

POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE FALL 2015

# Ci té



**(RE) DISCOVERING**  
**AGATHA**  
**CHRISTIE**



POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE  
Montréal Archaeology  
and History Complex  
Montréal

## FRANCINE LEIÈVRE CULTURAL MANAGEMENT AWARD

The HEC Montréal Carmelle and Rémi Marcoux Chair in Arts Management has presented **Francine Lelièvre**, Executive Director of Pointe-à-Callière, with its Cultural Management Award. This distinction, now in its third year, recognizes the outstanding contribution of a cultural manager in developing a cultural organization or enterprise. It is also intended to promote the role of cultural managers and honours their achievements in society by singling out an exceptional career in arts marketing and management. Our sincere congratulations to Mme Lelièvre! ◀

## ANNIE BOISCLAIR DIRECTOR OF THE FOUNDATION

The Pointe-à-Callière Foundation is proud to welcome a new Director, **Annie Boisclair**, who has been working in philanthropy for over 15 years now. Until just recently, she held various strategic roles with the development and communications team at the Canadian Multiple Sclerosis Society, Quebec Division. In addition to her extensive professional experience, she also holds a Bachelor's degree in Art History and a Certificate in Communication. The whole Pointe-à-Callière team wishes her a warm welcome! ◀



## MANON BLANCHETTE HEADS UP THE CMA

**Manon Blanchette**, Director of Operations at Pointe-à-Callière since 2012, has been appointed Chair of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Museums Association for a four-year term. The Association, which represents close to 200 members across the country, acts as a voice for professionals in the museum sector in Canada and abroad. We wish her all the best in her new role! ◀

## IVANHOE CAMBRIDGE ARTS-AFFAIRES DE MONTRÉAL AWARD

**Ivanhoe Cambridge**, sponsored by the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation, has won the Arts-Affaires de Montréal award from the Conseil des arts de Montréal in the Large Enterprise category. A long-standing partner of Pointe-à-Callière, in 2014 the company confirmed a four-year pledge to the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation's major fundraising campaign and also helped to offer 160 Major Donors an unforgettable evening in the impressive historical setting of the World Trade Centre Montréal. Ivanhoe Cambridge is a socially responsible enterprise that supports cultural organizations whose mission is to protect or promote architectural heritage. ◀

Jan-Fryderyk Pleszczynski, Chair of the Conseil des arts de Montréal  
Julie Roy, Philanthropic Development Co-ordinator, Pointe-à-Callière Foundation  
Michel Leblanc, of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal  
Christine Babkine, Director, Corporate Social Responsibility, Ivanhoe Cambridge



## WELCOME TO THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

The Pointe-à-Callière Foundation and the Société of the Museum recently welcomed new members to their respective Boards. Welcome aboard, and thanks for your commitment!

### FOUNDATION

#### TRUSTEES

**Pierre Courchesne**, Executive Vice-President – Finance and Administration, ESI Technologies

**Sylvie Dufresne**, historian and museologist

**Marc Légaré**, President, Sérénia

**Laurent Liagre**, Partner, Ernst and Young

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**Jean-François Fortin**, Vice-President, Partner, Sid Lee

**Jean Roy**, director and consultant, JR Direction de projet

**Marie-Agnès Thellier**, corporate director



## AN ARCHAEOLOGY-INSPIRED YEAR

The Museum has definitely lived up to its name of late.

The spotlight has been on **archaeology** at Pointe-à-Callière since the beginning of the year, and this focus will continue for the next several months. It all started with *The Greeks – Agamemnon to Alexander the Great*, our tremendously popular exhibition that drew over 132,000 visitors, a record for the low tourist season. Visitors had a chance to admire 550 priceless artifacts from 21 Greek museums – a unique opportunity to see some real world heritage treasures.

### OTHER DAZZLING EXHIBITIONS

With *The Aztecs, People of the Sun*, the emphasis is on archaeology once again, thanks to unique objects, artifacts and rare pieces paying tribute to the grandeur of this fascinating Mexican people. For this exhibition, 16 museums lent us exceptional objects rarely seen outside Mexico.

Later this year, the Museum will be opening a truly one-of-a-kind exhibition. *Investigating Agatha Christie* will look at the fascinating world of this prolific novelist and extraordinary woman in her day, whose exciting life and literary work were intimately bound up with archaeology. The world-renowned and widely loved novelist was married to archaeologist Sir Max Mallowan, and was directly associated with important archaeological discoveries at ancient Mesopotamian sites in Syria and Iraq. These experiences actually inspired several of her books. It's bound to be spellbinding, and we can already sense our visitors' excitement!

The Museum is also mounting *Fragments of Humanity. Archaeology in Quebec*, another exclusive and the first major exhibition devoted entirely to Quebec archaeology. Visitors will be able to admire over 200 significant objects illustrating 50 years of archaeological discoveries. A first!

