WELCOME TO OUR 2019 Honorary Degree Recipients

Message from our president

It's truly an exciting time to be part of the Concordia community. Ranked as Canada's top university under 50 years old and one of the most international universities in the world, we recently climbed 144 spots in the World University Rankings, the biggest surge of any Canadian university.

These encouraging results reflect our efforts to differentiate Concordia as a next-generation university. We're positioning Concordia as a flagship for exciting research in breakthrough fields, and as a destination of choice for students seeking transformational learning opportunities in one of the world's most dynamic, cosmopolitan cities.

Concordians are achieving incredible things. In the past year alone, members of our community have: changed public policy through research on contaminants in local drinking water; been nominated for best short film at the Oscars; competed in national championships for men's rugby, and men's and women's basketball. The university's foundation became the first in Canada to commit to a portfolio of 100 per cent sustainable investments by 2025, and one of our graduates — Lino A. Saputo Jr. — was named the country's top CEO of the year.

We're ambitious to expand our impact as innovation leaders in higher education and are eager to keep you engaged and supportive of the progress we're making. As a recipient of a Concordia honorary doctorate, you represent the values, talent and contributions to society we celebrate as a next-generation university.

With this booklet, I'm thrilled to present our 14 newest honorary doctorates who have joined your distinguished group. I hope you take growing pride in the recognition the university has bestowed on you, and invite you to stay in touch with me throughout my mandate as Concordia's President and Vice-Chancellor.

Enjoy!

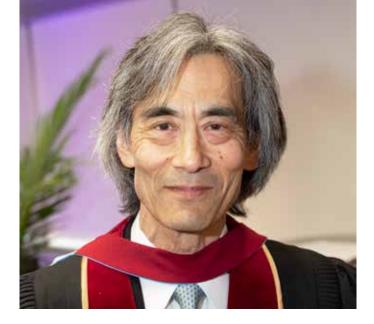
Sincerely,

chan Can

Graham Carr Concordia President president@concordia.ca







Kent Nagano, LLD 19 Music director, Orchestre symphonique de Montréal

As music director of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM) since 2006, Kent Nagano is in his last season with the orchestra. Under his leadership, the OSM conceived, built and opened the new Maison symphonique de Montréal, built and inaugurated the Pierre Béique organ, and saw a revival of critically acclaimed recordings and touring activities. Among Nagano's many honours is the Governor General of Canada's Meritorious Service Medal (Civil Division), which he received in 2018.



Aimee Mullins, LLD 19 Athlete, actor, model and speaker

The first double amputee in history to compete in Division I NCAA track and field, Aimee Mullins went on to compete for Team USA in the 1996 Paralympic Games. She has set world records in the 100 metres, 200 metres and long jump events. In 2012, Mullins was named chef de mission for the United States at the Paralympic Games in London and appointed by then Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to the Council to Empower Women and Girls Through Sports. In 2018, she became one of the youngest inductees into the U.S. National Women's Hall of Fame.

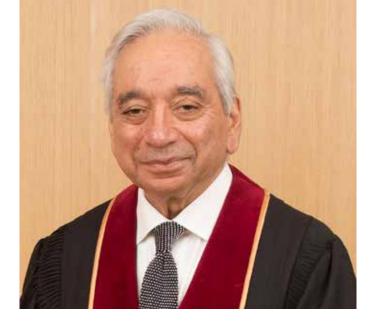
Welcome!

Learn about the fourteen new leaders who now join our university's community of 220,000 alumni around the world.

@ConcordiaAlumni 🖪 🎔 in 🖸



"You represent the generation that has the power and tools to make the changes that will assure our planet's future. You have the opportunity to restore and repair our entire planet." — Kamaljit Bawa, DSc 19



Kamaljit Bawa, DSc 19 Trailblazing conservation researcher; founder, Ashoka Trust

A global leader in biodiversity conservation, and climate change and sustainability sciences, Kamaljit Bawa is a distinguished professor of biology at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He is a former Bullard Fellow at Harvard University, as well as a Guggenheim Fellow. Beyond his groundbreaking research, Bawa has promoted the engagement of civil society in conservation efforts by founding the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment. Among his honours, the most recent include the Linnean Medal in Botany and the José Cuatrecasas Medal for Excellence in Tropical Botany.



