

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Theme for 2024: **JUST DO IT**

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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. 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.



Mark Henry, President  
Jamaica Association of Montreal

Members and Friends of the Jamaica Association,

On behalf of myself and our Board of Directors, I would like to wish our members, staff, friends, collaborators, partners and supporters, a very happy, prosperous and safe 2024.

This year's overarching theme is **Just do it**. As we begin our calendar year and second quarter of our fiscal year, the expectation is that we continue to grow in numbers, partnerships and in our passion to serve. On Sunday, January 21, we held our yearly Strategic Meeting which brought together Board Members, Auxiliary Board Members and employee. There were two additions to the Auxiliary Board which are **Omaire Morgan** with the Youth and IT portfolio and **Sophia Heath**, with the Membership portfolio.

It is my hope that as we continue to work to build and grow our organization, as we adapt to new challenges and opportunities. We also push forward towards obtaining charitable status for the Jamaica Association to be able to write tax receipts and to host events towards funds for the centre and the building. that are and owning a building in which our many activities can unfold in comfort, peace and harmony. More information will be forthcoming on the **Jamaica Association Building Fund Campaign** as well as a townhall discussion on what our members thoughts and ideas are for that important community space.

I am particularly pleased as we continue with the efforts of our [Jamaica Association Arts Centre](#) (JAM Arts Centre) led by our Executive Director **Patricia Dillon-Moore**. During Black History Month, we are looking forward to the exhibitions and activities of the show which encompasses Marcus Garvey as well as Black male artists entitled "When Big Man Talk". I hope that many among you will be able to attend and be part of what is touted to be an experiential show beyond compare. A big Thank You also goes to our Creative Team comprised of **Leona Carty** and **Marie Beliard**.

I am calling on our members and friends to donate in time, energy, positive thoughts, actions and deeds as well monetarily to allow us to achieve our goals. We earnestly strive to ensure financial stability and prosperity year over year. I take the opportunity to wish everyone the best and to remind you of my open-door policy.

*"Respect has nothing to do with who is right and who is wrong. It has to do with allowing space for someone else's opinion"- Jackie Vramont*



The newly elected board – election night **December 9, 2023**.  
(l to r): **Uton Lynch**, Sharon Nelson, **Roger Hylton**, Keisha Wilson, **Mark Henry**, Ingrid Barrett, **Althea Robinson**, & **Clyde Williams**

Those whose names are highlighted were elected on this night for respective one-year or two-year terms respectfully.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Email: [info@jam-montreal.com](mailto:info@jam-montreal.com) \* Website: <http://jam-montreal.com> \* Facebook: <http://facebook.com/jamaicaassociationmontreal>

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

## FEATURE: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

 <p><b>MARK HENRY</b> President <a href="mailto:mhenry@jam-montreal.com">mhenry@jam-montreal.com</a> * (514)238-2659</p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oversees organizational operations &amp; functional activities</li> <li>2. Ensures the financial viability of the Association</li> <li>3. Outreach to organizations &amp; government</li> </ol>	 <p><b>SHARON NELSON</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President <a href="mailto:sharon.nelson@jam-montreal.com">sharon.nelson@jam-montreal.com</a> * (438)507-9258</p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chair, Women's Auxiliary</li> <li>2. Director, Programs and Services</li> <li>3. Media Relations</li> <li>4. "Cool Runnings" Restaurant Manager</li> </ol>
 <p><b>ALEXANDER TOWNSEND</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chair, Social Committee</li> <li>2. Director, Operations</li> </ol>	 <p><b>KEISHA WILSON</b> Treasurer <a href="mailto:jamtreasurer@outlook.com">jamtreasurer@outlook.com</a> (514) 737-8229</p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensures Board &amp; membership receives regular financial statements</li> <li>2. Works in collaboration with the President on the the Association's budget and other financial matters</li> <li>3. Works with the Auditor</li> <li>4. "Negril" Bar Manager</li> </ol>
 <p><b>INGRID BARRETT</b> Secretary &amp; Assistant to the Treasurer <a href="mailto:secretary@jam-montreal.com">secretary@jam-montreal.com</a> * (514)737-8229</p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepares meeting agenda , takes minutes &amp; communicates with the board, members &amp; friends</li> <li>2. Assists the Treasurer</li> </ol>	<p><b>Overview:</b> The Board of Directors is comprised 9 persons: 5 Officers &amp; 4 Directors. In this new election year, the roles have been slightly changed as shown in the new organization chart. Each person has assigned roles.</p> <p><b>Terms:</b> Officers have two-year mandates while Directors have one-year mandates.</p> <p><b>Reporting:</b> The Board of Directors are required to report activities at the membership meetings, as applicable.</p>	

Auxiliary Board,

### DIRECTORS

 <p><b>ROGER HYLTON</b></p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oversees Security</li> </ol>	 <p><b>UTON LYNCH</b></p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assistant Security</li> </ol>
 <p><b>CLYDE WILLIAMS</b></p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Manages technical equipment</li> <li>2. Assistant Bar Manager</li> </ol>	 <p><b>ALTHEA ROBINSON</b></p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Director, Health &amp; Safety</li> <li>2. Chair, Human Resources</li> </ol>

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 !