### ENCOURAGING THE YOUNGER GENERATION

The Pointe-à-Callière Foundation and the National Bank organized a new contest for Quebec high school students: *Archaeologist for a Day at Pointe-à-Callière!* We were delighted to host Annabelle Létourneau, the 13-year-old winner of the first edition of the contest. Annabelle attends Académie Dunton, a high school in Boucherville.

### A HUGE PART OF MONTRÉAL'S IDENTITY

Archaeology is also our prime concern as we prepare to launch Phase 2 of the Museum's expansion plans. With financial support from the City of Montréal, teams are currently hard at work on showcasing our city's birthplace, with Fort Ville-Marie, the first French settlement built in 1642, Callière's Residence and the William collector sewer, a unique feat of civil engineering in North America. A new pavilion is being built right next door to the Museum in Place D'Youville, and the William collector sewer, to connect the new building with the current museum, will be consolidated and adapted. The archaeological dig campaigns prior to this work brought more than 320,000 objects and artifacts to light. This site, such a huge part of Montréal's history, will be a unique heritage legacy for Montréal's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to be celebrated in 2017.

### QUEBEC ARCHAEOLOGY

This year, the Museum also released the first in a series of five volumes devoted to Quebec archaeology: *AIR – Territoire et peuplement*, the first in the "Quebec archaeology" collection, has been very well received. Produced in partnership with the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, it will be a tremendous reference for anyone interested in the findings of close to 50 years of archaeological research in Quebec. Finally, the Museum proudly participated in *Archaeology Month 2015*, in August, by offering various activities on Montréal's birthplace.

Since it opened in 1992, the Museum has been committed to preserving and bringing visitors to know and appreciate Montréal's birthplace, while making the remains and collections of artifacts and objects found during archaeological digs accessible. It is also part of the Museum's mission to offer temporary exhibitions presenting the most significant pieces from ancient civilizations. Archaeology interests and fascinates visitors of all ages, a fact clearly borne out by the Museum's attendance figures.

I wish you many happy discoveries at the Museum!

**Francine Lelièvre**  
Executive Director



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1

# HAPPENINGS AT THE MUSEUM

© Pointe-à-Callière



2

## The Aztecs arrive at the Museum...

**1** The successful official opening of *The Aztecs, People of the Sun*, on May 29, was attended by Francine Lelièvre, Executive Director of Pointe-à-Callière, Francisco Suárez Davilà, Mexican Ambassador to Canada, Christine St-Pierre, Quebec Minister of International Relations and the Francophonie, José Enrique Ortiz Lanz, National Co-ordinator for Museums and Exhibitions for the Mexican National Institute of Anthropology and History, and Francisco del Rio, Consul General of Mexico in Montréal. The exhibition, on until October 25, invites visitors to learn about a fascinating Mexican civilization. The spectacular design features some 265 items from 16 Mexican museums, presenting the history and amazingly rapid rise of this people and the founding of the fabulous city of Tenochtitlan.

© Pascale Dudemaine



3

## ...and greet Members

**2** Museum Members were invited to the pre-opening of *The Aztecs, People of the Sun*, on June 1. Victor Pimentel, Scientific Advisor for the exhibition, archaeologist and curator of pre-Columbian art, gave them an exclusive lecture on the topic. Afterward, Members were dazzled by this unique collection on display in Montréal until October 25, 2015.

## A very popular Museums Day!

**4** Once again, the Museum was a victim of its own success during the exceptionally busy Montréal Museums Day organized by the Board of Montréal Museum Directors, now the Montréal Museums Society, on May 24. Nearly 7,000 people turned out to visit our various exhibitions, including the very popular *Snow!* and the family favourite *Pirates or Privateers?* And it was a beautiful day, too!

© Jessica Eva Oyarbide



4

## Under the Montréal sun

**3** Also in conjunction with *The Aztecs, People of the Sun*, the Museum organized two free outdoor summer activities, including a Mexican fiesta in Place Royale on July 5 and a show on August 16 by Mexican artist Mamselle Ruiz, who delivered a spirited performance under the Montréal sun.



5



## The Antonopoulos family honoured by the Builders Club

5 For the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the prestigious Montréal Builders Club benefit evening, the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation joined forces with some great Montréal builders: the Antonopoulos family. To salute and honour the Antonopoulos family, the Foundation invited guests to enjoy an evening inspired by their native culture and the current temporary exhibition at Pointe-à-Callière: *The Greeks – Agamemnon to Alexander the Great*. Thanks to the generosity of the event's donors, sponsors and partners, it raised nearly \$100,000. These

funds will help support the Museum's activities and allow it to press ahead with building the Montréal Archaeology and History Complex. The photos show the members of the Antonopoulos family, Honorary Chairs for the evening, along with Pointe-à-Callière's Executive Director, Francine Lelièvre; as well as a table of happy guests enjoying a gourmet meal inspired by a Greek banquet, served as usual in the Museum's archaeological crypt.

