

# NEWSLETTER

## LEA ROBACK FOUNDATION



Number 22, May 2021



Lea Roback playing tennis with friends, Beauport 1923.



# A Word from the President

## Renewal

**Could it be the blossoming buds or is it the incipient flowers? Or maybe it's the soft green texture of fresh leaves? Or perhaps the days getting longer? There's this dogged impression that we're starting to see the light at the end of this pandemic tunnel, that has put all our lives on hold, as the vaccination campaign ramps up. In any event, there's undeniably a breath of fresh air swirling around us.**

The same is true at the Foundation. A new collaboration protocol has been set up with the Boscoville Foundation that will enable us to increase the number of scholarships that are granted. The ICEA has recognized what we do and chosen us as a partner to award the Bernard Normand scholarship that honours adults who persevere and go back to school. Two articles in this newsletter will provide you with all the details.

Our partnership with *Maman va à l'école* (Mother goes back to school) continues and likewise boosts our capacity to provide needed help to women, which is all very promising as we move forward. We can thus reasonably anticipate that we'll be granting a record number of scholarships this coming year.

The Foundation has also left the offices that we were leasing. This move will not only



save us lots of money, but likewise establish clearer and more consistent rules in use for preserving our archives.

Our work and our commitment is only made possible thanks to your unwavering support, your reliable donations and the collaboration we enjoy with all our partners, both new and old. Women appeal to the Foundation to breathe some hope into their lives and we answer their call by accompanying them in their plans for school and for their future. The Foundation is accordingly a vehicle for RENEWAL for them and for their families. Awesome, n'est-ce pas? And it's all thanks to you.

The members of the Board of Directors join me in wishing you a blossoming spring, heralding the sweet and delicious fruits of summer.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L. Pagé'.

Lorraine Pagé  
Présidente

# A wandering Foundation

**Since November 1993, the year the Foundation was created, we've covered lots of ground, from Outremont to South Central Montreal, by way of Old Montreal.**



A Foundation, even one as modest as ours, inevitably accumulates, over the years, documents, dossiers, photos, exhibition panels, etc. That's without counting the numerous books about Lea Roback, Madeleine Parent and H  l  ne Pedneault or the works created by the latter, as well as numerous works of art donated to the Foundation over the years.

Let's recall that the Foundation granted only one scholarship in 1994; our suitcase was quite light back then. That's explains why, and of course thanks to the generosity of H  l  ne Par  , the Foundation's archives were stored at her home until 2010.

As of July 1, 2010, as mentioned in the 2010-2011 report on our activities, we decided to lease "a storage room at the Maison Parent-Roback in which we were able to assemble all the things that belonged to the Foundation..." A solution that was considered attractive at the time, given that the archives were taking up more and more space and the Maison Parent-Roback brought together, under one roof, several women's organizations. Major renovations to the building ended up taking away the room we needed and the Foundation had to leave this magnificent Old-Montreal heritage building.

Ghislaine-Patry Buisson, then Vice-President of the Foundation, found an adequate

space for us on De Lorimier Street. The building, once a factory, was less prestigious than the former premises, but was very well located. We took possession of these new offices in 2015.

In 2020, the De Lorimier building changed ownership twice. And, the current owner substantially increased our rent to which one must add the cost of insurance.

The decision was thus made to terminate our lease and we now have the good fortune to be able to store our archives free-of-charge in the *Fondaction* building, a stone's throw away from the former premises. We thus moved last March 30, 2021. In addition, we're saving money in terms of insurance and the travel expenses of our administrative secretary.

Each time that we've moved, we've sorted through what we've accumulated by following the rules in use for preserving archives and we've accordingly reduced our needs in terms of storage space. It's likewise obvious that we're working increasingly with digital documents. All this enables us to limit our operating costs. Let's give just one example: the scholarship application exercise. This year, for the first time since the Foundation's creation, we've received

no scholarship applications by mail. Indeed, out of the 96 submissions received, 82 candidates used the online form and 14 of them sent it to us via e-mail. This fall, we'll start thinking about digitizing our archives.

A big thank you to *Fondaction* for finding room for us on their premises, which has led us to deem them a Major Partner of the Foundation.

Please take note of our new mailing address, which is important for sending cheques to us, seeing as it's still impossible for the Foundation to receive Interac money transfers.

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*Céline Lamontagne*



Jeannette Roback ((1916-1999), *Landscape*.  
This artwork by Jeannette Roback, Lea's sister in law,  
donated to the Foundation by Philippe Dubé, is for sale.  
Pour informations : [info@fondationlearoback.org](mailto:info@fondationlearoback.org)

## The LRF will be granting the Bernard Nomand Award

We're proud to announce that the Lea Roback Foundation has been retained by the *Institut de coopération pour l'éducation des adultes (ICEA)*, to grant a Bernard Normand Award in the course of our annual exercise of granting scholarships.



**icea** **PRIX  
BERNARD-NORMAND**

Named in honour of the former Executive Director of ICEA, the Bernard Normand Award, five of which are granted every year, honours adults who persevere and go back to school. The 2021 edition draws attention to adults who are educating themselves in school settings, in other words, in institutions that are part of the public education system, such as adult general training centres, career training

establishments, CEGEPs and universities, as well as organizations and networks in this sector.

