



Foundation of Greater Montréal

# 20 years of stories

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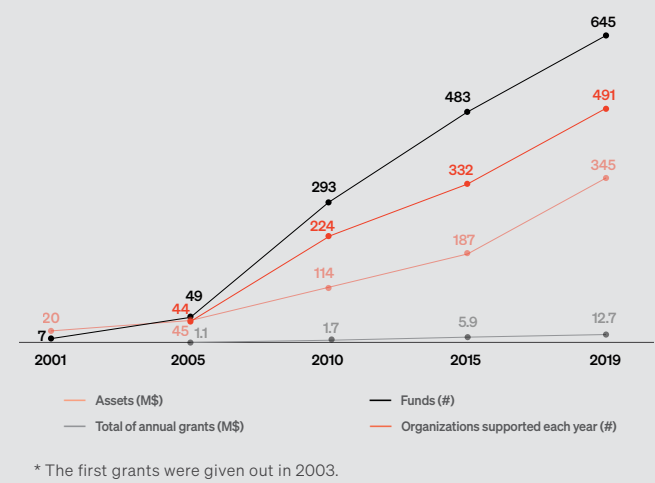
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To support culture, and other causes  
they hold dear

Graphic design: Atypic  
Linguistic revision: Traductions Hermès  
Translation: Daniel Chonchol  
Printing: Agence Atypic

Legal deposit - Bibliothèque et Archives  
nationales du Québec, 2020.  
ISBN: 978-2-924893-17-3 (Printed)  
ISBN: 978-2-924893-18-0 (PDF)

## A word from the Chair of the Board of Directors and the President and CEO

The Hon. Jean-François de Grandpré  
Chair of the Board of Directors

Karel Mayrand  
President and CEO

It is with immense pride that we present this commemorative album. In it you will find 20 years of FGM history – and stories! 2020 was a tumultuous year, but it also brought us back to basics. It was a time to focus on our core mission: offering support and tools to the Greater Montreal community, to ensure its development and the well-being of those who live here. For 20 years—the span of one generation—that has unceasingly been the work of the Foundation’s founders, those who joined them, and those who came after them.

Since its creation in 2000, the Foundation of Greater Montréal’s accomplishments have been numerous. They are a thread that weaves through this album. But what makes the Foundation’s history really remarkable is the fact that it was built for, and by, the Greater Montreal community. It is precisely by placing itself at the service of the community that it has been able to evolve into an essential institution in Montreal’s philanthropic landscape. And, of course, FGM could not have built this legacy for Greater Montreal without its donors, its partners from all sectors of society, and the many charitable organizations it lent its support to.

In other words, the history of the Foundation is the history of our entire community, but also of the deep engagement of FGM’s donors and of those who created funds at FGM. Their generosity has made possible foundational projects in all aspects of our collective life, thus assisting in a very tangible way those who are working for the development and well-being of the community as a whole. Without this philanthropic "chain of values", the Foundation of Greater Montréal could not have fulfilled its role or become what it is today. In short: our history is your history! We can all be proud of it.

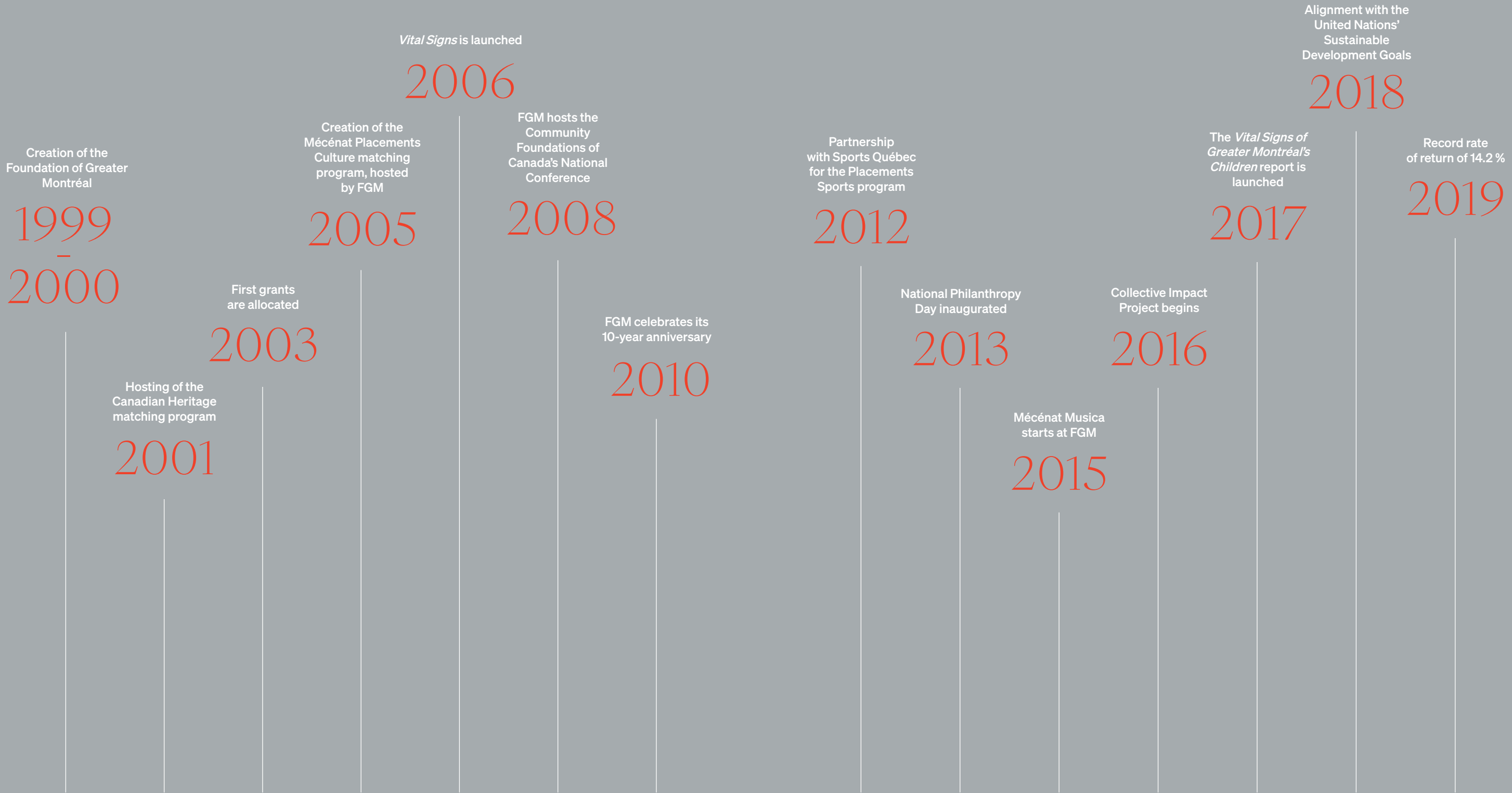
While we are naturally looking ahead, with our next big milestone year being 2030, the time also seems right to look back at how far we’ve come since our beginnings. We invite you, then, to discover in these pages a small sampling of the many stories, which taken together constitute the Foundation of Greater Montréal’s narrative.

Happy reading!

Foundation of Greater Montréal

1

# Highlights



1999

# The Foundation of Greater Montréal is created



The Board of Directors and Mrs. Kathleen Weil, in 2001.

At the start of the 1990s, Michel Lamontagne agreed to sit on the first Board of Directors of Community Foundations of Canada, as a founding member representing Quebec. The organization's role was to support the development of community foundations throughout the country. At this point, there was not yet a true public foundation here. That fact spurred him on to undertake to bring one to the Quebec City area, and to Montreal, with the help of local partners.