Sylvia Schmelkes, LLD 19 Education reformer; academic vice-president, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City

Sylvia Schmelkes is a pioneering researcher and advocate for reform in Mexico's education system and one of Latin America's leading proponents of intercultural education. She currently serves as academic vice-president of Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. Her leadership has contributed to the founding of nine intercultural universities that aim to support the linguistic and cultural autonomy of Mexico's diverse Indigenous populations. Among other honours, in 2008 Schmelkes received the Comenius Medal from UNESCO for her career as a researcher.



"We count on universities to learn how to be eternally dissatisfied with the status quo. We learn to have intolerance of limitations. We learn that it is important to go beyond just the subjective in order to achieve freedom for our curiosity." — Kent Nagano, LLD 19

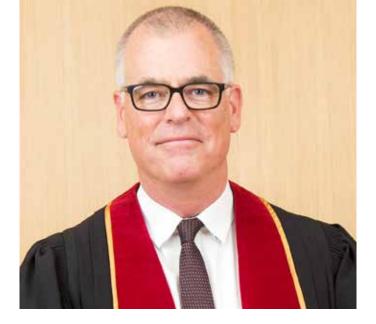


"Take back your free time for daydreaming. Daydreaming nurtures natural curiosity and a capacity for reinvention. If you can't hear yourself, you can't know yourself." — Aimee Mullins, LLD 19



Caroline Ouellette, LLD 19 International hockey star; founder, Girls Hockey Celebration

One of women's hockey's most accomplished players, Caroline Ouellette has won four consecutive Olympic gold medals, 12 International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship medals and 12 Four Nations Cup medals for Team Canada. She was also team captain at the 2014 Sochi Olympic Winter Games. Ouellette is the founder of Girls Hockey Celebration, a tournament that brings young women together to play and meet role models from Canada's Olympic team. She has also been an athlete ambassador with Right To Play since 2004, and an ambassador and active fundraiser for the Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation. She joined the coaching staff of the Concordia Stingers women's hockey team in 2012.



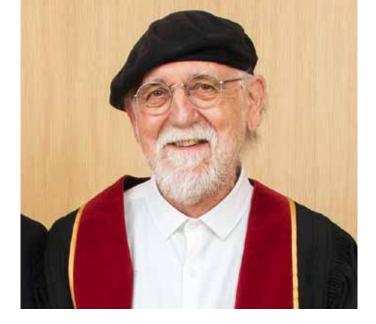
Peter Simons, LLD 19 President and CEO, La Maison Simons

Peter Simons is president and CEO of La Maison Simons. Founded in 1840, the Quebec-based retailer is Canada's oldest privately owned family business. Simons's leadership helped the chain expand from Quebec City to 15 stores across Canada. Simons is a vocal advocate for fair fiscal and social practices. In 2008, Simons was named Chevalier of the Ordre national du Québec, and in 2018 was appointed as Member of the Order of Canada.









Gilles Mihalcean, DFA 19 Sculptor and contemporary artist

Gilles Mihalcean is a major figure in Quebec contemporary art. A self-taught sculptor, he has exhibited his work internationally since the mid-1970s while raising the reputation of Quebec artists abroad. Mihalcean has been an active figure in the Montreal art scene through colloquia, public speaking and mentoring the next generation of artists, including students in Concordia's Studio Art program. Among his honours are the Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas in 2011 and the CALQ Bourse de carrière Jean-Paul Riopelle.



Annette Verschuren, LLD 19 Chair and CEO, NRStor Inc.

