New school correspondence exchange project

Bridging the gap between generations, we were happy to launch a correspondence exchange project between Saint-Laurent students attending French class and Saint-Laurent Seniors. Following their letter of introduction, participants are invited to exchange on different themes such as travel, careers, employment and personal interests while developing their written expression and new friendships. More than 70 participants have already shown interest which we hope to serve both ends of the exchange.

Friday February 17 at 7 p.m.

Talk on Perseverance on Perseverance Week

Our Guest Speaker will be Justin Mbaya, well-known for his theories on school motivation and who will speak on school bullying, with advice and testimonies.

join us on Zoom :

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5210983502

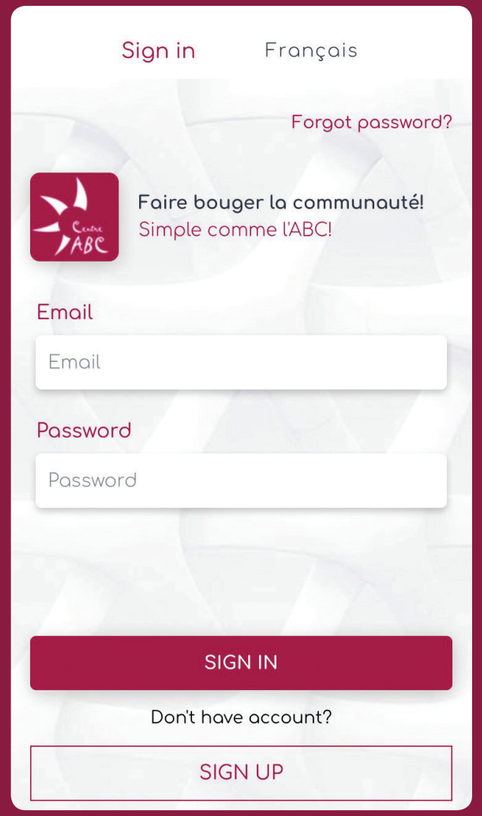
Meeting ID : 521 098 3502

To register, email communication@centreabc.org or call at **514 744-5511, poste 224**

Centre d'action bénévole et communautaire Saint-Laurent
910, ave Sainte-Croix, Saint-Laurent H4L 3Y6

Mobile application

As you know, we offer a personalized volunteering experience at ABC Center and we want to make it easy for you to access volunteer opportunities. Therefore, we have created a mobile application where you can view and register for available volunteer opportunities at any time. Download the *Centreabc* app, available on Android and iPhone to access volunteer opportunities in no time!



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info Centre ABC

ABC Center Quarterly Newsletter - December 2022 - N° 78

ABC Center 2022-2023 Volunteer Ambassadors

For the first time in the past 3 years and on the occasion of December 5th International Volunteer Day, the Center's Ambassadors were paid tribute and honored during a celebration held at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Saint-Laurent in the presence of 70 guests including members of the selection committee, MP for Saint-Laurent Emmanuella Lambropoulos, representatives of other community organizations as well as families and friends of 2022-2023 and other former Ambassadors and their volunteer brothers and sisters.

The Centre ABC is pleased to announce that the following volunteers were selected as Ambassadors for Volunteerism and the 2022-2023 Laurentian Corporate Citizen. They are :

Ms. Rim Nizhat Mr. Rafael Cardenas Ms. Louise Corbeil
Ms. Gigi Vidal Mr. Yvon Sarrazin

The Corporate Citizen and the five recipients stood out for their exceptional civic commitment and their great contribution to the Laurentian community.

A trophy, along with gift certificates, were presented to the recipients to thank them for their volunteer commitment to the community, along with a warm speech for each of them by their nominator. These volunteers, involved on a daily basis with members of the community, have put all their energy into ensuring the well-being of Laurentians. They have been generous, selfless and modest and have ensured the well-being of many people in need. Without a doubt, they deserve all our admiration, recognition and gratitude.

