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.

Note: This territorial acknowledgement was drafted by Concordia’s Indigenous Directions Leadership Group and was formally adopted by the University in 2017. It was first delivered by President Alan Shepard at the University’s 2017 convocation.

TABLE OF CONTENT

- The Year in Review: 5
- Snapshot of a year at the OCE: 7
- The OCE and What it does: 9
- University of the Streets Café: 11
- Living Knowledge event series: 15
- Engaged Scholar Awards: 17
- Space Sharing Policy: 19
- Embrace the City Map: 21
- Next City Vanguard: 23
- Events and Collaborations: 25
- Presentations and Conferences: 27
To describe my first year with the Office of Community Engagement as a whirlwind ride would be an understatement. Since stepping into the role of senior director of this small and scrappy unit, I’ve had the opportunity to learn about and work on many initiatives that illustrate the central importance of community engagement at Concordia. It’s a huge privilege to witness our team’s sustained engagement with diverse stakeholders, for the common purpose of meaningful partnership between the University and community.

At the Office of Community Engagement, this work happens in many ways and places. Through the University of the Streets Café, we invite members of the public to exchange ideas and learning through conversation; and through the Living Knowledge Community of Practice, Concordia-based colleagues gather to share insights and emerging practices in community-engaged scholarship. We seek to raise the profile of community engaged scholarship through the community engagement hub online and we recognize annually the contributions of students, faculty members and community partners through the Engaged Scholar Awards.

We are immensely grateful for the collaboration and support of other Concordia units in our efforts to work in partnership with community. We work closely with Hospitality Concordia to help community organizations access spaces and hold events at both Concordia University campuses. We work with the University’s Advancement & Alumni Relations team to stay connected with our alumni networks, and with the Communication Services team to tell the story of community engagement at Concordia. We also draw on our professoriate and knowledge holders who lend their voices as part of a collective effort to include community engaged planning and programming across a range of university-based projects.

As an Office, we are a small fragment of the greater, complex whole that is Concordia University. We are so pleased to be at the table and participating actively in the emergence of new university initiatives, including university-wide thinking on social innovation, and strategies to integrate Indigenous knowledges and build stronger relationships with Indigenous communities. These collaborations will help build a strong foundation for the building of bridges between the University and the Montreal to which it belongs. One of our major achievements this past year was hosting the Next City Vanguard conference in Montreal. The Conference challenged notions of what a city should – or could – be. Through an immersive and experiential program, we connected forty-three urban design experts with neighborhood-based community groups from across the city in order to develop six local projects that could have a direct and meaningful impact on the lives of Montrealers. In addition, the OCE connected with individuals and institutions working on community engagement in post-secondary education at a few key impactful gatherings: the Montreal 2016 World Social Forum, the 2017 C2U Expo in Vancouver and First Voices Week held here at Concordia.

The team I am fortunate to lead is comprised of individuals who bring with them years of organizing experience across both sides of the university-community divide. Together, we anchor our work in a commitment to reciprocity and relationship. The work we do is a constant reminder that Concordia is an interconnected organism which breathes daily with the collective drive of its faculty, staff and student body, all invested in individual change and social transformation. It is in this spirit that I encourage you to contact us if you would like to explore possible links between your work and our own.

Charmaine Lyn
Senior Director, Office of Community Engagement
Special Advisor to the Provost on Indigenous Directions
SNAPSHOT OF A YEAR AT THE OCE

- EVENTS HELD AT CONCORDIA THROUGH OUR OPEN SPACE AGREEMENT: 6
- ENGAGED SCHOLAR AWARDS GRANTED: 3
- ATTENDEES AT OUR LIVING KNOWLEDGE EVENTS: 90
- ATTENDEES AT OUR PUBLIC CONVERSATIONS: 884
- LIVING KNOWLEDGE EVENTS: 4
- COLLABORATIONS HELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS: 7
- PRESENTATIONS WHICH OUR STAFF GAVE AS PART OF CONFERENCES: 5
- NUMBER OF URBAN DESIGN EXPERTS DEPLOYED ACROSS MONTREAL AS PART OF THE NEXT CITY VANGUARD CONFERENCE: 43
- NUMBER OF COMMUNITY PROJECTS DEVELOPED AS PART OF THE NEXT CITY VANGUARD BIG IDEAS CHALLENGE: 6

Photo: Concordia University
As a bridging initiative, the Office of Community Engagement supports, connects and promotes new and existing Community-University partnerships. The Office contributes to Concordia’s Embrace the City strategic direction and strives to connect Concordians to a broad slate of community resources.