In 1999, the instigators of the project for Montreal drew inspiration from the community foundation model to create what was to become, at the start of the year 2000, the Foundation of Greater Montréal. The city at last became part of the North American community foundations movement, which had its origins in 1914 in the United States, in Cleveland, Ohio. In Canada, the movement took flight in 1921 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Several individuals who were key actors in their fields were active participants not only in FGM's creation but also in defining its mission. Michel Lamontagne and Tim Brodhead knew how to surround themselves with engaged, passionate and effective individuals. Manon Vennat, the brilliant businesswoman, Marcel Côté, the indefatigable activist, and Jean-Guy Bissonnette, Centraide's outstanding volunteer (to name but three), did not hesitate to back them as they worked to convince the

philanthropic milieu to join them in the adventure. On the front lines, Michèle Thibodeau DeGuire of Centraide and Sheila Goldbloom greatly contributed to reinforcing the credibility of the budding organization.

In deciding to create FGM, the pioneers who started the Foundation were very conscious of the challenge that lay ahead. They firmly believed in the Foundation's mission and in its potential to meet long-term needs in the community. Initially, the priority was to establish endowment funds from organizations that were active and well-known in the greater metropolitan area, in order to prove that FGM was a legitimate, serious entity.

At the turn of the new millennium, an opportune time for big changes and new ideas, what had been a project became a reality. Thus, the Centraide Foundation, the Montreal YMCA Foundation, Catholic Community Services and the Red Feather Foundation, among others, added capital to pooled funds that were invested and administered by FGM. Centraide of Greater Montréal, the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and the Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal also played key roles in getting things off the ground, contributing financial support and representation on the Board of Directors.

FGM's second year was marked by the creation of important new funds, notably those of the Gallop family, which was the

first donor-advised fund, the Fonds Suzanne Trépanier-Côté, the first memorial fund, and the Fonds Montrusco-Bolton, the first corporate fund.

At the outset, Irene Nattel, of the Centraide of Greater Montréal Foundation, agreed to be the Chair of FGM's Board of Directors. Another key individual would be the person to spearhead FGM's mission through its day-to-day activities. It quickly became obvious that Kathleen Weil was the right person for the job. A lawyer by training, she possessed all the qualities needed to ensure that FGM would be well managed. She took on the challenge knowing that she would be starting from scratch. Working out of her own basement at the beginning, she devoted all her energy to FGM's creation, and did brilliant work; she believed in the importance of developing an organization that would not only serve the current community, but future generations as well.

## Thank you

We cannot tell our story without highlighting the contribution made by M<sup>e</sup> Jules Charette to the Foundation of Greater Montréal over the last 20 years. A senior partner with Norton Rose Fulbright, M<sup>e</sup> Charette has provided his services as a legal advisor to FGM pro bono, since its founding. We are extremely grateful to him.



Article announcing FGM's creation that appeared in *La Presse*, September 17, 2001.

## A 24-million-dollar anonymous fund brings momentum

As a young man arriving in Montreal, the donor who is the subject of our story immediately fell in love with the city. Wishing to give back to his adoptive community, he first envisaged the creation of a private foundation, before settling on the idea of a donor-advised fund. He then began to work with the Foundation of Greater Montréal to define the fund's objectives. The in-perpetuity aspect of this type of fund was a quality that won him over; he could thus be sure that his donation would continue to serve the population of Montreal when he would no longer be around. Fifty years after, or even 100 years after, organizations in a variety of sectors would continue to benefit from his vision and generosity.

In 2006, his gift of 24 million dollars was the first one of that magnitude to be received by FGM, and provided it with an enormous boost. Seeking to support arts and culture, education, and social and humanitarian causes, the donor created a fund that would remain active in perpetuity. The results have been impressive: Since 2007, his fund has allocated more than \$900,000 to community organizations that further the causes he chose.

This major act of philanthropy is one that is sure to continue to have impact, and to contribute to the flourishing of Greater Montreal.



*La Presse*, December 5, 2006.



# All in the family

## Gallop Family Foundation Fund

As an honorary member of the Foundation of Greater Montréal, a former member of the Board of Directors and, still today, a member of FGM's philanthropic advisory committee, W. John Gallop is a very engaged individual. He also holds the distinction of being the creator of FGM's first family fund.

**"When I was younger, my volunteer activity mostly involved giving of my time. But when I found out that I could create an in-perpetuity endowment fund, I was honored to be able to be the one to create the first FGM family fund."**

In 2001, John thus created the very first FGM family fund. His initial contribution was \$10,000; over the last 20 years, the fund has distributed more than \$50,000 in grants.

**"It all started in a pretty modest way nearly 20 years ago, but I still make sure to contribute to it regularly."**

Beyond simply creating the fund, John wanted his family to be part of the process. A few years later, his children joined the enterprise as members of the advisory committee that makes recommendations on granting.

By 2018, it was obvious that the desire to make the fund a true family endeavour had been vindicated. **"I'm now over 80 years of age, and I've found an unexpected benefit to this FGM endowment fund. I've just made my children co-advisors, and the operation was simple. In this way, we are able to keep alive the tradition of giving back to the community."**

Thanks to his fund, W. John Gallop has been able to support numerous organizations over the years. As well, each year, he gives a percentage of the income generated by the fund to FGM's unrestricted community fund.



Mr. W. John Gallop, Gallop Family Foundation Fund.

A few years later, his children joined the enterprise as members of the advisory committee that makes recommendations on granting.

## Fonds Fondation Famille Le Blanc

Mr. Gallop's story inspired more than a few people. Indeed, FGM has since become home to many other family funds, including that of the Le Blanc family.

In 2016, the Fonds Fondation Famille Le Blanc came into existence through Mr. and Mrs. Le Blanc's desire to "pay it forward" and to give back to their community.

Having begun to support the Fondation HEC and other organizations when they were in their fifties, they decided to create a foundation that would serve as a vehicle to keep their work going over the long term.

**"Acting on a recommendation from a friend, we decided to become part of the Foundation of Greater Montréal. We were still active individuals, and we saw that FGM's expertise would be valuable in eliminating any administrative headaches we'd have, and ensuring that we would be properly advised. From the get-go, we decided that causes relating to youth, in the areas of sports, the arts or health, were the ones that mean the most to us. I should point out that our two sons were extremely gifted tennis players, and that helped them obtain scholarships to schools in the U.S., and to advance through life with few obstacles. We felt that if we could assist young people who had not had the same good fortune, we would feel fulfilled, and be satisfied that we had done our duty."**

The assets of the Fonds Fondation Famille Le Blanc now exceed \$5.5 million. The fund has lent its support to several institutions in the fields of sports, culture, education and health, allocating nearly \$275,000 in all.



Messrs. Guy, Philippe and Sébastien Le Blanc, Fonds Fondation Famille Le Blanc.

Mr. and Mrs. Le Blanc hope that their "example can inspire others who may be attached to different causes".

Mr. and Mrs. Le Blanc hope that their "example can inspire others who may be attached to different causes", but also that "our children and grandchildren will, through the decades, continue to support the Fonds Fondation Famille Le Blanc".

One of FGM's missions is to accompany those who want to support specific causes that are close to their heart. Thanks to family funds, FGM is also able to ensure that the projects that have been initiated will last, and that philanthropic values can be passed on from generation to generation.

# Equitas: growing into an international leader

Established in Montreal, Equitas is the most well-known and most active organization in Canada in the area of human rights education. It devotes all its efforts to furthering equality, social justice and respect for human dignity through transformative educational programs. It provides populations with tools with which to fight inequality and discrimination, and with which to build safe and inclusive communities.

