

CONCORDIA

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2018

concordia.ca

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

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We were also pleased to have the support of two Concordia students—**Victoria Cooke** and **Madiha Ahmad**—who contributed to the office's work over the course of the last year.

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SATELLITE SITES

The OCE is committed to basing its work out of community. As such, you can also find us at:

Bâtiment 7

1900 rue Le Ber

Montreal, QC, H3K 2A4

District 3 Innovation Center

1250 Rue Guy

Montréal, QC, H3H 2L3

Temps Libre

5605 De Gaspé

Montreal, QC, H2T 2A4

If you'd like to meet us at one of these locations, please get in touch beforehand.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Office of Community Engagement acknowledges that Concordia University is located on unceded Indigenous lands. The Kanien'kehá:ka Nation is recognized as the custodians of the lands and waters we now call Montreal. Tiohtiá:ke (Montreal) is historically known as a gathering place for many First Nations. Today, it is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We respect the continued connections with the past, present and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

This territorial acknowledgement was adopted on February 16, 2017. For more info: concordia.ca/about/indigenous/territorial-acknowledgement



Concordia University's Indigenous Directions Leadership Group

From left to right: Brooke Wahsontiiostha Deer, Ron Abaira, Elizabeth Fast, Marie-Ève Drouin-Gagné, Chad Cowie, Donna Kahérakwas Goodleaf, Orenda Boucher-Curotte, Charlie O'Connor, Geneviève Sioui, Wahéshon Shiann Whitebean, and Charmaine Lyn.

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YEAR IN REVIEW



This past year has seen our Office go through substantial and meaningful transformation, mirroring Montreal and Concordia contexts that are rife with opportunities for change and citizen engagement. Although we are still in many ways a small and scrappy unit (to quote a friend), our team's capacity for impact has grown. Grounded in and guided by the values and objectives of our anchored programming—the University of the Streets Café series of public conversations and the Living Knowledge community-engaged scholarship community of practice—we have taken on increasingly ambitious new mandates.

First among these is our commitment to the Principles and Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and our active participation in Indigenous-led initiatives. This most notably included supporting the university hosting in November 2017 the first edition of StartUp Nations, a province-wide youth-focused social entrepreneurship gathering led by the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Economic Development and Health and Social Services Commissions. The first edition was a resounding success, and it is with tremendous excitement that we will look forward to hosting the next edition in May 2019. We are especially pleased that the next edition will benefit from the dedicated leadership of Geneviève Sioui, Concordia's Indigenous Community Engagement Coordinator, who joined our team in January 2018. I invite you to read more about StartUp Nations and Geneviève on page 18.

Another bold undertaking was Enable Montreal, a design challenge to co-create solutions towards an accessible and inclusive city for people with physical disabilities and Concordia's inaugural partnership project with the *Maison de l'innovation sociale*. This complex project was overseen by Senior Community Engagement Coordinator Susan Edey and coordinated by Design Challenge Coordinator Marilou Daudier with support from Social Innovation Lead Nicolas Nadeau. The coordinating team worked in close collaboration with District 3, Concordia's Critical Disabilities Studies Working Group, and community advocacy organization *Vie Autonome*. Through Enable Montreal, we engaged with over 50

community organizations and brought together diverse, multi-disciplinary teams for a deep-dive into accessibility issues in Montreal. Enable culminated in a showcase that saw teams pitch solutions to a range of accessibility challenges. Our Office and our partners continue to work with teams to help move them toward implementation. Read more on page 20.



Charmaine Lyn

Photo: David Ward

This past year also saw us take on the oversight of the conservation of Concordia's Public Art Collection and the Max Stern Art Restitution Project, both previously held by the Urban & Cultural Affairs office. These dossiers are held by Sandra Margolian, Associate Coordinator, who brings to the team a network of relationships within the University and beyond that will allow us to envision and enact a broad range of meaningful relationships with Montreal arts-based communities and institutions.

While this report testifies to the more thrilling and impactful aspects of our work, I would be remiss not to take a moment to wish a fond farewell to Bram Freedman, on behalf of the

entire OCE team. In his role as Vice-President, Advancement and External Relations, Bram oversaw our unit and steadfastly supported our mission. We exist in our current form thanks largely to Bram's vision and belief in community engagement as intertwined with the mission of Concordia University. We owe him a debt of gratitude for encouraging our growth and we wish him all the best in his new role at the helm of the Jewish General Hospital Foundation where he will undoubtedly continue to apply his deep commitments to fostering our local communities.

It is from our unique position at the intersection of community and university commitments to the social good that we reach out to you now. And though this report serves as an example of what we seek to apply, we challenge you to see beyond it and reach out for us to think together on what more we could (and should!) be doing.

Charmaine Lyn
Senior Director, Office of Community Engagement
Special Advisor to the Provost on Indigenous Directions



THE
OCE
AND
**WHAT IT
DOES**

The OCE exists in the rich and fertile landscape of community-engaged teaching, research, and action that is Concordia University.

Our work is grounded in commitments to equity, accessibility, inclusivity, reciprocity, humility, accountability, responsiveness, transparency, and social justice. We reflect these values through our commitment to accessibility, community-based education, and challenging power divides.

As a bridging initiative, the Office of Community Engagement supports, connects, and promotes mutually beneficial Community-University partnerships. The OCE contributes to Concordia's Embrace the City strategic direction and strives to connect Concordians to a broad slate of community resources. We spearhead a number of initiatives including the Living Knowledge events and research project, the University of the Streets Café series of public conversations, and other emerging collaborations held in conjunction with both internal and community-based partners. We also assist community stakeholders, be they local non-profits or informal citizen coalitions, in accessing university resources—our researchers, engaged students, and facilities.

