

To: President Alan Shepard  
Office of the President  
Concordia University

3 October 2013

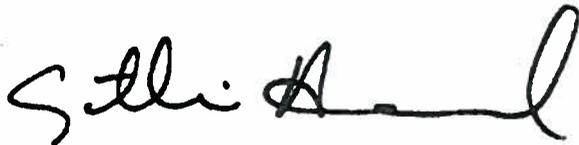
Dear President Shepard,

At our first faculty meeting of the year on September 26, 2013, the Department of Art History discussed the proposed Charter of Quebec Values, and its potential impact on our unit. We reviewed your open letter to the Concordia community of 18 September, and wholeheartedly welcome your support of diversity among Concordia's students, staff, and faculty.

We understand that the Charter of Quebec Values is as yet a working document. Recent announcements suggest, however, that the proposed curtailment of the freedom of religious expression is inevitable, rather than a point of debate. We believe that the proposed ban on the wearing of religious symbols will send a negative and wounding message to our student body and current faculty and staff. It will discourage leading scholars from applying to Concordia, and will create a culture of disharmony rather than the openness that Concordia represents and has struggled to build. With these values and concerns in mind, we would like to communicate to you our unanimous recommendation that Concordia University formally reject the proposed Charter of Quebec Values. We ask you to convey our feelings to the Board of Governors.

While I am empowered by members of the department to write on our collective behalf, members of the department indicated that they wanted to signal their concern and solidarity by signing this letter individually.

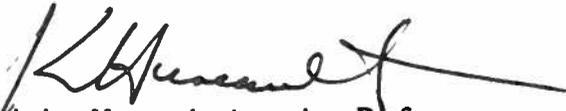
Yours sincerely,



Dr Cynthia Hammond  
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Concordia University  
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Signed by:



Dr Kristina Huneault, Associate Professor



Dr Heather Igloliorte, Assistant Professor



Dr Alice Jim, Associate Professor



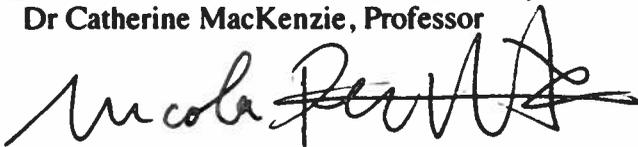
Dr Martha Langford, Professor and Director, Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art



Dr Loren Lerner, Professor



Dr Catherine MacKenzie, Professor



Dr Nicola Pezolet, Assistant Professor



Dr John Potvin, Associate Professor



Dr Johanne Sloan, Associate Professor

  
Dr Steven Stowell, Assistant Professor

  
Dr Anne Whitelaw, Associate Professor

  
Eliana Stratica-Mihail, BA, graduate student representative

  
Katerina Korola, undergraduate student representative

  
Dina Vescio, MA, Department Assistant

  
Dr Anna Waclawek, Affiliate Faculty and Department Coordinator

  
Dr Margaret Hodges, CUPFA representative



Concordia University

# Fine Arts

Department of Art History

*Janice Anderson*

Dr Janice Anderson, Affiliate Faculty, Fine Arts Visual Resources Curator

*Brenda Dionne Hutchinson*

Brenda Dionne Hutchinson, Administrator, Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art

*François-Marc Gagnon*

Dr François-Marc Gagnon, Affiliate Faculty, Distinguished Research Fellow, Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art

