through democratic means for a country of their own.

What ultimately offends me most about Khadir's declaration is what it irresponsibly implies – that if we agree with the aims of a group, then violence is an ethically acceptable extension of the struggle, or at the very least, a forgivable one.

Are we saying that the ends justify the

means? Are we claiming that a person who kidnaps and murders an innocent man in cold blood is a freedom fighter, worthy of public acknowledgment and praise, simply because the violence he practiced was for the "right" cause? Isn't that equivalent to a pro-life supporter defending the murder of doctors performing abortions because the perceived moral rectitude invalidates the immorality of murder?

The deliberate and selective cafeteria-style approach to Quebec history benefits no one. The facts remain the facts, and should never be glossed over in an attempt to make part of our collective history more palatable.

This was no youthful indiscretion. Rose was involved with a terrorist group that terrorized, injured and killed innocent Quebecers. A couple of eggs didn't get broken for the Felquiste omelette to be made. His political activism didn't simply consist of blowing up a few random mailboxes in upper Westmount. He murdered a man in cold blood. A murder, it should be noted, that Rose never expressed any remorse over. Not once.

So, you can support Quebec independence. You can loathe the War Measures Act and the indiscriminate arrests that took place at the time, even though 86 per cent of Quebecers agreed with its enactment. You can even go ahead and have a little sympathy and appreciation for the misguided passion of FLQ members.

But asking to officially and publicly honour a murderer is revisionist history of the worst kind.

### NOTICE

I, Mark Alexander Orman of 1826 Denonville, Montreal, Quebec, H4E 1M3 intend to marry Eleni Avgerinos of 1826 Denonville, Montreal, Quebec, H4E 1M3 at Mareblue Apostolata Resort & Spa in Skala, Kefalonia, Greece 28086 on July 7, 2013. Any person knowing of any lawful impediment to the marriage should without delay notify in writing to:

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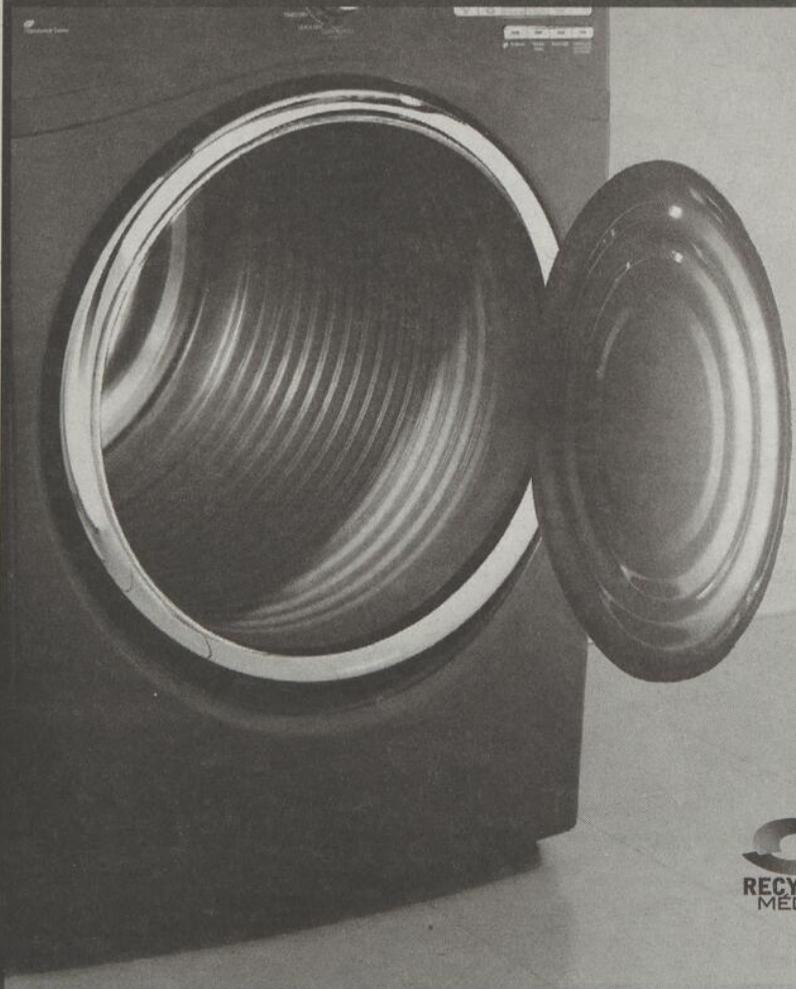
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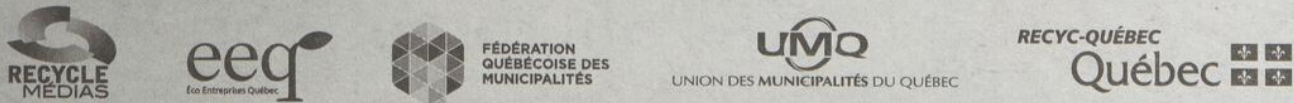
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