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**FEATURE: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS & REPS. (cont'd)**

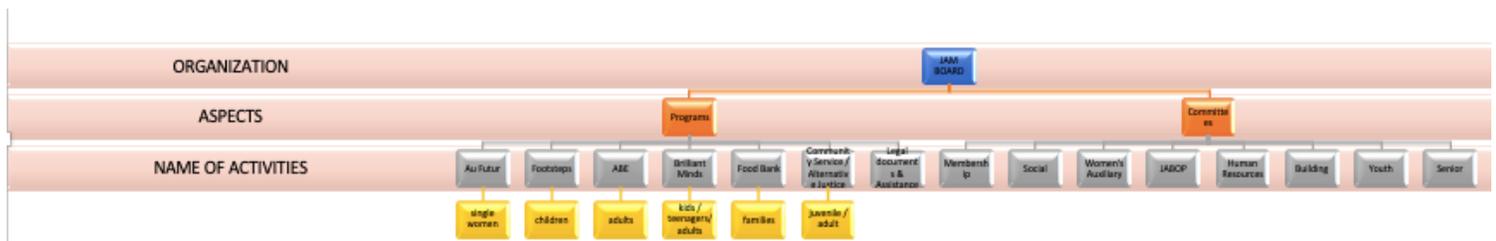
**AUXILIARY BOARD & REPRESENTATIVES**

 <p><b>CONROY BARNES</b> Auxiliary Board, Games &amp; Recreation</p>	 <p><b>PETER BARRETT</b> Auxiliary Board, Delegate</p>	 <p><b>DIANE BOYD</b> Auxiliary Board, Executive Assistant to the President</p>	 <p><b>LINKCON DEMETRIUS</b> Auxiliary Board, Special Events</p>	 <p><b>MOLLY YOUNG</b> Auxiliary Board, Delegate</p>
 <p><b>OMAIRE MORGAN</b> Auxiliary Board, Youth Representative &amp; IT</p>	<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creates events targetting youth</li> <li>2. Takes the time to understand needs and wants of youth</li> <li>3. Engages with organizations that represent youth.</li> </ol>	 <p><b>SOPHIA HEATH</b> Auxiliary Board, Chair, Membership</p>		<p><b>Main Roles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engages with Membership</li> <li>2. Takes the time with committee to understand needs and wants</li> <li>3. Creates events targetting Membership Drives and other such initiatives</li> <li>4. Collects Membership fees and forms.</li> </ol>

**PICTOGRAM OF THE JAMAICA ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES !**

The Jamaica Association is a large community organization comprised of many moving parts and different activities for different populations and age groups. In all these aspects, the Jamaica Association Board has a legal responsibility to oversee these activities and to ensure that they are managed well.

The Association has been historically divided in two parts namely: **Programs & Social Activities**. Take a look at all that our Board, Staff & Volunteers do !



- 1 **Ad Hoc Committee:** Members, as needed for events
- 2 **Building Fund Committee:** Mark Henry, Molly Young, Claudette Scott, Melrose Christopher, Doreen Jones, Peter Barrett
- 3 **Entertainment & Planning Committee:** Linkcon Demetrius
- 4 **Finance Committee:** Mark Henry, Sharon Nelson, Alex Townsend, Keisha Wilson, Ingrid Barrett,
- 5 **Human Resources:** Omar Ramus, ([jamhumanresources1962@gmail.com](mailto:jamhumanresources1962@gmail.com)), Althea Robinson
- 6 **Jamaica Association Business Owners & Professionals (JABOP):** Sharon Nelson
- 7 **Membership Committee:** Sophia Heath (Chair), Sharon Nelson (co-Chair), Rosemarie Lewis, Marlene Roper & Keisha Wilson
- 8 **Nominations & Elections Committee:** Molly Young
- 9 **Senior Committee:** Chris Thompson, ([jamsenior1962@gmail.com](mailto:jamsenior1962@gmail.com)), John Foster
- 10 **Social Committee:** Alexander Townsend, Uton Lynch, Clyde Williams, Lisa Morris, Reta Campbell, Clyde Williams, Keisha Wilson, Conroy Barnes, Karima Raiss, Jody-Ann Allen, Anthony Reid, Eric Smith, Olivia, Terence Wright, Royan White
- 11 **Women's Auxiliary (WA):** Sharon Nelson & 20 women in the Association
- 12 **Youth Committee:** Omaire Morgan ([jamyouthrep@gmail.com](mailto:jamyouthrep@gmail.com))
- 13 **Hospitality Committee:** Althea Robinson, Peter Barrett, Sophia Heath, Ingrid Barrett

