

volume 36, issue 3 Sept. 8, 2015 thelinknewspaper.ca

# THE LINK

## the orientation issue

P.11

+ a map of both campuses

### NEWS FRINGE ARTS SPORTS

#### REINFORCEMENTS ARE COMING

Spring demos saw students fight against austerity. This season, labour unions are expected to strike.

#### MÖDERN YOUTH

FILM POP Kicks Off the Season with Concert/Screening on the Cold Wave

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Police and protesters clash at the May Day demonstration on Friday, May 1, 2015.

PHOTO CAMIL TANG

## FALL IS COMING: MOBILIZATION AGAINST AUSTERITY IS NOT OVER

BY JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK  
@HIIMBIRACIAL

Printemps 2015 is over. The highly anticipated movement against the austerity measures implemented by Quebec's Liberal-majority government saw its share of tense, internationally visible demonstrations last spring.

The lasting results of these protests, besides bringing the conversation of austerity and police brutality to the forefront of public discourse, are not definitively known.

The student protests over tuition hikes in 2012 resulted in former Premier Jean Charest leaving office. The current Premier Philippe Couillard isn't expected to leave office anytime soon.

Now, the public sector continues to deal with the consequences of an announced \$1 to 3 billion in cuts over the span of two years to offset its growing debt. Concordia University has also suffered a loss of \$36 million in a three year period, according to Concordia's Chief Financial Officer Patrick Kelly.

"It's very hard—we had to make very difficult decisions, but we worked very hard with people to make those decisions," Kelley said in an interview with *The Link* in July. "If we had more money, would we do more—absolutely."

Mobilization against austerity is not over, however. Last spring, demonstrations in Montreal mainly consisted of students enforcing strike mandates. This fall, deliberation about whether labour unions in the public sector will go on strike is expected. Many collective agreements between workers and their employers have expired, with negotiations ongoing and often at odds.

"It's going to be a hot autumn this year," said Jean Lortie, Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN) secretary general.

CSN represents approximately 300,000 workers in Quebec. The overarching union is trying to create a common front and have its affiliated unions hold individual general assemblies to vote yes or no for a strike mandate, Lortie says.

He adds that the plan is to have all its affiliated unions have a vote by the end of the month, so that they can announce the results for a "grande manifestation" in Montreal on

Oct. 3. Dialogue is positive between other labour unions in Quebec, such as the Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec (FTQ), and a formal coalition against austerity is still in the works, according to Lortie.

The Dawson Teachers' Union (DTU) from Dawson College is holding a general assembly to vote on a strike mandate within the next few weeks. The DTU is affiliated with CSN as well as the Fédération nationale des enseignants et des enseignants du Québec (FNEEQ).

Gabriel Tordjman, DTU's VP External, says that securing a strike mandate from its membership won't necessarily lead to immediate striking, but means the union can strike if needed. During a GA last semester, a strike mandate to resist austerity measures was six votes shy from passing, he adds.

This time, however, a strike mandate would be decided on with their collective agreement still in negotiations. Tordjman says the process is slow, and that movement is occurring on smaller issues, but the more substantial issues are not progressing.

Among these slow-paced issues is the disparity in wage increases with the threat of larger class sizes. DTU is asking for a 13.5 per cent increase over three years, while Dawson College admin are offering a 3 per cent increase—with freezes—over five years. In addition, Tordjman says that negotiations are ignoring younger and non-permanent teachers who are being paid less for similar workloads. He also says that administration is trying to seize control of appointing department chairs and approving curricula.

Tordjman calls the latter plays "provocative." In terms of negotiations, most other CEGEPs are in similar positions and are contemplating strike mandates, he says.

At Concordia, a press release in June said the university reached an agreement in principle with Concordia University Faculty Association (CUFA), which is pending approval by the school's Board of Governors. The Concordia University Part-Time Faculty Association (CUPFA), also affiliated with FNEEQ and CSN, has been without a collective agreement since the end of April.

The Teaching and Research Assistants at Concordia (TRAC) are currently in nego-

tiations with the school over pay grades in its collective agreement as well. An initial pay grade offer with cuts of up to 43 per cent was rejected in the summer, and a second meeting is scheduled sometime in September.

Back in March, a student protester in Quebec City named Naomie Trudeau-Tremblay was shot point-blank in the face by a tear gas canister. She said she was stunned at the police officer's actions and is pressing charges.

A month later, approximately 250 protesters from the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) occupied one of its buildings. The sit-in ultimately led to 21 arrests, as some factions chose to destroy parts of the school property. Two reporters from *The Link* were inside, mostly concealing their identities within an atmosphere unfriendly to journalists.

For International Workers' Day on May 1, the SPVM deterred demonstrations throughout downtown Montreal using tear gas. Many bystanders were affected, including one child photographed having milk poured into her eyes to remedy effects of the gas.

The spring congress of the Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante (ASSE) voted to impeach last year's executive team for writing a letter of reflection suggesting a "strategic withdrawal" from Printemps 2015. ASSE represents 43 student associations across Quebec.

ASSE's course of action for mobilization in the fall is to support and fight by the side of the public sector, especially teachers and professors, according to communications secretary Missila Izza. A gathering of its student unions and those of professors and teachers is being organized and scheduled by ASSE for Sept. 26 and 27.

"The month of September will be quite charged," Izza said. She adds that ASSE is in constant dialogue with unions in the public sector. The gathering at the end of the month will see each union vote on proposals for planned action to take in the fall.

Three student associations from Concordia are members of ASSE and are expected to take part in that assembly.

Meanwhile, the council of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) adopted and endorsed a "10 Billion Solutions" in a June session. Formulated by La Coalition Main

Rouge—a coalition of over 70 organizations united against user fees and privatization of the public sector—the document outlines fiscal solutions different from the austerity measures the Quebec government is implementing in order to run a "zero-dollar deficit."

"Austerity is not an economical necessity," said CSU President Terry Wilkings. "It's a political choice."

Last semester, over 10 undergraduate and graduate student associations held GAs to vote for or against a strike mandate. Main mobilization and strikes occurred on the key dates of March 23 and April 2, where some association members blockaded and disrupted classes within their department.

This led to three professors pursuing tribunals against a select number of students in May, as the university eventually became co-complainants in the formal complaints. Wilkings says that members of the CSU met with university President Alan Shepard in the summer to "provide context" about the students' perspective.

"The decision is his to do the right thing," Wilkings said. "It's in the best interest of the university to remove itself from formally charging students."

He adds that the CSU supports students' rights to resist austerity in any capacity.

"In a democracy, people have the right to protest," Shepard said in an interview with *The Link*. "But people also have the right to feel safe."

He says that he understands resistance to austerity intellectually, but safety of all individuals on Concordia's campuses, including students, visitors and staff, is priority.

"Austerity is one route that has been chosen, but there are other routes as well," he said, while acknowledging the pressures the provincial government faces.

The Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) also took a formal stance against austerity in a GA vote last fall, according to VP External Affairs Emily Boytinch.

She says SSMU's current focus is on organizing an anti-austerity week coming up on Sept. 14 to 18, which will be full of workshops and skillshares to educate the McGill and outside community.



# Human Rights Advocates Want Concordia to Take Clear Stance on Asbestos Report



Businessman Baljit Chadha is an important donor to the John Molson School of Business  
PHOTO SHAUN MICHAUD

BY MICHELLE PUCCI  
@MICHELLEPUCCI

Anti-asbestos advocates are frustrated by the lack of response from Concordia to their demands for an independent review of a report briefly published on the university's website. The report, which discusses how to change public opinion about Quebec's asbestos industry, has resulted in backlash from multiple sources.

Titled "Lessons from the Quebec Asbestos Industry: Can there be meaningful dialogue and consensus when facts come up against feelings?", was written by John Aylen, a lecturer at the John Molson School of Business and public relations professional with ties to the asbestos industry.

Aylen writes the groups in favour of asbestos—a mineral known to cause cancer—ran a campaign based on facts, while claiming opponents to the industry, mainly scientists and humans rights activists, were using emotion to support their position.

The report was published by the Luc Beaugregard Centre of Excellence in Communications within JMSB. Aylen acknowledges the "generous contributions" of Barry Smith, which he states is not his real name and is a pseudonym for Baljit Chadha.

Aylen doesn't name Chadha in the report—it's unclear why he uses a pseudonym—but describes him as the "leader of the consortium to purchase the [Jeffrey] mine." Aylen refused to comment on the report.

Baljit Chadha is one of the most public supporters of reviving the asbestos industry

in Quebec.

He is the founder of Balcorp, based in Montreal, New Delhi and Mumbai—India is one of the countries that still import asbestos.

Chadha was the head of a consortium of anonymous investors hoping to reopen Jeffrey mine in Quebec, which closed in 2011.

Aylen has acted as Chadha's spokesperson in the past, and manages a communication firm that lists Chadha's company, Balcorp, as a client. That information is not disclosed in the report. Aylen also thanks Guy Versailles in the article, a fellow PR consultant and paid spokesperson for Chadha.

On July 24, 14 human rights advisors, and medical and health specialists sent a letter to Concordia, saying the report was filled with inaccuracies about the health risks of asbestos and that it failed to mention conflicts of interests.

Concordia removed the report from its website soon after and the university said it's looking into conflicts of interest, confidentially and internally.

Aylen's largest conflict is the involvement of Chadha, an important donor to Concordia's business school.

Another letter was sent to Concordia's President Alan Shepard and the university's Board of Governors in early August, calling for more information about the review process, but hasn't received a reply, according to Kathleen Ruff, a senior human rights advisor at the Rideau Institute in Ottawa.

"The response is troubling because [Shepard] has not answered our very clear request that there be an independent trans-

parent investigation," said Ruff.

"The public response of Concordia has been misleading and inaccurate and contradictory," Ruff said.

Shepard said the Dean of JMSB was carrying out the review internally.

"We're not intending to have an independent review," he said. "I don't think the circumstances warrant it."

The report's disclaimer says the Luc Beaugregard Centre does not endorse or share the opinions in the study, which Ruff calls wrong, since the report appears to be funded by the centre and was published under Concordia's letterhead on its website.

"This is not just about asbestos, this is about a failure of Concordia to respect or require basic academic and ethical standards," Ruff said. "You cannot investigate yourself and expect it to be objective and have integrity."

Aylen's report was published in June and presented at the Canadian Public Relations Conference in Montreal, along with another report commissioned by the Luc Beaugregard Centre on shale gas development in Quebec.

The centre's director, Jordan LeBel, called the reports "a great example of what the Centre is all about," in a press release now removed from Concordia's website.

"They were commissioned after the Centre was approached by an expert in the energy field who had grown tired of dead-end debates in our society that basically paralyze or stop discussion on major issues," LeBel said in the release.

When the Parti Québécois won in the 2012 elections, they followed through on a cam-

paign promise to cancel a \$58 million loan, which would have helped the Jeffrey Mine in the town of Asbestos remain open.

Quebec was reportedly producing 150,000 tons of asbestos in 2010 and exporting 90 per cent of it to developing countries.

Asbestos is still being used in developing countries like India, where workers are directly exposed to materials containing asbestos.

"This report is incredibly irresponsible, and will contribute to harming the lives of people overseas," Ruff said.

The World Health Organization describes all types of asbestos as a carcinogen. By inhaling fibers during construction, in factories handling asbestos or breathing air in housing with "crumbly" asbestos, people who are exposed to asbestos are at risk of lung, larynx, or ovary cancer as well as mesothelioma.

On its website, WHO states "the most efficient way to eliminate asbestos-related diseases is to stop the use of all types of asbestos."

WHO has also chastised Chadha for claiming that the organization had established a level of exposure that is not a health risk, telling the *Globe and Mail*, "There is no safe threshold of exposure to all forms of asbestos."

In 2012, Chadha's wife, asbestos exporter Roshi Chadha, resigned from the governing bodies of McGill, St. Mary's Hospital Foundation and the Canadian Red Cross after being pressured by anti-asbestos advocates.

Baljit Chadha was on Concordia's Board of Governors until his term ended in 2012.

Aylen does not appear to be teaching any classes in the Fall 2015 and Winter 2016 semesters, according to the class list.

## Concordia President Says Review is On Its Way

BY JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK  
@HIIMBIRACIAL

Following reports of a student distressed after having her tribunal postponed, Concordia's President reiterated the university's plan to review the procedures it follows for cases of alleged sexual violence.

In the last issue, *The Link* featured a story about a Concordia University student who is awaiting resolution for a formal complaint

made against her ex-boyfriend, who she alleges assaulted her twice on campus.

Cathy (a pseudonym to protect her identity) has had her tribunal postponed indefinitely until parallel criminal proceedings are resolved.

In an interview with *The Link*, university President Alan Shepard chose not to comment on the specifics of Cathy's individual

case, saying it's inappropriate because of the complications.

He did say that he's confident the system in place is working well. He assured *The Link* that many resources exist to assist students who feel unsafe on campus—such as protection by security, mental health support services and the Office of Rights and Responsibility.

"I feel the university is doing a good job providing security," he said. In a report of the school's new sexual violence policy released a few weeks ago, it recommended to review the university's code of conduct for potential

issues for survivors. Shepard says it will be reviewed and changed or adjusted by the end of this academic year.

Cathy filed a complaint with the school's Office of Rights and Responsibility last March, expecting a tribunal within a 20-day period.

The tribunal was eventually delayed until last week. Cathy then received a letter notifying her that it will now be postponed indefinitely, pending the results of the criminal proceedings she is pursuing against her ex.

Cathy said she won't enroll in classes until her case at Concordia is resolved.





## THE (LITERAL) BODY POLITIC

### Eastern Bloc Presents BPLTC Part 1: Cellular Control

PHOTO COURTESY EASTERN BLOC

BY CHARLOTTE PICOTTE  
@CPICOTTE

Eastern Bloc will be kicking off the first of a three-part series of exhibitions called BPLTC (pronounced “biopolitic”) in a few short weeks, starting Sept. 24. Broadly speaking, the series will explore the role of the sciences and their technological applications in relation to human activity and sociopolitical interests.

#### LEAVE YOUR FINGERPRINTS AT THE DOOR

Eliane Ellbogen, one of the founding members of Eastern Bloc and co-curator of BPLTC, says that the exhibit was largely inspired by the reality of working with non-Canadian artists. An issue that she’s seen come up often in recent years is that many artists entering Canada are now required to give up their personal biometric information at the door. (Citizenship and Immigration Canada describes biometrics as “the automated recognition of individuals based on unique physical features such as fingerprints”).

The Temporary Resident Biometrics Project was instated by CIC

in 2013 with the goal of reducing identity fraud in an age where the transnational movement of people is greater than ever. What it implies for “certain foreign nationals” wishing to get a visa is that they now need to submit fingerprints and a photo as part of their application. “Certain foreign nationals” is not more clearly specified by CIC.

