

RETAIL DETAIL Stacey Tenenbaum

Shopping at the mushroom store

Pierre Noël, owner, Mycoboutique, 16 Rachel St. E., 514-223-6977, www.mycoboutique.ca.

Can you explain what this store is?

It's like a general store, but with a mushroom theme. Everything we carry is mushroom related. Most people who come here are just discovering mushrooms. What they mostly come to find is information. They come in and ask: "Is this mushroom good to eat? Will I find it growing wild? How can I cultivate it? Is this product good? And what gear should I have with me to go mushroom hunting?" We have this knowledge, so we share it with others.

Is there a big interest in mushroom picking in Montreal?

It's spreading a lot now, mostly because of the gastronomic aspect and also because people enjoy being outdoors and discovering the forests. We do regular picking excursions, and we have talks about mushroom hunting here each month.

How can somebody just starting out be sure that the mushrooms they're picking are not poisonous?

The first principle in mush-

