

2012-2013



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cover artwork

ANDREA CLEGG TAKING SPACE

35MM COLOUR NEGATIVE FILM ANDREA, MSW (McGill) and M.PL. (Queen's), bought her first 35mm film camera at the age of 16, and has been taking photographs with it for many years. The featured photo was taken in one of the laneways in Toronto where Rick Mercer gives his weekly rants, and offers an alternative perspective on semi-public spaces and how they are used.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Social Equity and Diversity Education (SEDE) Office is committed to fostering a fair and inclusive environment that respects the dignity of each member of the McGill community. By actively educating, heightening awareness and providing opportunities for dialogue about equity-and diversity-related issues, we strive to strengthen the community in our shared responsibility toward a truly equitable society.

Re(:)THINKING COMMUNITY

Communities can arise out of a sense of place, common interests or affiliations. Communities can foster a sense of belonging—or exclusion—and can be shaped not only by social ties, but also by the built environment, civil society, innovation, communication networks and by macro political and economic structures. The recent exponential growth of the Internet has also given rise to a new type of community: the online or virtual community. In this, the fifth year of the SEDE Calendar, we look at the concept of community from diverse perspectives, including: access and equity issues in health and mental health; knowledge sharing, innovation and activism within varied communities; and at the strength that comes from building positive social ties among individuals and groups.

The SEDE Calendar project showcases the talent, hard work and dedication of McGill staff, students, faculties, local artists and community organizations. We hope that you enjoy the Calendar, and we invite you to learn more about SEDE's outreach, engagement and education initiatives by visiting our website or joining us on Facebook™.



SEPTEMBER 2012
RENEWING
GENERATIONAL TIES



OCTOBER 2012
TAKING ACTION ON
MENTAL HEALTH



NOVEMBER 2012
TOWARDS DIGITAL
INCLUSION



DECEMBER 2012
MEMORY AND
MEANING



JANUARY 2013
REVISIONING,
REPURPOSING AND
RECONSTRUCTING



FEBRUARY 2013
THRIVING ON
KNOWLEDGE



MARCH 2013
NEW PATHWAYS
FOR WOMEN



APRIL 2013
SOLIDARITY IN
HEALTH WORK



MAY 2013
RESILIENCE AGAINST
DISCRIMINATION



JUNE 2013
RESPONDING TO
CLIMATE CHANGE



JULY 2013
ADVANCES IN SCIENCE
AND EDUCATION



AUGUST 2013
HEALTH AND SOCIAL
WELLNESS



JOSHUA SCHWAB and GRUPO LIBRE E INDEPENDIENTE BINNI CUBI & COLECTIVO CHIKITRAKA NA'ROSITA

URBAN MURAL IN RANCHO GUBIÑA, OAXACA, MEXICO

The mural is the result of two local Zapotec collectives coming together to honor their elders, whose honest and dedicated work contributes to the welfare of their community and their culture. The mural was painted on the side of one of their traditional houses in hopes of drawing attention to the fact that all aspects of Zapotec culture needs the help of the community's children, youth and adults to continue flourishing.



RENEWING GENERATIONAL TIES

TITLE: Dancing with Chikapesh: An Examination of Three Generations of Cree Storytellers

RESEARCHER: Elma D. Moses, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Integrated Studies in Education, Faculty of Education; Tribal Affiliation: Cree Nation of Eastmain

Elma Moses' Ph.D. research, tentatively called "Dancing with Chikapesh: An Examination of Three Generations of Cree Storytellers," examines Indigenous issues in education using Indigenous methodologies. This project involves reclaiming Cree narratives of Elma Moses' family history. By examining Cree oral tradition through the lens of three generations of Iyiyuuh storytellers, the research project involves an attempt to posit a theory of Cree storytelling of the eastern James Bay Cree.

First the project looks at the grandparents' generation, where the stories were recorded for anthropological purposes. The grandparents' generation used an ancient and sacred style of storytelling and used these stories as teaching tools for cultural transmission. Secondly the project examines the stories of the parents' generation, which were recorded for educational purposes and are used in Cree language classrooms. The third generation, the researcher, has grown up with her grandparents' generation's stories. She seeks inspiration from them and re-creates these ancient stories by weaving them with contemporary Indigenous issues.

Through their own retelling and re-creating of these stories, each generation honours and builds upon the work of the grandmother's grandmother, from which the stories first originated. The research also examines the trickster discourse in sacred stories and the significance of these stories in the context of contemporary Cree society.

SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBRE

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Labour Day	4	5	6	7	8 International Literacy Day
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Rosh Hashanah (at sundown on the 16th to the 18th)	17	18	19	20	21 International Day of Peace	22
23/30	24	25 Yom Kippur (at sundown on the 25th to the 26th)	26	27	28	29

