

NEWS & ANALYSIS

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

PODIATRIST

You don't have to put up with foot pain any longer!

Dr. George Bochi, Podiatrist

- Ingrown Toenails
- Flat Feet
- Corns & Calluses
- Heel & Arch Pain
- Plantar Warts
- Bunions & Hammer Toes

NEW LOCATION!

1826 Sherbrooke St. W.
(1st Floor)
514-931-6111



8415 St-Denis, Suite 202
514-381-1931



WIGS



Créations Classiques WIGS

- Over 20 Years of Professional Consulting
- Affordable Prices
- Specializing in Home Service

Helen and Marlene Nagy 514-485-4415

To advertise in this section call
514-484-1107

CSL water management debated

By Joel Goldenberg
The Suburban

Côte St. Luc council recently had a preliminary debate as to whether Dessau should continue managing the city's water, or if the city should handle water maintenance and other functions itself.

This took place during a vote on whether to choose a selection committee for a future tender on the matter.

Councillor Dida Berku pointed out that Côte St. Luc took responsibility for its water when demerger took place in 2006. Before that, Montreal handled the city's water.

"I think we were very satisfied with Dessau in the first five years of the contract, and with Mayor Anthony Housefather and [former mayor] Robert Libman, I was quite intimately involved in developing this contract and the whole concept of outsourcing," Berku said. "My understanding was, eventually, we would take this work in house. The more we invested in the infrastructure, the less it would cost. The more we would repair infrastructure, which we have been doing for the past six years, the less we would

have to do."

Berku said she has pushed for a study for the past year on Côte St. Luc doing the maintenance and emergency repairs itself. She added that Westmount "cut out the middleman."

"I don't have an issue with the work Dessau does, they do fantastic work," the councillor added. "But it costs us \$1.6 million every year. It's time we take it in house. It's coming from council that 'we're not ready,' 'we don't have the manpower or the equipment,' 'we don't have the expertise.' As the chairman of finance, if we can save a half a million dollars a year that would be my preferred option."

Councillor Ruth Kovac disagreed.

"I wouldn't so easily dismiss the fact we don't have the expertise," Kovac said. "We don't have the expertise. We would have to train staff... we don't have the equipment. We would have to have a financial outlay to have the equipment to do the servicing. The level of service we have now is that within half an hour of a water main break, you do have people on the spot." The councillor added that residents would likely not get the same level of service if the

work is all done by Côte St. Luc.

Councillor Steven Erdelyi agreed, urging an open mind and wanting to wait for reports before debating the issue.

Mayor Anthony Housefather said the prospect of doing the work in house was previously considered last year.

"There were good arguments back and forth, but at the end of the day, Councillor Berku would agree that at that time, we were not prepared to do the work in house for a variety of reasons," he explained. "That's why we went into a short term contract this time with negotiated prices that were better than what was offered, to better ascertain what the right decision for the city was."

Housefather agreed that council should keep an open mind.

"Both options are possible and feasible," he added. "Just as we were innovative and took garbage services in house in 2007 and 2008, we may well do the same. But it does not harm us to go to tender and see what pricing we would get from a third party."

Nevertheless, Berku voted against choosing the selection committee. ■

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Le Groupe Maurice, inspired by retirees



20 • THE SUBURBAN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2012

Luc Maurice has broad shoulders, a solid handshake – and from the top of his six-foot frame, he radiates simple humanity. In 1998, this kind-hearted gentleman decided to found the group that now bears his name. Since then, he has been designing, developing and managing state-of-the-art residential complexes for retirees seeking independence and comfort in a secure environment.

"I refuse to build residences that don't portray a distinct personality", says Luc Maurice, president of Le Groupe Maurice.

Le Groupe Maurice comprises 19 unique residential complexes, including 4 currently under construction.

The group manages over 5000 residential units and its expansion is far from completed. The president's right arm – or rather "arms", for there are many – work in a rapidly evolving field in which they've become such experts that they are looked upon as paragons.

Embracing creativity, innovating constantly, fostering teamwork, at every level. These are the set of values that empower and motivate Le Groupe Maurice employees on a daily basis. Everyone unites to create a dynamic milieu that promotes health, freedom, respect, dignity, discretion, vigour and comfort for all our well deserving retirees.

Lachine will soon welcome Le Savignon, Le Groupe Maurice's 19th residential complex dedicated to retirees. With more than 300 units, including 250 apartments and 60 condos, this important project will offer retirees a wide range of services in a truly serene environment. Located on the corner of 32nd Avenue and Victoria Street, the complex will also house businesses accessible to the general public...yet another convenient advantage for the future residents.

www.legroupe Maurice.com

For more information, see ad on page 5.