## An archaeological recruit

6 The Pointe-à-Callière Foundation and the National Bank launched a new contest for Quebec high school students: *Archaeologist for a Day at Pointe-à-Callière!* Annabelle Létourneau, winner of the first edition of the contest, had a chance to join some archaeologists for a day at the Museum this summer. She also won a laptop computer, a two-year Pointe-à-Callière family membership and a number of books on the history of Montréal. Thirteen-year-old Annabelle attends Académie Dunton, in Boucherville.

© NH Photographes

6



© Frédéric Ryan

6



The photo shows contest winner Annabelle Létourneau with Alain Vandal, archaeologist and conservation technician at Pointe-à-Callière, and Julie Roy, in charge of philanthropic development for the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation.

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# BUILDING TOWARD MONTRÉAL'S 375<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Pointe-à-Callière is working feverishly and enthusiastically toward its goal of inaugurating a new phase in its planned Montréal Archaeology and History Complex in time for Montréal's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, in May 2017: the pavilion housing the remains of Fort Ville-Marie and the William collector sewer. The project is made possible by a \$30 million subsidy from the City of Montréal.



It would be hard for visitors outside the Museum to miss the huge progress made on the expansion project to date. Workers are busy on the site between the Éperon building and the new pavilion. They have temporarily removed a few trees and the obelisk from Place D'Youville and are strengthening and waterproofing the William collector sewer and conducting archaeological digs. These essential preliminary phases will make it possible to erect the new pavilion, create a new gallery and rebuild the William collector sewer over the course of 2015 and 2016. It's a truly enormous project – and one aiming for LEED (*Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design*) Gold certification.

### **Some great archaeological discoveries**

This summer, thousands of objects were turned up during the latest archaeological dig campaign carried out beneath Place D'Youville by the Ethnoscop team. Meanwhile, work to analyze the material culture is continuing. Researchers are closely examining tens of thousands of artifacts and bone fragments collected over the 13 years of work by the Université de Montréal Archaeological Field School at this location. Numerous exceptional finds point to this being a nationally significant 17<sup>th</sup>-century site – dating from the days of Maisonneuve and Jeanne Mance.



## Two new pieces for the Complex

This planned legacy for the city's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary will feature two highlights:

- 1) A new pavilion will be built on the site of Fort Ville-Marie and Callière's Residence to showcase the remains and artifacts from Montréal's earliest days, in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century, as well as the very site where the Great Peace of Montréal was signed in 1701;
- 2) the former William collector sewer, dating from 1832, in the bed of the Little Saint-Pierre River, will be rebuilt to connect the new pavilion with the Museum's main building. Nothing like this has ever been done in Montréal! It's guaranteed to be a thrilling experience. And it is a legacy of which Montrealers will be justifiably proud – a place where they will be able to remember, contemplate and come face to face with the past.

## Highly qualified professionals

To achieve these results, the main teams of professionals who will be working on the project have already been selected:

- Pointe-à-Callière**, prime contractor for the project
- QIM**, project manager
- Dan Hanganu Architectes and Provencher Roy Associés Architectes (PRAA)**, architects
- Ethnoscop**, archaeologists
- NCK**, civil/structural engineers
- BPA**, mechanical/electrical engineers
- Daily/Tous les jours**, designer of the permanent exhibition in the new pavilion
- Métamorphoses**, producer of the permanent exhibition in the new pavilion
- Moment Factory**, designer for the William collector sewer
- Go Multimédia**, technology integrator

Various management, property, monitoring and scientific committees with City of Montréal and Pointe-à-Callière representatives, different professionals, historians and archaeologists are also contributing their expertise to the project.

Watch for more updates! ◀





**THE MAYOR WHO PRESERVED MONTRÉAL'S BIRTHPLACE  
AND MADE IT ACCESSIBLE**



# **JEAN**







Among the many achievements attributed to Jean Doré, Montréal's Mayor from 1986 to 1994, the name of Pointe-à-Callière, the Montréal Museum of Archaeology and History, comes up often – with good reason! The Museum, located in Old Montréal, was officially opened on May 17, 1992 in conjunction with the city's 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

# DORÉ

## **An ardent defender of our history**

Mayor Doré was one of the first and most vocal proponents of building Pointe-à-Callière in order to preserve and showcase Montréal's birthplace and to bring people to know and appreciate our city's history. This achievement was the fruit of a model partnership that saw city and federal and provincial government teams work together to carry out an ambitious project and deliver it on time.

There could be no more symbolic location to celebrate Montréal's 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At the urging of Mayor Doré, the federal and provincial governments decided to pool their efforts and invest in a joint project on four sites chosen for the future Pointe-à-Callière museum, and ensured that the new institution was ready for this important anniversary.

It was with much emotion and pride that Mayor Doré, along with Canadian Prime Minister the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa and numerous French government ministers and dignitaries, officially opened this new museum, on May 17, 1992. As the only large-scale archaeology museum in Canada, it has become a must-see tourist attraction in the cultural metropolis of Montréal. Initially designed for 150,000 visitors annually, today Pointe-à-Callière gets nearly 400,000, including some 100,000 young people and many, many Montrealers who have become very fond and proud of their Museum.