“All of this got us thinking about how peoples’ biological data intersects with politics on a global scale,” says Ellbogen.

#### THE SELLING OF CELLS

While BPLTC addresses the overarching theme of how technology both facilitates the transfer of information and comes to the detriment of personal control, the series’ three parts will tackle different angles. Part one, Cellular Control, is primarily concerned with the implications of data collection at the DNA level.

Cellular Control will be led by three artists: Heather Dewey-Hagborg (United States), Verena Friedrich (Germany), and Hyla Willis (United States). This segment will include visual, audio

and interactive components meant to explore and bring awareness to some of the common ways humans try to control activities normally exclusive to natural organisms. For example, genetic manipulation is now greatly aided by the digital age and technological tools, yet most people have no idea of what experiments are being conducted and how this information is being used.

Tackling the theme of biopolitics at the fundamental DNA level, Dewey-Hagborg’s installation looks at the reality of biological monitoring. As DNA is becoming more commonly used to analyze and track people, “Invisible” is a semi-humorous work that proposes a way to erase the genetic traces we leave in public spaces (think the 1997 movie *Gattaca*).

“Electronic surveillance currently pervades most Americans’ daily lives with voyeurs ranging from corporations to the government, police, and private citizens,” said Hagborg. She says that inspiration for her work has roots in her background as a programmer, which gave her insight on the exchange of surveillance systems and “big data.”

Taking Cellular Control in a slightly different direction, Friedrich connects language and the use of bodily materials with her piece titled “Cellular Performance.” In her video, she examines the names of various “cosmeceuticals” (skin care products that profess pharmaceutical benefits at the DNA level) by culturing bacteria that’s typically used in the cosmetics industry and manipulating it to form words often found in advertising.

Willis, from Cyber-feminist collective subRosa will present a project that underlines the divide between sources of genetic material (humans, plants and animals) and who profits from them. Focusing on the political history of female reproduction, “Cell Track: Mapping the Appropriation of Life Materials” seeks to bring attention to issues that affect women specifically and to highlight the need for an activist, feminist-oriented facility where artists and independent scientists can conduct their own embryonic stem cell research.

“In Cell Track, we look at the privatization and ownership of biological materials and processes, and ask who should own biology itself,” said Willis.

An example she gives is the patenting of the BRCA1 gene, which is known to be a likely indicator for breast cancer. Though successfully challenged in a 2012 Supreme Court battle (“Association for Molecular Pathology v. Myriad Genetics”), the action of staking private ownership over this gene cost women wanting to get tested for it expensive royalties.

Cell Track is comprised of two components: a wall-based installation and animated website.

#### SAVE THE DATES

Considering the scope of the subject, it’s no surprise that the team at Eastern Bloc decided to turn it into a three-part deal. After Cellular Control comes Identity Control (Nov. 5) and Food Control (Jan. 14).

A vernissage for BPLTC will be held at 6 p.m. on Sept. 24. Eastern Bloc is situated on Clark St., between de Castelleau and Jean Talon Sts. Entry is free.

Peripheral events will include an artist talk with Hyla Willis on Sept. 26, and a guided tour of the exhibition with members of Eastern Bloc’s programming committee on Sept. 27.





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PHOTOS COURTESY FESTIVAL CANNES

## ARABIAN NIGHTS: THE TALES OF THE ANTI-CONFORMIST

Portuguese Director Miguel Gomes Tackles Austerity Politics in a Radical Enchantment

BY JUNE LOPER  
@LOPERJUNE

After leaving a strong mark on contemporary cinema with the internationally acclaimed *Tabu* (2012), Miguel Gomes strikes again with *Arabian Nights*, a tale in three volumes: *The Restless One*, *The Desolate One*, and *The Enchanted One*.

Selected for the Directors' Fortnight at the Cannes Festival (2015), *Arabian Nights* oscillates between a documentary style and a fantastic tale. Through this surrealist light, the film gives a poignant representation of modern-day Portugal—a country ravaged by its recent economic recession and the austerity measures imposed by the European troika, made up of the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Gomes deliberately shied away from the naturalistic turn that European mainstream cinema has taken in recent decades. The

cinema chose instead to structure his film around the mythological tales of the *Arabian Nights*, upon which he superimposes a collection of micro-stories centered on Portugal's working-class heroes.

Not only does this particular approach give him a great deal of artistic freedom in his treatment of the fantastic genre, but it also enables the director to intertwine his imaginative, poetic vision with an often sombre reality.

The princess Scheherazade thus impersonates the narrator and tells her stories to an evil king to escape decapitation. The enchanted stories she recounts are those of the people of Portugal, a country submitted to a political regime that denies any form of social justice.

In an interview he gave with the French magazine *Politix*, Gomes explains how this approach fits in with his conception of the role that films have to play within society.

"This very realistic European cinema is actually extremely

coded and includes a number of social and psychological stereotypes," Gomes said. "The cinema that amazed me when I was young were films like *The Wizard of Oz*. I side with Hitchcock when he says, 'Cinema is not a slice of life, but a piece of cake.'"

If Gomes decided to side with fiction for the realization of his trilogy, he nonetheless researched the reality quite thoroughly in preparation for the film. The filmmaker worked hand in hand with a group of journalists who scanned local papers in search of news stories that dealt with the ways in which austerity affected different communities and individuals.

Thanks to this research, Gomes was able to develop unique and complex characters in *Arabian Nights* that are directly inspired from some of the stories he found. In the first film, *The Restless One*, one of the sequences shows a series of testimonies from people who lost their jobs due to the economic recession.

Unlike numbers, statistics or cold facts, these testimonies reveal the consequences of the politics of austerity on a human level.

"On one side, the film shows people who are not very active, who have bad conditions of living but who do nothing to change them," he told *Politix*. "On the other side, their every move fascinates the camera. And their stories, simple as they may be, say a lot on who they are, their habits and culture."

In fact, an important part of this culture includes the animal kingdom. From symbolic omen to symptoms of a diseased world, the animal and its relationship to mankind accounts for one the leitmotifs of the triptych. In the third volume, *The Enchanted One*, more than half of the film focuses on a group of men living in the slums of Lisbon's periphery. The group illicitly raise and teach finches how to sing. There is a direct analogy between the men and the finches, the cages, the prisons and

**"Arabian Nights gives a poignant representation of modern-day Portugal—a country ravaged by its recent economic recession and the austerity measures imposed by the European troika."**

the social housing. The filmmaker spent more than 150 hours interviewing the men participating in these finch-singing competitions.

A whole subculture revolves around them, as Gomes explains in an interview he gave to *Télérama* last June.

"They made me enter a coded world, secret and clandestine, because their practices are illegal," he said. "These characters evoke for me Springsteen's rock or Borges' books. They live in the margins of society and nobody knows that they exist."







PHOTO ZACH GOLDBERG

## MONTREAL CHARACTER SERIES: TANYA STASIŁOWITCH

### Wrestler, Performance Artist, Egoless Optimist

BY ZACH GOLDBERG  
@ZACHGOLDBERG

This would be the first time for me an interview took place in a non-neutral environment.

And it was decidedly non-neutral. Instead of a coffee shop, or alley way, or McDonald's, I met Tanya Stasiłowitch, current star of Montreal's League of Lady Wrestlers and performance artist extraordinaire, at her moderately sized, very homey duplex in Parc-Ex. Not only would this make my first interview of such a personal nature (I'm in a stranger's home, for pete's sake), but I'd also never been to Parc-Ex. It was stupid hot outside and I undershot the walk, so I ended up having to choke down two peaches on her street's corner in less than three minutes just to be on time.

I knocked on the door, and an extremely fat cat (Onyx) rushed to greet me, followed swiftly by Stasiłowitch. She greets me and I am struck by the sheer intimacy of the situation, but before I can be uncomfortable, she graciously leads me into her backyard, a square of patchy grass and concrete buttressed by a huge inflatable pool and sheltered by a tinny roof.

We both take opposite chairs at a shiny white outdoor table, and, with Onyx the fat cat looking on, I was clued in by an expert on the ego and intrigue-filled world of professional wrestling, and tantalized by tales of lost arachnid assailants in

apartments.

Mostly, though, Stasiłowitch talked of love. Through everything—wrestling, performance art, Berlin, New York, tarantulas, tattoos, everything—she can't help but mention love for everyone, for everything, how important it is to stay positive.

"I have so much love to give," she says again and again, and I believe her.

When I leave about an hour later, I feel like I'm happier.

For the full transcript, visit the Fringe Arts section at [thelinknewspaper.ca/fringe](http://thelinknewspaper.ca/fringe)

**Tanya Stasiłowitch**  
28 years old  
Born and Raised in Montreal

**Who is Princess Ula?**

That's one of my wrestling characters, the main one. She's from another dimension, far beyond human comprehension. She's a vessel of countless beings. Princess was inspired by Princess Khutulun, who was a Mongolian warrior back in the 13th century. Her thing was: whoever would ask her hand in marriage, she would challenge them to a wrestling match, and whoever lost had to give up their horses.

She ended up with 10,000 horses and no husband. So, it spoke to me a lot. That story transitioned to the driving force of my character...just this really badass woman who won't give away her ultimate passion for

love, and needs equality. Actually, when I heard that [story], it felt so close to home that I shed a tear. I just felt her in me, from then on. So it's been a pretty integral part of my character. [Ula] was also the name of my pet tarantula that ran away.

**What do you think of the wrestling community here?**

I see it differently now. I've started to communicate and collaborate with some of the wrestlers in Montreal now.

Before, it was really a lonely road, because I started training at Torture Chamber, back when I first decided to become a pro wrestler. We just didn't mesh. [The owner] is the type of person who needs to be in control all the time, and I have my own personality, I have my own experience and my own talents that are very different from the textbook wrestling community. I basically got X-ed out.

**What are your favourite traits in people? What attracts you to people?**

Their abilities to change and evolve. Their different ways of creating... Everybody has a different essence and compliments each other in different ways. Sure, some people don't get along, but I really do think there are ways of cracking those codes and finding the best in each other.

I have endless love to give, so I just love loving and collaborating. I guess one of the main reasons I have

a lot of people in my life is because I love collaborating with them.

**Do you feel like Montreal has contributed to your success?**

Very much so. I owe my life to Montreal, that's why I started this project here. I've travelled to a bunch of places...and I came back, and decided that my headquarters would be here. Geeze, Montreal. You get to live in really nice apartments for cheap and still be able to do your art and not struggle. It gives you some air and space to create, which I'm so grateful for. I lived in New York for a bit, and I felt like it was such a rat race. People worked four jobs to support a tiny studio apartment for like a \$1,000. What else could you do? You could become an artist, but people tended to move toward the party world, just so you could forget this sort of double life you're living, maintaining like four jobs. For me, that's not happiness, I know I have a gift of creation and a way to voice things in a way a majority of people can't, and Montreal has given me the opportunity.

**What does it mean to be prolific, to be famed?**

For me, there are different types of fame. The one I'm trying to obtain...I have a message to get out. I want people to open their minds and I want to help them find their inner strengths through the template of art that I do. I've worked really hard to find my body and find my self, it's really helped

me. I know it's not the answer for everyone, but whoever it can be the answer for, I'd like to teach them, and show them, even inspiring someone to take control of their lives, and be confident, and connect with each other, and love.

**"I have a message to get out. I want people to open their minds and I want to help them find their inner strengths through the template of art that I do."**

**What do you think the people really need to know?**

Be positive—switch that—stop hanging onto the negativity because that's actually the death of you. I think that positivity is life and negativity is death and it all depends on what kind of life you want to live. Believe in yourself even though you don't think you have anything. It's about taking the time and searching inside yourself and it's not gonna be easy, because it's pretty painful. But, you know, choose life. Love. That's what I got to say.

**For the full interview, and it is full—talk of getting iced from a gym, amateur-to-professional tattoo artistry, and more—visit [thelinknewspaper.ca/fringe](http://thelinknewspaper.ca/fringe)**





Etienne Daho and Nicole Calloch' at the Rennes transmusicales © Pierre René

PHOTO COURTESY POP MONTREAL

# MÖDERN YOUTH

Film POP Opens With Screening and Concert Revolving Around French Coldwave

BY MATTEO CIAMBELLA

The attempt to trace the origins and influences of the French coldwave and post-punk movement shows such a vast net of convergences with other realms of art and society that it deserves its own movie.

Jean-François Sanz's documentary *Des Jeunes Gens Modernes*, which will screen as a part of Film POP, the section of POP Montréal dedicated to cinema, embarks on this challenge through a series of interviews with the people who helped to shape the coldwave scene, be it the writer Yves Adrien, who formulated the theories at the base of the then-upcoming musical genre, or a protagonist of the scene such as Jacno, of the synthpop duo Elli et Jacno.

In the late 1970s, only a few years after the word "punk" had gained its most modern connotations and was being used in relation to acts such as the Sex Pistols, Richard Hell & The Voidoids, Patti Smith and other primarily English and American bands, musicians on both sides of the Atlantic already felt a need to subvert the genre once more.

The change was made all the more rapid and radical by the quick

diffusion of portable, fairly-priced synthesizers—a technology that until a decade earlier was oversold and out of budget even for rock stars the calibre of Mick Jagger, who, upon hearing the price of the Moog 900, seems to have remarked, "Man, that's a lot of bread." Most of the time the synthesizer didn't even come in the shape of a keyboard, but rather in that of a seemingly functionless agglomerate of knobs, inputs and valves.

By 1977 and 1978, however, the keyboard synthesizer had become the symbol of the new genre, dubbed as 'coldwave', a term first used to describe the German duo Kraftwerk, who pioneered electronic music, and were a driving force of inspiration for the electronic scenes to come.

Coldwave spread mainly throughout France and its immediate surroundings. It approached the rapid development of technology comparable to the historic avant-gardes of the early 20th century with apprehension and excitement. The excitement was inevitable as the new technology—synthesizers—represented an unexplored vehicle for music and new forms of expression.

The apprehension, then, was utilized, oozing through the often dark

and dystopian atmospheres of the music, reflecting a terror in the face of a rapidly altering music scene and world.

Reference to machines, mass production, war and other similar concerns are abundant in the output of coldwave artists, whose names are often very suggestive themselves: Guerre Froide, Modèle Mécanique and Kas Product are among some of the ones featured in the soundtrack of *Des Jeunes Gens Modernes*, which is being released by the excellent Paris-based label Born Bad Records.

The coldwave movement also resembled the historic avant-garde movement for its artistic ethos, which avoided the mainstream circles of production and distribution and maintained a strictly underground appeal.