Canadian business icon Annette Verschuren began her career working as a development officer with the Cape Breton Development Corporation. From there, Verschuren was named president of Michael's of Canada Inc., and then president of The Home Depot Canada. In 2012, Verschuren founded her own company, NRStor Inc., a leader in the commercialization of energy storage technologies. Her book, *Bet On Me: Leading and Succeeding in Business and in Life*, was a finalist for the National Business Book Award. Verschuren was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2011 and was inducted into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame in 2019.



- Louis Vachon, LLD 19

"You have to invite everybody at the table to help you make decisions. An inclusive environment with diverse opinions results in much better decisions than one group of homogeneous people." — Annette Verschuren, LLD 19



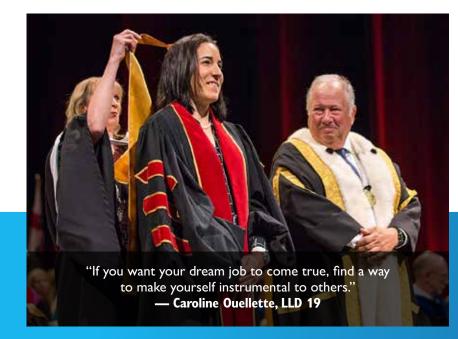
Natalie Panek, DSc 19 Senior engineer, Mission Systems, MDA

As senior engineer in Mission Systems at MDA, Natalie Panek works on Canadian space robotics and space exploration programs, including the European Space Agency's ExoMars 2020 rover. She completed an internship at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and attended a Space Studies Program at NASA's Ames Research Center. Panek works to change the ratio of women in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Among her many awards and accolades, she was named to the 2015 *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list.



Éric Martel, DSc 19 President and CEO, Hydro-Québec

Éric Martel has served as president and CEO of Hydro-Québec since 2015. He chairs the World Economic Forum's Electricity Industry community and is among the stewards leading the organization's initiative to shape the future of energy. He also sits on the board of the Global Sustainable Electricity Partnership. After 20 years of involvement with Centraide of Greater Montreal, Martel co-chaired its 2019 campaign.





"Be yourself. Don't try to be something you're not. Every day you need to say, 'This is my dream, this is what I want.'" — Éric Martel, DSc 19



Louis Vachon, LLD 19 President and CEO, National Bank of Canada

With more than three decades of experience in the banking sector, Louis Vachon spent many of those years rising through the ranks at the National Bank of Canada. As president and CEO since 2007, he has helped make it Canada's sixth-largest commercial bank. Vachon has served on many corporate boards, including Molson Coors and Groupe CH Inc. For his professional and community work, he received the 2016 Global Citizen Award from the United Nations Association in Canada, and was appointed as Member of the Order of Canada that same year.



Barbara Davidson, BFA 90, LLD 19 Photojournalist and filmmaker

Three-time Pulitzer Prize-winning press photographer, Barbara Davidson, BFA 90, began her career after graduating from Concordia as a staff photographer at *The Record* in Waterloo, Ontario, then the *Washington Times*, the *Dallas Morning News* and finally, the *Los Angeles Times*. She is currently pursuing a career as a freelance photojournalist and is working on a Guggenheim Fellowship. Her successful career spans more than 20 years and has brought her to conflict zones and humanitarian crises in more than 55 countries.

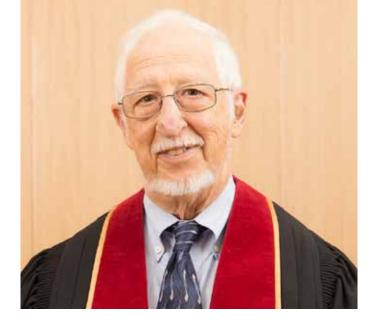
"Education equals freedom. I was the first person in my family to get a university degree and I am keenly aware that education lifted me out of poverty and gave me the freedom to achieve so many of my dreams."
Barbara Davidson, BFA 90, LLD 19





Rebecca Brent, LLD 19 President, Educator Designs Inc.