The OCE draws on critical pedagogy and decolonization theory as we approach our work through a commitment to mitigating unintended impacts by understanding how our actions carry implicit power dynamics and are situated in complex contexts. In that regard, our actions are first and foremost informed by community leadership and our commitment to neighborhood-based engagement. Our team leads social impact projects, engages in popular education, and brings together people from different backgrounds to enable powerful and reflective actions.

Objectives & Guiding Principles.

- The OCE supports existing partnerships and backs the emergence of new collaborations between Concordia and the Montreal to which it belongs. Our objective is to enrich learning and scholarship for students, faculty, and staff in addition to being responsive to community priorities.
- The OCE connects student, staff, and faculty at Concordia with members of the wider Montreal community through online resources, individual meetings, and various public events.
- The OCE supports the new and ongoing community-engagement efforts of students, staff, and faculty at Concordia through funding opportunities, assistance with award applications, and the provision of inclusive spaces on campus.

Concordia is a member of Community-Based Research Canada. Concordia is also signatory to the Talloires Declaration on the Civic Roles of Social Responsibilities of Higher Education, which adopts the following definition of community engagement:

Community Engagement is the respectful and genuine collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of democratic partnership and reciprocity.

EMBRACE THE CITY, EMBRACE THE WORLD

ACHIEVE PUBLIC IMPACT THROUGH RESEARCH AND LEARNING

Community and public engagement are deeply rooted in the Concordia identity. In addition to the impact of our ongoing commitment to providing accessible advanced education, Concordia faculty, staff, and students affect the city and the world by mobilizing around important contemporary issues, bringing their understanding, expertise, and commitment with them.

By identifying specific domains for intervention, developing appropriate partnerships, and then focusing our research and teaching on the targeted issues, we can amplify our impact and become a more effective agent of change with respect to the major challenges of our times.

L'UNIVERSITÉ AUTREMENT
DANS LES CAFÉS

UNIVERSITY OF THE STREETS CAFÉ



FALL 2017

Private Choices / Public Impact

AUTOMNE 2017

Choix personnels / Réactions publiques

2017-2018 SEASON

PRIVATE CHOICES—PUBLIC IMPACT / PUBLIC CHOICES—PRIVATE IMPACT

University of the Streets Café organizes bilingual, public conversations in cafés and community spaces across Montreal, allowing us to embed ourselves in local work and organising efforts.

Since its inception in 2003, the program has focused on creating welcoming spaces where diverse groups of citizens can gather to share their unique experiences and perspectives on issues they would like to address or have experienced first-hand. To date, we have organized close to 500 public conversations in community spaces across Montreal.

We believe that the simple act of talking with one another provides an incredible opportunity for growth, empowerment, community building, and social change. With this in mind, the programming we offer is about real-time, people-centered, face-to-face public conversations. As a flagship program of Concordia University's Office of Community Engagement, the bilingual events organized by University of the Streets Café are free and open to participants of all ages, backgrounds, and levels of education.

Our 2017-2018 season considered the interplay between the private and public spheres. Whether in cultural movements, the workplace or in relation to political sphere dynamics, we must inevitably position ourselves in relation to what occurs around and above us. This season looked at how we are affected by decisions initiated outside of our immediate frame of reference and how we grow to make sense of a complex world.

Our winter 2018 semester saw us commit to holding two series of three conversations each, in the Little Burgundy and Parc-Extension neighborhoods. We organised an additional series of conversations in collaboration with Montréal, Arts Interculturels (MAI).

A total of 20 conversations were held during our 2017-2018 season, collectively bringing together 731 participants to engage together in conversations that involved 51 guest speakers and 12 moderators.

Coordinated by Alex Megelas.



THE USE OF TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY SETTLER EDUCATORS AND ORGANIZERS

This public conversation was held at Impact Hub on September 27 and considered Concordia University's recently approved Territorial Acknowledgement. The conversation was held for and by settler educators and organizers invested in holding themselves and each other accountable for their role in the context of settler-dominated spaces based in Indigenous lands.



Photo: Maher Kouraytem

LIST OF CONVERSATIONS

DATE	THEME / QUESTION	MODERATOR	GUEST(S)	VENUE
September 19	Local Successes and Big Picture Shifts: How will we know when change has happened?	Susan Edey	Eric Abitbol, Tatiana Fraser	New School at Dawson College
October 25	Accessing the Commons: To whom do public spaces belong?	Myriam Zaidi	Marlon Sanchez, Varainja Stock, Luke Crane	La Maison de l'amitié
October 30	Accessibility, Visibility and Privacy: What are some ways we navigate access needs in our public and private lives?	Alex Megelas	Mariloue Daudier, Mélanie Rabette, Miruna Alexandra Nica	Montréal, arts interculturels (MAI)
November 8	The Spectacle and/in the Society : Who has access to art?	Emma Haraké	Véro Leduc, Maher Kouraytem, Shane Watt, Sophie Le-Phat Ho	Article
November 14	Change and Charity: How do we move from poverty alleviation to empowerment?	Fabiola Mizero Ngirabatware	Jennifer Lonergan, Fiona Crossling	New Hope Senior Citizens Center
November 22	The Spectacle and/in the Society : What are the politics of artistic intent?	Abby Lippman	Ricardo Lamour, Michelle Lacombe	Temps Libre
December 1	Decriminalization or Legalization: How do we address the impact of drugs in our lives and communities?	Andrea Clarke	Alex McClelland, Zoe Dodd, Jean-François Mary	Center for Gender Advocacy
December 8	Storytelling Café: La Tertulia	Lynne Cooper	Gerardo Sierra, Anne Caines	Vida Sana
February 21	Environmental Responsibilities: What is our relationship to the natural world?	Emma Haraké	Aaron Vansintjan, Bengi Akbulut, Alejandra Zaga Mendez, Michael Toppings	Montréal, arts interculturels (MAI)
February 26	Seeking to Belong: Whose voices are valued in our communities?	Myriam Zaidi	Jesse Chase, Nafissah Rahman, Isabelle Monast-Landriault, Lucas Mesquita	Impact Hub

