

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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ABOUT US

The Association was founded in November 1962, shortly after Jamaica's Independence in August 1962. Our seal of Incorporation was granted in 1970. Since its inception, the Association has grown strong in attracting members.

It is recognized as the official organization representing Jamaicans in Montreal at Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels. We have accompanied delegations and presented briefs to all levels of government. Given our commitment to community development, the Jamaica Association developed our Mission Statement as follows:

"To assist in improving and enhancing the quality of life for the Jamaican Community"

In fulfilling this Mission, the Association manages its operations to ensure the development of the community through economical, educational, cultural and social activities.

Theme for 2023: **PROSPERITY**



Mark Henry, President
Jamaica Association of Montreal

Members and Friends of the Jamaica Association,

As we approach the end of this quarter, I take the opportunity to thank our incredible Board of Directors, our members & staff, friends, partners and well-wishers for their contributions and participation in the continued growth and successes of our organization.

In this past quarter, we held successful celebrations including our signature Dutch Pot Brunch (theme: Presidential Brunch), Games Nights, and our annual cultural reggae show entitled "Tribute to Reggae Greats". I am also extremely pleased with the engagement of our partners in the Caribbean Coalition Network of Montreal (CCNM) as we

continue to build unify the connections amongst Caribbean cultural groups.

We are saddened, by the lost of an incredible community servant and friend to the Jamaica Association of Montreal, **Mr. Egbert Gaye**. He was more than just the Editor of the Community Contact, to us, he was a beacon of strength and unity in our community. I take this time to send condolences and to wish his family encouraged strength and endurance through this very difficult time. Our Association extends our hands of support as needed.

Finally, as we embark upon our last fiscal quarter (July to September), we promise you that this summer will once again feature our **St Jean Baptiste Barbeque event** on June 24th and, of course, our signature **Jamaica Day event** on July 22nd at Martin Luther King Park (Kent Park) among other events. We hope that you come out and celebrate with us.

Wishing you the very best of the summer, as you take some well-deserved vacation to rest and spend precious time with your family.

Matthew 11:28 says, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"

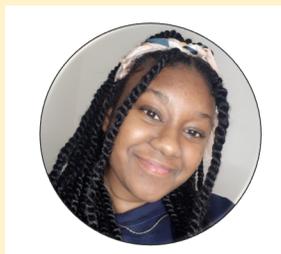
IANNA MILLER

Coordinator, Au Futur Program

We are announcing our new Coordinator for the Au Futur Program, **Ianna Miller**. Ms. Miller joined the Jamaica Association in April 2023.

The Au Futur Program is for single women between the ages of 15 to 35 who have at least one child between the ages of 0 to 5 years. This is a reinsertion program in partnership with Maison d'Haiti.

Ms. Miller can be reached at **438-499-8229** * aufuturprogram@gmail.com



WE ARE STILL HIRING

Coordinator, Footsteps Program

We are still in search of a qualified individual to work in our Footsteps Program.

The Footsteps Program is for children between the ages of 0 to 5 years and 6 to 12 years.

This program offers fun and educational online sessions on Saturdays from 1 pm to 3 pm. Additionally, on every second Monday (observing holidays) with the Collective Kitchen is where children and parents cook together. Meal selections are from around the world!

Resumes and cover letters are to be sent to HR:

jamhumanresources1962@gmail.com

For more info contact **Diane Boyd** at 514-737-8229

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 4065 Jean Talon W., Montreal, Quebec, H4P 1W6 * **Phone:** (514) 737-8229

Email: info@jam-montreal.com * **Website:** <http://jam-montreal.com> * **Facebook:** <http://facebook.com/jamaicaassociationmontreal>

Instagram: @jamaicaassociationmontreal * **YouTube:** Jamaica Association of Montreal

FEATURE: REMEMBERING EGBERT GAYE

On Monday, June 5, 2023, Montrealers awoke to the sad news; Egbert Gaye had passed the night before. That news went fast and hit hard, in fact, it was gutting for many, particularly those in Montreal's English speaking Black Caribbean Community.

Today, and for many days, months and years ahead, we will mourn his absence from our scene. He and his trusty camera, booming laughter, stories and incredible, ever present, wit will be missing, but no doubt will remain and live on in our hearts and memories: collective and individual.

This is a sad time. Mr. Gaye was a man with presence. He had the ability, fortitude to challenge and question the status quo. He championed equality and inclusion particularly for Black people. He left his mark here in Montreal, across Canada and many other places unknown to most.

The members and board of the Jamaica Association of Montreal send condolences to his family, his colleagues, his team at Community Contact, and his friends. We as a community cherished him in so many ways and he was our rock through the Community Contact.

Mr. Gaye, you are missed, we send you love and prayers as your spirit moves into the next stages. We want you to know you are loved to no end, like the universe has no end. You taught us valuable lessons, ones that we will keep and build upon to create better communities here in Montreal and wherever we go in this lifetime.

It is my belief that one of the legacies that Mr. Gaye has left us with is speaking up and out for our community in Montreal. He has clearly demonstrated that Black people's voices matter and that we must use them to amplify our culture, our concerns and our community.

