

# McGill News

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

FALL  
WINTER  
2015



## DOCTOR IN THE DANGER ZONE

HOW JOANNE LIU LED THE FIGHT  
AGAINST THE EBOLA CRISIS

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## COOKING UP THE FUTURE



Food scientists face a daunting challenge. It's not enough to devise a new food product that's nutritious, affordable and easy to produce. If it doesn't pass the taste test, it's all for naught. At Macdonald Campus, Salwa Karboune and her students dream up tomorrow's foods. So far, the results are delicious.

BY MARK ABLEY

## CITY BUILDERS



Montreal is one of a handful of places in the world designated as a UNESCO city of design. One of the reasons why Montreal looks so good is that it's full of iconic buildings and unique sites that are the handiwork of graduates of McGill's School of Architecture.

BY DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89



En septembre dernier, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif, ancien joueur des Redmen de McGill, a disputé son premier match au sein de la NFL. Recruté par les Chiefs de Kansas City en 2014, l'athlète n'a toutefois pas abandonné sa deuxième vocation, la médecine, et continue de partager son temps entre un sport qui le passionne et ses études.

PAR JEAN-BENOIT NADEAU (B.A.1992)



## PHYSICIAN WITH A MISSION

When the first signs of the 2014 Ebola crisis emerged, Médecins Sans Frontières international president Joanne Liu, MDCM'91, IMHL'14, and her team were quick to respond while others accused them of exaggerating the threat. By the end of the year, Liu and her colleagues were hailed as heroes.

BY JONATHAN MONTPETIT, BA'03

## LE FABULEUX DESTIN DE LAURENT DUVERNAY-TARDIF

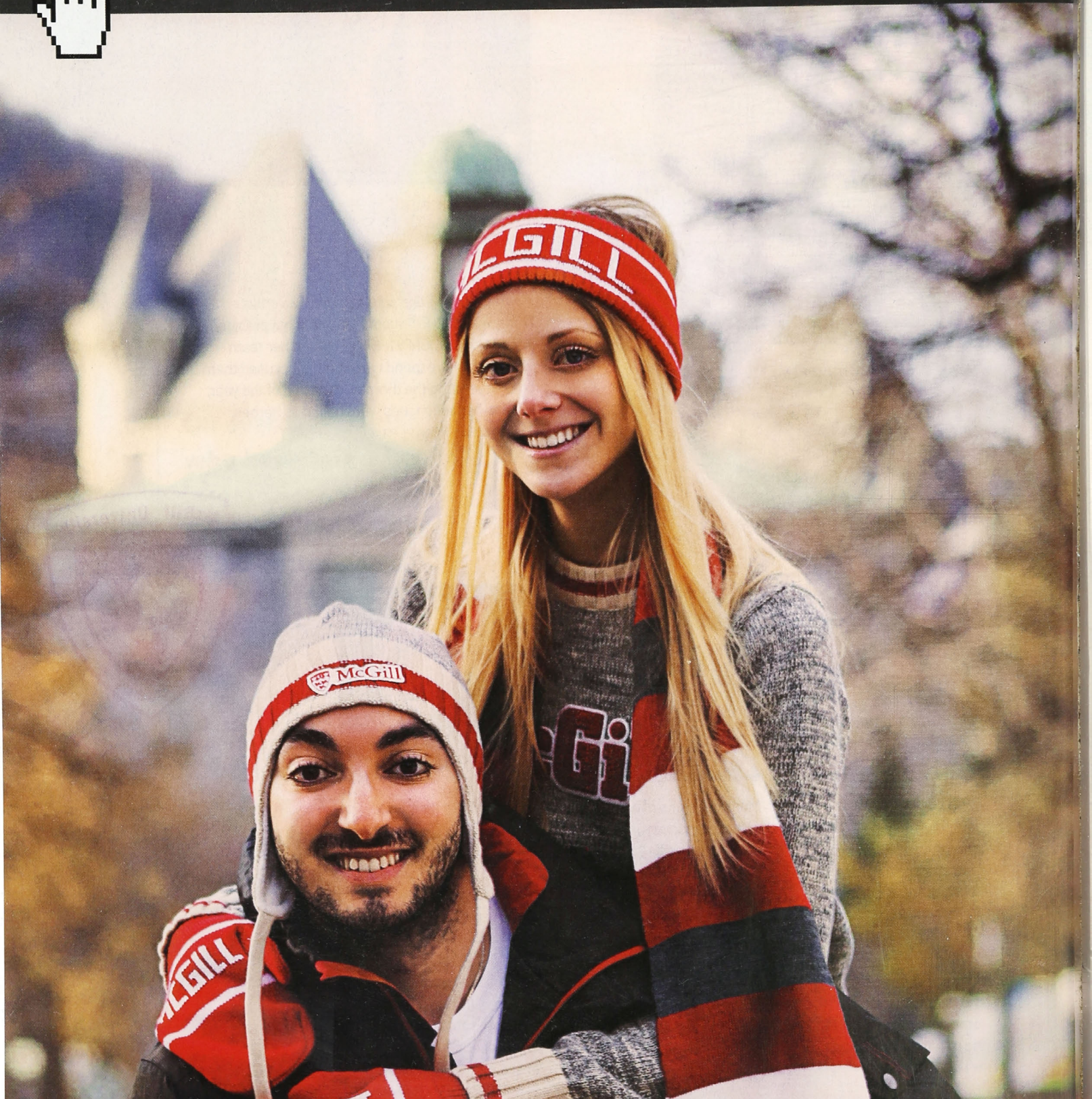




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OWEN EGAN

# THE MAN WHO STUCK AROUND

A lot of people have been congratulating me lately, patting me on the back, shaking my hand. It's weirding me out. I don't think I've done anything all that exceptional. All I've done is stay put—and, apparently, if you do that for 25 years, it's sort of a big deal. You get your photo taken with the principal.

My first job at McGill was as the associate editor of the *McGill Reporter*, the University's faculty and staff newspaper. I worked on a Macintosh Classic back then. It had a fraction of the functionality of today's smartphones. For a guy who spent his undergraduate years pounding out term papers on a temperamental Smith Corona typewriter, it felt like entering the Space Age.

On my first week in the job, I needed to interview David Johnston, then the principal. He returned my call promptly and asked to speak to Dennis McCabe. I felt sheepish about correcting the man who is now Canada's governor general. So, in a voice that was uncharacteristically deep, I responded, "This is Mr. McCabe." Johnston was unfazed. I imagine he was used to dealing with his share of eccentric characters.

In my early years with the *Reporter*, I occasionally wrote about the McGill community members who were marking their 25th anniversaries at the University. And I remember that callow 20-something version of me thinking, "They must be kind of old."

If I had access to a time machine, I'd go back to 1990 and smack that kid. Then, I'd glance sadly at the unkempt mop of hair still on his head and I'd advise him to treasure every moment the two of them had left together.

When I think back to the major stories that we covered in the *Reporter* 25 years ago, many were related to the School of Architecture in some way. Adjunct professor Julia Gersovitz, BSc(Arch)'74, BArch'75, a restoration specialist, was handed the job of bringing the downtown campus's Lady Meredith Building back to life after a devastating fire (spoiler alert—she and her partners succeeded brilliantly). Architecture professors Avi Friedman, MArch'83, and Witold Rybczynski, BArch'66, MArch'72, DSc'02, introduced the world to their Grow Home, a compact house intended for first-time buyers who couldn't afford to spend too much. They built a prototype on campus, attracted international media coverage, and helped spark new efforts in affordable housing.

As the photo essay in this issue makes clear, the graduates of the School of Architecture have made—and continue to make—enormous contributions to this city. Twenty-five years after I joined McGill, there are still plenty of stories to tell about the school—and it's just one part of a very big place that's always full of stories.

It's the sort of place where the future international president of Médecins Sans Frontières gets the medical and management training to make her mark on the world stage. It's the sort of place where a determined young man learns to balance his medical studies with a fledgling NFL career. It's the sort of place where undergraduates, under the careful tutelage of a special professor, win international prizes for creating new types of food.

It's easy to spend a quarter of a decade at a place like that. The years just fly by. I still miss the hair, though. 🐦

DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89

# WHY RESEARCH MATTERS



CHRISTINE MUSCHI

In a 2014 address to the McGill community, Principal Suzanne Fortier, BSc'72, PhD'76, outlined her priorities for the University's future. One was described as "Unleashing McGill's Full Research Potential." The principal recently spoke to the *McGill News* about the importance of university research and how McGill's alumni and supporters have helped the cause.

## What is the relationship between curiosity-driven research and purpose-driven research?

It is crucial to support both types of research. There is often a natural transition from curiosity-driven research to purpose-driven research. For example, the early research on lasers was driven by curiosity. Today, the laser is a pervasive technology that has so many applications — from reading barcodes to non-invasive surgery to hair removal. I am sure that the researchers who worked on this in the early sixties never imagined that last application.

An example closer to home would be Professor Robin Rogers, our Canada Excellence Research Chair in Green Chemistry and Green Chemicals. His fundamental research has led to important applications — finding cheaper and more environmentally-friendly methods to manufacture rayon and other products, for instance.

We have seen an incredible growth in knowledge in recent decades, yet there is still so much that we don't know whether about our universe or our brains. We have a solid understanding of less than five per cent of the human brain. The knowledge we are acquiring on that front, much of it driven by curiosity, will be vital for keeping brains healthy in the years to come.

## Is the interplay between curiosity-driven research and purpose-driven research something that we see in the social sciences and humanities as well?

I recently had the great privilege of attending the ceremony at the U.S. Library of Congress when our emeritus professor of philosophy Charles Taylor received the Kluge Prize, probably the most important award in the world for contributions to the humanities.

Professor Taylor was celebrated for his contributions to our understanding of what it is to be human in an age of secularization, modernization and increasing diversity. The issues he has explored are very relevant to the challenges we face as the world struggles to find peace and harmony.

## What role do students play at a research-intensive university like McGill?

It is important that universities create learning environments that inspire students to be brave and bold in questioning current assumptions and in asking challenging questions. Participating in research during their undergraduate years is a great way for them to do so. As for our graduate students, they are vital contributors to the research done at McGill.

Our alumni have made important contributions in these areas. When we talk about research internships for our undergraduates, and fellowships and other forms of support for our graduate students, the support we have received from our alumni and friends has been outstanding.

## What are some of the other ways in which McGill's alumni and donors assist our research efforts?

It is often difficult to support research in high-risk fields, because funding agencies tend to be risk-averse. I am talking about the kind of research where the initial reaction might be, "This sounds crazy!" With that kind of research, the risks are high, but the rewards could be huge. Epigenetics is one example. McGill is one of the world's leaders in this area, but the notion that our environment could fundamentally alter the way in which our genes are expressed was initially controversial. Today, thanks to the support of an Irving Ludmer, we can build on our strength in epigenetics and use it to look at the roots of mental illness in new ways at the Ludmer Centre for Neuroinformatics and Mental Health.

We recently attracted one of the world's leading experts in chronic pain to McGill, Professor Luda Diatchenko. She is our Canada Excellence Research Chair in Human Pain Genetics. Would that have been possible without the Alan Edwards Centre for Research on Pain? The Edwards family understood how devastating chronic pain disorders can be. Again, this was once a field that didn't receive the attention it deserved. Too often, the reaction to chronic pain was, "It's all in your head."

Thanks to the support of our alumni and friends, we have the great privilege of being able to attract brilliant students and professors and continue to build McGill as one of the great universities worldwide. ✨

# CHANGING OF THE GUARD

After leading the Liberal Party to a convincing victory in the October 19 federal election, **JUSTIN TRUDEAU**, BA'94, became the third McGill graduate in Canadian history to lead the country's government (Sir John Abbott, BCL 1854, was the first, while Sir Wilfrid Laurier, BCL 1864, was the second).

Trudeau might spot a few McGill ties during Liberal caucus meetings. More than 11 per cent of the MPs from his party are McGill graduates. In all, 24 McGill alumni were elected to Parliament—21 Liberals, one Conservative and two NDP members (including NDP leader **TOM MULCAIR**, BCL'76, LLB'77).

Some of those McGill graduates are now playing important roles in Trudeau's cabinet. **JIM CARR**, BA'79, is the new minister of natural resources, **JOHN MCCALLUM**, PhD'77, (a former McGill economics professor and dean of arts) is the minister of immigration, refugees and citizenship, and **CATHERINE MCKENNA**, LLB'99, is the new minister of environment and climate change. Trudeau himself is taking on a couple of additional portfolios aside from his prime ministerial duties. He is serving as his government's minister of intergovernmental affairs and as its minister of youth.

Rookie Liberal MP **ARIF VIRANI**, BA'94, believes the former Conservative government made a fateful strategic error when it chose to make the 2015 federal election the longest campaign in recent Canadian history. "They gave Canadians 78 days to get to know Justin Trudeau."

Virani might be biased, of course. He has counted Canada's new prime minister as a friend since the two were both members of the McGill Debating Union during the early nineties.

Virani recalls meeting Trudeau and not knowing what to expect from him at first. "Here was this guy who had lived at 24 Sussex and his last name was Trudeau," he says. "But what became clear very quickly was how grounded and down-to-earth he was. Even then, he had a great ability to connect with people."

In a speech he gave in March that was organized by the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada and the McGill Alumni Association, Trudeau talked about his time at McGill.

"One of the first things you learn at McGill is that every room is teeming with people who are used to being—or, at least, feeling like—the smartest person in the room.



CHRIS ROUSSAKIS / EPA

"Then, as now, since you are all in the same room, basic math requires you to put that feeling behind you.

"And if you're really smart, you learn to do it quickly. You take advantage of the unique opportunity that comes from being immersed in such a dynamic environment."

Trudeau took his own advice, becoming involved with the student-run Sexual Assault Centre as a facilitator who helped lead discussions about issues like date rape at fraternities and residences.

As a member of the McGill Debating Union, he faced off against such opponents as future U.S. presidential candidate Ted Cruz.

Trudeau joined the Debating Union at the invitation of a new acquaintance, **GERALD BUTTS**, BA'93, MA'96, then the group's vice-president. The two forged a close friendship at McGill and Butts, who won two student world championships as a McGill debater, is now Trudeau's principal secretary and is widely credited as one of the key architects of the Liberals' election victory.

During his victory speech after the election, Trudeau singled out Butts and another senior organizer, Katie Telford, for special praise.

"Katie and Gerry are two of the smartest, toughest, hardest working people you will find anywhere. They share with me the conviction that politics doesn't have to be negative and personal to be successful. That you can appeal to the better angels of our nature, and you can win while doing it."

DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89

↑ Justin Trudeau speaking at an event in Ottawa shortly after leading his Liberal Party to victory in the Canadian election.

## L'UNIVERSITÉ MCGILL DÉVOILE SON « FRENCH SIDE »

Un tout nouveau portail de l'Université McGill dévoile un côté moins connu de l'institution: la francophonie sur le campus, et tous les services qui s'y rattachent.

Lancé à la fin du mois de septembre, le site Internet « **VIVRE EN FRANÇAIS** » a nécessité plus d'un an de travail. Le projet, développé par l'École d'éducation permanente, a reçu l'appui de l'Office québécois de la langue française. La plate-forme regroupe tous les services offerts en français sur le campus. Le site s'adresse aux francophones et à ceux qui voudraient apprendre la langue. Les étudiants pourront y retrouver des informations sur les programmes qui requièrent une connaissance du français. Les internautes pourront aussi découvrir l'implication de l'université au sein de la communauté, le tout émaillé d'informations et de statistiques sur la langue de Molière à McGill.

« L'amour d'une langue et sa promotion passe par sa découverte », estime la gestionnaire du projet, Manon Gadbois. À son avis, le site offre des pistes pour faciliter l'intégration des membres de la communauté. « Ce portail a pour objectif de mieux vivre ensemble le français et assurer par le fait même une plus grande visibilité de l'université dans le contexte francophone, montréalais et québécois. »

Le portail reflète la croissance du nombre d'étudiants français sur le campus, dont le nombre a bondi de 127 % au cours des cinq dernières années.

« Avec ce portail, nous voulons lancer le message que McGill est l'université de tous les Québécoises et Québécois, et que les francophones sont ici chez eux », souligne pour sa part le vice-principal exécutif et vice-principal aux études, Christopher Manfredi.

[vivreenfrancais.mcgill.ca](http://vivreenfrancais.mcgill.ca)

DAVID SAVOIE



CHRISTINE MUSCHI



## A TAILOR FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

After **NATHON KONG**, BSc(AgEnvSc)'07, completed his degree in microbiology, he went shopping for some nice clothes to wear to job interviews.

"Just buying a white shirt turned out to be a nightmare," says Kong, recounting how he spent \$200 over six months on alterations "and it still didn't fit me right." He suspected he wasn't the only one out there having a frustrating time finding clothes that fit properly.

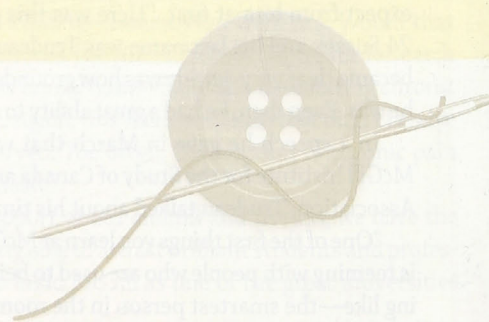
Last year, Kong launched Tailor2go, a unique approach to providing reasonably priced, custom-made clothing. He operates the business out of a truck outfitted with wood paneling, an espresso machine, a wide range of fabric samples and a 3D scanner that can take 450 different measurements in a matter of seconds. "This is where I cut costs," he explains, noting that the truck is cheaper than renting a storefront. His customers, many of them time-strapped lawyers and accountants, appreciate the fact that Kong comes to them, parking the truck outside their offices so that they can get their fittings done quickly.

Tailor2go has done well in entrepreneurial contests, winning awards from McGill's Dobson Cup competition, as well as from Montreal's International Startup Festival and the Concours québécois en entrepreneuriat.

While the travelling truck and the 3D technology capture peoples' attention, Kong says Tailor2go ultimately relies on something much more old-fashioned — customer service. "It's all about the relationship and listening to your customers carefully." While the 3D scanner supplies very precise measurements, "people don't all want to wear their suits the same way. Some prefer a really slim fit and some don't.

"I don't think most men enjoy shopping for suits," says Kong. "My mission is to make the shopping experience fun."

DANIEL MCCABE





# A RHODES LESS TRAVELLED

A few years ago, **KAZUMI FRASER HOSHINO-MACDONALD** was flunking out of high school in Vancouver's gritty east end. Today, he is making plans to attend Oxford University next fall as McGill's 139th Rhodes Scholar.

"In high school I was a terrible student," Hoshino-Macdonald acknowledges. "I was interested in stuff they weren't teaching. And it was a tough high school. Being interested in what was going on in the classroom wasn't considered cool."

And then he found a different kind of learning. He volunteered at non-profits and became involved in programs focused on urban farming and at-risk youth. He began learning about things that he *was* interested in, and with that came the realization that "the only way, I'm ever going to do something, is to get the academic tool kit."

So he enrolled in Langara College, which he describes as a kind of last-chance school for those in danger of dropping out. "I worked my ass off for two years," he says, and got back on track.

Though Hoshino-Macdonald applied to McGill, he didn't expect to be admitted. "I just never thought I would end up in a place like this." He has made the most of the experience, taking on a series of research assistantships and serving on the editorial board for the *McGill International Review*.

Majoring in international development studies, Hoshino-Macdonald has a keen interest in how city-states like Singapore have blasted their way to prominence despite a lack of natural resources. He'll soon be examining one of those city-states up-close. He heads to Hong Kong in January for an exchange program at Hong Kong University.

DOUG SWEET



OWEN LEGAN

## TOURING THE WORLD WITH **MADONNA**

While serving as the musical director for the world tour of the Cirque du Soleil show *Delirium*, **RIC'KEY PAGEOT**, BMus'03, learned how to play the accordion. "I didn't even bother to mention it on my MySpace page because I didn't want to lose my street cred," says Pageot.

Thankfully, for him, word got out anyway. Madonna's musical director, on the lookout for an accordion player, heard about Pageot. "Next thing you know, I'm playing accordion on 'La Isla Bonita.'"

Pageot has been a touring member of the pop icon's stage show since 2008. "Even to this day, when we play 'Holiday,' for a second I can't believe I'm playing this classic that I used to play at weddings, but actually with Madonna," he says.

When Pageot isn't on tour with Madonna, he and his wife, singer Dessy Di Lauro, concentrate on her solo project. He refers to the unique musical style on Di Lauro's latest EP, *Say Hep Hep*, as neo-ragtime.

"It's a mix of thirties ragtime — think Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington — mixed with an urban R&B, soul and hip hop sound," he explains. "It's our own sound."

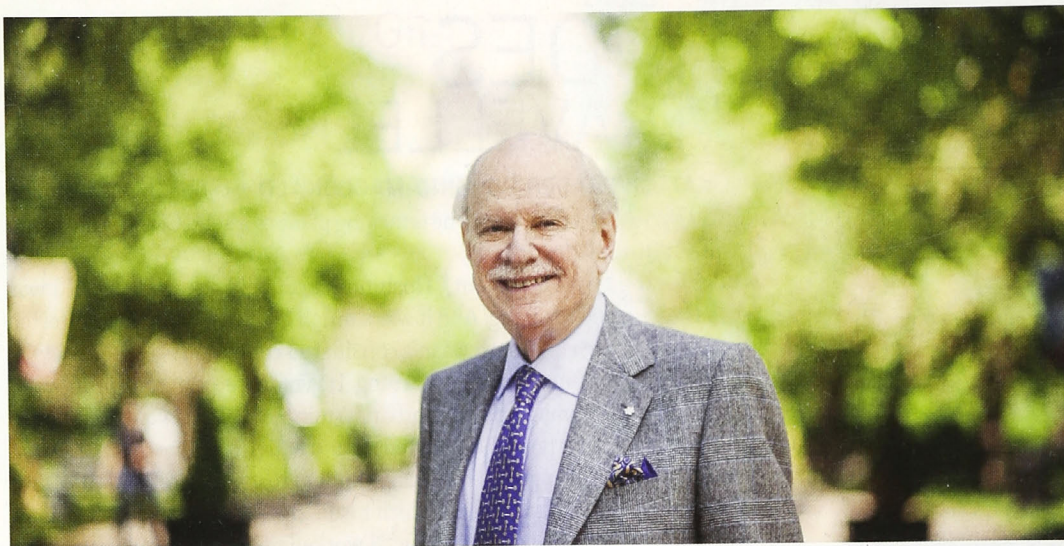
At a recent tour stop in Minnesota, Pageot took part in what might have been the most unlikely McGill alumni reunion ever: at Prince's famed Paisley Park.

"We got an invite from Prince to go there after our Minneapolis show," Pageot says. "So I walked in and maybe 15 minutes later I felt a tap on my back. I turned around and it was **DONNA GRANTIS** [BMus'02], who plays in Prince's 3rdeyegirl band. We were good friends at McGill."

ERIK LEIJON



MARIE-JUELLE PARENT



## A CHANCELLOR AND A CHAMPION

**ARNOLD STEINBERG**, BCom'54, LLD'00, held many positions over the course of a remarkable life—senior executive with a grocery store chain, chair of a global real estate company, board member for several major corporations—but one role in particular stood out for him.

“Other than family, it’s the thing that’s given me the most pride in my entire life,” Steinberg said of the five years he spent as McGill’s chancellor. “I’ve had a very exciting life and very active business career. But nothing compares to this.”

Steinberg died on December 11 at the age of 82. In a statement to the McGill community, Principal Suzanne Fortier, BSc'72, PhD'76, paid tribute to Steinberg.

“Arnold Steinberg believed in the transformative power of education. So, too, was he a tireless champion for improving the quality of health care.” In describing his work as chancellor, she added, “he brought to the job a boundless curiosity and focused intelligence. He was decisive when he needed to be, kind and humble always.”

Never was Steinberg’s decisiveness more clearly on display than when he spearheaded the movement to have Vitamin D added to Quebec’s milk in the sixties.

As a board member of the Montreal Children’s Hospital Research Institute at the time, Steinberg was concerned when he learned that rickets, a condition that weakens children’s bones, had reached near epidemic proportions in Quebec. It was especially galling because, thanks to research carried out by McGill’s Charles Scriver, it was understood that milk enriched with Vitamin D would all but eliminate the problem. Unfortunately, one major supplier refused to add the supplement.

As the chief financial officer for the popular Steinberg’s grocery chain, Steinberg issued an ultimatum to the stubborn supplier—start adding Vitamin D to the milk or lose a lucrative contract. In a very short time, rickets was all but eliminated in Quebec.

In a 2009 interview with the *McGill Reporter*, Steinberg spoke about the impact his McGill education had on his life. “I was exposed to so many subjects I had never studied before: political science, psychology, economic history. I read Shakespeare and captained the varsity water polo team. It was a real awakening for me and it gave me the confidence to move forward in a way that I couldn’t have had before entering the University.”