Rebecca Brent began her career as a primary school teacher, though eventually realized her passion for teacher education. She is now president of Education Designs Inc., a consulting firm in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Brent has more than 35 years of experience in education and specializes in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) staff development, teacher preparation, and evaluation of educational programs at both precollege and college levels. Along with her spouse, Richard Felder, Brent has helped lead a generation of STEM educators to teach more effectively.



Richard Felder, LLD 19 Hoechst Celanese Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering

Beginning his career researching various topics related to chemical process engineering, Richard Felder eventually discovered his passion for teaching. In 1978, he coauthored the textbook *Elementary Principles of Chemical Processes*, which has been adopted by more than 90 per cent of chemical engineering departments in the United States. He is currently the Hoechst Celanese Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Along with his spouse, Rebecca Brent, Felder has presented more than 600 faculty development workshops and seminars.





'A dedicated champion of our university': Concordia mourns the loss of L. Jacques Ménard

Graduate and chancellor emeritus was a prominent figure in Quebec's business and philanthropic communities

Businessman and Concordia chancellor emeritus L. Jacques Ménard, BComm 67, LLD 06, passed away on February 4, 2020, in Montreal. He was 74.

Ménard was president of BMO Financial Group, Quebec, from 2001 to 2018. He was also a director at many businesses and non-profit organizations across Montreal.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of a dedicated champion of our university and an accomplished member of Quebec's business and philanthropic communities," said Concordia's president, Graham Carr.

Tireless advocate for education

Concordia has been an important beneficiary of Ménard's long-time advocacy on behalf of education. He joined the Board of Governors in 1994 and played a crucial role in the university's Campaign for a New Millennium, 1996-99. He was appointed deputy chancellor in 2009 and served as chancellor from 2010 to 2014. Ménard embodied the Jesuit motto, "a man for others," of his alma mater, Loyola College, one of Concordia's founding institutions. His efforts and achievements have been recognized by several private organizations and all three levels of government.

He was awarded the highest level of the Order of Canada, Companion, and received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012. He was a Commander of the Ordre de Montréal and in 2017 was promoted to the rank of Grand Officer, the highest honour of the National Order of Quebec.

Concordia recognized his achievements with an Award of Distinction from the John Molson School of Business in 1993, the Loyola Medal in 1999 and an honorary doctorate in 2006.

Our community of Concordia honorary degree recipients continues to grow

1965

Jean Lesage* Alphonse-Marie Parent* Howard Irwin Ross* Evan H. Turner Zubin Mehta B. Wynne Roberts*

1966

John James Deutsch* Everett Cherrington Hughes* Paul Gérin-Lajoie* Henry Foss Hall* Wilfred N. Hall* Omond McKillop Solandt* Francis Reginald Scott* Colin Wesley Webster*

1967

Harold Roy Crabtree* Jean Drapeau* Pierre Dupuy* Gustave Gingras* Karl Gunnar Myrdal* Amos Saunders* J. Gerald Hagey* Kathleen Ruby Jenkins* Maurice Frederick Strong*

1968

Lionel Boulet* James Robbins Kidd* Samuel H. Schecter* Herman Smith Johannsen* Robert Alan Speirs* Jan Tinbergen*

1969

Maureen Katherine Stewart Forrester* Ted Sheffield* Robert H. L. Slater* Percy Weissman*

1970

Charles-Henri Barbier* Eedson Louis Millard Burns* Paul Gallagher* Saul Hayes* George Maxwell Hobart* Alphonse Riverin* Bryce Mackasey* Elizabeth Homer Morton* George Woodcock*

1971

Pierre Dansereau* Emil Fackenheim* St. Clair Holland* Alfred Pellan* Harold Rocke Robertson* Jean-Jacques Bertrand* Alberto Mortara*