Everyone pondered what will happen to the paper he founded over 30 years ago. It is my view that we must continue to support Community Contact for the current and future administrators. We can do so now with contributions to keep the paper going.

Donate regularly to the paper at mtlcommunitycontact.com as often and with as much or as little as you can. Every dollar helps this vibrant and audacious community paper to thrive and flourish.

Mark Henry,
President



Mr. Egbert Gaye, former Editor in Chief, Community Contact

REST IN PEACE, REST IN POWER

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LIFE MOMENTS

As the saying goes "Life Happens". We at the Association are interested in knowing more about you, so if you are celebrating **your birthday**, let us know. If you are celebrating the **birthday of a dear loved one**, let us know and with your permission, we will share the news with our members.

We also want to know about the big moments your life: **births, graduations, wedding & work anniversaries, celebrations of life** are all included.

We also understand that when there is **illness**, it is not always public knowledge, but we want you to know that we are interested to know so that we can send support and encouragement.

We look forward to hearing from you. **438-507-9258**

LIFE'S BIG MOMENTS

BUYING LOCAL JAMAICA ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS OWNERS & PROFESSIONALS (JABOP)

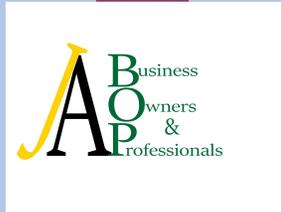
At the Association, our aim is also to support and promote business owners in the community.

The list of professionals is found on our website. If you have suggestions or would like to be added, reach out to Sharon Nelson at

jam.jabop@gmail.com

for more information or to be considered to be added to our list of entrepreneurs.

<https://jam-montreal.com/jam-business-%26-profession-1>



COOL RUNNINGS CELEBRATES ITS 1ST YEAR ON MAY 28TH, 2023

Thank you to our loyal members, clients and new clients on **Uber** and **Doordash** who have supported us throughout this **1st year**. We could not have done it without you – looking forward to continuing to grow with you all !

A big thank you to our chef, **Winston Richards (Pick)**, who has been with us since the start ! Kudos to you and your openness to trying new recipes and approaches in the restaurant.

514-737-8229



MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

DUES & PAYMENT SCHEDULE**

- 1. Family **\$50** (2 children (under 17 yrs. old) & 2 adults),
- 2. Adult **\$30** (18 - 59 yrs.)
- 3. Students **\$10** (12 - 17 yrs.)
- & 4. Seniors **\$10** (60+ yrs.)

Payment can be done by cheque or e-transfer to info@jam-montreal.com

Pay your Membership Dues

Last day for payment of dues for the 2022-23 year is **September 30, 2023**.

Qualified candidates will be eligible to be nominated to the board and all candidates will be able to vote at the AGM on December 9th, 2023.

Join us – check out our [Membership Page](#)

Thank you [Kane & Fetterly](#) for your continued support for all that you do for us and our membership. Such as making our membership cards and more. Our new agreement will be very beneficial too !

CONTACTS on COMMITTEES

- 1 **Ad Hoc Committee:** Members, as needed to help with events
- 2 **Building Fund Committee:** Mark Henry, Gloria Diggs, Claudette Scott, Melrose Christopher
- 3 **Events Committee:** Linkcon Demetrius, Diane Boyd, Roger Hylton, Molly Young
- 4 **Finance Committee:** Mark Henry, Ingrid Barrett, Sharon Nelson, Keisha Wilson
- 5 **Health & Safety:** Althea Robinson, Sophia Heath, Rosemarie Lewis
- 6 **Human Resources:** Omar Ramus, (jamhumanresources1962@gmail.com), Althea Robinson
- 7 **Jamaica Association Business Owners & Professionals (JABOP):** Sharon Nelson, Chair
- 8 **Membership Committee:** Sharon Nelson, Sophia Heath (co- Chair), Rosemarie Lewis, Marlene Roper & Keisha Wilson
- 9 **Nominations & Elections Committee:** Molly Young, Chair
- 10 **Senior Committee:** Chris Thompson, (jamsenior1962@gmail.com)
- 11 **Social Committee:** Alexander Townsend, Uton Lynch, Clyde Williams, DJs, Lisa Morris, Reta Campbell, Clyde Williams, Keisha Wilson, Conroy Barnes, Karima Raiss, Jody-Ann Allen
- 12 **Women's Auxiliary (WA):** Sharon Nelson, Chair & 20 women in the Association
- 13 **Youth Committee:** Shari Waldrich (jamyouthrep@gmail.com), Jade Parkinson-Gayle

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 Instagram: [@jamaicaassociationmontreal](https://www.instagram.com/jamaicaassociationmontreal) * Youtube: Jamaica Association of Montreal

DONATE

[Building Fund](#)
or
[Food Bank](#)



[Check out our videos !](#)

