

# HOUSE MANUAL

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## **Before going:**

### **Prepare what to bring:**

The things you would bring to the house are:

- MOC membership card to retrieve the keys (see section : How to enter the house)
- Food, or money to buy some
- Toothpaste and toothbrush
- Musical instruments
- Games
- Sleeping bag (if there are a lot of people besides you)
- Change of clothes
- School work (if you are there for that)

### **Inform yourself about the address of the house as well as where the keys are.**

- See an exec or someone who went there. For security reasons we do not write the address in this document.

## Decide your way of getting there:

### Car

- Easiest way. For one car it will cost about 20\$ of gas for both going there and coming back. The usual way from downtown is to take Parc avenue until Jean-Talon. Turn left. Go until Acadie and turn right. Continue on Acadie and then follow the signs that say 15N Saint-Jerome. Once on the Highway 15 stay on it until Saint-Jerome and when you have the choice of staying on the left to go on the Road 117 do it. When you reach the street de la Station, you are a couple of blocks away.

### Bike

- Will take you anywhere between 2h30 to 5h00 of biking depending on your speed. If you use Google directions to the house and select biking, it will show you the almost the correct and easiest route, check below for a better one. Make sure you familiarize yourself with it before leaving as it can be tricky at some points.

### **Detailed Biking Directions to Prevost (see end of document for a bunch of google map screen shots depicting the way)**

1. Follow the Christophe Colomb bike path to Riviere des Prairies
2. Go West along the river following the Route Verte parallel to Gouin Boulevard
3. Turn right at the railroad tracks across an old railroad bridge into Laval.
4. Continue to follow signs for the Route Verte 1 (they can be tricky). You should be continually moving NNW.
5. Turn left onto the Boulevard-Sainte-Rose. Follow signs for bike path SW along the river (they are also confusing)
6. After a short wooded segment, turn right onto the bridge out of Laval. There will be a bike path across the bridge and then it will kind of peter out. This is the only segment without a solid bike path. You will be biking along the Curé-Labelle (117N) for about 3km.
7. At the top of the hill, turn right on Chemin de la Cote Saint Louis. You are back on the bike path!
8. Turn left on Parc Lineaire des Basses-Laurentides. You are now on the Route Verte 2.
9. Continue to follow signs for the Route Verte 2 all the way to St Jerome, where it turns into the P'tit Train du Nord.
10. Continue along the P'tit Train until kilometer 14, the old Prévost Train Station.

11. Turn left onto rue de la Station and the Couche-Tard is right across the road! (Talk to the exec or someone who has been to the house if you are unsure of how to get the key or what the house address is)

### Metro+Bus or train + something:

- Take the metro and get to the station Montmorency (orange line).  
Then take the bus 9, see hours of departures at this website : [http://www.tec.amt.qc.ca/itec/pa1/circuits/citla\\_19.htm](http://www.tec.amt.qc.ca/itec/pa1/circuits/citla_19.htm). Last departure on Friday is at 1AM.  
You will need 4.50\$ in change when you get in the bus to pay.  
The bus will take you to Saint-Jerome (very last station).  
There is also a train that you can take from metro station De La Concorde (orange line) that will also take you to the same place as the bus. It is quicker and there are less opportunities to catch it during the day and it costs 9.75\$ for the ticket. See all of the times at this website: <http://www.amt.qc.ca/train/blainville-st-jerome/horaires.aspx>. Note that this train leaves from Montreal during the week and you might want to check if there is a station near your place instead of heading to De La Concorde.  
When you get to Saint-Jerome by either bus or train, you will be about 15 km from the house in which case you have a choice of how to cover that distance and the choices are presented below.

#### i. bike

You can bring a bike to the bus and attach it to the front of the bus. (Inform yourselves if you are aloud, some days of the week it is restricted as well as during winter). They can take up to 2 bikes per bus. When in Saint-Jerome, take the bike down from the bus and bike to Saint-Jerome. Biking will take you around 30 minutes.

#### ii. hitchhike

There are a lot of people around the Saint-Jerome station - where the bus or the train brings you. You can ask around and see if someone is going to a

place called (Prevost) which is where the house is. Try asking in French. Ask them to drop you on the intersection of the 117 and street De la Station. If you find quickly a nice person who can lift you there, it will take around 10 minutes for you to get there.

iii. walk

Walking 15km is feasible but the least interesting choice. Make sure you know your way. It will take you around 1hr30.