CHANGE AND CHARITY

Change and Charity was a series of two public conversations organized in collaboration with the Community Service Initiative at the John Molson School of Business. The first conversation, “How do we move from poverty alleviation to empowerment?” was held on November 14 at the New Hope Senior Citizens Center. The second conversation, “Should non-profit organizations be run using a business model?” took place on April 19 at District 3, Concordia’s Innovation Center.



Photo: Alex Megelas



Photo: Alex Megelas

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON HOW TO INTERVENE AS BYSTANDERS TO UNWELCOME ATTENTION, AND IN ENGAGING WITH PARTICIPANTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES

This event was held on May 31 at the Center for Gender Advocacy. It was convened in response to interactions that have occurred at the University of the Streets Café. The exchange was attended by moderators of our programs and community partners and considered the ways in which we can de-escalate conflicts in our spaces.

DATE	THEME / QUESTION	MODERATOR	GUEST(S)	VENUE
March 1	Affordable Housing for All: Is housing a human right or a privilege?	Tejaswinee Jhunjunwala	Faiz Abhuani, André Trépanier, Cheryl Gladue	La Place Commune
March 26	Listening to Youth Voices: How do we make room for the next generation of engaged youth?	Andrea Clarke	Dorothy Williams, Arisha Khan, Press Start Co-op	Imani Community Center
April 5	What could community-based health care look like if people counted?	Abby Lippman, Myriam Zaidi	Bilkis Vissandjée, Genevieve Rail, Adina Ungureanu	La Place Commune
April 11	Resistance and Contestation: How do we reclaim our female bodies from individual and institutional violence?	Emma Haraké	Sonia Bustos, Liliana Zaragoza	Montréal, arts interculturels (MAI)
March 21	Change and Charity: Should non-profit organizations be run using a business model?	Gerardo Sierra	Iris Unger, Jenny Therriault	District 3
April 23	Dismantling Prejudice: How do we collectively commit to breaking down stereotypes ?	Lucia Plescia	Sameer Zuberi, Musabbir Alam, Gabriela Jakubovits	Little Burgundy Coalition
May 3	Aging in the City: What is it like to a age in a changing neighborhood?	Rehab Mahmoud	Apostolia Petropolous, Julien Simard, Pascual Delgado	La Place Commune
May 11	Storytelling Café: Celebrating our Victories	Tejaswinee Jhunjunwala	Judith Cayer	Batiment 7
July 19	Neighborhoods in Action: How to create neighborhoods for ALL our residents?	Myriam Zaidi	Françoise Legaré Pelletier, Faiz Abhuani	40 des Praires Boul.



**LIVING
KNOWLEDGE
EVENT SERIES**

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

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

During the 2017-2018 academic year, the OCE hosted three lunch-time Living Knowledge events. In the fall semester, we focused on student preparedness for community engagement. The first session looked at how we can equip students with the necessary skills and perspectives to ensure they are ready to partner responsibly with community members. Next, we looked at teamwork and what tools and strategies professors can use to ensure their students succeed

in navigating the complexity presented by real world projects. Finally, in the winter semester, we explored the challenges of coordinating multi-course collaborations, emphasizing the importance of clear communication and realistic timelines.

A fourth event, which was planned with the FOFA gallery with an emphasis on supporting Indigenous-led projects, was cancelled due to unexpected scheduling conflicts. In total, 70 people participated over the course of this year's Living Knowledge events, which were open to faculty, staff, students, and external partners.

Coordinated by Susan Edey.

DATE	QUESTION	GUEST(S)
October 24	Ready to Engage: How can we prepare our students to partner with the community?	Anurag Dhir Matthew Harsh Alex Oster
November 30	Teamwork and Real-World Projects: What role does the professor play?	Meral Demirbağ Büyükkurt Steven Henle
March 29	Navigating Complexity: What goes into a multi-course collaboration?	pk langshaw



Photos: Alex Megellas



EMBRACE THE CITY MAP

2

2

2

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11

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3

MAPPING OUR ENGAGEMENT

Mapping Concordia's city-engaged initiatives was identified as a key objective in the Embrace the City strategy prepared in fall 2015 as part of Concordia's Strategic Directions initiative. Over the two years, the OCE has led the cross-institutional effort to bring this map to fruition. Initially, this involved convening a working group composed of faculty members and staff from District 3, the Office of Research, University Communications Service (UCS), and Instructional and Information Technology Services (IITS). After an initial brainstorming and prototyping phase, the Plank Design firm, was hired to develop the online mapping tool. The OCE continues to work closely with Plank to oversee their work and coordinate feedback from University stakeholders. Once it is launched in late 2018, this online interactive map will make visible the wide array of projects that Concordians are undertaking across the City of Montreal and with its constituents. The goal is to share information, inspire new connections, and clarify pathways for individuals and groups wishing to get involved in the initiatives that are already underway.

Coordinated by Susan Edey.