GROUP: Grupo Libre e Independiente Binni Cubi

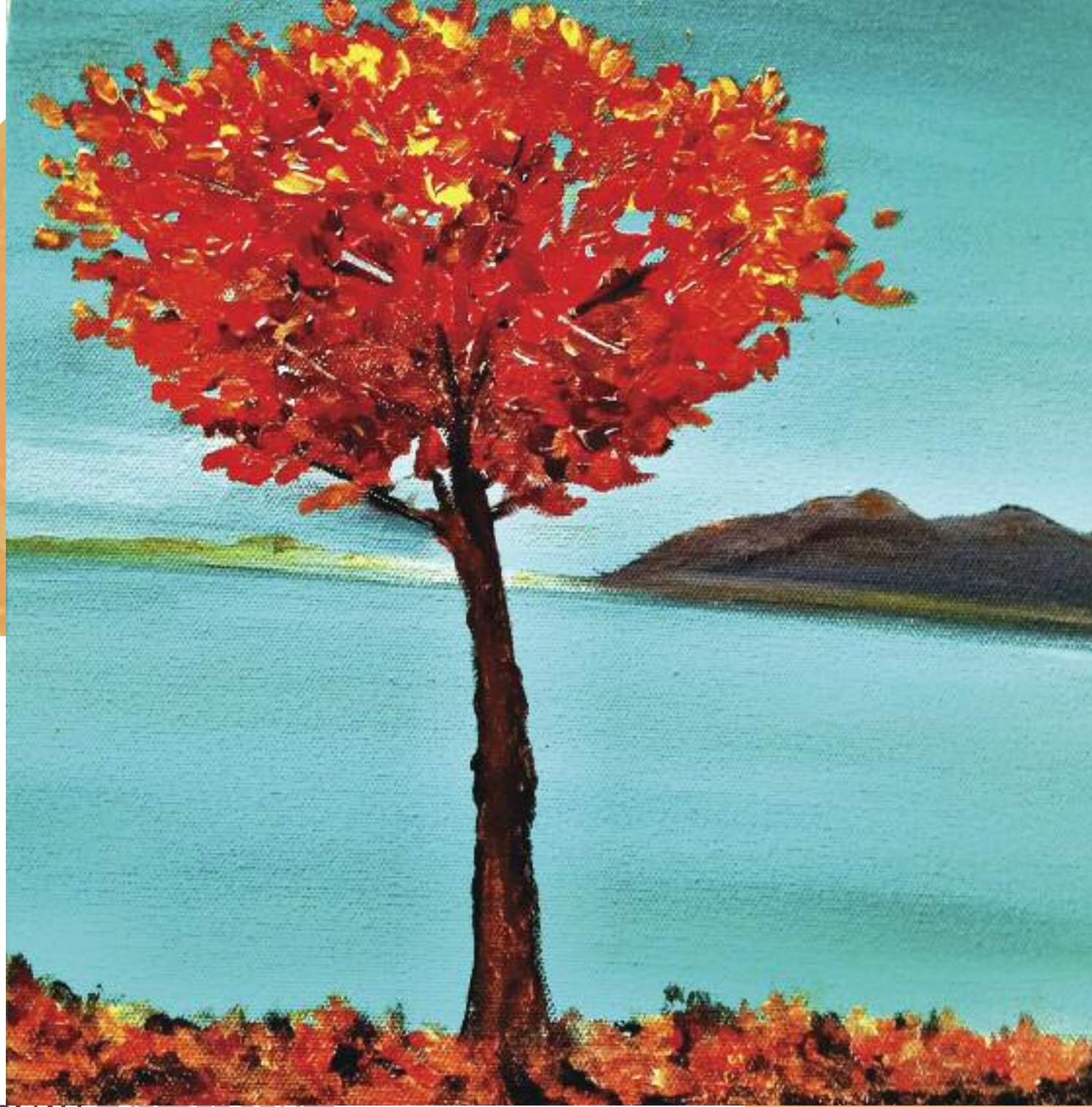
The Grupo Libre e Independiente Binni Cubi (GLIBC) is a Binnizá (of the Isthmus Zapotec peoples) cultural media collective. We have been working actively in our community, Rancho Gubiña, in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca for the last 10 years. The GLIBC arose from a sense of restlessness and hope of strengthening the future of our ancestral culture within our community. Our collective is comprised of a diverse group of members that includes students (primary, high school, and university), elders, agriculturalists, artists/musicians and teachers, ranging from the ages of eight to 75.

Importantly, the collective is not hierarchically structured, meaning we have no leaders, but rather many actors. We feel this structure allows us to continue to emphasize a fully inclusive and communal mode of participation, which also reflects our community's way of life. That is to say, we explain our life and how we relate to one another within our community with the word communalidad. Unfortunately, the English word of "communalidad" does not accurately capture the idea behind the practice.

Communal work is the endeavor one dedicates to the community annually—with no monetary compensation—but it is ultimately for the benefit of everyone in the community. Communal work can include the planting of maize, cooking and planning a community festival. In the case of our collective, it refers to a myriad of activities, such as working with video, establishing a communal radio station, community cinema or organizing an arts festival. These activities are ultimately done with the hope of fostering our community's ability to see and more importantly to reflect on timely issues affecting our community, such as the decreasing usage of our ancestral language by our youth. As well as hoping to create a space where our ancestral practices can continue to flourish.

OCTOBER OCTOBRE

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



JANET RIGNALL THE TREE OF LIFE

ACRYLIC JANET, M.Ed., works at McGill University. She has been a trained oil painter since the age of nine and took up acrylics, drawing, the use of mixed media and photography in 2003. In smaller communities in Africa, South America and countries like Afghanistan, a tree such as the one depicted is a place where members of the community come to congregate, find peace and play—and also represents a source of food and vitality. This painting symbolizes the importance of trees and nature in communities all around the globe.



TAKING ACTION ON MENTAL HEALTH

TITLE: Using the Internet to Improve Mental Health in Canada's Cultural Communities

RESEARCHER: Laurence Kirmayer, MD, Professor and Director, Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine

The Multicultural Mental Health Resource Centre (MMHRC), funded by the Mental Health Commission of Canada, seeks answers to the question, "How can the internet be used to improve mental health in Canada's cultural communities?" In line with the goals set out by the Mental Health Commission in its framework for a reformed mental health system, the MMHRC is developing online tools to make the delivery of mental health services more responsive to the diverse needs of individuals and groups based on their cultural backgrounds, migration histories, language proficiency, values and understanding of health and illness.

