



375 YEARS IN THE HEART OF IT ALL!

On Wednesday, May 31, 2017 the exhibit *375 years in the heart of it all* was launched. Sisters Kesta Occident and Raymonde Maisonneuve along with Mrs. France Thiboutot, museologist and archivist of our congregation, attended the event. It was a lovely evening of rediscovery graced with music and delicious treats.



After a few presentations and that of Mrs. Louise Beaudoin, Honorable President of the exhibition, the Director of Maison Saint-Gabriel, Sister Madeleine Juneau, CND, invited the guests to the exhibit which was held in an old stable. In this intimate and attractive setting guests were able to rediscover the heritage of the religious women's communities in the City of Montreal.



Founders of many establishments and pioneers in several domains, the communities of religious women played an important role in the history of Montreal be it in the area of health, social services or education. Presently, the communities are more discreet. This exhibit, within the celebration of the 375th anniversary of Montreal, allows these groups of women to come into the light. The exhibit shows that they are ever present and active as they continue to pursue their mission.



The Congregation of the Sisters of Holy Cross is among the twelve religious communities honored. Also featured in this exhibit are the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, the Congregation of Notre Dame, the Sisters of Charity of Montreal (Grey Nuns), the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy, the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Anne, the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, the Institute of Our Lady of Good Counsel, the Missionary Sisters of Christ the King and the *Recluses Missionnaires*.

The distinctive elements of the communities are placed on cathedral-like window panels that give a particular touch. A stained glass window

completes the entirety. Varied objects, works of art and archival documents complete the historical picture.

Sister Ghislaine Roquet, CSC, is mentioned as an example, she who played an important educational part at the time of the Royal Commission inquiry in the Province of Quebec (Commission Parent).

Mrs. Beaudoin recalled this great woman.



Two stained glass windowpanes in the exhibit are the creation of Sister Marie-Anastasié, CSC. Some artifacts and photos belonging to the community are also on display. Deux vitraux présentés dans l'exposition sont la création de sœur Marie-Anastasié, CSC. Quelques artefacts et photos appartenant à la communauté sont aussi exposés.

The exhibit is held at *Maison Saint-Gabriel* from May 31 until December 22, 2017.

Not to be missed!



