

# I M P U L S E

LE BULLETIN D'INFORMATION DE L'ASSOCIATION MONTRÉLAISE DE SCIENCE-FICTION ET DE FANTASTIQUE, L'AMonSFF

August / Août 2023 (Vol. 26, No./N° 1)

## NEXT CLUB MEETING: SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023!

1:00PM-5:00PM

Royal Canadian Legion,  
Lachine Branch

3015 Rue Henri-Dunant,  
Lachine, Quebec

Between Provost and Saint-Antoine,  
just east of 32nd Avenue

### AGENDA:

- Genuine Humour from Genuine Scientists
- Discussion of Madeleine L'Engle's YA novel *A Wrinkle in Time* and more...

We hope to live-stream this meeting on ZOOM for the benefit of our loyal, out-of-town e-meeting regulars, so this effort will constitute something of a trial run. Please exercise patience as we tinker with the on-site technology at our disposal day-of!

## POSTAL ADDRESS UPDATE

### IMPORTANT! Please Take Note:

A reminder that the club's address has changed since the end of the pandemic; our current postal mailing address is:

**MonSFFA, c/o  
29 Harold  
Kirkland, Québec, Canada  
H9J 1R7**

Henceforth, please mail all payments of membership fees and other correspondence to this new address.

## CLUB RETURNS TO REGULAR, IN-PERSON MEETING SCHEDULE!

As club members know, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the fallout from same, has impeded our ability to hold a club meeting in an actual meeting hall for over three years. We are now pleased to announce that MonSFFA will return to a regular, in-person meeting schedule beginning with our August 12, 2023 get-together!



Main Entrance, Lachine Legion Hall (Photo: Joe Aspler)

MonSFFA will hold its first in-person meeting in over three years on Saturday, August 12, from 1:00PM to 5:00PM! The club has secured a booking at the Royal Canadian Legion in Lachine, a venue which we hope to make our new meeting locale.

### GETTING THERE BY PUBLIC TRANSIT!

Easily accessible via public transit, the Lachine Legion is located at 3015 Rue Henri-Dunant, between Provost and St-Antoine, just east of 32nd Avenue (see map, next page).

The 191 bus, among others, stops on 32nd Avenue, less than a 10-minute walk from the Legion. Those travelling from Montreal, for example, can board the 191 at the Lionel Groulx Metro Station; the ride to 32nd Avenue clocks in at about 35 minutes. From neighbourhoods west of Lachine, the 191, as well as the 195, depart from

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR ANNUAL MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP FEES?

After more than three years of disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the suspension of our regular in-person meetings, and of annual fees payments, the club has begun again collecting those annual membership fees. This so as to return to a positive cash flow status, and thus cover the monthly costs of renewed operations.

Standard membership remains only \$25 annually. We offer a family rate of \$40. Add \$10 to either of these to enjoy our premium "Platinum" membership level. Please complete the form below, include payment (cheque or money order made out to "MonSFFA"), and mail to:

**MonSFFA, c/o  
29 Harold  
Kirkland, Québec, Canada  
H9J 1R7**

## MonSFFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print legibly. Cut out form and mail as per directions.

## AMonSFF FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION

Complétez lisiblement. Découpez le coupon et postez tel qu'indiqué.

NAME/NOM: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE/ÂGE: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL./TEL.: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS/ADRESSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
No. & Street/N° et Rue Apt./App. City/Ville

Province Postal Code/Code Postal E-MAIL/COURRIEL: \_\_\_\_\_

INTERESTS/INTERETS: \_\_\_\_\_

Terminus Dorval and take roughly 25 minutes to reach 32nd.

We recommend that transit users consult the STM (<https://www.stm.info/en>) for the bus routes that will most efficiently convey them from their particular neighbourhood to the Lachine Legion and back.

### GETTING THERE BY CAR!

MonSFFen travelling to the Lachine Legion by car may exit from Autoroute 20, whether eastbound or westbound, at 32nd Avenue (Exit 60). Drivers may also access 32nd from Autoroute 13. It's a short few blocks drive south on 32nd to the intersection with Henri-Dunant, just after Provost (see map, right). Turn east onto Henri-Dunant and find the Legion Hall about 150 metres from the intersection on the south side of the street.

The Legion maintains a parking lot adjacent the building; there is no charge to park one's vehicle. Free parking is also available on Henri-Dunant.

### THE MEETING ITSELF

All current and former MonSFFen are invited and encouraged to attend! This gathering will relaunch the club, if you will, taking us back to our roots, and we are looking forward to reconnecting with our membership, face to face, after a lengthy and sometimes isolating pause.

On the agenda is a presentation on humour within the scientific community, talk of recent sci-fi film and television offerings, and a discussion of Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time*, plus a few interesting tidbits.

This will be the first in-person meeting we've held in over three years—and in a new venue, too. No doubt we'll find ourselves a little rusty, and we'll need to get back our sea legs. So please bear with us!

We'll also be testing the local wifi capacity with regard to our live-streaming the meeting on ZOOM for the club's out-of-towners.

### Of Special Note

We advise our membership and any visitors that the Royal Canadian Legion maintains certain traditions, including the doffing of any and all headwear while in the Legion Hall, a sign of respect for the many who have fallen over the decades while serving this country. Obviously, we will respect this tradition.