The MMHRC has conducted focus groups with mental health professionals and leaders of community organizations across the country to determine needs for information. A website has been established that provides mental health professionals with culturally-validated clinical tools. The public at large can find links to learn about mental health in over a dozen languages. Most importantly, from the perspective of communities, the website increasingly functions as a central node through which people can find interpreters or cultural mediators, and discover local organizations and services tailored to their social and mental health needs.

At present, we are working to make the website more user-friendly, adding audiovisual material, and a social networking forum. Over the next three years, the effectiveness of these resources will be evaluated and new forms of Internet-based mental health resources will be developed to foster resilience and respect for the rich cultural diversity that makes Canadian society unique.

MMHRC is a project of the Culture and Mental Health Research Unit, an affiliate of the Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry.

OCTOBER OCTOBRE

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
	1 International Day for Older Persons World Habitat Day	2 International Day of Non-Violence	3	4	5 World Teacher's Day	6
7	8 Thanksgiving Day	9	10 World Mental Health Day	11	12	13
14	15	16 World Food Day	17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 United Nations Day Disarmament Week (24-30)	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

GROUP: AMI-Québec - Action on Mental Illness

Over the past thirty years AMI-Québec has evolved into a dynamic resource whose mission is to support, guide, educate and advocate for families and friends living with mental illness. This is accomplished through support and education groups, individual counselling, recovery workshops, roundtable discussions, video conferences and teleworkshops. With the help of technology, services have been extended to the outer regions of Quebec as well as to the Montreal community, facilitating communication to individuals who are unable to access services or cannot, because of illness, leave the home. The organisation has also introduced the FRIENDS for Life program in collaboration with the English Montreal School Board and the East-Island network for English-Language services. This pilot project is intended to teach children how to cope with feelings of fear, worry and depression with a view to the prevention of mental disorders in adulthood.

More recently, because families often feel neglected when seeking help for a loved one in hospital emergencies, a family peer support pilot project has been introduced at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute, where a family member is available for information and support. It is hoped that this project will demonstrate the necessity of introducing this service in all hospitals across the city.

A small staff and many volunteers assist AMI-Québec in its mission of providing the community with much needed services, promoting support and understanding, and helping to dispel the stigma surrounding mental illness.

www.amiquebec.org

NOVEMBER NOVEMBRE

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



BERNARD LAFLEUR HUMAN NETWORKING

DIGITAL ART BERNARD is a graphic designer who graduated from UQAM in 1987. In running his own business, Le Zeste Graphique, he tries to be as multifaceted as possible. Whether he's using a sketchbook or a computer, he is constantly thinking about new colors, new methods and new concepts to meet his client's demands. Here, the artist shows how interactions with other peoples and cultures—with the help of modern network technologies—can occur without boundaries or judgments. In this process the beauty of differences is respected, moving us toward a better world.



TOWARDS DIGITAL INCLUSION

TITLE: Digital Inclusion of Canadian College and University Students with Disabilities

RESEARCHERS: Catherine Fichten, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine; Jennison Asuncion, M.A. (Concordia); Maria Barile, M.S.W. (McGill)

Since 1996, the Adaptech Research Network has been conducting grant-funded bilingual research into digital inclusion of Canadian college and university students with disabilities. Its findings indicate that many of these students need and use specialized information and communication technologies (ICTs) to interact with the community around them and to participate and benefit from the same learning, social and employment-related opportunities as their non-disabled peers. These ICTs can be broken up into specialized hardware (e.g., keyboard alternatives for students who cannot use a mouse) and software (e.g., software that reads what is on the screen for students with print impairments). In this context, concerns raised by the research participants have been: the high cost of specialized ICTs and the lack of awareness and opportunity to try out different ICTs to find what works best for them.

To help address these issues, the Adaptech Research Network has been compiling a library of free or inexpensive ICT options, such as alternative mice, dictation software, and iPhone and iPad apps. Many of these were suggested by the student participants in Adaptech's research. The goal is to provide choices so that students with disabilities can browse and try different ICTs that are cost-effective or free. These are available on the Adaptech website in English <<http://www.adaptech.org/en/downloads>> and in French <<http://www.adaptech.org/fr/telechargement>>.

This effort, initiated by the three Adaptech Research Network co-directors (Catherine Fichten, Ph.D. (McGill), Jennison Asuncion, M.A. (Concordia), Maria Barile, M.S.W. (McGill)), was made possible thanks to SSHRC and to students from McGill (Ally Abrami, Natalie Martiniello, Anthony Tibbs), Concordia (Jillian Budd), the Université de Montréal (Alexandre Chauvin, Mai N. Nguyen), and Dawson College (Lily Hansen-Gillis).

NOVEMBER NOVEMBRE

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	7	8	9	10
11 Remembrance Day	12	13	14	15	16 International Day of Tolerance	17
18	19	20 Universal Children's Day	21	22	23	24
25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women	26	27	28	29	30	

GROUP: Koumbit

Established in Montreal in 2004, Koumbit is a non-profit organisation that promotes the use of free and open source software by community groups in Quebec, Canada and abroad. Koumbit is neither a co-op nor a business that can be "owned." Rather, it is a collective of individuals working together for common goals. Our unique work environment is collectively organized by progressive-minded, autonomous workers.

Koumbit's founding principles emphasize solidarity, social responsibility, and political engagement. We provide a workspace where individuals can collaborate openly in order to share their ideas and tools, as well as sharing the responsibility of managing the organisation. Our clients vary widely, from community groups to activists to educational institutions, governments and businesses. We host mailing lists that connect communities of activists, build sites that organise important social resources, and develop online tools that are free for anyone to use. In solidarity with some under-funded grassroots organisations, we've been proud to offer free work and hosting. We avoid clients and contracts whose activities go against our principles.