Steinberg was a tireless fundraiser and volunteer who, among other duties, spent 10 years on the University’s board of governors and 19 years as the chair of the board of governors for the McGill University-Montreal Children’s Hospital Research Institute. He was the founding chair of the McGill University Health Centre’s board and vice-chair of the governing council for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

He was also a generous philanthropist, supporting many projects and initiatives at McGill. In recent years, he took pride in providing pivotal support to the Steinberg Centre for Simulation and Interactive Learning. “I consider it a privilege to be able to help the centre take this exciting new step in its evolution,” Steinberg said at the time.

“His enormous contributions to medical simulation have already been appreciated by many tens of thousands of learners, and continue to be reaped, daily,” says Rajesh Aggarwal, the centre’s director.

“He influenced everyone he met through his gracious warmth, joyous optimism and incisive intelligence,” says former principal Heather Munroe-Blum. “He shaped McGill, Montreal and Canada in deeply progressive and positive ways—uniquely, indelibly.”

As his mandate as McGill’s chancellor drew to a close in 2014, Steinberg told *The Gazette* that he still couldn’t believe his good fortune at being chosen for the office. “I still kind of pinch myself that I was given that opportunity.”

NEALE MCDEVITT

# SIMULATING A WORLD OF HIGH STAKES

How do medical students learn to be doctors?

The answer seems straightforward. By going to university and studying under the guidance of experts. By going into hospitals and observing seasoned practitioners in action.

But how do they learn to perform a tricky medical procedure for the very first time?

**RAJESH AGGARWAL** knows just the place to go.

“We’re like a real hospital: we have 10 clinical examination rooms, we have a high-fidelity suite that can simulate emergency rooms, operating rooms, or delivery rooms, and we have real equipment. The only thing we don’t have is real patients,” says Aggarwal, director of the **STEINBERG CENTRE FOR SIMULATION AND INTERACTIVE LEARNING**.

The centre is undergoing a major transformation, thanks to a \$7.5 million donation from the Blema and Arnold Steinberg Family Foundation enabling the addition of another 8,000 to 10,000 square feet to the centre’s current 18,000—including a ward and a four-room apartment for simulating home care. In addition to expanding the centre’s educational facilities, the Steinberg gift will support important new initiatives in research and innovation.

“There is a paucity of research into the impact of simulation training,” says Aggarwal, something that the centre is now working to address. One of its first research projects will assess trauma care at the Montreal General Hospital before and after simulation training; another aims to identify those areas of simulation training offering the highest value. “We don’t need to simulate an entire hospital, but we need to identify the critical areas where we can get the most value for health care workers and patients,” he says.

The Steinberg gift will also support two streams of medical innovation: one will involve developing better tools, equipment, and processes for use in simulation pedagogy, while another aims to shorten health care product development cycles. The centre’s expansion will include an innovation zone for connecting health care professionals, engineers, and others involved in product development.

While the centre extends into these new domains of research and innovation, it will continue developing its educational objectives focusing on technical proficiency, effective communication, and solid teamwork.



OWEN EGAN

Technical or procedural proficiency involves basic skills in everything from taking blood to performing complex microsurgery, while communication training introduces simulation participants to difficult clinical exchanges. “Say a patient has come to get test results after a lump has been removed from her breast, and a medical student has to tell her that she has cancer and needs surgery to remove the breast,” says Aggarwal. “No one can do that without practicing.” The centre also offers teamwork training, reproducing scenarios that medical teams must confront. “Say a patient goes into cardiac arrest: that person has a better chance of survival if the health care team is talking to one another and has leadership,” says Aggarwal.

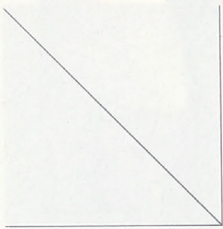
The simulation training is much appreciated. “The general feeling among medical students is that we would like to be at the centre more often,” says Doulia Hamad, BSc’14, a second year student and president of the Medical Students Society. Hamad has been learning to perform bedside ultrasounds and has participated in challenging clinical scenarios with themes such as substance abuse or spousal violence. “The scenarios feel like real life,” she says.

The centre’s facilities are equipped with videocameras and microphones for recording all sessions, and one-way mirrors so assessors can observe how students interact with patients—in reality, professional theatre actors who have trained to perform as “standardized patients.”

Immediately afterwards, all participants—the students, the assessors and the actors playing patients—discuss the session, touching on what went right, what went wrong, and where improvements can be made. “This stage is where the real learning happens,” says Aggarwal.

PATRICK MCDONAGH

↑ **Students practice medical procedures on a highly sophisticated mannequin whose responses mimic those of human patients**



## WHERE STARS ARE BORN

Most galaxies are slow at making stars. The Milky Way churns out a mere one or two each year. But astronomers recently made an unexpected finding—a distant galaxy bursting with the light of more than 800 newly formed stars. The galaxy in question is located 9.8 billion light years away. Galaxies group in clusters, tied together by gravity. The stars at the center of these clusters are usually old and dead, not shiny and new.

Assistant professor of physics **TRACY WEBB** was part of an international team of researchers that spotted the unusually star-packed galaxy and the lead author on a recently published paper about the discovery.

Using NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope, the researchers noticed an extraordinary amount of star formation occurring at the cluster's core, where a gargantuan galaxy was spitting out approximately 860 stars per year.

Later, images from the Hubble Space Telescope revealed that this unusual find was the result of the merger of a small galaxy with a massive one at the center of the cluster. Specifically, Hubble detected features called "beads on a string"—pockets of gas that condense during star formation. These are tell-tale signs of a wet merger, where gas is present during a galaxy collision and provides fuel to create new stars. This is extremely rare—most galaxies come together in dry mergers, without gas, where no new stars are born.

Many galaxies eventually collide as gravity draws them together. Our own Milky Way will merge with the nearby Andromeda in a few billion years. "Galaxies merging is a pretty common phenomenon," says Webb. "What's not common is for such an extreme star burst to happen at the center of a cluster."

DIANA KWON, MSC'15

↑ This massive cluster of galaxies, called SpARCS1049+56, is bursting with the birth of new stars.

ADRIA FRUITOS



## A FINAL RISKY CHOICE

In 1961, Nobel Prize winner Ernest Hemingway committed suicide, one of five suicides in the Hemingway family over four generations and perhaps the most famous illustration of the heritability of suicide.

Determining exactly which genetic traits contribute to suicide has been a long term research objective of **FABRICE JOLLANT**, an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry. His most recent study points to the prevalence of high-risk decision-making as a key factor.

The study focused on the close relatives of individuals who committed suicide. These individuals were compared to close relatives of individuals with major depressive disorders, but no family history of suicide. Decision making and cognitive control were measured to evaluate what kinds of decisions were made and how well the study's participants were able to self-correct or mitigate behaviours.

"The findings suggest that decision-making impairment may be found in healthy relatives of suicides and represents a heritable trait of vulnerability to suicidal behaviour," says Jollant. However, those same relatives, who were at genetic risk of suicide but never attempted it themselves, may be protected against suicidal acts because of their normal cognitive control—something which may be missing on the part of individuals who attempted or committed suicide.

"It looks like decision making is genetically transmitted, but that's not the case for cognitive control," adds Jollant. "This may indicate that the risk of suicides is higher in individuals who make risky choices and are unable to avoid following through on those risky choices."

ANDREW MAHON

Though hearts continue to break over the sad fate of wise Charlotte, we don't usually dwell much on the character of spiders. But **RAPHAËL ROYAUTÉ**, PhD'14, has spent a lot of time thinking about spiders' personalities.

When he was still a McGill doctoral student, the behavioural ecologist conducted a study, published recently in *Functional Ecology*, on the effects of pesticide on the bronze jumping spider.

Researchers had already observed how pesticides harm agriculturally significant insects, such as bees and wasps, but Royauté and his collaborators, associate professor of natural resource sciences **CHRIS BUDDLE**, and **CHARLES VINCENT**, MSc'80, PhD'83, of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, were the first to focus on the impact on spiders.

The researchers gathered the eight-legged jumpers from three never-treated locales. Then the spiders' behavioral traits were measured by watching them explore a 30 cm x 30 cm box (adventurousness!) and seeing how quickly they could catch a fruit fly in a petri dish (voracity!). Now, spiders don't exactly have a human breadth and depth, Royauté avers, but just as Fido can differ from Rover, there are definitely individual variations.

Half the spiders in the study were exposed to low levels of a common organophosphate pesticide, phosmet, and the tests were repeated.

While Royauté and his colleagues had previously seen a wide variation in how the spiders explored their environment, or how long they took to hunt their meal, the range had narrowed. And while the overall population average was the same, the personality quirks that made each spider distinct had been numbed.

Some of the changes fell along gender lines. Individual females, for instance, were much more affected in their ability to capture prey.

MAEVE HALDANE



BERNIE MIREAULT

## SPIDER SENSES ASKEW



ETHAN RILEY

## THE REAL STORY BEHIND "COUGARS"

The archetype of the sophisticated older woman with a penchant for younger men has been present in the popular imagination for quite some time, and it isn't typically flattering: they are vain, often desperate, and perhaps even dangerous. Their predatory nature is underscored in the term "cougar."

According to research from sociology doctoral student **MILAINE ALARIE**, published earlier this year in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*, the

older female half of "age-hypogamous sexual relationships" seldom resemble the experienced seductresses that regularly turn up in sitcoms and movies. Older women who date younger men come from all walks of life.

And here's to you Mrs. Robinson: there are far more of you out there than we realized. In scouring the U.S. National Survey of Family Growth, Alarie found that almost 13 per cent of women had slept with a man five or more years younger than her in the previous year. Just over four per cent had slept with a man a decade their junior.

"Considered together, our results confirm how distorted common cultural representations of 'cougars,' such as those found in the media, can be," writes Alarie.

More than half had been in a relationship with their partner for two or more years. Nearly half of those were married or living with their partner. Nor are these women the martini-sipping sophisticates epitomized by *Sex and the City's* Samantha Jones: Alarie reports that the preponderance of women with younger partners have lower than average incomes.

Many of the negative stereotypes associated with older women dating younger men stem from societal sexism, says Alarie. Terms like "cougar" are used to patrol the acceptable boundaries of female sexuality.

"Words are often used to regulate people's behaviour — and in this case, women's sexuality," says Alarie.

MARK REYNOLDS

# THE GIFT OF YOU

The art of giving gifts, done right, can deepen a personal relationship. Done wrong, it can lead to a night sleeping on the couch. For most people, common sense dictates that the “right” gift is one that fits in with the recipient’s interests and tastes. How else to show that you’re paying attention to the person and that you care about their desires?

That approach might be precisely backwards, according to research published earlier this year in the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* by assistant professor of psychology **LAUREN HUMAN** and her collaborator, Simon Fraser University’s Lara Aknin. Most people, according to surveys the two conducted last year, believe that one should buy gifts that reflect the interests of the recipient. But when Human and Aknin recruited subjects to give gifts — some with a mission to reflect themselves, others to reflect the recipient — the results were unexpected.

“Recipients felt closer to the giver if they received a gift that reflected the giver instead of one that reflected themselves,” explains Human.

“It was somewhat surprising, given that people like to receive information that confirms their self-views, and they like to be known by those close to them, so getting a gift that reflects you should reinforce that and be a nice thing to receive.”

Human says that it is possible that giving your Mozart-loving sweetheart a collection of your favorite Metallica songs can be seen as an act of openness.

“These acts of self-disclosure when you express yourself to someone, can also be really beneficial for relationships. It’s sharing something about you that solidifies the connection with the other person.”

MARK REYNOLDS

→ An antelope attempts to escape from the clutches of a cheetah in a Kenyan national reserve.



## THE PECULIAR MATH OF PREDATORS AND PREY



When **IAN HATTON**, BSc'99, MSc'04, PhD'14, compared the populations of predatory lions and leopards with those of their zebra and antelope prey in different African parks, he noticed something surprising. Hatton, who completed his doctoral studies in biology last year, had expected that with more prey around for predators to eat, the numbers of predators would grow to match the available prey. But he found that in high-density ecosystems like the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania, where there are plenty of prey, the ratio of predators to prey is much lower than in the sparsely populated Kalahari desert. “The pattern was very striking from the beginning and we wanted to know if it was more general,” says Hatton.

The investigation expanded to explore the relationship of predators to prey across many different ecosystems, ranging from the Canadian Arctic to tropical rainforests. He and his collaborators analyzed data from more than 1,000 studies.

His initial observation led to the discovery of what might be a basic law of nature. Hatton’s sweeping global canvas revealed a consistent and predictable mathematical pattern: in lush ecosystems, teeming with prey, the ratio of predators to prey is much lower than in less crowded settings. The rules that govern the growth of wolf packs in northern Quebec apply equally to giraffes feeding on foliage in the African savannah, whose numbers don’t keep pace with the growth of plants.

Hatton, who published his findings in *Science*, determined that in crowded settings, prey species consistently produced fewer offspring, which limits the abundance of predators. “It’s strange and exciting to see how different kinds of ecosystems exhibit very similar patterns in different species across the tree of life,” says Hatton.

MARK WITTEN

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10<sup>E</sup> CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL SUR LES SOINS AUX MALADES EN PHASE TERMINALE INET'96 LA CONVENTION ANNUELLE DE KIWANIS MONTRÉAL 2010 / 13<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS ON PAIN 4<sup>E</sup> CONGRÈS INTERNATIONAL DE BIOLOGIE CELLULAIRE THE 79<sup>TH</sup> LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 24<sup>E</sup> CONGRÈS DE LA SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE D'UROLOGIE FORUM MONDIAL MONTRÉAL 2002 / DROGUES ET DÉPENDANCES, ENJEUX POUR LA SOCIÉTÉ XII PANAMERICAN CONGRESS OF RHEUMATOLOGY 12<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF IMMUNOLOGY AND THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FOCIS / ICI COP 11 / UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE L'INITIATION D'AVALOKITESHVARA THE XXIV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF HEMOPHILIA INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEETING

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# PHYSICIAN

WITH A

# MISSION

Joanne Liu has treated patients in the most dangerous parts of the globe as a Médecins Sans Frontières doctor. Now, as MSF's international president, she is holding the world's leaders to account for the way they handle medical crises.

BY JONATHAN MONTPETIT, BA'03

The body of a six-year-old Syrian refugee is on the cover of every newspaper arrayed in the lobby of the Montreal restaurant where Dr. Joanne Liu, international president of Médecins Sans Frontières, has just arrived.

It is impossible not to look at the full-page photographs of Aylan Kurdi, dead, lying face-first in the sand. And look the world will. Over the coming weeks, the image will prompt anguished cries for action. Crowds will take to the streets, urging governments to do more for the millions fleeing the civil war. But before any of this happens, Liu leans over the table and predicts the refugee crisis will become “the topic of the year.”

This is not the first time that Liu, MDCM'91, IMHL'14, has foreseen a crisis in the making, only to confront an unwillingness to do something about it. She sounded the alarm early in 2014 about a potential Ebola epidemic in West Africa. The World Health Organization accused her of being alarmist. But when infection rates and the death toll jumped rapidly, the WHO changed its position and declared a global public health emergency. The WHO's reputation is still recovering.

Liu is dressed simply, wearing jeans, a t-shirt, and sandals on a warm day in early fall. She orders only mineral water, eats only the complimentary potato chips. Her modest appearance, though, belies an intensity of character, a singularity of vision.

Liu has known since she was a teenager that she wanted to work for MSF. Now that she finds herself in charge of the organization, she embraces the responsibility that comes with the position. This often means anticipating the next major health emergency and mobilizing resources in time.





PETER HOEY

Under Liu's leadership, MSF took the unprecedented step this spring of launching three converted ships to provide medical care to refugees and migrants making the treacherous voyage across the Mediterranean. The organization had never in its 43-year history offered help on the open seas. But in meetings over the winter at its headquarters in Geneva, Liu and her staff recognized that with the civil war worsening in Syria, more and more people would be desperate to leave. Thousands have died in rickety fishing boats and over-crowded rafts unable to navigate the waves of the Mediterranean. Something needed to be done.

MSF estimates its three boats have rescued more than 18,400 people since May. "We could have decided to be a powerless observer of an awful story unfolding in front of us," says Liu. "But inertia is not a solution."

## A GUT FEELING

Liu had barely been in her new job at MSF for a few months when alarming reports began circulating of a mysterious illness in southern Guinea. The symptoms were reminiscent of cholera, except for the persistent hiccups among some patients—a troubling warning sign for the deadly Ebola virus. But given that there had never been an outbreak of Ebola in West Africa before, few considered it a possibility when diagnosing these early cases.

In March 2014, MSF flew a batch of blood samples to a laboratory in France to be tested for the filoviruses that cause hemorrhagic fever. On March 21, an email from the lab was circulated to the WHO, MSF and other international health specialists. The presence of Ebola was confirmed.

Liu mobilized MSF staff and volunteers immediately. There had been 23 previous outbreaks of Ebola in Africa since it was first discovered in 1976, and a robust series of protocols for containing its spread have been developed since then. But Liu was worried that in the months before Ebola had been identified, the virus had already spread well beyond the initial cluster of villages in southern Guinea. Containment would be difficult.

There was a feeling in the pit of her stomach that she recognized from her time as an emergency room physician at Montreal's Sainte-Justine Hospital. She had developed an intuitive sense over the years about when a patient required something beyond the normal course of treatment. "You cannot put a name to it; it's just that gut feeling that this is going to be different," she recalls. "I had the same feeling for Ebola."

There were only 29 confirmed Ebola deaths from when the outbreak was first declared; no more than 50 people had been infected. By April of 2014, the number of reported cases appeared to be dropping. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began making plans to wrap up its Ebola operation in Guinea. When Liu and other MSF members insisted on calling the Ebola outbreak a major emergency, the WHO took to Twitter and told the group bluntly "Don't exaggerate."



PK LEE / MSF



MSF



MARK GARTEN / UN

“We could have decided to be a powerless observer of an awful story unfolding in front of us, but **inertia is not a solution.**”

## DETERMINED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Liu grew up in Charlesbourg, a suburb of Quebec City, where her parents ran a restaurant. After high school she rambled, doing community work with the Katimavik youth program, then hitchhiking across the country. She slept in homeless shelters when she ran out of money. Somewhere along the road, the dream of working for MSF crystallized in her mind. Every subsequent decision she made was with an eye towards that goal.

In an interview with *Montréal en Santé* magazine last year, Liu explained why she became so focused on MSF. As a teen, she read a memoir by one of its doctors about treating patients in war-torn Afghanistan. “I thought this was the kind of meaning I’d like to have in my life.”

While pursuing her medical training at McGill, Liu chose to specialize in pediatrics, a skill that she figured was needed anywhere in the world. She then undertook training in emergency room medicine in New York City. “It was the best place to be exposed to gunshot wounds and stab wounds,” which she reasoned would be good experience given the conditions under which MSF frequently operates. When she joined the staff at Sainte-Justine, Liu’s vacations took the form of overseas postings for MSF. Before becoming its president, Liu had undertaken 20 assignments in 16 different countries for the group. She served as the president of MSF-Canada from 2004 to 2009.

But Liu grew restless again. She wanted to contribute to the organization in new ways, but wasn’t sure how. She toyed with the idea of returning to school. While surfing the Internet, she discovered McGill’s International Masters for Health Leadership (IMHL) program. “I didn’t really know what I was getting myself into,” she admits. “I just wanted to be stimulated.”

The IMHL program is the product of an innovative collaboration between the Desautels Faculty of Management and the Faculty of Medicine. It is aimed at mid-career health care professionals, with the specific goal of bridging the experiences of clinicians and managers. Students are encouraged to develop personal management styles while also learning effective ways of collaborating and pooling information.

↑ Joanne Liu putting on protective gear while visiting the MSF Ebola treatment centre in Kailahun, Sierra Leone in 2014.

↖ Liu treating a young patient in Ethiopia.

← Liu with United Nations secretary-general Ban Ki-moon in April, 2015.

The program carries with it the iconoclastic approach to management of one of its founders, John Cleghorn Professor of Management Studies Henry Mintzberg, BEng’61. In his writings, Mintzberg frequently questions the tendency of corporate culture to champion heroic leaders over effective line managers. “Who wants a manager who doesn’t lead, and who wants a leader who doesn’t manage?” he asks, rhetorically. For Mintzberg, health care delivery is unique from business; it operates best on the basis of cooperation, not competition.

It not surprising then that Mintzberg encourages students in the program to learn as much from each other as they do from their teachers. This often leads to productive exchanges among classmates who, in the work world, face similar challenges.

Among Liu’s fellow students in the program was Conrad Sauvé, IMHL’14, CEO of the Canadian Red Cross. The two forged a close friendship as they shared experiences on how best to deal with large-scale health emergencies. “What was great about the program was that it brought together people who were already involved in these issues and gave them the opportunity to step back and gain perspective,” says Sauvé.

As part of the program, students are paired with a mentor. Liu’s was Rafael Bengoa, a former minister of health for the Basque government in Spain. During one of their conversations, Liu began outlining what she would do as president of MSF. When she finished, Bengoa told her, “Go for it.” The organization’s international president is elected by its general assembly. Liu had sought the position once before. When she lost, she convinced herself she didn’t want the job anymore. Bengoa’s encouragement made her realize she was wrong. “That was the push I needed,” she says.

Sauvé and other IMHL students helped organize Liu’s campaign. In the summer of 2013, before she had even completed the McGill program, she was elected as MSF’s thirteenth international president.

## CONFRONTING A CRISIS

Whatever afterglow resulted from her election, it almost certainly had dimmed by the following year. Liu spent the summer of 2014 racing around the world trying to convince skeptical audiences to take the Ebola outbreak in West Africa seriously. The drop in the number of cases in April had lulled the international community into a false sense of security. But while many were congratulating themselves on a job well done, the disease was quietly spreading. Soon enough, cases were being reported in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Nigeria. More than 1,500 people were dead of Ebola by the end of August; experts warned that as many as 20,000 could soon be infected. The WHO was no longer accusing MSF of exaggerating.

On a Friday night in September, after weeks of backroom lobbying, Liu received word that the United Nations had agreed to let her address the General Assembly the coming Monday. She stayed up most of the weekend with her staff drafting a speech. She knew she needed to choose her words carefully; the world's attention would finally be hers, if only for a few minutes.

Liu delivered a barnburner. She described infected bodies rotting in the streets, scenes of widespread panic, and overwhelmed health workers. World leaders were accused of standing idly by as the crisis deepened. "Six months into the worst Ebola epidemic in history, the world is losing the battle to contain it," she told the UN's General Assembly. The line registered, and governments in the West soon began to pony up the resources needed to contain the epidemic.

The power of Liu's speech was informed by first-hand experience. Before arriving at the UN, she had spent several weeks visiting the MSF treatment centres in West Africa. Like other front-line workers, she donned the yellow protective gear and sweated in the 45-degree heat as they conducted ward rounds. Liu, remember, trained as an emergency room physician and has treated patients in most of the world's major war zones. But even she was taken aback by the scale of Ebola's devastation.

Liu estimates that of the 70,000 children admitted annually to Sainte-Justine's emergency room, perhaps six will die. In a ward round lasting around 45 minutes in West Africa, she would witness at least that many deaths. Even in a war-zone clinic, doctors are able to save a majority of their patients. Ebola flips those odds. It has a mortality rate of between 50 and 60 percent. "We are not trained for that as doctors," Liu says. "Death is meant to be an exception. Death is an extraordinary event. It's not supposed to happen every hour."

Her willingness to leave the comforts of Geneva and experience for herself the daily challenges of fighting the disease meant Liu had a unique perspective among the global leaders trying to manage the crisis. She was able to hear directly from local staff as

→ Liu was named one of the world's 100 most influential people by Time.



they struggled to dam the flood of contagion. Such experiences gave her a keener sense of the situation's urgency. Mintzberg, for one, attributes MSF's effectiveness in the Ebola crisis to Liu's engaged brand of leadership. "Managing is rolling up your sleeves and getting dirt under your finger nails," he says. "Joanne is the perfect example of someone who is not disconnected from what's going on."

## CASUALTIES OF WAR

On October 7, Liu received a phone call from U.S. president Barack Obama. He was phoning to apologize. During a battle with Taliban fighters, a MSF field hospital in Afghanistan had been mistakenly targeted by a U.S. military airstrike. Twelve MSF staff died in the bombing. Ten patients also perished.

Obama promised her that the U.S. would conduct a thorough and transparent investigation into what went wrong. Liu wasn't satisfied. She and MSF called for an independent inquiry into the incident. "If we let this go, as if it was a non-event, we are basically giving a blank cheque to any countries who are at war," Liu declared at a news briefing. "If we don't safeguard that medical space for us to do our activities, then it is impossible to work in other contexts like Syria, South Sudan, like Yemen."

## NO LONGER AN UNKNOWN

As Liu recalls the peak moments of the Ebola epidemic in the Montreal restaurant, she realizes it's been almost a year to the day since her speech at the UN. "I was an unknown person before then," she remarks.

That isn't the case now. Liu's leadership during the crisis has earned her a long-list of accolades. *Maclean's* named her one of Canada's most important people. *Fortune* magazine selected her as one of the world's greatest leaders. The *Financial Times* chose Liu as one of its Women of 2014. "She almost single-handedly brought about awareness of the need for a better response to the epidemic," says Conrad Sauvé.