Thanks to his vision, love of Montréal, sense of history and leadership, Jean Doré helped preserve and showcase Montréal's birthplace and the traces of its earliest settlers and, along with his partners, created an invaluable legacy for future generations.

## **From the Pointe à Callière site to Île Notre-Dame**

Did you know that there is even a direct connection between Pointe-à-Callière and the beach named for Doré at Jean Drapeau park? At the time, once the archaeological sites had been excavated, they were entirely covered with compacted sand to protect them during construction. Once the Museum was built on top of the remains, the archaeologists took up their trowels, whisks and other tools and resumed their work, once again uncovering the remains protected by the sand. All that sand was collected and removed from the Museum, then trucked to Île Notre-Dame, where it was used to create the "plage Doré." A great example of reuse and recycling!

## **A major legacy for the future**

Pointe-à-Callière, a gift to Montrealers, Quebeckers and all Canadians, continues to evolve and attract interest from visitors from near and far, offering them a unique and unforgettable chance to visit Montréal's birthplace, the very spot where it all began for our city.

When Mr. Doré died on June 15 of this year, there was much talk in the media about his role in creating the Montréal Museum of Archaeology and History. Francine Lelièvre, Pointe-à-Callière's Executive Director, has publicly expressed her thanks to Mr. Doré on numerous occasions for his indispensable support, and Pointe-à-Callière is currently preparing to pay him tribute in a way that will ensure that his name and the Museum's remain indelibly linked. ◀



**Few people are aware that the life and work of this imaginative and adventurous woman were intimately bound up with archaeology.**

An exclusive exhibition produced by Pointe-à-Callière, it will feature items from such world-renowned institutions as the British Museum, in London, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in New York, and the Royal Ontario Museum, in Toronto. It will also include some of Christie's own unique and priceless personal effects, still in her family's possession, since the Museum will be working closely with The Christie Archive Trust and the National Trust (Greenway House).

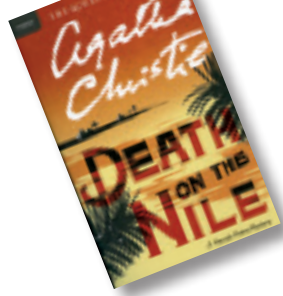
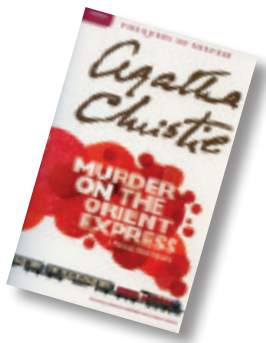
**Queen of Crime**

Agatha Christie's work includes 66 mystery novels, 6 novels, 150 short stories, 18 plays and 2 memoirs. She is the world's most-translated author, far surpassing Jules Verne: her writing has been translated into over 100 languages and sold 2 billion copies – only the Bible is more popular. Dubbed the Queen of Crime, she created such unforgettable characters as detectives Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, and her colossal body of work has inspired numerous films and television series.

**An exceptional woman for her time**

The Museum's goal with this exhibition is to introduce visitors to a new side of Agatha Christie: an imaginative woman with many interests, an avid traveller and explorer, very open to other cultures. The exhibition will be chronological, from Agatha Mary Clarissa Miller's birth in Torquay, Devon, on September 15, 1890, to her death at her home in Wallingford, near Oxford, in January 1976. Christie herself will accompany visitors along the tour route, featuring some of her personal effects and memories very often recounted in her own voice. They will also be invited inside her different homes, including Ashfield, Winterbrook and Greenway House, and aboard the Orient Express, the mythical train that she herself rode and used as the setting for one of her most famous mysteries. The exhibition will end with a highly significant, moving and priceless artifact: the Remington 1937 typewriter that Christie used.





# AGATHA CHRISTIE, MYSTERIES AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Starting in December, Pointe-à-Callière will be presenting *Investigating Agatha Christie*, an original exhibition focusing on an exceptional woman whose unusual life and compelling novels left their mark on international literature. The exhibition will look at Agatha Christie through her work, her imagination and her world, including archaeology. It is one of the major international events planned to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the famous novelist's birth.

## A passion for archaeology

Few people are aware that the life and work of this imaginative and adventurous woman were intimately bound up with archaeology. Between 1930 and 1960, she witnessed some major finds at ancient Mesopotamian sites in Syria and Iraq. Archaeology played an important part in Christie's personal and professional life. She was married to an archaeologist, Sir Max Edgar Lucien Mallowan, who made an important contribution to the prehistoric chronology of Mesopotamia. Various artifacts unearthed during Mesopotamian digs led by her husband and other archaeologists or from places she visited in Egypt and the Middle East will be part of the exhibition. Many other archaeological treasures will also be displayed, from vases to bas-reliefs, figurines, jewellery, bronze plaques, cuneiform tablets, cylinder seals and objects made of ivory, along with manuscripts, photos and films taken by the author while she was on these dig sites.