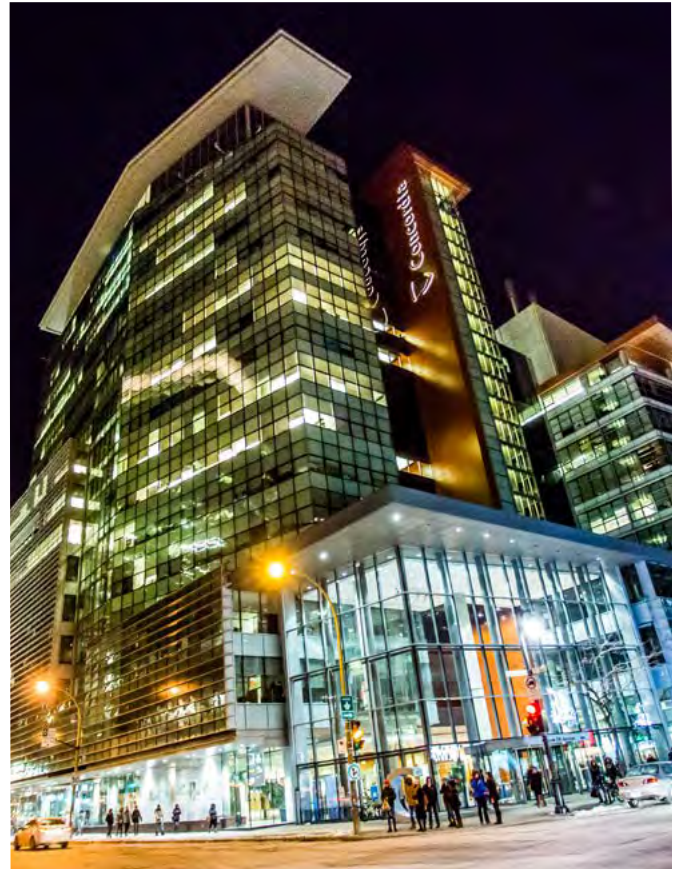


Photo: Concordia University

CBAR NETWORK IN PARK EXTENSION

Park Extension is a dense, culturally diverse area, home to some 33K Montreal residents. This past year, the OCE collaborated with Park Extension residents, community organisers, and researchers from various universities on the creation of a Community-Based Action Research (CBAR) Network.

The aim of this network table is to bring into visibility, in the Park Extension context, the relationship between knowledge, collective work, and the social-political. Through shared work and involvement, the members of this network strive to apply commitments to equity, social justice, and resident engagement through all aspects of research work carried out in the neighborhood of Park Extension.

This occurs in relation to neighborhood-specific interventions driven by researchers that allow for meaningful engagement of residents in research and community organizing for equitable neighborhood change.

Initial meetings took place at the William Hingston Center, with the support of the Park Extension Youth Organisation (PEYO).

Coordinated by Alex Megelas.



Photo: Ville de Montréal

ENGAGED SCHOLAR AWARDS

The Engaged Scholar Awards recognize one student, one faculty member, and one community partner for their exemplary participation in community-engaged scholarship during the preceding year. Presented annually, these three awards are made possible by the Office of Community Engagement and the Office of the Provost. Award recipients are:

- Engaged Scholar Award – Student: Annick Maugile Flavien and Meghan Gagliardi
- Engaged Scholar Award – Faculty: Sonia Di Maulo
- Engaged Scholar Award – Community Partner: Lisa Comerford, *CPE Les P'tits Profs*



Photo: Concordia University

Coordinated by Sandra Margolian.

THE (TED) LITTLE PRIZE FOR COMMUNITY-BASED ORAL HISTORY PERFORMANCE AND CREATION



Photo: Concordia University

The (Ted) Little Prize will be presented annually to a community-affiliated researcher or artist of the Center for Oral History and Digital Storytelling (COHDS) at Concordia. The award honors Prof. Ted Little, chair of the Department of Theatre and former board member at COHDS.

Prof. Little was a dedicated contributor to community-engaged scholarship and was a core member of the Right to the City, which brought students from theatre, history, art history, and communications into place-based learning environments in the nearby neighborhood of Pointe-Saint-Charles. He retired in 2017 after 19 years at Concordia.

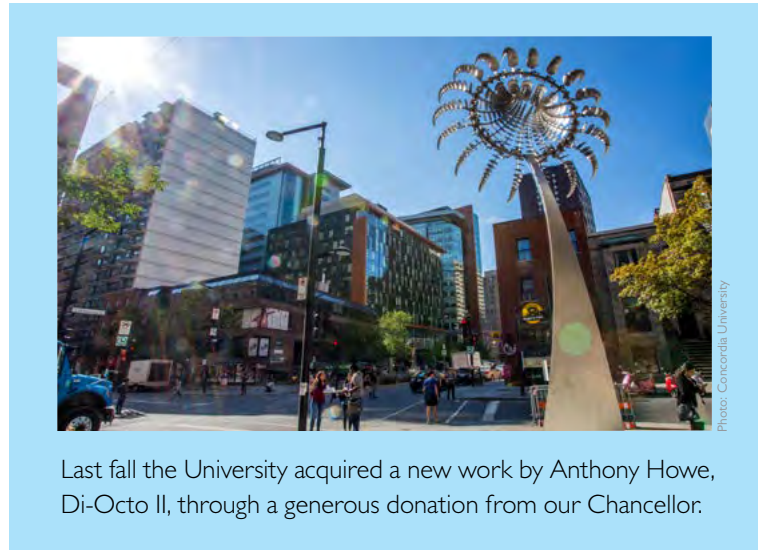
Steven High, Professor in the Department of History worked with the Office of Community Engagement and Advancement and Alumni Relations to establish a prize in Prof. Little's name through Concordia's annual Community Campaign.