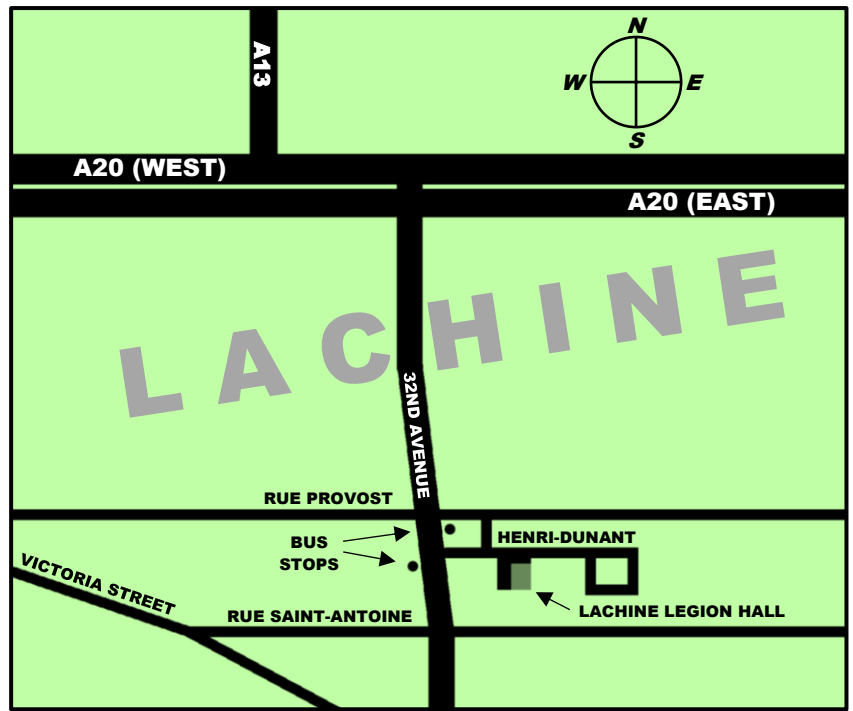
This means that all of us, including costumers, will be required to remove any hats, helmets, etc. while under the Legion's roof.

### Will MonSFFA's e-Meetings on ZOOM Continue?

The short answer is yes. However, the format of our online get-togethers will likely change.

First, a little background:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, MonSFFA was unable to hold regular, live, in-person meetings because authorities had imposed public-health safety measures, including prohibitions on indoor gatherings, large or small.



When it became obvious that the pandemic was going to last much longer than originally anticipated, the club introduced a series of monthly online meetings accessible via MonSFFA's Website. These consisted of fascinating sci-fi particulars, quizzes, games, and written and illustrated presentations on a variety of topics presented over several related posts during the course of an afternoon. Our e-meetings proved popular and we eventually incorporated a ZOOM-chat running in parallel to the posted content.

Many of us were able to enjoy the closest thing to an actual, in-person MonSFFA meeting that was possible under the circumstances. An added bonus was that out-of-town club members were able to participate. But not everyone was down with meetings on ZOOM; some expressed unease or frustration with meeting virtually. Fair enough.

Finally, the pandemic was declared over, but even in the immediate aftermath of the crisis, a general anxiety remained extant as society strived to return to normal, which wasn't so much a return to pre-pandemic times as the introduction of a "new normal."

Some meeting venues were hesitant to reopen too quickly, and we were finding it difficult to secure guaranteed bookings. Others had raised their rates precipitously, or had simply gone under during the pandemic. The club's former meeting locale, for instance, a downtown hotel, no longer rents out any function space whatsoever where once were held not only monthly MonSFFA meetings, but the local sci-fi convention, ConCept, among other such events.

A dearth of available and affordable meeting venues for rent in the downtown area is a problem that has been noted by local newspapers.

And so, we cast our net further out, and in due course found a viable locale in suburban Lachine, one which we hope will bring back to the fold those MonSFFen who, for one reason or another, drifted away during the past three years.

To circle back to the beginning of this item, we are determined to maintain our e-meetings, while recognizing that the formula to which we have become accustomed may have to change.

It is hoped that the club's new venue will be able to accommodate a live-stream of our meetings, and so allow MonSFFen utilizing ZOOM to participate. Club meetings would thus become hybrid affairs, a combination of in-person and virtual. We will begin testing this possibility at the upcoming August 12 meeting. But if the live-stream experiment ultimately proves unworkable, we'll look at a meeting schedule that will include both in-person and, separately, virtual gatherings.

Stay tuned for further developments!

**Visit MonSFFA on the Web / Visitez l'AMonSFF sur internet: [www.MonSFFA.ca](http://www.MonSFFA.ca)**

*Impulse is put together monthly by Keith Braithwaite of behalf of MonSFFA and is available on MonSFFA's Web site courtesy Cathy Palmer-Lister. Contact Keith in regards to this publication by any of the following means: In person at a MonSFFA meeting • E-mail: [keith1958@live.ca](mailto:keith1958@live.ca) • Voice mail: 450-692-8831 • Via the Impulse mailing address: 125 Rue Léonard, Châteauguay, Québec, Canada, J6K 1N9*

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