



MUSÉE DES ONDES EMILE BERLINER

Canadian Broadcasting Centennial



**CENTENNIAL
OF BROADCASTING
IN CANADA**



A Few Words From Our Director

By Anja Borck



ucts many of which were produced right where we exhibit them will greatly increase the value of each visit to our museum. In October, in between all these time and labour consuming projects, we also succeeded in moving our first travelling exhibition “Montreal in Space” from the Cosmodome to the Canadian Space Agency for the enjoyment of their 600 employees and visitors. In December, this project will be successfully completed. Last September the first Journée du patrimoine aérospatial took place in Saint Hubert with the MOEB participating. This may become another yearly activity that we can add to our schedule. In the article by our president of the Board of Directors, Pierre Valiquette, you can continue to inform yourself on our dynamic progress.

Thank you for your support through your involvement and/or membership. We would not be able to achieve so much without our members’ help.

Your MOEB team
Anja and Michel

One of the new shelving units

Over the last year, the MOEB has ventured into many new fields of engagement. While we still have our regular creation of a temporary exhibition, we have also added new activities to our schedule. Successful grant applications certainly helped; luck and supportive networks, however, did wonders. For example a \$50 000 federal grant to the MOEB will have an impact of over \$200 000 thanks to the donation of high-end rolling shelf units that we were able to reuse. The volume of this project is breaking all records of the MOEB. As a result, we now have a state of the art collection room with easy access to all the objects in our collection. This was certainly worth all the enormous work that staff and volunteers have put into the project since the beginning of the year.

The City of Montreal liked our suggestion of celebrating the 2020 100 year anniversary of radio broadcast in Montreal and will support the related temporary exhibition by granting the maximal available funding. The exhibition will open on February 27. A federal grant, for which we applied for the first time, covers many activities celebrating the centennial anniversary through December 2020. With the SQCRA, we have a dynamic, engaged and qualified partner to help the museum with this long list of activities. We look forward to combining our enthusiasm for radio history with them to enhance the experience for you.

Our first permanent exhibition “The Magic of waves” opens on December 12th. The history of the companies that once produced in our building guided the concept and the selection of objects for the exhibition. Having a second room full of prod-



Notes From Our President

By Pierre Valiquette



The year 2019, although not yet completed, has been a remarkable year. The Museum's team, led by Anja Borck, has accomplished an exceptional feat: migrating our collection to a new repository adapted for the conservation of our collection according to recognized museum standards. It is equipped with a professional storage system (shelves on rails, etc.) on which all objects are identified allowing them to be listed in a database that will be hosted on our Web server. I have briefly described the result of a titanic effort undertaken four years ago.

To accomplish this migration, Anja, well supported by the Acquisitions Committee, coordinated the work of an army of volunteers, trainees and staff all the while planning the first permanent exhibition of the Museum (Room E-208) as well as planning a new temporary exhibition scheduled to open in February.

Volunteers moving the old items from the old depot to the new one.



The Museum's Board of Directors has also worked hard to revise and adopt the Museum's new Strategic Plan for the years 2020 – 2024. This strategic plan has been translated into an action plan and a multi year budget, which should guide our actions for the next five years. I want to express many thanks to Marc Donato who led this process as well as all those that participated.

We plan to hire new staff to support Anja in the development of the Museum's projects. In the coming year, we will undertake actions to increase awareness of the Museum (its Brand), develop its activities (its Vitality) and continue to consolidate its human, financial and material resources (its Viability).

I would like to invite you all to the opening of the permanent exhibition of the Musée des ondes Émile Berliner on December 12. This event will be followed by the Museum's annual fundraising dinner on the theme of the 100th anniversary of radio broadcasting in Canada. The Museum is one of the organizers of an entire year of activities and celebrations for this important and little-known event in Montreal's history.

Pierre



Radio: A Hundred Years of History and Technology



By Alain Dufour

On November 8, 2019, an exhibition entitled “Radio: A Hundred Years of History and Technology” was launched at the Polytechnique in Montréal. This is the first event to mark the centennial year of Canadian broadcasting. The MOEB and the SQCRA are associated with various other partners in the organization of a host of activities celebrating this centennial. Here is a summary of the speech I gave on that occasion.

The Société Québécoise de Collectionneurs de Radios Anciens (SQCRA) is an association of more than 100 members founded in 1995...therefore, almost 25 years ago. Our members are passionate about preserving and restoring radios that marked the 20th century.

For its part, the Musée des Ondes Emile Berliner’s mission is to shine a light on the role of Emile Berliner in the reproduction of sound, notably the invention of the flat disc, and its industrial impact. Founded in 1992 the museum, located in Saint-Henri, is in the historic building of the RCA Victor Company. Home of the famous little dog Nipper!

