



Centre Communautaire des Femmes Sud-Asiatiques

Inside this issue:

Elders Speak Up & Members's Corner	2
South Asian Youth / Jeunes	2
Women Around the World / Femmes Autour du Monde	3
Healthy Eating Recipe	3
Calendar	4
Membership info	5
Announcements & Job Opportunity	6

What do you think? Que pensez-vous?

- Let us know your thoughts about the new bulletin
- Que pensez-vous à notre nouveau bulletin?
- We encourage you to send in your stories and articles for upcoming newsletters in any language!
- Please write to Shipra at shipra@bellnet.ca
- Soumettez vos pensées et œuvres écrites à Shipra

February—Love Ourselves

In February we observe Valentine's Day, famous for images of hearts, baby cupid, lovers exchanging chocolate, flowers, warm embraces, etc. This year, let's broaden our Love Horizons, push forward from the romantic notions of love and onto what we do in our everyday lives.

Bell Hooks puts it eloquently, "When women and men understand that working to eradicate patriarchal domination is a struggle rooted in the longing to make a world where everyone can live fully and freely, then we know our work to be a gesture of love. Let us draw upon that love to heighten our awareness, deepen our compas-

sion, intensify our courage and strengthen our commitment."

Let's look at love and how it manifests on a daily basis: the way we speak to each other, the way we smile at strangers, the way a child stares wide-eyed as s/he learns something new. Let's highlight the love that exists in our trials and tribulations, moments of contemplation, in our pursuits of *Sisterhood, Solidarity, and Strength*. This year, let's take a moment to focus on the love we have for our families, our communities, and more importantly ourselves. Loving ourselves is often the first step that brings self-awareness and confidence that we need to be able to

extend that capacity to love to those around us.

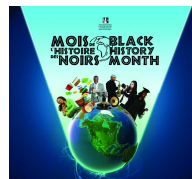
Join us on February 18th and 19th as we "Love Our Future," a series of 3 intergenerational mentorship and story sharing workshops organized by South Asian Youth (SAY). We encourage MOTHERS! & DAUGHTERS! to explore diverse career paths and life choices. The invited speakers will share stories on how young women can gain confidence in their decision-making process. The presentation, discussion, and an art-envisioning activity will culminate into a community art project serving as a visual representation of our collective aspirations and growing potential. (Poster inside).

Black History Month—highlighting the history of the African Diaspora

Les Porteurs de masques est un projet d'art actuel qui souligne par des expériences esthétiques et sensorielles l'histoire commune des Noirs. Elle raconte des histoires à travers des masques significatifs portés par des hommes

et des femmes. Le masque africain a une dimension et une signification importantes dans le tissu social des communautés africaines.

L'exposition se fera dans le hall de l'hôtel de ville, du 7 au



22 février 2012.

Heures d'ouverture : du lundi au vendredi, de 8 h 30 à 17 h, et le samedi de 10 à 16 h.

([http://](http://www.moishistoiredesnoirs.co)
www.moishistoiredesnoirs.co
[m](http://www.moishistoiredesnoirs.co))

Elders Speak Up / Les paroles des aînées

Seniors make up the fastest growing age group in almost every country. Canada is no exception. In 2010, an estimated 4.8 million Canadians were 65 years of age or older, a number that will double in the next 5 years. By 2051 about one in 4 Canadians is expected to be 65 or over. Our aging population presents our governments with challenges that need to be addressed today and yet there has been very little meaningful consultations while decisions are being taken on immigration, pensions and Old Age Security that will have consequences for many families from the

cultural communities. Elders from the South Asian communities, like members at SAWCC, are drawn from the broad spectrum and diversity of class, culture, religion and languages of South Asia.