It's easy to see how the influence of the avant-garde extended upon the aesthetic choices of the bands as well. The dramatic white face paint and the black eye makeup, for example, already adopted by post-punk precursors like David Bowie, Iggy Pop, and Siouxsie and the Banshees, clearly drew from the imagery of German Expressionism, bathed in Gothic tradition. If you take a look at the cover of Lou Reed's *Transformer*,

you might find a striking resemblance to Nosferatu.

On the other hand, the TV performances of Elli et Jacno are characterized by a surreal, ironic undertone that, purposefully or not, give out the echo of a Dadaist blague.

In 2008, before being a documentary film, the material that constitutes *Des Jeunes Gens Modernes* was part of an exhibition that took place at galerie du jour, organized by agnès b.

The film consists of a number of interviews, interwoven with experimental videos and archival footage, capturing very well the spirit of a time with such a great amount of flourishing creative talents have for the most part been forgotten—despite their key influence in shaping modern rock, punk and electronic music.

The film premieres internationally in Montreal on Sept. 17 at Quartiers POP (3450 St. Urbain) and will be accompanied by a performances by Montreal-based Xarah Dion and Polices Des Mœurs. Xarah Dion's synthpop, dark disco songs, as heard in her latest single "Sillage et Caprice," represent a contemporary take on a genre that started with the coldwave movement in the late 1970s, and has since evolved into a

variety of different styles. It looks like it's going to be a perfect match with Jean-François Sanz's film.

As Ariel Esteban Cayer, Concordia student and curator of the Film POP section, notes, the aesthetics and atmospheres evoked by the coldwave artists are still deeply relevant today, where the preoccupations with mass surveillance and a dehumanized world have been intensified with the advent of the web. If the French coldwave artists sang of a dystopian society, some contemporary artists might find themselves living in that society.

In addition to *Des Jeunes Gens Modernes*, the Film POP program offers among other screenings, a retrospective on filmmaker Sho Miyake, at Concordia's Cinéma J.A. de Séve, the Quebec premiere of the Arcade Fire documentary *The Reflektor Tapes*, at Théâtre Rialto, and a real treat, Paul Verhoeven's *Showgirls*, which will take place in the legendary erotic movie theatre Cinéma L'Amour on Sept. 18.

**Concert-Screening: *Des jeunes gens modernes* with Xarah Dion and Police des mœurs // Sept. 17 at 5 p.m. // POP Box at Quartiers POP (3450 St. Urbain) // \$15**





# WELCOME!



I hope you've had a great summer and are ready for an exciting fall.

If you're new to Concordia, I'd like to welcome you to our extraordinary community. If you're returning, welcome back!

I encourage you to take advantage of all we have to offer. Have a great year!

*Alan Shepard*

Alan Shepard  
President

alan.shepard@concordia.ca

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## the orientation issue

Welcome to Concordia. You probably won't figure everything out about this university—it has a population the size of some towns (over 40,000 study and work here), and it's situated in one of the most vibrant cities in North America.

Concordia started off as two schools (now the two campuses): Sir George Williams University, which was mostly for mature and night students, and Loyola College, a Jesuit school originally focused on "classical" training and later humanistic education.

They merged in 1974 and turned into this current 60-building plus university that is usually named for its business school (the John Molson School of Business), though it has a renowned Fine Arts faculty as well (buried in a concrete slab down on René-Lévesque Blvd. W.).

The most important thing you need to know about Concordia is that the third floor of the Hall Building does exist, but you need to take the stairwell to get to it. In this special issue, you can read about all the other things you should know.

# loyola

HC

Student Residence

HA

PY

Psychology CCRH

RF

Loyola Jesuit Hall & Conference Centre  
• Conferences

CC

Concordia Student Union

CJ

Communication Studies Journalism

GE

Centre for Structural & Functional Genomics

AD

Faculty of Arts & Science  
Dean of Students  
Concordia Multi-Faith Chaplaincy  
Counselling & Development  
Health Services

FC

F.C. Smith Auditorium  
Cazalet Theater  
Concordia Multi-Faith Chaplaincy

PC

PERFORM Centre

SC

Campus Centre  
• Food Services  
• Cafeteria  
• Café

PT

Oscar Peterson Concert Hall

VL

Vanier Library

VE

Applied Human Sciences

SHERBROOKE



WORDS JULIAN MCKENZIE & DANIELLA RUDNICKI-LAYOIE  
GRAPHIC LAURA LALONDE

## NDG SPORTS CENTRE (5976 NOTRE DAME DE GRACE AVE.)

Sports centre with café and boutique. They offer a million different activities for a very low inscription fee.

# Life in N.D.G.

## LE CHEESE (5976 MONKLAND AVE.)

A restaurant and food truck that will cater to cheese lovers' needs.

## MELK (5612 MONKLAND AVE.)

It's the only third-wave café in NDG. Good coffee, free WiFi, and a special brew of the day.

So you're away from the lively, yet hectic downtown area and have opted for the greener, calmer Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. Here are some places to check out that should make your life in NDG all the better.

## MONKLAND

### COSMOS (5843 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

The perfect (and legendary) hangover breakfast spot with greasy everything and cheap food.

### CAFÉ 92° (6703 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

A café with a Mexican twist. Be sure to try out some of the Mexican-inspired items on their menu.

### HEAD & HANDS (5833 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

H&H is an extremely useful clinic that offers social services for young people. Don't be afraid to get involved with them if you have the time.

### CAFÉ ORANGE (4011 DÉCARIE BLVD.)

Before you settle in for that brutal three-hour class at Loyola—or downtown—get yourself some breakfast.

### BOFINGER (5667 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

If the smell of BBQ is heaven to you, you're in luck. BBQ chicken, burgers, pulled pork, chili cheese fries and more.

### COOP LA MAISON VERTE (5785 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

Get coffee and other items in bulk at a discounted rate when you become a member. They've also got a system where you can reuse your bottles from cleaning products and fill them with eco stuff from there.

## SHERBROOKE

### HWANG KUM (5908 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

This spot is really great for Korean eats, including bibimbap. The one caveat: it's closed on Sundays and Mondays.

### HONEY MARTIN (5916 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

Martini Wednesdays, where martinis are only six bucks. They've also got four-dollar pints of house beer on Sundays. And if that wasn't enough: cheap wings.

### VEGAN RAPIDE (6206 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

Great vegetarian restaurant with ultra-convenient delivery.

### MOUTON VERT (6000 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

Offering great vegetarian and vegan food, as well as takeout service.

### NOTRE-BOEUF-DE-GRÂCE (5732 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

Before you make your way downtown, you can peep this burger spot that serves high-quality and never-frozen beef and a variety of draft beers.

### NEXT DOOR (5175 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

A great Irish pub that's cozy, cool and welcoming.

### CAFÉ SHAÏKA (5526 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

A quaint and cozy coffee shop right on Sherbrooke.



# Concordia Resources

## Academics

**Birks Student Centre (Room LB-185)**

This is probably where you'll end up filing all your paperwork: getting a student I.D., paying tuition, requesting letters or transcripts, etc. The line can get long, so think about going early. Most things done at Birks can also be done online (like paying tuition and sorting out OPUS card applications), but the centre is still around if you prefer communicating with humans.

**Registrar (Room LB-700)**

Not so long ago, online registration was a far-distant dream and people would call in or wait in line to reserve spots in classes. Those days are over, so your contact with the registrar will be slim to none. You can make requests here for an official transcript, withdrawal or a preferred name change.

**Vanier Library (7141 Sherbrooke St. W.) and Webster Library (1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.)**

Libraries are your best friends in the form of morose buildings. Need help researching? A quiet place to study? Somewhere to melt under fluorescent lights? Have too much time and need something to read? You can do all this in *The Link's* office (minus the quiet part), but librarians are actually qualified to help you figure out what a database is and how to properly use it, among other things. Also open 24/7 (although the librarians aren't around that long).

**Student Success Centre (Room H-440 and AD-103)**

Whether you're a first-year or a returning student, you don't have to feel like everyone in your class knows more than you (because they probably don't). The Student Success Centre can help nail down the logistics of studying (i.e. the presentation, writing, software aspects) and also offer mentoring and workshop services. The Career and Planning Services (CAPS) Office (EN-109) can help with job searches (good luck...).

**Financial Aid & Awards Offices (Room GM-230 and AD-121.02)**

Pretty self-explanatory. You need aid? Bursaries? Scholarships? There may be a way for you to pay off some student debt, just ask. The office's website has links to financial aid applications and bursary information, but you can visit in person downtown, Monday to Friday and at Loyola on Tuesdays.

**Access Centre for Students with Disabilities (Room H-580)**

The Access Centre is for students that are differently-abled and looking for support. The centre offers advising, adaptive software, note-taking services, interpretation, reading and writing tools, help with transportation, exam accommodation and more. The office is on the fifth floor of the Hall Building accessible by the escalators.

**Aboriginal Student Resource Centre (H-641)**

The centre is open to aboriginal students looking for community support or a nice place to hang out. An Elder is on-campus twice a week, and a mentor is around to help students navigate Concordia.

**International Students Office (H-653)**

The office is for international students struggling with study or work permits, insurance or trying to settle in.

## Food

**People's Potato (H-733)**

This is a daily vegan soup kitchen on the seventh floor of the Hall Building that feeds hundreds of students at 12:30 p.m. Bring your own Tupperware and make any donations. The food is hearty and healthy and seconds are allowed (you just need to wait out the line again). People's Potato also organizes food/social justice events and publishes a cookbook series.

**Loyola Luncheon (SC-115)**

Based on the same concept as People's Potato, Loyola Luncheon offers vegetarian and vegan lunch at The Hive in Loyola. The Concordia Student Union funds it; the food is healthy, but not as filling. You may need to supplement with a sandwich from the cafe next to it (or bring a lunch).

**Student Emergency and Food Fund**

If you're in need of food and have no money, you may be able to receive grocery gift cards. Call 514-848-2424 x 3593 or email [chaplaincy@concordia.ca](mailto:chaplaincy@concordia.ca) for details.

**Mother Hubbard's Cupboard (2090 Mackay St.)**

A weekly vegan supper for a donation of a few dollars, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard usually happens at 2090 Mackay St. on Thursdays, organized by the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy.

**Le Frigo Vert (2130 Mackay St.)**

Le Frigo Vert is a co-op anti-capitalist organic grocer and cafe, with tables and space behind the counter. Some pre-made food is available in the fridge and you can find cleaning products, alternative health products and samosas most of the time. Closed Friday through Sunday.

**Concordia Greenhouse (Hall Building, 12th Floor)**

Hall Building: Take the escalators to the eleventh floor, look for Greenhouse signs for the right stairwell, climb to the twelfth and you're in a rooftop greenhouse. Enjoy it. Study, drink some tea, volunteer your time, sit next to some nice-smelling herbs, buy some produce from the student-run farmers' market and remember that greenhouses are also open in the winter.

**Concordia Farmers' Market (Room H-224)**

The student-run farmers' market takes over the Green Space in the Hall Building every Wednesday. You can talk to the local farmers who stop by and sell their vegetables, fruits, honey, meats and baked goods.

## Support and Health

**Centre for Gender Advocacy (2110 Mackay St.)**

The Centre offers support services for the community at Concordia and beyond. Peer support and advocacy, sexual health resources and resources for people who are trans, the Centre offers all this and actively plans events and campaigns against gendered violence.

**Sexual Assault Resource Centre (Room GM-300.27)**

The Sexual Assault Resource Centre is a drop-in centre that provides support for survivors of sexual violence. They provide crisis intervention, advocacy and outreach services. To contact the centre's coordinator, Jennifer Drummond, email [jennifer.drummond@concordia.ca](mailto:jennifer.drummond@concordia.ca) or call 514-848-2424 x 3353.

BY MICHELLE PUCCI @MICHELLEPUCCI  
GRAPHIC MADELEINE GENDREAU

**Health Services (Room GM-200 and AD-131)**

This is the clinic for all the poor students without a doctor. Appointments for check-ups, medical or mental health services are fairly easy to book if you have your insurance and student ID. Call ahead. Health Services have offices on both campuses. You can also ask for general prescriptions and medical notes.

**Advocacy & Support Services (H-645)**

Concordia offers services and student advocates to support people in difficult situations or charged under the code of conduct. The Concordia Student Union and Graduate Student Union also have **Advocacy Centres** with representatives to advise students on their rights when they are involved in academic and non-academic violations or wish to file formal complaints against students, faculty or staff.

**Ombuds Office (Room GM-1005)**

The ombudsperson is independent from the university and student associations and can help with informal resolutions, or offer general advice on the best plan of action if you think your rights have been violated.

## Getting around, and other services

Getting between campuses can be the worst or easiest experience, depending on the time of day. You may be crammed, trying to stay standing in a bus that lurches and stops in downtown traffic, or you may just wait far too long, start swearing under your breath, regretting the decision to have classes on both campuses. It's not always terrible: just know the schedule, or skip the shuttle and take the de Maisonneuve Blvd. bike path (about 25 min) or public transit (about 40 min).

**Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank (Room H-260)**

Also known as HOJO, this student-run housing and job resource is open Monday to Friday on the Mezzanine of the Hall Building (and Thursdays at CC in Loyola), and also has online classifieds. HOJO offers advice for tenants and workers and can help point to legal resources if necessary.

**Concordia Community Solidarity Co-op Bookstore (2150 Bishop St.)**

The cooperative bookstore on Bishop St. has used and new books, and really nice people. It's an alternative non-profit, offers workshops and can sell textbooks and work by artists or authors on consignment.

**Concordia Security (514 848 3717)**

Security is where you can report any crimes (calling 911 works too) and is supposed to conduct investigations for on-campus offences. They also offer an accompanying program for those who want it. They are the key masters, if you need to get into a club or room (you must be on a key list), lost and found (I've never found anything I lost at Concordia); and they make access cards that cost \$15 so you can access labs in your department.

**CSU Legal Information Clinic (Room H-731)**

Lawyers are expensive, so get information and possibly a referral from law students. The clinic is run by the Concordia Student Union and doesn't offer legal advice, but go here if you're faced with legal charges or tickets and don't know where to start.



# ConU Administration Breakdown

## CONCORDIA STUDENT UNION (CSU)

Ah, the CSU—it's the big one. Every undergraduate student at Concordia is represented by the CSU, and it's not free. To fund the eight-person executive team, staff and various resources the student union employs, it takes \$3.80 per credit. For full-time students, that can be a maximum \$57 per semester.

This week's worth of groceries does not go to waste, however. The CSU operates student advocacy, legal, and housing and job resources centres, as well as provide budgets for the many and diverse student-run clubs on campus. Also, you are automatically signed up to a health and dental plan (that you can opt out of if you're fancy like that).

It's the grand-scale projects you will eventually pay into that the CSU makes headlines for. The current executive, led by President Terry Wilkings, is largely running on the same mandate as last year's. For the next year, the executive team—who are paid approximately \$26,000 in honorarium and bonus for a year—will oversee the completion of a daycare, a coop student housing building, a greenhouse on the Loyola campus and the reopening of our on-campus bar, Reggie's.