In spite of the fast-paced work environment and the constrained budgets of many projects, Koumbit remains a supportive workplace where mutual aid and creative thinking are highly valued. This atmosphere is essential to the collective management of our workplace, when diversity of opinion can complicate even simple decisions. By working through our diverse viewpoints, we're able to direct our organisation in a way that is inclusive and humanising. This daily challenge draws us together and links us to a wider community of activists and agitators.

www.koumbit.org

DECEMBER DÉCEMBRE

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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29



LORNA MULLIGAN FEUILLE JAUNE

INK, PIGMENTS, GOUACHE AND WATERCOLOUR ON HANDMADE ST-ARMAND PAPER LORNA is a Montreal artist and calligrapher. She studied at UBC and at the Banff Centre and now teaches at the Visual Arts Centre and at Dawson College in the Continuing Education Department. Lorna has exhibited her mixed media artworks across Canada and in Europe. In the piece, "Feuille Jaune", Lorna explores the interaction of traditional calligraphic marks with loose, expressive gestures. The place where this meeting occurs is the empty page. Curves and scribbles dance across the sheets of paper in veils of writing, where a new sense of community begins.



MEMORY AND MEANING

TITLE: The Northern Cultural Assessment of Memory (N-CAM) Cognitive Screening Tool

RESEARCHER: Hannah St. Denis-Katz, McGill Student and Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Undergraduate Student, (and Margaret Crossley, Supervisor and Professor at the University of Saskatchewan)

As the recipient of the 2011 Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre Summer Undergraduate Research Award, Hannah St. Denis-Katz used the Northern Cultural Assessment of Memory (N-CAM) cognitive screening tool to assess the memory of Aboriginal adults. The N-CAM measures memory, language and daily activities. As part of her 2011 summer research, St. Denis-Katz used the N-CAM to collect data on Aboriginal peoples at the Westside Community Clinic in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Participants were selected who did not have any pre-identified memory problems, and 81 people were assessed in total. Participants ranged in age from 19 to 81 years; 41 were male; and 92 per cent were of Aboriginal ancestry. Overall, the sample reported high levels of chronic health and social problems: 70 per cent of the participants indicated an addiction problem, 48 per cent had hepatitis C, 38 per cent had a history of head injury and 68 per cent stated that they had not completed high school.

The N-CAM proved to be a useful tool in measuring memory in Aboriginal peoples who also presented with other health and social problems. In contrast to past cognitive screening tools, the N-CAM does not assume formal education, and it is administered in the preferred or first language of the participant. The N-CAM is also better able to engage Aboriginal seniors, in particular because the tool includes the use of local colour, humour and familiar images. With the data from this study now in place the N-CAM is much closer to being ready for use across Canada, and results from the N-CAM will be useful in improving family and patient support and care.

DECEMBER DÉCEMBRE

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
						1 World AIDS Day
2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery	3 International Day of Disabled Persons	4	5 International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development	6	7	8
9	10 Human Rights Day	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 International Migrants Day	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25 Christmas	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29

GROUP: The Hidden Gems Storytelling Project

The word "community" carries with it a sense of unity. The Hidden Gems Storytelling Project brings people together in a creative and artistic way. Created in 2010, as a project under the Community Action Toolkit of McGill University, Hidden Gems responds to the growing inter-generational gap between citizens of Montreal: youth are increasingly separated from elders on a variety of fronts, ranging from interpersonal to technological. The aim of Hidden Gems is to transcend generations with stories and recorded memories that convey universal themes and that highlight the value of an individual's life. Out of this collaboration, remarkable stories—and later, radio plays—emerge as students are paired with elders in the local community to hear their life stories and to share the defining moments in their lives.

Now in its third year, Hidden Gems continues to uncover meaning and to serve as an educational platform for both the students and the elders. Students have a chance to experience a unique perspective on problems and challenges common to all, such as finding the confidence and strength to achieve goals, or the ability to enjoy and value life, all while tapping into their creativity. On the other hand, elders receive insight on the issues prevalent amongst younger generations, such as dealing with the demands of a changing, fast-paced society. The memories shared by both students and elders during interviews offer the participants a new and interesting lens through which to reflect on their experiences.

The radio plays born out of Hidden Gems then aired on CKUT Radio, and show amazing creativity, authenticity and sincerity. They contribute greatly to inter-generational integration in the Montreal community. Hidden Gems reminds us that stories are meant to be shared, valued and treasured.

www.mcgill.ca/equity_diversity

JANUARY JANVIER

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



REVISIONING, REPURPOSING AND RECONSTRUCTING

TITLE: Concrete Memories: Changing Perceptions of German Civil Bunkers (1940 – 1960)

RESEARCHER: Julia Tischer, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Architecture

This project looks at German WWII civil bunkers, or Hochbunker, juxtaposing their architectural intentions and political objectives with how they were experienced by the communities inhabiting them. How were ordinary lives enacted in these places? At the same time it studies the extraordinary range of meanings these buildings adopted and how these perceptions were memorialized. Which meanings were remembered and which were ignored? Why? Tischer argues that bunkers as architectural typology, built to withstand allied bombs at strategic locations in the urban centers, and the way they were remembered (or not) tell the story of a very vulnerable community of women, children and elderly facing war, destruction and reconstruction.

Following the first British air-raid of Berlin on the night of August 25, 1940, an agitated Hitler ordered the immediate implementation of the Führer-Sofortprogramm. This emergency program called for a massive building project in order to protect Germany's military bases, industries and civilians. Hochbunker, colossal aboveground concrete shelters, mushroomed in the large cities to shield their inhabitants from a war that had become urban for the first time in history.

Later in the war, bunkers were meeting points in urban desserts and tragically, after occupation by the Allies, they became traps of abuse and violence. After the war ended they were designated as shelter for the homeless, where hundreds lived in unthinkable conditions for decades. As Germans emerged from the rubble, the naked concrete giants were increasingly deemed as eyesores and ultimately ignored in a country that stroved to move forward, away from its painful past.