Over two years ago a small group of people, including Denis Couillard, Director of Government Strategies at Ultra Electronics TCS, came up with the idea of organizing “something” to mark the centennial of Canadian broadcasting. For us, it is not only a matter of remembering the technological invention of radio, but also to highlight its impact on many aspects of society.

But what is radio?

- Radio is first and foremost the convergence of several inventions and many experiments made by scientists in the late 1800s. Pioneers such as Italy’s Marconi, France’s Branly, Canada’s Fessenden, Russia’s Popov, Britain’s Fleming, and Deforest and Armstrong in the United States to name a few. We should also mention Hertz, Tesla, Faraday and many others.

- Radio is about democratization and the instantaneousness of information. Before the radio, to be informed, you had to know how to read or trust others to summarize the news of the day for you.

- Radio is a means of giving a voice to all groups of the population. We need only think of the impact of the show “Fémina”, hosted for some 30 years by Thérèse Casgrain, to be convinced. Radio also means being able to reach geographically isolated communities.

- Radio is also the accessibility of culture and entertainment. From now on, music, singing, theatre, radio novels, sports (and even religion!) can easily enter the homes.

- Radio is a major manufacturing industry that has left its mark on our economy with the Marconi, Northern Electric and RCA-Victor plants in Montreal, but also elsewhere in Canada with those of Philco, Crosley, Rogers (Yes, your cellular phones), Philips, General Electric, Electrohome and so on.

- Radio included hundreds of repair shops in neighbourhoods and a multitude of technicians trained in specialized schools such as the Teccart Institute, Radio College of Canada or Aviron.

- Still today Radio consists of hundreds of transmitting stations, on the AM and FM bands and by satellite. A presence appreciated by millions of listeners across the country.

There are many reasons to celebrate this centennial and we are planning several events!

The programme of activities:

We begin in November with the exhibition of Polytechnique Montréal: Broadcasting, 100 years of history and technology. This is a two-part exhibition. There is a historical component to this exhibition, but we also wanted to show the use of radio frequencies that is being made today and even show the use that is envisaged for the future.

Then, in December 2019, the Centre d’Histoire de Montréal – soon to be called Mémoire des Montréalais – will publish a file containing a series of articles on Montreal radio. The unveiling of all the articles will take place gradually over the coming months. In addition, on December 5, 2019, Denis Couillard will be present a lecture entitled Des ondes et des hommes: Les premières radiodiffusions du Canada à Montréal en 1919 at the MHC.

Recently the MOEB has doubled its exhibition space. This will allow the museum, as its part of the centennial celebration, to present a permanent exhibition entitled La magie des ondes - le vinyle, le sans fil et le virtuel. This exhibition will be unveiled on December 12. The museum is also preparing an annual exhibition on the 100th anniversary of broadcasting in Montreal. This exhibition will be inaugurated on 27 February 2020.

At the World Trade Centre in late April we also plan to present an exhibition drawing attention to Montreal’s radio pioneers and to introduce its great early craftsmen and the places where the first broadcasting facilities were located.

In addition, whenever possible, to promote the history of broadcasting the MOEB and the SQCRA will be present at public events through out the year. Events such as, the Montreal Museums Day (May 2020), the Montreal Science Centre's Eureka Festival (June 2020) and the Journées de la culture in September 2020.

In closing we must not forget our collaboration with the School of Advanced Technology. In fact next May, with the ÉTS, we would like to organize the reissue of the program of May 1920 broadcast between Montreal and Ottawa that has marked so much the imagination of our grandparents (or even our great-grandparents!). For this project, students from ÉTS and Carleton University in Ottawa will work together.

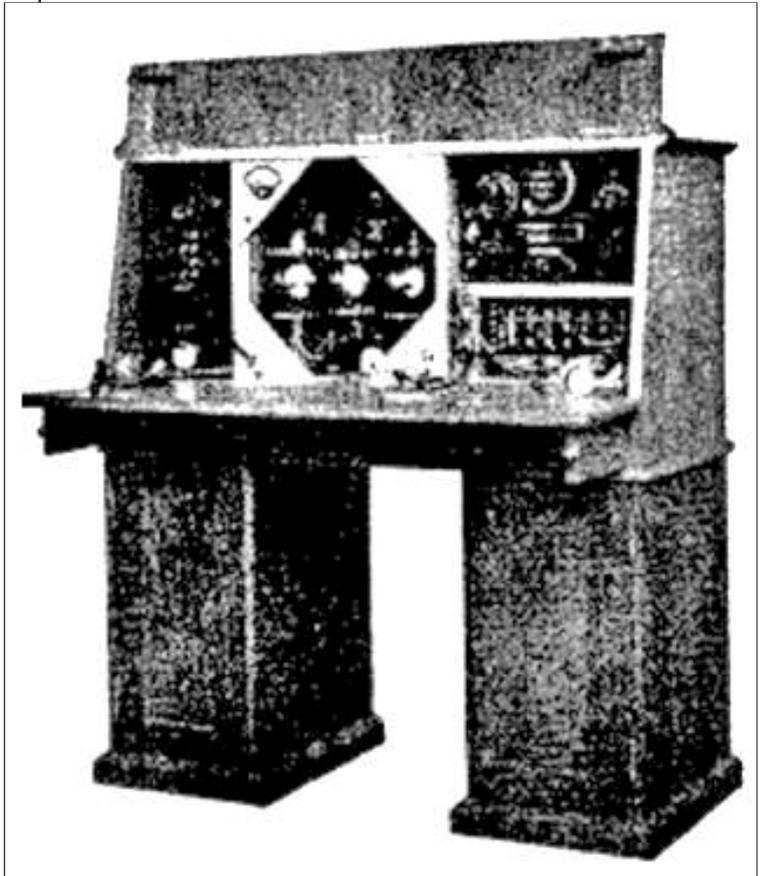
The dates and final details of certain activities are still to be planned. To keep up with all of the latest additions or changes, please visit the webpage dedicated to this centennial: radio100.moeb.ca