The timeline for these projects are mixed, with some slated for operation in 2017. Reggie's (closed since 2013) should be open by late October. We hope.

You have a say in what the CSU does! Through referendum questions in by- and general elections, students can choose whether they approve of project funding, political stance mandates, internal financial restructuring, etc. the CSU may ask for.

Also, a council of elected representatives from each faculty meet monthly to deliberate on the union's daily and weekly operations. You are more than welcome to bombard the executive emails (found on the CSU website) with questions and concerns, but if you're so politically inclined, make sure to establish a relationship with your elected representative as well.

## ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (ECA)

ECA is comprised of 16 societies that represent 3,250 students in engineering or computer science programs. Its fee-levy is \$2 per credit. Due to the practical nature of its students' studies, ECA has over 20 teams entered into various competitions, such as the Concordia SAE Racing team. Most of its fund goes to these teams, but students who have projects that fall outside the normally funded ones can apply for a special grant with the ECA each year. Details are on ECA's website.

## BY JONATHAN CARAGAY-COOK @HIIMBIRACIAL

At Concordia, acronyms can either become the bane of your existence or a way to impress (or lose) friends with some university knowhow. Long titles of the most prominent organizations are abbreviated to three or four letters. You have the CSU, ASFA, YUBS and ECA to name a few (one of those doesn't exist by the way—ha, gotcha journalism!).

Here's a guide to which associations/organizations that pertain to you, why they're important and what to expect from them this year (and who to complain to if your needs aren't met).

### FINE ARTS STUDENT ALLIANCE (FASA)

FASA represents all you creative, artsy peeps enrolled in Fine Arts program to the tune of a fee-levy of \$1.35 per credit. With its office located in the Visual Arts building downtown, a team of seven coordinators, as well as board of directors, operate the organization to meet the needs of its approximately 3,500 students.

FASA is probably the most politically active of all the student faculty association. Last semester, it was the only one to organize a general assembly and vote to enforce a strike mandate for two separate days to protest provincial government austerity measures (if you're not from Quebec or Greece, get used to this phrase). On Sept. 21, FASA is hosting a grant-writing workshop from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., so that students can learn how to make money from their creative endeavours.

### COMMERCE AND ADMINISTRATION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CASA/MSB)

CASA represents approximately 7,800 John Molson business students, who have to pay \$3 per credit. It has 14 member associations. In its book of policies found on its website, CASA states that its three main goals are to provide academic support, build networks and philanthropy. The association is known for its large and festive events such as the annual Frosh orientation and Halloween party.

### CONCORDIA'S BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) AND SENATE

BoG is the highest-ranking, supreme-overlord, big-decision-maker of the university. It comprises of 27 governors that represent administration, faculty and students. CSU President Terry Wilkings and Graduate Student Association President Alex Ocheoha are the BoG student reps this year. Unlike most gatherings of an association's board or council, you can't physically occupy space within a BoG session. You have to watch people sit in chairs from live feed in a room usually on the 6th floor of the Hall-Building (say hi to The Link's editors!).

## ARTS AND SCIENCE FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS (ASFA)

ASFA represents 34 member associations found within the Arts and Science faculty. The federation represents approximately 15,000 undergrads and has the lowest fee-levy at \$1.22 per credit.

Suffice to say, ASFA is a mess right now. They are entering mediations with a female executive from two years ago that went public last semester with her experiences of sexual and racial harassment allegedly perpetrated by two male executives. Their general elections didn't meet quorum in March, meaning all the results were nullified. Even if quorum had been met, a question to raise its fee-levy still wouldn't have passed. It took several special council sessions to appoint an interim executive, but three of the appointees have since resigned (one resigned mid-session at council a few weeks ago).

All of these recent happenings have culminated into an anticipated ASFA "visioning," led by hired-coordinator and last year's CSU President, Benjamin Prunty (a name you'll probably become very familiar with if you keep in the know).

VP External Jenna Cocullo and independent councillor Mariah Gillis undertook the first step of this new ASFA by rebranding its orientation week from the negatively-connoted "Frosh" to "Launch Week." The visioning—which will be a gathering of its member associations' executives—should occur sometime in September or October. To be continued.

Decisions from Senate (second-highest decision-maker at Concordia), approval of budgets and nominations of honorary doctorates, among other important agenda points, all have to be ratified by BoG. Meetings can be rather dry affairs, but notable faculty reps, like Maria Peluso, former president of the Concordia University Part-time Faculty Association, and William Lynch, Chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, always liven up the dialogue, questioning and bringing up issues they see firsthand within the university. Of course, Concordia President Alan Shepard is the main disseminator of information at these meetings. His big mandate this year is the implementation of a touted "Strategic Directions" campaign that has been in the works since last year. The BoG ratified the first phase last semester.





# HOW TO COVER A PROTEST

BY MATT D'AMOURS  
@MATTDAMOURS

PHOTO BY SHAUN MICHAUD

In anticipation of what student and labour unions have dubbed “l'automne chaud,” *The Link* has assembled this guide on how to report on protests in this age of Facebook news, hashtags and live streaming.

## PREPARING FOR THE PROTEST

Basic question first: what's the weather forecast? If you end up being underdressed in the cold, your shaky hands won't be very useful for filming or photography. If it's raining, do you really want to bring your shiny new Canon or Nikon out, versus a cheaper point and shoot? Consider wisely! Also, I would recommend buying a portable battery pack to charge your mobile devices. They're generally cheap (under \$50), and few things suck more than having your phone die at a protest—trust me.

And don't forget snacks and water! Believe me, when an anti-austerity march loops back onto St. Laurent for the third time in three hours, you'll be glad you packed some granola bars and a water bottle.

## COVERING THE PROTEST

When it comes to actually reporting at the scene of protest, it's best to decide early on what medium you'd like to focus on. Photography? Video? Live tweeting? Of course you could do a bit of everything, but if you're new to the protest beat, I would

recommend concentrating on one method of reporting. Learn to recognize and anticipate the ebbs and flows of a protest (crowd movement, police movement etc.) without the added distraction of handling three or four gadgets at the same time.

This can also be a safety concern. You should be as aware of your surroundings as possible during a protest, lest you get knocked over by a running crowd, or bump into an amped-up riot cop. When starting out, you should KISS: keep it simple, señor(ita). Also, be specific when tweeting. Avoid something like “the crowd has stopped on street X.”

Think about the questions that might pop into a reader's mind when they read that: Did the whole crowd stop, or just a smaller group? Why did they stop? What are they doing there? How are the police responding? 140 characters isn't a lot, but it should be enough to answer some, if not all of these questions.

Anticipate questions before they're asked! As with most things, this gets easier with practice. Finally, do your best to be civil and courteous. You're not there to make a stand or get into arguments. If a police officer asks you to move, try to fight the instinct to talk back. If a protester tells you not to film their face, don't respond by shoving a camera right up to their nose.

You might lose a few battles this way, but it allows you to keep fighting the war.

## AFTER THE PROTEST

Regardless of the medium you chose, try to organize your thoughts before you put together your article, video etc. When you get home, try telling a family member, partner or roommate what happened at the event in under a minute. It'll allow you to recollect the important bits while they're still fresh in your mind.

As for tools of the trade, here are a few useful apps/programs for producing content:

## GOOGLE PHOTOS APP

Automatically uploads your phone's photos and videos to the cloud when you connect to WiFi, for easy access on a computer.

## USTREAM APP

Lets you live stream from a phone for free, and you can upload your archives to YouTube afterwards.

## ADOBE PREMIERE + PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS

Lower cost tools for video and photo editing. Powerful, fairly easy to use and can be bought in a bundle for under \$200.

Concordia is host to many locations where students can shed some calories, beef themselves up or just exercise for the sake of being healthy if they want to. For beginners, aspiring bodybuilders or those hoping to join some intramural leagues to have fun, look no further than the following locations.

## LE GYM (EV BUILDING)

Le Gym, which is located on the downtown campus, is the school's bigger fitness centre. The 10,000 square foot gym hosts a modern gym facility that includes 75 cardio machines and 75 strength stations. If you'd like some help or advice while training, trainers are available at Le Gym starting at \$27 an hour. Le Gym is wheelchair accessible as well.

Aside from its workout station, Le Gym also includes a variety of fitness classes such as dance, aerobics, fitness and martial arts classes during the week. If sports pique your interest, Le Gym has recreational activities such as basketball, badminton and table tennis.

If all of these activities interest you, a semester membership at Le Gym will cost \$72.50. Le Gym is open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. On weekends it's open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## PERFORM CENTRE

If you find yourself at Concordia's Loyola campus fear not, because the PERFORM Centre is there. Despite being smaller than Le Gym, the PERFORM Centre includes cardio and weight training stations like its downtown counterpart, as well as athletic therapy from student athletic therapists under the supervision of certified professionals in the field.

Aside from being a place to work out, the PERFORM Centre allows students to participate in research projects

that promote the improvement of health and performance in fitness activities. Students may also sign up for various fitness classes such as weight training, conditioning, healthy eating and cooking.

It costs \$70 per semester to be a member of the PERFORM Centre, and it's open from 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

## INTRAMURAL LEAGUES

If you're looking to play sports recreationally, Concordia offers students a chance to play in intramural leagues. These sports include basketball, soccer, ice hockey, ultimate frisbee, volleyball and lacrosse leagues for every type of player, competitive or recreational.

Join a year or semester-long league with your friends or be pitted against each other in friendly competitions that are guaranteed to be part of your everyday banter.

## BEE PART OF THE SWARM

With a newly designed identity, the Concordia Stingers represent a big part of Concordia's culture. You can support the newly rebranded Stingers football, soccer and rugby teams at Concordia Stadium, their hockey teams at the Ed Meagher Arena, and their basketball teams at the Concordia Gym. With other sports and clubs to support including baseball and wrestling, it's easy to get your sports fix.

To watch the Stingers in action, it costs \$5 for students to get tickets for Stingers hockey, basketball and regular season football games (the playoffs are \$8). It doesn't cost you a nickel (we don't use pennies in Canada anymore) to get into other sports, such as rugby and soccer games.

For more information on the Stingers visit [stingers.ca](http://stingers.ca) and follow our coverage at [thelinknewspaper.ca/sports](http://thelinknewspaper.ca/sports).

# Exercising the Body (and Mind)

## Where to Get Fit at Concordia

BY VINCE MORELLO  
@VINNYMORELLZ



GRAPHIC GRAEME SHORTEN ADAMS



## RUGBY

Could 2015 be the year where the Concordia Stingers men's rugby team repeats as RSEQ champions? The aura of optimism floating around the team during training camp calls for an interesting season.

"Last year we kind of came in telling ourselves, 'What can we do to get on top?' and then now it's more like, 'What can we change to make our dynasty and not worry about McGill?'" said captain Andreas Krawczyk. "We need to worry about Concordia and about what we can do, how we can be the best team in the league."

Even head coach Clive Gibson, who is responsible for all six of Concordia's titles, has high hopes for the 2015 season.

"I think there is a good chance of this team repeating. I think there is a great deal of talent," Gibson said. "I'm highly optimistic. I think it's the best group of players I've ever had at camp."

Last year the Stingers women's rugby team came so close to winning the RSEQ, only to have the dream devastated by their biggest competition, the Ottawa Gee-Gees, in the championship final.

As preseason begins, Coach Graeme McGravie remains hopeful with high expectations, and he knows his team will look to deliver as they attempt to avenge their championship loss.

"The pressure to repeat and continue that reputation is one of the factors that motivates the team," said McGravie.

"[I'm not] focusing on any other teams and what they may or may not have to bring to the field," said Alex Tessier, who returns after playing with Team Canada women's rugby team over the summer.



**TOP THREE  
PHOTOS  
BY SHAUN  
MICHAUD  
BOTTOM  
PHOTO BY  
LAURA LALONDE**

## SOCCER

After a dismal 2014 campaign that saw the team fail to pick up a win in league play, the Stingers men's soccer team will look to use their experience, and new additions, to end an 11-year playoff drought.

However, the Stingers will need to find the back of the net more if they hope to break that playoff drought. They were shut out in six of their games last fall. Nonetheless, manager Greg Sutton believes his team will provide much more offence this coming season.

"We're going to be attacking and we're going to be exciting," Sutton said. "We know we have to get involved in the attack and get a lot of numbers forward."

As for the women's team, The Stingers saw 10 players graduate from their program at the end of last season, meaning a number of new faces will take over the team. The remaining veterans are eyeing the post-season, as the team has not made the playoffs since 2006.

Long time head coach Jorge Sanchez returns to the bench this year, alongside other familiar faces like former captain Alex Dragan, who graduated last year and returns as an assistant coach. Joining her is another former captain, Erica Geersten, who played with the team from 2004 to 2007.

"It's the first [time] I've coached, so for me it's a different experience," Geersten said. "It's nice to be able to be like a mentor for the girls."

"I'm used to coaching younger players who don't normally know what you're talking about when you tell them what to do in a drill," said Dragan. "This is really nice to be able to work with high-quality players."

# STINGERS SPORTS PREVIEWS

BY JULIAN MCKENZIE, VINCE MORELLO, TRISTAN D'AMOURS, NICK PEVATO, JOSHUA ROSENBAUM, JOSEPHINE FOMÉ AND JONATHAN COOK

## FOOTBALL

Mickey Donovan's first year as head coach of the Concordia Stingers' football team featured a number of successes, including their first win since 2012, which led to a winning season for the first time since 2008. But this year, the Stingers will focus on moving upward in their division. The freshly revamped team will have to fend off the always-mighty Laval Rouge et Or, as well as the reigning Vanier Cup champions, the Université de Montréal Carabins.

Stingers are already behind, however: they lost their first game of the season 37-0 to Sherbrooke this past Friday night.

"The season either goes one of two ways," said quarterback Jahlani Gilbert-Knorren. "We're either rebounding and coming back as a team and bonding as a family or it can go real bad, real fast."

## BASKETBALL

The Concordia Stingers men's basketball team, just like most of the Stingers teams, is also entering an entirely new era. With the additions of head coach Rastko Popovic, five new recruits, and a brand new uniform to boot, the team is confident that they can go beyond simply making the playoffs.

"I believe we could win RSEQ and go to nationals," says Jaleel Webb, who transferred from Bishops to the Stingers last January. "[The team's] looking good, everybody gets along. That's why I transferred here."

The Stingers women's team is also seeing change this year. Star player Kaylah Barrett has moved on from the team and so has former coach Keith Pruden. In Pruden's place is Tenicha Gittens, who has spent time coaching in the United States as well as McGill University before coming to Concordia.