The outbreak in West Africa has largely subsided. Its toll was savage, though; an estimated 11,300 people were killed by Ebola. MSF alone lost 14 staff members. In a quiet voice that trails off, Liu says, "The trauma of it was quite strong."

Liu has been reflecting upon what went wrong. Commonly, public health failures such as epidemics are attributed to a lack of means available for an effective response. This wasn't the case in West Africa, according to Liu. "It wasn't a failure of means. It was a failure of political will."

Earlier this year, *Time* included Liu on its annual list of the world's 100 most influential people. In an essay about Liu that appeared in the magazine, Tom Frieden, the director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, assessed her impact during the Ebola crisis. "Liu repeatedly got it right, and MSF was at the right places at the right times," he wrote. "Most important, she charged—and continues to charge—the world to better respond to crises." 🐦

*Jonathan Montpetit is pursuing doctoral studies in political science at McGill. A former journalist with the Canadian Press, he served as the news agency's Afghanistan correspondent and as its political affairs correspondent for Quebec.*

# THE MAN BEHIND CANADALAND

In a 2014 essay in *The Walrus* entitled “Nobody’s a Critic,” **JESSE BROWN**, BA’00, offered a lament about the state of media criticism from his perch as a mid-career freelance journalist and media commentator.

Having had no luck in pitching media criticism to established Canadian media outlets, Brown decided to go it alone, launching *Canadalandshow.com* in 2013. The weekly podcast and blog “turned into quick poison for my career,” he wrote in *The Walrus*. “Freelance work dried up almost instantly, and my phone stopped ringing...”

But his exile in the media wilderness took an about-face last October, when Brown and the *Toronto Star*’s Kevin Donovan broke a scandal that attracted nationwide attention: explosive allegations of non-consensual, abusive BDSM liaisons with multiple women by Jian Ghomeshi, the then wildly popular host of CBC Radio’s *Q*.

Overnight, Brown’s struggling website became a go-to for scoops on the media industry. “Once you break a big story, you’re on a very short list of places to bring big stories to.”

Brown says he comes by his quest for the expression of truth honestly. “My mom’s a lawyer, my dad’s a shrink... My family put value in having an opinion, in defending it, in making fun of things when necessary, and in not taking yourself too seriously.”

While pursuing a degree in cultural studies at McGill, he wrote a prank press release for one course assignment that got picked up by CTV News in Montreal. Brown was elated. After a few more such pranks (one involved the pending launch of “*Stu*,” a new magazine that would be decidedly less slick

➤ **Canadaland founder Jesse Brown raises uncomfortable questions about the way the Canadian media sometimes operates.**



ALYSSA BISTONATH

than *GQ* as it catered to “the adequate man”), his girlfriend said, “So what? Who doesn’t know the media is gullible?” The comment led him to wonder “What do we want from our media? How could they be better?”

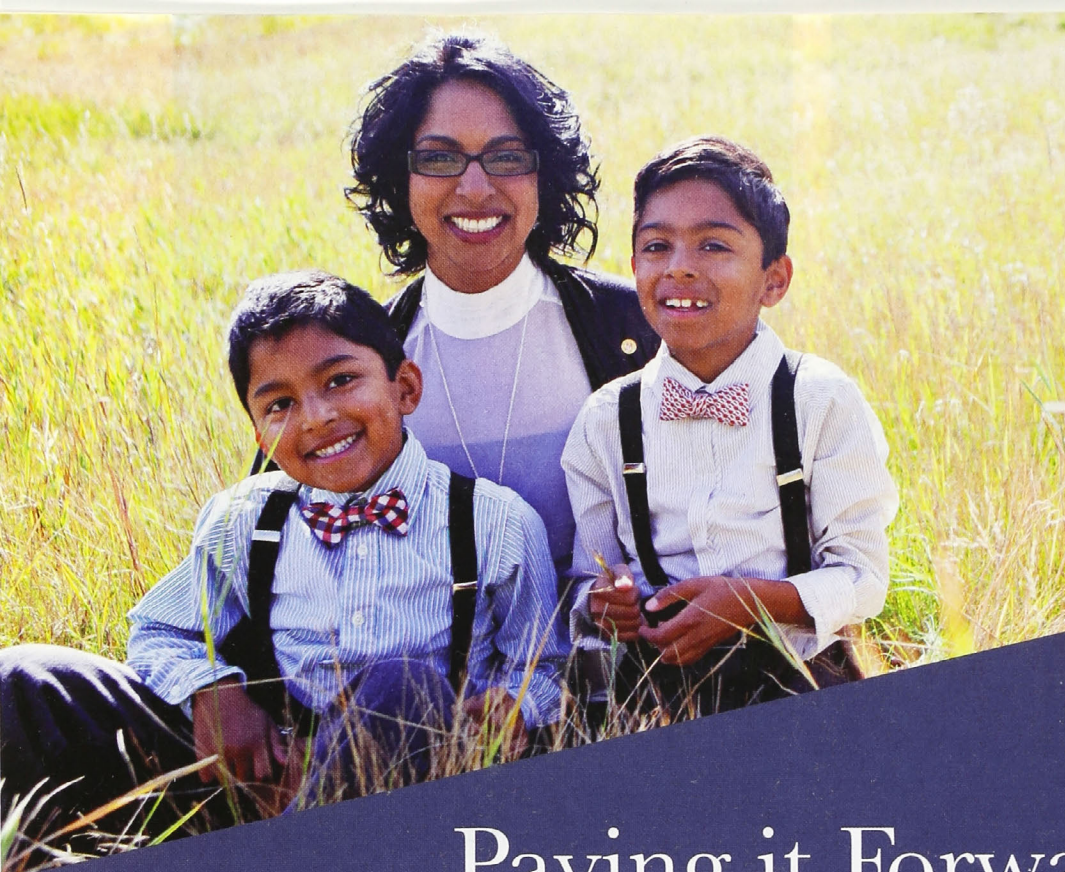
Today, with a staff of six, *Canadaland* continues to showcase Brown’s eclectic approach, through ironic, irreverent and insightful podcast interviews, humorous *Daily Show*-style short videos, and straight investigative journalism. On this last front, *Canadaland*’s Stories We Broke page offers a long list of examples, including many reporter conflict-of-interest and corporate-newsroom meddling revelations about *The Globe and Mail* and his former employer, the CBC. “I know there’s some real frustration with us at the CBC’s highest levels. But too bad, they’re the public broadcaster.”

Brown says he gets a lot of “finally, we can talk about this” feedback from journalists. “It’s gratifying to see that things *can* change, and that sunshine is a good disinfectant,” he says.

Increased story leads and crowdfunded cash flowing *Canadaland*’s way would seem to point to a public thirst for more of Brown’s tightrope-walking media probing. The site is just shy of raising \$15,000 each month.

After 15 of years of freelancing and mostly managing to avoid traditional newsrooms, Brown notes, “I now find myself with the same anxieties and pressures as any newsroom reporter...it’s addictive and exhilarating, but it’s very difficult to balance with having a normal life.” 🐻

JAKE BRENNAN, BA’97



THE GIFT OF  
A LIFETIME

## Paying it Forward

Growing up in a working class neighborhood in Toronto, Vanessa D'Souza, BSc(PT)'98, credits her family with the values she holds dear. "My parents taught me the importance of giving back and being mindful of the generosity of those before me."

Vanessa's parents came to Canada from Goa, India during a wave of new immigration in the early 1970s – drawn by the Canadian promise of living in safety, obtaining an exceptional education and having access to healthcare.

"They came without much money. Everything they earned was through hard work and education," says Vanessa who, from a young age, was encouraged to study hard and give back to the community. In high school, her volunteer efforts at the Red Cross, local hospitals and various youth leadership organizations earned her the Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

Encouraged by a close friend, Vanessa applied to McGill, and was thrilled to receive a James McGill Scholarship, awarded on the basis of her academic standing, involvement in extracurricular activities, and leadership in the community.

Soon after arriving at McGill, Vanessa started volunteering at the Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI), which was

down the street from her residence. It was here where she discovered what was to be her calling: physiotherapy.

Today, Vanessa lives in Calgary with her two young sons and enjoys a successful career as a physiotherapist at the Alberta Children's Hospital, where she specializes in working with children with developmental and neurological difficulties. She also finds time to volunteer at a number of community organizations.

"The scholarship I received changed the course of my life, and now I am able to pay it forward," says Vanessa. As part of her legacy gift, she has made a bequest to support bursaries for students with demonstrated financial need and good academic standing, with a preference for those involved in extracurricular and community activities.

While she admits she is young to be planning her estate, Vanessa wanted to show her deep appreciation to McGill by making a bequest that would give students the same opportunity she was given. "I want my gift to offer students peace of mind, so that they can focus on getting the best quality education."

Vanessa also wants to set an example for her sons, as her parents did for her. "Through this bequest I hope to encourage them to live to their highest potential. This is my gift to them."



**McGill** Bequests and  
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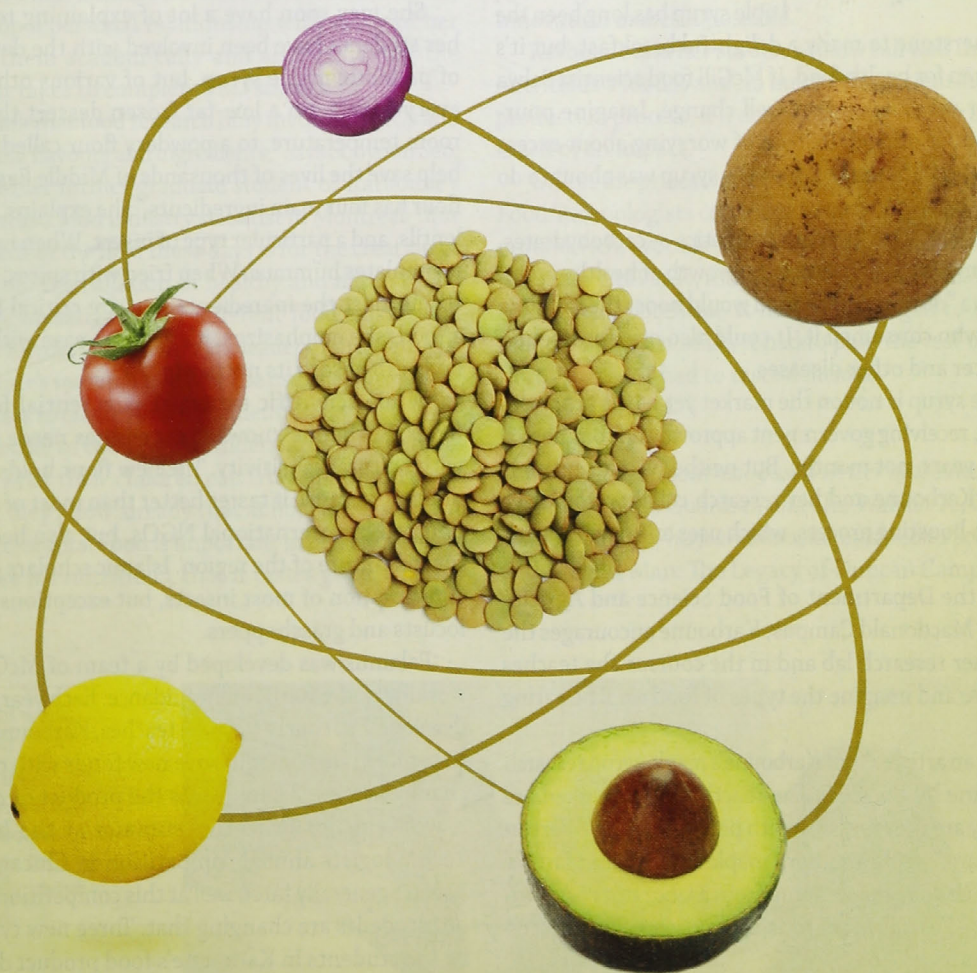
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# COOKING UP *the* FUTURE

Maple syrup that's good for you? A frozen dessert that you can store at room temperature? A falafel-type mix made with insects? Salwa Karboune and her students are dreaming up tomorrow's foods today.

BY MARK ABLEY



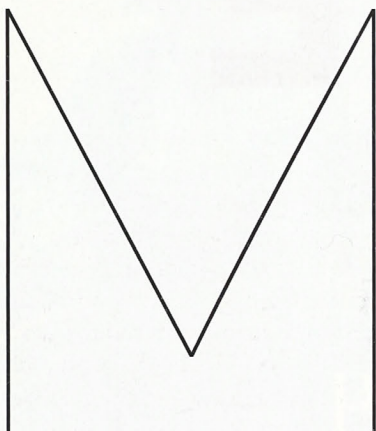


PHOTO: ALEX TR

Maple syrup has long been the sticky, sweet cornerstone to many a delightful breakfast, but it's never been mistaken for health food. If McGill food scientist Salwa Karboune has her way, that might well change. Imagine pouring syrup onto your plate and, instead of worrying about excess calories, taking comfort in the fact that the syrup was about to do your body a whole lot of good.

The syrup would come packed with prebiotics — carbohydrates, nourished by enzymes, that encourage the growth of healthy probiotic bacteria. Such a “nutraceutical” food would boost the immune systems of those who consumed it. It could also offer protection against colon cancer and other diseases.

Prebiotic maple syrup is not on the market yet — the processes involved in testing, receiving government approval and commercial development take years, not months. But neither is it an example of science fiction: Karboune and her research collaborators have patented the syrup-boosting process, which uses an enzyme developed in her lab.

A professor in the Department of Food Science and Agricultural Chemistry at Macdonald Campus, Karboune encourages the students in both her research lab and in the courses she teaches to look to the future and imagine the types of food we'll be eating once we get there.

Earlier this year, an article about Karboune's maple syrup research was published online by the CBC. The reactions it provoked are worth noting. “Why are they messing with perfection?” one person asked. “I'm pretty sure,” wrote another, “maple syrup from a farmer is going to be healthier than maple syrup from a laboratory.” A third sarcastically added, “Yes, all we need is more chemically induced foods in our systems.”

Karboune sighs at such responses. “Enzymes are natural,” she explains. Her voice is soft, its tone very firm. “They ensure sustainability. But you have to explain the process to people — education is important. Many consumers are not aware of what is healthy or unhealthy.”

She may soon have a lot of explaining to do. Karboune and her students have been involved with the development, not just of prebiotic maple syrup, but of various other kinds of food — everything from a low-fat frozen dessert that can be stored at room temperature, to a powdery flour called Falamus that could help save the lives of thousands of Middle Eastern refugees. “This flour has four main ingredients,” she explains, “sesame, chickpeas, lentils, and a particular type of insect. When mixed with hot water, it simulates hummus. When fried with spices, it simulates falafel.” It's not just the ingredients that are critical for developing such a food, she emphasizes, it's also the ease with which the human body can absorb its nutrients.

While scientific expertise is essential for developing new foods, Karboune knows it sometimes needs to go hand in hand with cultural sensitivity. The new flour holds out great promise, not only because it tastes better than most of the survival rations donated by international NGOs, but also because it's a good fit for the culture of the region. Islamic scholars generally forbid the consumption of most insects, but exceptions are often made for locusts and grasshoppers.

Falamus was developed by a team of McGill undergraduates working under Karboune's guidance. Each year, in the food product development course that she teaches, Karboune urges her students to come up with imaginative new foods with out-of-the-ordinary characteristics. Falamus was the product of one such effort and it won a major prize this summer at the International Food Technologists annual competition in Chicago. Canadian teams haven't generally fared well at this competition, but Karboune and her students are changing that. Three new types of food created by the students in Karboune's food product development course have won major awards at the competition in the last two years (see sidebar).



“Food is important in life, and science is there to make sure it’s **nutritious, that it tastes good, that it’s *un plaisir à manger*.**”

The graduate students in her research lab are making their mark too. Amanda Waglay, PhD’14, earned her doctorate by developing a method for isolating potato proteins. The approach could lead to the development of nutritious, gluten-reduced cookies. “When selecting a graduate supervisor,” Wagley says, “I was drawn to Dr. Karboune because she was young and ambitious, she pushed her students hard, and she was very demanding.”

While Karboune expects a lot from her students, Waglay says her former supervisor also pays careful attention to how they’re doing — and not just with their experiments.

“I remember clearly that towards the end of my third year, I was losing momentum. I just wanted to give up.” Karboune sat Waglay down and told her that she was making much more progress than she realized. “I believe that because Dr. Karboune is so hands-on, she is able to develop a personal relationship with many of her students, guiding them academically and also providing the emotional support it takes to complete PhD studies.”

“Many people think that food research only involves GMOs and the creation of artificial flavours and ingredients,” says Sooyoun Seo, BSc’09, PhD’14, another former graduate student of Karboune’s who is now employed as a food industry scientist in Montreal. “But actually, most research in the field these days is for the creation of sustainable industries, the isolation of healthy and natural food ingredients, and the investigation of different food extracts on health.” Seo says her former PhD adviser is a leader in these efforts. “Much of Dr. Karboune’s research involves the use of environmentally friendly processes to create food ingredients.”

Karboune is a mother of two and she understands why parents are cautious about what their children eat. “As a mother, I want my kids to eat well. They know already that at home, we don’t eat food with artificial colorants. Food is important in life, and science is there to make sure it’s nutritious, that it tastes good, that it’s *un plaisir à manger*.”

In the decades to come, Karboune believes, we will take pleasure in eating food products with a variety of health benefits. They may even be “nutrigenomic” — that is, she explains, “food products that have been personalized, based on the genetic profile of the consumers.”

Consumer trends today, she says, are driving the changes in the food industry. People may know very little about science, but they’re still concerned about what a product does and does not contain. The direct link between nutrition and well-being is much better understood than in the past. Accordingly, many of us want to eat “natural” foods without trans fats or artificial flavours. And while we want good-tasting food, we also want it to have great colour and texture. “It is very challenging,” Karboune admits, “to produce products with all these characteristics, but it is possible. Innovation makes it possible.”

Karboune and her students know full well that, no matter how nutritious a food is and no matter how scientifically ingenious its production process, if it doesn’t tickle the taste buds, it won’t have much of an impact.

One of the prizes won by Karboune’s students at the Institute of Food Technologists conference this summer was for a gluten-free, protein-rich, avocado-based snack that bears some resemblance to tiramisu. TiraVerde, as the product is called, had to display serious commercial potential. It had to be judged to be innovative and unique. But most of all, it had to pass the test of “sensory evaluation.” That is, it had to taste delicious.

And it did. 🐘

Mark Abley is a Montreal-based writer and editor and his work has appeared in *The Guardian* and *The Walrus*. A *National Newspaper Award* winner for his journalism, his most recent book is *Conversations with a Dead Man: The Legacy of Duncan Campbell Scott*.

↙ Salwa Karboune at work in her research lab.

→ In the course on food product development that she teaches, Karboune urges her students to think imaginatively about new types of food.



PHOTO: ALEX TRAN

# FUTURISTIC FOODS

The students in Salwa Karboune's food development course don't just earn high marks in class for the foods they come up with, they win international competitions. Here are three innovative food products that all impressed the judges.



## TIRAVERDE

Imagine a dessert that's as creamy and decadent as tiramisu. Now imagine that it's also low in fat and cholesterol, while being a good source of protein and fibre.

"We decided to replace the ingredients that are laden in saturated fat and cholesterol," says **ERIN DAVIS**, BSc(FSc)'15, a member of the student team that devised TiraVerde. Instead of using mascarpone, eggs, and sugar, TiraVerde's creators layer avocado and ricotta with a gluten-free, sponge cake. "Avocado provides a rich, silky mouthfeel, as well as healthy unsaturated fats. The ricotta provides the density that mascarpone would otherwise provide, with fewer calories and fat."

TiraVerde took first place at the Institute of Food Technologists Student Association and MARS Product Development Competition in July, and second place at the Chinese Institute of Food Technology and Institute of Food Technologists (USA) Food Summit in October.

Davis and her collaborators continue to fine-tune their product and the process behind it (the cost of the production equipment is an issue). "[We are] also looking into producing other avocado-based desserts, with the aim of providing healthy alternatives to traditional desserts."

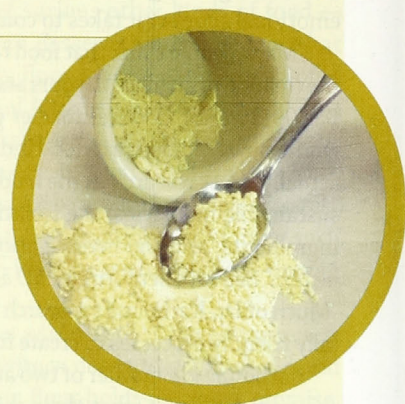
## FALAMUS

Falamus Instant Mix, a powdered food product made out of chickpea, lentil, sesame, and locust flours, packs an impressive nutritious punch. It contains more than 30 grams of protein and provides more than 67 per cent of the daily value of iron per serving.

**LOLOAH CHAMOUN**, BSc(FSc)'15, one of the students who created Falamus, says she and her collaborators hope that the product can be distributed to refugee camps in the Middle East. "We had to make sure that the preparation of Falamus was simple, since most of the refugee camps lack appliances and energy resources. So we developed an instant mix that only required the addition of water."

This summer, Falamus won the Developing Solutions for Developing Countries competition organized by the Institute of Food Technologists. The group is now liaising with distributors and manufacturers.

"The challenges lie in finding a manufacturing company that has the capacity to produce [tons] of our product," says Chamoun.



## MCGILL SHELF-STABLE FROZEN DESSERT

**KARINE PARADIS**, BSc(FSc/NutrSc)'14, and her partners created a one-of-a-kind sorbet that can be stored at room temperature. In its unopened state, the dessert is essentially a thick liquid. Once it's opened, its specially designed packaging releases nitrous oxide, an inert gas that helps churn the mixture, lending it a smooth, creamy texture. After an hour or so in the freezer, it's ready to be eaten.

"It's high [in] fibre, it's also vegan," says Paradis, who adds that the sorbet is very portable — you never have to worry about it melting in the car on the way home from the grocery store.

The sorbet, which comes in several flavors, including hibiscus and lemon, won third place at the 2014 Institute of Food Technologists Student Association Food Product Development competition and second place at the 2014 Chinese Institute of Food Technology and Institute of Food Technologists competition.

Paradis says her group is interested in talking to potential partners capable of mass-producing the dessert's specialized packaging. And once a commercialization deal is struck, the team promises to come up with a sexier name for their dessert.

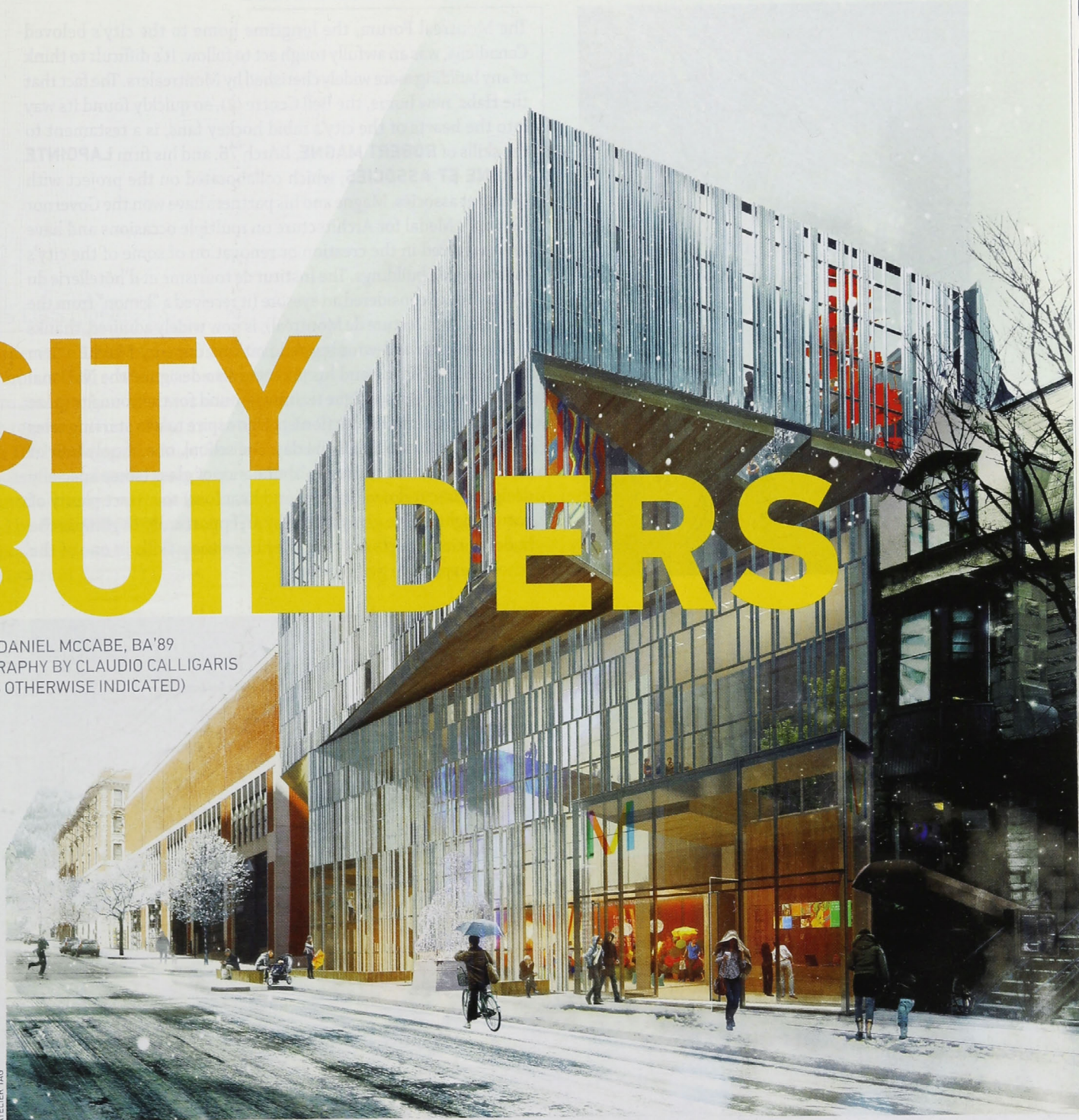
SHRINKHALA DAWADI



# CITY BUILDERS

TEXT BY DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CLAUDIO CALLIGARIS  
(UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

ATELIER TAG



Since it was founded in 1896, McGill's School of Architecture has trained generations of architects who, collectively, have had an enormous influence on the way Montreal looks.

