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A WEEK OF REFLECTION AND REMEMBRANCE...A14

WEST ISLAND NOVEMBER 11, 2020

The Suburban

QUEBEC'S LARGEST ENGLISH WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Liquor inspectors harass iconic restaurant on "congregating"

Owners launch "The Empty Chair" protest demanding Quebec proof

By Beryl Wajsman, Editor
 The Suburban

Rob Callard, co-owner of Westmount's iconic Chez Nick restaurant, was stunned last week when two SPVM liquor inspectors showed up and threatened him with severe fines if he didn't remove two small two-person socially-distanced plastic tables at the edge of the sidewalk in front of his restaurant where customers could eat their take-out orders. They claimed that would lead to "congregating." When Callard pointed out that many places had those same tables — and even larger ones — the inspectors barked, "We don't have time to check everywhere."

Callard and his partner Nicos Kyriakopoulos had enough. Speaking to *The Suburban* he said, "When will the hypocrisy of these restrictions stop? How much sacrifice do we have to make and since when

See EMPTY CHAIR, page A12

A GREAT LOSS

Father John Walsh
 1942-2020

See FATHER JOHN, page A15

PHOTO BY ALAN HUSTAK

CHSLD Herron to close

By Kevin Woodhouse
 The Suburban

"This was such a terrible case in the first wave," Christian Dubé said. The Quebec Health Minister was referring to the announcement this past Monday that the CHSLD Herron in Dorval will close its doors to its long-term residents as of this Saturday, November 14th. A letter, by owners the Katasa Group, issued a letter to employees and residents noting the closure and that the West Island Regional Health Board (CIUSSS) will take over the day to day operations as well as finding the current residents a new home.

"The decision, which was not easy to make, can be explained by the current state of operations," noted the letter to Herron residents. There were few details in the letter. A provincial commissioned report on the CHSLD Herron's outbreak of coronavirus last spring that resulted in 38 deaths of senior citizens was released at the end of September. The report, penned by Sylvain Gagnon, noted that one of the main reasons for the deaths and subsequent abandonment by staff was "organizational negligence."

There were 38 deaths confirmed occurred during the early spring between March 26th and April 16th. The report noted that when the West Island Regional Health Board (CIUSSS) officials arrived to inspect the premises of the

See HERRON, page A13

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