"I just expect us to work our asses off," Gittens said. "Effort is non-negotiable, it's expected. If [the players] do what they have to do individually, I'm going to prepare [them]; the staff is going to prepare [them]."

If you enjoy the thrills and school spirit that come with university sports, then you have to catch some Concordia Stingers games this year. We've got intriguing teams to follow for almost every sport, from football and rugby to hockey and soccer (\*ahem\* football). We've got mini-previews for some of the best teams you should check out on campus, and you can read up on our full-length previews at [thelinknewspaper.ca/sports](http://thelinknewspaper.ca/sports).



## HOCKEY

It's easy to classify this year's many Stinger teams as part of a new era. Headlined by the rebranding project that was unveiled only a short week ago and the many new faces that will be seen behind the benches, the Stingers are entering an age where they will be a part of Concordia's identity.

The Stingers men's hockey team will be a big part of this new competitive rebrand. With the departure of longtime head coach Kevin Figsby, new head coach Marc-André Element takes the reins behind the bench, and will have help with new recruits Frederick Roy and Luca Ciampini.

"Experience helps a lot for a team, and this year it'll help. We got a couple of recruits last year, and I think that extra year is going to help us a lot," said second-year forward Scott Oke. "[We have] a lot of young firepower so I think it's going to be a good year."

The Stingers women's hockey team last year went 8-12, which was good enough to make the playoffs. However, the team didn't have enough to make it past the first round against the Montréal Carabins, getting swept.

With five veterans graduating from the class, fans can expect to see new faces on the ice, but key players such as Erica Porter, Gabrielle Meilleur, Alyssa Sherard, Audrey Morand and captain Danielle Scarlett will not return.

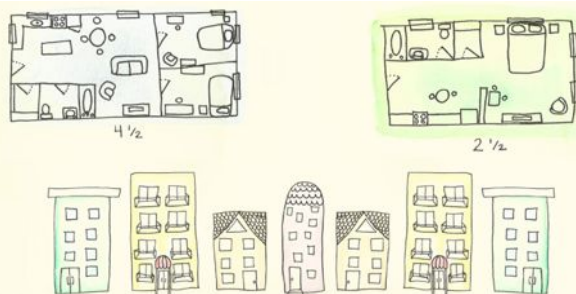
Another change will be behind the bench, as longtime head coach Les Lawton has taken an "indefinite leave of absence" for medical reasons. Assistant coaches Julie Chu and Mike McGrath will take over the coaching duties for the time being.

Among the new faces fans will quickly get to know is that of Samantha Rhainds, who played in the Stanstead College Spartans of the North American Prep Hockey Association (NAPHA). Other new recruits include Sophie Gagnon, Claudia Fortin and Claudia Dubois, who played in Quebec's CEGEP league last year.

Of course the team will be backstopped by second-year goalie Katherine Purchase, who last year was named to be part of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport All-Star Rookie team.

TOP PHOTO BY EVGENIA CHOROS  
BOTTOM PHOTO BY SHAUN MICHAUD





GRAPHIC JENNIFER AEDY

# Housing Resources

## YOUR GUIDE TO RENT, RIGHTS AND MORE

BY ARWEN FLEMING

### KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

The Régie du logement is Quebec's housing tribunal. It offers information, support, and arbitration for tenants and landlords. It's important that you familiarize yourself with your rights, as well as your obligations, which you can learn about in detail on the Régie du logement website: [www.rdl.gouv.qc.ca/en/droits/droits.asp](http://www.rdl.gouv.qc.ca/en/droits/droits.asp)

You can also call the Régie du logement directly if you need support or have questions. If you don't speak French, you can also ask for assistance in English: 514-873-2245

### NEVER, EVER GIVE A SECURITY DEPOSIT OR "LAST MONTH'S RENT"

It is illegal in Quebec to request a damage deposit or advance rental payments. The landlord can, however, request payment for the first month's rent when the lease is signed. Chances are if your landlord asks for a security deposit of any kind, they're trying to take advantage of you as an out-of-town student. If the landlord refuses to rent to you because of your refusal to pay a deposit, walk away and report them to the Régie.

### WHAT'S FAIR RENT?

Concordia's Housing and Job Bank has prepared an excellent housing resource website that includes average rent by neighbourhood in Montreal: [likehome.info](http://likehome.info). It's a great place to start before commencing your apartment search. In general, a well-priced apartment in the Plateau or NDG (Notre-Dame-de-Grâce) neighbourhoods should be roughly \$650 to \$800 for a single occupant or \$500 shared (all utilities included, per person for a max of three or four people.)

### PAY IT FORWARD—WHEN YOU VACATE YOUR OWN APARTMENT, TRANSFER YOUR LEASE.

Transferring your lease (also known as "assigning your lease") to the next tenant, rather than back to the landlord, makes it more difficult for the landlord to raise the rent illegally, because the new tenant has documentation about the old rent. By law, the landlord cannot stop you transferring or subletting your apartment unless the landlord can provide serious, verifiable objections to the new tenant. The best way to transfer a lease is to send the Régie du logement lease transfer form to your landlord by registered post—if they do not respond within 15 days, the lease is considered transferred.

### WHAT DO ALL THESE 2.5 AND 4.5 NUMBERS MEAN??

1.5 = 1 room + bathroom (a rather ascetic choice—probably not the best idea for most students).

2.5 = "2" rooms + bathroom (usually way smaller than it sounds, with a kitchen island posing as the second "room").

3.5 = bedroom + kitchen (usually not closed) + living room + bathroom.

4.5 = 1 to 2 bedrooms + kitchen + living room + bathroom (the trick here is that 4 refers to the number of rooms, but they're not necessarily closed—it could be a "double" living room or bedroom where one of the walls turns out to be a curtain).

5.5 = usually a 2 bedroom + kitchen + living room + tiny office (or a double living room instead of an office) + bathroom (it could be three full bedrooms, but that's rare—usually that's a 6.5 and up).

And so on (anything over 8.5 would be very unusual, and 7.5/8.5 are rare as it is, but they do show up once in a while).

### HEATING

Heating can be expensive in Montreal. If you can, take down the address of an apartment you're interested in, and call Hydro-Québec 514 385-7252 (they're the provincial utilities company) to find out the average monthly heating cost (they're open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday). If heating is included in your rent, remember that your landlord is required to keep your apartment properly heated—technically, it should be no lower than 21°C in winter. Contact the Régie if you have problems.

### GET A 12-MONTH LEASE OR ENSURE THAT YOUR ROOMMATES HAVE ONE

You don't want to pay month-to-month unless your roommates have a 12-month lease. Otherwise, you won't have much guarantee of your rent amount otherwise, and it gives you the strongest rights as a tenant with the Régie du logement. Plus, if you'd like to qualify for Quebec tuition later on, you'll need to prove residency using your lease.

### SUBLETTING

"Sublet" means it's a temporary (usually only 1 to 3 months)—these ads get mixed up a lot with long-term rentals and lease transfers. If you're looking for a longer-term rental, always confirm that the apartment is not a sublet and that you will have a full lease for the period that you need. Twelve months is

strongly recommended because it gives you the most rights with the Régie and you can always sublet or transfer for the summer, if need be.

### LEASE TRANSFERS

A lease transfer is usually a very good thing: it means the current lease is directly transferred to the new tenant. Do not agree to a substantial rent increase if you sign a lease transfer agreement—if it's over \$20 more a month than before, you're almost definitely being ripped off. If for some reason you discover that the previous tenant paid substantially less, you can file a request with the Régie. If they find the increase to be illegal, your rent will be retroactively adjusted to the lawful amount.

### RENT INCREASES

If you have a 12-month lease, you may get a form from your landlord around four months before your lease is up, notifying you of a rent increase. A lot of these forms, particularly from big apartment buildings or landlords catering to out-of-province students, pretend the choice is only between accepting the increase or moving out. This is not true. You have a third option: to refuse the increase and stay in the apartment, regardless of whether or not this option is listed on the landlord's form. Feel free to print out your own form and send it back to the landlord, ticking this third option. Contact your landlord to request justification for the increase, and check with the Régie if necessary.

### GIVING NOTICE AND AUTOMATIC RENEWAL FOR 12-MONTH LEASES

In Quebec, unless you give notice in time (usually 3 months before the end of your 12-month lease), your lease will automatically renew for another year, unless you receive a notice of rent increase. If you do receive a rent increase notice, you'll be granted an additional 30 days to decide whether to move out. If you need to leave your apartment before the end of a lease, you must formally transfer the lease to a new tenant—otherwise, you are legally responsible for the rent payments remaining on your original lease. The specific deadlines are also written on the back of your lease.

### BEDBUGS AND OTHER CRITTERS

Bedbugs are a growing problem in Montreal, and you should be super careful. Bring a flashlight to inspect any cracks, interview outgoing tenants, and if the apartment is furnished, inspect the mattress seams for eggs or

tiny bloodstains. You need to ask the landlord directly if there have been any problems with bedbugs or other vermin in the apartment building. Do this before you sign the lease. If you've been deceived in any way and/or the landlord fails to take care of any problems that arise, you need to contact the Régie right away to find out what recourse you have to financial compensation, including the cost of moving to a new apartment.

### WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

**Régie du Logement**  
514-873-2245  
[www.rdl.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.rdl.gouv.qc.ca)

**The GSA Advocacy Centre**  
514 848 2424 x 7900  
2030 Mackay Street  
[advocacy@gsa.concordia.ca](mailto:advocacy@gsa.concordia.ca)

**Concordia Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank**  
Hall Building, 2nd floor  
[csu.qc.ca/hojo](mailto:csu.qc.ca/hojo)  
[likehome.info](http://likehome.info)

**P.O.P.I.R. Comité Logement**  
[popir.org](http://popir.org)

### NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING COMMITTEES AND RENTERS' ASSOCIATIONS

Almost every neighborhood has one, and many are affiliated with Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain (FRAPRU), the wonderfully militant Quebec housing rights group responsible for many of the renters' protections available to tenants today. Neighbourhood groups vary in quality and activity level, but it's always a good idea to check yours out and get involved.

### HOUSING RECORDS & QUEBEC TUITION

If you intend to live in Quebec long-term and want to apply for Quebec residency for tuition purposes, you will need to prove how long you've lived in Quebec. The best thing to do is to make sure that your name appears on your lease, which also provides you with more tenant protections. If this is not possible, make sure your name is added as soon as possible to the apartment's monthly hydro bills. You can also ask your landlord to sign a letter attesting that you have been living there, but of course they might refuse. To learn more about how to prove Quebec residency for tuition purposes, check out Concordia's guidelines.



# Nightlife

GRAPHIC JENNIFER AEDY



## BRUTOPIA (1219 CRESCENT ST.)

Serves freshly made brews on site, with live music and an open mic. They even have weekly trivia nights if that suits your fancy.

## NOTRE DAME DES QUILLES (32 BEAUBIEN ST. E.)

Just right for when you want a nice cocktail, but also want to bowl or do karaoke on Sundays.

## LE SAINTE-ÉLISABETH (1412 STE. ÉLISABETH ST.)

It's the nicest hidden terrace you can find in the middle of the less pleasant parts of downtown. Drinks aren't so cheap though.

## ELSE'S (156 ROY ST. E.)

This is what happens when a Norwegian gets sick of suburban Toronto and opens a pub on a resto license. Food and beer.

## LE MAL NÉCESSAIRE (1106B ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

Quietly sophisticated basement bar serving some of the best drinks in the city—cool vibe, cool music.

## APT. 200 (3643 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

It's a cozy bar that looks like somebody's loft with a house party feel.

## BOITE À KARAOKE (2071 STE. CATHERINE ST. W.)

Sing your heart out at this intimate bar/karaoke spot. You'll either embarrass yourself laughing or surprise yourself.

## GRUMPY'S (1242 BISHOP ST.)

Surrounded by numerous similar establishments on Bishop, this one still stands out with its chill vibe and cheap beer.

## BENELUX (245 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

If you're a beer fanatic, this may be the spot for you. They've also got paninis and "EuroDogs". Open until 3 a.m. every night.

## MOOSE BAWR (1817 STE. CATHERINE ST. W.)

It's a small bar with a cool crowd. It's an alternative to overcrowded joints like Sports Station.

## CASA DEL POPOLO (4871 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

In Italian, its name means "House of the people". It's a nice bar/bistro and a great place for live music.

## MUZIQUE (3781 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

This club on St. Laurent has two rooms for partygoers: one for dancehall, R&B and hip-hop lovers, and another for those who fancy electronic dance music.

## BLUE DOG (3958 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

Barbershop by day (crazy, right?!), great bar and live music venue by night!

## BIFTECK (3702 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

If you need to hang around on St. Laurent, go to Bifteck. Good beer, good pool and great free popcorn.

## BOBARDS (4328 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

Nice bar, but even nicer establishment for live music from artists all over the world.

## BLEURY BAR À VINYLE (2109 BLEURY ST.)

Small, intimate but rocking spot for live entertainment from hip-hop artists and DJs.

## BIERMARKT (1221 RENÉ-LÉVESQUE BLVD. W.)

This place has just about every beer you would want. Every single one. Ask for it, they probably have it.

## PETIT CAMPUS (57 PRINCE ARTHUR ST. E.)

There always seems to be a party going on at Petit Campus. Foam parties, a back to school party, a beach party in the middle of the fall...

## TOKYO BAR (3709 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

Can't afford to go to Tokyo, Japan? Tokyo Bar may not be the next best thing, but you can still have a good time with your friends. Be warned: they have a dress code and proper attire is a must.

## NESTA (3519 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

You may be pleasantly surprised at the music they play at NESTA, as the DJ will often play some of the best hits from last decade. They've creatively named drinks too, including the "Mountain Dew Me".

## FITZROY (551 MONT-ROYAL AVE. E.)

This loft space has a bar and wall-to-wall pool tables. If you're on Mont-Royal and you need a place to chill out, Fitzroy will do.

## TRH-BAR (3699 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

It's not just your run-of-the-mill bar. TRH-Bar has a bowl for skaters to show off their tricks. Bring your skateboard, crush a few beers and have a good time!

## LE SAINT-SULPICE (1680 ST. DENIS ST.)

Enjoy beers and food at this St. Denis institution, and if you're up for it, there's karaoke in the basement downstairs!

## MME. LEE (151 ONTARIO ST. E.)

It's an Asian fusion bar and restaurant that plays R&B and hip-hop! You may consider it as a start for your evening out, but you might end up partying there for the whole night!





**MOE'S**  
(1455 LAMBERT CLOSSE ST.)

Technically named "Casse-Croute Du Coin," open 24 hours, serves cheap food, shows daytime television.

**JOE'S PANINI**  
(1404 DRUMMOND ST.)

Come for the many paninis, stay for the great old school music they play on loop.

**CAFÉ OXFORD**  
(5603 SHERBROOKE ST. W.)

A small old-school diner with decently-price breakfast.