CONCORDIA'S PUBLIC ART COLLECTION

Concordia's Public Art Collection was brought to life over 50 years ago with the integration of painted glass windows by Jean McEwen in the newly built Sir George Williams Hall building. Today the collection features over 40 artists and is presented over Concordia's two campuses on building facades, city sidewalks, in tunnels, and in numerous atria.

The eclectic collection is a compilation of donations, commissions, and works created during the rapid expansion of the University since 2000, thanks to the *Ministère de la Culture des Communications* and the *Politique d'intégration des arts à l'architecture* program. From First People's artwork and mid-20th century stained glass to renowned contemporary artists, the collection is open to the public for free year-round. This project promotes open access to arts and culture and is a natural extension of the OCE and its mission.

Coordinated by Sandra Margolian.



Last fall the University acquired a new work by Anthony Howe, Di-Octo II, through a generous donation from our Chancellor.

MAX STERN ART RESTITUTION PROJECT

A social justice project at its core, the Max Stern Art Restitution Project, which had its beginnings over 12 years ago, continues to be internationally renowned. It is a coordinated effort of government agencies, educational institutions, museums, collectors, and members of the art trade who are committed to resolving the injustices caused by Nazi cultural policies forced upon the Jewish German gallerist Max Stern during WWII.

After being forced to close his art gallery and sell the contents at Auktion 392 of Lempertz Auction House in 1937, Max Stern was able to flee and resettle in Canada, where he rebuilt his life and opened the Dominion Gallery in Montreal.



Woman of Weinsberg by Gerrit Claesz Bleker

During the archiving of his estate documents, it was learned that he sought restitution of artworks from his private collection seized by the Gestapo. While he had some success in recovering a few pieces, the majority of his property was never returned.

Committed to continuing where he had left off, the executors of his estate and university beneficiaries (Concordia University, McGill University, and Hebrew University Jerusalem) established The Max Stern Art Restitution Project. It was agreed that the moral and financial imperatives underlying this cause were worth pursuing as long as necessary. Seventeen artworks have thus far been recovered. This year's most recent recovery is *Women of Weinsberg* by Gerrit Claesz Bleker.

Liaison between Concordia University and the Max & Iris Stern Foundation by Sandra Margolian.

The Max Stern Art Restitution website was created to help further research and to track the development of the project and recovery. concordia.ca/arts/max-stern

StartUP NATIONS



COLLECTIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS YOUTH

The first edition of StartUP Nations was held at Concordia University November 17–19, 2017, and was designed to provide Indigenous youth with an experiential learning experience focused on collective entrepreneurship.

The event was held thanks in large part to the tireless work of Karine Awashish (*Conseillère en économie sociale, Commission de développement économique des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador*) and Prof. Anna Kruzynski (Director, Community Economic Development program, School of Community and Public Affairs at Concordia).

A number of community partners were involved in organizing StartUP Nations, including *La Fabrique entrepreneuriale, le Chantier de l'économie sociale, the Commission de développement des ressources humaines des Premières Nations du Québec, the Réseau jeunesse des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador, the Commission de santé et services sociaux des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador, the Commission de développement économique des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador.*

At Concordia, this represented a collective effort on the part of the School of Community and Public Affairs, the John Molson School of Business, the social innovation hub SHIFT, the District 3 Innovation Center, and the OCE.

The conference brought together youth from a wide range of Quebec Indigenous communities to Concordia in order to meet one another, further develop their entrepreneurship ideas, and engage with Concordia facilities and subject matter experts.

The kick-off event was held at the John Molson School of Business with a keynote talk by Simon Fraser University scholar Kam'ayaam/Chachim'multhnii (Cliff Atleo, Jr.) titled "Indigenous Economic Independence in an Era of Neoliberal Capitalism."

The bulk of the conference took the form of focused workshops held in Concordia facilities of the School of Community and Public Affairs, the John Molson School of Business, and the District 3 Innovation Center. The event culminated with a Dragons' Den-themed design pitch during which participants received prizes and feedback.

The event gathered 45 youth from eight Indigenous communities in Quebec and led to the creation of 8 emerging entrepreneurial ventures.



Photo: Concordia University

Kam'ayaam/Chachim'multhnii (Cliff Atleo, Jr.)

Find out more about StartUP Nations: concordia.ca/startupnations



ENABLE MONTREAL

INCLUSIVE INNOVATION FOR ACCESSIBILITY

This past year, the Office of Community Engagement oversaw the coordination of Enable Montreal, a non-competitive design challenge to co-create solutions towards an inclusive and accessible city for people living with physical disabilities.

Held in partnership with SHIFT, the *Maison de l'innovation sociale*, District 3, the Critical Disability Studies Working Group at Concordia University, and Independent Living - Montreal, Enable Montreal engaged in a sustained consideration of physical accessibility needs and challenges.

The project launched at a February 14, 2018 Community Consultation Day that brought together over 50 invested individuals from over 20 community organizations working with and offering services to people with physical disabilities. The event allowed us to come up with mandate questions designed by and for the people at the very heart of this initiative. Subsequently, Enable Montreal unfolded through a

participatory process that included four distinct phases, twelve facilitated events, and several individual teamwork sessions.

In total, 50 engaged citizens participated in Enable Montreal, including students, researchers, activists, engineers, and designers. They combined their expertise and life experiences in the context of 10 multidisciplinary teams. Each team worked together to research, brainstorm, and develop concrete solutions to their identified mandate.

To celebrate their efforts, Concordia University hosted the Enable Montreal Showcase on June 8. The event gathered the media, city officials, foundations, activists, incubators, students, faculty, and staff. The teams have now moved into the optional implementation phase and are receiving ongoing support.

Project manager: Susan Edey.
Coordinated by Marilou Daudier.