### How to enter the house

You have arrived to the house, if you are the first there; chances are that the house is locked. What to do? Go to the Couche-Tard (ask an executive where that is when you ask for the address of the house). The Couche-Tard employees are aware that some people may come and ask for the house key. They will ask you for your MOC card as well as a 5\$ deposit. The 5\$ is simply to make you remember to bring back the key to the Couche-Tard and not bring it back to Montreal or where ever you live. It would be very sad if you forgot to do so and the next person arriving to the house could not get in since that key is the only copy in Prevost. The others are with the house manager and the assistant manager.

## When there ... (in alphabetical order):

### Climbing:

The house is near mount Shaw. There are places to do outdoor climbing there, which is less than a half an hour walk from the house. For exact location of the spots e-mail [climbing@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca](mailto:climbing@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca).

### Cooking:

The house has usually basic left over bags of food such as rice, pasta, beans etc. There are two fridges, one of them contains “public” food that anyone can use, and the other one is for “private” food that you do not want to share. Please use them accordingly. When cooking, you will have in the kitchen for you a more than vast array of pots, cooking pans, knives, spices, sugar, salt.

### Fire and fireplace:

The house has a fireplace (see last section of this document for a picture). Next to it (right), there is a box, which has small wood and big logs. Matches and lighters may be difficult to find so it is recommended that you bring your own. If there are no logs in the box, go to the entrance (see last section of this document for a map of the house). The firewood is stockpiled there as well as the bags of small wood sticks. There is also a bond fire outside of the house with benches and logs around it to sit and enjoy a good and warm fire. It is recommended to bring marshmallows or other delicious snacks to heat on the fire and then put in your mouth for an epic gustatory experience.

### Hiking:

There are a lot of hiking routes around Mount Shaw (link to trails to be done).

### Hockey:

There is a hockey rink about 20 meters from the house. Go and learn how to play! There are skates and sticks at the house in the gear room (see last section of this document for a map of what is around the house). Pucks may be difficult to find but there are some ... somewhere in the house. It's a good idea to bring one of yours just in case you don't find them. If you do know how to play, I dare you to test your skills with the locals. They have games each Saturday and Sunday at around 1PM. They have serious skills. Play the best if you want to learn quickly. They are very nice and accept everyone to play with them from beginners to advanced players.

**Internet:**

There is no wifi at the house, but you will get 3G. If you need to work on something and need internet, go to the café two blocks from the house (see last section of this document for a map of the house). It is unclear to me if you need to buy something or not in order to use their wifi. In any case, ask them because you need a simple password to access it.

**Karaoke:**

There is also a Karaoke place two blocks down, right next to the Couche-Tard. Go sing with friends and drink beer. Make sure to bring your id cards because some of the servers there will ask for it.

**Kayaking:**

This is as new as s\*#\$\$. We got kayaks at the house! Wouhou! You can take them up the river right near the house or use a car to bring them to somewhere else. Make sure to pay the fees though. They are 5\$ for a day. Pretty cheap if you know how much it usually costs! There are a couple of wet suits but due to size differences we recommend bringing your own until we buy more. IMPORTANT: we are establishing a policy about kayaks ... the kayaks should only be rented out when an executive is at the house. We want to make sure you know how to do a wet exit. Inform yourselves with us ([info@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca](mailto:info@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca)) to see when that will be possible (usually almost every weekend).

**Music:**

There is a very old little organ, and a guitar at the house. Also, there are a lot of little books with songs and chords for sing-alongs. Do not hesitate to bring your own instrument to impress others or practice in a calm place.

**Reading:**

Why don't you bring your favorite book, make a fire and a tea, and enjoy a calm evening reading. Waow. You forgot your book? We have some cool journals such as National Geographic and many others to keep you posted on cool outdoors stuff. (see last section of this document for a map of the house that shows where the Magazines and games are).

**Renting gear:**

There is a room dedicated to hold our gear – the gear room (see last section of this document for a map of the house). Go in, find what you need and pay the fees. The prices are written on a white board beside the door to the gear room. The fees go inside the honesty box (see last section of this document for a map of the house to locate it).