## Archaeologist vs. detective

Christie drew heavily on archaeology and history as inspiration for many of her famous novels, including *Murder in Mesopotamia*, *They Came to Baghdad*, *Appointment with Death* and *Death Comes as the End*. She also described daily life on dig sites in a fascinating little book entitled *Come, Tell Me How You Live*. She wrote that an archaeologist and a detective have much in common: both must

come to understand an event (recent or in the distant past) using their observation skills and clues that are brought to light, piecing them together and relying on a bit of luck, too! *Investigating Agatha Christie* will be a journey to a time when many of the treasures of mankind's heritage were discovered and an encounter with a passionate woman, a brilliant individual who invented a new literary genre: the historical detective novel.

## Privileged access for Museum Members

Mathew Prichard, Christie's grandson, and Henrietta McCall, Guest Curator and British Museum representative, will be giving an exclusive talk for Members at the exhibition preview on Sunday, December 6, 2015.

## All kinds of activities to complement the exhibition

To round out this unique exhibition, the Museum will also be hosting a wide variety of visitor activities, lectures, games and contests, and producing a publication to be available at the Museum Shop. There will be something for all ages! See the Museum website. The exhibition will be presented from December 8, 2015 to April 17, 2016. ◀

# MONTR HISTORY

## Exploring the Complex's Architectural Heritage

### THE MARINERS' HOUSE ANCHORED IN HISTORY

The Mariners' House rises majestically in the heart of Old Montréal, at the corner of Place d'Youville and Place Royale. The building has served numerous functions since it first went up. Work started on a new incarnation in 2011 as it was harmoniously integrated into the historic district, culminating in 2012 with the opening of a fifth pavilion for Pointe-à-Callière.

#### Built for mariners

Let's go back in time... Starting in 1875 and for close to sixty years, the Montreal Sailors' Institute stood on this corner, welcoming merchant sailors stopping in Montréal. But the port became busier over the years and more and more sailors were arriving, so by 1940 the building had become rather cramped. During the Second World War, the Board of Directors commissioned architect C. R. Titley to draw up plans for a new building to meet the Institute's growing needs. The original building was demolished in 1953 and a new one went up over the next two years.

There is a commemorative plaque dated 1953 on the building, in fact, preserved when the Mariners' House was refurbished. But records show that the Montreal Sailors' Institute was officially inaugurated in 1954 by Lionel Chevrier, federal Transport Minister at the time, and Montréal Mayor Camillien Houde. Hundreds of thousands of sailors passed through the building over the years. They had access to lounges and games rooms, a chapel, a concert hall, left luggage, a post office, currency exchange, a barber shop and doctor's office, not to mention a cafeteria and beds. In 1968, the Montreal Sailors' Institute merged with the Catholic Sailors' Club to create the Mariners House.

#### A new vocation

In 1987, the Œuvres de la Maison du Père purchased the building to serve as a men's shelter, renovating and renaming it the "Résidence du Vieux-Port." The shelter was inaugurated in 1988 by Montréal Cardinal Paul Grégoire and remained in operation until 2004.

#### A new gathering place

In 2004, through the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation, the Museum purchased the building and began using it for school groups. In 2011, the building was included in Pointe-à-Callière's expansion plans, aimed at creating the Montréal Archaeology and History Complex. The building was refurbished by Dan S. Hanganu and Provencher Roy + Associés Architectes, the same consortium responsible in 1992 for the main Museum building (the "Éperon"), and the archaeological crypt beneath Place Royale. The building was now named the "Mariners' House" as a nod to its history.

#### A contemporary project built on traces from the past

The architects decided to make Pointe-à-Callière's fifth building a contemporary project with an urban flavour so that it would blend seamlessly with the Museum's Éperon building and the rest of the neighbourhood. They also chose to showcase the archaeological finds and history in the building's basement, while emphasizing a network of connected spaces making it easier for visitors to move between them. The façade on Place D'Youville incorporates a two-



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# ÉAL



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storey glass curtain wall that floods the building with light and creates a sense of transparency, inviting passers-by to venture indoors and explore the new space. The lobby gives onto a monumental staircase with an original creation by Montréal artist Nicolas Baier, and also features a multimedia installation designed by Moment Factory, a Montréal firm. The window-lined spaces on Floors 3 and 4 offer superb views of the Old Port, the St. Lawrence River and Old Montréal.

**Architecture that combines the seafaring past with the present**

The Mariners' House is strategically located along the visitor tour route through the Museum, set between two public squares that have witnessed so much of the city's history: Place D'Youville and Place Royale. What makes the site so special is that it is set in the heart of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century historic district, at the confluence of the St. Lawrence River, the former Little St. Pierre River and the William collector sewer. The building's architecture and the way it blends in are at once a salute to the building's past and a tribute to its modern face as part of the historic district, just as the Éperon building is now recognized as one of the city's most striking landmarks.