**NILUFAR**  
(1923 STE. CATHERINE ST. W.)

They've got falafels, shawarmas and soup! Even a burger if you want it! The people who work there and the prices are going to keep you coming back.

**BOUSTAN**  
(2020 CRESCENT ST.)

Sublime. *The Link* doesn't use this word often, but this independent student newspaper has seen heaven, and God serves Lebanese schwarma pita sandwiches from Boustan. Enjoy this spiritual experience.

**AL-TAIB**  
(2002 MACKAY ST.)

Literally steps away from Concordia, they've got halal pizza, pita, falafel and so much more.

**BURRITOVILLE**  
(2055 BISHOP ST.)

No meat, but still amazing and affordable tacos, empanadas, and, you guessed it, burritos.

**CAFÉ MYRIADE**  
(1432 MACKAY ST.)

Before you pop into the EV building for class, chill on the patio and enjoy tea and croissants from Myriade.

**SATAY BROTHERS**  
(3721 NOTRE DAME ST. W., ATWATER MARKET)

Enjoy South Asian delicacies such as pork buns and satay in the Atwater Market while it's still warm, but the cold won't stop you from chowing down, don't worry about it: Satay Brothers moves inside.

**THALI**  
(1409 ST. MARC ST.)

If Indian food is your fancy, check out this spot on St. Marc St. that's been regarded as the best Indian eatery in Montreal. They've got basmati rice, naan bread and a variety of other food.

**COCKTAIL HAWAII**  
(1645 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.)

Can't get to Hawaii? Bring Hawaii to you, thanks to this restaurant's juices smoothies, breakfast and, of course, cocktails.

**KAZU**  
(1862 STE. CATHERINE ST. W.)

It's a Japanese restaurant that serves shrimp burgers, tofu and eggplant dip. With these succulent-sounding dishes, it could become a lunchtime staple for you.

**ODAKI**  
(1836 STE CATHERINE ST. W.)

All you can eat sushi. Some of their food is served through a conveyor belt!

**ANTEP KEBAB**  
(1626 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD. W.)

This Turkish restaurant boasts its kebabs are the best in the city. They've even got sandwiches on homemade bread as well.

**ANGELA PIZZERIA AND RESTAURANT**  
(1662 DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD. W.)

For late-night pizza that doesn't make you feel regret as soon as you eat it all. Steps away from Sir George Williams campus.

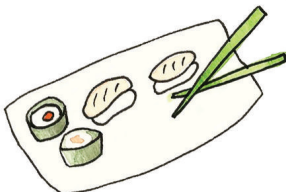
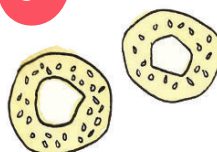
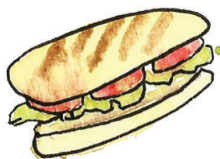
**IMADAKE**  
(4006 STE CATHERINE ST. W.)

You can enjoy many Japanese delicacies at this "izakaya" (place where appetizers are served with drinks).

**OR YOU CAN JUST GO TO THE GROCERY STORE AND BUY A BAGUETTE WITH SOME WINE AND CHEESE AND HANG OUT IN ONE MONTREAL'S MANY BEAUTIFULLY-LANDSCAPED PARKS (DRINKING IS ONLY ALLOWED IN THE PRESENCE OF A PICNIC).**

GRAPHIC JENNIFER AEDY

# EAT THE CITY



**ST-VIAEUR BAGEL**  
(263 ST. VIAEUR ST. W.)

Montreal is famous for its bagels and St-Viateur is the other best spot for it. Be prepared to defend this 24-hour bagel emporium while arguing against fans of Fairmount Bagel.

**PATATI PATATA**  
(4177 ST. LAURENT BLVD.)

Teeny, warm and fuzzy diner with mini-burgers, poutine, fries, beer and fries. Open late, and early, no discrimination towards your schedule.

**FAIRMOUNT BAGEL**  
(74 FAIRMOUNT AVE. W.)

Montreal is famous for its bagels and Fairmount is one of the city's best spots for it. Be prepared to defend this 24-hour bagel emporium while arguing against fans of St. Viateur Bagel.





GRAPHIC ELIZABETH XU

# DIY OR DIE: HOW TO START A HOUSE

## Montreal Needs More Houses, So Let Me Tell You How to Start One

BY ZACH GOLDBERG  
@ZACHGOLDBERG

I'm sure you've been to a House before. You probably knew someone in high school, some older person still living in your town, running shows in their gross, damp basement, or maybe just in their living room. Living here in Montreal, you've probably passed by a building or a duplex or some other structure now and again, with little homemade bee-houses, or little urban permaculture set ups, with little explainers on how to build your own sticking out of the ground beside them.

These are Houses—buildings, or just apartments, usually occupied by a number of people, that offer spaces for things like workshops, community-building activities, and, most of all, underground shows. Sometimes music, sometimes visual or performance art, Houses really just act as a space for generally DIY (Do-it-Yourself) minded people to come and prosper. I've seen and lived in Houses; they're really special spaces where a lot of incredible art and experience can form out of nothing and change your life forever, and I'm here to tell you that you can do it too.

### HOW TO GET IT STARTED

The first hurdle to best in the quest of starting your own space is pretty much the most obvious one—finding the place. Unless you're one of the lucky few to inherit a castle from

a recently deceased estranged uncle, or you built a giant log cabin, lumberjack-style, in the middle of the woods, you're probably going to have to actually go out and locate a suitable space. I'm assuming here, as well, that you're not an eccentric millionaire and don't have a ton of disposable income to throw down on a building or a lot to build one. So, you're going to have to find a building with an amenable (or ignorant) landlord, preferably the former, because there's nothing worse than a shitty landlord that'll shut you down as soon as he finds out about your little goings-on. But, never fear, because there are plenty of landlords who are totally supportive of community spaces and will help you, as long as you can promise to maintain at least some standards. I'll get into those later.

When it comes to the space's architecture, I always recommend that the more desolate the area, and the more industrial the living space, the better off you are. Sort of try to think as if you were a serial killer; ask things like, "Are these walls soundproofed? Is this area sort of hard to find? Do I have any especially conservative neighbours?"

Ideally, your house will be relatively isolated, but not super difficult to get to. You'll have a large space and your only neighbours will be businesses that close at night, people who are really interested in joining your cause or people at least resigned to what you're doing or no one.

Choose your roommates carefully. Make sure everyone's on the same page about a vision for the House; do you want to run shows all the time, host bands every night? How often will you want events like workshops scheduled? How often will you want to take time off? What will be your guest policies? If you have a lot of permaculture or just general house goings on, figure out a chore wheel for maintenance. Tell any neighbours that you're here now and maintain a good working relationship with them.

Starting a House is honestly the easiest part of the whole affair. It's the keeping it open that's so goddamn difficult.

### MAINTAINING YOUR HOUSE/ MAINTAINING YOUR COMMUNITY

Move in. Name the House. Invite your friends over, and tell them to bring their friends. Throw a House-warming event, with all your friends' bands and their friends' bands and all the artists you know or have heard of, and invite everyone in the neighbourhood. If things get rowdy, at least make sure all the loud music is over by midnight, for courtesy's sake. Collect money at the door, but don't keep it for yourself—pay it forward to bands, artists or people who need it. If the house needs cash for things, make sure everyone knows exactly how much, and for what. Be as transparent as possible.

Make sure everyone is safe. Make sure

no one is racist, misogynist or in any way non-inclusive. Talk to people. Be kind and understanding. When people ask for help, help them. When people don't want your help, let them be and don't hold a grudge about it. Forgive people, and forget things. Show yourself to be a non-judgemental party, and really listen to people, and work hard to show empathy and understanding.

Encourage people to get involved. If someone's at your show alone, talk to them, make them feel welcome. Regularly check in with people about their mental states, make sure no one who wants help is left alone. Encourage communication amongst everyone. Be inclusive—try and be the catalyst that gets projects off the ground. Offer your spaces for people to throw their own events, and try and teach people how to best run their events.

Do all these things for as long as you can, and really live by these rules, and maybe your space will last. Maybe you'll eventually be offered the option of going legitimate—like Turbo Haus—or maybe one-too-many noise complaints will finally get you shut down. Maybe you'll just move on. But no matter the end result, if you start a House, and if you run it right, keeping in mind your ethics and respecting and loving everyone you possibly can, I guarantee that that House will never leave you. Even when it's gone, I guarantee your House will stay with you, and everyone who ever went there, forever.





GRAPHIC JENNIFER AEDY

# BEGINNER TICKETS EDUCATE YOURSELF— DON'T GET CAUGHT WITH AN AMATEUR TICKET

BY ZACH GOLDBERG  
@ZACHGOLDBERG

So, you're new to Montreal. You're from Sherbrooke or Saguenay or Saskatoon or some other place, and you're super excited to be alone in the big city! You've got a job set up, you might be taking a couple classes and you've got a great new place to live (and the rent—so cheap. You've got a water closet? So French!). You can't wait to hit those fresh rues and find yourself in a brand new city.

But wait a second. There are cops literally everywhere, and they know exactly how excited, and ignorant, you and your new Montrealer friends can be.

And they will ticket you. And it sucks.

So, to help educate all you fresh-faced new entrées to our fine city, here is a simple list of the most common tickets doled out by Montreal's Finest. These tickets are so common for a few reasons—namely, because Montreal is constantly inundated with new people who have no idea about these laws, but also because of the ease with which cops can hand them out.

So, stay safe, be mindful and don't let the SPVM drain you of your precious cash flow.

## TURNSTILE HOPPING

"No person shall travel or attempt to travel on the transit system without paying the appropriate fare as provided in Section 6 of By-law R-105," according to the Société de Transport de Montréal.

So, obviously, this is just straight up illegal, and there's no way around that. However, if you're like me, and you're from a place like

New York City where the Metro map is just so darn large that it's pretty normalized to at least occasionally hop a turnstile, you might make the mistake of believing you can easily get away with it.

Let me tell you now, friends; Montreal is no New York City. This is a town where metros actually *close* (I know, right?), and they're pretty heavily monitored by the STM, Montreal's own Metro-Police, who are only too excited at the chance to stick you with a silly ticket for around \$230—which is about 100 times more expensive than buying a metro pass.

So just buy a metro pass.

## PUBLIC DRINKING/PUBLIC URINATION

Now, this is a weird one. Unlike a lot of places in the world, it's actually sometimes totally legal to drink in public. The thing is, there are specific ways to drink publicly that make it legal. No, don't just throw that tall-boy in a paper bag, that doesn't even work in America and public drinking won't work here. No, what makes it legal is where you are, and what you're doing.

Literally, it's legal to drink in parks, when you have "substantial food." So, essentially, you can bring alcohol along with your picnic, because, I imagine, a picnicking francophone once got into a screaming argument with a cop over his right to drunkenly picnic, or something like that.

But anyway, enjoy your alcohol in public, just make sure it's in a park, and you at least have a nice sandwich or something with you.

On public urination, just don't do that. It's pretty gross.

Or at least, be cool about it.

## PROTESTING

A favourite pastime of Montrealers, especially for younger folks around town, you'll certainly find yourself at least a single protest this year, even if you're not too politically-minded. Mostly occurring during spring (actually known as Protest Season), protests are a really important aspect of democracy, that everyone should take part in as much as possible.

That being said, you're probably going to get maced.

Maced, and kettled, and maybe beat up, and definitely ticketed, if you're not careful.

In short, when you're protesting, as soon as cops start closing in, make sure to find your way out of large groups, and stay the hell away from dead ends.

If you're really interested, look into *The Link's* various pieces on the topics, which include numerous tips and tricks for serious protesting.

## PARKING

So, most people don't move here with cars. The reason is that owning an automobile in this city is expensive, and, unless you have a parking space, usually parking in the wrong spot is an easy way to get ticketed.

Keep in mind the fact that most neighbourhoods in Montreal only allow permit parking. No matter where you live, you probably need to contact Ville du Montreal for a permit in

order to park on the street. Otherwise, you'll be ticketed.

During the winter, make sure you pay heed to the telltale sirens of the street cleaners. If you hear them, you better move your car right quick, or you'll be towed.

## BIKES

Biking is a huge part of being a Montreal resident, and probably the most popular form of transportation within the city. For that reason, about twice a year (fall and spring), the police have field days ticketing hundreds of bikers for minor infractions. So, keep in mind: don't wear headphones, don't run stop signs or red lights. Don't ride on the sidewalk, ever, or the reserve lane, and always stay as right as possible, unless you're making a turn.

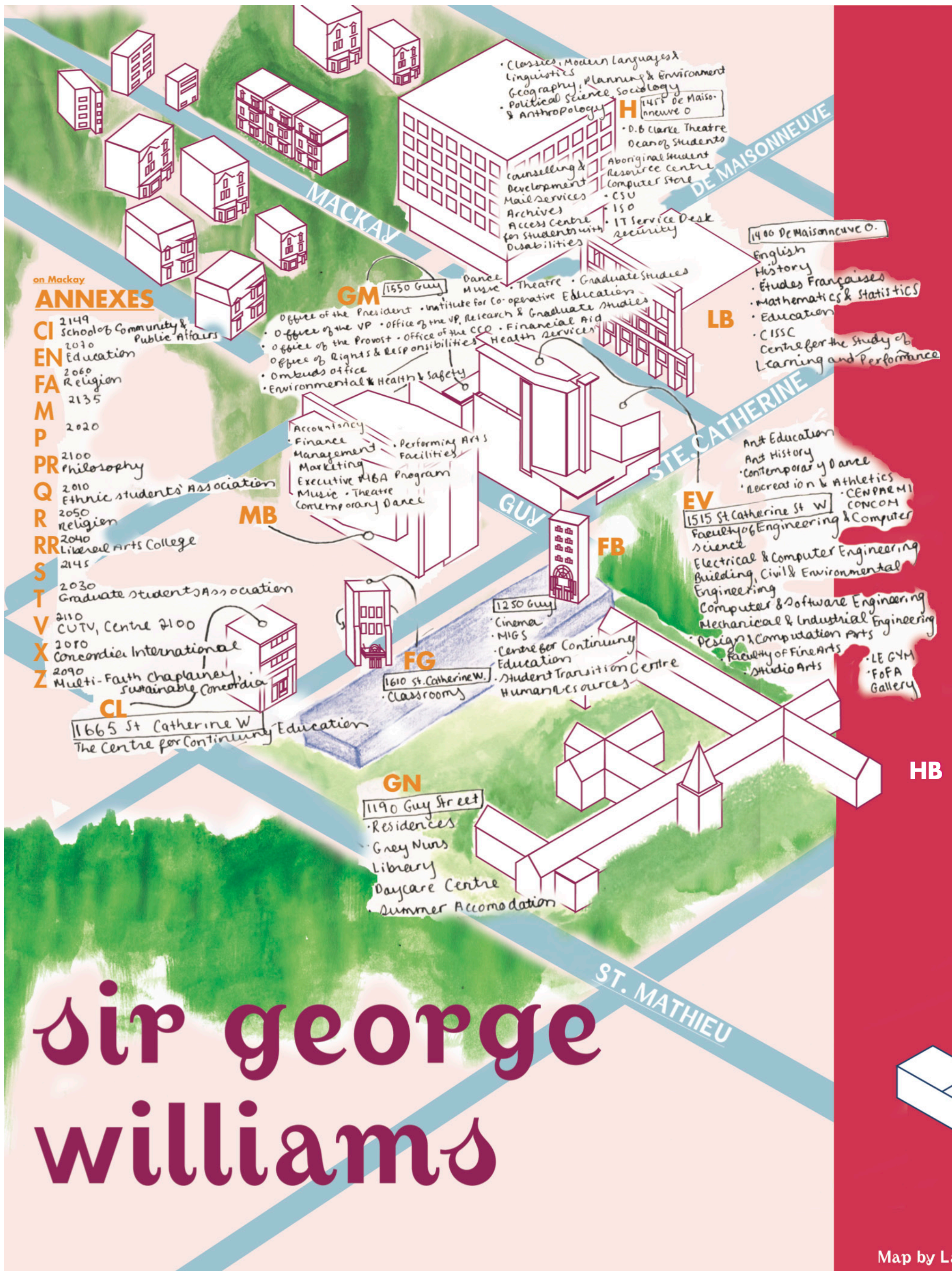
And though it's not required, you really should wear a helmet.