Not knowing either of the official languages, being socially or economically dependent, experiencing cultural shock and being members of the visible minority are situations that can lead to isolation, marginalization and exploitation of elders. SAWCC has always included elders in their activities. They are welcomed and continue to participate in the Eng-

lish and French classes offered all year round; they attend the potlucks at the end of the month and the information sessions and crafts classes (sometimes even as instructors) offered at the centre. (Cont'd on pg 5)

Please send your written contributions to SAWCC for the Elder Corner. If you wish to volunteer to interview women in their own language, especially where a South Asian language may be needed, please contact Anne at 514-746-5960 or Madhu at 514-989-9463. (Submitted by Anne Caines)

South Asian Youth (SAY) / Jeunes sud-asiatiques (JSA)

January marked SAY's 2nd monthly film screening with "**Amar Naam Salma**" ('09) a Bangladeshi film about a transgender girl named Salma. We had the pleasure of discussing the film with the directors, Aude Leroux-Lévesque and Sébastien Rist of Bideshi Films. We touched on a broad range of topics, including how the two of them dealt with the issue of white privilege when working with individuals in Bangladesh. It was interesting

to hear about the ethical responsibilities of documentary filmmakers, specifically regarding filming scenes in which they felt the need to physically intervene. We also discussed at length, issues of gender identity and sexuality across geographic locations. We were very fortunate to be able to quench our thirst for a more in-depth look at the film's characters!

Our next film screening, "**Circumstance**" will be held on

February 26th at 1pm, open to ALL, in a queer-friendly space. Looking forward to another Sunday of insightful conversations.

If you are youth and want to get involved with the group, please contact us at sawccyouth@gmail.com



February 14 Memorial March / Marche commémorative le 14 février

Justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women invites you and yours to participate in this year's Memorial March for Missing and Murdered Women on **Tuesday February 14th, 5:30pm at Cabot Square** (St.Catherine and Atwater), Montreal. **Parmi les invités:** Michèle Audette (President of Québec Native Women/ Femmes autochtones du Québec),

Anna-Aude Caouette (STELLA), Karine Myriganie Jean-François (Girls Action Foundation/ Fondation filles d'action), Farha Najah & Nighat Hussain (SAWCC/CCFSA), Native Women's Shelter of Montreal (Foyer pour



femmes autochtones de Montréal), Bridget Tolley (Sisters in Spirit/ Sœurs de l'esprit), Tiohtiake Drum Group, and artist/activist Moe Clark. S'il vous plaît contacter justiceformissing@gmail.com, ou 514-937-2110 pour plus d'informations.

Our City Our News / Notre ville nos nouvelles (courtesy of Dolores Chew)

ORGANIZATIONS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN OF NON-COOPERATION WITH CANADIAN SPY AGENCY: "DON'T TALK, DON'T LISTEN" TO CSIS

Montreal, 29 Jan. '12 -- Almost 70 organizations have joined a call to end all cooperation with Canada's spy agency, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS). Montreal-based People's Commission Network initiated the public campaign of total non-cooperation with CSIS at a press conference today. The organizations advise their members to neither speak nor listen to CSIS agents.

"For far too long we have tolerated the unacceptable activities of CSIS, whether through a false sense of loyalty or fear. We are here today to say that we will no longer voluntarily cooperate with CSIS when its agents come knocking on our doors or show up unannounced at our workplaces. We will not put ourselves, our neighbours, our friends, our families here or overseas, our organizations and our work for justice at risk by speaking with or listening to CSIS agents. We will say no to CSIS and yes to freedom from fear and political con-

trol," said Marie-Eve Lamy, active in the People's Commission Network.

Over the last decade, CSIS's budget has increased by 140%, reaching \$430 million in 2009. In 2010, the agency maintained almost 3000 employees. It also had information-sharing agreement with 147 countries. CSIS has been heavily involved in several Canadian cases of rendition to torture but has emerged from these and other scandals unscathed, protected by a broad mandate, laws assuring the secrecy of its operations, and lack of any real accountability. "By questioning Arabs about their political views and about each other, and by implying that pro-Palestinian and anti-colonial perspectives are suspect, CSIS has in the past succeeded in sowing fear and silencing support for justice and freedom in the Middle East," said Amy Darwish, an organizer with Tadamon! Montreal, which works for justice in the Middle East.