As early as 2007, the Foundation of Greater Montréal, and a fund created by Mrs. May Kersten, contributed to the broadening of Equitas's activities in Montreal and in Canada. The grants Equitas received helped it strengthen its Play it Fair! program in Montreal, and to take it beyond day camps, into community organizations and schools.

Play it Fair!, launched in 2004 and aimed at children aged 6 to 14, promotes respect for diversity, children's involvement, and the peaceful resolution of conflicts. Children learn about the importance of respect, fairness, acceptance, responsibility and cooperation by playing interactive games and talking through the consequences of their actions on those around them. This initiative has reached more than 900,000 children over the years; it has now been implemented by more than 500 after-school programs and summer camps across Canada.

In the same vein, Speaking Rights is geared to young people who are between 12 and 25 years of age, and aims to develop their capacity to act to promote human rights. Through participatory activities and Community Action Projects, young people learn about human rights and the values associated with them, strengthen their competencies and their resiliency, forge positive relationships and make themselves heard in their community.

Since 2010, the funds distributed by FGM and by the May Kersten Social Justice Fund at FGM have made possible the addition to these programs of a component to facilitate Community Action Projects. This initiative helps create a long-term sense of engagement among children and youth, while at the same time developing their leadership capacities.

Funding from FGM and from Mrs. May Kersten's fund also allows Equitas to offer training free of charge to community organizations, give tools to intervenors, distribute kits on human rights education, give out small bursaries to fund projects by children and youth, and above all, to provide support and mentoring that helps these projects be realized in the spirit of Equitas methods and values.

Speaking Rights and Play it Fair! have now also been implemented in several communities abroad. Thanks to 50 years of tireless effort, Equitas has raised awareness regarding the importance of human rights among more than 4 million people around the world. FGM is proud to have contributed to this movement that has done so much good for our community and for the planet.



Equitas's Play it Fair!, 2010 and 2019 editions.



© Samuel Tessier



© Samuel Tessier

# Mécénat Placements Culture and Mécénat Musica matching programs: the Ensemble Caprice story

In 2005, the Quebec government launched a program to encourage the private sector to lend its financial support to the cultural sector. Through this initiative, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec awards matching grants, which supplement funds raised by organizations from private donors and foundations. When it entrusted FGM with the task of managing the Mécénat Placements Culture funds, the government benefited from FGM's experience and its knowledge of the philanthropic sector.

**"Placements Culture gives private donors and businesses a unique opportunity to contribute to the funding of culture and communications, and to bolster the creation, production and transmission of a rich and diverse Quebec culture, to better balance out their benefactor's portfolio and contribute to the diversification of funding sources for arts groups."**

— Yvan Gauthier, then President and CEO of the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec

Fifteen years after the launching of Mécénat Placements Culture, FGM is home to three programs that act as catalysts for cultural philanthropy: Placements Culture, Canadian Heritage and Mécénat Musica.

The Foundation of Greater Montréal has been home to Mécénat Musica since 2015. The program encourages individuals to make gifts of \$25,000 in perpetuity to cultural organizations, and seeks to have donor families make

donations of \$250,000 or \$2,500,000, using these amounts to match individual gifts.

Mécénat Musica thus not only helps promote Quebec culture internationally, but also helps artists advance their careers and make their dreams come true.

That is definitely the case with Matthias Maute, orchestra conductor, flautist and composer, and his partner Sophie Larivière, who is also a flautist. In the 1990s, they founded Ensemble Caprice, an orchestra that plays on period instruments, and is known for its innovative and bold approach to the repertoire. Ensemble Caprice has won two JUNO awards, carved out a place for itself on the international scene, and today gives concerts the world over.



Ensemble Caprice at Ammazulu Palace, South Africa, 2018.

Since 2013, Ensemble Caprice has had an in-perpetuity fund with FGM, which will provide for the future needs of the orchestra's next generations of musicians.



Ensemble Caprice, "Women's Choir and Orchestra", 2011.

Ensemble Caprice is also able, thanks to fundraising campaigns and its participation in FGM's three programs that encourage philanthropy, to fund the Prix Goyer. This award is given out every two years to a collaborating up-and-coming musician. The prize is worth \$125,000, making it the largest in Canada and one of the most prestigious in the world.

In 2020, thanks to an FGM grant from its COVID-19 Collective Fund, Ensemble Caprice was able to launch the Mini-Concerts Santé series, which brought music "door to door" to economically disadvantaged areas in Greater Montreal, through the vehicle of 4,000 concerts as of this writing.



# Beneficial fund management, thanks to FGM

The Foundation of Greater Montréal strives to help those who want to make a difference in their community. The goal is to keep procedures simple for donors by making it easier to create and manage funds, while aligning with donor objectives and terms. Administrative hurdles can certainly stifle philanthropy, regardless of the donor's financial means, background or age.

## Fonds Fondation Christiane et Félix Furst

It was with some trepidation that Christiane and Félix Furst came to meet with the Foundation's staff. The couple was contemplating creating a foundation in their name, wanting to apply quantifiable and immediate solutions to a variety of social problems. They were determined to manage their philanthropy on their own, but they quickly saw the advantages of entrusting the management to FGM: **"We wanted to set up a foundation, and got some information about how to go about it. We rapidly came to the conclusion that implementation and proper management take quite a bit of work and involvement. [...] So the timing of our meeting with FGM was just right"** explains Mrs. Furst.

Thus, in 2017, after a few meetings with the Foundation in which the couple set out its goals and preferences, a new in-perpetuity philanthropic fund was created through a bequest: the Fonds Fondation Christiane et Félix Furst. The fund will be dedicated to projects like sponsoring athletes, creating scholarships for students or purchasing medical equipment.

FGM allocates the grants in accordance with the goals set by the fund creators, and allows them to follow the evolution of the fund. Mr. and Mrs. Furst chose the organizations that would receive grants, and set out selection criteria, as well.

**"With FGM heading up our fund, one meeting a year is quite sufficient for us to be able to follow up on our granting initiatives."**

— Mrs. Furst



Mr. and Mrs. Furst, Fonds Fondation Christiane et Félix Furst, with Mr. Yvan Gauthier then President and CEO of FGM.

## Fonds Fondation Mariette et Gilles Vendette

In 2016, Mariette Legault and Gilles Vendette realized a philanthropic project they had been thinking about for years. They availed themselves of some sound advice from FGM, and thus was born the Fonds Fondation Mariette et Gilles Vendette, supporting the activities of a variety of organizations.

The possibility of delegating financial management to its team was one of the main reasons for choosing FGM. It was, however, vital to the donors to remain involved in decision making for the fund, including the selection of grant recipients.

To meet that need, they created an advisory committee with their nephews and nieces. Each year, the Vendettes get together with their committee to assess the fund's objectives, and plan for the future.

As well, each year, Mr. and Mrs. Vendette meet with the groups they're supporting, handing them their funding cheque in person, and discussing their priorities. In 2019, for instance, they visited Je Passe Partout and the Maison Tremplin de Longueuil, organizations dedicated to childrens' education and to the integration of parents in their

communities. These meetings were an opportunity for the donors to talk to the individuals who manage the funded projects, and to understand the impact their contribution is having.

**It was vital to the donors to remain involved in decision making for the fund, including the selection of grant recipients.**

The Foundation of Greater Montréal aims to facilitate the creation and management of funds, but also, and perhaps even primarily, to provide fund creators with services that truly meet their expectations.