## JAYWALKING (DOWNTOWN)

I know, I can't believe this is real either. Like, what high-falutin' royalty of the streets has never perpendicularly crossed an empty street in the middle of the night, without chancing to glance at what the street light robot might care to say? In Montreal, ticketing for jaywalking is a favourite avenue for police. So, when you're downtown, just make sure to not jaywalk, or a cop will probably stop you and give you a pretty dumb ticket.

So that's essentially it. Keep these things in mind, and you should be able to avoid a ton of fines in your first year and save yourself a ton of money.





on Mackay

## ANNEXES

- CI** 2149 School of Community & Public Affairs
- EN** 2070 Education
- FA** 2060 Religion
- M** 2135
- P** 2020
- PR** 2100 Philosophy
- Q** 2010 Ethnic Students' Association
- R** 2050 Religion
- RR** 2040 Liberal Arts College
- S** 2145
- T** 2030 Graduate Students Association
- V** 2110 CUTV, Centre 2100
- X** 2080 Concordia International
- Z** 2090 Multi-Faith Chaplaincy, Sustainable Concordia
- CL** 11665 St. Catherine W The Centre for Continuing Education

**GM**

- 1650 Guy
- Dance Music Theatre Graduate Studies
- Office of the President • Institute for Co-operative Education
- Office of the VP • Office of the VP, Research & Graduate Studies
- Office of the Provost • Office of the CCO • Financial Aid
- Office of Rights & Responsibilities • Health Services
- Ombuds Office
- Environmental & Health & Safety

**MB**

- Accountancy
- Finance
- Management
- Marketing
- Executive MBA Program
- Music Theatre
- Contemporary Dance
- Performing Arts Facilities

**FG**

- 1610 St. Catherine W. Classrooms

**GN**

- 1190 Guy Street
- Residences
- Grey Nuns Library
- Daycare Centre
- Summer Accommodation

**H**

- 1450 De Maisonneuve O
- Classics, Modern Languages & Linguistics
- Geography, Planning & Environment
- Political Science, Sociology & Anthropology
- D.B. Clarke Theatre
- Dean of Students
- Aboriginal Student Resource Centre
- Computer Store
- CSU
- ISO
- IT Service Desk
- Security

**LB**

- 1400 De Maisonneuve O.
- English History
- Études Françaises
- Mathematics & Statistics
- Education
- CISSC
- Centre for the Study of Learning and Performance

**EV**

- 1515 St. Catherine St. W
- Faculty of Engineering & Computer Science
- Electrical & Computer Engineering
- Building, Civil & Environmental Engineering
- Computer & Software Engineering
- Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
- Design & Computation Arts
- Faculty of Fine Arts
- Studio Arts
- LE GYM
- FoFA Gallery

**HB**





Concordia Stingers' football players show off the new jerseys. (Left to right) Jamal Henry, Mikael Charland, Concordia President Alan Shepard, Andrew Barlett and Keegan Treloar.

PHOTO ELYSIA-MARIE CAMPBELL

# STINGERS REBRANDED

New Logo, New Uniforms, New Brand for Concordia  
Stingers Revealed at Press Conference

BY JULIAN MCKENZIE  
@JULIANTHEINTERN

The buzz is back at Concordia University. Classes are back in session, students have returned to their familiar confines downtown or at Loyola, and Concordia's sports team will all be back in action. The Stingers brand, however, will look noticeably different the next time you get to see them on the field, ice or court.

A new logo, new uniforms—only for the football team—and promotional posters for Concordia Stingers were revealed at a press conference last Wednesday in the Concordia Gym by Patrick Boivin, Director of Recreation and Athletics. Concordia President Alan Shepard was in attendance, as well as various Stingers coaches and players.

The rebranding project was led by 20 Concordia students, under the guidance of Concordia alum John Londono, who aided in video and photo production, and creative leader Sebastien Boulanger. The athletics department also collaborated with Canadian marketing firm Cossette for the project.

Days leading up to the conference, the Stingers have released teaser videos on social media for new uniforms and the logo, as well as promotional videos featuring Stingers athletes.

"Sebastien came to get me and asked me to

take pictures the way I would do it personally," said Londono. "The way I shoot bands, when I shoot artists, when I shoot personal stuff. The look and feel of the series and of videos is really personal; it's really my style. To be honest, it's the project I'm most proud of."

Fine Arts students and student athletes participated in the production of the teaser videos.

"I was super happy to get involved, also to give the students a chance to learn from John," said Boulanger, a former basketball coach who says he was "born into sports and the arts."

"To create a new movement, if it starts from the university, it's more powerful than having it just come from outside," he said. "I had to do this."

Boivin was pleased at the new look for the Stingers, and gave credit to the students involved.

"They saw an opportunity to put their creative juices to work," added Boivin. "We have a true branding opportunity and they just hopped on board."

Instead of the familiar bee that has been a staple at ConU for years, a giant C in interchangeable maroon and gold stripes, with a stinger as its tail, is the Stingers' new logo.

The university's mascot, Buzz, was also noticeably absent at the press conference, but a newer-looking Buzz has been featured on

some of the new promotional posters, as well as on the side of the Concordia Stadium stands.

Boivin assured that there are no plans to "kill" the mascot, and that he will be "recreated."

"He's going for a bit of a facelift," Boivin said.

As for uniforms, the football team was front and centre at the press conference, modeling their own new home and away jerseys days before their home opener last Friday, where Concordia lost 37-0 to visiting Sherbrooke Vert et Or.

None of the other teams' uniforms, including the men's rugby team who won a championship last season over McGill University, were unveiled. But they will be in the coming weeks once the school has received their orders, with a few caveats.

"All the teams will have the uniforms that they're meant to have," said Boivin. "Some teams will only have their home jerseys done this year. They'll get their away jerseys next year, and that's in the interest of being cost-conscious."

Russell Athletic, an American company that has produced sports jerseys for American universities and has had sponsorship deals with the National Football League in the past, made the uniforms for the Stingers' football team. Concordia University is the only Canadian university to have an agreement with Russell.

The players, and various Concordia personnel, are all on board with the new uniforms.

"One of the coaches said to me that if the uniforms don't look great, it gets more difficult to recruit students to the team," said President Shepard. "It makes sense when you think about it. They're paying attention to how they're perceived by other people."

"I'm not a big design guy, I'm not an artist in any way. But they're like retro uniforms. They look beautiful and clean," Shepard said.

"It feels awesome," said Stingers safety Mikael Charland, who, along with teammates Jamal Henry, Keegan Treloar and Andrew Barlett, showed off the uniforms at the press conference. "I like the uniform. We're going to look good and we're going to play good."

"It's a new era, and a new look," said Stingers kicker Treloar.

The hashtag #StingersUnited has also been a huge part of the rebrand, and considering that Concordia still plans on releasing more promotional videos and posts, the school is hoping that more students can come together in support of their teams.

"We're legitimizing who we are to the rest of the Concordia community, and hopefully engaging more of that community to get involved and get behind us," said Boivin.

With files from Vince Morello and Jonathan Caragay-Cook



# THE **LINK**

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Jennifer Drummond is the coordinator of Concordia's Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC) and is the creator of the sensitivity training program that Stingers athletes will be required to attend. PHOTO MATT D'AMOURS

# WELCOME TO CONSENT TRAINING CAMP

## Stingers' 2015 Season Kicks Off With Mandatory Sexual Consent Training

BY MATT D'AMOURS  
@MATTDAMOURS

For the Concordia Stingers, fall 2015 will mark a new school year full of change: a rebranding campaign, which includes a new logo and updated jerseys unveiled last week, several new coaches, and for the first time, mandatory sexual consent workshops for all athletes.

The plan is for all consent-training sessions to be completed by mid-September for both men and women's teams, with the help of 15 trained facilitators. They will cover the following topics and information:

- 1) Clear examples and definitions of consent, and information on what constitutes sexual assault
- 2) Information on sexual harassment
- 3) Statistics related to sexual violence
- 4) Small-group scenarios meant to generate discussions on bystander intervention when students witness sexual harassment or assault in their daily lives.

The consent training is the brainchild of Jennifer Drummond, coordinator of Concordia's Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC). In the spring of 2014, Drummond approached Patrick Boivin, director of Concordia's Department of Recreation and Athletics, about developing a program to inform athletes about issues surrounding consent.

"It started as a reach-out on her end, and we started to have some thoughts as to what our role was as a department," Boivin said. "We had two different meetings, and it's throughout those meetings and discussions that we started to establish that it was probably some-

thing we should be doing."

In the summer of 2014, Drummond carried out a pilot program for the training, in which she held a consent workshop for two men's football groups. Fast forward a year later, and in conjunction with the Dean of Students office, the training is being officially implemented for all Stingers teams.

The program began this year with an orientation session for the Stingers coaches in August, in which they were guided through the training and asked for feedback. According to Drummond, the response from the coaches was positive.

"They seemed overall excited about it," Drummond said. "People had a lot of great stories to share, and participated and really engaged with the small-group activities we had them do."

Boivin echoed this sentiment, and said that the training program has been "eye-opening" for both coaches and athletes.

"The reality of the varying degrees of sexual violence isn't something that most people know about," Boivin said. "You don't necessarily know what you should know if you've never been exposed to it."

And this new exposure, according to Drummond, can be difficult to deal with, especially for newer members of the Stingers. The football team was the first to receive the training, and the SARC coordinator said that it was difficult to handle for some.

"It's a really challenging topic; I think it's even more challenging for younger students—  
younger men—who maybe are not used to thinking about these things," Drummond said. "I got the sense that it was freaking some

people out, which is a totally normal response."

Drummond also pointed out that certain coaches and students responded to some of the material with laughter—a response she attributes to nervousness. "There's always some laughter, because it's a way to diffuse tension," Drummond said. "But there's also the laughter that is maybe intended to be a bit of a challenge to the facilitator—challenging the seriousness of it."

As far as the Stingers are concerned, however, this training is no laughing matter. Although there are no specific repercussions in place for missing a consent workshop, Recreation and Athletics sees it as a mandatory element of pre-season activities.

"The expectation is that, unless you've got a good reason, you're going to be there—no different than a practice," Boivin said.

The training comes at a time when consent is at the forefront of Concordia's discourse. Following the revelations from the former student politician known as Mei-Ling last

spring, several stories have come to light in the media from women who have been sexually harassed or assaulted at the university.

Drummond says that these instances are powerful reminders that programs like the Stingers consent training need to exist.

"It just reinforced the importance of doing these types of workshops, and the importance of educating our community about these issues," she said.

For Boivin, the goal of the training is to heighten awareness of issues relating to sexual violence amongst student athletes, so that they're better equipped to make good decisions.

"The lines for them are somewhat blurred because their information sources probably aren't as dialed in as the kind of training and orientation they're getting now," Boivin said. "It was good to see the evolution within that training session; how a student athlete's perspective on things will be as they go along, and as the dialogue opens up ... they open up themselves."

**"It's a really challenging topic; I think it's even more challenging for younger students—younger men—who maybe are not used to thinking about these things."**

— Jennifer Drummond



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**ORION**

*The Man Who Would Be King*  
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SEPT 17 – The Reflektor Tapes (Kahlil Joseph | Canada, USA, UK, 2015)  
SEPT 18 – Outfitumentary (K8 Hardy | USA, 2010-2012 / 2015)  
SEPT 18 – Showgirls (Paul Verhoeven | USA, 1995)  
SEPT 19 – A Poem Is a Naked Person (Les Blank | USA, 1974/2015)  
SEPT 19 – Playback (Sho Miyake | Japan, 2012)  
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PHOTO MATTHA BUSBY

## HALLUCINATE, PUKE, REPEAT

No Epiphany in the Amazon After Ayahuasca Ceremony

BY MATTHA BUSBY  
@ITSMATTHA

Ayahuasca's ancient qualities are the stuff of legend. For centuries, indigenous Amazonian people have drunk this hallucinogenic sludge derived from the bark of ayahuasca for spiritual and physical betterment.

Today, it's also a typical jungle rite of passage for tourists, in addition to piranha eating and camping in organic tents. Speak to most of those who've indulged and you'll receive a variation of an exasperated, "Yeah mate, its amazing," response which will then probably branch into vivid descriptions of the visions they had.

There have been many cases, however, of naïve westerners paying over the odds to be fleeced or tormented by a renegade shaman.

As it became forebodingly apparent that our jungle tour was a mere front for a get-rich-quick scheme I began to worry that our ayahuasca experience might be a similar deal. We wanted to do some soul searching—not searching for our possessions afterward.

My travel companion Joceline and I came to Iquitos, Peru—the world's largest city unconnected elsewhere by road—in search of something estranged from South America's Gringo Trail.

After spending a few days in this insular, almost anarchic city where you can buy ayahuasca by the cup at the market, we were sold a tour—plus a dream by a slick-talking, military, wannabe shyster named Percy. We also inquired with him as to whether he'd be able to arrange some ayahuasca ceremonies for us.

He assured us that he knew a trustworthy shaman who wouldn't be prone to rob us, which was a relief to hear. We would be able to see three types of jungle and make our own spears, too.

