

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual

# CHRISTIE BIKE RIDE

**SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2018** 

Hello Christie Bikers!

Thank you for registering for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Dugald Christie Memorial Community Bike Ride (Christie Bike Ride for short). This registration package contains information to get you excited about your decision to sign up for the Ride and motivated to collect donations for the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal (NWSM), this year's recipient organisation. Included are information on the Ride (p.2) and the NWSM (p.3), fundraising instructions and a sample email to send to friends and family (p.4+5), as well as a pledge form to keep track of donations (p.6).

The Ride will take place on **Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. The starting point is the **McGill Faculty of Law, New Chancellor Day Hall 3644 Peel**. We ask that participants arrive at **9:30am** for a welcome from the organisation, some coffee, some mingling, and maybe a treat or two to fuel your ride. The Ride will depart from the Faculty at 10:00am and will cover **50 km** around scenic areas of Montreal.

If 50 km sounds like a lot, don't worry! We will have volunteers to lead the Ride so that no one gets lost or left behind. You can cycle at your own pace and there is a delicious picnic lunch (included in your registration fee) to break up the ride. We haven't quite nailed down the route, but will keep you updated. Please ensure that we have your email so that we can keep in touch until the Ride and send you a final route map!

Thank you for deciding to be part of such a meaningful event. We look forward to riding with you!

All the best,

The Christie Bike Ride Organizing Team

#### **About the Ride**

McGill Law students founded the Ride in 2009 to honour Vancouver Lawyer Dugald Christie. Christie was both an advocate for marginalised communities and an avid cycler. After giving up a lucrative career to service low-income clients, Christie helped establish a number of legal clinics

in Western Canada. En 2006, Christie a commencé à parcourir le Canada à vélo pour sensibiliser le public et nos décideurs aux insuffisances des programmes d'aide juridique au Canada. Il fut tragiquement percuté et tué par une voiture quatre mois après le début de sa campagne.

Most of us come to law school to fight for and support justice, not just as some abstract concept, but through tangible action. We believe Dugald Christie died in this pursuit. Through his work, he learned that we live "in a harsh society" made harsher, sometimes, by the legal system itself. He



thought it was crucial that financially disadvantaged or otherwise marginalised individuals have an equal opportunity for a just solution to their problems. We want first-year students to know Christie's story as soon as they walk through the doors of the Law Faculty. We want the lens through which they read their cases and learn the law to be one that focuses on the importance of people having access to laws which are created for the betterment of all members of society.

L'activité est une opportunité pour les étudiants de commémorer et contribuer à l'héritage de Dugald Christie. C'est une occasion de faire quelque chose de tangible, mais aussi de réfléchir à notre rôle d'atténuer les obstacles à l'accès à la justice en tant que futurs professionnels du droit.

This year, we are fundraising money for the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal (NWSM). Please see below for more information on this worthwhile cause.

#### **About the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal**

The goal of the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal (NWSM) is to provide a safe environment where women can begin to rebuild their lives. Since its incorporation in 1987, the NWSM has offered support and frontline services to First Nations, Inuit and Métis (Aboriginal) women and children who are in difficulty. The NWSM is the only women's shelter in Montreal that provides services exclusively to Aboriginal women and their children.

The Native Women's Shelter works within an Aboriginal framework. They incorporate many different teachings from the various cultures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis. They combine traditional healing techniques with contemporary approaches to give the women a multitude of options to address their immediate needs and issues.

Examples of services provided by the NWSM are:

- Shelter, food, and clothing
- Assistance in obtaining financial aid and low-cost housing
- Obtaining necessary identification
- Advocacy services
- Accompaniment to appointments
- Individual counseling
- Psychotherapy
- Group therapy
- Art Therapy
- Creative self-expression
- Healing Circles
- Sweat Lodge Ceremonies
- Morning Ceremonies
- Referrals for detox, treatment, psychotherapy, psychologists, as well as for legal and medical needs
- Elder visits
- Workshops such as Parenting Skills, Life Skills, Healthy Communication, Non-violence, Sexuality

### **Fundraising**

We encourage participants to make an effort to raise money leading up to the ride. Last year, we raised almost \$5,000 for the Mobile Legal Clinic. We would like to match that goal for the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal this year, but we need your help!

Feel free to collect single donations or raise money in the form of pledges. You can accept cash (of course), but please ensure that all cheques are made out to the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal. Donations can also be made online, direct to the organisation via Canada Helps (see the link below). Use the pledge form in this document to keep track of your donations. Additional pledge forms are available for download on our website: <a href="http://christieride.wordpress.com">http://christieride.wordpress.com</a>. Tax receipts are available for donations of \$25.00 or greater. Please remember to write the donor's name and address on your pledge form if they request a tax receipt.

#### (Link for online donations:

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/christie-community-bike-ride-2018/)

#### Sample Email to Friends and Family

Dear Friends and Family,

I am writing because I have decided to participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Christie Community Bike Ride on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in support of the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal. The Christie Community Bike Ride was founded in 2009 to commemorate the legacy of McGill alumnus and Vancouver Lawyer Dugald Christie. Christie was both a strong advocate for access to justice and an avid cyclist. In 2006, Christie began cycling across the country to convince our decision-makers of the necessity for justice system reform. Every year McGill Law students bike 50 km around Montreal in his honour and raise funds for a local access to justice organization. For more information about the ride you can read the ride's blog at <a href="http://christieride.wordpress.com">http://christieride.wordpress.com</a>.

This year the ride is in support of the **Native Women's Shelter of Montreal (NWSM).**Since its incorporation in 1987, the NWSM has offered support and frontline services to First Nations, Inuit and Métis (Aboriginal) women and children who are in difficulty. The NWSM is the only women's shelter in Montreal that provides services exclusively to Aboriginal women and their children. For more information you can visit the NWSM's website at: <a href="https://www.nwsm.info">https://www.nwsm.info</a>.

I hope you will consider supporting this worthy cause! Donations can be made at: <a href="https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/christie-community-bike-ride-2018/">https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/christie-community-bike-ride-2018/</a>.

Thank you! Your name

# **CHRISTIE COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE**

#### 2018 PLEDGE FORM / FORMULAIRE DE CONTRIBUTIONS 2018

Nom de participant(e)	
Name of Participant:	

Nom du donateur Donor Name	Adresse Address	Don - \$ Donation - \$	Mode de paiement Payment Method

Organisé par les étudiant(e)s de droit de l'université Megill au bénéfice du Foyer pour femmes autochtones de Montréal/ Organised by Megill Law students to benefit the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal

# VEUILLEZ LIBELLER VOS CHÈQUES À L'ORDRE DE: PLEASE ADDRESS CHEQUES TO: Native Women's Shelter.

Numéro d'organisme de bienfaisance enregistré / Registered Charity Number: 822097598RR0001

\*On vous fournira un reçu officiel de don aux fins de l'impôt sur le revenu pour toute contribution de 25 \$ ou plus. Ce reçu sera uniquement adressé à l'individu ayant fait le don et envoyé à l'adresse indiquée ci-dessus. / Receipts for tax purposes will be provided for any donation of \$25 or more. This receipt will only be addressed to one individual and sent to the address provided above.