

A Heartfelt Goodbye to Le Sélection

How I became a tenant at 11 Place de la Triade

Following a recent marriage separation, I moved into Le Sélection on October 1st, 2021. My cousin and real estate agent found the condo for me and arranged for me to visit it and tour the facility. I'll be honest. I was not prepared to move into a "prestige" accommodation such as Le Sélection! In one day, I had seen a few places, but nothing really spoke to me until I saw condo 154 and the amenities available to me. The pool, the gym, the dining room, and even the 24h on-call nursing services were all so attractive and alluring that I took just one night to sleep on it before deciding that I would take a chance and apply. I submitted a personalized letter with my application and shared "My Story," which can be found on my BLOG at www.beinginvisible.ca/my-story. As a result, I was fortunate enough to have the world's greatest landlord agree to me renting the space with a co-signer's signature. John is such a nice man. He has been so accommodating and has worked with me to tend to little things that needed servicing by taking action and getting servicemen in asap to take care of them. Although English is his second language, he became a fan of my blog chapters and Condo newsletter articles!

Where is he going?

The purpose of this article is to notify you all that I will be moving out on May 15th, so this will be my last newsletter article. You may be wondering, why is he moving? Well, truth be told, it's a financial decision. Most of you know my poor health precludes me from working, so I have no income. That means that my rent and living expenses are being paid from my savings after selling my home in St-Lazare. However, those savings are now running thin, and as wonderful as it is here, I just can't afford it. I had hoped that 2022 would be the year that I would regain my health and be able to work again, but sadly that was not the case. I suffer from a multitude of serious illnesses, including degenerative autoimmune diseases like Psoriatic Arthritis, Ankylosing Spondylitis, and Sjögren's Syndrome, among many other syndromes and comorbidities. I also have a bad case of IBS, which I can say with complete conviction has been the hardest of all my illnesses to live with. It robs people of their autonomy and quality of life. And we all know that there is a financial cost to being sick beyond the physical cost. Being sick is costly on so many fronts. Therefore, I had to do my best to find a place that could still accommodate my special needs whilst being more affordable.

The pros and cons

After about 1 month of research on Facebook Marketplace, I finally found a newly finished bachelor (that has the finishings of a condo and more) in the basement of a home in Vaudreuil. I also had my eyes on two other condos, but

the cost was prohibitive. This new place has everything I need, including central air conditioning, heated floors, a bathtub, garage parking, and even includes Hydro (heating, lighting, and hot water), High-Speed Internet, Videotron Cable Television, and snow removal. And all for about \$400/m less than the rent I'm paying now, which does not include hydro, internet, or cable. Admittedly, I will have to negotiate one flight of stairs when coming and going, but I can manage that. Bringing groceries in might be tricky, but I can always have them delivered if I find it too difficult. I'll miss not having easy access to a pool, mind you! Thankfully, I'm 5 minutes away from the indoor municipal pool in Vaudreuil, which is open at convenient hours for me in the evenings during the week and afternoons on the weekend.

The Le Sélection's location, being so close to all the necessary stores, was a big plus. Still, thankfully, in Vaudreuil, I'll be just 5 minutes away by car to all the important places like grocery stores and pharmacies. Le Sélection was what I needed to transition from married life to a life on my own. It has not been an easy transition, mind you; I would say that I have not accepted my new life situation. Living alone has taken a toll on my mental health, which adversely affects my physical health. But Le Sélection helped smooth things for me.

Friends at any age

When I first moved into this complex, I remember heads turning when I walked by, as most residents are in their golden years, and I'm only 52. I stuck out like a sore thumb! I even remember some of the residents thought I would be giving the exercise class when they saw me show up to attend the class - hilarious! Appearances can be deceiving. I don't look sick; you can't see my physical limitations or artificial joints and fusions. Over time, I befriended several of you and even developed a following for my writing in the newsletter, which was so flattering. Thanks to the newsletter, I've had an opportunity to share a bit of myself with all of you. I want to thank all of you, those I collaborated with, and those who gave me compliments on my writing, for your support and friendship. You know who you are. I've had the opportunity to chat with some of you, and it's always been a pleasant experience. So, it is with some fondness and some sadness that I bid you all farewell. Thank you for taking me in and making me feel like a welcome club member. You have all enriched my life in one way or another.

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My last song recommendation:

Listen to the Music by the Doobie Brothers

https://bit.ly/listen_to_the_music

