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HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY

MARCH 17, 2021

The Suburban

QUEBEC'S LARGEST ENGLISH WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Quebec commemorates first anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic

By Joel Goldenberg
The Suburban

A ceremony was held in Quebec City last Thursday to commemorate the first anniversary of COVID-19 being declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization.

A ceremony was also held by the federal government in Ottawa, and several cities released statements encouraging participation in the remembrance.

In Quebec, 10,518 deaths have been attributed by provincial health officials to COVID-19.

During the ceremony in front of the National Assembly, a procession including Premier François Legault and his wife Isabelle Brais, representatives of all provincial parties and members of civil society laid white roses at a wreath, to remember those who have passed away and to pay tribute to front line health workers, as well as other essential workers.

The procession was accompanied by music, including the Montreal Symphony Orchestra led by conductor emeritus Kent Nagano.

"We've been fighting the battle of our lives with COVID-19 for a year together," Legault told the ceremony. "But once Quebecers

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CHELSEY ST-PIERRE/THE SUBURBAN

10,000 march against 'abuse of power'

By Chelsey St-Pierre
The Suburban

Exactly one year since lock-down measures began in Quebec, some 10,000 demonstrators marched in the streets of Montreal last Saturday calling on the Quebec government to end what they called "unnecessary" measures and "abuse of power".

The March began at the intersection of McGill College and Sherbrooke and came

back around to the same spot, near the office of Premier Legault, after a three-hour, 8.5-km trek.

Some protesters even stood on the roof of a tall buildings near the edge, encouraging marchers, over 70 meters below them to carry on.

On the ground, loudspeakers collided as police were announcing COVID-19 safety

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Legault allowing gyms to open in Montreal March 26

By Joel Goldenberg
The Suburban

Provincial Sports minister Isabelle Charest announced that, with restrictions, gyms and indoor sports complexes in red zones — including Montreal— can reopen on March 26.

The other major COVID-related restriction, indoor dining, is still not allowed.

Charest, according to reports, is taking a gradual approach to reducing restrictions. This means, in gyms, training can only be done in pairs or with family members from the same household. Regarding sports, spectators and competitions are not allowed.

In comparison, according to reports, in orange zones, eight people can train together in gyms.

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