For its part, the Caisse Desjardins Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent has chosen to make a difference by supporting the Laurentian community when it needs it. The Caisse has been involved with community organizations in the Laurentian area for many years and has set an example while standing out, proving to all Laurentians that no matter what the crisis, a company can make a difference through local actions and improve the quality of life of its fellow citizens.

The evening was enhanced with a concert with the musicians Francis Têtu and Raphaëlle Paquette, and words of appreciation for her 15 years of service and involvement in the Laurentian community were addressed to Henriette Konté, Executive Director of the ABC Center.

Time for our best wishes

The Board of Directors together with the whole team at the Saint-Laurent Volunteer and Community Center (Centre ABC) hope the upcoming Holiday Season will allow you the occasion to reunite with the ones you love and cherish, and remember the ones you have lost. May your gatherings and festivities be filled with the warmest feelings and the New Year, with hopes of happiness, success and good health.

Christmas presents for our community's children

For many years, the ABC Center has organized the collection and distribution of toys in the Laurentian community. This year, more than 1,100 toys will be distributed at Henri-Beaulieu and Enfant-Soleil schools, and more than 900 will be offered to the children of families benefiting from the Magasin Partage Christmas baskets, for a total of 2,000.

Our Christmas Toy distribution is always a great success, thanks to the precious collaboration and generosity of devoted citizens sensitive to the cause and whom we wish to thank with all our heart. Toy donations are brought at the ABC Centre and Centre des Loisirs, and collections are also organized by generous employees of Bombardier Saint-Laurent, Excelpro and Caisse Desjardins Bordeaux-Cartierville-Saint-Laurent.

Volunteers meet in November and December to sort, clean and pack toys received and we wish to extend our warmest thanks to the 65 volunteers who are participating in this year's effort.

Thank you to everyone who donates every year and helps solidarity grow in the borough! Just imagining the children's joy helps convince us of the great importance of our gesture.

Donations

Just to remind you that your donation would make a difference, whatever the amount. It would help the ABC Center meet its goal of providing a varied program of assistance and services to people of all ages in the community of Saint-Laurent. A tax receipt will be provided upon request. Thank you for your generosity.

Tribute to Mrs. Denise Laurin

We would like to pay tribute to a long-time volunteer in the Laurentian community, Denise Laurin, who passed away on November 26.

A volunteer for over 20 years, Mrs. Laurin was involved with several community organizations, namely the Handicapés de Saint-Laurent and the ABC Center. She helped organize numerous friendship calls over the years, participated for many years in the Centre's Respite Days and was also a team leader at many events.

Mrs. Laurin was a very involved person who put her heart and her time at the service of people who needed it. Today, we want to acknowledge her significant contribution to the community and thank her for her empathy, her devotion and her involvement as a citizen. We will never forget her.

Many thanks to all volunteers

Once again this year, volunteers have been an undeniable and necessary support for many activities in Saint-Laurent.

Thanks to your actions, you have supported volunteer action in the Saint-Laurent community.

A huge thank you for your unlimited generosity and for your involvement in the Saint-Laurent community.

LES DEMEURES STE-CROIX 35TH ANNIVERSARY

In the 1980s, independent seniors on low income had difficulty finding housing that met their needs, and often confided their concerns to their good doctor, Dr. Robert Lavigne, then medical director of the Notre-Dame-de-l'Espérance Hospital, transformed later as a CHSLD.

Along with two of his friends, Messrs. Marcel Roy and Luc Morin, and supported by many political partners from all levels of power, Dr. Lavigne has done everything possible to achieve this «dream of a better world» for the senior residents of Saint -Laurent.

The Demeures Sainte-Croix celebrated their 35th anniversary on November 24, thus pursuing the dream of their founder. Dr. Robert Lavigne.

Ever since their opening, they have offered a safe, dynamic and participatory living environment to some

140 residents! The anniversary was celebrated in the presence of Dr. Lavigne, who told them that he still has dreams to achieve for seniors in the Laurentians region, where he lives today.

After the tributes of the elected officials of the borough of Saint-Laurent, the residents in turn showed him all their gratitude for his constant support over the years. They also applauded his courage to go after his dream!

Ginette Lavigne,
Executive Director for Demeures Sainte-Croix