1972

Louis-Philippe Bonneau* Fraser F. Fulton* John Rutherford Heron* Robert Ferguson Legget* René Pomerleau* Casimir G. Stanczykowski* Aylmer A. Ryan* Carl Arthur Winkler*

1973

C.F. (Bill) Carsley* Douglass Burns Clarke* James Alexander Corry* Frederick G. Hubbard* Paul Lambert* Vernon F. McAdam*

1975

Franz Paul Decker* Louis-Paul Dugal* Neil Barron Hutcheon* Moses Levitt* Mary MacCormack* Patrick G. Malone* Myer F. Pollock* Louis Rasminsky* Anthony Walsh* David Azrieli* Donald Olding Hebb* Agnes C. Higgins* Renée Vautelet*

1976

Gerald Emmett Carter* George A. Fierheller Charles Fox* Larkin Kerwin* Irving Layton* Gerald Le Dain* Robert Ayre* Irving Richard Tait*

1977

Charles S. Carter* Guy Desbarats* Bernard Lonergan* Norman McLaren* Frances Perot Foster*

1978

Robert A. Boyd* Harry J. Boyle* John Hastings Dinsmore James Gilchrist Finnie* J. Gordin Kaplan* Louis Muhlstock* Irène Sénécal* A. Hollis Marden*

1979

Robert E. Bell* Camille A. Dagenais* Donald C. MacPhail* Oscar Peterson* Maurice Proulx* Fernand Seguin* Wilfred Cantwell Smith* Margaret Atwood Mario Duschenes*

1980

Thérèse Casgrain^{*} William T.G. Hackett^{*} Murray Laufer Walter F. Light^{*} Eric O'Connor^{*} Thomas Daly^{*} Gérard Dion^{*} Roger Gaudry^{*} Ethel Stark^{*}

1981

Jules Deschênes* Alphonsine Howlett* Yvonne Hubert* Josef Kates* Gordon M. MacNabb Philip H. Surrey* Thomas H.B. Symons

1982

Jack Bordan Alex C. Duff* Arthur J. Gosselin* John R. Hannan* Henry J. Hemens* Myer Horowitz Robert H. Marchessault* Arthur P. Pascal* Sam Tata* Douglas Tushingham* Douglas T. Wright

1983

Roch Bolduc Muriel H. Duckworth* James M. Ham* Pierre Laurin Elvie L. Smith*

1984

Lloyd I. Barber* J. Clair Callaghan* Lionel Chevrier* Carl B. Crawford* Dorothy Davis* Peter J. Denning Jean Paul Lemieux* H.J. Barrington Nevitt* Madeleine Parent* Norma Springford* Guy Sylvestre* Violet Walters* Orson Wheeler*

1985

N. Byron Cavadias Norman Cohn* Frank R. Crawley* Bernard Lamarre* Theodore Lande* Stephen Lewis George Geoffrey Meyerhof* Max Stern* Charlotte Hunter Tansey* Jean-Paul Vinay*

1986

Lise Bissonnette Robert Choquette* Simone de Beauvoir (posthumous)* Jacques de Tonnancour* Jacques Genest* Grace Hartman* Phyllis Lambert William McMurray* Sylvia Ostry Hans H. (David) Stern* Robert Stollery*



1987

Léon Bellefleur* Robert J. Brodrick* Margaret Fulton* Eric Kierans* Hugh MacLennan* J. Gerard McDonough* Peter M. McEntyre* William B. Rice* W. Earle McLaughlin*

1988

Raymond T. Affleck* Stafford Beer* Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar* Ronald J. Gillespie Jori Smith* Elizabeth Spencer* Allan R. Taylor. Ashok K. Vijh Wei Yu J.V. Raymond Cyr Paul-Émile Léger*

1989

George Drummond Birks* Claude Castonguay Paterson Ewen* Jean-Paul Gourdeau Gordon Sparling* Robert H. Tanner* William I. Turner* Susan Mann Trofimenkoff Dorothy A. Wills Margaret Catley-Carlson Gratien Gélinas*

