

Spring 2017 Newsletter  
Office of Community Engagement  
Concordia University

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## OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As a bridging initiative, the [Office of Community Engagement](#) supports and promotes new and existing community-university partnerships.

The Office contributes to Concordia's commitment to [Embracing the City](#) and can link you to a broad slate of community resources. Let us know if you'd like to connect your work and interests to our mandate.

- [Concordia Hosts the Next City Vanguard](#)
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### Français

Si vous préférez recevoir nos nouvelles en français, cliquez ici pour changer vos [préférences d'abonnement](#).

### Connect with Us

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### Upcoming Events

[May 31 - June 3](#)

Next City Vanguard  
Conference

[June 1](#)

The Walkable City: Why  
access is the new mobility

[June 2](#)

Big Idea Challenge

# Concordia Hosts the Next City Vanguard



What will Montreal look like in the future and how can we make it a better place now?

These are the questions the Next City Vanguard will be tackling from May 31 to June 3. The [Vanguard](#) is an experiential gathering of young urban leaders working to improve cities. The initiative was launched by [Next City](#), and each year, it selects applicants under the age of 40 whose smart ideas for cities, experience in the field and ambition for the future all show great promise.

As part of the Next City Vanguard conference, Concordia will also welcome leading urban thinker Jeff Speck on June 1 for a public lecture. City planner and urban designer Jeff Speck is an international expert and advocate on the importance of making cities walkable. His talk: [The Walkable City: Why access is the new mobility](#), will be open to the public. Tickets are \$10.

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# Engaged Scholar Award Recipients



This year's recipients of the Engaged Scholar Award were recognized on April 13 at the Concordia Loyola Chapel.

The 2017 recipients are: [Annie Pisuktie](#), a dedicated community partner who hosts the Inuit community radio show, Nipivut; [Ted Little](#), a retiring faculty member who built his career at Concordia on the principle of community-engaged creation; and [Fabio Balli](#), a graduate student who led a series of collaborative events to develop open source games that promote respiratory health. Congratulations to all our recipients!

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# University of the Streets Café: City Lights



Photo by Emma Harake

Thanks to all who made it out to this season's twelve conversations during which more than four hundred of you contributed to a sustained reflection on our relationship to the lived urban environment.

We were also thrilled this season to showcase our methodology. On May 9, the OCE's Alex was at McGill University for the Congrès de l'[Association francophone pour le savoir](#) where he presented on University of the Streets Cafe as part of a colloquium on Le Rapport Jean and its lasting legacy to Quebec education.

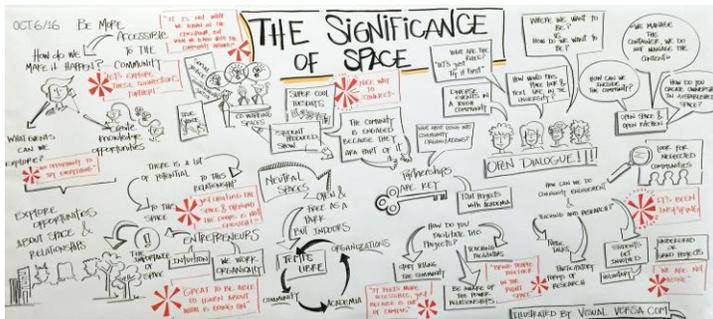
And in case you missed it, May 12 was the closing conversation of our Spring 2017: City Lights season. Titled “ Stories of Justice and Hope”, the event was held at feminist artist-run centre [Studio XX](#) and was a powerful consideration of the ways in which we can

commit to enduring action in the face of gender-based violence and cultural oppression.

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## Living Knowledge 2016-2017



The [Living Knowledge](#) community of practice brings together Concordia faculty and staff who share a passion for community engaged scholarship, with the goal of creating connections, sharing ideas and strengthening our collective practice.

Our last Living Knowledge community exchange for the 2016-2017 season was on [March 23](#) during which we gathered in the Loyola Refectory to explore how we can facilitate community-based projects without leading them. As part of this exchange, Prof. [Silvano De la Llata](#) (Concordia, Geography, Planning and Environment) presented on his research across a number of community-based participatory design projects.

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## OCE at C2UExpo



Photo by Alex Megelas

We just came back from Vancouver and [C2UExpo 2017](#), a conference dedicated to an ongoing exploration of community-campus collaborations. As part of the conference held at Simon Fraser University, the OCE's Susan and Alex presented on our work in supporting community engagement opportunities.

We were also glad to provide funding for Amanda Keller, President of [Care Jeunesse](#), to attend the conference with Prof. [Varda Mann-Feder](#) (Concordia, Applied Human Sciences). Care Jeunesse is a newly registered non-profit organization that provides advocacy and peer support to young people who are or have been placed in substitute care either in foster homes or group living situations. Prof. Mann-Feder has been engaging in Care Leaving Research for 25 years, and has served as an “adult mentor” to Care Jeunesse from its inception. She also was funded through the [Centre for Human Relations and](#)

[Community Studies](#) at Concordia to engage with Care board members in a participatory action research project that documents the journey in organizing an alumni of care network.

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