**Shower:**

There is a shower. Towels are usually across the shower door on a hanger. We have a lot of them. Use it but please be conservative with hot water especially if it is a busy weekend.

**Sleeping:**

The house has three rooms containing bunk beds covered in comfy foam. In the corner of the living room (see last section of this document for a map of the house), you can find a pile of blankets and pillows and sleeping bags for yourself. But if you are going to the house during an event that hosts many people such as New Members' weekend, the Olympics, Halloween and many others, you should think of bringing your own covers. E-mails about these big events are sent out at least one week in advance to the listserv to notify members. To make sure, you can always e-mail [info@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca](mailto:info@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca).

**Swimming:**

There is a river really close! It's nice to go swim there and there are cool picnic tables for you and your friends to have lunch together. (See last section of this document for a map of the house), you have to go to the soccer/baseball fields and continue along towards the river.

## Before you leave (this is super important)

### Be sure you cleaned up after your self, this involves:

- Vacuum the floor if its not clean and there is stuff on the ground. The vacuum is in the kitchen.
- Sweep floors (up & downstairs) ... always! The broom is usually next to the door where the honesty box is.
- Mop floor (downstairs). The mop is usually next to the door where the honesty box is.
- Wash dishes and tables ... always! If you need gloves for dishwashing, soap or sponges, there are all in the cabinet underneath the sink in the kitchen. Clean your stuff and counters after you cook!
- Discard fridge food (everything that will expire in less than 1 week). Make sure that you yourself did not leave some milk that expires in 2 days. And since you are at it, take a glance if there is other stuff like that in the fridge.
- Put random clothes into lost & found. You saw some weird clothes? Probably someone left stuff at the house. We have a lost and found shelf (see last section of this document for a map of the house). Put it there and people will come and get. Unless it seems super important like a cell phone, glasses or wallet. In that case we recommend you to bring it to our office, only if you are sure that you will remember to do it. We do not want you to take stuff and forget it at your place either.
- Put back the tools. Did something brake and you repaired it like a boss? Please put the tools back into the tool room (see last section of this document for a picture). But keep in mind, that if you fixed stuff – you're great. And if you cleaned up and put the tool back – you're awesome.

**\*\*\*Most important part of this document\*\*\*:**

- A. Thermostats should all be set to very low number! There are 4 of them and see this map to locate them (see last section of this document for a map of the house). If you don't, it gets pretty expensive to pay hydro bills.
- B. Turn that hot water tank off! If no one is there, the hot water is there for nothing. Why not turn it off and save energy? Make the planet greener! You are not sure how this works? Well here is the water tank and the lever is identified (see last section of this document for a picture). You pull it down to close it ... and ... you guessed it.... pull it up to turn it on!
- C. Close the windows. You would not leave your front window open in Montreal if you were gone for a week. So do the same with the MOC house. Close those windows!
- D. Ensure upstairs faucet is not leaking - turn it back on (clockwise) a little and it will stop. Pretty easy.
- E. Bring back the key to couche tard. God oh God. Please. Do not leave the doors closed. In this case you need the key. And after you close the doors, God oh God, return the key to the Couche-Tard. Do not bring it to your place. That is not the point. There is only one key in that Couche-Tard. You forget to return it, the next person will be stuck outside or even worse... very confused.
- F. Pay fees. There is a honesty box next to the door. Prices are written next to it. Please pay your fees. We are a non-profit organization; we use all the money we get to improve the house, our gear and our services such as trip subsidies and other. If you do not pay us, we will have trouble paying all the fire wood, all the toilet paper, soap, food, spices and what not for the house. The prices are pretty low for a night, like all our prices. We know that students are poor (usually) and we want to offer cool stuff at low prices. But we can't make it free.

**After leaving:**

**Let the house manager (as well as assistant house and the president) know if something went wrong.**

[house@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca](mailto:house@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca)  
[assistanthouse@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca](mailto:assistanthouse@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca)  
[president@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca](mailto:president@mcgilloutdoorsclub.ca)

**Send us pictures.**

There is a pretty cool wall on which we put pictures. Pictures that symbolize the spirit of the awesome people in the club and everybody who uses the house. You had a good time? Send us a picture and we will figure out a spot for it on that great wall.

