

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2022 * VOLUME 25

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 President's Message
- 1 About Us
- 1 Membership
- 2 **Feature Page:**
60 years looking back & to the future
- 3 **Jamaica Day**
- 3 Health and Wellness
(mental, physical, spiritual)
- 3 Partners / Affiliates
- 4 Programs & Services
- 4 Events (July. - September)

Website:

<https://jam-montreal.com>

MEMBERSHIP

- 1 **Privileges**
 - Preferred pricing on certain events
 - Membership card
 - Voting rights at the AGM
 - Contributing to the growth of the Association
- 2 **Responsibilities**
 - Sign the registry at all member's meetings
 - Update your contact information
 - pay your dues for the 2022 year (Oct. 1, 2021 – September 2022)
 - Respect the rules of membership
- 3 **Dues & payment schedule**
 - Family (2 adults & 2 children below 17 years) \$50
 - Adult (18 – 59 years) \$30
 - Students (12 – 17 years) \$10
 - Older Adults (60+ yrs) \$10
- 4 **Benefits (show your card)**
 - ½ hour free consult with a designated notary
 - 15% discount on flowers
 - Discount on funeral costs at Kane & Fetterly. Ensure to inform the staff at Kane & Fetterly of your membership to the Association and show your membership card

Thank you to the management at Kane & Fetterly for your continued support

Contact: Sharon Nelson

ABOUT US

The Jamaica Association of Montreal 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. Representatives have accompanied delegations and presented briefs to all levels of government. Given our commitment to community development, our Mission Statement is 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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mark Henry, President
 Jamaica Association of Montreal

Members and Friends of the Jamaica Association,

On behalf the Association and our Board of Directors, I would like to thank those who have contributed in making the activities we have put together this summer a resounding success. A very special thanks to our membership, partners, the members of the Caribbean Coalition of Montreal and our governmental alliances. Your continued support is crucial to our desired goal for growth as there is a clear need in our society for more social assistance and mental support.

Over the last few months, we have carried out 3 key action items that includes: **1)** the opening of our restaurant, **Cool Runnings** which has a cultural and financial purpose; **2)** the celebration of **Jamaica's 60th** year of independence from British rule in conjunction with

The 60th year since the creation of the Association

3) the improvement of our entrance staircase making our space aesthetically pleasing at this historic location. These events were strategically planned and executed for the long-term positioning of our beloved Association.

Over the past months, our actions to protect the Association have yielded great results including zero Covid-19 outbreaks, an increase in the rental of our Noel Alexander Banquet Hall for events, and a major increase in new requests from patrons to either join as members or to become volunteers. At present, we are in the planning stage for our upcoming Jamaica Day event scheduled to take place at Martin Luther King Park on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 12 to 8 p.m. We are presently seeking volunteers and welcome donations to assist both in future events and the continued building our Association.

I wish you all the best of the rest of this summer. I hope that you have or are planning to take time off to rest and most importantly to enjoy time with your family. All these are integral parts of your journey.

God bless.

Mark Henry, President

"It's easier to take than to give. It's nobler to give than to take. The thrill of taking lasts a day. The thrill of giving lasts a lifetime." — Joan Marques

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: LOOKING BACK & BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

LOOKING BACK

Looking back to 1962, perhaps no one thought the Jamaica Association would be celebrating its Diamond Jubilee, that is 60 years of existence. Nonetheless, here we are today doing that very thing. Having an active Association is testament to the dedication and hard work put in by our Founders, all our residents, our board members, members, and volunteers over the span of 60 years. Every President had the ability to shape the organization in one way or another and members of their boards were there to support and guide that process.

There were some high and low points over the life of the Association, but these all add to the growth of the organization. It also adds to the direction of where the Association must go to ensure the organization's longevity. We take this opportunity to thank everyone.

Let us recognize our Presidents who have, and continue to, shoulder the growth of the Jamaica Association

JAMAICA ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS OVER THE PAST 60 YEARS

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) Ivanhoe Morrison * 1962 - 68 | 2) Maurice Valentine * 1968 - 71 | 3) Renn Brown * 1971 - 73 |
| 4) Edward Herron * 1973 - 75 | 5) Glen Gunning * 1975 - 77 | 6) Renn Brown * 1977 - 79 |
| 7) Neville Gray * 1979 - 80 | 8) Noel Alexander * 1980 - 87 | 9) Ivyline Flemming * 1988 - 89 |
| 10) Noel Alexander * 1989 - 2016 | 11) Michael Smith * 2016 - 19 | 12) Mark Henry * 2019 - now |

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

The Association began in a small space on Van Horne in 1962, a few years later, it moved Decarie and Isabelle in 1973 and now is located on Jean Talon since 1986.