"Intelligence agencies have a tendency to view union activists as subversives; we cannot encourage informing, nor passing on information that could be used against people

whose only fault is to want to have their rights recognized," said Francis Lagacé, vice-President of the Conseil central du Montréal métropolitain de la CSN. "CSIS tactics create fear and isolation in our communities, particularly immigrant communities. In the face of their intimidation and racial profiling, migrant justice groups are responding with weapons of solidarity and support, aiming to render CSIS ineffective with a campaign of non-collaboration, while also supporting individuals pressured by CSIS during the immigration process," said Jaggi Singh, a member of Solidarity Across Borders. "Migrants, refugees, women in crisis are already insecure. CSIS exploits them, preying on their vulnerability. With this campaign of non-collaboration, we convey to them they are not alone; there are many of us working in solidarity to protect our communities; to protect one another," said Dolores Chew, on behalf of SAWCC. The People's Commission and its allies will hold a series of activities in the coming months to highlight CSIS abuse and break the fear and isolation among those targeted.

Healthy Eating / Manger santé—Muffins.

Chocolate Chip Banana Muffins

Ingredients:

Egg 1
Butter/margarine ¼ C
Sugar ¾ C
Flour 1 ½ C
Baking soda 1 tsp,
Bananas mashed (3) or 1 C

Chocolate chips ½ C
Salt 1 pinch.
Walnuts (coarsely chopped and toasted) 1/2 C









Method:

Pre-heat oven to 350 F. Grease 12 muffin cups (muffin tray), or line with muffin liners. Beat egg, butter or



margarine and sugar till fluffy. Blend in mashed bananas. Sift flour, salt and baking soda together. Add flour to the egg mixture. Lastly mix in the chocolate chips. Spoon batter in muffin cups. The batter will be quite thick. Bake in a pre-heated oven for 20-25 minutes. Cool 5 minutes before removing from the pan.. (Courtesy of Juveria)

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	 3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	 14	15	 16	17	 18
 19	 20	21	22	23	 24	25
 26	27	28	29			

Calendar events / Les événements de calendrier

- Feb. 3—South Asian Youth (SAY) meeting at 2PM
- Feb. 14—Annual Memorial March for Missing & Murdered Women—Cabot Square, 5:30PM
- Feb. 16—8AM Let's Block Demonstration at Square Victoria/ People's Place
- Feb. 18-19—Love Your Future career exploration and art workshops—St. Roch Centre
- Feb. 20—Executive Council meeting at 6PM—all are welcome!
- Feb. 24—in the spirit of gathering and sharing, join us for our monthly potluck at 12PM
- Feb. 26—SAY film screening at 1PM

- Fev. 3—réunion de Jeunes Sud-Asiatique (JSA) à 14h00
- Fev. 14—Marche commémorative pour les femmes disparues et assassinées—Square Cabot, 17h30
- Fev. 16—8h00 'On bloque' manifestation d'appui au Square-Victoria / Place des peuples
- Fev. 18-19—Aimez Votre Avenir—des ateliers artistiques explorant les carrières alternatives—Centre St. Roch
- Fev. 20—réunion du conseil de direction à 18h00: toutes sont bienvenues!
- Fev. 24—rejoignez-vous à notre dîner communautaire mensuel à 12h00
- Fev. 26—JSA projection de film mensuel commence à 13h00

Cont'd pg. 2

(Elder Speak Up)

In the months ahead we hope to record SAWCC's knowledge and experiences of older immigrant women and men who participate in these activities and ask the general questions: What does it mean to grow old or to arrive as an older immigrant woman to Canada and specifically to Quebec to join their families? What does it mean to be a member of a family living with older parents and grandparents? Your contributions will help SAWCC to develop programs that may be more specifically geared to

meet the needs of older women immigrants. They can also play a very useful role in defining needs of our community to all levels of government.