**Accessible architecture for a new, popular gathering place**

The architects designed the new building to be accessible by day, visible by night and pleasant to visit and use year round. This new centre devoted to history and archaeology allows the Museum to continue hosting major exhibitions, lectures and special events, in addition to housing a unique education space, the Archaeo-Adventure workshop, with its simulated archaeological digs.

**Spectacular exhibitions**

Since it opened the new building, the Museum has been able to present a number of major international exhibitions, some of which have beaten attendance records: *The Etruscans – An Ancient Italian Civilization*, *The Greeks – Agamemnon to Alexander the Great* and *The Aztecs, People of the Sun*. ◀

The *Exploring the Complex's Architectural Heritage* series of articles is brought to you by Ivanhoe Cambridge.

**1875-1953**



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**1954-2012**



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# CHARLES PARENT

## CATCHING THE HISTORY BUG AT A VERY YOUNG AGE

Charles Parent, an investment advisor and Vice-President with National Bank Financial, has been associated with Pointe-à-Callière for nearly 20 years. Today he is active with the Museum Foundation, after sitting on the Museum's Board of Trustees for a decade. Normally poised and reserved, he becomes animated when talk turns to history. Join us for a conversation with someone with a passion for the past.

### **Why did you decide to start working with Pointe-à-Callière?**

I'm a history and archaeology buff. The Museum plays an essential role in teaching people about history – not only Montréal's history but also that of the whole world, as it did with the exhibitions on the Greeks and on the Aztecs. We are citizens of the world who live in a global village, and the Museum recognizes that fact whenever it hosts an exhibition on one of the major civilizations, whether it's from Peru or the steppes, for instance.

### **Where did you get your interest in history?**

I grew up in politics and so it was only natural for me to be interested in history. My grandfather, Simon-Napoléon Parent, was a Quebec Premier; he was close to Wilfrid Laurier. My father was a Member of Parliament. After he died, my mother married a senator, Louis Gélinas. I recently dined with the grandson of Louis-Alexandre Taschereau [who succeeded my grandfather as Premier]!

Travel also gave me a taste for history. I was very young when I began travelling. My father sent me to Europe at age 15 with some Americans to reward me for my good grades. Europe certainly sparks curiosity! That trip also made me appreciate Quebec. At 17, I went back to France, mostly the western part of the country, where our ancestors were from. In my early 20s, I visited Spain. The next year, in 1965, I headed off on a world tour.

### **You're a history buff, but you work in finance. Is there a connection?**

Finance is part of the world of politics, which builds on what one did previously. It's all part of the same thing. In the financial world, we're interested in everything that makes people tick!

I studied Canadian and European history at university. After that, I switched to finance and went on to become a stockbroker with Lévesque, Beaubien, which later became National Bank Financial.

I've always been keen on history. I've also been a collector for years. I've amassed a French Revolution collection and another on Canadian history. I've been able to donate my collection of items



© Caroline Bergeron, Pointe-à-Callière

# Passion

relating to Canadian history, mostly books, to Pointe-à-Callière. I also have a collection of books on French painters and another of etchings by Jacques Villon.

## Why is Pointe-à-Callière so important?

The site itself is remarkable – the river, the fortifications, the first Catholic cemetery — and then there are the temporary exhibitions. The Museum’s attendance figures are proof that its mission meets a real need.

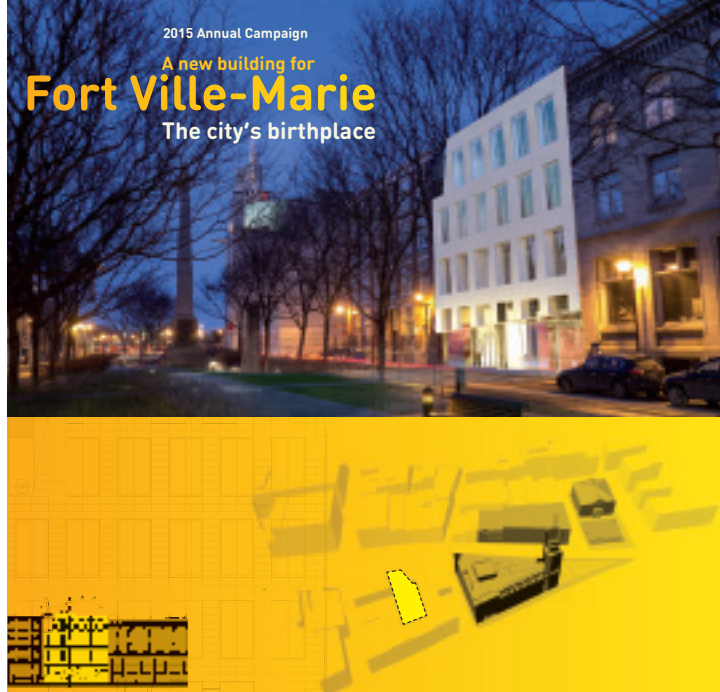
People complain that school curricula don’t place enough emphasis on history, that they don’t talk about it enough, because people don’t know their history. The Museum fills that gap and does so in a way that’s appealing to kids.