These graduates have played major roles in everything from building some of the city's landmark churches (the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul on Sherbrooke Street, for instance, designed by Harold Lea Fetherstonhaugh, BArch 1909), to creatively repurposing decommissioned churches (Espace St. Jude, an award-winning transformation of a church built in 1907 into a sleek spa and fitness facility, overseen by Tom Balaban, BArch'95, BSc(Arch)'95).

Here's a sampling of some of the most iconic spots in the city and a tip of the hat to the creative McGillians who played key roles in bringing them to life.

## BELL CENTRE AND NATIONAL CIRCUS SCHOOL

The Montreal Forum, the longtime home to the city's beloved Canadiens, was an awfully tough act to follow. It's difficult to think of any building more widely cherished by Montrealers. The fact that the Habs' new home, the Bell Centre (2), so quickly found its way into the hearts of the city's rabid hockey fans, is a testament to the skills of **ROBERT MAGNE**, BArch'76, and his firm **LAPOINTE MAGNE ET ASSOCIÉS**, which collaborated on the project with Lemay et associés. Magne and his partners have won the Governor General's Medal for Architecture on multiple occasions and have been involved in the creation or renovation of some of the city's most notable buildings. The Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec, once considered an eyesore (it received a "lemon" from the Société d'architecture de Montréal), is now widely admired, thanks to the bold, award-winning renovations done by Magne's firm and Aedifica. Magne and his partners also designed the National Circus School (1), a unique training ground for the young trapeze artists, clowns and contortionists who aspire to win starring roles with the Cirque du Soleil one day. The school, one of only four of its kind in the world, uses an abundance of glass (some specially designed to cut down on glare and heat loss) to attract plenty of natural light and to give passers-by an opportunity to glimpse the budding circus performers as they hone their skills in one of the school's expansive gymnasiums.



2

PERRY MASTROVITO



3

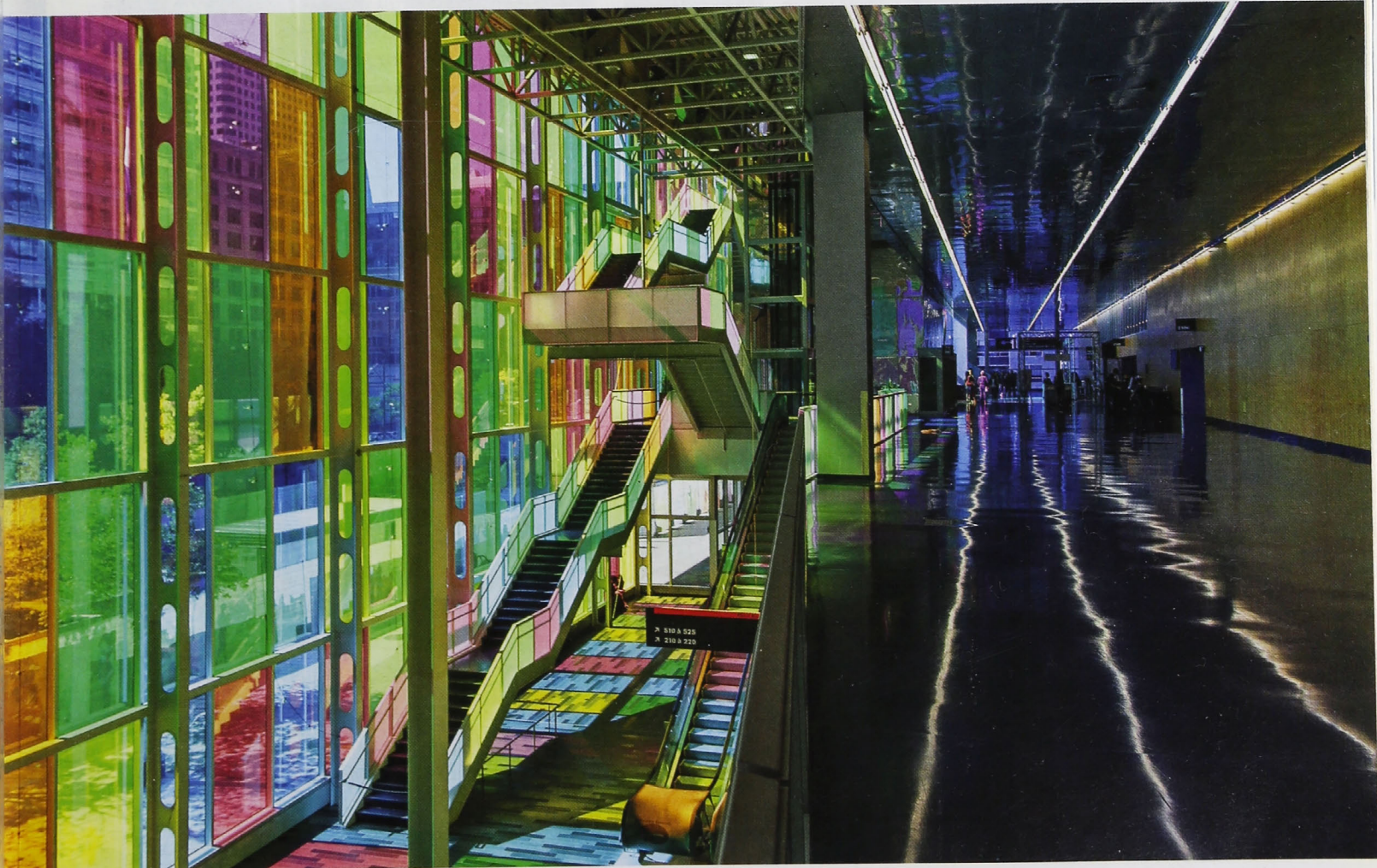
## HABITAT 67

He is now one of the world's most in-demand architects, with major buildings in Jerusalem, Los Angeles, Washington and several other cities to his credit, but his very first project might still be his most famous creation. During the Expo 67 world fair in Montreal, a young **MOSHE SAFDIE**, BArch'61, LLD'82, unveiled Habitat (3), an eye-catching and unorthodox attempt to, in Safdie's words, "reinvent the apartment building." According to *The Guardian*, the complex, which consists of 148 residences constructed from 354 identical prefabricated modules, has "drawn comparisons to everything from Lego to a Cubist painting." One of the city's most celebrated landmarks, Habitat 67 was declared a heritage site by the Quebec government in 2009 and earned the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada's Prix du XXe siècle in 2007. Safdie, who also designed the Jean-Noël Desmarais Pavilion of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, has received the Gold Medal from both the RAIC and the American Institute of Architects — the top career prize for both organizations.

## PALAIS DES CONGRÈS

Since it opened in 1983, Montreal's Palais des congrès (4) has hosted more than 6,000 events, ranging from a U.N. conference on climate change to the World Science Fiction Convention. Thanks to an expansion that was done in the early 2000s, the Montreal convention centre is now also regarded as one of the most striking facilities of its kind, worthy of being included in the book *1001 Buildings You Must See Before You Die* (Habitat 67 is listed there too). While the centre boasts several striking elements — Claude Cormier's surreal Lipstick Forest installation, for instance — there is no question that its most iconic feature is its multicoloured glass façade, designed by **HAL INGBERG**, BSc(Arch)'83, BArch'85. The vibrant glass panels pack a visual punch, both inside and out. Depending on the positioning of the sun, coloured light streams into the centre at different angles.

4





5

BEAVER LAKE PAVILION,  
PLACE BONAVENTURE,  
PLACE VILLE-MARIE,  
SALLE WILFRID PELLETIER

Whether working together as a team or separately on individual projects, the founding principals involved in **AFFLECK, DESBARATS, DIMAKOPOULOS, LEBENSOLD, SISE** had an impact on the city that simply can't be overstated. The five partners in the firm, known informally as ARCOP (Architects in Co-Partnership) were all linked to the McGill School of Architecture as alums, teachers or both — **RAYMOND AFFLECK**, BArch'47, DSc'84, **GUY DESBARATS**, BArch'48, **DIMITRI DIMAKOPOULOS**, BArch'55, former associate professor **FRED LEBENSOLD** and **HAZEN SISE**, who studied at McGill for two years before transferring to MIT. Many of the firm's members had already attracted attention for major projects (Desbarats and Sise had collaborated on Mount Royal's Beaver Lake Pavilion (6), for instance), but the team received its big break when it served as the associate architects for New York superstar I. M. Pei on what would become Montreal's signature skyscraper — Place Ville Marie (8). The firm went on to oversee the creation of some of the city's most familiar buildings, including Place Bonaventure (7) (the unusual combination of a hotel, shopping centre and exhibition halls was ahead of its time) and Salle Wilfrid Pelletier (5) (which became the site for performances by everyone from Maria Callas to Bruce Springsteen). In the late sixties, some of the principals went their separate ways, with Affleck and Lebensold remaining with the firm, now officially called ARCOP. The former partners continued to produce major works, including the creation of the Université du Québec à Montréal campus (Dimakopoulos) and Maison Alcan (Affleck, collaborating with restoration specialist **JULIA GERSOVITZ**, BSc(Arch)'74, BArch'75). Earlier this year, the architectural legacy of Affleck, Desbarats, Dimakopoulos, Lebensold and Sise was recognized when the Royal Architecture Institute of Canada singled out the five for their joint efforts on the Fathers of Confederation Building in Charlottetown. The building was selected for the RAIC's Prix du XXe siècle, which honours outstanding and lasting contributions to Canadian architecture.



9



KANVA

## EDISON RESIDENCE

It's been quite the year for **KANVA**, a small Montreal firm whose team of architects almost all trained at McGill. KANVA, led by **TUDOR RADULESCU**, BSc(Arch)'98, MArch'91, and **RAMI BEBAWI**, BSc(Arch)'99, MArch'01, received the RAIC's Emerging Architectural Practice Award earlier this year. In collaboration with the international firm AZPML, KANVA also won a major competition that will lead to perhaps its biggest project yet — a major redesign of the Biodôme intended to give visitors to the nature centre a much more interactive experience. More recently, KANVA won two Prix d'excellence from the OAQ. The first was for its work as part of the team that created *Entre Les Rangs*, the winning entry for the 2013 Luminothérapie competition at the Quartier des Spectacles, which evoked a softly glowing wheat field. The other OAC prize was for the firm's Edison Residence (11), located near McGill. The student residence boasts full-height cabinets and polished concrete floors, but what really sets it apart is its imaginative exterior. The photo-engraved concrete façade (9) displays stills from a 1901 film made about Montreal firefighters by Thomas Edison. The images are connected to the site's history — the original building burned down around the time that the legendary Edison visited the city to make his film.



PHI CENTRE

10

## PHI CENTRE

Delightfully odd things tend to happen at the Phi Centre, a multimedia facility in Old Montreal that plays host to concerts, film screenings, art exhibitions and lectures. Earlier this fall, Arcade Fire frontman Win Butler, BA'04, was performing a DJ set at the centre to raise funds for the Haitian charity Kanpe, when Madonna showed up unannounced and started to dance. Two years ago, eclectic filmmaker Guy Maddin used the versatile centre as a movie studio, inviting a live audience to watch him at work as he directed such prominent Quebec actors as Roy Dupuis and Caroline Dhavernas. Originally built in 1861 as a warehouse for merchant John Ogilvy, the stone-clad structure had long been abandoned before its new owner, Phoebe Greenberg, decided to turn it into a multidisciplinary artistic complex. The Phi Centre (10) is the product of an ambitious overhaul by **ATELIER IN SITU** (co-founded by **STÉPHANE PRATTE**, BSc(Arch)'89, BArch'91, and **ANNIE LEBEL**, BSc(Arch)'89, BArch'91), in partnership with the firm Shapiro Wolfe. The centre earned a Prix d'excellence from the Ordre des architectes du Québec (OAQ) in 2013. Atelier in situ played the lead role on a similar project, transforming a neglected industrial warehouse complex in Griffintown into the Darling Foundry, now a prominent Montreal visual arts centre.



KANVA

11





12

### CCA SCULPTURE GARDEN

Driving along the Ville-Marie Expressway, commuters know they're nearing the downtown core once they spy a metallic chair looming in the sky. The chair is one of the many elements comprising the Canadian Centre for Architecture's sculpture garden (12), the creation of architect and artist **MELVIN CHARNEY**, BArch'58, DLitt'09. The history of architecture is referenced by the garden's allegorical columns, which contain the shapes of everything from Greek temples to grain silos to church spires. A small apple orchard recalls how the site was once used for farming by Sulpician priests. In their *Guidebook to Contemporary Architecture in Montreal*, Nancy Dutton and Helen Malkin, BSc(Arch)'82, BArch'84, describe the garden as "a place of reflection and respite in an area of the city that desperately lacked breathing space." Charney, who won the Quebec government's Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas in 1996, also crafted *Skyscraper*, *Waterfall*, *Brooks — a Construction*, a prominent installation at Place Émilie-Gamelin, near the Berri-UQAM metro station.

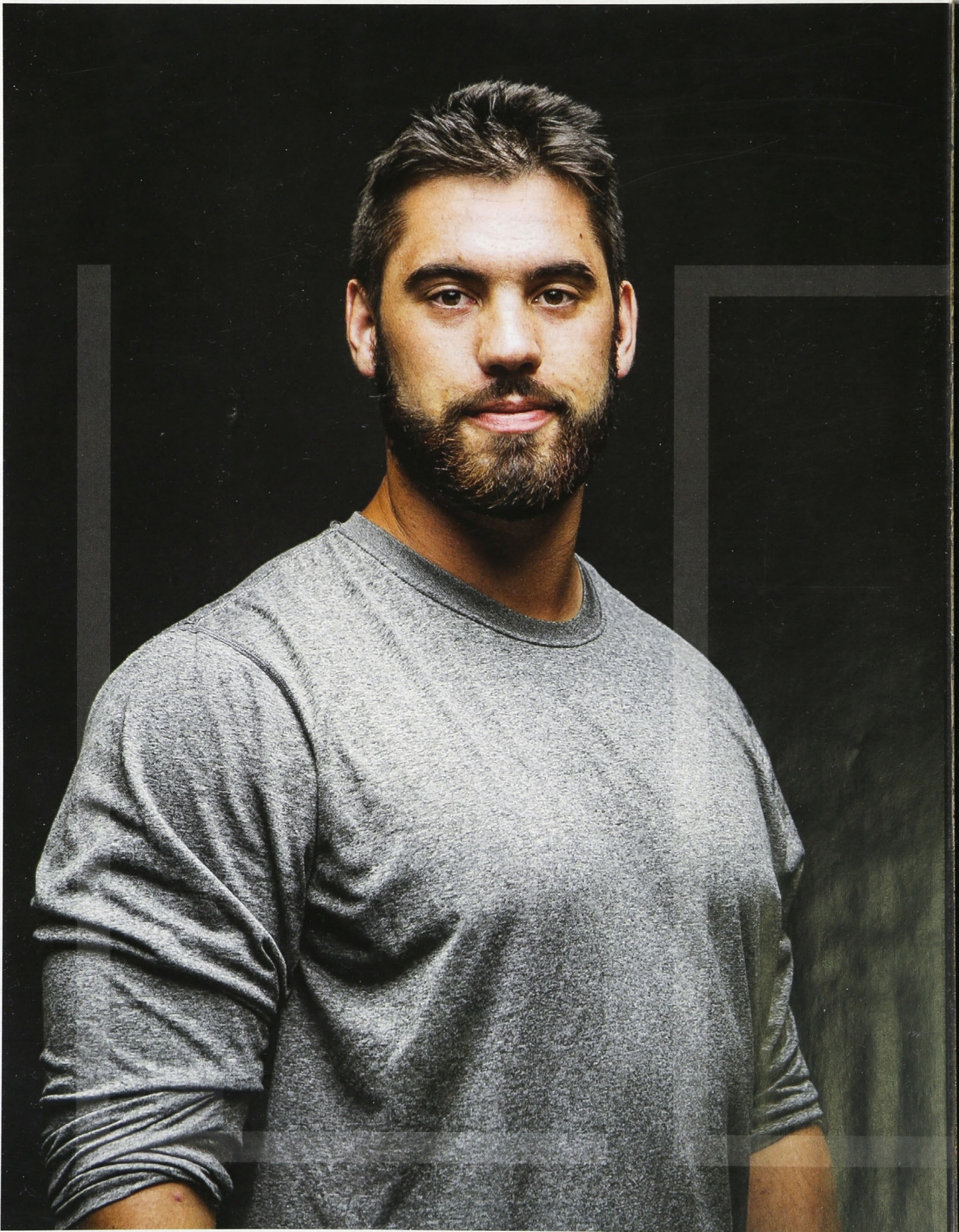
13

### MICHAL AND RENATA HORNSTEIN PAVILION FOR PEACE

The newest addition to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Michal and Renata Hornstein Pavilion for Peace (13) will officially open in November next year to help kick off the celebrations for Montreal's 350th anniversary. The pavilion will exhibit an extensive collection of artwork, some of it dating back to the Renaissance, that the museum received from the Hornsteins. The pavilion will also house the museum's collection of international art, the Ben Weider Napoleonic collection and educational and community programs. The lead architect for the project is **MANON ASSELIN**, BSc(Arch)'90, BArch'92, MArch'01, in collaboration with her frequent partners, Jodoin Lamarre Pratte. Together with **KATSUHIRO YAMAZAKI**, BSc(Arch)'94, BArch'96 (who is also involved in the Hornstein project), Asselin co-founded Atelier TAG, which has won the Governor General's Medal in Architecture for such projects as the Raymond-Lévesque Library in Longueuil and the Châteauguay Municipal Library. 🇫🇷



ATELIER TAG

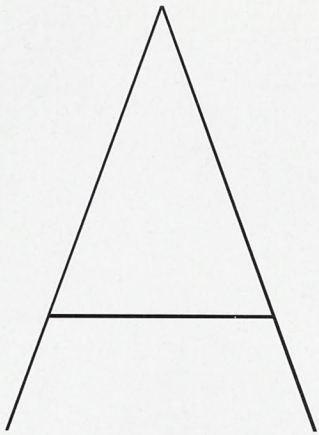


OLIVIER PONTBRAND / LA PRESSE

# LE FABULEUX DESTIN DE LAURENT DUVERNAY- TARDIF

PAR JEAN-BENOÎT NADEAU (B. A. 1992)

Grâce à une force physique et à une capacité d'apprentissage remarquables, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif s'est vite fait remarquer par les recruteurs de la Ligue nationale de Football (NFL), alors qu'il évoluait au sein des Redmen. Désormais bloqueur pour les Chiefs de Kansas City, l'étudiant de McGill n'en a pas pour autant négligé ses études de médecine, qu'il est sur le point de terminer.



près ses longues journées en tant qu'étudiant en médecine, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif a souvent passé la nuit dans le vestiaire des Redmen, couché sur une pile de serviettes, afin d'être suffisamment reposé pour l'entraînement de football du lendemain, à 5 h 30. « C'était plus simple que de retourner à la maison », raconte le colosse à la barbe noire.

Entre sa passion pour la médecine et sa passion pour le football, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif n'a pas fait de concessions. Et les deux le lui rendent bien. S'il lui reste encore quatre mois de stages pour compléter ses études en médecine à McGill, son rêve de foot-balleur, il le vit déjà pleinement. Recruté comme professionnel dans la NFL, le nouveau garde des Chiefs de Kansas City a disputé son premier match devant 80 000 personnes le 13 septembre 2015.

La D<sup>re</sup> Preetha Krishnamoorthy, endocrinologue pédiatrique à l'Hôpital pour enfants de Montréal, a supervisé le stage de Laurent Duvernay-Tardif en pédiatrie au printemps 2014. Bien que le footballeur en impose – il mesure 1 m 95, pèse 140 kilos et ses mains sont de la taille de la tête d'un enfant –, l'endocrinologue admet qu'elle avait un peu de mal à concevoir que cet étudiant plutôt doux et consciencieux, très à l'écoute des patients, était aussi un bulldozer agressif convoité par une demi-douzaine d'équipes de la NFL. « Laurent est un excellent étudiant, raconte-t-elle. À l'époque, il devait jongler avec beaucoup d'engagements, mais ça ne paraissait pas. »

Laurent Duvernay-Tardif n'est que le 10<sup>e</sup> joueur universitaire canadien recruté par la NFL, et le deuxième québécois en 15 ans. Il suit les traces de Jean-Philippe Darche (B. Sc. 1997), qui a joué pour les Seahawks de Seattle, puis les Chiefs, entre 2000 et 2009. Mais alors que « J.-P. » Darche a dû interrompre ses études en médecine à McGill en deuxième année (il termine actuellement sa résidence en médecine familiale à l'Université du Kansas), Laurent Duvernay-Tardif a eu la chance d'être recruté en troisième année, à la fin de sa scolarité et au début de la période des stages, lesquels sont beaucoup plus faciles à étaler dans le temps.

Laurent Duvernay-Tardif est reconnaissant envers la Faculté de médecine de McGill, qui a su adapter son horaire. « J'ai le même parcours et la même expérience clinique que les autres étudiants, sauf qu'il m'aura fallu trois ans pour faire ma dernière année de médecine. Ma formation doit être du même niveau que celle de mes collègues. Alors quand je reviens, je n'ai pas de passe-droit, je suis un étudiant comme un autre, et je fais mes rotations avec cinq autres collègues. »

Preetha Krishnamoorthy n'a jamais eu l'impression d'être confrontée à une vedette avec la grosse tête. « Il est très respectueux, il ne réclame jamais de privilège particulier. Quand il y avait conflit d'horaire, on s'assoit ensemble pour voir comment le régler. »

## UN GARS D'ÉQUIPE

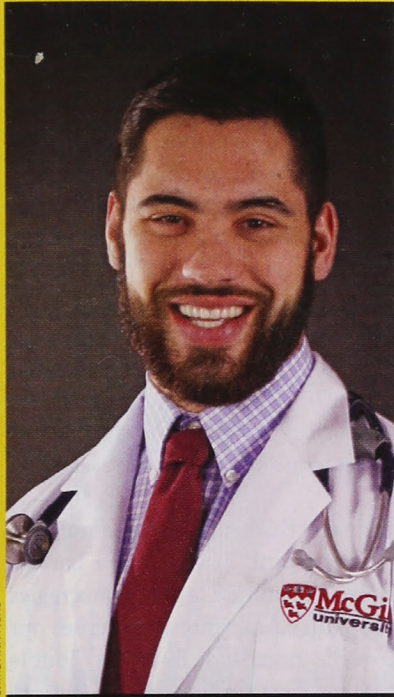
L'athlète reconnaît qu'effectuer la transition entre le terrain de football et la salle d'hôpital peut parfois être difficile. « La saison 2014 s'est terminée le 29 décembre et j'étais en sarrau le 4 janvier. C'est dur de redémarrer. J'étais à jour dans mes lectures, mais c'est la façon d'interagir qui diffère. Au football, les choses se disent très directement, face à face, sans détour. En médecine, on ne peut pas parler à ses collègues ni au patient sans avoir réfléchi. S'ajuster demande un véritable effort. »

Mais cette difficulté n'est rien au regard de la satisfaction qu'il ressent, précise-t-il. « L'esprit d'équipe, la confiance du patient et des superviseurs, la certitude de servir à quelque chose, je ne connais rien de plus gratifiant. »

L'importance des interactions humaines revient constamment dans les propos de Laurent Duvernay-Tardif. C'est cet aspect de la médecine qui l'a poussé à choisir cette voie alors qu'avant le cégep, il penchait davantage vers la profession d'ingénieur. Le sportif trouve un point commun bien concret entre la médecine et le football : l'esprit d'équipe. « En médecine, on est l'un des rouages d'une équipe composée du personnel infirmier, des thérapeutes et du patient. C'est pareil sur le terrain. Je fais partie d'une ligne, qui fait partie d'une équipe. En médecine comme au football, tout est dans la complicité, la communication et le langage non verbal. »

Une autre équipe qui lui est chère, c'est sa famille. Car Laurent Duvernay-Tardif vient d'une famille où les liens sont tissés serrés. Pendant ses études, malgré son horaire de fou, l'étudiant trouvait le moyen de travailler régulièrement à la boulangerie familiale de Mont-Saint-Hilaire. « Quand il ne vendait pas de pain, il faisait des confitures avec sa blonde et il apportait des sacs d'invidus dans le vestiaire des Redmen », raconte son père, François Tardif (B. Sc(Agr). 1984).