VIRGINIE NOVAK LONELINESS

PHOTOGRAPHY VIRGINIE graduated from McGill in 1996 with a BA in Psychology. She has always been fascinated by the way members of a community express themselves through "street art," and has spent the last several years taking pictures of graffiti, stencils, sculpture, sticker art, street art posters and street installations. The artist Frida Kahlo suffered lifelong health problems and is represented here in a subtle and isolated way—almost incognito—in the middle of a city where hundreds of people pass by. The peeling wall reminds us of the passage of time.



JANUARY JANVIER

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

GROUP: Collectif 7 à nous and the Building #7 Project

Since 2003, the Point-Saint-Charles community in Montreal has mobilized to ensure that the redevelopment of a former Canadian National (CN) rail yard would meet its needs. The redevelopment of this 35-hectare space meant addressing issues of housing, green spaces, contamination, community facilities, transportation, and rail and industrial activities.

Collectif 7 à nous was created in 2009 to reclaim Building #7, and it serves as a link between several groups with different philosophies. Its founding members include the Table de concertation communautaire Action-Gardien, the Centre social autogéré, the Darling Foundry, the Club populaire des consommateurs, individual citizens, and the architect Mark Poddubiuk, with the support of RÉSO. These groups led sustained, diversified, and efficient popular actions to obtain the release of Building #7 to the community. In June 2011, the Collective was victorious: Building #7 was disposed of for one dollar, and the group received donations for emergency repairs.

Collectif 7 à nous has since taken over this heritage industrial building, which is part of the popular history of Pointe-Saint-Charles. It now will lead efforts to convert the building into an alternative and accessible meeting place. Building #7 will become an innovative hub mixing arts, culture, social and political events, production spaces and neighbourhood services, brimming with projects, solidarity, and creativity. The Building #7 project is fuelled by the values of social justice, autonomy, respect, and democracy as understood in its participative, inclusive and horizontal spirit. It is aimed at becoming an engine of cultural, social, political, economic and environmental change, both within its original environment and beyond.

www.ateliers7anous.org

FEBRUARY FÉVRIER

SD	ML	TM	WM	J	FV	SS
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

THRIVING ON KNOWLEDGE

TITLE: The Black Communities Demographic Project

RESEARCHER: James L. Torczyner, Ph.D., Professor, School of Social Work

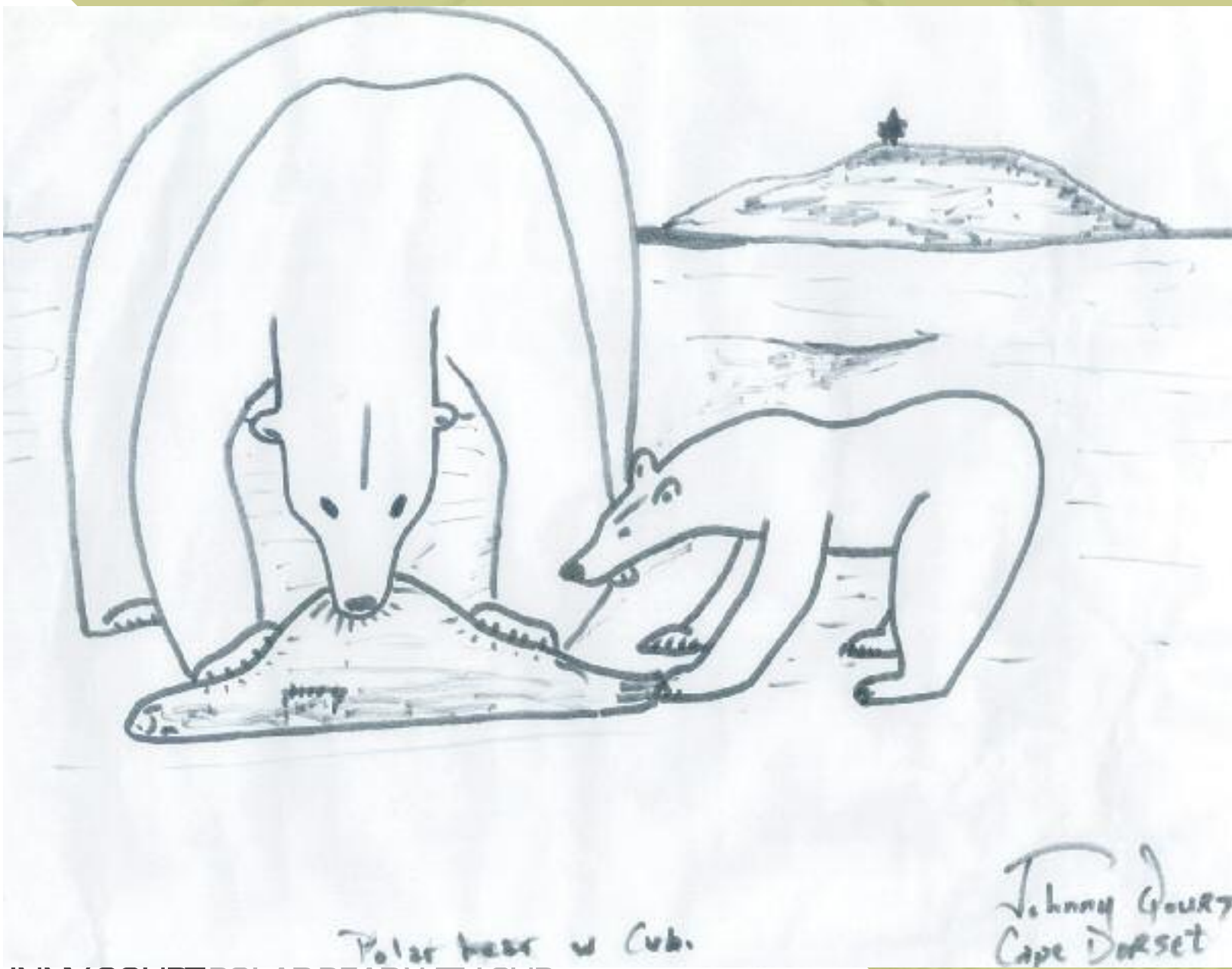
WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM: Sharon Springer, M.A.; Myriam Denov, Ph.D.; Amanda Grenier, Ph.D.; Nicole Ives, Ph.D.; Anne-Marie Livingstone; Fo Niemi