The Museum is important for tourists, too, and for people who have come here from elsewhere. I was delighted the other day to see some Mexicans at the Museum, because one of our missions is to integrate people who have immigrated to Quebec from around the globe.

Before producing the exhibition on the Greeks, the Museum had ones on Southern Italy and the Etruscans, generating interest in the Italian community. The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition had a similar result. We owe it all to our Executive Director, Francine Lelièvre, for creating a Museum that adapts to Montréal’s reality as a city of trade, transition and innovation. ◀



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## NEWS FROM THE FOUNDATION

### THE FOUNDATION SETS UP A PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

The Pointe-à-Callière Foundation has created a planned giving program, to guide people wishing to support the Museum while enjoying attractive tax benefits. Would you like to know more about donating securities, personal property, a charitable gift annuity or the proceeds of a life insurance policy? The Foundation can advise you on the different types of donations and help you meet your philanthropic goals. Just call 514 872-8431 or e-mail [fondation@pacmusee.qc.ca](mailto:fondation@pacmusee.qc.ca).

### AN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT FORT VILLE-MARIE

Montréal has an extraordinary advantage shared by very few cities worldwide, in that we know the exact site where it was founded. The Pointe-à-Callière Foundation's 2015 fundraising campaign will help us build a new pavilion on the very site of Fort Ville-Marie, at 214 Place D'Youville, rising above major historical and archaeological remains. It will be an invaluable legacy for current and future generations. This is your chance to make history by contributing to this campaign!

### IBM CANADA JOINS FORCES WITH POINTE-À-CALLIÈRE!

Great news: IBM has made a concrete commitment to the planned Montréal Archaeology and History Complex by offering the Museum custom-designed computer services. The Complex is growing, and in 2017 Pointe-à-Callière will be inaugurating an all-new pavilion: Fort Ville-Marie. IBM's contribution to the Museum's largest development project yet will let us update the entire telecommunications infrastructure connecting the different buildings in the Complex. Huge thanks to our new partner!



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Sun Life Building, Montreal, Que., at night

Edifice Sun-Life, Montréal, Qué.



© Nancy Lessard

## SYLVIE DUFRESNE, PRESIDENT OF THE MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome historian and museologist Sylvie Dufresne as President of the Members of Pointe-à-Callière. She has been a valued contributor to the Museum since it opened, holding different positions including Director of Exhibitions. Ms. Dufresne will represent Members on the Board of the Foundation. The Foundation also thanks Sylvain Clermont, who served as President with enthusiasm for nine years and helped considerably boost the numbers of Members and volunteers.

## A FOND FAREWELL TO CHANTAL VIGNOLA

After spending over 13 years at Pointe-à-Callière in different roles, Chantal Vignola left her position as Assistant Director of the Foundation in June to seek new challenges. Chantal was the driving force behind the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation's very first major fundraising campaign, which was a great success and will guarantee the Museum's future development. All of us at Pointe-à-Callière extend our warmest thanks to Chantal for her excellent work with the Foundation over the years.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### The 2015 Major Donors evening

Long-time partners Pointe-à-Callière and Sun Life Financial are proud to invite the Museum's major donors to a gala evening in the Sun Life Building, an architectural jewel in downtown Montréal. The event will be an opportunity to mark and celebrate the company's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Along with cocktails and a gourmet meal, guests will have the opportunity to visit parts of the building that are normally off-limits, illustrating the rich history of this majestic building. The evening, on October 26, will be hosted by Honorary Chair Robert Dumas, President of Sun Life Financial, Quebec, and a Board member of the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation. Tickets are \$1,000 per person or \$10,000 for a table. Info: jroy@pacmusee.qc.ca or 514 872-8431

### An exclusive day

#### Investigating Agatha Christie

The Foundation is inviting Museum Members to a day of activities revolving around the *Investigating Agatha Christie* exhibition. There will be a preview tour of the exhibition, a detective novel reading corner, English-style tea, lectures, documentaries ... lots to see and do for every taste and all ages! The event is scheduled for Sunday, December 6, when all kinds of activities are planned, starting at 1 p.m. To round the day off in style, enjoy a friendly drink with Executive Director Francine Lelièvre and Sylvie Dufresne, President of the Members of Pointe-à-Callière. The Volunteer of the Year will also be announced at that time. The day is free for Museum Members, and non-members are welcome too, at a cost of \$20. Afterward they will be eligible for a six-month Pointe-à-Callière membership. Museum Members will receive personal invitations with more details.