The Office of Community Engagement is mandated to guide Concordia’s Embrace the City strategic direction and spearheads 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.

The OCE also assists community stakeholders - be they local non-profits or informal citizen coalitions - in accessing university resources; our researchers, engaged students and facilities.

Objectives & Guiding Principles.

• 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 promotes the community-engagement efforts already underway at Concordia through our webpage, social media presence and e-newsletter.

• 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

The OCE contributes to Concordia University’s Strategic Directions and specifically, the University’s commitment to Embracing the City.

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.
CITY NIGHTS/CITY LIGHTS

University of the Streets Café organizes bilingual, public conversations in cafés and community spaces across Montreal. 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. 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.

Gathering under a central theme of City Nights and City Lights, our fall 2016 and winter-spring 2017 seasons of University of the Streets Café explored the darkness and radiance of the urban experience.

A total of 28 conversations were held during our 2016-2017 season, collectively bringing together 884 participants to engage together in conversations.

URBANBODIES

UrbanBodies was a year-long collaboration with the Art Hives’ Science Shop. This series of twelve public art making conversation labs was an exploration of what matters in our everyday lives and neighborhoods.

COMMUNITY AND THE CITY

Identity, Community and the City was a conversation series held on March 22 and 29 2017. The series was organized by students enrolled in a course on community development offered through the Department of Applied Human Sciences.