The Black Communities Demographic Project is a quantitative and qualitative study that was compiled by the McGill Consortium for Human Rights Training (MCHRAT) and the McGill Consortium for Ethnicity and Strategic Social Planning (MCESSP), in conjunction with a committee of representatives from Black communities in Montreal. It includes information on the demographic, social and economic situation of Black communities in Montreal, with respect to five areas in particular: Immigration and Integration, Youth and Justice, Employment, Families and Older People, and Education.

The purpose of the study, "The Evolution of the Black Community of Montreal: Change and Challenge," is to further inform policy makers and Black community leaders and help them identify strategic courses of action that will address inequalities and promote the full inclusion of Black communities in Quebec life.

The report had a broad and significant impact on policy makers and members of the Black community: it provided comprehensive, empirical findings that highlighted central issues of socio-economic inequality, family stability and community cohesion. The study also provided city-wide data which compared the position of Blacks with the rest of the population in Montreal and national data which situated the findings from Montreal within the Canadian context. Lastly, the study provided profiles of 10 geographic areas in which a majority of Blacks in Montreal reside in order to assist local communities and service providers to better respond to the community needs.

Members of Montreal's Black community who participated in aiding the research team and in community consultations include Maison d'Haiti, Black Community Resource Centre, Black Theater Workshop, Quebec Board of Black Educators, and the African Canadian Development and Prevention Network, among many others.



Polar bear w Cubi

Johnny Court
Cape Dorset

JOHNNY COURT POLAR BEAR WITH CUB

BLACK MARKER ON PAPER JOHNNY is an Inuit artist living in Montreal. His work is inspired by scenes of everyday life in the Canadian Arctic, particularly in and around Cape Dorset. Court is an expert in Northern geography and hunting and he is a regular participant of the Toit Rouge Arts Program at the St. Michael's Mission. In this piece, a mother polar bear and her cub feast on the fat of a seal. The mother bear has been teaching her cub to hunt. This intergenerational transfer of knowledge is fundamental; without it, the cub will perish. Court's re-thinking of community involves appreciation for the unique knowledge and expertise that is passed from one living being to next.



FEBRUARY FÉVRIER

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 World Day of Social Justice	21 International Mother Language Day	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

GROUP: The Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy NETWORK

Created in 2008, the Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy NETWORK aims to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal people in the greater Montreal area by sharing information about Aboriginal people's needs. By prioritizing these needs, the NETWORK is able to develop joint projects that address duplication and gaps in the services offered. Since its implementation, the NETWORK has worked hard to create, maintain, and strengthen work relationships among partner organizations dedicated to the wellbeing of the Aboriginal community in Montreal.

Concerted and coordinated efforts by the NETWORK have notably resulted in the publishing of the Montreal Aboriginal Reference Guide and the Directory of Resources Offered to Montréal's Aboriginal Community. More recently, the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec announced the creation of the Fund for Montreal Aboriginal Professional Artists and Writers, an initiative with which the NETWORK collaborated actively.

The NETWORK's efficiency depends essentially on its Working Committees, which are made up of organizations and individuals serving Aboriginal people in the Greater Montreal area. With more than 600 members, representing more than 120 organizations, the NETWORK is an open and inclusive collaborative initiative that is making a difference through the development of partnerships with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal organizations, community groups, the private sector and its federal, provincial, municipal, First Nations and Inuit partners.

The Montreal Urban Aboriginal Community Strategy NETWORK is proud to make a difference in the daily life of the Montreal's Aboriginal people, a people who form the eighth largest urban Aboriginal community in Canada.

www.reseautnetwork.com

MARCH MARS

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30



CHERYL BRAGANZA THE HEALING CLOAK

ACRYLIC CHERYL is an artist, poet, musician and cancer survivor who collaborates locally and globally with organizations that focus on human rights. She believes that each of us can use our healing energies as we reach out to reconnect and rediscover the diverse communities of Montreal.



NEW PATHWAYS FOR WOMEN

TITLE: Women Move in/Moving Space

RESEARCHER: Tania Gutierrez Monroy, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Architecture

Tania Gutierrez Monroy's study, "Women move in/moving space," focuses on the gendered landscapes of the city, building upon their nature as spatial processes rather than as fixed containers of objects and relations. In *The Sphinx in the City* (1992) Elizabeth Wilson points out that women's presence in cities is construed as a problem. This presence embodies both temptation and virtue in need of protection, and is dealt with by urban space through architecture that affirms the need to shelter the female body.

Gutierrez Monroy's project analyses the space/woman metaphor, wherein both concepts are seen as bounded and colonizable. This metaphor is materialized in the built form as numerous spaces in the city are designed to contain the female body. Several studies have demonstrated that, through their actions and presence/visibility, individuals and collectives take over spaces allegedly under control, and defy spatial dictates.