The ceremonies were planned for the second and third evenings of our jungle expedition. We'd both paid 100 soles (\$41) each per ceremony plus 600 soles (about \$250) for

the five-day trip.

After spending the morning hiking in the rainforest we returned to be greeted immediately by what would be our last meal for about 24 hours, after which we were ordered to rest. Apparently you're supposed to fast for some time before and after ingesting the aforementioned potion to purify your body. Some degree of nausea and vomiting is inevitable (and beneficial) too.

Waiting for a shamanic ceremony is almost like waiting for Kanye West to take the stage. Will he provide his audience with an expensive rant or will he wow us with his repertoire? Or, I wondered, would it in fact be more like Kate Bush leading a vomit-ridden séance?

Our massive wooden teepee, deep in the Amazon and miles away from the nearest city, oozed eeriness as our introverted tour guide swung in his hammock and the custodian of our lodgings sat staring at a radio for what seemed like hours.

Not long after taking refuge under our mosquito net, two headlighted figures emerged from the wilderness. The ceremony began almost instantly afterwards.

We smoked Mapacho cigarillos while our shaman blew her smoke into the giant, yet not very full, bottle of ayahuasca.

**"The shaman was belching pretty incessantly that day, though..."**

Large buckets were placed in front of us to prepare for our vomit, which was bound to surface.

She poured Joceline a small pot's worth and instructed her to drink it all. Then came my

turn. It was something like a Bloody Mary but with an added *je ne sais quoi* of disgust.

Soon after the shaman extinguished the only candle which had illuminated our entire scene. Reality, distance, space and perception became entirely warped as the DMT began to swarm around my body like a pack of wolves.

The total darkness, save for the odd cigarillo tokes, accentuated both my fears and the sinister mysticism of our scene.

Initially I was petrified. Irrational fears flitted through my mind, such as the farfetched idea that this was a front to kidnap people into prostitution for the Shining Path guerrillas. I must stop reading the international news.

I came relatively close to tripping out as visions from the few bad trips in my life flooded back to me. Their leitmotifs recurred as I simultaneously entertained thoughts about my family, my personal failings and my poor health, which I've neglected recently. It was around this time I resolved never to take such drugs again.

I had been plunged into uncharted territory. Grappling with some alternate gravity, I squirmed and spasmed as if under the Crucifix curse, all while my torso was somewhat paralyzed in some sort of extreme nausea.

I could see spirits urging me to come over to their side as I continued to hallucinate. A demon beckoned me away from repentance but I wasn't interested in making a Faustian pact despite my vulnerability.

Once I had laughed it off, psychologically, the visions got slightly more lighthearted. It was all much more Austin Powers than *The Shining*. Although it was slightly groovier than before, it was still pretty terrifying.

Joceline began vomiting. I felt like it would help to get something out, so I attempted to force it for some time afterwards, to no avail. The shaman periodically restarted her chanting and waving of leaves.

I laid on the mattress that had been prepared and Joceline played with my hair to remind me of our humanity. Soon enough it

was all over and we immediately retired to our mosquito net. It didn't wear off entirely; my head spun for some time more as I contemplated contemplating.

We slept late the next day before a short trip to an empty beach where we searched for iguanas. We found one iguana egg, but that was all. We returned and had a lunch of red onion omelette, rice and potatoes: not the lightest meal one could eat after a 24 hour fast.

The wait for the shaman's arrival on the second day was not wrought with the same trepidation. I figured that this ceremony could be a far more constructive experience in that, less bound by fear, I could explore some aspects of the effects I had been too busy running away from the time before. We were told the second time would be much stronger, and that we'd have more visions too.

The shaman arrived at 7 p.m. on the dot with her male companion, greeted us with "Buenas noches" and sat down on a hammock on the other side of the teepee, swinging enthusiastically and joking in Quechua with our guide.

The potion was even grizzlier than before and I had to labour to swallow it. Once we'd emptied our cups the lights were again extinguished and the shaman began her ritual.

It took a lot longer to affect me this time. Perhaps the first go had killed off my most sensitive enzymes. Once it began to take hold it was a mere fraction of the effect I had had the night before.

The shaman was belching pretty incessantly that day, though, which made for an interesting spectacle as her song became increasingly punctuated by her burps.

There was no fear this time; however, there wasn't any sort of epiphany. The visions I had far more resembled a morbid rendition of Punch & Judy than anything akin to enlightenment.

We left the jungle for Leticia the next day exhausted, hungry and profoundly affected by our time.



# NOTHING TO BE PROUD OF

Does Concordia's administration just not care about sexual assault hearings?

BY WENDY KRAUS-HEITMANN  
@MSWENDYKH

Like many Concordia students, alumni and Montrealers, I have watched Concordia administration's klutzy moves as they learn to do the political equivalent of a backward tango in heels—deal with sexual assault and assault on women in a progressive, victim-centred manner that stops victim-blaming and slut-shaming and refrains from minimizing violence and protecting attackers. Sometimes, I have been deeply ashamed. And other times, I have been proud.

I lie. I have never been proud.

I was almost proud.

A few days ago, after watching the hearing for "Cathy" turn into a complete disaster

and seeing the outrage and anger the choice to delay the hearing inspired in people of all sorts of backgrounds, ages, political stripes, and classes—professors, students, staff—I took the initiative to email President Alan Shepard and VP Palpatine Bram Freedman.

I honestly thought if someone would just explain to them what was wrong, they would understand. I figured some piece of the puzzle must be missing for them, since when I went through the same process as Cathy just 12 and a half years ago, the matter was handled with far more intelligence and logic than this shit show. So, I told them bluntly what the three biggest problems were. And because it's wrong to complain and offer no solutions, I then told them how to fix it.

I'm not some know-it-all. I'm wrong from time to time. But I had a pretty good idea on how to fix the situation, because as I told them, I was so appalled by Cathy's story when I read about it last winter that mutual friends of ours hooked us up so I could help her navigate Concordia Bureaucracy.

Considering I'm literally the ONLY person I know who had a good outcome in the Concordia hearings process, it was assumed this was a great idea, and everyone went in all positive that things would turn out well.

So I told them what would solve it, and it was pretty simple, really. It basically involved meeting with Cathy, apologizing for her frustration, telling the accused to stay away from her and to keep his little minions off her back too. Before anyone says "yeah, but..." this is actually pretty standard stuff in a "so and so says you behaved in a most douchetastic manner, and so we shall have a hearing, but in the meantime you shall refrain from even the appearance of douchebaggery" situation.

Pretty simple.

I stressed that the biggest problem was the perception of collusion. That whether true or not, people perceive that Concordia is patting the accused on the head. Protecting him. I pointed out that cancelling the hearing in particular looks horrible since Concordia is under no obligation to ensure his criminal trial is unbiased. That's for his lawyer to argue in criminal court. But they *are* under obligation to ensure a safe learning environment for Cathy. Though you wouldn't know it.

President Shepard wrote me back, thanked

me for my time and concern, and said he'd consult with his colleagues and that he was disturbed by the situation. I slept thinking at least now someone would get it.

Not 16 hours later, Michelle Lalonde of the *Gazette* told Cathy she'd just spoken to Chris Mota for her article. This is the same article where Ms. Mota helpfully explained for the public record that cancelling the hearing was in no way setting precedence. That it was just a one-time favour on a request. I don't mean to doubt Ms. Mota's intentions, but that's how precedence is set. Someone comes along and says, "but you did it for this person at this time so it's not fair if you don't do it for me too!"

At this point I can't decide if Concordia's administration has some seriously out-of-order priorities, or just doesn't care. I don't want to believe the latter. Perhaps they just don't think it's a big deal to have your university do essentially nothing when you file a complaint about being abused. Security, after all, has declared the accused "not a risk." Based on what, I'd like to know—because they've never told Cathy, despite being repeatedly asked. Is it because he acts like a nice guy? Most abusers do. Otherwise they wouldn't get partners. Or keep them.

But right now Cathy has had absolutely nothing from the administration other than delays and acquiescence to whatever the man she accused of abusing her has asked for. If that's the best we can do, we should be ashamed for wasting the committee's time on that report, because it looks like they need to do it again.



GRAPHIC SAM JONES

## Nah'msayin?

These Fucking Bottle Dinguses Better Watch the Fuck Out Dear Businesses of Montreal: Accept My Goddamn Bottles and Cans

BY ZACH GOLDBERG  
@ZACHGOLDBERG

I cannot tell you how many times it's happened.

I've hauled my stinky, sweaty body down street after punishingly hot street, dragging a five-to-ten-pound bag of the sticky, disgusting cans and bottles that my alcoholism causes to quickly aggregate on my back porch.

So there I am, dragging this unforgiving load of aluminum and plastic down the street, entirely due to promises Quebec has made me that I will have my 20 to 40 cent deposit returned to me, and maybe I can use it to buy some breakfast, or some more alcohol, or something. Usually it's more alcohol.

But, my alcoholism aside, I can't tell you how fucking common it is for every dépanneur and mid-range marché to deny me my money. These fucking haughty clerks will glower from behind their shitty little countertops, suddenly sitting atop porcelain thrones of judgment, and let me nicely sort and lay out all my bottles and cans before them, before saying, really spitting, at me that, "No, no, absolutely we do not take your bottles, it is just too difficult, too much

work for me, no incentive for me, why don't you just take them somewhere else."

And then I usually say, "That's illegal. I will report you."

And then they usually say, "Do it."

And then I bluster and scoff and snort and pick up all my cans and bottles and rebag them in an angry huff and step back out into the unforgiving urban wilderness.

An even worse, and equally common, tactic taken by these charlatans of recycling is that they'll only give you credit and refuse to pay you cash. This is also illegal. Even worse, sometimes they'll try and cut deals with you, as if this is a haggling affair. "Oh, you didn't buy these from me, so I feel like I can pay less for them." Fuck you, you haggling highwayman.

And don't you dare tell me to just take my stuff to Provigo, where they have a bottle machine. Clearly, you've never encountered the fucking gauntlet of hellishness that is exchanging bottles at Provigo. From the moment you roll your cart-o-cans in the door you're treated like a syphilitic monster by every employee.

God, I just wanted to do some recycling.



GRAPHIC ELIZABETH XU



Standards by Graeme Shorten Adams @foreshortening



Caity Comics by Caity Hall @caityhallart

CAITY COMICS



Filbert by L.A. Bonte



By: L. A. Bonté

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contact creative@thelinknewspaper.ca  
graphic Madeleine Gendreau





## EDITORIAL

### You Can't Rebrand Budget Cuts

GRAPHIC MADELINE GENDREAU

It's the beginning of another school year and apparently Concordia's student body can expect to greet their first week of classes with a brand new sense of unity. This according to the Concordia Stingers' rebrand, an in-process series of efforts to revitalize our university's modest athletic department.

With the rebrand, dubbed #StingersUnited, Concordia students can expect, if you can imagine it, a new Concordia Stingers logo and an entirely new onslaught of Stingers branding, including a student-run ad-campaign, and a lot of unnecessarily elevated phraseology.

Alan Shepard was quoted touting some high-minded branding buzzwords on an article posted on Concordia's website.

"We wanted our new image to transcend sports and competition," Shepard says in the press release. "From our students and their parents, our faculty and staff, to our alumni and donors, we are hoping to unite everyone who has a connection with the university."

In the very same article, the genesis of the rebrand is described. Apparently the logo

revolves around the "five pillars of Concordia's sport programs: passion, adversity, roots, the road (an athlete's journey to the field of play) and the hive (the buzz created by an engaged fan base)."

What none of these pillars seem to mention is financial sustainability. With \$36 million in cuts to Concordia's budget over the last three years, it's difficult to imagine how money shelled out for more brandings, logos, ads, merchandise and promotions are going to inspire anything close to unity in Concordia's halls.

"At the heart of the rebranding process was a reflection on who we are and what we stand for," says Patrick Boivin, director of Recreation and Athletics.

And what is it to be united under a brand? We are not a school of marketing executives and team owners, nor a school of commercialized figures and values. Plus, pragmatically speaking, why choose sports as the thing to unite Concordia? There has never been a strong tradition of sports here. Where schools

like Yale or Harvard rally around teams that founded their respective sport, Concordia is attempting to brand teams that have never inspired community or any sense of unity amongst a student population largely separate from sports as a whole.

We're a city school, for crying out loud. Besides the inherent fragmentation of roughly 40,000 disparate individuals in four faculties, none of which have anything to do with athletics, Concordia is literally split into two campuses on opposite ends of the city. Beyond that, we're smack-dab in one of the most interesting, exciting cities in the world. State College, Pennsylvania is in the middle of nowhere, so it makes sense that football games are a town-wide event—there's literally nothing else to do. But we're in Montreal. Montreal: the city of sin. Who would choose football over sin?

So, let's recap: No recent tradition, no allure and no interest. But we've got a rebrand. A rebrand in the midst of intense austerity measures, and it's hard to believe other

departments aren't struggling. Last September, there were 20 staff replacements for the 90 that took volunteer buyouts—literally half of the expected 180 staff that Concordia was looking to relieve. Not to mention the mandatory 2.5 per cent reductions in academic sectors and 6.8 per cent reductions in all other sectors in place since 2013.

In this economic climate, would it not make more sense that Concordia be reinvesting in almost anything other than an ad-scheme and some elevated language?

The Link's sports editors were unable to find out the exact cost of this rebranding. Athletics director Boivin said some teams will only have their home jerseys done this year and they can expect their away jerseys next year. "That's in the interest of being cost-conscious."

If Concordia were really interested in being cost-conscious, they wouldn't have invested in a rebrand for an unpopular department. They could have just bought the jerseys.

I guess the logo's pretty hot though.

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EXHIBITION

**JACQUES PUGIN**  
*Les cavaliers du diable*  
 September 10 - October 11

SHOW

**PETER HENRY PHILLIPS**  
*The Origin* album launch  
 September 11

SHOW

**DENITIA AND SENE + BRANKO**  
 (BURAKA SOM SISTEMA)  
 September 16

SHOW

**THE DIODES**  
 September 17

SHOW

**TIM HECKER**  
*Fog Works II*  
 September 18

SHOW

**BARBARA LYNN + LIL' BUCK SINEGAL + THE KEY-LITES**  
 September 19

SHOW

**THE DEARS**  
*Times Infinity Volume One* album launch  
 September 25

FILM SCREENING

**JOUR 54**  
 Festival International de la littérature  
 September 28

SHOW

**BETE AND STEEF**  
 + Jay Atwill  
 October 8

SHOW

**DEAD OBIES**  
 Live album recording  
 October 14, 15 and 16

SHOW

**NINA SKY**  
 October 10

SHOW + FILM SCREENING

**WILLIAM BASINSKI**  
 Followed by a discussion  
 October 21

SHOW

**JAZZAMBOKA**  
 October 24

SHOW

**VOICES FROM THE LAKE**  
 November 6

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