1990

Doris Anderson* Paul G. Desmarais* Jaime Escalante* Ursula Franklin* Wally Gentleman* Mel Hurtig* Antonine Maillet John Polanyi

1991

Jean Coulthard* Jean Coutu Donald Knuth David Rome* Rosalie Silberman Abella Michel Tremblay Lorne Webster* Bertha Wilson*

1992

Charles Bronfman Jeff W. Edington François-Marc Gagnon* Carleen Maley Hutchins* Judith Maxwell Eigil Pedersen* Maurice Podbrey Guy Saint-Pierre Arthur Solomon* Alan B. Gold*

1993

Sacvan Bercovitch* Edgar Andrew Collard* William K. Everson* Mildred B. Lande* Alanis Obomsawin Jean-Louis Roux* Martha Sloan Velma Weeks Barker* Mary Eberts Victor C. Goldbloom*

1994

Thomas R. Berger Thérèse Gouin-Décarie Otto Joachim* John McCarthy* Jean Pigott* Margaret Power* Mildred Helfand Ryerson* Huguette Tourangeau* Ben Weider* Matthew W. Barrett Joe Clark

1995

Myer Bloom* Gilles Carle* Jacques G. Francoeur* Peter Godsoe Linda Hutcheon Michèle S. Jean Eric McLean* Michel Normandin* Peter A. Vamos

1996

Lawrence S. Bloomberg James Borcoman* Paul T. Kefalas E. Leo Kolber* Claudette MacKay-Lassonde* David Matas Wilfred Whyte McCutcheon* Donald C. Savage* Anne Sylvestre

1997

Morrel Bachynski* Elisabeth Mann Borgese* Wendy Cukier Roland Doré Pierre Jean Jeanniot Emmett Johns* Annette Michelson* Jean A. Pouliot* Heidi Rathjen Jeanne Renaud Esmeralda M.A. Thornhill Ned Goodman

1998

André Bazergui David Jay Bercuson Douglas J. Cardinal Dominic D'Alessandro John Economides* Carol Shields* Mary Wright* William Shue Lam Yip Henryk Gorecki* Paul Martin

1999

J. Edward Broadbent James W. Carey* Peter Munk* Charles Albert Poissant* Annie Proulx Charles Sirois Robert Wall* Robert Lepage Lise Thibault

2000

Jean Sutherland Boggs* Barrie J. Frost* Serge Godin Ann Saddlemyer James M. Stanford John A. Roth Giancarlo E. Valori

2001

Louise Arbour Geoffrey E.H. Ballard* Lionel P. Hurtubise Henry Mintzberg Robert Savoie* Shirley L. Thomson* Claire L'Heureux-Dubé

2002

Assia Djebar* John W. Dobson* Julio Garcia Espinosa* Seamus Heaney* Julia Levy Ahmed Zewail* Gregory Baum* Francesco Bellini

* Deceased

Do you know someone extraordinary? Nominate them for an honorary degree. Visit concordia.ca/nominate for instructions.



2003

Sidney Altman John Tyler Bonner* Robert E. Brown Tom Brzustowski Stephen A. Jarislowsky Eric Kandel Richard Monette* Gilles Ouimet Larry W. Swanson Jill Ker Conway* Natalie Zemon Davis Leonard Ellen* Ronald Lawless* John Major Jean-Paul Morin*

2004

André Chagnon Adrienne Clarkson Maryvonne Kendergi* Alistair MacLeod* Guido Molinari (posthumous)* John O'Brien* Henri-Paul Rousseau Claude Ryan (posthumous)* Lui Che Woo Marc Garneau Michael Gibbons Daniel Langlois Bruce Mallen

2005

Robert Daudelin Shirin Ebadi John Forzani^{*} Leo Goldfarb (posthumous)^{*} Norman D. Hébert^{*} Ted Moses Bengt Saltin^{*} Claude Taylor^{*} Allan E. Gotlieb Brian Mulroney Michael Desbois Spencer^{*}