A case study in Mexico City leads Gutierrez Monroy to further argue that it is actually through their (moving) bodies that women re-appropriate the spaces claimed by patriarchy—through the very (female) bodies rendered "problematic" by a discourse that aims to immobilize them in architecture as much as in philosophy. The body, woman's problematic constituent becomes the vehicle through which she reclaims territories. As they move through urban space, women simultaneously fuse with and fragment the physical environment. Either by becoming extensions or disruptions of the built form, bodies deconstruct codes inscribed in architecture. Bodies merge with the architecture. Bodies are architecture.

MARCH MARS

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 International Women's Day, and United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	22 World Water Day	23
24/31	25 Passover (at sundown on March 25th to April 2nd)	26	27	28	29 Good Friday	30

GROUP: South Asian Women's Community Centre

With the idea that community fosters a sense of belonging, the South Asian Women's Community Centre's (SAWCC) mandate includes creating programming aimed at reducing feelings of isolation and galvanizing bonds among community members through practices of sisterhood and solidarity. Although members of South Asian communities as well as other racialised communities are often marginalised, the reality is that we are an integral part of society as a whole. This is why SAWCC shares its projects and activities with wider publics by holding family picnics, information sessions, end of the year celebrations, conferences, public vigils and youth empowerment workshops in public schools and community centres throughout the city.

By bringing the Centre to the people, we attempt to build community from a feminist perspective, amongst women and their networks. As such, members from other communities are able to gain access to SAWCC programs, while SAWCC gains visibility and information about their realities from such exchanges. As an organization that promotes diversity, SAWCC strives to instill a sense of understanding and mutual respect amongst members and clients, as well as the surrounding environment. End-of-month lunches bring together women and families of all backgrounds, celebrating a wide variety of cultural occasions. Lastly, through participation in campaigns spotlighting issues related to women's realities in terms of migration, self-determination, and safety The Centre hopes not only to change less accepting attitudes towards immigrant groups and women in general, but also offers a vision based on the desire that every individual, including women and children, ought to live in dignity.

www.sawcc-ccfsa.ca

APRIL AVRIL

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



ZSUZSANNA (SUSAN) MOLNAR GREENER ON THE OTHERSIDE

MOSAIC ZSUZSANNA, who completed a M.Ed. from McGill in 1997 and is now a Graduate Student Career Advisor at the McGill Career Planning Service, organizes "Artists Among Us," an annual art exhibition for the McGill Community. As a mosaic artist for the past years, she enjoys the process of breaking fragile pottery and putting them back together again. "Greener on the Other Side" depicts the trap and allure of wanting what we don't have, the desire for "new" and more and the agony of it all. The spring tree featured here suggests the value of "old" tradition and ritual, and depicts the positive elements of change and rebirth.



ADVANCES IN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

TITLE: Malaria Detection with Laser Light

RESEARCHER: Paul Wiseman, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Departments of Physics and Chemistry, Faculty of Science

Our work on the detection of malaria infection in blood cells based on ultrafast laser illumination was somewhat serendipitous. I was attending a research seminar by my future colleague Prof. Scott Bohle when he was interviewing to join the chemistry department at McGill as a senior hire and he showed the molecular structure of the malaria pigment hemozoin (a by-product of the parasite's metabolism of human hemoglobin in the blood). I recall thinking that this molecule may have an ideal structure to produce "third harmonic generation" (THG, a nonlinear optical effect where a material re-emits light that is three-times the frequency of light used to illuminate it).

Three years passed by and my group received grant money to build a nonlinear microscope that could perform imaging of the THG process. I remembered Scott's talk and decided to simply test my idea with malaria samples from the Institute for Parasitology at Macdonald Campus. My graduate student Jonathan Belisle obtained microscope slides with blood smears of malaria, infected red blood cells and imaged them on our nonlinear microscope which scanned a focused laser beam across the sample. I remember vividly watching the image form on the computer screen and the flashes of "light" rendered as the laser focus passed over infected cells containing hemozoin. At this point I realized that this obscure nonlinear optical effect could have a profound and direct impact on a greater community of individuals battling malaria in endemic countries as a potential way to detect infection.

GROUP: Africa SOMA

Africa SOMA is a Montreal-based NGO that works to provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth in Southern Kenya. Since 2007, one of its central projects has been the opening, furnishing and maintenance of a Community Resource Centre in the Maasai town of Elangata Wuas. Inaugurated in August 2010, and managed by a local community-based organisation, this resource centre houses the first library in the area and provides much needed space and materials for studying, and for student and community gatherings of all types.

The Elangata Wuas Resource Centre helps strengthen community in a number of different ways. First, programs such as a recent photo exhibit of Maasai life-stage ceremonies and ongoing storytelling sessions by community elders to students are reinvigorating discussion and debate about what it means to belong to the Maasai cultural community. Second, librarians facilitate regional competitions that bring together students from different towns. These students compete in subjects such as debating and mathematics, competitions that motivate their studies and allow them to build a wider network of academic peers. Finally, computers with internet access are—for the first time—allowing community members to build online networks and gather information electronically.

As this part of Kenya grows and expands in response to numerous forces including infrastructure development, immigration, climate change and population growth, the concept of community is consistently being challenged and made more complex. Africa SOMA recognizes that ease of access to information—whether school-, vocation- or culture-related—can be a crucial factor in promoting peace and understanding as local definitions of who and what is part of the community change.

www.africasoma.org

APRIL AVRIL

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
	1 Easter Monday	2	3	4	5	6
7 World Health Day	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY MAI

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
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26	27	28	29	30	31	



CAROL RABINOVITCH UMBRELLAS

As a contemporary Montreal artist, CAROL's style is whimsical and sometimes abstract. Her joy is in giving the canvas a personality and a mood, as shapes and forms spring into her mind. Her fondness for umbrellas, hats and butterflies are her favourite themes. She creates with oil and acrylic paints, monoprinting, collaging, assemblage and recycled art—sometimes combining them, generating mixed-media images. "Umbrellas" portray several different backgrounds, unique in shape, colour and various textures, representing symbols and objects that cover us and protect us from rain and from sun.