**COMMITTEES**

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**instagram:** @jamaicaassociationmontreal \* **Youtube:** Jamaica Association of Montreal

## OUR 6 PROGRAMS

- Au Futur Program (Young Mothers)**  
\*Cost: **FREE. (Federally Funded by Health Canada)** Contact: **Au Futur Program**, Program Coordinator Cell: **438-499-8229**
- Footsteps Program**  
Contact [jamfootstepsprogram@gmail.com](mailto:jamfootstepsprogram@gmail.com)
- Adult Basic Education (ABE) Programs**  
Contact **Kim Payton**, Coordinator of Programs and Services [jamprogramservices@jam-montreal.com](mailto:jamprogramservices@jam-montreal.com) to register for classes, Cost \$15
- Brilliant Minds Tutoring & Vocational Training** for elementary, high school and adult learners. This service provides help with schoolwork and career planning. Online sessions. 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. Our qualified tax volunteers are students in the graduate CPA Program at the John Molson School of Business. The Tax Clinic will be open as of mid-March and will run until the end of May 2024. Contact: [jamgovernmentservices@gmail.com](mailto:jamgovernmentservices@gmail.com)

Call **514-737-8229** for more info or visit: [jam-montreal.com](http://jam-montreal.com)

## STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

### A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR TEAM FOR THEIR DEDICATION

 <b>Diane Boyd</b> , Executive Assistant to the President / Managing Director / Compliance	 <b>Kim Payton</b> , Coordinator, Programs and Services
<b>Au Futur Program:</b> Diane Boyd	 <b>Markayla Black-Johnson</b> Coordinator, Footsteps Program
<b>Food Bank:</b> Hazel Williams, Kenneth Warren, Kerry-Ann Simpson, <b>Volunteers:</b> Agnes Faustin, Christopher Thomas	<b>Bar staff:</b> Reta Campbell, Lisa Morris, Karima Raiss

## CONTRIBUTE



**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR CHANNEL**

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

## WEEKLY, FEBRUARY & MARCH EVENTS

- Overproof Fridays** every Friday night
- Versatile Saturdays** most Saturdays, when there is no special event or hall rental – check our website and / or FB site
- Banking with JN through the Association** weekly call 514-737-82
- Food Bank** Thurs. (10 am – 5 pm) & Fri. (2 pm to 5 pm ), \$5.00
- Games Night** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in each month, 9 pm
- Online discussions with Karen Ottar, Realtor** January 13 and March 9
- When Big Man Talk – JAM Arts Centre** January 31 – February 14
- Montreal Black History Expo** with StarCan & Union United Church Sat., February 10, 3 pm
- Tribute to the Great Reggae Show** Sat., February 10, 9 pm
- The Power HUB Women's Heart Health** with Dr. Judy Luu, Sun. Feb. 11, 1 pm
- Super Bowl LVII (Eagles vs. Chiefs)** Sun. Feb. 11, 4 pm
- Tribut Show** with Berenice St. Martin (Laval) Sun. Feb. 18, 2 pm
- JABOP business meeting meeting with RBC** Thurs. Feb. 21, 6 pm
- Together Against Violence Basketball event with CRARR** Feb. 24 & 25
- Member's Meetings** Sat., Feb. 3 & Mar. 16, 7 pm (hybrid format, zoom code 4555758958)
- We are One – Black History event, Wisdom & Life**, Mar 3, 6 pm
- St. Patrick's Day Parade participation** Sun., Mar 17, 11 am  
Join us for this year's 99<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day Parade.
- ABE Program Spring session** April – June 2024  
Contact **Kim Payton (no winter classes)**



## 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, 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 kitchen. 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	<b>9 pm to 3 am:</b> Last call 2:15 am, Bar closes at 2:45 am
Saturdays	<b>9 pm to 3 am:</b> 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.

Sharon Nelson, Editor, next issue April 2024

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