2006

Naïm Kattan Alfred Leslie L. Jacques Ménard* Michèle Thibodeau-DeGuire Eric H. Molson

2007

Al Gore Howard Alper André Desmarais Donald McNaughton* Grant Munro* Jean-Claude Turcotte* Charles C. Hill Heather Menzies

2008

Frederick H. Lowy Laura Mulvey Robert Louis Papineau* Robert Ritchie Thierry Frémaux René Balcer Hilary M. Weston

2009

Roger Abbott* Jean Béliveau* Don Ferguson Mel Hoppenheim Andrée Lajoie N.R. Narayan Murthy Richard Renaud AA Bronson Elizabeth Comper* Tony Comper Robert A. Walsh

2010

Laurent Beaudoin Robert Charlebois Jean Chrétien Julie Payette Richard Pound R. Murray Schafer Eleanor Wachtel Brian O'Neill Gallery Vic Vogel* Joëlle Berdugo Adler

2011

Beverley McLachlin Rémi Quirion Corinne Charette Monique F. Leroux Steve Wozniak Theo Jansen Kathy Reichs Xavier-Henri Hervé Robert Courteau

2012

Craig Kielburger Marc Kielburger Jane Doe George Springate* Graham Fraser Darren Entwistle John de Chastelain Gaston J-M Kaboré Aldo Bensadoun Elsa Bolam

2013

Joyce Zemans Leonard Kleinrock Deepa Mehta Roméo Dallaire Mutsumi Takahashi Christiane Germain Françoise Bertrand Clark Blaise Vahid Tarokh

2014

Louis R. Chênevert Chantal Hébert Michal Hornstein* Renata Hornstein* Bryan Kolb Stuart McLean* Chantal Pontbriand Gregg Saretsky Michael Sabia Jacqueline St-Yves Richard M. Stallman

2015

Kenneth Deer Christiana Figueres Lino Saputo Anne-Marie Hubert K.G. Terry Hollands Angèle Dubeau France Chrétien-Desmarais Nancy Neamtan Barbara Steinman

2016

Joan Wallach Scott Sherry Turkle Nora Volkow David Johnston Arlene Dickinson Garrett Herman Pierre Lassonde Aaron Fish James Shavick Nahlah Ayed Calin Rovinescu Maria Klawe Régine Chassagne

2017

Chantal Petitclerc Kim Thuy Robert Calderisi J. Sebastien van Berkom Kenneth W. Woods Lise Watier Jahangir Mohammed David A. Martin Measha Brueggergosman Bernard Voyer Isabelle Hudon Kon Leong

2018

Edith Cloutier Serge Chapleau Terry Mosher Grand Chief Wilton Littlechild Meyya Meyyappan Lorne Trottier Louise Rousselle Trottier Clare Akamanzi Cornelia Hahn Oberlander **Robert Briscoe** Peter Schumann Ulrike Ottinger Miriam Roland Meredith Monk Nathalie Pilon Louis A. Tanguay Luigi Liberatore

2019

Kent Nagano Aimee Mullins Caroline Ouellette Sylvia Schmelkes Kamaljit Bawa Peter Simons Louis Vachon Éric Martel Natalie Panek Gilles Mihalcean Barbara Davidson Annette Verschuren Richard Felder Rebecca Brent

* Deceased



NINE DIRECTIONS FOR A NEXT-GENERATION UNIVERSITY

These orientations focus on how Concordia can thrive in a changing landscape, tethered to our core values and historic mission while eyeing a future in which the status quo is unlikely to be sufficient.



DOUBLE OUR RESEARCH

Pursue bold goals in research that reflect our talents and our ambition to tackle big challenges.



GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY Use rich experiences outside the classroom to deepen learning and effect change.



EXPERIMENT BOLDLY Be inventive and enterprising in creating tomorrow's university





2

TEACH FOR TOMORROW

Deliver a next-generation education that's connected, transformative, and fit for the times.