**"The versatility of the fund, and the option to integrate an advisory committee into its operations, allow for a continuity, and a flexibility in decision making, that no other foundation or charitable organization offers."**



Mrs. Mariette Legault and Mr. Gilles Vendette, Fonds Fondation Mariette et Gilles Vendette.

# The McCord Museum's intergenerational project



The McCord Museum belongs to all Montrealers. It's a museum of social history that celebrates life in Montreal, past and present: its history, its people, its communities.

The museum is a community-based participatory institution, where dialogue and social interaction are at the core of activities. It places an emphasis on cultural and intergenerational programs that are community-focused, and provides learning opportunities that broaden horizons and help young people from all backgrounds become more open-minded and engaged citizens.

In 2014, the Foundation of Greater Montréal supported the creation of the intergenerational program Sharing Our Memories, Our Stories with a grant of \$25,000 over three years.



© McCord

In this intergenerational project, the McCord Museum organizes meetings between teenage volunteers and seniors living in long-term care facilities (CHSLD), or at participating community



organizations. At the start of the school year, students are recruited in Greater Montreal area schools. Once they've received some training, these young people are ready to exchange with, and bond with, seniors. The holdings in the museum's educational collection serve to spark discussion, and to encourage participants to share memories and experiences.

These get-togethers are precious moments shared by two generations, and help break the isolation that the elderly, and young people, often experience. Moreover, the program rewards community engagement, and values each participant's experiences, thereby combatting prejudices stemming from ageism, all the while promoting values of citizen engagement like respect, solidarity and openness to others.

**"The McCord Museum places great importance on the universal accessibility of its space, but also of its collections, which can be shared through activities that take place outside our walls.**

**Therefore, the idea of sharing pieces of our collections with a new audience, people who are in hospital or in long-term care, aligns perfectly with the Museum's mission. These get-togethers**

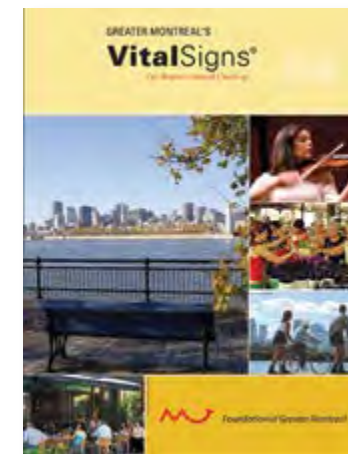
**facilitate the transmission of knowledge about these objects, but also bolster relationships between people of different generations. The enthusiasm young people have shown for the project demonstrates their deep desire to interact with and to listen to other generations, and we are delighted,"** — explained Suzanne Sauvage, President and CEO of the Museum, when the project was launched.

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic inspired the McCord Museum and its partners to come up with a pilot for a virtual version of the program; this new format will enable the young and the elderly to continue meeting despite COVID-related restrictions. Thus, the program, adjusted for new realities, will in fact be offered to a greater number of people in 2021. Once more, the Foundation of Greater Montréal added its support, with a donation of \$20,000.

# Vital Signs of Greater Montréal

The Vital Signs, an initiative of Community Foundations of Canada, is the largest data gathering program on local communities in this country. *Vital Signs* reports are published by more than 65 Canadian community foundations.

The initiative uses localized knowledge to measure the health and vitality of communities and to support actions that improve the quality of Canadians' lives. The data gathered through the program help orient and validate solutions that are local and evidence-based. With Vital Signs, community foundations like FGM seek to stimulate citizen engagement, enrich public debate and assist a multitude of actors to better target their interventions and thus maximize their impact.



| 2006 edition.

On December 12, 2006, at a news conference held at the downtown YMCA, the Foundation of Greater Montréal unveiled its first *Vital Signs of Greater Montréal* report, produced thanks to the support of the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation.

The result of a far-ranging consultation with experts in several fields, this annual community health check aims to paint a picture of both the factors that enhance Montrealers' quality of life and the challenges they must face.

Initially, this analysis was carried out by examining statistics on several facets of our collective lives: labour, inequalities,

education, health and well-being, housing, transportation, safety, the environment, arts and culture, diversity and integration, the feeling of belonging, and civic participation.

In 2017, FGM decided to align its *Vital Signs* report with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to analyze the quality of life of the residents of Greater Montreal. That edition of the report also examined the well-being of Greater Montreal's children.

*Vital Signs* reports aim to stimulate reflection and dialogue within Montreal society and raise awareness of the area's immediate needs and, as well, its long-term challenges. They also give guidance to FGM donors and fund creators, and to those who seek to take philanthropic action on the most pressing of needs.

Beyond taking a snapshot of contemporary life with Vital Signs, FGM also wants to look to the future and ensure that solutions implemented to deal with these issues are sustainable. By proceeding in this way, the Foundation will leave to future generations a tool for measuring the evolution of markers of prosperity and well-being in the Greater Montreal community, thereby ensuring fair development.



| 2020 edition.



# Memorial Funds

## The Fonds Jacques Parizeau: So that his memory will live on

Jacques Parizeau (1930-2015), an economist by training, was in turn a professor, a high-ranking public servant and a politician; Minister of Finance, and finally, Premier of Quebec.

A graduate of HEC Montréal (where he subsequently taught), he furthered his higher education at the Institut d'études politiques de Paris and at the London School of Economics, where he was the very first Quebecer to obtain a PhD. Throughout his life, the education of future generations was a cause close to his heart.

One of the major standard-bearers of the Quiet Revolution, Jacques Parizeau was a pioneer in the construction of the modern interventionist state; the version developed in Quebec came to be known as the "Quebec model". Jacques Parizeau was a major player in the development of Quebec's economy and in the emergence of "Québec Inc.", the province's influential array of home-grown companies.

To ensure that his memory will live on, Mrs. Lisette Lapointe, Mr. Robert Parizeau and Mr. Jean-Martin Aussant created the Fonds Jacques Parizeau at the Foundation of Greater Montréal in 2020.

The goal of the fund is, initially, to commission a commemorative monument to be located on the grounds of Quebec's National Assembly, but also to give long-term support to the various causes Jacques Parizeau truly cared about, such as social development, arts and culture, the protection of the environment and access to education.



Mr. Jacques Parizeau.

Throughout his life, the education of future generations was a cause close to his heart.

## The Fonds Julie Thorn: Equipping secondary schools with defibrillators

In 2012, while she was in gym class, 16-year-old Julie Thorn's life came to a tragic end when she went into cardiac arrest. A subsequent inquiry revealed that a defibrillator could have saved her life. Her sister, Marie-Hélène Thorn, and her friend Marie-Hélène Proulx, both students at the time, decided to act to prevent this kind of tragedy from happening again.

With the support of the Foundation of Greater Montréal, they created the Fonds Julie Thorn with an initial investment of \$80. Their aim is to provide schools with automatic external defibrillators (AED), and with training in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), so as to prevent fatal incidents like this one from happening again. They set themselves a fundraising target of \$10,000 over five years.

In 2015, they participated in FGM's Philanthropy Day. That exposure helped them raise a considerable sum of money, and make their fund known to a wider audience.

In 2016, barely four years after the creation of the fund, they reached their initial target, having amassed \$15,000 through a variety of fundraising activities. Thanks to their hard work and commitment, the fund has been able to give out a first grant of \$1,235 to the ACT Foundation, which establishes CPR and defibrillation programs in secondary schools. This first grant also provided a school with a defibrillator.

In 2017, Quebec's Ministry of Education provided \$500,000 for secondary 3 students in Quebec to receive compulsory CPR training. But not all schools were equipped with defibrillators or mannequins. Many had to borrow the equipment from neighbouring schools. The two friends therefore set themselves

a new goal: that every institution have the tools needed to train its students.

