



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Island Community Shares celebrates 25 years of investing in the community

The 20th edition of the Red & White benefit evening raises
\$266,850

Beaconsfield, January 30th, 2024: West Island Community Shares hosted its annual flagship philanthropic Red & White event on Monday, January 29th to the delight of close to 250 guests. Business leaders, supporters and donors gathered for the 20th edition of the Red & White, which raised \$266,850.

25 years of investing in the community

Under the theme of 25 years of investing in the community, the 20th edition of the Red & White benefit evening highlighted the stories of exemplary community groups who are striving to improve the lives of West Islanders in need. Presenting partners of the evening were **National Bank of Canada**, **Pfizer Canada**, and **Broccolini**.

Over the last 25 years, West Island Community Shares has invested over 20 million dollars to help address the most pressing social needs of West Islanders. The goal has always been to build a strong, resilient, inclusive and healthy West Island community. Our rich history shows that together we can make a difference. We are filled with pride as we look back on 25 years of investing in the community and helping those in need on the West Island. Today, our work is not done, we must continue to be innovative, dedicated, and focused on the future. We now partner with over 40 local community groups to help ensure they can meet the rising demands and adapt to the changing needs of their clients.

“As a member of the West Island community sector for many years, I can personally attest to the fundamental impact of the sums invested. I would like to express my profound gratitude to our many donors who are making a real difference for the more than 40 community groups we support.” – **Meagan Somerville**, Executive Director, West Island Community Shares.

“This Red & White benefit evening, our flagship philanthropic event, celebrates 25 years of investment in over 40 local community organisations. These groups provide front-line services benefiting thousands of West Islanders, including your neighbours, colleagues and friends. Tonight, we honor those organisations and the ongoing impact and transformative effect they have on our community.” – **Danielle Leggett**, Director, Community Impact & Capacity Building, West Island Community Shares.

“More than ever, the community sector plays an essential role for so many of our fellow citizens. It’s an honour for me to be able to contribute to this impact. Investing, getting involved and giving back to the community creates lasting change that benefits the entire population. Together we have the

power to make a difference and create a better future for the whole community.” – **Frederica Jones**, Community Shares President and Regional Vice-President at BMO Banque de Montréal.

Presenting Partners’ Quotes

“At Pfizer, we have proudly supported West Island Community Shares since its very beginning. This organisation embodies our value of equity by providing critical support to non-profit organisations across several Montreal communities, helping thousands of local residents every year. It is important to us that we work alongside our community partners to help address social determinants of health and create lasting social impact. – **Vincent Lamoureux**, Director, Global Health and Social Impact, Global Markets at Pfizer Canada

“No one is immune to life’s challenges. What is often taken for granted – our lifestyle, social network, and health – may rest on a more delicate balance than we realize. It is in this context that your generosity can truly make a difference.” – **Xavier Lalonde**, Regional Vice President, Commercial and Private Banking at National Bank

“At Broccolini, we believe in the power of community, compassion, and support. It’s an honor to stand alongside each of you this evening as we lend our support to this important cause. Together, let’s ignite hope, inspire change, and create a brighter future for the West Island.” – **Teresa Broccolini**, Director, Property Management, at Broccolini

About West Island Community Shares

West Island Community Shares is a unique charitable organisation dedicated to building a strong, resilient, inclusive and healthy community. We do this by raising funds for more than 40 local community organisations in these six areas: developing strong and resilient children & teens, supporting vulnerable populations, fostering healthy bodies & minds, providing basic necessities, empowering women, and supporting green initiatives. We focus our efforts in making sure that our community organisations have the resources they need to meet the evolving and increasing demand for their services.

To book an interview or for more information:

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[LinkedIn/community-shares-partage-action](https://www.linkedin.com/company/community-shares-partage-action)



Picture taken by Wassim Shomali.

From left to right:

Vincent Lamoureux from Pfizer, Teresa Broccolini from Broccolini Property Management, Meagan Somerville from West Island Community Shares, Jean René Paquette from Paquette & Associates Attorneys Inc., Peter Giakoumatos from Merck, Roberta Lacey from Avon, Xavier Lalone from BNC, Danielle Leggett, from West Island Community Shares, Kamran Ghazian from Ciena, Frederica Jones from BMO, Michel Béland from RBC, Claude Papasian from TD, Drew Wawin from TD, Nouha Fadlallah from Jean-Coutu, Sara Lande from Dorel and Elias Bakakis from BMO.