TEAM MANDATES	SOLUTIONS PROPOSED
Accessing the job market	A "Different Talent" web platform that aims to bridge the gap between employers and exceptional candidates living with a disability.
Communicating at work	The LSQ app will give the deaf community an employability and communication tool in order to contribute to the full and equal social integration of this minority group.
Educating city officials	Extensive research was conducted by this team into the context surrounding accessibility barriers in Montreal. Findings were shared at the showcase and attendees were invited to receive further information about this topic.
Facilitating emergency evacuations	An emergency evacuation plan in braille for Concordia University, implementing a points-system for making public spaces physically exit-able.
Identifying accessible businesses	A consultation service offering personalized resources for businesses wishing to integrate practices in usability and inclusivity.
Inspiring future leaders	Series of one-day events held across Montreal using a pop-up story hive model proposing critical engagement to youth through storytelling and theatre.
Navigating the Concordia campus	A multi-platform "Do-It" framework aimed at augmenting accessibility on Concordia University campus. It will increase the visibility of accessible spaces and help people navigate the campus.
Taking the metro	Using the Vendôme metro station as a pilot, this project considers the implementation of metro guiding tools for people with visual and/or hearing impairments.
Visiting small restaurants and cafés	An inclusive dining club for people with disabilities and their guests. The service will include an accessibility host that will attend to member needs from A to Z.
Walking the city	A "smart" application-based system using voice and vibrations to enable people with visual impairments to navigate Montreal sidewalks and intersections.



Photo: Arnan Salazar

Find out more about Enable Montreal's process and outcomes: Concordia.ca/enable

PRESENCE AT BÂTIMENT 7



ANCHORED PRESENCE AND PARTNERSHIP

In August 2018, Concordia finalised a partnership with Bâtiment 7, a resident-led initiative in Pointe-Saint-Charles. This partnership will take the form of a three-year anchored presence on site to facilitate the emergence of a broad range of Community-University collaborations.

Located on former CN lands, this heritage industrial site has been reclaimed and is now emerging as a unique model of collectively governed, citizen-led community organising. Home to 13 locally-led initiatives, Bâtiment 7 includes a broad range of community-run cooperative businesses, arts organisations, and non-profit organisations.

Bâtiment 7 is an integral aspect of a neighborhood that has been a crucible of resident-led community initiatives. As a successful, large-scale project, Bâtiment 7 will lead to ongoing reflections on the role and impacts of such institutions in evolving urban spaces.

This anchored presence at Bâtiment 7 presents an opportunity for research and programs through which the University can apply its city-based educational commitment. This partnership with Bâtiment 7 is supported by the OCE in conjunction with the Office of Research and Concordia's social innovation hub SHIFT.

Coordinated by Alex Megelas and Charmaine Lyn.



Next City Vanguard participants visit Bâtiment 7

Photo: Concordia University



SPACE SHARING POLICY

WELCOME TO CONCORDIA

Through its Space Sharing Policy, the Office of Community Engagement is proud to partner with Concordia's Hospitality department to offer discounted rental rates to small, not-for-profit community organizations as well as students, staff, and faculty members who engage external communities in their activities. During the past year, over \$7000 of fees were waived under this policy towards the fee accessibility of Concordia spaces to community groups.

Events held at Concordia affiliated spaces as part of our Space Sharing policy included: Board meetings of the St-James Drop-In Centre (Fall 2017), LEARN Quebec's Remix Ed unconference (September 2017), the Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network Gathering (June 2018), Drupal Camp (June 2018), the RECREAR Magnify residency program (July 2018), and Resource Movement's Global Gathering (August 2018).

As well, the Office of Community Engagement strengthened its relationships with non-profit Indigenous organizations by facilitating ongoing access to spaces at *Temps Libre* and the D3 Innovation Centre for The Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy Network and Canadian Roots Exchange. This partnership contributed to community capacity building and Concordia's reconciliation efforts.

Coordinated by Sandra Margolian.



Photo: Concordia University

Indigenous Directions Leadership Group community consultation, Winter 2017

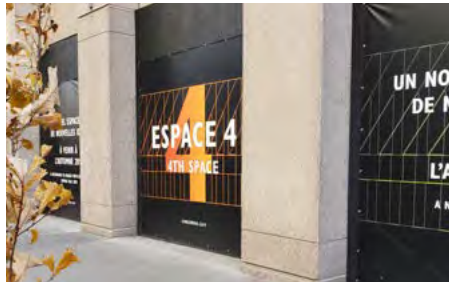


BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Members of the OCE team contribute their time to governance boards and standing committees in Montreal neighborhoods and internally at the University. This participation is an important way for us to connect with stakeholders and community partners.

4TH SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Charmaine Lyn belongs to the committee which advises on the emergence of Concordia's new 4th Space.



Photos: Alex Megelas

COMITÉ DES PARTENAIRES, MAISON DE L'INNOVATION SOCIALE

Charmaine Lyn is a member of this committee which brings together a broad range of partners working with the Maison d'innovation sociale.

EMBRACE THE CITY LEADERSHIP GROUP

Charmaine is a member of this group tasked with applying one of Concordia's strategic directions.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Susan Edey sits on this committee of the Office of the VP Partnerships and Experiential Learning.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS STEERING COMMITTEE

Charmaine Lyn sits on this committee of the University.

INDIGENOUS DIRECTIONS LEADERSHIP GROUP (IDLG)

Geneviève Sioui and Charmaine Lyn are both members of the University's IDLG. Charmaine served as Special Advisor to the Provost on Indigenous Directions from November 2016 to April 2018.

PETER MCGILL COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This past year, Susan Edey completed a two-year mandate.