So, since 2019, the Montreal Heart Institute has engaged in major fundraising activity with the goal of equipping all secondary schools with defibrillators. The two Marie-Hélènes are contributing to this effort.

February 2020 marked a new milestone for their fund. They were able to provide Deux-Montagnes Comprehensive School (Julie's school) with four mannequins and three training defibrillators, which will allow the school to have all of its students — 2,000 of them! — trained in CPR.

Their mission is definitely on the right track, and they are now thinking about launching some new fundraising activities. Each year, their fund allocates nearly \$600, either directly to schools or to the ACT Foundation for the purchase of new defibrillators, which can cost up to \$3,000 each. Funds are also invested in acquiring mannequins or training young people.

The creation of the Fonds Julie Thorn has demonstrated that philanthropic action is within anyone's reach, and that philanthropy empowers individuals to engage in a cause that is close to their heart, while also honoring the memory of a loved one.



February 2020. Fonds Julie Thorn provides four training defibrillators and four mannequins to Deux-Montagnes Comprehensive School for students to practice with. Marie-Hélène Thorn (second from right) and Marie-Hélène Proulx (second from left), with staff and students from Deux-Montagnes Comprehensive School.

# Creating funds as vehicles for their foundations

## Fondation Paul-A. Fournier



From left to right: Mr. Yvan Gauthier, then President and CEO of FGM; Mr. Jacques Marchand, a director of the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation; M<sup>re</sup> René Leroux, former President of the Foundation; The Honorable Jean-François de Grandpré, Chair of the Board of Directors of FGM; Mr. Robert Coulombe, CEO of the Foundation and Mr. Laurent Giguère, FGM Treasurer.

In 1965, Mr. Paul-A. Fournier, a businessman who specialized in investing for a variety of companies, decided to create a foundation in his name. He hoped to contribute to the fight against poverty, the advancement of education, medical research, entrepreneurship among youth, and geriatrics and gerontology.

On top of his activities as an entrepreneur, Mr. Fournier helped manage the Fobec Inc. and Immeubles Metrobec Inc. firms in Montreal. In recognition of this, Fobec Inc. made annual donations to the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation. While working with Fobec Inc, Mr. Fournier met Robert Coulombe and René Leroux, respectively President and Secretary of the firm. Mr. Coulombe had been hired by Mr. Fournier in 1986 and took on the management of the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation in a permanent way starting in 1990.

When Mr. Fournier passed away in 1995, Fobec Inc. went into liquidation, and invested the entirety of its assets in the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation. Mr. Coulombe and Mr. Leroux at that point were devoting themselves entirely to managing the foundation. For nearly 25 years, they distributed its income to organizations in all sectors, according to their needs.

As time passed and they aged, the administrators felt the need to pass the torch. They could have simply named replacements

for themselves, but were worried that newcomers might alter the mission that had been so dear to Mr. Fournier.

Thus, in 2018, they approached the Foundation of Greater Montréal for advice and guidance. The Foundation assisted them in dissolving the original foundation, and in creating the Fonds Fondation Paul-A. Fournier at FGM.

**"We quickly understood, and became confident that, the Foundation of Greater Montréal would be able to continue making donations on behalf of the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation in perpetuity."**

– Robert Coulombe, fund administrator

**Through their decision to donate assets of more than \$16 million to the new fund, the administrators and members of the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation were able use this new vehicle to pursue their mission.**

**"We are proud of the commitment and the trust that the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation's administrators and members have shown towards FGM, and I thank them for it. The Foundation of Greater Montréal is a philanthropic tool that offers wide-ranging expertise in investment management, fund administration, and the active engagement of philanthropy in the community."**

– Yvan Gauthier, then President and CEO of the Foundation of Greater Montréal

Three of the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation's directors and members still participate in the fund's advisory committee that meets once a year with FGM and makes recommendations on orientations to take in the coming year.

**"Having availed ourselves of FGM's services, we can go forward with confidence and peace of mind, knowing we have been able to ensure the continuity of the Paul-A. Fournier Foundation."**

– M<sup>re</sup> René Leroux, former president of the Foundation

In 2019, the Fonds Fondation Paul-A Fournier at FGM distributed \$587,000 among 83 organizations in a wide variety of sectors, including education, palliative care and geriatrics.

## Chamandy Foundation Fund

In 2015, the Chamandy Foundation was created in Montreal. It aimed to improve the day-to-day lives of children, and offer them hope for a better future. In December 2018, Amel Chamandy, President of the Chamandy Foundation, and Tiffany Chamandy, its Executive Director, wanting to increase their commitment to the youngest in our society, created a philanthropic fund with the Foundation of Greater Montréal.

**"The Chamandy Foundation commits to supporting children in all aspects of their development: education, rights, the fight against poverty and health and well-being."**

The Chamandy Foundation Fund immediately went into action, distributing \$825,000 in grants in 2019 to organizations meeting these needs. As of this writing, for 2020 alone, the fund has distributed more than 3 million dollars for projects that will help young people in Greater Montreal, to support them in every facet of their day-to-day lives and their development.



Mrs. Amel Chamandy, President, and Mrs. Tiffany Chamandy, Executive Director, Chamandy Foundation Fund.

## Fonds Germain Benoit



Mr. Germain Benoit, Fonds Germain Benoit.

The holder of a Master's degree in accounting from Université de Sherbrooke and an MBA from HEC Montréal, Germain Benoit is also a member of Quebec's Order of Chartered Professional Accountants.

In 1990, he started Capital Benoit, which he headed until 2019. At the same time, he was active as a director on the boards of several businesses, organizations and foundations (HEC, Maison du Père, and others). He is most notably the President of the Centre de bénévolat de Saint-Hyacinthe.

In 2007, he even climbed Mount Kilimanjaro during a major fundraising initiative for the Au Diapason palliative care home to the Yamaska-Missisquoi region.

Volunteer, donor, fundraiser: Mr. Benoit is engaged in so many ways.

In 2015, he created the Fonds Germain Benoit at Foundation of Greater Montréal, with the aim of sustaining the mission of the Fondation Linoit, which he created with his children. Fondation Linoit comes to the aid of organizations that **"alleviate poverty, advance education, and promote good health"**.



# The Zero Hunger in Montréal initiative

In 2017, the *Vital Signs of Greater Montréal's Children* report was published by the Foundation of Greater Montréal. It brought to light the fact that in Montreal, the issues of food security and hunger were more acute than in other Canadian cities.

The percentage of households experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity was 11%, as compared to the Canadian average of 8 %. The Montreal area was hence given the unfortunate title of "Quebec's child hunger capital", and still holds that status as of this writing.

This critical issue affects both children and adults. A multitude of actors, among them community-based, private, governmental and philanthropic, attempt to tackle this problem year in and year out. After having consulted with them, FGM came to the conclusion that the community as a whole needed to gain a better overall understanding of the food security ecosystem. Thus, the Zero Hunger in Montréal project was born.

In 2018, FGM put into place a strategic committee to share knowledge, mobilize actors in the ecosystem and examine what collective action could be undertaken. The collaboration sought to provide an overall sense of what the knowledge was and who the actors were, but also of the challenges and the opportunities across the city. This iterative approach enabled the participants to identify and describe needs, home in on strategies and better orient eventual collective investments aimed at combatting food insecurity through well-integrated vision and actions.

As part of the first phase of this initiative, in October of 2018, the Foundation produced a meta-synthesis of publications on food security in Montreal that had come out since 2006.