The ICEA is thus joining forces with the initiatives undertaken by the Lea Roback Foundation to support economically disadvantaged and socially involved women, in the pursuit of their studies. It has thereby recognized the value and importance of the work that the LRF has been doing over the years and constitutes an important attestation and boost for the standing and reach of our foundation in the education milieu.

The Bernard Normand Award that the LRF will be granting will thus reward a woman, who thanks to her courage and determination, overcomes significant obstacles and who resumes her education, thereby becoming a source of inspiration for other adults. The value of said scholarship is \$800.

*Danielle Casavant*

## An exceptional partner for the Foundation

The Lea Roback Foundation has recently entered into a collaboration agreement with the Boscoville Foundation that was created nearly 15 years ago by M<sup>e</sup> Pierre-Laurier Baribeau.

The Board of Directors of the Boscoville Foundation, whose mission is the social, cultural and educational development of young people up to 24 years old, was seeking to resume its activities. Ms. Nicole Ranger,

a friend of our own Foundation, who is a member of the Boscoville Foundation played an instrumental role in bringing the two organizations together and in having a protocol signed between us, that will link us over the next few years. We want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank her.



Under the terms of this agreement, the Boscoville Foundation will give us \$15,000 a year, over the next seven years, which amounts will be distributed as scholarships. The scholarships will be granted to young girls or women under 24 years old, who are pursuing their education in literacy training, high school, career and technical training, or at the CEGEP level. There will likewise be a scholarship attributed to collegial or university level studies in disciplines that focus upon interventions with special needs young people. All the scholarships will bear the name “Pierre-Laurier Baribeau Scholarship”.

This exceptional partnership will enable our two organizations to work together to promote education as a means for the self-realization and empowerment of women.

*Lorraine Pagé*

# Women, the financial bedrock of the Foundation

**The very overwhelming majority of donations that the Foundation receives come from women.**

And the 2020 campaign was no exception to this tendency. Of the \$13,000 that was collected from our Partners and Major Partners, \$7,500 was given to us by women. They're also the majority of our donors who give less than \$500. Small donations of \$20, \$50, \$100 and more added up to \$12,490, in 2020.

In all, this past year's fundraising campaign raised \$25,490. The contributions from our Partners and Major Partners were however less than what we received last year, nearly \$10,000 less, in fact. The 2020 total came to \$13,000 compared to \$22,850, in 2019. Over the years, the Foundation has observed that donations coming from organizations that have supported us for a long time are diminishing. It will be necessary for us to rebuild this channel and invite them to support us once again.

Notwithstanding the foregoing observation, as a result of the 2020 campaign, we're

happy to announce the return of Bâtirente and the Maison générale des Ursulines as Partners of the Foundation. Even though their donation arrived after the end of the fundraising campaign and will thus be recorded in our books for 2021, it's important to draw attention to the \$1,000 contribution we received from the Health and Social Services Professional and Technical Personnel Alliance (APTS), who became a Major Partner this past winter.

This practical and valuable support will enable the Lea Roback Foundation to continue granting scholarships to deserving women to continue their studies. During this pandemic, the number of applications has not decreased. Indeed, in April, we received nearly 100 scholarship requests. Your donations will thus be put to very good use.

*Maroussia Kishka*



## **Exceptionnal Partners of the Foundation**

The Sœurs de Saint-Joseph de Saint-Hyacinthe  
(comité solidarité SJSH);  
the Fondation Boscoville.

## **Great Partners of the Foundation**

The Centrale des syndicats du Québec (CSQ);  
the Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN);  
the Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé  
du Québec (FIQ);  
Fondaction;  
the Alliance du personnel professionnel et technique  
de la santé et des services sociaux (APTS)  
the Fondation Solstice;  
Mr Philippe Dubé,  
Mr André Joffe;  
Ms Pauline Lantz;  
Ms Louise Potvin;  
Ms Nicole Ranger;  
Ms Arlene Zimmerman;  
Ms Donna Mergler;  
and a donor who wishes to remain anonymous..

## **Partners of the de Foundation**

Bâtirente;  
the Fédération autonome de l'enseignement (FAE);  
the Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses  
du Québec (FTQ);  
the Fédération nationale des enseignantes et  
enseignants du Québec (FNEEQ-CSN);  
the Maison générale des Ursulines de Québec;  
the Syndicat de l'enseignement de l'Ouest de  
Montréal (FAE);  
the Syndicat des professionnelles et des profession-  
nels du milieu de l'éducation de Montréal (CSQ);  
Ms Laura Alper;  
Ms Jacqueline Bassini;  
Ms Lorraine Pagé;  
Ms Katherine Roback,  
Ms Annalee Yassi,  
Mr William Dawson,  
Ms Mathilde Baisez;  
Ms Céline Lamontagne;  
Ms Eda Tarlo Rosenbaum,  
and a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

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Photos: Lea Roback Foundation, archives of the  
Jewish Public Library Centre.

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