There is an excellent three part series on the History of Broadcasting in Canada written by Tim Hewlings with help from Alain dufour in the His Masters Voice issues 21.2,22.1 and 22.2

Boxer Jack Dempsey speaks into a microphone during a CFCF (formerly XWA) radio broadcast in 1922.

Photo from Library and Archives Canada C-066695

Canada's first transmitter 1919 Marconi



At the MOEB

New Board Members Profiles



Alain Dufour holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the Université du Québec à Montréal and also has a diploma in Business Information Technology. He has worked for various ministerial departments throughout the Quebec public service and is now retired. In November 2008 he joined the Société Québécoise des Collectionneurs de Radios Anciens and became the Secretary of the Board of Directors in September 2013. He has been the President of the SQCRA board since November 2017. He joined the MOEB Board of Directors in May 2019.

Marc Donato has over 35 years of experience in complex business and program management. He has recently served as an executive officer of MDA, Vice President of Canadian Operations, General Manager for 3 years at MDA Toronto and General Manager for 8 years at MDA Montréal.

Mr. Donato joined SPAR Aerospace in 1983 as the engineer in charge of developing the infrared satellite test for the Olympus and Anik E satellites. Since joining the management team in 1985, Mr. Donato has held various positions with increasing supervisory responsibilities, Chief Mechanical Engineer, Program Manager, Chief Scientist, Vice-president of Antenna Products. He has worked with several aerospace companies such as Hughes, Boeing, Lockheed, Northrup-Grumman, Harris, Orbital Sciences, Aerospatiale, Astrium, Alcatel, Alenia, Thales, Space System Loral, CSA (Canadian Space Agency), NASA, ESA (European Space Agency).

Prior to joining the company, Dr. Donato worked as a scientific expert for CIL's explosives research laboratories. Mr. Donato earned his Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering and Master's and Phd from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He did his Post Doctorate at the University of Göttingen in Germany. He has published more than 20 articles in the field of satellite design and testing.

Mr. Donato currently serves on the boards of directors:

- Montreal Science Centres
- Gina Cody School of Engineering (Concordia)
- MOEB

In the past Mr. Donato has served on a number of boards including:

- Aéro Montréal (Table de concertation de l'industrie aérospatiale au Québec)
- CARIC (Canadian Aerospace Consortium for Research and Innovation)
- MEQ (Manufacturer Exporter from Quebec)
- To the McGill Faculty of Engineering Advisory Committee.
- At the Aérospatiale Committee of the Palais du Congrès

Mr. Donato has also served on the boards of the AQA (Association québécoise de l'aérospatiale), the CIADI (Concordia Institute for Aerospace Design and Innovation), and was Chair of the Aerospace Committee of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal and Chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) for the Quebec Region.

Horns: One of the MOEB displays in the Edifice RCA



HMV 23.2 Cover Broadcasting Centennial Logo



MOEB 2019-2020 Calendar

Design Montréal RCA
The Sixties and the Seventies closes

The MOEB Permanent Exhibition
"The Magic of Waves"
opens 12 December

Opening 27 February 2020
A new Exhibition:
100 years of Radio Broadcasting in Montréal

In the next His Master's Voice

Studio Six: the multitrack

A Few Pictures of the Opening of the Magic of the Waves



Clockwise from the left, Museum director Anja Borck opens the exhibition and thanks the many volunteers that made it possible:
Nipper in the exhibition center piece:
President Pierre Valiquette paints a bright future for the MOEB





Clockwise from below, very rare 1889 Gramophone:
Nipper listens attentively: One of the many classic
Gramophones on display:
Borough major Benoit Dorais pledges the support of the
Le Sud Ouest borough: Close up of mayor Benoit Dorais



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Postcard from the collection of Joseph Pereira

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from all of us at
Le Musée des ondes Emile Berliner