In all three places, we rented. The dream of owning a building to house the many activities has once again materialized and, this time we are moving in the direction of realization.

We take this opportunity to thank all those who have previously contributed to other building fund efforts which unfortunately did not come to fruition. Thank you for your belief and effort.

Under the leadership of Mark Henry, we are working to have this building for the many current activities and needs of our organization. We are also committed to seeing this project through. We thank everyone who have contributed and continue to contribute to the current building fund: your belief and effort fuel our drive to make this project a reality.

We are building for the future! We are working on obtaining charitable status so that we can offer tax receipts, but in the interim, we are grateful for your contributions.



Etransfer to: jammontrealbuildingfund@gmail.com
Other means (**cheque** made to Jamaica Association or **cash**)

CONTACT US

A) Board of Directors

1. **Mark Henry**, President, mhenry@jam-montreal.com, 514-238-2659
2. **Sharon Nelson**, 1st Vice President, sharon.nelson@jam-montreal.com, 438-507-9258
3. **Alexander Townsend**, 2nd Vice President, 514-737-8229
4. **Melrose Christopher**, Treasurer, jamtreasurer@outlook.com, 514-737-8229
5. **Ingrid Barrett**, Secretary, secretary@jam-montreal.com, 514-737-8229
6. **Ufon Lynch**, Director, 514-737-8229
7. **Clyde Williams**, Director, IT, 514-737-8229
8. **Roger Hylton**, Director, Security & Entertainment, 514-737-8229
9. **Conroy Barnes**, Director, Games, Sports & Recreation, 514-737-8229

B) Committees & Chairs

1. **Jamaica Association Business Owners & Professionals (JABOP)**, Molly Young
2. **Membership Committee**, Sharon Nelson
3. **Social Committee**, Alexander Townsend
4. **Women's Auxiliary (WA)**, Sharon Nelson
5. **Building Committee**, Mark Henry
6. **Youth Committee**, Jade Parkinson-Gayle, jamyouthrep@gmail.com
7. **Senior Committee**, Shelley Morgan, jamsenior1962@gmail.com
8. **Human Resources**, Omar Ramus, jamhumanresources1962@gmail.com

C) Staff Contacts

1. **Diane Boyd**, Managing Director, jammanagingdirector@gmail.com, Banquet Manager, jambarbanquet@gmail.com, 438-390-7763
2. **Kim Payton**, Coordinator, Programs & Services, jamprogramservices@jam-montreal.com, 514-737-8229
3. **Keisha Wilson**, Bar Manager, jambarbarmanager@gmail.com, 514-737-8229
4. **Winston Richards**, Chef, 514-737-8229
5. **Donna Angella Stewart**, Coordinator, Au Futur & Footsteps Programs, aufuturprogram@gmail.com, 438-499-8229

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FEATURE: CELEBRATING 60 YEARS IN PHOTOS



Jamaica Association Talent Show performance, 1960's



Ivyline Flemming, circa 1960's



Carlton Williams, Noel Alexander, & Aston Mendez, JAM banquet event

Chronicling our past: We are interested in your photos of times at the Association. We are continuing our archiving project and would like to collect photos of the Association, the people, and activities. Feel free to reach out! Your photos are invaluable and should include name of individuals, approximate date and activity underway. Reach out to **Sharon Nelson** at **438-507-9258** or send your photos by email to **jamarchiving@gmail.com**

JAMAICA DAY 2022

Thanks to all partners, volunteers, and the Team for making this event a reality.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

We are committed to the health and wellness and have partnered with several organizations to help us speak and act on these important matters.

MENTAL HEALTH: We have been part of the **Black Mental Health Connections** and **Black Mental Health Montreal** groups for a few years now. We have also partnered with hospitals and are working on projects to be released shortly. **Audley Coley** has been a staunch advocate for mental health and is a spokesperson for Bell Let's Talk. We are using our resources and connections and people to normalize the discussion on mental wellness.

PHYSICAL HEALTH: We promote physical health. Check out some of the gyms in town. More specifically check out **Hard Knox Gym** which is owned by Herbie Whyne. The gym is located 3645 Notre-Dame St W, Montreal, Quebec H4C 1P6

SPIRITUAL HEALTH: We are connected with a number of **houses of worship** in the City and will be working on projects that will be announced soon. Spiritual health for some is also about connecting to **nature, yoga, meditation, and introspection** which are all key components to getting to that better self.

SEXUAL HEALTH: Promoting sexual health is very important. We are working to also normalize this conversation. For many years now, our partner **Gaps Vies**, has been providing condoms that we distribute on a weekly basis. Our patrons appreciate this service greatly.

FINANCIAL HEALTH: Thanks to our partners at **JN Bank** for their time in offering townhall sessions on financial health.

TIME OF LOSS: Thanks to **Kane & Fetterly** for their commitment to our community. Much appreciated !