La famille Duvernay-Tardif a fait deux grands voyages d'un an en voilier, d'abord en 2000, puis en 2006. « Ça m'a fait mûrir. Ça m'a ouvert à divers modes de vie et coutumes. Et ça me sert au football et en médecine, pour comprendre les coéquipiers et les patients. »



CHRISTINA MORO



CHRISTIAN PETERSEN / GETTY IMAGES

## LA « MEILLEURE ERREUR » DE SA VIE

La famille Duvernay-Tardif est également une famille de sportifs. Laurent tient d'ailleurs sa carrure de son père, François Tardif, marathonien et fondeur. Ses deux sœurs cadettes sont en route pour les Olympiques en aviron et en ski de fond. Laurent, l'aîné, n'a découvert le football qu'à 13 ans, après avoir pratiqué le hockey, le ski de fond et la voile. « J'ai aimé l'équilibre entre l'aspect stratégique du jeu et son côté physique, dit-il. Plus je progressais, plus sa dimension stratégique me passionnait. »

Après avoir joué pour les Pirates du Richelieu et les Phénix du Collège André-Grasset, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif rêvait d'une place parmi... le Rouge et Or de l'Université Laval! Or, parce qu'il a mal noté la date, il manque l'examen d'admission conjoint pour Sherbrooke, Laval et Montréal, et doit se rabattre sur son deuxième choix, McGill.

Il en parle comme de la « meilleure erreur de toute sa vie ». « À McGill, j'ai appris l'anglais et j'ai profité d'une visibilité accrue auprès des recruteurs américains. Et en médecine, j'étudie dans une institution qui se classe parmi les meilleures au monde. Quand je suis arrivé à Kansas City, les médecins de l'équipe me demandaient où je faisais ma médecine. Ils disaient : "Ah! McGill!" Tout le monde connaît McGill. Ça va me suivre toute ma vie. »

Lorsqu'il arrive à McGill en 2010, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif ne se joint pas immédiatement aux Redmen. « L'anglais me stressait. Je voulais me concentrer sur mes études, mais après quatre semaines, le football me manquait trop, alors j'ai appelé l'entraîneur. »

« On l'a tout de suite remarqué. Ses résultats aux épreuves physiques faisaient jaser. Laurent jouit d'une grande force physique naturelle. Il écrasait déjà tout le monde », indique Mathieu Quiviger (B. Sc. 1994, B. Arch. 1995), qui a été son entraîneur. Puisqu'il comprend les stratégies et les tactiques du premier coup, le club lui permet de ne faire qu'un entraînement d'équipe par semaine.

Laurent Duvernay-Tardif, qui commence à croire qu'il a le potentiel nécessaire pour devenir joueur professionnel, s'entraîne d'arrache-pied. « Le plus dur a été de ne pas me donner d'excuses. Même si j'avais travaillé dix heures à l'hôpital, mal mangé ou mal dormi, je ne pouvais pas prendre les entraînements à la légère. » En 2014, Alain Mainguy, entraîneur de ligne offensive des Redmen, lui donnera deux semaines d'entraînement particulier pour améliorer sa performance. « Laurent est d'une rapidité foudroyante. Un joueur de ligne offensive doit avoir un pied très rapide pour les déplacements latéraux. On parle ici d'un homme de 140 kg qui doit repousser et déplacer un homme de 140 kg lancé sur lui. »

↳ Laurent Duvernay-Tardif aura bientôt complété ses études en médecine à McGill.

← Laurent Duvernay-Tardif a fait ses débuts au sein de la NFL en septembre à titre de garde pour les Chiefs de Kansas City.

« À McGill, j'ai appris l'anglais et **j'ai profité d'une visibilité accrue** auprès des recruteurs américains. Et en médecine, j'étudie dans une institution qui se classe parmi **les meilleures au monde.** »

## LA NFL À PORTÉE DE MAIN

En 2013, l'étudiant en médecine engage un agent, Sasha Ghavami, qui n'est encore... qu'étudiant en droit. Ils se sont connus au Collège André-Grasset, et l'étudiant en droit rêve d'être agent sportif. Il fait circuler des vidéos de son poulain parmi les recruteurs de la NFL et négocie un allègement d'horaire auprès de la Faculté de médecine. À l'hiver 2014, Sasha Ghavami prend l'initiative, très inhabituelle, d'organiser un entraînement public au Soccerplexe Catalogna, à Lachine : neuf dépisteurs d'équipes de la NFL viendront observer la performance de l'athlète.

En mai 2014, le nom de Laurent Duvernay-Tardif sort 200<sup>e</sup> au repêchage de la NFL. Le lendemain, il est à Kansas City pour le début du camp d'entraînement. Mais sa place dans l'équipe est loin d'être assurée : 15 candidats se disputent les huit postes de garde. L'étudiant canadien a une très grosse pente à remonter, car il ne maîtrise pas les subtilités du football américain, dont les règles sont légèrement différentes de celles du football canadien. Sur la ligne, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif fera face à des joueurs pesant 20 kilos de plus que les joueurs canadiens.

Au camp d'entraînement, l'enjeu est énorme : tout le monde joue sa saison ou sa carrière. Mais lui, qui redoutait de se retrouver face à des vétérans hautains et imbus d'eux-mêmes et des recrues qui cherchent constamment à nuire aux autres, aura une heureuse surprise. « C'est la camaraderie qui m'a le plus étonné. Tout le monde est respectueux, tout le monde se donne des conseils, personne ne se plaint quand l'autre passe devant. Sur le terrain, chacun donne le meilleur de lui-même et personne ne cède sa place. Mais à l'extérieur, tout le monde pousse dans la même direction pour qu'on soit la meilleure équipe. Je n'en suis pas revenu. »

À l'été 2014, Laurent Duvernay-Tardif franchit une étape cruciale : il aura sa place sur la liste des 53 joueurs pour la saison 2014-2015 et portera le numéro 76. Mais il jouera sur le banc : la direction veut qu'il améliore sa compréhension du football américain et perfectionne sa technique avant de mettre les pieds sur le terrain.

La recette fonctionne : Laurent Duvernay-Tardif amorce la saison 2015-2016 comme garde partant. Et voilà que « Larry » prodigue ses conseils aux recrues, qu'il initie à la ville et aux règles du vestiaire. « Tout le monde sait quels sacrifices les recrues ont faits pour arriver ici, et dans quelle incertitude ils vivent. Tout le monde s'entraide. C'est contagieux. C'est ainsi qu'il faut fonctionner pour avoir une équipe gagnante. »

Laurent Duvernay-Tardif trouve la vie beaucoup plus simple depuis qu'il est joueur professionnel. Huit à dix mois par année, il est totalement axé sur le football. Puis, quand les joueurs partent se reposer, lui part terminer sa médecine. Son horaire était plus compliqué quand il faisait les deux à la fois. En 2014, il a même raté le début du repêchage parce qu'il devait s'occuper de jumeaux nés prématurément pendant l'un de ses quarts de travail en obstétrique.

Il reste que la carrière d'un footballeur professionnel est courte – en moyenne trois ou quatre ans, en raison de la concurrence féroce et des risques de blessure. Laurent Duvernay-Tardif songe déjà à sa deuxième carrière et croit avoir trouvé quelle spécialisation médicale l'intéresse. « J'ai encore le temps d'y penser, mais je penche pour l'orthopédie, la médecine sportive ou la médecine d'urgence. »

À l'hiver 2016, à la fin de la saison de football, il reprendra donc le stéthoscope, à Montréal, pour faire les quelques mois de stage qu'il lui reste à compléter. Il redeviendra alors un étudiant parmi d'autres même si, avec le « salaire minimum » d'un joueur de football professionnel, il gagne déjà deux fois plus qu'un médecin québécois ! 🐦

*Collaborateur au magazine L'actualité et chroniqueur au Devoir, Jean-Benoît Nadeau est le coauteur des Accents Circomplexes et La grande aventure de la langue française.*



CPL CARBE DRELLANA / RIDEAU HALL

↑ Laurent Duvernay-Tardif (que l'on voit ici en compagnie du gouverneur général David Johnston) est l'un des huit athlètes étudiants au pays à avoir reçu la Mention d'honneur du gouverneur général pour l'excellence sportive et académique en 2013.



← Laurent Duvernay-Tardif is balancing a budding football career in the NFL with medical studies at McGill.

## THE (NOT ALWAYS) GENTLE GIANT

Back when he was playing football for McGill and after a long day of medical studies, **LAURENT DUVERNAY-TARDIF** often spent the night in his team's locker room, sleeping on a pile of towels to get rested up for a McGill Redmen practice early the next morning. "It was just simpler than going home," he explains.

Balancing his two passions — medicine and football — has been challenging at times, but Duvernay-Tardif is determined to live out both his dreams. He is close to completing his McGill medical degree. As for football, well, that dream is already coming true. When the NFL season began in September, Duvernay-Tardif, an offensive guard, was part of the opening game lineup for the Kansas City Chiefs.

Duvernay-Tardif is grateful to the Faculty of Medicine for accommodating his complicated schedule. "I've done the same work and gotten the same clinical experience as everyone else in my class. The only difference is that it will have taken me three years to finish my last year of medical school."

Dr. Preetha Krishnamoorthy, MDCM'96, an associate professor of pediatrics, supervised Duvernay-Tardif during his pediatric internship at the Montreal Children's Hospital. At 6'4" and 310 pounds, with hands the size of a small child's head, Duvernay-Tardif is an imposing figure. Still, Krishnamoorthy says she had trouble imagining that this gentle, conscientious medical student, who was so attentive to his patients, was also the walking bulldozer coveted by several NFL teams. "Laurent is an excellent student," she says. "He was juggling a lot of demands when he was working with me, but it never showed."

Duvernay-Tardif calls McGill "the best mistake of my life." His original plan was to play football at Laval University, but he got the date wrong for the entrance exam. McGill was his second pick. "I learned English at McGill and got much better exposure there to American [football] recruiters," he says. "On top of that, I'm now in one of the best medical schools in the world. When I arrived in Kansas City and told the team doctors where I was studying medicine, they said, 'Oh, McGill!' I'll benefit from that name recognition all my life."

Duvernay-Tardif made a quick impression on his Redmen coaches when he began playing for the team. "Laurent stood out, right off the bat. He has remarkable natural strength. He could crush anyone," says Mathieu Quiviger, BSc'94, BArch'95, a former member of the Redmen coaching staff. In the 2014 NFL Draft, Kansas City selected the McGill medical student in the sixth round.

Duvernay-Tardif knew the stakes would be high when he attended his first Chiefs training camp shortly after the draft. Fifteen players were competing for eight available guard jobs and he expected a cutthroat environment. He ended up being pleasantly surprised. "I couldn't believe the camaraderie there. Everyone was respectful, everyone was generous with advice." The competition was fierce, "but at the same time, everyone is working toward a common goal: to make the team the best it can be."

He made the Chiefs' roster in his first year, but sat on the sidelines. As a rookie, he had a lot of learning to do. "Football looks rough from the outside," says Duvernay-Tardif, "but it's actually a strategic sport. You have to be constantly studying it."

This season, he is a starting guard for the team. "Larry", as he is known, is now the one giving advice to newcomers, showing them around the city and explaining the rules of the locker room. "Everyone knows the kind of sacrifices [players] make to get here, and the kind of uncertainty they have to live with. So everyone helps everyone else out. It's contagious. That's how you make a locker room a winning environment." 🐦

BY JEAN-BENOÎT NADEAU, BA'92  
TRANSLATED BY JULIE BARLOW, BA'91

# THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF STALIN'S DAUGHTER

**A**uthor **ROSEMARY SULLIVAN**, BA'68, recently won one of Canada's top writing awards for her work as a biographer, but she doesn't want to be pigeonholed. "I don't feel comfortable being labelled a biographer," says Sullivan, the recipient of the 2015 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction for *Stalin's Daughter: The Extraordinary and Tumultuous Life of Svetlana Alliluyeva*.

Sullivan notes that she's also written poetry, short fiction and literary criticism. "I consider myself a writer—whatever genre comes up. It's all part of the same process."

It's her work as a biographer, however, that has garnered the most attention of late. Sullivan's critically acclaimed biography of Svetlana Alliluyeva, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin's only daughter, will be published in 17 countries, including Japan and China. *The Independent* describes it as "a biography on an epic scale, with a combination of tragedy and history worthy of a Russian novel."

The process of researching and writing *Stalin's Daughter* consumed four years. A professor emerita of English literature at the University of Toronto, Sullivan was drawn to Alliluyeva's story after reading her newspaper obituary in 2011.

The peripatetic Alliluyeva was quoted as saying, "No matter where I go..., I'll always be the political prisoner of my father's name." Sullivan thought, "Oh, to live in such a shadow! What could it be like to be the child of such a father... and why would she defect [to the U.S. in 1967]?"

Finding the answers required many hours reading Alliluyeva's unpublished works and letters, interviewing her American daughter and Russian relatives, and accessing CIA and FBI files through freedom-of-information requests. Sullivan's research took her to Moscow, Saint Petersburg and Stalin's native Georgia, as well as to London and several U.S. cities.

↗ A young Svetlana Alliluyeva with her infamous father.



Her Moscow stay had a touch of film noir. On her fourth night at the apartment she rented, the police came calling. They were seeking a woman who lived there three months earlier during a murder. "The lead detective apologized for the late hour of the visit," recalls Sullivan. "His partner laughed and said that in the old days, they didn't need to apologize. It was a scene set for someone writing a biography of Svetlana."

The writing was also a challenge. Sullivan realized that her first draft read like "an interesting biography of Stalin." She re-wrote it. "I needed to 'forefront' Svetlana—this figure who was a footnote to history—and make her complex life the real story, while the backdrop remained Stalin's collectivization, terror, etc." Ultimately, the author succeeded in doing justice to her subject. The Weston Prize jury hailed the author for her work in establishing "a fully wrought literary heroine."

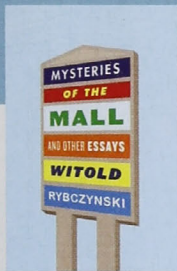
Sullivan describes Alliluyeva's dramatic defection to the U.S. as "a product of Svetlana's impulsiveness. I've never seen a person more impulsive. She would either be totally obedient or break out, which must have been a pattern from childhood. Part of the tragedy of Svetlana was that her mother committed suicide when she was six years old, and the only parental love she received was from her father. It was controlling, but genuine affection. So when she discovered at the age of 16 who her father really was, her whole childhood innocence was shattered. Not only did she have to deal with the idea that her father was responsible for the deaths of millions, but she had to give up what she called 'that place of sunshine that was my childhood.' It was a very, very complicated life." 🐦

SHELDON GORDON



## MYSTERIES OF THE MALL

by Witold Rybczynski, BArch'66, MArch'72, DSc'02



An award-winning writer and an emeritus professor of urbanism at the University of Pennsylvania, Witold Rybczynski's latest book, *Mysteries of the Mall*, is a collection of essays and reviews previously published in *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Walrus* and elsewhere.

Though some of the pieces are more than two decades old, none feel dated. With crisp, straightforward prose, Rybczynski explores a wide range of topics — everything from why college towns are good places to live (more affordable than big cities, while offering many of a big city's intellectual attractions), to why high-rise housing projects for the poor so often prove to be disastrous (despite the noble, but blinkered, thinking behind them).

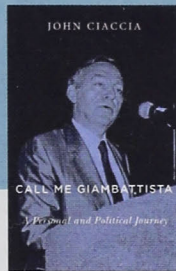
Many big names turn up in the book (Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier, Frank Gehry), but Rybczynski also shines the spotlight on some lesser-known figures (the man who invented the movie multiplex, for instance).

At times, Rybczynski focuses on his own preoccupations — cautioning against the trend towards loud and splashy buildings that eschew all nuance in a misguided bid to be instantly iconic, while championing the calming effects of great public spaces like New York's Central Park, the "one place where the city that never sleeps lets down its guard."

DANIEL MCCABE, BA'89

## CALL ME GIAMBATTISTA

by John Ciaccia, BA'53, BCL'56



John Ciaccia's autobiography may not have the heft of some recent big-name political memoirs, but it offers a unique window into the wild world of politics in Quebec from the seventies to the nineties.

The son of Italian immigrants, Giambattista Nicola Ciaccia overcame the challenges of a new country and modest beginnings to attend university, obtain a law degree and become a successful corporate lawyer in Montreal.

The political education of John Ciaccia began in 1971 when he became assistant deputy minister of Indian affairs and northern development in Ottawa. Then came an invitation from Quebec premier Robert Bourassa to run for the provincial Liberals.

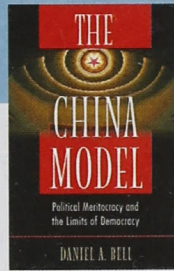
From 1973 to 1998, Ciaccia served as a member of Quebec's National Assembly and his memoir chronicles contentious language legislation (Bill 22 and Bill 101), minority rights, constitutional crises (too many to count), the Oka crisis, and two referenda.

But the sleeper in this autobiography is Ciaccia's detailed description of the James Bay hydroelectric development and the delicate balance he tried to achieve between Aboriginal rights and development of the North. His insider's view of this considerable challenge stands out as Ciaccia's magnum opus in a long career.

ANDREW MAHON

## THE CHINA MODEL

by Daniel Bell, BA'85



Maybe, just maybe, democracy isn't all it's cracked up to be. And maybe, just maybe, China is well-served by a system of government that Westerners tend to dismiss as authoritarian.

That's the provocative thesis put forward in *The China Model* by Daniel Bell, a political philosopher at Tsinghua University in Beijing, where he has lived for the last decade.

Bell isn't blind to the flaws of China's government. Women are underrepresented, corruption is rife, nepotism is a problem and critics of the government are often dealt with harshly (Bell offers thoughts on how to address these problems).

He offers ample evidence that democracies (he focuses on the U.S.) have more than a few problems of their own — poorly-informed voters and leaders reluctant to do anything that could hinder their reelection chances, for instance.

Bell applauds China for the thorough way it selects and trains leaders and for its ability to focus on accomplishing difficult goals — rescuing hundreds of millions from poverty through economic development, for example. And in the recent environmental deal struck between China and the U.S., Bell predicts that China is the partner most likely to keep its promises. They don't have to worry about Republicans tearing up the accord.

DM

## ARE YOU ALONE?

by Majical Cloudz

*Are You Alone?*

Where do Montreal's best musicians come from? Sure, many are products of the Schulich School of Music, but music label talent scouts (if such people still exist) might want to check in on McGill's religious studies offerings.

Arcade Fire front man Win Butler, BA'04, majored in religious studies. So did singer-songwriter Devon Welsh, BA'11, one-half of Majical Cloudz, a Montreal-based indie duo that opened for Lorde on her North American tour last year.

Their most recent album, *Are You Alone?*, has been collecting plenty of accolades from *The Guardian*, *Pitchfork*, *Spin* and other publications. The soft shimmer of the electronic soundscapes crafted by bandmate Matthew Otto serve as a perfect counterpoint to the stripped-down forthrightness of Welsh's voice and lyrics.

In some songs, Welsh is surprised at stumbling into love, frightened and exhilarated at the new possibilities it offers. In others, he muses about identity and the possibilities of change — the faces we wear for the outside world and their uncertain connection to who we really are. Welsh has a rare ability to imbue lyrics like "I want to kiss you inside a car that's crashing/And we will both die laughing" with a unique blend of unguarded sweetness, melancholy and dark humour.

DM

# HOMECOMING CELEBRATION WEEKEND AND OPEN HOUSE 2015

More than 3,500 alumni flooded McGill's two campuses for Homecoming Celebration Weekend on October 22-25, mingling with close to 6,000 prospective students and their families in the annual event's first-ever partnership with McGill Open House. Venerable Homecoming traditions like Redmen football and class anniversary reunions were boosted by the welcome addition of new events for young alumni and parents.

The **LEACOCK LUNCHEON** launched a new era as legendary moderator Derek Drummond, BArch'62, McGill emeritus professor of architecture, stepped down, passing the emcee's mic to alumni governor Cynthia Price, BCom'82. She introduced this year's guest speaker, author Jonathan Goldstein from CBC Radio's *WireTap* and NPR's *This American Life*. Goldstein left attendees in stitches, telling tales about his fear of dying a virgin when he was a teenager, and imagining what it would be like to date Lois Lane after she's broken up with Superman.

**MACDONALD CAMPUS** hosted activities that included a "Day in the Life" of Mac students for prospective students and curious alumni, a Women in Leadership panel discussion, and the Sir William Macdonald Luncheon, which this year featured a tribute to William Ritchie, BSc'51, in recognition of his generous \$1 million gift towards the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Science's Community Farm Outreach Program. Faculty and affinity groups also held reunions throughout the city, and the **SCARLET KEY SOCIETY** celebrated its 90th Anniversary of honouring excellence and leadership among students with a special leadership brunch.

Recent graduates met for **YOUNG ALUMNI COCKTAILS AND CULTURE** at Galérie Gora, where they were greeted upon arrival with a stylish McGill-red cocktail, while the entrepreneurially inclined headed for the **YOUNG ALUMNI ENTREPRENEURSHIP PITCH FEST**, a *Dragon's Den*-style start-up competition. Three groups headed up by young alumni pitched their projects to an expert panel of judges that included Danièle Henkel, of Radio-Canada's *Dans l'oeil du dragon* fame. Margaret Magdesian and psychology student Victoria Mallett took home the \$500 prize for Best Business Pitch for the nanotechnology start-up ANANDA, but everybody came out on top thanks to the valuable feedback entrepreneurs received from the experts.

At **OPEN HOUSE**, McGill-hopefuls picked the brains of current students and returning alumni, who shared memories and gave advice on everything from navigating the murky waters of deciding on a major, to where the best coffee is on campus (a hotly debated topic: SNAX or Dispatch?). A graduate who was volunteering for a few hours in the morning found talking to prospective students so rewarding that she stayed the whole day.

To keep them out of trouble, parents of current and prospective students were invited to take an exclusive tour of the **REDPATH MUSEUM**'s collections. Guides showcased the museum's fascinating and vast collections, from mummies to dinosaur bones to rare minerals — parents had plenty to marvel over.

The **HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME** had the Redmen facing off against long-time rivals the Concordia Stingers. The red-and-white spirit kicked off with the Tailgate Party that preceded the game, where face-paint and cheering abounded. The exuberant atmosphere was palpable — and carried over throughout the rest of the weekend. 🐉

VICTORIA LESSARD, BA'13





- ← A group of McGill students practice their cheers before the big Homecoming game.
- ↓ Tour guides introduce parents and students to the Redpath Museum's Triceratops skull, 'Sara.'



- ↑ The panel of experts for the Young Alumni Entrepreneurship Pitch Fest included (l to r) Hicham Ratnani, BEng'08 (Frank & Oak), Danièle Henkel (The Wellness Company) and Alice Dinu, BCom'14 (Oohlala College App).



- ↑ McGill alumni share laughs at the Leacock Luncheon.
- ← Principal Suzanne Fortier and alumni at the Golden Jubilee Reunion turn the tables on our photographer.

Alumni and friends take note: next year's Homecoming Celebration Weekend and Open House takes place October 27-30, 2016.

# GOING WHERE THE CONSUMERS ARE

**B**y age 10, **ANDREA STAIRS**, BA'96, had already decided on a career in business. She paid close attention to her trailblazing mother Harriet Stairs, BA'67, a former executive VP of human resources at the Bank of Montreal.

"I learned about the way she worked with people — being collaborative and strong, but not domineering. I thought that was a good balance, and one I've tried to emulate," says Stairs, who, as the managing director for eBay Canada, oversees the online retail giant's operations in this country.

At McGill, Stairs initially majored in industrial relations, which she figured was as close as she could get to studying management while still being an arts student. Her mother gently steered her in another direction.

"She encouraged me and my brother Colin to learn something new that would pay dividends long-term, even if it didn't set you up for an immediate job."

Switching into humanistic studies, Stairs developed a special interest in medieval medical history.

"It got very squeamish very quickly, and I loved it — it certainly made for interesting cocktail conversation," she laughs. "[Professor] Faith Wallis was incredible; she had everyone enthralled and I took as many of her classes as I could."

After graduating from McGill, Stairs enrolled in a joint law and MBA program at the University of Toronto. In 2005, she joined eBay Canada as a marketplace development manager and earned attention by decreasing fees for selling used cars — a move that attracted more clients. Her star was rising in the company, but Stairs faced a daunting task in 2009 when eBay pulled 80 per cent of its Canadian staff during a global re-organization.

"We got cut to four people — I was the only non-technical person — and it turned out to be a great opportunity for me, because I stepped into roles I wouldn't normally have," says Stairs, who took on the responsibilities for communications, PR and government relations.