MODERATOR TRAINING

On Monday August 15, 2016, the OCE offered a training session on how to moderate public discussion. This event was held as part of the Art Hives Summer Institute and took place at the NDG Art Hive. We were thrilled to welcome twenty aspiring and practicing moderators from across Canada.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>THEME / QUESTION</th>
<th>MODERATOR</th>
<th>GUEST(S)</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 3, 2016</td>
<td>Bodies of water: What are our needs, our responsibilities? (UrbanBodies)</td>
<td>Tricia Toso</td>
<td>Jason Lima, Supriya Tandon</td>
<td>NDG Art Hive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2016</td>
<td>Do we need borders? A conversation about lines that define territory and a celebration of the play “Sunk in the Trunk”</td>
<td>Carmen Ruiz</td>
<td>Lyrine Cooper</td>
<td>Montréal, arts intercultures (MAI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20, 2016</td>
<td>Earth-Herse: How does the quality of the soil impact urban gardening and health? (UrbanBodies)</td>
<td>Kay Noote</td>
<td>Cameron Stiff, Jason Lima</td>
<td>St-Henri Art Hive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 28, 2016</td>
<td>Representation and Identity in Video Games: Whose stories are told through gaming?</td>
<td>rémy-paulin twahirwa</td>
<td>Lateef Martin, Tiuuli Saarinen, Jana Sloan van Geest</td>
<td>Technoculture, Art and Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 6, 2016</td>
<td>Progressive Homes, Radical Change: How do the places we live in inform our commitment to social engagement?</td>
<td>Rehab Mahmoud</td>
<td>Lucas Puttin, Shirley Robrun</td>
<td>NDG Food Depot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13, 2016</td>
<td>Nourishment for bodies: What are the issues around food security and access? (UrbanBodies)</td>
<td>Rehab Mahmoud</td>
<td>Anna-Lisa Auro, Satoshi Ikeda, Georges Lener</td>
<td>La Place Commune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 17, 2016</td>
<td>Sick in the City: The streets as disease and as cure</td>
<td>Abby Lippman</td>
<td>Bajajanta Mukhopadhyay, Robyn Maynard</td>
<td>Y des femmes de Montréal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 27, 2016</td>
<td>Homegoing: What does rebuilding community represent to displaced people?</td>
<td>Mynami Zaidi</td>
<td>Hourig Attarian</td>
<td>Aux Deux Marie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 3, 2016</td>
<td>Bodies and Death: How can we embrace death through ritual? (UrbanBodies)</td>
<td>Genevieve Brown</td>
<td>Kit Racette, Lila Luna Gonzalez</td>
<td>St-Henri Art Hive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 8, 2016</td>
<td>Taking Through Time: How do we engage in purposeful exchanges across generations?</td>
<td>Laura Cardenas</td>
<td>Anna Jane McIntyre</td>
<td>La Place Commune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16, 2016</td>
<td>An Eye for An Eye: What is the true impact of punishment?</td>
<td>Jimmy Ung</td>
<td>Jean-Marc Bougie, Marie Beensan</td>
<td>Café L’Arbère</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 21, 2016</td>
<td>Meaningful Community Engagement: How do we collaborate towards positive impact?</td>
<td>Genevieve Brown</td>
<td>Anne-Marie Grandin, Juniper Glass</td>
<td>Temps Libre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 24, 2016</td>
<td>Seeking Down-time: I have we forgotten how to rest?</td>
<td>Afra Sarka Tucker</td>
<td>Rabbi Lisa Grushow, Thibault Du Chêne</td>
<td>Temple Emanuel-El-Beth Sholom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2016</td>
<td>Basic income: How are economic stability, health and well-being connected? (UrbanBodies)</td>
<td>Rachel Chaney</td>
<td>Satoshi Ikeda, Jamie Kriger</td>
<td>Coop Le Mileu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 4, 2016</td>
<td>The cost of clothing bodies: What are the ethics of apparel and creative reuse? (UrbanBodies)</td>
<td>Kay Noote</td>
<td>Heather Sorel, Pantandra Hobby</td>
<td>St-Henri Art Hive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 10, 2016</td>
<td>Stories of the City Night: End of Semester Storytelling Café</td>
<td>Miriam Fahmy</td>
<td>Tolulope Ilesanmi</td>
<td>Café L’Arbère</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. Students, community organizers and representatives from other universities are welcome.

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the OCE hosted four lunch-time Living Knowledge events. For the first time, we experimented with hosting these gatherings both on and off campus with events happening at Temps Libre in the Mile End, Share the Warmth in Pointe-Saint-Charles, in the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery on our downtown campus and in the Refectory at the Loyola campus. Each venue lent a richness to the exchange and illustrated the importance of moving this work out of traditional academic environments.

At our first event in the fall we looked at the significance of place as we explored the potential of having Concordians working in shared spaces like Temps Libre. Next, we focused on teaching in community through a deep reflection on the Right to the City initiative. In the winter semester, we kicked off the New Year with a powerful session about indigenizing course content, which invited participants to experience indigenous ways of teaching first hand. Finally, we wrapped up the year with an animated discussion about how community-based projects can serve to democratize knowledge. In total, 90 people participated over the course of these four events, which were open to faculty, staff, students and external partners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>QUESTION</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>GUEST(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 16, 2016</td>
<td>Teaching in Community: How can we encourage reciprocity in learning?</td>
<td>Share the Warmth</td>
<td>Eric Craven, Fiona Crossing, Cynthia Hammond, Ted Little, Kathleen Vaughan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 7, 2017</td>
<td>Indigenizing Course Content: How can our pedagogy shift in response to the TRC?</td>
<td>Leonard &amp; Bina Ellen Art Gallery</td>
<td>Vicky Boiko, Elizabeth Fast, Chantel Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 23, 2017</td>
<td>Democratizing Knowledge: How can we facilitate community-based projects without leading them?</td>
<td>Loyola Jesuit Hall and Conference Center, Concordia Loyola Campus</td>
<td>Silvano De la Llata</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Living Knowledge Research Project sought to determine the extent of community-based experiential learning (CBEL) in Concordia’s undergraduate curriculum. This year, building on work done by a team of student researchers in 2015-2016, the OCE worked with the Living Knowledge Advisory Committee (LKAC) to submit a final report summarizing the main findings of the project.