PUBLIC ART SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE APPLIED SCIENCE INCUBATOR

Sandra Margolian sat on a committee convened through the Politique d'intégration des arts à l'architecture (Ministère de la culture et des communications).

STEERING COMMITTEE OF MON PETER MCGILL

Susan Edey has joined this committee of the Peter McGill Community Council's Collective Impact Project, supported by *Centraide du Grand Montréal*.

WESTHAVEN NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE

Susan Edey sits on this standing committee of the NDG Community Council.

WORKING GROUP ON THE CREATION OF A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIES FOR SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AT CONCORDIA

Geneviève Sioui takes part in this cross-University working group.



Photos: Alex Megelas



EVENTS AND COLLABORATIONS

The Office of Community Engagement is regularly approached to take part in a variety of community engagement initiatives invested in promoting positive social change. These initiatives are diverse in nature and require different types of involvement on the part of the OCE and/or Concordia. In 2017-2018, we were proud to support the following:

BUILDING RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WORKSHOPS (AUGUST–SEPTEMBER 2017)

This three-day workshop on Indigenous pedagogy offered to Concordia faculty and staff was organized by the Indigenous Directions Leadership group. The OCE provided coordination support and on-site logistical support for this important learning exchange.

HOUSING ACTIVISM FROM NEW YORK CITY TO MONTREAL: CONVERSATIONS WITH MOVEMENT FOR JUSTICE IN EL BARRIO (NOVEMBER 2017)



Two learning exchanges were held between Montreal community organizers in Little Burgundy and Park-Extension, and East-Harlem-based collective Movement for Justice in El Barrio. The events were a collaboration between the OCE, the Center for Community Organizations (COCO), the Imani Community Center, PEACE Initiatives Canada, the Comité d'Action de Parc-Extension, the Center for Gender Advocacy and the McGill Faculty of Education.

SUMMIT ON PHILANTHROPIC CULTURE (NOVEMBER 2017)

This multi-day summit held at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal was organized by the Mallet Institute. The OCE assisted in logistics and coordinating with the University, which sponsored the event.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON SYSTEMIC RACISM (NOVEMBER 2017)

This public consultation was organized by Bienvenue NDG, a community organisation mandated to hold a session as part of Quebec's consultations on systemic racism. The OCE facilitated access to space at Loyola campus and helped promote the event.

CONCORDIA BLACK HISTORY MONTH: BLACK ARTIST RESIDENCY EXHIBITION & PROGRAMMING (FEBRUARY 2018)

The OCE provided financial support to this project which aims to create a platform for representing Black identity in Montreal and foster an emerging and crucial relationship between Black communities and the University.



SONGS OF RESILIENCE, EMPOWERMENT AND VISION (MARCH 2018)

To commemorate International Women's Day, Montreal choir Choeur Maha performed three

public sets at Concordia University. This event was held for a second year at Concordia, and was facilitated by the OCE.

ACTION PLAN: INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY APPROVAL PROCESS (APRIL 2018)

The OCE's Charmaine Lyn, Geneviève Sioui, Emma Haraké, and Alex Megelas supported and facilitated this event organized by the Indigenous Directions Leadership Group and held at the Concordia Center for Teaching and Learning.

ACTION PLAN: INDIGENOUS STUDENTS APPROVAL PROCESS (APRIL 2018)

The OCE's Geneviève Sioui facilitated group discussions as part of this consultation organized by the Indigenous Directions Leadership Group. The consultation was held at the Concordia Aboriginal Student Resource Center.

UNDERSTANDING INDIGENOUS SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND SOLIDARITY (APRIL 2018)

In an effort to support reconciliation on campus, the OCE offered financial contribution to assist in the creation of this project held as part of the POLI 301 "Social Movements and Protest Politics" course taught by Prof. Kasim Tirmizey. Through this project, students reflected on solidarity with Indigenous Peoples for decolonization by experiencing a Blanket Exercise. This event was held in collaboration with Solidarity Milton Park.

BLANKET EXERCISE WORKSHOP (MAY 2018)

This Blanket Exercise was organized by CHNGR and the OCE. The event was held for the general public at the District 3 Innovation Center at Concordia.

CREATIVE VIDEO SUMMER CAMP (JUNE–AUG 2018)



Since 2009, the OCE has subsidized 10 children per year in lower-income families from Verdun Elementary School to attend this camp organized by Coop Collectivision.

TILLITARNIIT (AUGUST 2018)

Tillitarniit is a festival that celebrates Inuit art, film, and culture. Presented by the FOFA Gallery, its location and programming bring together families and passersby from Montreal and Inuit communities. The OCE provided financial support.

L'ÉCOLE D'ÉTÉ (AUGUST 2018)

Organized by *l'Institut du Nouveau Monde*, this annual conference was held at the John Molson School of Business and brought together hundreds of engaged youth, community organisers, and civil society leaders. The OCE facilitated two sessions during the conference and helped to facilitate the organizers' interactions with Concordia University.

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES



IN-CLASS PRESENTATION, AHSC 445 - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT II (FEBRUARY 2018)

The OCE's Susan Edey presented its core projects in this course taught by Prof. Marc Nisbet (Applied Human Sciences).

MICROLINKS DISCUSSION: HOW CAN THE CITY ENHANCE LEARNING? (MARCH 2018)

The OCE's Alex Megelas facilitated as part of this discussion organised by the Concordia University Part-Time Faculty Association and the Center for Teaching and Learning.

CAREERS IN INNOVATION AND IMPACT EVENT (APRIL 2018)

The OCE's Marilou Daudier acted as a mentor at this event organized by Concordia's Career & Planning Services and spoke about working in innovation and impact.