➤ **Andrea Stairs is the managing director of EBay Canada**



ALYSSA BISTONATH

"If you ask people when they learned the most, nobody says, 'When things were the easiest.' You do your best work when things are tough and a lot is demanded of you. One of my proudest accomplishments is rebuilding the Canadian team to meet the needs of the market."

Now in its 20th year — its 15th in Canada — eBay has evolved from being a marketplace for used inventory traded at auction to a global platform with more than 150 million active users trading mostly new inventory. Canadians spend more than \$1 billion annually on eBay, and 80 per cent of the purchased items are new. Buyers and sellers are now interacting differently with eBay, too.

"Half our Canadian traffic comes through mobile devices, and about a third is exclusively on mobile. That's a huge shift," says Stairs. "People are buying all sorts of things on their mobile devices — giant excavators, diamond rings, cars — because that's where people are when they're shopping. For the person running a construction business, their office is their truck, so of course they're doing all their business on their mobile devices, including buying the backhoes they need for their next job."

Stairs focuses her energy on ensuring that eBay remains relevant to the changing habits of its Canadian customers. "The power in retail has completely shifted from the retailer to the consumer," she says.

"It used to be that retailers said, 'If you want to buy my widget, you need to come to my store during these hours.' Now, if you want to buy that widget, it better be available wherever you happen to be — whether you're watching your kid's hockey game or lying in bed at 11 o'clock at night." 🐦

WENDY HELFENBAUM

## AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**WAYNE DICKIESON**, BSc(Agr)'64, was selected as the 2015 recipient of the Dairy Cattle Improvement Industry Distinction Award, in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the Canadian dairy industry over many years. A former president of the Canadian Association of Animal Breeders, Wayne was inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2014.

## ARCHITECTURE

**JERRY GLOS**, BArch'55, was recently named a fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, which recognizes outstanding achievement in architecture. In 1966, Jerry and his engineer brother Carl founded Glos Associates Ltd and worked on a number of well-known Windsor landmarks including the *Windsor Star* Printing Facility, the Jamieson Vitamin Manufacturing Facility and the new Windsor Transit Terminal.

**FRANCES BRONET**, BSc(Arch)'77, BArch'78, BEng'79, is now the provost and senior vice president of academic affairs at the Illinois Institute of Technology. She had previously held the position of distinguished professor, acting provost and dean of the School of Architecture and Allied Arts at the University of Oregon. She is the past president of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

**MICHEL NADEAU**, BSc(Arch)'81, BArch'82, is the new associate vice-president of facilities management at Concordia University. He had previously been working for the City of Montreal as the director of stratégies et transactions immobilières (real estate transactions and strategies), where he was responsible for the management of 1,400 buildings.

**CLAIRE LAURENCE**, BSc(Arch)'12, graduated with a master's degree in architecture from the University of Pennsylvania in May. Following three consecutive years with the highest ranking in all her courses, Claire received the American Institute of Architecture Henry Adams Prize and Medal for the graduating student with the highest GPA.

**JESSICA YEE**, BSc(Arch)'15, recently returned from a project trip to Malawi where she volunteered with Engineering Ministries International Canada and provided master planning and design for Namikango Mission, an organization that trains church workers and supplies medical and educational services. Jessica worked as an architectural intern and helped plan and assist with the conceptual design of the dorms, classrooms and administrative buildings.

## ARTS

**JOHN FRIEDLANDER**, BA'41, MA'46, was made a knight of the French Legion of Honour (Chevalier de l'Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur), in recognition of his contributions to France during the Second World War. The ceremony, which involved the French ambassador to Canada, took place in Ottawa in April. John piloted a rocket-firing Hawker Typhoon during more than 125 missions in Northern Europe during the war and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service. He lives in Mississauga, Ontario and can be reached at dorajohn@bell.net.

**MICHAEL MEIGHEN**, BA'60, LLD'12, received the 2015 T.B. 'Happy' Fraser Award, the Atlantic Salmon Federation's highest honour for contributions to wild Atlantic salmon conservation. Michael has served as the chairman of ASF (Canada) since 2004 and helped create the Meighen-Molson Professorship in Atlantic Salmon Research, which led to the establishment of the Canadian Rivers Institute at the University of New Brunswick. In 2014, Michael became the chancellor of McGill.

**JOHN MCLERNON**, BA'62, was one of the recipients of the 2014 British Columbia Community Achievement Awards for his work as the founding chair of the Streethome Foundation, a community organization that addresses the needs of the homeless in Vancouver. John has also served on numerous city boards including the Vancouver Opera and the Vancouver Foundation. He is the honorary chair and co-founder of the Colliers Macaulay Nicolls Group of Companies. As its CEO for 25 years, he developed Colliers from a local Vancouver company to a global commercial real estate service provider operating in 60 countries.

**LINDA GABORIAU**, BA'65, MA'72, was named to the Order of Canada as a new member for her contributions as a translator who has helped promote French-Canadian theatre to a broader English audience. A two-time winner of the Governor General's Award for Literary Translation, she has translated more than 100 French plays into English.



DOMINIQUE LAFOND

**JULIA GERSOVITZ**, BSc(Arch)'74, BArch'75, is the recipient of the 2015 Gabrielle Léger Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Conservation in Canada. Awarded by the National Trust for Canada, it is the country's top honour for individual achievement in heritage conservation. She has worked on some of Canada's most iconic buildings, including the West Block of Parliament, Toronto Union Station and McGill's Arts Building. An adjunct professor of architecture at McGill, she is a founding partner of FGMDA and leads that firm's large-scale heritage projects.



**MARK STAROWICZ**, BA'68, DLitt'01, recently retired from the CBC after a pioneering career in journalism that spanned several decades. He was the driving force behind the CBC's award-winning multi-part documentary *Canada: A Peoples History* and the creator and/or producer of many of the CBC's most influential programs, including *As It Happens*, *The Journal* and *Sunday Morning*. The former executive producer of CBC's documentary department will now focus on making his own documentaries.

**LAWRENCE ROSSY**, BA'65, was named to the Order of Canada as a new member for his contributions to the retail sector in Canada and for his support of health care and social service organizations. He is the CEO and founder of Dollarama. His philanthropic support played a pivotal role in the creation of McGill's Rossy Cancer Network.

**ELIZABETH ABBOTT**, MA'66, PhD'71, recently published *Dogs and Underdogs: Finding Happiness at Both Ends of the Leash* (Penguin Canada), an exploration of the human-dog bond. Her previous books include *A History of Mistresses* and *A History of Marriage*.

**BYRON AYANOGLU**, BA'67, published his fifth book *Fresh Blood*, which tells the story of a widowed Greek woman who grew up during the Nazi occupation and Greek civil war. After the death of her abusive husband, she finds peace until the 2012 Greek financial crisis. Byron's other works include a best-selling Thai cookbook, a novel, a memoir and a satirical romance.

**RON BURNETT**, BA'68, MA'71, PhD'81, was appointed to the Order of British Columbia in May in recognition of his distinguished academic service in media, arts and education. Ron has been the president of Emily Carr University of Art + Design since 1996 and was the director of McGill's Graduate Program in Communications from 1987 to 1996.

**ELIZABETH WAJNBERG**, BA'68, is the author of *Sheymes: A Family Album after the Holocaust* (McGill-Queen's University Press). The daughter of Holocaust survivors, she chronicles her family's history from the prewar years through the war to their arrival in Montreal. As her parents age and the author becomes their active and anxious caregiver, the book changes its focus to address the way society turns away from its elderly.

**CAT BENNETT**, BA'70, released her third book, *The Drawing Club of Improbable Dreams*, this past fall. The book describes how to start and run a drawing club. Cat was an illustrator for more than 25 years and her work has appeared in *The Boston Globe*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic* and *Time*.

**MORDECHAI NISAN**, MA'70, PhD'75, released a new book, *Politics and War in Lebanon: Unraveling the Enigma*, which examines Lebanese society, a culture that he believes is often misrepresented in Western political commentary. The book focuses on how Lebanon is very different from other Arab countries. Mordechai taught Middle East studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

**MONIQUE JÉRÔME-FORGET**, BA'71, PhD'77, was named to the Order of Canada as a new member for her contributions to Quebec public life. She held senior cabinet positions in the Quebec government between 2003 and 2009, including Treasury Board president, finance minister and minister of government services.

**EDUARDO DEL BUEY**, BA'72, has written two books on strategic communications, *Guerilla Communications* and *Spokespersonry*, both available through Amazon. Eduardo spent 37 years in the Canadian diplomatic service and served as spokesperson for the Secretaries General of the Organization of American States and the Commonwealth, and as deputy spokesperson for the U.N. Secretary General.

**JEAN-LOUIS ROY**, PhD'72, was named to the Order of Quebec as an officer. He is the president of Partenariat International, a think tank devoted to international development. He was the editor of *Le Devoir* from 1980 to 1986, Quebec's delegate-general to Paris from 1986 to 1989 and the president of Rights & Democracy from 2002 to 2007.

**DAVE FLAVELL**, BA'73, is the author of *Community & the Human Spirit: Oral Histories from Montreal's Point St. Charles, Griffintown and Goose Village*, which tells the social history of Canada's "cradle of industrialization" just south of Montreal's booming metropolis. The contributors to the book were born between 1924 and 1957, and they contrast the past of the working class neighbourhood with the urban redevelopment currently taking place.

**JAN WONG**, BA'74, is a tenured associate professor of journalism at St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick. She divides her time between the Maritimes, where she also writes a column for the *Halifax Chronicle Herald*, and Toronto, where she writes a column for *Toronto Life*. A former foreign correspondent in Beijing, she won a National Newspaper Award for foreign reporting and a (U.S.) George Polk award for business reporting. Her most recent bestseller is *Out of the Blue: A Memoir of Workplace Depression, Recovery, Redemption and, Yes, Happiness*.

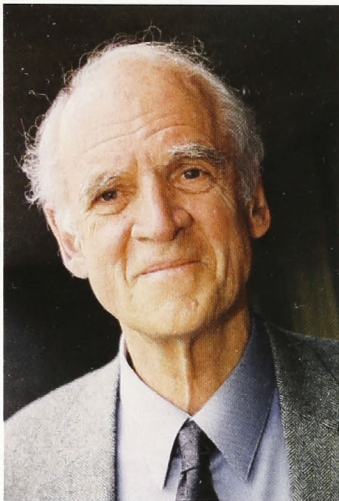


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**CHARLES TAYLOR**, BA'52, a McGill professor emeritus of philosophy, is a co-recipient of the 2015 John W. Kluge Prize. He is the best known for his contributions to political philosophy, the philosophy of social science, the history of philosophy and intellectual history. His work has been published in 20 languages and has dealt with issues ranging from artificial intelligence to analyses of contemporary multicultural societies to the study of religion and what it means to live in a secular age. Awarded by the U.S. Library of Congress, the \$1.5 million Kluge Prize recognizes individuals whose outstanding scholarship in the humanities and social sciences has shaped both public affairs and civil society.

**ROGER N. BUCKLEY**, PhD'75, is the co-editor of *Yellow Power Yellow Soul: The Radical Art of Fred Ho* (University of Illinois Press). The book explores Ho's musical and theatrical work, as well as his political theory and activism. Roger is also the author of *Sepoy O'Connor* (Writer's Workshop, Kolkata/Calcutta, India). The novel, his third, examines the true story of a British soldier who deserts to the rebel Indian side during the so-called Sepoy Mutiny of 1857. Roger's current work focuses on the history of Montreal's Japanese community. He is a professor of history and the founding director of the Asian and Asian American Studies Institute at the University of Connecticut.

**PAUL BYCHOK**, BA'77, retired as a senior litigator with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada in Nunavut in April, 2015. Two months later, he was appointed to the Superior Court Bench as a judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice and a judge of the Courts of Appeal of the three northern territories. He will continue to reside in the 'Road to Nowhere' subdivision at the edge of Iqaluit where all of Baffin Island is his back yard.

**JACK HAYES**, BA'79, has left his position as vice-president human resources with Chubb Edwards (United Technologies Corporation). He has established HR Fit (HRFit.ca), a consulting practice specializing in providing HR services to small and mid-sized organizations with a focus on employee and labour relations. Jack lives in Toronto with his wife Anne-Marie, BA'78, and his two children.

**CAROLYN MARIE SOUAID**, BA'81, Dip Ed'83, recently published *This World We Invented*, a book of poetry that "investigates our darker moments." She is the author of six poetry books and has been shortlisted for a number of literary prizes including the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry and the Pat Lowther Memorial Award. She also co-founded Poetry Quebec, the first online review of English poetry from Quebec poets.

**DIANE CHÈNEVERT**, BA'82, was named to the Order of Quebec as a knight earlier this year. She is also the Montreal YWCA's 2015 Woman of Distinction in Social Commitment. Diane is the founder and general manager of Centre Philou, a non-profit, charitable organization that supports the families of children with disabilities. Diane established a summer camp for children with serious disabilities, as well as cognitive and physical development programs tailored to children with multiple disabilities.

**ROBERT HOUSEZ**, BA'82, DipEd'83, received the Ontario Hospitality Institute Hotelier of the Year award. He is the general manager of the Delta Meadowvale Hotel and Conference Centre. He has been on several Tourism Toronto committees and currently sits on its board of directors. He is also a board member with the Toronto West Tourism Advisory Board.

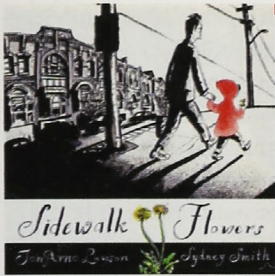
**ZLATA BLAZINA TOMIC**, MA'82, is a medical historian now retired from McGill's Osler Library of the History of Medicine. She recently published, with Vesna Blazina, her second book, *Expelling the Plague: The Health Office and the Implementation of Quarantine in Dubrovnik, 1377-1533* (McGill-Queen's University Press). Based on archival sources, the book explores the early European public health regulations concerning plague control with a particular emphasis on the disastrous 1526 plague epidemic.

**G. ANDREW KAROLYI**, BA'83, recently published *Cracking the Emerging Markets Enigma*, a book that provides practical guidelines for assessing the opportunities and risks of investing in emerging markets. He is a professor of finance at the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University. He is the executive editor of the *Review of Financial Studies* and was named one of "the world's most influential scientific minds" in 2014 by Thomson Reuters.

**SARAH K. HARDING**, BA'86 is the recipient of the Illinois Institute of Technology's 2015 John W. Rowe University Excellence in Teaching Award. Sarah has been a member of faculty since 1995 and is the institute's Chicago-Kent College of Law Professor. Her research focuses on property-related issues with an emphasis on the social and cultural significance of property. From 2008 to 2014 she was IIT's associate dean for faculty research and development and has also served as co-director of the IIT Chicago-Kent's Institute for Law and the Humanities.

**IAN SIMMONS**, BA'86, a Washington-based partner of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, was appointed co-chair of the firm's Antitrust & Competition Group. With more than 23 years of experience in antitrust litigation, Ian's practice focuses on cartel class actions and matters involving intellectual property. He currently represents Sysco Corporation in the Federal Trade Commission's challenge to the Sysco-US Foods merger. Ian is also an associate editor for *Antitrust Magazine*. He was recently a finalist for *Global Competition Review's* 2015 Litigator of the Year Award.





**JONARNO LAWSON**, BA'93 received the 2015 Governor General's Literary Award for children's illustrated books (English). He and co-recipient Sydney Smith won the prize for *Sidewalk Flowers*. Other winners included **RHONDA MULLINS**, CertTranslation'05 (for French to English translation for her work on Jocelyne Saucier's *Twenty-One Cardinals*), and **ROBYN SARAH**, BA'70, MA'74 (for English poetry for *My Shoes are Killing Me*). Finalists for the prizes included **YING CHEN**, MA'91 (French non-fiction), **EMIL SHER**, BA'81 (English children's literature), and **RACHEL MARTINEZ**, BA'82, GradDipTranslation'07 (French to English translation).

**ROBERT L. ROSENTHAL**, BA'88, an attorney at Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC, was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* 2016. Robert is listed under employment law-management; labor law-management; and litigation-labor and employment. He was also named to the 2015 Mountain States *Super Lawyers* list in the employment & labor category.

**MEGAN WILLIAMS**, BA'88, won a Gold Trophy at the 2015 New York Radio Festivals for Best Documentary on Social Issues and a United Nations award for her radio documentary *Claiming Space*, which analyzes "the conception and design of public space," and how it "affects the lives of women who move through it." She travelled from India to Vienna to speak with sociologists, city planners and cultural historians.

**CLEO PASKAL**, BA'90, an associate fellow at Chatham House in Great Britain and the author of *Global Warring: How Environmental, Economic, and Political Crises Will Redraw the World*, was named one of the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation's five Trudeau fellows for 2015. She will use her fellowship, worth \$225,000 over three years, to examine recent geopolitical, geoeconomic, and geophysical changes in the Indo-Pacific region and how they might affect Canada. McGill law professor René Provost was also named a Trudeau fellow.

**BRENDA LEFRANÇOIS**, BA'91, has been promoted to the rank of full professor at Memorial University. Brenda is the chair of the PhD program in the School of Social Work and edits the journal *Intersectionalities*. She is co-editor of *Mad Matters: A Critical Reader in Canadian*

*Mad Studies, Psychiatry Disrupted: Theorizing Resistance and Crafting the (R)evolution, Psychiatrised Children and their Rights: Global Perspectives*.

**JEFFREY DE FOURESTIER**, MA'92, received the Public Service Award of Excellence for 2015 in the category of Excellence in Citizen-Focused Service Delivery. Jeffrey was recognized for his work in managing the Memorial Ribbon Program through which the Canadian Armed Forces recognizes the loss and sacrifice of the families of fallen soldiers. He was presented with the award by the Governor General on September 16 at Rideau Hall.

**JESSICA MCBRIDE**, BA'92, MA'07, PhD'15, is the recipient of the Dr. Durand Jacobs Dissertation Award presented by the National Council on Problem Gambling. Her dissertation surveyed young people's gambling and gaming activities and examined how certain forms of gaming activity are related to gambling.

**ALEX SILVER**, BA'93, has joined Charles River Associates, a consulting firm, as a principal in the life sciences practice based in Boston. Prior to joining CRA, Alex was a member of the business development team at Crosswave in Shanghai, where he managed early stage life science ventures.

**GIB VAN ERT**, BA'95, was appointed to the position of executive legal officer of the Supreme Court of Canada. He will serve for a two-year term as principal advisor to the chief justice, assisting her with the administration of the court, the Canadian Judicial Council and the National Judicial Institute. He is also responsible for media relations at the court.

**LAURE WARIDEL**, BA'96, is the new executive director of the Centre interdisciplinaire de recherche en opérationnalisation du développement durable (CIRODD), an interdisciplinary research centre at Polytechnique Montréal that focuses its efforts on producing knowledge and tools that can foster a transition toward a green economy. Laure is the co-founder of Équiterre, an organization that helps people, organizations and governments make ecological and equitable choices.

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**ELIOTT BEHAR**, BA'97, was a finalist for the 2015 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction for *Tell It to the World: International Justice and the Secret Campaign to Hide Mass Murder in Kosovo*. The book explores issues of mass violence and genocide and focuses on the disappearance of more than a thousand Kosovar Albanians in the nineties. Elliott is a former war crimes prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague.

**RACHEL PULFER**, BA'97, has returned as the executive director of Journalists for Human Rights after a maternity leave. She has worked with JHR for five years, first as its international programs director, managing projects in Liberia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Malawi and Sierra Leone. As the U.S. bureau chief for *Canadian Business*, she won a Webster/McConnell Canadian Journalism Fellowship for her coverage of the 2008-2009 financial crisis.

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**SHANE HAMBLY**, BA'02, is now the vice president of eDealer and carmigo.com. A Canadian tech start-up, carmigo.com is a new car shopping site that connects car buyers with salespeople at competing dealerships in real-time.

**DAVID STEINBERG**, BA'03, is the author of *Demanding Devaluation: Exchange Rate Politics in the Developing World*. In the book, he analyses the effect that exchange rate policy has on economic development, financial crises and international political conflict, and he provides a number of case studies to support his arguments. David is an assistant professor of international political economy at John Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies.

**ELIZABETH CAPIELLO**, BA'04, a lawyer at Ober | Kaler, was named a rising star in the category of business litigation in the 2015 ranking of Washington D.C. Super Lawyers.

**FRANCIS HALIN**, BA'04, MA'08, received the \$2,500 Bourse AJIQ-Le Devoir awarded by l'Association des journalistes indépendants du Québec and *Le Devoir*. The prize includes an internship at *Le Devoir*. After completing a journalism certificate at Université de Montréal, Francis began working as a freelance journalist at Radio-Canada.

**NICOLAS FERREYROS**, BA'05, is the new director of communications for the Community Oncology Alliance, a non-profit organization that advocates for patients and their providers in the community cancer care setting. Nick brings 10 years of experience as a senior public relations counsellor to COA, most recently at a D.C.-based communications firm specializing in healthcare, science and social issues.

**LAWRENCE MONOSON**, BA'09, is the co-founder and CEO of RxData, a comprehensive and up-to-date online database of drug costs and reimbursement coverage globally. He was recently featured in *L'Hebdo's* Forum des 100.

**LUIS VAN ISSCHOT**, PhD'10, recently published his new book *The Social Origins of Human Rights: Protest in Political Violence in Colombia's Oil Capital, 1919-2010*. The book analyzes the human rights movement in Barrancabermeja, Colombia. Luis is an assistant professor of the history of modern Latin America at the University of Toronto.

**ERIC ANDREW-GEE**, BA'14, is a recipient of the Goff Penny Award, given annually to the best journalists in the country under the age of 25, for his work at the *Toronto Star*. He now works as a national reporter for the *Globe and Mail*. Before working at the *Star*, he was an editor at *Maisonneuve* and an intern at *The New Republic*. His writing has been published in *Canadian Art*, *The Walrus*, and *Toronto Life*.

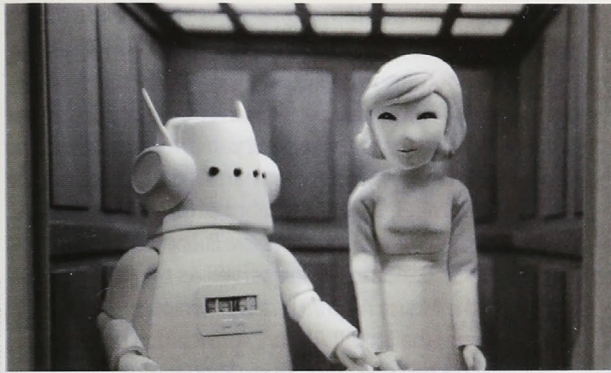
## CONTINUING STUDIES

**AUDREY FILION**, CertPRMgmt'07, recently became the senior director, public relations and marketing communication at the Quebec-based public relations firm Citoyen Optimum. She previously worked on her own as a consultant and before that as the marketing director at the Ritz-Carlton and the public relations manager at Holt Renfrew.

## DENTISTRY

**MYRNA HALPENNY**, DDS'74, received the Honoured Member Award from the College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia, the organization's highest distinction. She started at CDSBC as a specialty representative on the board, then served as vice-president before becoming the only woman to serve as CDSBC president. She is a founding member of the B.C. Women's Dental Society and recently chaired a mentorship program for female dentists in British Columbia.

A. J. KOPKIDAKIS



**ERIC SAN**, BEd'96, is better known as Kid Koala, a turntablist and cartoonist whose 2003 graphic novel *Nufonia Must Fall* is the subject of a new multimedia stage production. *Nufonia Must Fall* focuses on a headphones-sporting robot on the verge of obsolescence and his attempts to woo an office worker with his love songs. Kid Koala is collaborating with Oscar-nominated production designer K.K. Barrett (*Her, Lost in Translation*) on the show and provides the score. The production, likened to "a cartoon performed live" by *The New York Times*, will be performed in Los Angeles, Boston, Nashville, Minneapolis and other cities in 2016.

**EDUCATION**

**FREDA LEWKOWICZ**, DipEd'74, CertSpEd'79, Cert RInst'80, recently published *School Selfies: Teachers, Parents, Students and Bandwagons*, where she sheds light on important issues in public education, and provides a selfie of schools today. Freda is a retired high school English teacher and has written for various publications including *The Gazette*, *The Globe and Mail* and *Parade.com*.

**KEN RIVARD**, MEd'74, recently published his 10th book, *Motherwild* (Thistledown Press), which tells the story of a mother-son relationship set in Montreal. Ken's books have been finalists for the Writer's Guild of Alberta Book Awards and the City of Calgary W.O. Mitchell Book Prize. He has been a juror for both the Alberta and Saskatchewan book awards and has been the writer-in-residence for the Calgary Public Library and the Writers Guild of Alberta. In 2005, Ken was nominated for the inaugural Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Arts Awards.

**RICK SHAVER**, BEd'79, was recently named president and CEO of the Toronto ad agency The Hive, where he began working as vice-president 20 years ago, after having spent many years as a company executive with Labatt's. An avid runner and consummate world traveller, Rick has successfully completed 16 marathons across North America and Europe and is the founder of the Canadian chapter of the Travellers' Century Club, an international non-profit social organization representing travellers who have visited 100 or more countries and territories around the world.