A M Bu

MIX IT UP

Build agile structures that facilitate intellectual mixing and internal collaboration.



GROW SMARTLY

Add capacity where our strengths and emerging enrolment demand intersect.

GO BEYOND

Push past the status quo and go the extra mile for members of our community.

Learn more at **concordia.ca/directions**.

• Learn how Concordia's most ambitious campaign to date will empower tomorrow's leaders: concordia.calcampaign.

• Discover what Concordia achieved first in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the world: concordia.ca/concordiafirsts.





9,675 GRADUATE STUDENTS

37,154 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS



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UNIVERSITY-RECOGNIZED RESEARCH UNITS/INFRASTRUCTURE PLATFORMS



*2017-18 data ** Includes full-time and part-time faculty (including continuing education) and librarians



Concordia grad's video game wins major prize at Indigenous media festival

Set in the future, *Terra Nova* invites players to experience first contact between settlers and Indigenous people



Maize Longboat, MA 19, had never made a video game before he came to Concordia. His first effort, *Terra Nova*, developed for his master's thesis in Media Studies, won Best Emerging Digital or Interactive Work at the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival in October 2019. *Terra Nova* puts players in a first-contact context that Longboat hopes will get them to consider the significance of those interactions.

Can you tell us about the game?

Maize Longboat: *Terra Nova* is set in the distant future on a post post-apocalyptic Earth. A climate-change disaster has forced a subset of humanity to attempt to colonize another planet.

Another group of humans survived the apocalypse and adapted. The game begins when the spaceship that left returns with a crew that doesn't know that Earth is their original home.

The community that the character Terra belongs to, indigenous to Earth, witnesses the spaceship crash and Terra is sent to investigate. Meanwhile, Nova, a young colonizer, is separated from the survivors of the crash.

That's when they come together to try to find the crashed ship and Nova's people. It ends with them looking over this vista of the smoking spaceship. I thought it was more interesting to leave it open-ended and have players dictate what happens next according to their values.

What do you hope people take away from the game after playing it?

ML: I wanted to highlight the gray areas in which the Indigenous and settler perspectives overlap — to demystify the us-versus-them binary and show that it's more complicated.

My dad is Mohawk from Six Nations of the Grand River and my mother is French-Canadian from Montreal. I see myself represented in the game from both perspectives. I felt like I could speak to that strongly when developing the narrative.

What did you discover through the process of making *Terra Nova*?

I primarily wanted to explore an Indigenous experience. I thought that looking at first-contact scenarios could show the perspective of an Indigenous person in a game format. I took a lot of inspiration from history and first-contact scenarios in Montreal and (Tiohtià:ke) when Cartier came.

What was it like to win the award for Best Emerging Digital or Interactive Work at the imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival?

That was a wonderful surprise. I was encouraged to submit the game to the festival because I had been to it the previous year and had seen amazing digital works, games and VR by other Indigenous producers.

When *Terra Nova* was selected it was a huge honour. It's the biggest Indigenous film and media festival in the world! To get that recognition from other Indigenous people is very meaningful.

What influenced your decision to come to Concordia?

I grew up in the Vancouver area and did my undergrad at the University of British Columbia. A professor named David Gaertner, who taught a course on Indigenous digital media, recommended I look into Concordia and the work Jason Edward Lewis and Skawenatti were doing with Aboriginal Territories in Cyberspace, and the Initiative for Indigenous Futures.

Their research was the main pull to come to Concordia and deciding to do my master's in Communication Studies was a good way to get my foot in the door. I was a research assistant with them and was recently hired as associate director for the Skins workshops on Aboriginal Storytelling and Digital Media.

Any other plans now that you've graduated?

My plan is to continue supporting Indigenous game development, a community I've felt welcomed into with open arms. It's been inspiring to get to know people through my studies, through the games that they have made and through making my own game. I'm committed to supporting that work.