In addition to identifying 168 courses that offer students the opportunity to engage in some form of CBEL, the results of the Living Knowledge Research Project revealed that faculty members are, despite many challenges, committed to CBEL as a uniquely valuable and inspiring pedagogical practice; one that benefits the intellectual life of Concordians and the communities they serve. Two main recommendations – with specific recommended actions – were presented to the Embrace the City Leadership Group:

1. Increase institutional capacity to develop and maintain community partnerships.
2. Develop or improve existing programs to recognize and appreciate CBEL stakeholders.

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. This year, the OCE received ten nominations across the three awards. Award recipients are:

Student: Fabio Balli

Since his arrival at Concordia in January 2016, Fabio Balli has explored knowledge commons and the collaborative production of freely accessible knowledge and technologies. With the support of the Center for Teaching and Learning, he has organised three “Breathing Games” events. These events bring together young patients with breathing issues, their families, doctors from Sainte-Justine Hospital and students, teachers and staff from multiple universities to work together on the development of open source games that promote breathing health and healthy behaviors for children.

Community Partner: Annie Pisuktie, Nipivut

Annie Pisuktie is an Inuit woman from Iqaluit, Nunavut. She moved to Montreal over 30 years ago and has worked tirelessly on behalf of Inuit in the city ever since. In 2015, Annie jumped at the opportunity to host Nipivut — a radio show that helps build an inclusive Inuit community in the greater Montreal area. Nipivut, which means ‘Our Voice’ in Inuktitut, was born out of a SSHRC funded research project led by Concordia’s Dr. Mark Watson. This action research project aims to help facilitate community based or driven projects that seek to improve the wellbeing and social situation of Inuit in Montreal.

Faculty: Dr. Edward Little

Educator, author, and theatre maker, Dr. Edward (Ted) Little has built his career at Concordia on the principle of community-engaged creation. He has been a mentor to students and colleagues alike, and a tireless champion of working in sustained collaboration with external communities and partners. Since 2014, Dr. Little has also been a core member in the Right to the City (RTTC) pedagogical initiative, which has brought students from four disciplines into a place-based learning initiative in Pointe-Saint-Charles. Dr. Little’s spirit, generosity, clear-sightedness, and his great wealth of experience in community engagement has been central to the RTTC’s success.
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, $10,415 of fees were waived under this policy making the rental of Concordia spaces more accessible to community groups such as LEARN Quebec and the Peter McGill Community Council. Events held at Concordia as part of our Space Sharing policy included:

- The 2016 World Social Forum
- Melody Music Camp
- RemixEd Unconference
- The Black Community Resource Center
- The Peter McGill Community Council
- The Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation of Canada
Mapping Concordia’s city-engaged initiatives was identified as a key objective in the Embrace the City strategy prepared in fall 2015. Over the past year, 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 phase brainstorming and prototyping, an external firm, Plank Design, was hired to develop the online mapping tool. The OCE continues to work closely with Plank to oversee their work and coordinate feedback from internal stakeholders.

Once it is launched in late 2017, 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.
The 2017 Next City Vanguard Conference was held in Montreal from May 31 – June 3 and was co-hosted by Concordia University and Next City, a non-profit organization whose mission is to inspire social, economic and environmental change in cities through journalism and events around the world.

Concordia was proud to host the very first Vanguard Conference held outside the United States, as well as the first conference that was the result of a citizen-led bid. The Conference brought together a diverse cohort of 43 young urban leaders from across North America, including 6 from Montreal, as well as one from Africa and another from Latin America.

The conference included a keynote address titled “The Walkable City: Why access is the new mobility”, by city planner and urban designer Jeff Speck.

As part of the conference, Vanguard participants also took part in the Big Idea Challenge which saw them propose concrete urban design solutions to six local challenges identified by community partners in areas including food security, community housing and ensuring targeted health services for Indigenous communities.