The Depot, Good Food Markets.

In May of 2019, the Foundation moved to the second phase of the project, publishing a portrait of the Montreal food security ecosystem, including conceptual maps of the major functions of this complex environment. This analysis enabled participants to identify three major stumbling blocks to the fight against food insecurity in Montreal: the continuity of funding for organizations, governance, and the maintenance of the food supply for various actors in the ecosystem. This last issue appeared as the one most likely to be addressable by collective action.

In December of 2019, a third phase served to further the comprehension and engagement of the participants with regards to problems in the food distribution network in Montreal. FGM proposed getting together the many intervenors in the network to offer them a space in which to discuss, share and collaborate.

**"The most vital aspect of Zero Hunger in Montréal was that it connected several projects with funders for the projects. That showed us the importance of collaborating and of working on collective initiatives that we wished to propose."**

— Daniel Rotman, Executive Director of The Depot Community Food Centre

The Zero Hunger initiative was made possible notably by the support of the McConnell Foundation, and of the Fonds Fondation Paul-A. Fournier and the Fonds Fondation Gatien Paquette at FGM.

## Giving back to the community, a long and multifaceted tradition



| Mrs. Claire Léger and Mr. Jean-Pierre Léger.

### Fonds Fondation de Claire et Jean-Pierre Léger

Philanthropic engagement plays a key role in Jean-Pierre and Claire Léger's lives. A turning point came over 30 years ago, when Mrs. Léger created a giving committee within the Rôtisseries St-Hubert enterprise, thereby initiating her brother to philanthropy. In 2012, Mr. Léger launched the Fondation St-Hubert. Then, when the iconic restaurant chain was sold in 2016, the pair created the Fondation de Claire et Jean-Pierre Léger, whose mission is to enhance the well-being of communities. The foundation supports organizations and projects that help individuals directly, ensuring their dignity and working for their fulfillment. It is active most notably in the areas of health, support for families, and the fight against poverty.

**"We think it's important to contribute to the development of our society and support the organizations and individuals that need help. It makes a big difference in terms of the future."**

— Claire and Jean-Pierre Léger

In 2016, in order to increase the scope of their activity and their impact on the ground, they decided to create the Fonds Fondation de Claire et Jean-Pierre Léger at the Foundation of Greater Montréal. In barely four years, the fund has already distributed nearly \$11.5 million in grants. These grants support their own foundation's activities but also those of other organizations working in health care, including mental health, and education. Several thousands of dollars per year are also allocated to the Foundation of Greater Montréal's granting programs. What a vote of confidence Mr. and Mrs. Léger have given us in entrusting us with the creation of their fund and in allocating us grants.



| Mr. Stéphane Foumy.

### Fonds Fondation Stéphane Foumy

For Mr. Foumy, who came to Canada from Italy, giving back to his adoptive land and the society in which he built a career is vital. That is why, in 2017, he decided to create the Fonds Fondation Stéphane Foumy with Foundation of Greater Montréal, in order to support numerous organizations and institutions that work for the good of the whole community. These organizations operate in healthcare, arts and culture, and the fight against poverty and homelessness, among other fields.

In 2019, the fund distributed an overall total of \$100,000 in a variety of sectors. And in 2020, grants have already gone over the \$110,000 mark. Thanks to Mr. Foumy's own contributions, and the investment income the fund is generating, the support

Mr. Foumy gives to these many areas of our society just keeps increasing. That impact means a lot to him, of course; but it means just as much, or even more, to the organizations that benefit from his assistance. Thanks to him, they are able to, in particular, enhance the support they give to the most disadvantaged, to medical research and to the flourishing of the arts.



The launch of "Meta-synthesis of publications on food security in Montréal since 2006", October 2018. From left to right: Mr. Dany Hétu, Executive Director of Moisson Rive-Sud, The Honorable Jean-François de Grandpré, Chair of the Board of Directors of FGM, Richard D. Daneau, Executive Director of Moisson Montréal.



# Revdec: from beneficiary to fund creator

Founded in 1985 by Michel Jacques, Revdec is a community organization whose mission is to offer services to young people who experience difficulty in school or in adapting socially. These can include education, accompaniment, listening and facilitating.

In 2004, Revdec was among the first organizations to be funded by the Foundation of Greater Montréal. The initial \$5,000 grant enabled the implementation of two new activities, workshops and educational outings, as well as a transitional learning project to prepare young people to come back into the school system.

Initially, the organization focused on youth living in the Hochelaga-Maisonneuve area, but it gradually scaled up its activities and support to the entire Montreal region, assisting young dropouts or those at risk of dropping out of school, and young mothers.

FGM has continued to work with Revdec over the years, in particular in 2018 via the Placement Réussite matching program through which the organization received a grant from the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec. When the funding came to term, Revdec had the option of keeping the amount of the grant or transferring it to a philanthropic fund. That's when Revdec decided to create a fund with FGM. The organization subsequently built up the fund thanks to another grant from Placement Réussite, this time in 2019.

And so, 15 years after receiving its first grant, Revdec is now in the category of fund creator at FGM, which continues to work with the organization and support its initiatives. We have come full circle!



# The Launching of Placements Sports

Quebec's sporting federations, especially the smaller ones, are often struggling financially, which makes it difficult for them to promote their sport. In 2008, they took a closer look at their funding situation in order to try to find potential solutions. An examination of the federations' financial position showed a combined deficit of \$4,000,000.

A committee was then charged with finding different ways forward. After a thorough analysis of the problem, the committee proposed to the Quebec government that it create a matching program, along the lines of the Mécénat Placements Culture initiative.

The government agreed, and Placements Sports was officially launched in the summer of 2012, with the Sports Québec organization charged with its management. When a sporting federation receives donations, Placements Sports tops them up by 50 % to 300 %, depending on the size of the federation. The goal is to increase the resources of sporting federations that dedicate themselves to the development and promotion of sport in Quebec.

In 2012, the Foundation of Greater Montréal partnered with Sports Québec through this matching program. Eligible sporting federations can create a fund with a 10-year term at FGM, and that funding will be matched by the Placements Sports program. Each year, the federations receive the income generated by their funds, as per the distribution policy in place. When the fund comes to term, they can recoup all or part of the money, close the fund, or maintain it in order to continue support for their activities on a longer-term basis.

Just one year after its creation, the program had already allowed seven federations to create endowment funds with FGM. In 2020, the program includes no less than 51 member federations, with total assets of nearly \$7 million.

Among them are Parasports Québec, whose mission is to create programs or projects that seek to achieve fulfillment for persons with physical limitations, by promoting healthy and active living in a way that will facilitate their integration. A member of Placements Sports since 2013, Parasports Québec broadened its activities by creating its own fund at the Foundation of Greater Montréal in 2018, an initiative which holds out promise for its future and for the pursuit of its mission.



Photo from 2012; the titles mentioned are those of that period.  
From left to right: Jean-Marc Chouinard, head of Governing Council, Placements Sports; Richard W. Pound, Chair of the Board of Directors, FGM; Gaston E. Bouchard, interim President and CEO, FGM; Sylvain Pagé, Parliamentary Secretary for the Quebec Minister of Education Sports and Leisure; Denis Servais, President of SPORTSQUÉBEC (in front).



Wheelchair basketball, Parasport Québec.