**If something goes wrong...**

1. There is a first aid kit in the kitchen (see last section of this document for a picture).
2. See neighbors if you need real help.
3. Call 911.

**Pictures for reference**



**Figure 1: Bunks**



Figure 2: Water heater



Figure 3: Fireplace

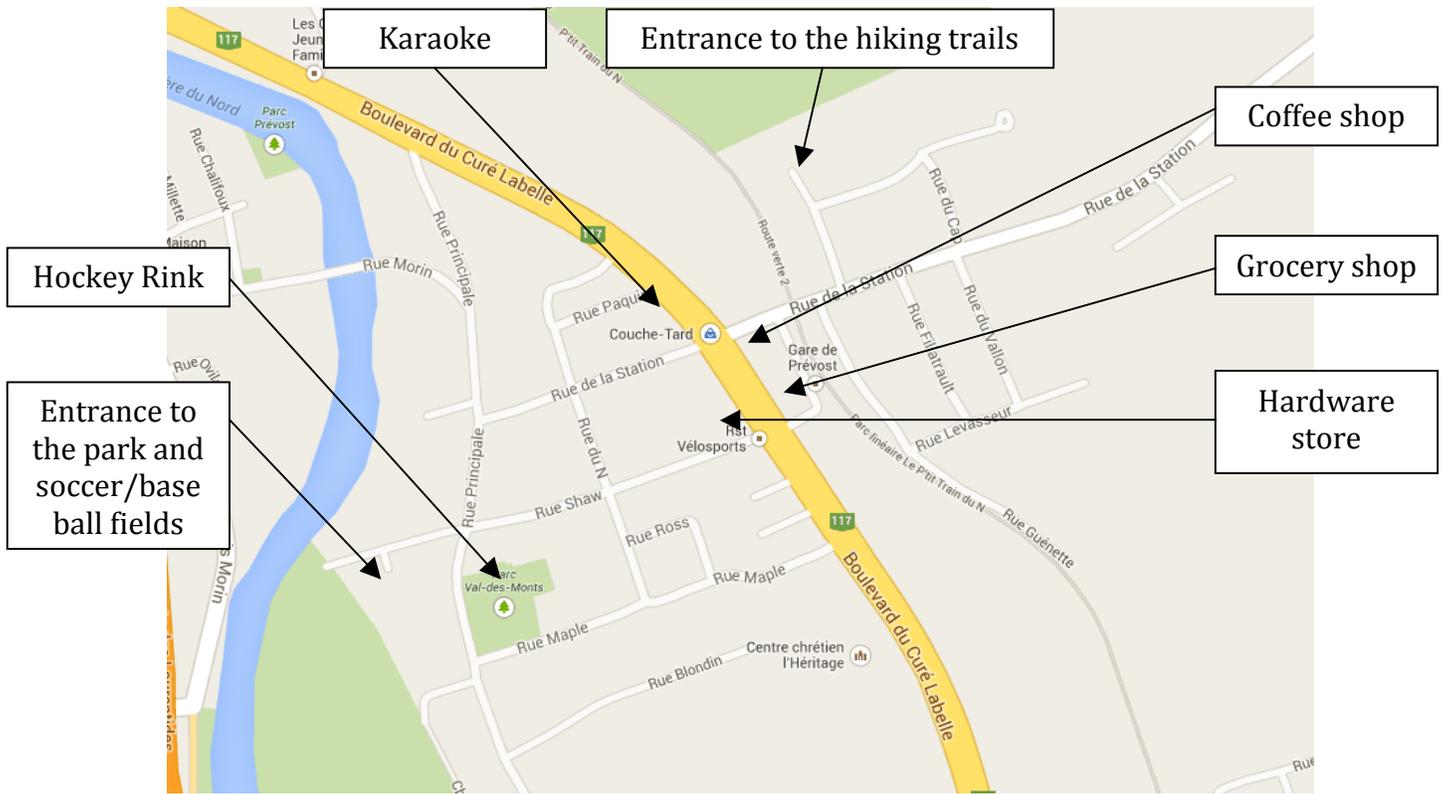


Figure 4: What's near the house (inform yourselves by asking an executive the address of the house and the location of the keys)

