

# RTP monthly

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022

## RAVENSCRAG

(Allan Memorial Institute)

After Sir Hugh Allan died in 1882, his son and daughter-in-law, Sir Montagu and Marguerite, respectively, inherited Ravenscrag. They enlarged the house, redecorated in a more elegant and lavish style, employed several live-in servants, and filled the stable with prize thoroughbreds at the request of Sir Montagu, the president of the Jockey Club.

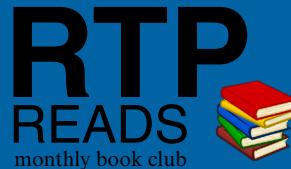
After Sir Montagu's death, Lady Allan gave Ravenscrag to the Royal Victoria Hospital in 1940. It was renamed the Allan Memorial Institute in 1943. To serve the present needs as a psychiatric hospital and research institute, the interior of the building has been altered and many additions have been made to the exterior.

Although currently a respected institution, the Institute is also known for its dark role in the CIA's Project MKUltra, an initiative to develop drug-induced mind control. MKUltra experimentation was undertaken at the Institute between 1957 and 1964 by its founding director, Donald Ewen Cameron.

Cameron was an internationally prominent psychiatrist who developed techniques on his involuntary hospitalized patients — mostly women. His brutal techniques involved a three-stage method for "brainwashing" in order to eliminate the will and establish control.

Fast forward from that dark chapter in the building's history to today. There are two Day Programs in the Mental Health Mission of the MUHC. The Day Hospital, located at the Allan Memorial Institute, offers five-day-a-week programming for patients. A combination of individual and group therapy is used, and patients learn symptom and medication management, as well as preparing for re-entry into the workplace or the community. It is noteworthy that this was the first psychiatric Day Hospital in North America.

Another noteworthy initiative that was developed over the last years at the Allan Memorial Institute is the Recovery Transition Program, which provides workshops and one-on-one Peer Mentoring to patients at both the AMI and the Griffith Edwards Addiction Centre. Made up almost entirely of volunteers who possess lived experience and have received in-house training, it's a collaboration among patients and staff.



We meet once a month via **Zoom**

Next meeting is on  
**Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**2:00pm-3:00pm**

We'll be reading the book

**"BEAUTIFUL WORLD WHERE ARE YOU"**

*By: Sally Rooney*

For more information, contact  
[rtpublicationzine@gmail.com](mailto:rtpublicationzine@gmail.com)

Zoom Link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83400975138?pwd=RDR2OS8xQ-0FRb0pIdzBuU1c4Mnkvdz09>

Meeting ID: **834 0097 5138**  
Passcode: **626673**

**Patients, Health Care Providers,  
Staff, Family, Friends  
are welcome!**



## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Maison de l'amitié is a community centre founded in 1974 and located on Duluth Avenue in the heart of the Plateau-Mont-Royal. Our mission: building vibrant community, empowering people. Our values: support, peace and mutual aid.

Our motto, "embracing community," reflects our commitment to fighting social isolation, prejudice, discrimination and violence.

Our activities and services revolve around four main objectives aimed at building a healthy and dynamic community:

- Promote the social integration of immigrants (regardless of their status) and reduce linguistic and cultural divides in the community.
- Develop the employability of immigrants and disadvantaged or marginalised people.
- Develop a spirit of mutual aid and community involvement
- Develop a sense of belonging to the neighbourhood.

Website: [maisondelamitie.ca](http://maisondelamitie.ca)

Telephone: (514) 843-4356

**The Allan Memorial now has Wifi access for all.**

**Name: Public  
Password: wifi**



## RTP publication

# RTP publication

## LAST CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

SEND US YOUR PROSE/POEMS,  
SHORT STORIES (MAX 1200 WORDS)  
AND VISUAL ART PIECES  
BY NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO  
[RTPUBLICATIONZINE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RTPUBLICATIONZINE@GMAIL.COM)

"ADAPTATION" is the theme for the next Zine.  
If this theme inspires your creativity,  
we welcome your submissions

## THE LIGHTER SIDE OF

How many psychiatrists does it take to change a light bulb?

It only takes one, but it takes a long time and the light bulb has to want to change.