# Creation of the Jean E. Douville Bursaries

Mr. and Mrs. Douville were already deeply committed to philanthropic action when they decided to create a fund with FGM. **"I've been lucky enough to get good advice and to make career choices that brought me success",** explains Mr. Douville. **"We've shown our gratitude through donations to the institutions where we were educated."** That is how their personal culture of philanthropy developed, and they want to pass that culture on to their children. **"We are lucky enough to have benefited from securities that made significant gains, and so we decided to create a foundation using these securities in order to be able to assist charitable organizations; and we informed our children of our wishes."**

After having looked at all the options, they chose to create a philanthropic fund with FGM in 2017. **"Apart from sparing us from the administrative tasks,"** they explain, **"this choice guarantees us professional management of the assets. We're also able to stay on top of the related activities and, in consultation with FGM, direct the income generated by the fund to the beneficiaries of our choosing."**

Even more important is ensuring the long-term viability of the Fonds Fondation Jean E. et Lucille Douville. With an eventual eye to making philanthropists of their children, too, the Douvilles will have the option of asking them to sit on the advisory committee, which submits granting recommendations to FGM.



Mr. and Mrs. Douville, at the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement for bursaries.

**"The professionalism, competence and effectiveness of FGM's philanthropic experts have confirmed the wisdom of our decision and make us want to recommend them to other individuals wishing to initiate or pursue a culture of philanthropy."**

The story does not end there. On May 1, 2019, Mr. Douville announced a major gift for the creation, in perpetuity, of 10 bursaries which will be given out annually to students in finance and in mental health research in four major Montreal universities: Concordia (John Molson School of Business), HEC Montréal, McGill (Desautels Faculty of Management), and Université de Montréal (School of Public Health).



Cocktail celebrating the creation of the bursaries, May 1, 2019.  
From left to right: Dr. Réjean Hébert (School of Public Health at Université de Montréal), Dr. Mary Perri (John Molson School of Business at Concordia), Yvan Gauthier (then President and CEO of FGM), Mr. Douville, The Honorable Jean-François De Grandpré (Chair of the Board of Directors of FGM), Mrs. Douville, Mark Michaud (Desautels Faculty of Management at McGill), Hélène Latreille (Delegate of the President and CEO of FGM) and Johanne Turbide (HEC Montréal).

# The Collective Impact Project

For more than 50 years now, citizens, organizations and institutions have joined forces in Montreal neighbourhoods to tackle problems people encounter in day-to-day life. One key vehicle has been neighbourhood round tables, which have focused on issues stemming from poverty and social exclusion. However, these neighbourhood initiatives have often been hampered by fragmented funding and a lack of concerted action.

In 2016, the Foundation of Greater Montréal teamed up with eight other major foundations to support the Collective Impact Project (CIP), initiated by Centraide of Greater Montréal with a view to assisting these local stakeholders. CIP works to improve the well-being of residents in 17 Montreal neighborhoods, and is present in a more concentrated fashion in five areas in particular: Saint-Michel, Centre-Sud, Saint-Léonard, Côte-des-Neiges and Parc-Extension.

Along with Centraide, FGM, the eight other foundations, and three strategic partners committed to providing \$23M over five years to come to the aid of this targeted initiative. The goal was to develop measures tailored to each neighbourhood's reality. Indeed, CIP wants to encourage neighbourhoods to experiment, innovate and find new ways to accelerate change.

A good example of a CIP-supported initiative is "Giving everyone a roof and a seat at the table" in Verdun. In this gentrifying neighbourhood, residents are finding that access to both adequate housing and food security are harder to come by. To help them out, CIP has since 2016 supported initiatives for the development of social housing and for access to a comprehensive local food system for Verdunites.



Collective Impact Project's "Lac-à-l'épaulé".



The Jardins des Patriotes.

CIP has been made possible by the collaboration of the following major foundations, under the Centraide umbrella:

- Fondation de la famille Pathy
- Silver Dollar Foundation
- Foundation of Greater Montréal
- Trottier Family Foundation
- Fondation Lucie et André Chagnon

- Fondation Marcelle et Jean Coutu
- McConnell Foundation
- Fondation Mirella et Lino Saputo
- Molson Foundation



# The Apartment/Studies project: Supporting youth when they leave Youth Centres

In 2007, James Crowley, then an educator at the Centre jeunesse de Montréal – Institut universitaire (CJM-IU), realized that, for young people who have grown up in a Youth Centre, the transition to adulthood is often lonely and fraught with obstacles. At the time, he regularly received calls from young people who, having reached the age of majority, no longer were eligible for Youth Centre services. Struck by the degree of isolation in their lives, he started looking for a solution.

The idea came to him for a program that would help these youths pursue their studies by easing the financial burden constituted by the cost of housing. The project was welcomed, and strongly supported, by educators, universities, and business people in the region.

The Apartment/Studies initiative came to life in 2007, thanks in particular to the advice and support of Kathleen Weil and Colin Bérubé of the Foundation of Greater Montréal, and to a donation of \$15,000, which funded the implementation of the project. That year, a total of \$68,000 was collected from several funders, which gave wings to a first group of young people, aged 16 to 19 and eager to continue their studies.

**"The educators are already doing an amazing job in helping them look for an apartment and all that is associated with that. But Apartment/Studies aims to take them further, to give them the financial means to build a better and more stable future."**

— James Crowley

Each year, candidates selected receive a grant of \$3,000, divided up as follows: \$2,500 for tuition fees and school supplies, and \$500 for clothing, since they often only have a bare minimum. They are accompanied until graduation, adds Mr. Crowley. **"We are committed to these young people, and we are going to go the distance with them. We're not going to abandon them when they are only partway there."**

In return, the young people commit to succeeding in their studies and managing their grants carefully, in particular through the obligation to provide their monthly bills.

When the project was launched, 17-year-old Victoria, one of the first cohort, stated: **"I would not be able to work 40 hours a week on top of studying, I would eventually have to drop out or**

**I would just get too tired. You have to be focused in class... You have to eat, you need money to buy food so that you can eat and concentrate properly during classes. Without this grant, I just couldn't make it."**

In 2009, the Fondation du Centre jeunesse de Montréal added three components to the program: the Fonds de dépannage pour la réinsertion (Assistance Fund for Reintegration), the Programme scolaire 18-20 ans (Scholastic Program for 18 to 20 year olds) and the Grenier de Lorraine (a clothing depot). That year, the project, now named Projet social – Bourses d'étude (Social project – Scholarships) helped 29 young people to continue their secondary or CEGEP studies.

In 2016, the initiative became part of the Fondation du Centre jeunesse de Montréal's broader stay-in-school program. At the same time, the Fondation created the Transition vers la vie autonome (Transition to Independent Living) program, which emulates Apartment/Studies, and gives out grants that seek to fulfill similar objectives.

The project was so successful over the years that versions of it were created in other regions of Quebec. Most notably, the CIUSSS (Integrated University Health and Social Services Centres) in Montérégie and Capitale-Nationale (Quebec City), implemented the concept.

Now called the Fonds de soutien à la persévérance scolaire (FSPS) (Fund to Support Staying in School), the project still aims to recognize scholastic perseverance and encourage young people to obtain secondary, professional, CEGEP or university diplomas. It currently allocates grants to youth taken in charge under the Youth Protection Act.

In 2019-2020, 81 young people (19-20 years of age on average) met the selection criteria and were thus admitted into FSPS. During the same time period, 16 others obtained their diplomas (6 in high school, 5 in professional training, 4 in CEGEP and 1 Bachelor's degree).

In 2020-2021, the program will aim to support even more young people (nearly 90), with a budget of \$135,000. This financial and humanitarian assistance is essential to those who, on reaching the age of majority, can often find themselves isolated.