**TRISH DOUGHERTY**, BEd'83, is the owner of the Kawartha Store in Fenelon Falls, an online clothing store focused on Canadian-made items and featuring a wide range of designers. Trish supports buying Canadian for quality, economic, ethical and environmental reasons.

**SUSAN BARTLETT**, MEd'88, is the Montreal YWCA's Woman of Distinction in Education. An associate professor of medicine at McGill, her research has shown that individuals can take action against the negative consequences of chronic diseases such as asthma, rheumatoid arthritis and obesity, whether by acting on psychological factors or on health and lifestyle habits.

**DEREK WEBSTER**, DipEd'94, recently published *Mockingbird*, a book of poetry, with Véhicule Press. His poetry and prose have appeared in *The Fiddlehead*, *The Malahat Review*, *The Walrus* and *Boston Review*. He was the founding editor of *Maisonneuve* magazine.

**ALEX M. MCCOMBER**, MEd'96, received an honorary doctorate from Queen's University in recognition of his research on Type 2 diabetes and his work on prevention programs and community empowerment programs with Aboriginal peoples. Alex is the co-investigator of a national diabetes research effort in First Nations communities, FORGE AHEAD, and the training facilitator for the Kahnawake Schools KSDPP Training Program in Diabetes Prevention.

**VERONIKA HORLIK**, BEd'98, MA'06, is the winner of the RBC Emerging Artist People's Choice Award for ceramic artists. The Gardiner Museum in Toronto showcased the works of all the finalists, after which the public voted for its favourite. Veronika is based in Montreal and teaches art education courses at McGill along with ceramics courses at Studio de ceramique Alexandra.

**ENGINEERING**

**WILL CUPCHIK**, BEng'61, published a new self-help/psychology book, *The Rope Trick: Close your Eyes and Open your Mind to Better Know your Relationships*, which focuses on a mental imagery exercise that he developed for assessing interpersonal relationships. Will is a counselling psychologist with more than 35 years of experience.

**DAVID HACCOUN**, PhD'74, was recently named a fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. He is an adjunct professor of electrical engineering at Polytechnique Montréal. David is also a fellow of both the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Engineering Institute of Canada.

**CAMILLE DOW BAKER**, BEng'78, is the recipient of the Canadian Medical Association's 2015 Medal of Honour. She is the co-founder of the Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology, a non-governmental organization based in Calgary that provides technological and consulting services in water, sanitation and hygiene to those who work with local populations in the developing world. The centre has helped provide better water and sanitation to nearly 10 million people in 68 countries.

**BRIAN MACKAY**, BEng'79, graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas with a master's of science degree in software engineering this past May. He was awarded a certificate of academic excellence. Brian had returned to school after working for 35 years in the industry.

**TORILL KOVE**, MUP'89, received Norway's Anders Jahre Prize for the Arts in September. The award recognizes individuals or institutions that have made outstanding contributions to Norway's cultural life. Torill is a Norwegian-born, Montreal-based animator and director. She won an Academy Award for her film *The Danish Poet* in 2006 and she has received Oscar nominations for two other films.

**DOMINIQUE LORD**, BEng'92, was promoted to the rank of professor in September by Texas A&M University. At the time of his promotion, he had the highest number of peer-reviewed publications in the history of the Zachry Department of Civil Engineering. In May 2015, he was inducted into the "Cercle des ambassadeurs" of the Collège Charles-Lemoyne in Longueuil, Quebec, for his professional accomplishments.

**GUILLAUME BOISSET**, BEng'93, MEng'94, PhD'98, published his first novel *From a Pipeline to the Coast*, a science fiction adventure story that applies a unique technological twist to the concerns over building a pipeline for tar sands oil. The e-book is available through the Amazon Kindle Store.

**GEORGES EL BACHA**, BEng'01, moved to Boston after graduation to pursue a career in analog IC design. Instead, he enrolled at the New England Conservatory School of Continuing Education in 2005 to study piano jazz and composition, an interest he had since an early age. In 2009 he started NoMad Dreams, an eclectic indie band with jazz and world music influences. The group now performs regularly in the Boston area. Last March, after a successful Kickstarter campaign, they released their first album. To find out more, visit [nomaddreams.com](http://nomaddreams.com).



**BRYAN HAYNES**, BA'90, LLB'93, was honoured for his contributions to McGill as a longtime volunteer at the McGill Alumni Calgary Gala in November. A partner at Bennett Jones in Calgary, Bryan is the co-head of the law firm's corporate commercial practice group. He is a member of McGill's board of governors and the board of directors of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Canada. He has served as the president of both the McGill Alumni Association of Southern Alberta and the McGill Alumni Association of Vancouver. He co-chairs McGill's International Alma Mater Fund Council and is a former trustee for the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada.

## LAW

**RICHARD POUND**, BCom'62, BCL'67, LLD'09, has published his latest book *Made in Court: Supreme Court Decisions that Shaped Canada*. The book examines more than 50 Supreme Court decisions and how they affected the country. Richard practices law with the Montreal office of Stikeman Elliott LLP. He is chancellor emeritus of McGill and a longtime member of the International Olympic Committee.

**IAN M. SOLLOWAY**, BA'70, BCL'73, was awarded the 2015 Merite du Barreau de Montreal in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the Montreal Bar and its activities. He was re-elected to a seventh consecutive term as chair of the English-speaking Section of the Bar of Montreal in March 2015.

**JULIA WELLER**, BA'70, LLB'78, has been recognized by the *National Law Journal* as an Energy and Environmental Trailblazer. Julia is a partner in Pierce Atwood's energy practice group and currently focuses on promoting investment in clean energy and energy efficiency projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Commonwealth of Independent States and the countries of Southeast Europe.

**LISA DE WILDE**, BA'77, LLB'80, was named to the Order of Canada as a new member for her contributions to public broadcasting. She is the CEO of TV Ontario, chairs the Toronto International Film Festival's board of directors and is on the board of directors for Telus.

**EVA PETRAS**, BCL'80, LLB'80, was appointed associate chief justice of the Superior Court of Quebec. She had been a puisne judge of the Superior Court of Quebec in the judicial district of Montreal. Prior to becoming a judge, she practiced law with MacKenzie Gervais and Lapointe Rosenstein before starting her own firm in Montreal in 1990. She has also been a lecturer in family law at McGill and a member of both the Disciplinary Committee and the Professional Inspection Committee of the Bar of Quebec. She is a past president of the Canadian Slovak Professional and Business Association.

**BERNARD AMYOT**, BCL'82, LLB'83, a commercial litigator at LCM Attorneys Inc. in Montreal and a past president of the Canadian Bar Association, was inducted as a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers during the IATL's annual meeting in Seattle.

**FRANÇOIS CRÉPEAU**, BCL'82, LLD'82, recently became the new director of McGill's Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism. He is McGill's Hans & Tamar Oppenheimer Chair in Public International Law and is also the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants.

**STEPHEN TOOPE**, LLB'83, BCL'83, was named to the Order of Canada as an officer for his leadership in post-secondary education and for his scholarship in the fields of international law and human rights. He is the director of the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs. A former dean of law at McGill, he was also the president of the University of British Columbia from 2006 to 2014.

**DONNA SOBLE KAUFMAN**, BCL'84, was named to the Order of Canada as a member for her contributions to the field of corporate governance and for her pioneering work promoting women in Canada's business community. She serves or has served as a director or governor for several major corporations and organizations including Bell Canada, the Historica-Dominion Institute, the Hudson's Bay Company and TransAlta Corp.



ALLEN MCINNIS

**LARRY SMITH**, BCL'76, was inducted into the Quebec Sports Hall of Fame as a builder for his contributions to football in the province. Smith's long association with the CFL's Montreal Alouettes began in 1972, when he became a running back for the team, eventually becoming a key part of two Grey Cup winners. Following his playing days, he served for five years as commissioner of the CFL. As a two-time president of the Alouettes, he is widely credited with making the team and the sport more popular in Montreal and Quebec. He is now a member of the Canadian Senate.

**HARTLAND J.A. PATERSON**, BCL'86, LLB'86, is now the executive vice-president and general counsel at SNC-Lavalin, where he oversees the legal and ethics & compliance functions. He had previously been working with CAE Inc., where he was a member of the executive committee and held the position of general counsel, chief compliance officer and secretary.

**WILLIAM B. ROSENBERG**, BA'84, BCL'88, LLB'88, a senior partner in the Montreal office of Stikeman Elliott LLP, has begun a one-year term as chair of the American Bar Association Business Law Section. He is the first non-U.S. lawyer to be named as an officer of the ABA Business Law Section, one of the largest specialty groups within the ABA. He is a past editor-in-chief of *The Business Lawyer*, the premier peer-reviewed business law journal in the United States.

**HUGO CYR**, BCL'97, LLB'97, was appointed to a five-year term as the new dean of the Faculty of Political Science and Law at the Université du Québec à Montréal. A constitutional law expert who often does consulting work for governments, Hugo has been a professor in UQAM's Department of Juridical Science since 2002.

**CLAUDE LOISELLE**, LLB'98, is working as a hockey operations consultant for the Arizona Coyotes. He was the vice president and assistant general manager for the Toronto Maple Leafs from 2010 to 2014. He worked as the associate director of hockey operations for the NHL before he joined the Leafs.

**HOWARD LIEBMAN**, BCom'95, BCL'99, LLB'99, recently completed 11 years as the chief of staff to former minister of justice and Mount Royal MP Irwin Cotler. Howard is now a special advisor on international relations to Montreal mayor Denis Coderre.



**KEN DRYDEN**, LLB'73, a Hockey Hall of Fame goaltender who won six Stanley Cups with the Montreal Canadiens, was one of six NHL goaltending legends selected for the 2015 NHL Great Canadian Goalies stamp series by Canada Post. Since retiring as a player, he has been the president of the Toronto Maple Leafs, a Member of Parliament, a university teacher and an author. His book, *The Game*, about his playing days with the Canadiens, was named as one of the best sports books of all time by *Sports Illustrated*.

**JAN-FRYDERYK PLESZCZYNSKI**, BCL'00, LLB'00, is the recipient of the 2015 Arnold Edinborough Award, a prize that recognizes business professionals under the age of 40 for exemplary leadership and volunteerism in the arts. The prize is awarded by Business for the Arts, Canada's only national charitable association of business members who support the arts. Jan-Fryderyk is the president of Digital Dimension, which specializes in high-end visual effects and 3D animation for the film, television, advertising and interactive entertainment industries. He is also the chair of the Conseil des arts de Montréal.

**AIDAN JOHNSON**, BCL/LLB'10, was elected city councillor for Ward 1 in Hamilton, Ontario in 2014. He serves as vice-chair of the City of Hamilton Finance Committee and is supervising Hamilton's upgrade to the regional sewage and water system. He also designed Hamilton's Indigenous Justice Strategy, passed by council in April, which consists of a set of policies aimed at creating greater consultation and co-operation between the city government and the First Nations peoples.

## LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCES

**MARY MELFI**, MLS'77, has published more than a dozen books of poetry, prose and drama. Her new novel *Via Roma* (Guernica Editions) focuses on a Montreal woman who is drawn to two men of Italian descent. When she chooses one over the other, she sets in motion a chain of events that results in a murder mystery.

**PHYLLIS RUDIN**, MLS'80, recently published *Evie, the Baby and the Wife*, a fictionalized account of the Abortion Caravan, a cross-Canada road trip in the seventies that tried to open up access to abortions for women. The story covers the history of the fight for women's reproductive rights in Canada. Phyllis is an award-winning short story writer and her work has appeared in numerous literary magazines.

**BRIAN C. THOMPSON**, MLIS'94, has written the first English-language biography of the composer of "O Canada." *Anthems and Minstrel Shows: The Life and Times of Calixa Lavallée, 1842-1891*, was published in June by McGill-Queen's University Press. Brian is a senior lecturer in the Department of Music at the Chinese University of Hong King.

## MANAGEMENT

**DEREK GROUT**, MBA'71, is a historian who has written extensively on shipwrecks and scuba diving in Canada and the United States. His latest book, *Thunder in the Skies: A Canadian Gunner in the Great War* (Dundurn Press), focuses on Bert Sargent, a McGill engineer who served throughout the war in the Canadian Field Artillery. Using unpublished, first-person sources, *Thunder in the Skies* details the daily life of an artilleryman in the First World War.

**PETER TODD**, BCom'83, became the new dean of HEC Paris in September. From 2005 to 2014, Peter was the dean of McGill's Desautels Faculty of Management. His fields of expertise include innovation management and information technologies.



**JENNIFER HEIL**, BCom'13, was inducted into the Quebec Sports Hall of Fame in recognition of her accomplishments in the sport of freestyle mogul skiing. A four-time world champion, Jennifer earned gold and silver medals at the Winter Olympics. She is a co-founder of B2ten, a group that offers funding and training support to top Canadian athletes preparing for the Olympics, and is an ambassador for the Because I am a Girl initiative, which promotes girls' rights around the world.

**FRANCE BELANGER**, BCom'85, received Virginia Tech's 2015 Alumni Award for Excellence in Research. France is the R.B. Pamplin Professor of Accounting and Information Systems and Tom and Daisy Byrd Senior Faculty Fellow at Virginia Tech's Pamplin College of Business. Her research examines digital interactions between individuals, businesses and the government, and security and privacy issues. She also co-developed a smartphone app for digital privacy education and has worked on award-winning technology to safeguard children's online privacy.

**LOUISE ANN MAZIAK**, BSc'81, MSc'84, MBA'87, was recently appointed to the board of directors for the Fondation de l'Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montréal. Louise is the vice-president of national accounts at TD Commercial Banking.

**GREG SILAS**, BCom'91, DPA'92, MBA'91 and **PETER GRECH**, BA'90, are the cofounders of BoardSeat, a relationship building service for business professionals. Peter is responsible for BoardSeat's business strategy, sales and member relations, while Greg deals with business strategy, product design and development. The duo don't believe that trusted relationships can develop solely online, which is why BoardSeat is designed with a strong offline component. For more information, visit [www.boardseat.com](http://www.boardseat.com).

**K. BREWER DORAN**, PhD'00, is the new dean of the Offutt School of Business at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. She arrived from Salem State University in Massachusetts, where she was the dean of the Bertolon School of Business.

**ANDRÉ GREMILLET**, MBA'00, is the new executive director of the Cleveland Orchestra. André had been the managing director of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra since November 2012. He was the president and CEO of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra from 2007 to 2012. Prior to joining the NJSO, he served for four years as president of the internationally-renowned pipe organ building company Casavant Frères.

**JENNIFER LIAO**, BCom'02, directed the feature film *End of Days, Inc.*, a science fiction comedy produced with the support of Telefilm Canada. The film, which was screened at the Calgary International Film Festival, was picked up for distribution in North America by Indiecan Entertainment and will be released in early 2016. To view the trailer and stay up to date, visit [GodfreyGlobal.com](http://GodfreyGlobal.com).

**CATHERINE WARD**, BCom'09, a two-time Olympic gold medalist and a former all-star with the McGill Martlets, has retired from the Canadian women's national hockey team. She was an assistant captain for the team at the Sochi Olympics, where she led Canada in minutes played, averaging over 24 minutes per game. Catherine is an assistant product manager for sticks with the equipment company CCM.

## MEDICINE

**CHARLES SCRIVER**, BA'51, MDCM'55, DSc'07, was named the 2015 recipient of the Victor A. McKusick Leadership Award by the American Society of Human Genetics. The prize recognizes individuals whose achievements have fostered and enriched the development of human genetics as well as its assimilation into the broader context of science, medicine, and health. His work has had a major impact on public health in Quebec. He helped develop pediatric genetic screening programs that played an instrumental role in the reduction of cases of thalassemia and Tay-Sachs disease in the province. His work on Vitamin D deficiency has benefited generations of Quebec children. He has worked at McGill for more than 50 years, having founded the deBelle Laboratory for Biochemical Genetics in 1961.

**VIVIAN MORRIS RAKOFF**, DipPsych'63, was named to the Order of Canada as a member for his contributions to psychiatry as an educator and clinician, and for his role in founding the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. He is the former CEO and psychiatrist-in-chief of the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry. He recently retired from the CAMH.

**MARK ABELSON**, BSc'66, MDCM'70, was awarded an honorary doctorate of science from Bates College. Mark is the chief scientific officer of Ora, a leading ophthalmic research and product development firm, and a clinical professor of ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School. Bates College officials described him as "one of the world's leading eye doctors," noting the important role that his research has played in the development of many eye treatments.

**NATHAN LAUFER**, MDCM'77, was recently elected president of the Arizona Medical Association. Nathan is the founder and medical director of the Heart & Vascular Center of Arizona. He is the past program director and founder of the Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program at Banner Good Samaritan Hospital, the founder of the Cardiovascular Society of Arizona, and the past chief of the Department of Cardiovascular Disease at the Banner

Estrella Medical Center in Phoenix. His wife, Judy, who is also from Montreal, was a kindergarten teacher and is currently a children's book author. They have one son, Andrew, currently living in Los Angeles.

**ANNE-MARIE AUDET**, BSc'79, MDCM'84, MSc'89, joined the United Hospital Fund as vice president to lead its new Quality Institute. Previously, she served as vice president for delivery system reform and breakthrough opportunities programs at the Commonwealth Fund. She is currently an editor of the *American Journal of Medical Quality*, *The Journal of Health Care Quality*, and *The Journal of Implementation Sciences*. She is also an assistant professor of medicine and public health at Cornell University and is a founding board member of the Massachusetts Medical Society and Alliance Charitable Foundation Board.

**MARLA SHAPIRO**, MDCM'79, was named to the Order of Canada as a member for her contributions as a family physician and as a trusted source of health information who communicates both the medical and human impacts of health care concerns. She is a medical consultant for *CTV National News* and a medical contributor to *Canada AM*. She is also the founding editor of *ParentsCanada* magazine and an associate professor of family & community medicine at the University of Toronto.

**JOANNE LIU**, MDCM'91, IMHL'14, was named to the Order of Quebec as an officer. She is the international president of Médecins Sans Frontières.

**RICHARD MONTORO**, MDCM'91, MSc'01, served as one of the grand marshals for Montréal Pride 2015. He is the Faculty of Medicine's assistant dean for resident professional affairs, an assistant professor of psychiatry at McGill and the co-founder of the McGill University Sexual Identity Centre at the Montreal General Hospital.

**SANTA ONO**, PhD'91, was inducted into Johns Hopkins University's Society of Scholars. A highly accomplished researcher in eye disease, he is president of the University of Cincinnati, where he is also a professor of pediatrics in the College of Medicine and a professor of biology in the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences. He chairs Ohio governor John Kasich's task force focusing on the biopharmaceutical industry.

**CARA TANNENBAUM**, MDCM'94, MSc'03, was named a 2015 Woman of Distinction by the Montreal YWCA in Health. A professor at the Université de Montréal, she is credited with making important contributions in the treatment and understanding of incontinence and memory loss. Earlier this year, she was appointed scientific director of the Institute of Gender and Health of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.



**MARTHA PIPER**, PhD'79, DSc'98, became the interim president of the University of British Columbia in September following the resignation of former UBC president Arvind Gupta. She had previously served as UBC's president from 1997 to 2006. Earlier in her career, she was the director of McGill's School of Physical and Occupational Therapy. She is a member of the boards of the Bank of Montreal, CARE Canada, the Dalai Lama Center for Peace and Education, and the Canadian Stem Cell Foundation. She is the former board chair for the National Institute of Nanotechnology.

**PAUL CHARLEBOIS**, Medical Resident '97, is one of the 2015 recipients of the Canadian Medical Association's John McCrae Memorial Medal. A lieutenant colonel, Paul has served on humanitarian and disaster relief missions, participated in military missions in Italy and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and has been deployed to Afghanistan four times, where he used his skills as an internal medicine and critical care physician to provide 24/7 care to wounded NATO soldiers, enemy combatants and civilians.

**EMILY REYNEN**, MDCM '15, is the first medical trainee to receive the Canadian Medical Association's CMA Sir Charles Tupper Award for Political Action. She sat on the government affairs and advocacy committee of the Canadian Federation of Medical Students and was the founding president of a similar student advocacy group at McGill, where she began the process of establishing the first provincial Lobby Day for Quebec's four medical faculties. She also organized an education panel for medical students to gain a deeper understanding of Bill 52, Quebec's end-of-life care legislation.



**SARAH PAGÉ**, LMus '06, is a harpist and a member of the Barr Brothers. The band's most recent album, *Sleeping Operator*, was longlisted for the 2015 Polaris Music Prize and nominated for a 2015 Juno Award for Adult Alternative Album of the Year. The band performed a free outdoor concert before an audience of approximately 100,000 at the Montreal International Jazz Festival this summer.



**CHARLES-RICHARD HAMELIN**, BMus '11, became the first Canadian ever to receive a prize at the International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition, one of the world's top competitions for classical pianists. He received the competition's Zimerman Prize for best performance of a sonata and was awarded second prize overall. His first solo CD, which features late works by Chopin, was released on the Analekta label this fall. As a soloist, he has performed with the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Poznan Philharmonic Orchestra and other major ensembles.

## MUSIC

**SHIREEN MALUF**, BMus '92, MA '95, MMus '96, was the recipient of the Award of Excellence in Screenwriting at the 2015 Canada International Film Festival. Her screenplay "relates an imaginary story bringing together human characters and nature spirits in an initiatory quest," and was selected from a pool of entries from more than 30 countries. Shireen is a tenured professor at the Department of Music Education at Lebanese University.

**BRIAN CURRENT**, BMus '96, is the winner of the inaugural Azrieli Commissioning Composition, a \$50,000 prize for a new work of orchestral Jewish music of 15 to 25 minutes duration by a Canadian composer. Brian's award-winning composition was performed by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and Maestro Kent Nagano at the Azrieli Music Project Gala Concert at Montreal's Maison symphonique in October. Brian won a Juno Award earlier this year for his opera *Airline Icarus*.

**SHAWN MATIVETSKY**, BMus '98, MMus '00, is a tabla performer who teaches tabla and percussion at McGill's Schulich School of Music. His latest CD, recorded with santoor player Jonathan Voyer, is *Raga Charukeshi*. Shawn is a member of the award-winning Indo-fusion group Ragleela and has contributed to albums by Yann Perreau, Elephant Stone, Suzie Leblanc, Ramachandra Borcar and Daniel Lavoie. For more information, visit [shawnmativetsky.com](http://shawnmativetsky.com).

**DEREK OLIVE**, BMus '01, a Montreal-based singer-songwriter and ER nurse, took part in a 11-city, 3,000 km music cycling tour that began in Vancouver on August 5 and ended in Montreal on September 4. The bike tour was done in support of the David Suzuki Foundation's Blue Dot movement. Along the way, Derek performed in Calgary, Regina, Winnipeg, Toronto and six other cities before arriving in Montreal.

**JONATHAN GOLDMAN**, BMus '08, MA '10, is a saxophonist turned restaurateur and the owner of the newly opened Red Bird Café on Saint Laurent Boulevard in Montreal. The menu includes chef-crafted, homemade soups, salads, sandwiches and baked goods. Many of the items are inspired by recipes from the cookbooks written by his mother, **MARCY GOLDMAN**, BA '81.

## SCIENCE

**AUBIE ANGEL**, MSc '63, was named to the Order of Canada as a member for his contributions to endocrinology and to the establishment of health organizations in Canada. Aubie is the founding president of Friends of Canadian Institutes of Health Research, a national organization that promotes the goals and ideals of CIHR. The group also established the Friesen International Prize in Health Research. He is a former director of the Clinical Sciences Division at the University of Toronto.



**DOUGLAS N. C. LIN**, BSc'71, received the 2015 Catherine Wolfe Bruce Gold Medal from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific for outstanding lifetime contributions to astronomy. Douglas is a professor of astronomy and astrophysics at the University of California, Santa Cruz and is known for his achievements in the orbital motion of the Magellanic Clouds, the formation and evolution of exoplanets, the physics of cataclysmic variables and accretion disks, and the dynamics, structure, and evolution of Saturn's Rings. He is also the founding director of the Kavli Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics at Peking University.

**RICHARD SURWIT**, PhD'72, has been named an emeritus professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University after nearly 38 years as an active faculty member. He has recently taken on the position of CEO of SenGenix, a development stage medical diagnostics company that is working on novel point of care diagnostic tests based on recombinant binding proteins.

**DIANE LANGLOIS**, BSc'80, was featured in the recent art exhibition, "Beyond Borders: An Exhibition of Fine Art from Canada," at Agora Gallery in New York City. A former university professor, Diane now devotes herself to painting the remote regions of the world, including the Arctic and Antarctic, the peaks of the Canadian Rockies, and the remote regions of the Namibia and Sonoran deserts.

**SERGE LEPAGE**, MSc'84, won the 2015 Prix Hubert-Reeves in the youth category for his book *Découvrir les océans – Initiation à l'océanographie, science de la mer* (Éditions MultiMondes). The prize is awarded by l'Association des communicateurs scientifiques du Québec with the goal of stimulating the production of popular science books in French and promoting a quality scientific culture in Canada.