The Conference enabled Concordia to leverage its expertise in design and planning as well as its deep relationships with city- and community-based stakeholders to create a unique, experiential program anchored in Montreal’s vibrant urban ecosystem.

SIX COMMUNITY PARTNERS were recruited for the Big Idea Challenge (Batiment 7; Brique par Brique; Montreal Urban Aboriginal Health Centre; NDG Food Depot; Civitas X; Tyndale St-Georges).

Conference sponsors provided strategic alliance opportunities with: XPND Capital (Alexandre Taillefer, eLion Bus, Teo Taxi), Moment Factory, real ventures/Notman House, Milton B, Bixi and Play The Future, the Art Hives network, Solidarité Saint-Henri.
The Office of Community Engagement (OCE) 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 2016-2017, we were proud to support the following:

**LOYOLA’S 100TH ANNIVERSARY**
This community event held on Oct 22, 2016 at Concordia’s Loyola campus celebrated the season and Loyola campus’ 100th anniversary. This harvest festival was a family-friendly event featuring food, fitness classes and fun.

**QUARTIER LOYOLA COMMUNITY PROJECT**
This cross-institutional initiative led by the PERFORM Center at Concordia promotes healthier holistic lifestyles among NDG residents and seniors.

**CREATIVE VIDEO SUMMER CAMP**
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 Collectvision.

**SONGS OF RESILIENCE, EMPOWERMENT AND VISION**
To commemorate 2017 International Women’s Day, Montreal choir Choeur Maha performed three public sets at Concordia on March 8, 2017. This event was facilitated by the OCE.

**TILLUTARNIIT**
Tillutarnit, presented by the FOFA Gallery from August 3-5, 2017, is a festival that celebrates Inuit culture through games, prizes, food and performance.

**JAMAICA INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION**
On August 5, 2017, the Jamaica Association of Montreal and the OCE collaborated on this celebration of Jamaica’s 55 years of independence. The event, held at Oscar Peterson Hall, featured Dr. Hume Johnson (Roger Williams University).
PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

WORLD SOCIAL FORUM, MCGILL UNIVERSITY
On August 10, Susan and Alex co-led a workshop: “From Dialog to Engagement: How can public conversations help foster critical citizenship?” As well on August 10, Alex took part in a panel titled “Beyond the private sector: How can the plural sector get its collective act together?”

FIRST VOICES WEEK, CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
On February 1, Charmaine co-led a Community Discussion on Indigenous Directions at Concordia University.

C2U EXPO 2017, SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
On May 4, Alex and Susan facilitated a round-table “Moving to Action: What are Best Practices in Assessing and Supporting Community Engagement Opportunities?”

85E CONGRÈS DE L’ACFAS, MCGILL UNIVERSITY
On May 9, Alex presented a talk: “L’engagement citoyen et les conversations publiques : L’approche et la méthodologie de l’Université autrement dans les cafés.”
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

Susan Edey
Community Engagement Coordinator
514-848-2424 ext 4803
susan.edey@concordia.ca

Charmaine Lyn
Senior Director of the Office of Community Engagement
514-848-2424 ext 4863
charmaine.lyn@concordia.ca

Natalie Woodburn-Heron
Administrative Assistant
514-848-2424 ext 5840
natalie.woodburn-heron@concordia.ca

Emma Harake
Events and Promotions Assistant
emma.harake@concordia.ca

Alex Megelas
Programs and Communications Coordinator
514-848-2424 ext 4893
alex.megelas@concordia.ca

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFO

1550 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W, GM-801
Montreal, QC H3G 1N2
514-848-2424 xt 5840
communityengagement@concordia.ca
concordia.ca/offices/oe
facebook.com/ConcordiaCommunityEngagement

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

District 3 Innovation Center
1250 Rue Guy

Temps Libre Coop
5605 De Gaspé

Hive Café Solidarity Coop
7140 Sherbrooke St W, SC-200

If you’d like to meet us at one of these locations, please get in touch beforehand to schedule a time.