OUR 6 PROGRAMS

- Au Futur Program (Young Mothers)**
A program for young single Black Mothers. Cost: **FREE. (Federally Funded by Health Canada)** Contact: **Au Futur Program**, Program Coordinator Cell: **438-499-8229**
- Footsteps Program**
A program for children primarily between the ages of 0 to 5 years and 6 to 12 years. We hold Saturday sessions online and the Collective Kitchen every 2nd Monday with Maison Mosaik, Mlnbiblioplus (Fraser Hickson Library). Contact **514-737-8229**
jamfootstepsprogram@gmail.com, 514-737-8229
- Adult Basic Education (ABE) Programs**
A series of classes for adults offered during fall, winter and spring. Contact **Kim Payton**, Coordinator of Programs and Services jamprogramservices@jam-montreal.com to register for classes, Cost \$15
- Brilliant Minds Tutoring & Vocational Training** for elementary, high school and adult learners. This free service, in collaboration with United for Literacy, provides help with schoolwork and career planning. Online sessions. There is also a second ast for paid tutoring at \$25 for one to one private Math tutoring. Contact **Kim Payton**
- Food Bank** in collaboration with Moisson Montréal. The Food Bank is open **Thursdays (10 am to 5 pm) & Fridays (2 pm to 5 pm)**. Cost: **\$5.00** per person, standard fee.
- Tax Preparation**
The **Tax Clinic** is held in collaboration with Canada Revenue Agency and Revenu Québec is for low to modest income earners. The Tax Clinic runs from mid-March and until mid-May.
Contact: jamgovernmentsservices@gmail.com

ONGOING EVENTS

- Overproof Fridays** every Friday night
- Versatile Saturdays** most Saturdays, when there is no special event or hall rental – check our FB site
- Food Bank** Thurs. (10 am – 5 pm) & Fri. (2 pm to 5 pm), \$5.00
- Wellness Thursdays with Audley Coley** Thursdays at the Association or call Audley Coley at 514-451-9077

PAST EVENTS: APRIL & MAY

- Bamboo Lounge** Saturdays, April 8 & May 13
- Games Nights** Fridays, April 21 & May 19
- Cabane a Sucre** Saturdays, April 22 & April 29
- Collective Kitchen** Mondays, April 24, May 8, May 29
- Mother's Day Celebration** Sunday, May 14, 3 pm, \$25,
- Mother's Day Trip to Magog and Bleu Lavande**, Sunday, May, 21, 2023 (\$65 members/\$70 non-members)
- CPR demonstration and Yoga Laughter** May 31, 6:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS: JUNE

- Bamboo Lounge** Sat. June 3, 4 pm – 8 pm
- Tribute to the Greats Reggae Show** Sat. June 3, 9 pm (\$20/\$25)
- Members' Meeting** Sat. June 17, 2023, 7 pm (hybrid)
- Father's Day Celebration** Sun., June 18, 3 pm, \$25
- Games Night** Fri., June 30, 9 pm

SIMPLE CHIC BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

The Members of the Social Committee have an offering for you! If you want to celebrate your birthday at the Association on a Friday as part of Overproof Friday, you certainly can. All you need to do is **bring your sweet table but no cooked food** as Ian "Warrior" Nelson is already in the restaurant.

This is a win-win for you and us, where patrons get the opportunity to come in without a hall booking and for us where we nonetheless get to host your celebration! ☺



OUR 6 SERVICES

Office Hours: Mon – Fri.: 10 am to 6 pm * (514) 737-8229

- Documents** – Passports, Permanent Resident Card, Commissioner of Oaths (forms can be mailed to you)
- Space rental** for your small gatherings. Special events (birthdays, private parties, baby showers, shows, etc... - includes tables & chairs (table & chair coverings extra)).
- Community Service Program** – for persons needing to complete mandated community hours.
- Licensed Restaurant** – Cool Runnings – Open Tuesdays to Saturday as of 12 pm every day. See our [menu and find out more](#)
- Fully Licensed Bar** – Open Fridays and Saturdays as of 8 pm. On Saturdays, the Noel Alexander Banquet Hall is also available for rental for special events.

OVERPROOF FRIDAYS AND LOUNGE SATURDAYS HOURS	
Fridays	9 pm to 3 am: Last call 2:15 am, Bar closes at 2:45 am
Saturdays	9 pm to 3 am: Last call 2:15 am, Bar closes at 2:45 am

- A fun & secure place to come together** to enjoy each other's company and friendships.

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

 Diane Boyd, Executive Assistant to the President / Managing Director	 Kim Payton, Coordinator, Programs and Services
 Ianna Miller, Coordinator, Au Futur	Coordinator, Footsteps WE ARE STILL HIRING Send resume to jamhumanresources1962@gmail.com
Food Bank: Hazel Williams, Kenneth Warren, Shilove Lauwers, Volunteers: Agnes Faustin, Christopher Thompson, Gina Simmons, Yvette Bailey, Del Smith, Melba Lawrence	Bar staff: Reta Campbell, Lisa Morris, Karima Raiss

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Sharon Nelson, Editor, next issue July 2023 – Focus: Health & Wellness