#RIGHTSCITY CONFERENCE (JUNE 2018)

The OCE's Geneviève Sioui gave opening remarks as part of a panel on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The conference was organized by the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies at Concordia, *Amnistie internationale Canada francophone*, the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights, and the *Comité unifié des organisations arméniennes du Québec*.



Photo: Concordia University

IMPACT HUB GLOBAL GATHERING (JUNE 2018)

The OCE's Alex Megelas, alongside Andrea Clarke (Executive Director, Head & Hands), led a session titled "Social Innovation and Equity: How can we acknowledge and redress power differentials through community partnerships?"

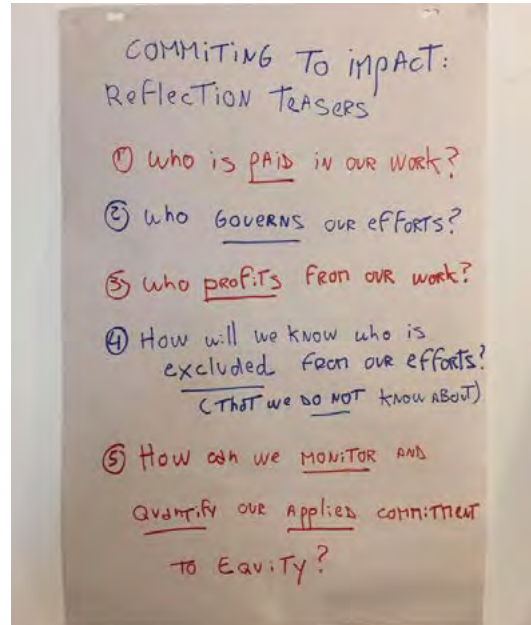


Photo: Call Woodyard

L'ÉCOLE D'ÉTÉ (AUGUST 2018)

The OCE's Geneviève Sioui, Emma Haraké and Alex Megelas, alongside members of the Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy NETWORK, the City of Montreal and Canadian Roots Exchange were involved in leading a session titled "Les rôles dans la réconciliation avec les peuples autochtones". In addition, Alex, Geneviève, and Marilou Daudier led a session titled "La citoyenneté active par le biais d'une université engagée : Quelles sont les stratégies du Bureau de l'engagement communautaire de l'Université Concordia?"



THE OFFICE OF
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
BY THE PEOPLE

I came into Enable Montreal not knowing what to expect and it's been a wonderful journey so far with all of our teammates... My biggest hope is that this type of community engagement gets spread to universities and other community organisations across the country. [...] It sends a clear message that everybody is important, everybody is included because we've made provisions, as much as possible, to remove the barriers to participation and I'm really glad to see that.

- Amy Ma, participant, Enable Montreal 2018

It's been a while since I participated in a forum of such a format, and I had a few strong takeaways from some of the comments raised by participants. Some of the people in the audience live in a very different reality that we, who now tend to live our lives in universities, experience. For me, this was the most significant take away. I really appreciate your format, and how University of the Streets Café is a project that is very grounded in community.

- Sameer Zuberi, Diversity and Engagement Officer at McGill University, guest, University of the Streets Café

We were asked to participate at this amazing exchange on reconciliation. It was a good experience. I believe it is important that we are present. For me reconciliation is extremely important, it is part of healing.

- Maya Cousineau-Mollen, participant, École d'été, INM

It's been a great experience, I'm really excited to be here. This is a project I've been wanting to work on for a very long time, I just never had the platform. Being a person with a disability, I feel the frustrations of the way society treats you and I know that if we educate children then society will start accepting us as normal. [...] My hope for enable Montreal is that it continues to build and to help so that someday we don't need Enable Montreal.

- Cindy McKay, participant, Enable Montreal 2018

I am one of the organizers of this profile with the *RÉSEAU pour la stratégie urbaine de la communauté autochtone à Montréal*. For us what was important was to have a dialogue between Indigenous and non-Indigenous about what reconciliation really means and how we can realize it together. Our intention wasn't only to give concrete examples about what has already been accomplished but also to reflect on what we can do better... *et c'était vraiment important pour nous d'avoir une complémentarité de dialogue entre participants autochtones et non-autochtones qu'on a travaillé fort pour avoir une participation.*

- Aurelie Arnaud, Conseillère en relations gouvernementales - dossier réconciliation, Ville de Montréal, École d'été, INM

One of our University's most extraordinary initiatives is the Living Knowledge community of practice. I discovered so much after having joined this dedicated group of expert practitioners based here at Concordia, other regions of Canada and the world. Innovative teaching and learning that goes beyond the classroom into the city requires careful planning and preparation so that the needs and expectation of community partners and our students are aligned in order to create the richest and most satisfying possible outcome for all. It was astonishing to hear so many first hand accounts

- John Bentley, Center for Teaching and Learning, Concordia University

from students, faculty, and staff detailing the stories and merits of community-based experiential learning at their own universities which in turn prompted opportunities for new professional connections and lessons learned from those who are leading the way. Concordia's a big place with lots of complexity but the team behind the Living Knowledge have really created a wonderful model for making that world a whole lot more manageable so we can all lean on and learn from each other together.

I can say that I am leaving this activity more intelligent and less prejudiced towards indigenous communities. I had the opportunity to meet them and listen to their testimonies... It was very enlightening to be able to reflect and listen to different perspectives.

- Paul-Emanuela, participant, *École d'été, INM*

Enable Montreal has been a very fascinating and inspiring experience, because the entire event is very accessible. [...] I've been working with accessibility for three years now and this is the first event that I see such beautiful and accessible event. I was very surprised and happy about it.

- Mariana Pinheiro, participant, Enable Montreal 2018



Photo: Concordia University