## Membership comes with many benefits!

### Discounts

Discounts are offered by the following partners:

#### 25%

off admission to the Canadian Centre for Architecture, the McCord Museum, Château Ramezay, Maison Saint-Gabriel, the Musée de la civilisation and off Héritage Montréal Architectours

#### 20%

off the item of the month in the Museum Shop and off a one-year subscription to *Continuité* magazine

#### 15%

off regular tickets for the Orchestre Métropolitain and plays at the Segal Centre (except for *BOOM* by Rick Miller)

#### 10%

at the Museum Shop, the Arrivage restaurant, the Bourlingueur restaurant and Fauchois Fleurs florist and off a one-year family membership in the Cercles des Jeunes Naturalistes.

### And there's more!

Free admission to the Museum and its exhibitions at all times

Invitations to temporary exhibition openings

A subscription to *Cité*, the Foundation magazine

Exclusive activities for Members

Fast pass ticket counter

Access to the Members' Lounge on Floor 3 of the Mariners' House,

from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday to Friday.

Come see us next time you're at the Museum!

**514 872-4643**



# PARTNERS AND SPONSORS



## GénérationCité turns one year old!

**1** Since its launch in June 2014, the group of young philanthropists known as GénérationCité has organized a host of different and original activities all year round. On June 11, they invited guests to a party from 6 to 9 p.m. "under the Aztec sun." The festivities included creative cocktails by Nectar & Mixologie, authentic Mexican hors d'œuvres by Maria Bonita and Tortilleria Maya, sunny music by Canicule Tropicale and a tour of *The Aztecs, People of the Sun* with the Museum's enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides. Over 130 people attended this event, marking GénérationCité's first birthday. It was a memorable evening! Here the members of the GénérationCité committee can be seen on the magnificent Montréal 360° Space terrace, where music was provided by the great Canicule Tropicale DJs!

## The Aztecs, People of the Sun

**2** Marie-Josée Robitaille, Development Co-ordinator at Pointe-à-Callière, is seen here with various partners of the exhibition, which will continue until October 25, 2015: Manuel Montelongo, Director of the Mexico Tourism Promotion Board, and his two colleagues, Fernanda Rosas and Thalia de Anda, along with Ivan Vukov of Aeroméxico, the airline that helped bring the items and escorts from Mexico City. Our sincere thanks to these essential partners!

## Thanks to our volunteers!

**3** A huge thank you to all our volunteers for their ongoing involvement in all the Museum's activities. Your input, day after day, makes a vital contribution to the success of our events and Pointe-à-Callière's renown and reputation.

### FOUNDATION

**Mailings:** Benoît Carrier, Annie Evrard, Martin Gagnon, Yvonne Laurent, Nicole Leroux, Nina Marchand, Rita Pinsonneault, Aline Roby, Hélène Rowe, Viviane Segers

**Recruitment table:** Marie-Andrée Bérubé, Colette Duhamel, Serge Marcoux, Maurice Plante, Aline Roby, Viviane Segers, Grégory Taillefer

**Benefit evenings:** Emily Bolduc, Émeline Dalmaz, Alexandre Gauthier, Catherine Paulin, Jolyane Saule, Javiera Paz Segovia Caroca

### VISITOR SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Mailings:** Sylvie Daneau, Colette Duhamel, Carol Poulin, Aline Roby, Marie-Lucie Vendryes

### Montréal Museums Day:

Maurice Plante, Julie Plante, Aline Roby, Grégory Taillefer, Suzanne Verdon

### CULTURAL EVENTS

**Port Symphonies:** Denise Cayer, Nina Marchand, Maurice Plante, Julie Plante, Aline Roby, Grégory Taillefer, Viviane Segers, Suzanne Verdon

### PUBLIC MARKET

Marie-Andrée Bérubé, Diane Blanchette, Valérie Boucher-Rojo, Sarah Brassens-Perez, Benoît Carrier, Émeline Dalmaz, Sylvie Daneau, Paul Décarie, Suzanne Deslauriers, Colette Duhamel, Annie Evrard, Martin Gagnon, Gaétane Gauron, Alexandre Gauthier, Ann Genest, Pierre Lampron, Maureen Latour, Yvonne Laurent, France Lépine, Diane Melanson, Aline Mueller, Julie Plante, Maurice Plante, Denyse Payette, Perrine Poulain, Pauline Randonneix, Aline Roby, Viviane Segers, Grégory Taillefer, Danielle Tremblay, Gabrielle Vaillancourt, Suzanne Verdon

**We are especially grateful to** Maiwenn Le Gall, intern with the Pointe-à-Callière Foundation.

**Cité**

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**THE AZTECS, PEOPLE OF THE SUN**

*The Aztecs, People of the Sun* was produced by Pointe-à-Callière in collaboration with the Mexican National Council for Culture and the Arts – the National Institute of Anthropology and History.

**Partners and sponsors**

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STM  
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Mexico Tourism Promotion Board in Montréal  
Ulysses Travel Guides  
*La Presse*

**SNOW**

*Snow* is a travelling exhibition produced by the Canadian Museum of History, in partnership with the J. Armand Bombardier Museum, and adapted by Pointe-à-Callière. The Museum thanks *La Presse*, which helped promote the exhibition.

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