# CIBPA Bursary Funds: supporting a scholarship program active since 1958



The Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association (CIBPA) was created in 1949. It launched its bursary program in May of 1958, with the goal of supporting youth of Italian descent in Quebec in their studies. The first bursaries were awarded to students in 1961 and, to this day, more than \$3.5 million have been distributed, making the CIBPA Foundation one of the largest private bursary foundations in Canada.

The goal of the scholarship program is to **"work with the community to ensure a supported, educated and solid succession, which in turn, allows them to face and take on new challenges in the emerging business world, while contributing to the Quebec society and the Canadian-Italian community"**.

Mr. Sam Scalia, who has long been a fixture on several boards of directors, and is the president of the CIBPA Foundation, and his wife created a fund with the Foundation of Greater Montréal in 2018 to enrich the bursaries given out by the Association.

**"The creation of an endowment fund was a means to ensure stable funding for our program. As a former member of its Board of Directors, I can attest to FGM's seriousness of purpose. The organization is effective, the cost of its services is low and it is highly flexible and transparent. I knew that I was doing the right thing."**



Mr. Joseph Broccolini, Broccolini Construction Inc.  
— CIBPA Bursary Fund.



Mrs. Diana and Mr. Sam Scalia,  
Diana and Sam Scalia—CIBPA  
Bursary Fund.

Subsequently, several other CIBPA Foundation members created funds with FGM in order to help maintain the continuity of the bursary program. Mr. Joseph Broccolini, for instance, created the Broccolini Construction Inc. — CIBPA Bursary Fund with FGM in 2019.

**"I am very happy to enable young students from the Italian community, from CEGEP right up to the PhD level, to take advantage of these bursaries. I believe that everyone should be able to have a pathway to their dreams of a better life."**

As of this writing, the CIBPA Foundation bursaries are complemented by several CIBPA Bursary Funds with the Foundation of Greater Montréal, thanks to the commitment of their creators. We're betting that this is only the beginning!



# La Maison Bleue: improving the lives of vulnerable young families



In the early 2000s, Dr. Vania Jimenez, a family obstetrics doctor, and Amélie Sigouin, an early childhood practitioner, shared the same frustration: not being able to do more to improve the lives of young families in situations of vulnerability. Several other doctors and health professionals had come to the same conclusion: the social services system was struggling to reach out to these families and create a significant bond with them, which made their access to services they need more tenuous.

**"La Maison Bleue is an opportunity to do things differently and to have a positive impact of the course of children's lives."**

– Amélie Sigouin, cofounder and Executive Director of La Maison Bleue

Inspired by the courage of the mothers they saw in their daily practice, the two founders took up the challenge of starting a home that brings together a "village", a support network made up of health and social services professionals (family doctors, midwives, nurses, social workers, specialized educators, psychoeducators), therapists and volunteers, offering a welcoming environment where families can access care and services provided by an intervention model built on a human scale. Thus, the first Maison Bleue was established in 2007, in the Côte-des-Neiges neighbourhoods.

Empowered by the recognition and success garnered by the first Maison Bleue, the organization opened a second home in May of 2011 to serve families in Parc-Extension, at the request of the CSSS de la Montagne, which saw the effectiveness and efficiency of this approach in delivering the services this particular population needs.

The Foundation of Greater Montréal has been supporting La Maison Bleue since 2014. Over a three year period (2014 to 2016), it donated \$25,000 per year, allowing La Maison Bleue to develop and spread its model of social perinatal care.

In 2017, La Maison Bleue celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and inaugurated a third home in the Saint-Michel neighbourhood, thanks to a donation from the Marcelle and Jean Coutu Foundation and stable funding announced by the Ministry of Health and Social Services. Then, in 2019, thanks to a contribution of \$125,000 from FGM, the organization was able to purchase a building in Verdun and make the renovations that were needed to bring the site up to par, and make this projected new space a welcoming, comforting and reassuring location.

On January 29, 2020, La Maison Bleue inaugurated this fourth site. FGM continued its partnership with the organization by supporting the implementation of services at the Verdun Maison Bleue, which will welcome mothers from the area and their families. In all, La Maison Bleue has to date helped more than 5,000 individuals (mothers, partners, babies, brothers and sisters) and its interdisciplinary teams follow nearly 400 pregnancies per year.

**"We believe that every child should be born and grow up well supported, living joyfully, with the promise of a full life, and nourished by solidarity, confidence, and strengths rediscovered."**

– Guylaine Tremblay, La Maison Bleue spokesperson



© La Maison Bleue

# The Fonds Diversité sexuelle Laurent McCutcheon

From the 1970s onward, Laurent McCutcheon was a major player in the fight for recognition of sexual diversity and gender identity, and a formidable defender of the rights of LGBT communities. He stood out as a leader, in hearings before several parliamentary commissions and in regular media appearances. Refusing any compensation, he performed all his duties on a voluntary basis.

**"After 35 years of involvement and activism in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transidentity communities (LGBT), and having now moved out of my positions of responsibility, the idea came to me to create a vehicle that was enduring, that would have as its objective the support of our communities."**

He then turned, in 2014, to the Foundation of Greater Montréal for the implementation of his project.

**"Wanting to be able to assure donors that their donations would be well managed, useful to our communities and would not be squandered, I chose the Foundation of Greater Montréal. FGM allows you to establish a fund that is dedicated to the fund creator's mission, and it takes care of the management. It's a solid organization with impressive capital that offers all the guarantees I was seeking. That is how the Fonds Diversité sexuelle Laurent McCutcheon was born."**

I hesitated for a long time before tying my name to the Fonds Diversité sexuelle. However, I was persuaded that a fund associated with a name to it reassures donors and offers them moral certainty. I do realize that this is a big responsibility."



| Mr. Laurent McCutcheon, Fonds Diversité sexuelle Laurent McCutcheon.

The fund's mission is to support charitable organizations that work alongside LGBT communities. It enables individuals and organizations to contribute to the well-being of people grappling with issues of sexual diversity, sexual orientation and gender identity.

The first grants were allocated in 2016 to organizations working with these communities, such as Archives gaies du Québec and the Fondation Émergence, which Laurent McCutcheon created in 2000.

**"What I like about the Foundation of Greater Montréal is that donations, and grants given out, are placed under professional management. Only the income generated by the capital can be distributed to help our communities, which gives continuity to the donations and the grants. In short, our contributions will outlive us."**

The creation of the fund by an iconic personality like Mr. McCutcheon draws attention to the need for collective and long-lasting engagement in order for our society to be able to aspire to full and complete equality.

**"I call on all those who believe in the mission of the fund and who wish to contribute to the future well-being of LGBT individuals to join me and make a donation to the Fonds Diversité sexuelle Laurent McCutcheon at the Foundation of Greater Montréal."**

Laurent McCutcheon passed away in July of 2019, but he made sure that his fund would continue to exist and support the cause of his life — in perpetuity.

**"Thanks to all of you who hold in your hearts the future of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transidentity communities."**



# The Three Pines Foundation Fund



The Foundation has been created to help caregivers of those with dementia. If the caregiver, wife, husband, child, friend, goes down, everything falls apart. To that end, we will fund day centres, choirs, art classes. Community initiatives to make sure people are safe and happy.

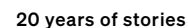
Thank you for being a part of this. A huge thank you, for joining Michael, our goldens, other readers, me, in Three Pines. Where goodness exists."

Fonds  
Fondation  
Lorraine Pintal



© Jean-Francois Gratton

Thanks to the Foundation of Greater Montréal, the Fonds Fondation Lorraine Pintal came to be. It is now my turn to give back to the artistic community and share all it has taught me about living life to the best of one's ability."







## Foundation of Greater Montréal

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