

Our annual look through the crystal ball: who will be the next *Bachelor Canada*?



Mike Cohen

It is time for that annual tradition of looking through my crystal ball. What can we expect to occur in 2014? With tongue planted partially in cheek, you decide what is realistic or not.

JANUARY: Local Bell Media officials announce that broadcasts of the Montreal Alouettes and Impact will move from CJAD to TSN 690 next season

FEBRUARY: Tarah Schwartz returns to

her post as CTV News Montreal weekend anchor after taking some personal time off....Premier **Pauline Marois** names **Sugar Sammy** as a special advisor...The CH Group, the holding company of the Montreal Canadiens, purchases the Just For Laughs organization only a few months after doing the same with L'Equipe Spectra (the owner of the FrancoFolies and the Festival International de Jazz de Montreal). The deal allows Habs owner **Geoff Molson** to reach a longtime dream – live comedy performances from the moving zamboni between periods.

MARCH: City TV announces that former

Canadian Olympic diving star and current Breakfast Television co-host **Alexandre Despatie** will be the next *Bachelor Canada*, with the show set to start filming in April. Among the 25 bachelorettes is The Beat 92.5 FM's **Sarah Bartok**...The Toronto Blue Jays sell out both of their exhibition games at Olympic Stadium and the reunion of the 1994 Montreal Expos is a huge success. After the game Blue Jays officials announce that in 2015 they will play two mid-season games at the Big Owe, as long as the stadium has not been demolished by then.

APRIL: The PQ government loses a vote of confidence on their provincial budget, forcing an election. The Liberals, headed by **Phillippe Couillard**, squeak by with a minority government. Pauline Marois immediately resigns as leader of the PQ. The CAQ's **François Legault** loses his own L'Assomption riding.

JUNE: The AMC letters are finally removed from the old Forum on Atwater; two years after Cineplex assumed ownership...**Jean-François Lisée** becomes the new leader of the PQ.

JULY: Chomedey native **Peter M. Lenkov**, the executive producer of TV's Hawaii Five-O, shoots an episode in Montreal, with Commander **Steve McGarrett** called to testify before the Charbonneau Commission.

AUGUST: **John Bartlett** is hired by Rogers Sportsnet to become part of their new NHL play-by-play team, with **Rick**

Moffat taking over his duties at TSN 690. It is also announced that **Elliott Price** will step in calling the plays for Alouettes and Impact broadcasts.... *The Lion King*, back at the Place des Arts for its second time in three years, sells out each of its performances over a three week period.

SEPTEMBER: Slice TV announces that *Big Brother Canada* will film its next season in Montreal.

OCTOBER: AM 600 goes on the air, with **Melanie Joly** and **Gilles Duceppe** as their morning show hosts, **Ric Peterson** doing the drive home and our own **Beryl Wajzman** reviving the late Gord Sinclair's News and Commentary at noon.

NOVEMBER: Off to an unexpected 0-11 start, the Canadiens fire **Michel Therrien** as head coach and replace him with **Sylvain Lefebvre**...With two goals in 11 games, **David Desharnais** is given an additional four year extension on his \$3.5 million a year contract by GM **Marc Bergevin**.

DECEMBER: The Rialto Theatre organizes a month of nostalgic concerts, with the likes of **Andy Kim**, **Engelbert Humperdinck**, **Luba** and a return of **Gino Vanelli**...**Sheldon Kagan** gets the rights to bring the real ABBA back to Montreal for a sold out concert at Olympic Stadium.

Have you got something to share? E-mail mcohen@thesuburban.com or call 514-484-9203, ext. 307. Follow me on Twitter @mikecohencsl and my blog [athttp://blog.thesuburban.com](http://blog.thesuburban.com).



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