**ROBERT F. MCCORMACK**, BSc'86, was named the new chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Buffalo's Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in September. He had been the interim chair of the department since January. He served as the vice-chair of emergency medicine from 2009 to 2014.

**HANS LARSSON**, BSc'94, has been appointed director of McGill's Redpath Museum for a five-year term. He is McGill's Canada Research Chair in Vertebrate Palaeontology and continues to work on his research and teaching programs in herpetology and conservation biology at the museum.

**TIM WU**, BSc'95, has been appointed as senior enforcement counsel and special adviser to New York state attorney Eric Schneiderman. Tim is taking a leave of absence from Columbia University, where he is the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law. In his new position, he will focus on issues involving technology, including protecting consumers and ensuring fair competition among companies that do business online.

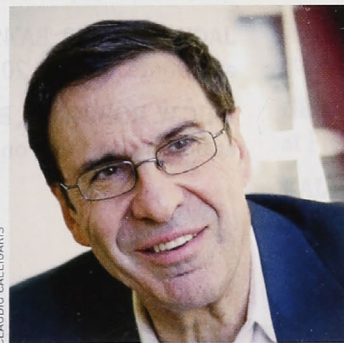
**BRIGITTE VACHON**, BSc'97, is the Montreal YWCA's 2015 Woman of Distinction in Science and Technology. She is McGill's Canada Research Chair in Particle Physics and a member of the ATLAS international team credited with the recent discovery of the Higgs boson. Brigitte founded the Canadian Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics and is a member of the Canadian Association of Physicists' Committee to Encourage Women in Physics.

**KIRIL MUGERMAN**, BSc'09, is the new president and CEO of GéoMégA, a mineral exploration and evaluation company focused on metal deposits in Quebec. Kiril previously worked as a mining specialist with Industrial Alliance Securities.

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The submissions we receive may be edited and/or shortened.



CLAUDIO CALLIGARIS

**MARK WAINBERG**, BSc'66, director of the McGill AIDS Centre, will be inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame in 2016. He played a crucial role in identifying the effectiveness of lamivudine (3TC), which is now one of the most widely used drugs in the treatment of HIV. As the past president of the International AIDS Society, he helped draw worldwide attention to the lack of access to anti-HIV drugs in developing countries.

1930s

**JOHN H. SIMPSON**, BEng'37,  
at Ottawa, on June 18, 2015.

**PAUL PIDCOCK**, BEng'38,  
at Timmins, Ont., on July 1, 2015.

1940s

**EDWARD WILLIAM WALCOTT**, BSc'40,  
at Nepean, Ont., on April 5, 2015.

**ARCHIBALD M. AIKIN**, BSc'41, PhD'49,  
at Mississauga, Ont., on October 4, 2015.

**ROBERT P. RAYNSFORD JR.**, BEng'41,  
at Westmount, Que., on June 11, 2015.

**DONALD A. BRUSHETT**, BA'43,  
at Houlton, Maine, on October 12, 2015.

**ARTHUR N. BOURNS**, PhD'44, DSc'77,  
at Burlington, Ont., on May 29, 2015.

**REUBEN I. BRASLOFF**, BEng'44,  
on September 28, 2015.

**DONALD R. BROWN**, BEng'44, MEng'51,  
at Chesterfield, Mo., on October 7, 2015.

**GUY RENAUD**, BCom'44,  
at Quebec City, on June 6, 2015.

**LILLIAN GERTRUDE IRVING**, Dip(PT)'45,  
at Chemainus, B.C., on September 9, 2015.

**MARY KATHRYN MCGANITY**, BSc'45, BSc'46,  
at Atlanta, Ga., on October 1, 2015.

**GERTRUDE G. PARKER**, DipPE'45, BSc(PE)'49,  
at Portland, Ore., on July 19, 2015.

**JOYCE BARWICK**, BSc'46, MSc'48,  
at Kingston, Ont., on May 21, 2015.

**A. GORDON SWOGER**, BA'46,  
at London, Ont., on January 6, 2015.

**HERBERT W. WONFOR**, BSc'46, BCom'48, BD'52,  
at London, Ont., on September 3, 2015.

**PAUL CORMIER**, DDS'47,  
at Moncton, N.B., on February 25, 2015.

**BERNARD D'AMOUR**, BEng'47,  
at Verdun, Que., on March 18, 2015.

**OTTO L. FORCHHEIMER**, BSc'47,  
at York, Pa., on July 20, 2015.

**ROBERT EDWARD MITCHELL**, MDCM'47,  
on August 4, 2015.

**ELIZABETH WHITING**, BA'47,  
at Ottawa, on September 29, 2015.

**DONALD S. COX**, BSc(Agr)'48,  
at Truro, N.S., on May 21, 2015.

**JOHN L. HEWGILL**, BSc'48,  
at Toronto, on July 26, 2015.

**SHEILA MACKENZIE**, BSc'48,  
at Calgary, Alta, on June 30, 2015.

**MARY (PITTS) MCPHERSON**, BA'48, MA'50,  
at Victoria, B.C., on August 3, 2015.

**JAMES G. MURRAY**, BSc'48, MDCM'51, Grad DipMed'56,  
at Scarborough, Ont., on August 10, 2015.

**SIMA (SEDEROFF) POLONSKY**, BA'48,  
at Montreal, on September 17, 2015.

**CLAIR B. SEELEY**, BSc(PE)'48,  
at Renfrew, Ont., on June 2, 2015.

**WILLIAM S. SMYTHE**, BEng'48,  
at Park City, Utah, on July 16, 2015.

**DONALD EGERTON TILLEY**, BSc'48, PhD'51,  
at Kingston, Ont., on November 7, 2015.

**PAUL H. TUDOR**, BEng'48, BEng'50,  
on April 18, 2015.

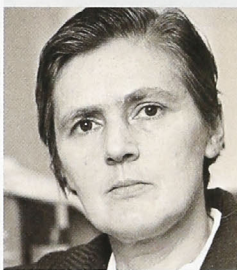
**CLAUDE TITUS BISHOP**, PhD'49,  
at Ottawa, on November 1, 2015.

**ALEXANDER CHERNEY**, BSc'49,  
at Montreal, QC, on October 12, 2015.

**BLANCHE COULTIS**, MA'49,  
at Brooks, Alta., on October 29, 2015.

**JACK W. LIEBER**, BA'49, MA'57,  
at Toronto, on June 20, 2015.

**ERIC W. ROBINSON**, BA'49, MA'60,  
at Burlington, Ont., on September 22, 2015.



**FRANCES OLDHAM KELSEY**, BSc'34, MSc'35, was a Canadian who became an American hero, receiving the President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service from U.S. president John F. Kennedy. As a freshly-hired reviewer for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 1960, Kelsey came under intense pressure from a drug manufacturer to approve thalidomide,

a new drug that was popular in Europe for pregnant women suffering from morning sickness. Concerned about reports that linked the medication to worrying side effects, Kelsey held off, insisting on more proof that thalidomide was safe. Months later, it became clear that thalidomide was linked to thousands of cases of severe birth defects. "Her exceptional judgment... prevented a major tragedy of birth deformities in the United States," said Kennedy. Kelsey died on August 7 in London, Ontario.



An unapologetic Canadian nationalist, **ABRAHAM ROTSTEIN**, BA'49, carried a lot of influence in public policy circles. The University of Toronto economics professor was one of the key contributors to the 1968 Watkins Report, which called for strict controls on the foreign ownership of Canadian resources and businesses and led to

the creation of the Canada Development Corporation and the Foreign Investment Review Agency. As the co-founder of the Committee for an Independent Canada, Rotstein helped lobby for stronger Canadian content regulations for radio and TV in this country. A former editor of *Canadian Forum* magazine, Rotstein died in Toronto on April 27.

**RODERICK C. ROSS**, MSc'49, DipObstetrics'53,  
at Oshawa, Ont., on August 28, 2015.

**ROGER W. HUTCHINS**, BSc'49,  
at Toronto, on August 14, 2015.

## 1950s

**MARION FONTAINE**, BSc'50, MSc'54,  
at Victoria, B.C., on October 18, 2015.

**FRED A. GREENWOOD**, BSc'50, MDCM'54,  
at Toronto, on June 16, 2015.

**WILLIAM JOHN LESLIE HILL**, BCom'50, CA'54,  
at Ottawa, Ont., on August 1, 2015.

**FARLA KRENTZMAN**, BA'50,  
at Chestnut Hill, Mass., on July 5, 2015.

**DOUGLAS LANG**, BSc'50,  
at Oakville, Ont, on July 30, 2015.

**ARLINGTON S. MAIR**, BSc(Agr)'50,  
at Riverview, N.B., on March 23, 2015.

**STUART FRANCIS ALLABY**, BSc(Agr)'51,  
at Truro, N.S., on July 21, 2015.

**ROY TAYLOR**, BEng'51,  
at Oakville, Ont., on October 30, 2015.

**SOICHI ISOMURA**, BSc'51, MDCM'55,  
at Richmond, B.C., on August 22, 2015.

**C. ROBERT MORELAND**, BSc(Agr)'51,  
at Arnprior, Ont., on June 18, 2015.

**DAVID G. EASTMAN**, MDCM'51,  
at Rochester, N.H., on July 9, 2015.

**RICHARD E. ARCHIBALD**, BSc(Agr)'52,  
at Oakville, Ont., on June 30, 2015.

**LEWIS W. HERSEY**, BSc'52,  
at London, Ont., on February 27, 2015.

**ROBERT LAW**, BCom'52,  
at Toronto, on September 18, 2015.

**ARTHUR B. NICHOL**, BArch'52,  
at Pointe-Claire, Que., on December 31, 2014.

**NORMAN S. LOGAN**, BSc(Agr)'53,  
at Brockville, Ont., on September 6, 2015.

**WILLIAM H. LYLE**, MDCM'53,  
at La Jolla, Calif., on July 28, 2015.

**CONSTANCE A. MCFARLANE**, BA'53,  
at Ottawa, on September 23, 2015.

**MARVEN F. PALMER**, MDCM'54,  
at Fredericton, N.B., on July 9, 2015.

**ISSIE "IKE" SILVER**, BA'54, DDS'58,  
at Frisco, Tex., on August 19, 2015.

**JOHN G. METRAKOS**, BEng'55,  
at Montreal, on July 8, 2015.

**HAROLD W. MERKLEY**, BSc(Agr)'56,  
at Ottawa, on July 19, 2015.

**ALBERT VACHON**, DDS'56,  
at Ottawa, on May 16, 2015.

**KENT W. BARBER, Jr.**, MDCM'57,  
at Denver, Colo., on August 7, 2015.

**RICHARD W. MESICK**, DDS'57,  
at Providence, R.I., on December 9, 2014.

**RALPH WISE**, BA'57,  
at Montreal, on October 21, 2015.

**JOHN H. D. AIKMAN**, BSc(Agr)'58,  
at Perth, Ont., on September 11, 2015.

**GEORGE E. R. DEMILLE**, MSc'58, PhD'64,  
at Fredericton, N.B., on February 23, 2015.

**KALMAN I. KRAKOW**, BEng'58,  
at Montreal, on October 21, 2015.

**MASHA BISHOP**, BCom'59,  
at Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, Que., on July 26, 2015.

**JOHN J. DORR**, BCom'59,  
at Bernardsville, N.J., on September 17, 2015.

**LOUISE DUTHIE**, BSc(HEc)'59,  
at Dundas, Ont., on June 2, 2015.

**PETER M. KILBURN**, BA'59,  
at Eastern Townships, Que., on October 14, 2015.

## 1960s

**LORINE BESEL**, BN'60,  
at Montreal, on June 29, 2015.

**BENEDICT F. ALEXANDER**, BEng'61,  
at St. John's, Nfld., on June 6, 2015.

**EDWARD M. APEN, JR.**, MDCM'61,  
at East Aurora, N.Y., on November 6, 2014.

**JEAN-YVES CHAGNON**, MSc'61, PhD'65,  
at Quebec City, on September 18, 2015.

**LEONARD M. HIGGINS**, MDCM'61,  
at Saint John, N.B., on June 9, 2015.

**MARTIN J. POPPO, JR.**, MDCM'61,  
at Longmeadow, Mass., on September 3, 2015.

**CATHERINE (KAY) BOYKO**, BN'62,  
at Milton, Ont., on September 27, 2015.

**OLAV HELGE LOKEN**, PhD'62,  
at Ottawa, on September 18, 2015.

**LAURA ZELIKOVITZ**, BA'62, MA'69,  
at Montreal, on September 6, 2015.

**PAUL CLARK**, BEng'63,  
at Milton Keynes, England, in February, 2015.

**CORINNE SEPENTZIS-GITTLEMAN**, BA'63,  
at New York, N.Y., on October 21, 2015.

**CLAUDIA (HULME) YULL**, BSc'63,  
at Sarasota, Fla., on July 5, 2015.

**BRUCE JOHN BISHOP**, BCom'65,  
at Victoria, B.C., on May 4, 2015.

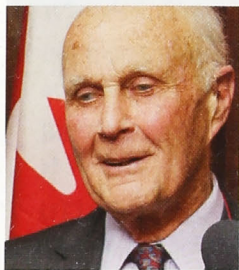
**TANYA BALLANTYNE TREE**, BA'65,  
at Montreal, on June 18, 2015.

**STEN E. FERSING**, DDS'66,  
at Shelburne, Vt., on August 22, 2015.

**DENNIS GLEZOS**, BCom'66,  
at Sherbrooke, Que., on June 20, 2015.

**PERRY A. PETERSON**, MDCM'66,  
in Utah, on July 22, 2015.

**GEORGE EDWARD ORCHARD**, PhD'67,  
at Lethbridge, Alta., on March 1, 2015.



One of the first surgeons in Canada to perform open-heart surgery, **ANTHONY DOBELL**, BSc'49, MDCM'51, was renowned for his calm in the operating room. In all, he performed 4,000 surgeries, half of them on children. A member of the Order of Canada, he was McGill's director of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery for almost 20 years

and the first Canadian to serve as the president of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. He was also a talented goalie — at least one NHL netminder who saw him play for the Redmen believed Dobell could have been a NHLer. McGill and the Montreal Children's Hospital created the Anthony Dobell Chair in Pediatric Surgery in 2012 to honour his contributions. He died on June 17 in Montreal.



**WENDY MACDONALD**, BSc'66, MDCM'70, was so good at teaching, the Faculty of Medicine changed the rules around its Osler Award for Outstanding Teaching after she won the prize four times. Jokingly referred to as the "MacDonald Rule," it was decided that a faculty member could only receive the award once every 10 years. A former associate dean for medical education and student affairs, MacDonald was also the director of undergraduate education in pediatrics for 35 years. The Wendy MacDonald Chair in Pediatric Medical Education, endowed by the Montreal Children's Hospital Foundation, was created in her honour earlier this year. She died on August 28 in Montreal.

**HÉLÈNE GERMAIN DECORWIN**, MA'68,  
at Mount Royal, Que., on September 13, 2015.

**ADAM HARRIS-HARSANYI**, BEng'68,  
at Montreal, on August 5, 2015.

**BETTY L. KOMAR**, BN'68,  
at Kitchener, Ont., on August 11, 2015.

**RUTH A. MANSON**, MLS'68,  
at Toronto, on October 11, 2015.

**WILLIAM G. WHITTAKER**, BCL'68, LLB'69, MBA'71,  
at Toronto, on August 27, 2015.

### 1970s

**JOSEPH R. GERACI**, PhD'70,  
at Leesburg, Va., on September 10, 2015.

**HELEN M. LOGAN**, BN'70,  
at Allen, Texas, on April 15, 2015.

**FRANCIS A. MCMAHON**, BSc(Arch)'70, BArch'72,  
at Montreal, on July 19, 2015.

**GORDON C. SIMONS**, MA'72,  
at Shelburne, N.S., on February 11, 2015.

**HANS-ULRICH HEINTZE**, PhD'73,  
at Montreal, on August 22, 2015.

**MATTHEW ISERHOFF**, CertEd'73, BEd'77,  
at Chibougamau, Que., on February 6, 2015.

**SOLLY PATRONTASCH**, BSc'75, MBA'82,  
at Ottawa, on February 28, 2015.

**IAN DAVID MACBURNIE**, BSc(Arch)'78, BArch'79,  
at Burlington, Ont., on September 13, 2015.

**RANDY (FRIEDMAN) MORROW**, BCL'78, LLB'79,  
on June 14, 2015.

**RIVA REBECCA DESKIN**, MEd'79,  
at Montreal, on July 3, 2015.

## 1980s

**NANCY J. ELLEGATE**, BA'81, MA'84,  
at Albany, N.Y., on September 27, 2015.

**MICHAEL DAMIANI**, BEng'82,  
at Boucherville, Que., on July 4, 2015.

**DAVID RAJCHGOT**, BCom'82, DPA'83,  
at Montreal, on June 23, 2015.

**DIANA VAUTOUR**, BA'83,  
at Nanaimo, B.C., on September 17, 2014.

**EDNA JOHNSON-MURRAY**, BA'85, BSW'86,  
at St. Catharines, Ont., on March 1, 2015.

**STEVEN HARRY ROTHMANN**, BA'85,  
at Andover, Mass., on June 3, 2015.

**HON-YING WONG**, MBA'85,  
on October 19, 2015.

**ROSS HENRY CHAFE**, BCom'86,  
at Pemberton, B.C., on May 31, 2015.

**HAROLD HEFT**, BA'87,  
at Toronto, on July 23, 2015.

## 1990s

**SHARON WEXLER**, MSW'90, PhD'06,  
at Montreal, on June 19, 2015.

**DOMINIQUE ROY**, BEng'91,  
at Burlington, Vt., on June 12, 2015.

**RAYNAULD KO**, BSc'93, MDCM'97,  
at Toronto, on August 11, 2015.

**GUOYI LI**, MSc'94, on September 9, 2015.

## 2000s

**DANIELLE GUENETTE**, MEd'01, PhD'10,  
at Montreal, on February 27, 2015.



**HANS MÖLLER** served as the director of McGill's School of Information Studies in the early eighties and as McGill's director of libraries in the mid-eighties. Möller, who taught courses on Scandinavian literature for many years at McGill, created the journal *Fontanus* to promote the University's libraries and their holdings. Möller was the long-

time president of the Canadian-Scandinavian Foundation and championed the study of Nordic countries in Canada. As a young man in Nazi-occupied Denmark, he was a member of the resistance, smuggling Danish Jews to safety in Sweden. He died on September 7 in Montreal.

## 2010s

**PHYLLIS PELKY**, MA'12,  
at Kabul, Afghanistan, on October 11, 2015.

## FACULTY/STAFF

**ELEANOR COLLE-MACLEAN**,  
professor emeritus of pediatrics,  
at Verdun, Que., on June 2, 2015.

**JAMES H. DARRAGH**, BSc'46, MDCM'48,  
DipIntMed'56, MSc'59, former associate dean of medicine,  
at Ottawa, on August 10, 2015.

**MAURICE DONGIER**, professor emeritus of psychiatry,  
at Montreal, on September 19, 2015.

**MARIA EPSZTEIN**, retired librarian,  
at Montreal, on August 24, 2015.

**FRANK R. ERVIN**, professor emeritus of psychiatry,  
at St. Kitts, on April 24, 2015.

**ARTHUR N. FREEDMAN**, BA'51, MDCM'55, MSc'58, DipSur-  
gery'61, assistant professor, Department of Surgery,  
at Montreal, on July 15, 2015.

**NORMAN HALPERN**, professor emeritus of urology,  
at Westmount, Que., on July 9, 2015.

**LUCJAN KOPS**, associate professor of mechanical engineering,  
at Montreal, on May 19, 2015.

**CARROLL A. LAURIN**, MDCM'52,  
former director of orthopedics, Faculty of Medicine,  
at Montreal, on July 24, 2015.

**JOHN LOUGH**, BSc'55, MDCM'57,  
faculty member, Department of Pathology,  
at Lachute, Que., on August 28, 2015.

**ROBERT H. MARCHESSAULT**, PhD'54,  
professor emeritus of chemistry,  
at Montreal, on September 16, 2015.

**KWET-FANE NG-KWAI-HANG**, BSc(Agr)'68, MSc'70, PhD'77,  
former chair, Department of Animal Science,  
at Montreal, on July 25, 2015.

**HAROLD ZVY POMERANTZ**, BSc'43, MDCM'47,  
faculty member, Faculty of Medicine,  
at Montreal, on August 26, 2015.

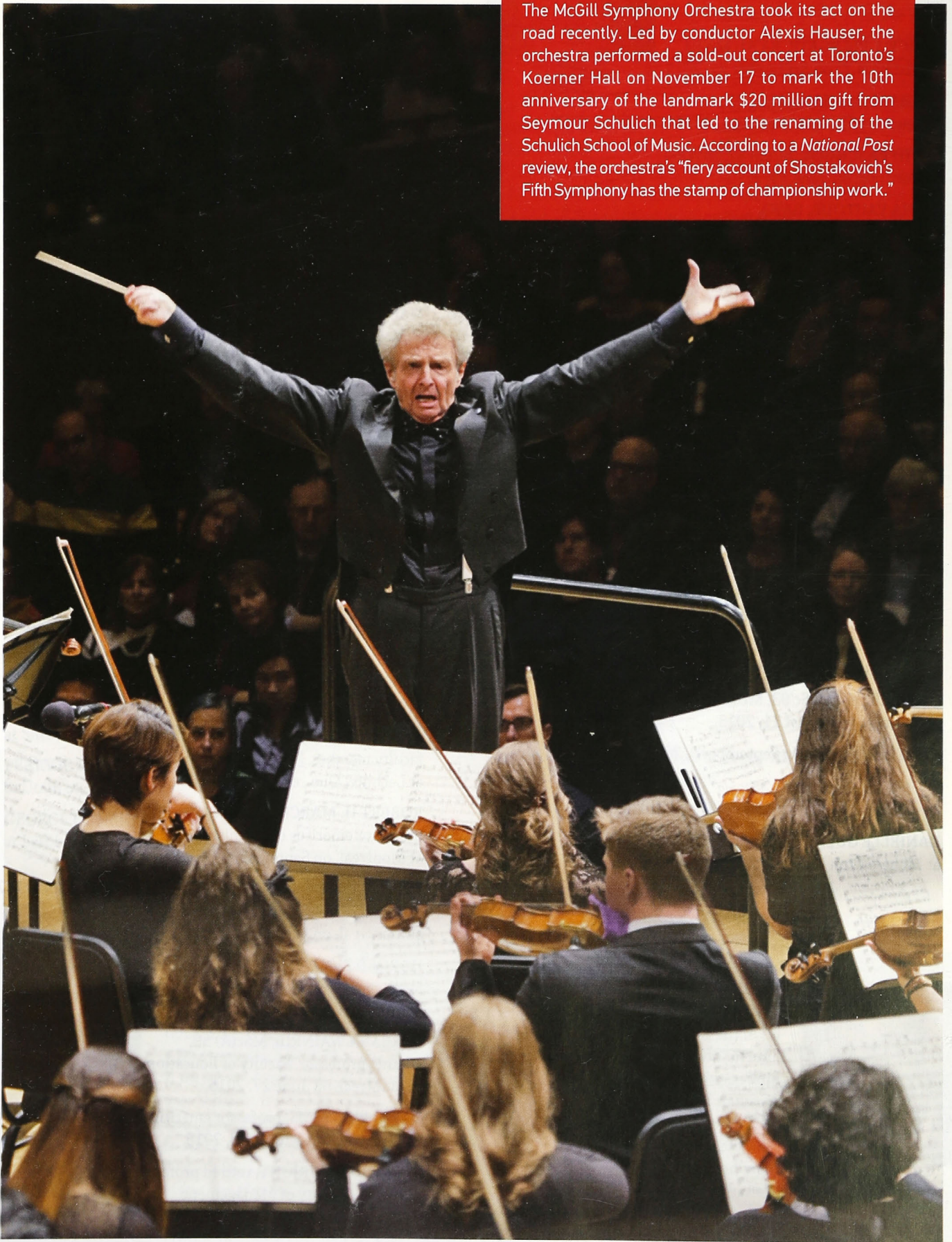
**BARBARA WAINRIB**, MSc(A)'59,  
adjunct professor, Faculty of Education,  
at Montreal, on June 27, 2015.

**DAVID WILLIAMS**, professor emeritus of English,  
at Montreal, on October 18, 2015.

**RICHARD W. WRIGHT**, retired professor,  
Desautels Faculty of Management,  
at Montreal, on August 28, 2015.

## TAKING TORONTO BY STORM

The McGill Symphony Orchestra took its act on the road recently. Led by conductor Alexis Hauser, the orchestra performed a sold-out concert at Toronto's Koerner Hall on November 17 to mark the 10th anniversary of the landmark \$20 million gift from Seymour Schulich that led to the renaming of the Schulich School of Music. According to a *National Post* review, the orchestra's "fiery account of Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony has the stamp of championship work."



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No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents who are the age of majority in their province or territory of residence as of the contest start date. Approximate value of each prize is \$1,000 Canadian. Chances of winning depend on the number of valid entries received by the contest deadline. Contest closes Thursday, December 3, 2015, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Only one entry per person accepted. Skill testing question required.



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