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OUR 6 PROGRAMS

1. **Au Futur Program (Young Mothers) – In collaboration with Maison D'Haiti since 1993 and Federally Funded by Health Canada.**

For single Black women between the ages of **15 to 25 years old**. We also focus on helping young Black women up to the age of 35 years old with one or more children. Click [here](#) for more information on this confidential service. Services also offered online due to COVID-19 pandemic and gradually in person. *Cost: **FREE**. Contact: **Donna Angella Stewart**, Coordinator. Contact (Cell) **438-499-8229**, aufuturprogram@gmail.com

2. **Footsteps Program**

A [program](#) run on Saturdays, in collaboration with the **Joujoutheque: L'Association des Parents de CDN**, from 1 pm to 3 pm for toddlers and children aged 0 to 12 yrs old. Due to the pandemic, the program is **online** and includes reading activities, arts and crafts. Qualified educators deliver this program and have a wonderful time with the children. We have added outings to this program during the year as well as highlighting our March break sessions. **For fall 2022**, we will be expanding the hours and returning to in person activities. More information to follow. Contact **Donna Angella Stewart**

3. **Adult Basic Education (ABE) Programs**

We offer individual, as well as small classes with qualified & experienced teachers in a variety of subjects. Classes take place in the evenings with one-to-one tutoring also available. Per term registration fee gives access to all courses: **\$10.00**. Click [here](#) to view course descriptions and schedule. **All ABE courses are offered online**. Contact **Kim Payton**, Coordinator of Programs and Services during office hours at jamprogramservices@jam-montreal.com or by phone at **514-737-8229** to register for classes

4. **Brilliant Minds Tutoring & Vocational Training**. In collaboration with Frontier College, we offer tutoring for elementary, high school and adult learners. This service provides help with schoolwork and career planning. Online sessions and some in person.

NEW !! Vocational Training partnership with PACC in Lasalle. Info sessions to begin in Fall 2022.
Contact **Kim Payton**

5. **Food Bank** in collaboration with Moisson Montréal. The Food Bank is open **Thurs.(10 am to 5 pm) & Fri. (2 pm to 5 pm)**. January to December, holiday notices posted as necessary. Registration: Mandatory. Standard fee: \$5 per family. Call or email the Association for more information. Registration and collection at the Association.

Note: New arrivals to Canada and new users of the food bank are asked to call one day in advance

6. **Tax Preparation**

The Tax Clinic is held in collaboration with Canada Revenue Agency and Revenu Québec. Open in Spring 2023. Contact: jamgovernmentsservices@gmail.com

EVENTS

- Emancipation Event** Sunday, July 31, 4 pm
The Caribbean Coalition Network
"Emancipation 1834 & Caribbean Rums" on Zoom
See the video on Youtube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ7gOeojXlo>
- Independence Celebration** Aug. 6 & 7, 2022
August 6: Day in the Park & Soccer Match, (Little Burgundy) 1 pm to 6 pm
August 6: Independence BBQ (Association), 1 pm to 8 pm
August 6: Reggae show (Association), JAM & Rastafest, \$20
August 7: Church service, Montreal West Church, 11 am
August 7: Gospel Show (Association) 7 pm, \$10
- Jamaica Day** Sat., Aug. 20
Kent Park
- Members' Meeting** Sat., Sept. 17
- Official Visit** Sun., Sept. 18
More information to follow soon
- Membership dues close for 2021-2022 year**
September 30, 2022
- See our website for more events**
<https://jam-montreal.com/activities-to-dec-2022>

OUR 6 SERVICES

Office Hours: Mon – Fri.: 10 am to 6 pm * (514) 737-8229
VISIT OUR WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA SITES FOR UPDATES.

- 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 adults and youths needing to complete mandated community hours.
- Licensed Restaurant – Cool Runnings Restaurant**
Hours: *Chef Winston Richards (Pick)*:
Tuesday 12 pm – 7 pm,
Wednesday 12 pm – 7 pm,
Thursday 12 pm - 7 pm (summer),
Friday 12 pm – 9 pm,
Saturday 12 pm – 9 pm,
(time can potentially change on Saturdays due to special events),
Order on Doordash:
Chef Ian Nelson (Warrior):
Friday night 10 pm – 3 am,
Saturday night 10 pm – 3 am,
- Fully Licensed Bar - Negril Bar** – Open Fridays and Saturdays as of 8 pm. On some Saturdays, the Noel Alexander Banquet Hall is also available for rental.

OVERPROOF FRIDAYS AND VERSATILE SATURDAYS

Fridays	9 pm to 3 am: Last call 2:30am, Bar closes at 2:50 am
Saturdays	9 pm to 3 am: Last call 2:30 am, Bar closes at 2:50 am

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

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