New Horizons for Seniors Programme is looking for participants

The New Horizons Programme is a 5 week radio training programme that covers all aspects of radio production. Sessions are once a week and take place in small groups. The next session begins during the week of January 16th and we are still looking for participants. Help us spread the

word. Perhaps a relative or someone you know? No experience necessary. Contact Portia by emailing radio4all@ckut.ca or calling [514 668 8106](tel:5146688106)



Membership: April 2012—March 2013

You would like to:

- ☐ Become a new member
☐ Renew your membership

Country of origin: _____

Number of years in Canada: _____

Female: ____ Male: ____

Membership fees:

- ☐ \$15.00 for salaried people
☐ \$7.00 for non-salaried people & elders
☐ \$100.00 for life-time membership
☐ Donation

\$\$ Total: _____

I am interested in:

- ☐ Language classes
☐ Potluck lunches
☐ Income-generating co-op
☐ Information sessions
☐ Movie nights

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____

Email: _____ Date _____

Signature _____

* Please return this form via mail, fax, or in-person before April 1, 2012

* Please contact Ghazala at x104 or mghazala@bellnet.ca if you have any question.

South asian women's Community centre

South Asian Women's Community
 Centre
 Centre Communautaire des femmes
 sud-asiatiques
 1035, rue Rachel est, 3ième étage.

Phone: 514-528-8812
 Fax: 514-528-0896
 E-mail: sawcc@bellnet.ca

SAW Catering Group

**South Asian
 Women cooking: healthy
 and delicious
 meals for
 your home
 and parties at very reasonable prices**



To order, or for menu or more info, please contact Juvaria at
juvariay@hotmail.com

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1035, rue Rachel est, 3ième étage.
Montréal, QC H2J 2J5

Phone: 514-528-8812
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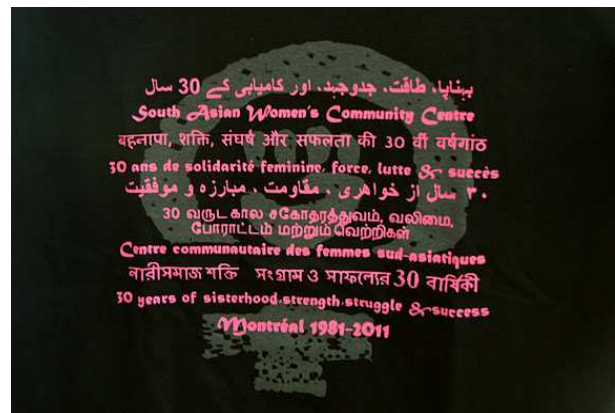
30 years of sisterhood, strength, struggle and success 1981-2011

www.sawcc-ccfsa.ca

The South Asian Women's Community Centre is a not-for-profit organization that helps women achieve their full potential in the Québec and Canadian societies and also helps them become independent.

Announcements / Annonces:

- **Membership 2012-2013: Please renew your membership or begin a new one by returning the form on pg. 5**
- **Volunteers:** If you are interested in helping out at the Centre, please contact Homa (ex. 102 or homa@bellnet.ca) for a meeting so we can get to know your skills better!
- **SAWCC t-shirt and bags are on-sale at the Centre (10\$ ea.)!!**



(SAWCC gear writing on bags and t-shirts)
On sale now!!!

Notice—Job Opportunity / Avis—Offre d'emploi

Position Title: **Centre Coordinator**

Job Description

The South Asian Women's Community Centre is a community organization whose mission is to empower women and work for their development, socially and economically, and to promote policies, measures and services that response to the specific needs of South Asian women in Montreal.

The Centre is looking for a coordinator who is responsible for maintaining and procuring core and project funding, liaises with relevant government organizations, is the public face of the organization, and will work closely with the Centre's Executive Council, the Centre Manager and the Centre staff for the functioning and well-being of the South Asian Women's

Community Centre. The Centre Coordinator ensures that all this is done in accordance with the objectives of the organization.

****Please note this position will require some evening and weekend work. This is a permanent, full-time position. This position offers collective insurance and other fringe benefits as per the South Asian Women's Community Centre's current practices and policies; salary commensurate with experience and organizational scale.**

To Apply

Please send a CV, cover letter, a vision statement, and three references, to "Hiring Committee c/o SAWCC Coordinator" by email to sawcc@bellnet.ca

Pour postuler

S'il-vous-plaît, envoyez un CV, une lettre de motivation, un énoncé de vision, et trois références, à «Comité d'embauche c / o Coordonnatrice « CCFSA » par courriel à sawcc@bellnet.ca

(Requirements and responsibilities see website or contact the centre)