RESILIENCE AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

TITLE: Project PRIDE (Promoting Resilience in Discriminatory Environments)

RESEARCHER: Nathan Grant Smith, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, Faculty of Education

Project PRIDE (Promoting Resilience in Discriminatory Environments) is a novel HIV prevention intervention that focuses on helping young gay/bisexual men to cope effectively with the stress that results from stigma and discrimination.

Prevalence rates of HIV infection in young gay and bisexual men have increased in recent years. One of the factors implicated in HIV transmission among young gay/bisexual men is societal stigma and discrimination. Stigma and discrimination have been linked to a variety of negative psychological, physical and behavioural health outcomes, including substance use and risky sexual behaviours. In addition, experiences of stigma can be internalized and create feelings of shame, low self-esteem and disconnection from the lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans communities.

The goals of Project PRIDE are to increase self-esteem, behavioural skills related to HIV risk reduction, community engagement and adaptive coping strategies. By helping young gay/bisexual men to cope more effectively with stigma-related stress and to mobilize personal and community resources, Project PRIDE aims to reduce participants' reliance on maladaptive coping strategies such as a substance use and unprotected sex.

Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, researchers at McGill University, Ryerson University, Université du Québec à Montréal, and University of Windsor are engaging community members in the development and refinement of the intervention, which will be delivered to approximately 30 gay/bisexual men between the ages of 18 and 25 in Montreal and Toronto. Future research will utilize randomized controlled trials to test the intervention's effectiveness in reducing substance use and unprotected sex.

www.coresearchteam.com

MAYMAI

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
			1 International Workers' Day	2	3 World Press Freedom Day	4
5	6	7	8 World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 International Day of Families	16	17 International Day Against Homophobia	18
19	20 Victoria Day	21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

GROUP: AIDS Community Care Montreal

AIDS Community Care Montreal (ACCM) is a volunteer-based community organisation working to enhance the quality of life of people living with HIV/AIDS, to prevent HIV transmission, and to promote community awareness and action. We promote the inclusion of diverse populations while working to ensure that ACCM's cultural roots remain an integral part of what we are. We recognize these roots by ensuring access to all of our programs, services and activities in English while increasing access in French.

ACCM envisions a society free from the stigma of HIV/AIDS. We are committed to building a community where all people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS receive the support they need. We are dedicated to empowering individuals to make informed decisions related to their health.

The Education for Prevention department is dedicated to equipping people with the knowledge and tools needed to make informed decisions concerning their sexual health. These goals are achieved through the provision of innovative education and prevention services and programs aimed at decreasing the incidence of HIV, AIDS, viral hepatitis C and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Paramount to the department's practice is the promotion of sexual health and risk reduction strategies.

Volunteers have been a fundamental part of AIDS Community Care Montreal (ACCM) since its creation in 1987. They play an important role in every function of the organization, including education for prevention, support services, fundraising, research, administration, governance, and the Volunteer Department itself. Volunteers have enabled ACCM to develop a wide range of programs and services adapted for the dynamic and diverse Montreal populations affected by HIV and AIDS.

www.accmontreal.org

JUNEJUN

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23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29



BEAU JOHNSON TWELVE APOSTLES

PHOTOGRAPHY BEAU graduated from McGill with a B.Sc. in Psychology and minor in Kinesiology. The "Twelve Apostles" are found off the coast of the Port Campbell National Park in Victoria, Australia. The scenery of this area changes greatly due to the erosion caused by the waves on the limestone rock stacks. Over time, these pillars will collapse and others will form in their place, creating a different landscape for a new generation.



RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

TITLE: An Ecological Model of Regional Vulnerability to Climate Change

RESEARCHER: Jason Samson, Ph.D.,
Department of Natural Resource Sciences,
Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Jason Samson's research focuses on how human populations may react to a changing climate at the regional level. Samson's ecological model of regional vulnerability to climate change, published in the journal *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, was developed to provide a simple index to inform communities and political leaders about the potential impacts of climate change.

The global geographical pattern of population density clearly shows that societies are strongly influenced by climate. While climate change is a global phenomenon, the magnitude of the change will be very different depending on region. Similarly, the societal impacts of a two-degree Celsius increase will not be the same for someone living in Jakarta and someone living in Montreal.

While some regions—mainly in the northern part of the northern hemisphere—have low vulnerabilities, both the geographical extent and the number of people with high vulnerabilities are far greater. What is perhaps most shocking is that even though Samson's research includes no socio-economic factors (other than population growth) it still shows that the most negative impacts of climate change are likely to occur in less industrialized countries. These countries have made the fewest contributions to the climate change crisis, and probably have the least capacity to respond to this crisis. As human dispersal potential is limitless, but politically, economically and culturally constrained, climate migrations are likely to be one of the most serious and, in the absence of focused attention, unexpected consequences of climate change. Thinking globally and acting locally is essential for limiting both climate change and its impacts on our communities.

JUNE JUIN

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression	5 World Environment Day	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought	18	19	20 World Refugee Day	21	22
23/30	24 La Fête Nationale du Québec	25	26	27	28	29

GROUP: Montréal Urban Ecology Centre

The Montréal Urban Ecology Centre's (MUEC) mission is to build and share expertise concerning the most viable and democratic approaches to sustainable urban development.

Inspired by social ecology, MUEC explores the inter relationship between nature and society. The importance of neighbourhood and city level action is highlighted in all of the Centre's undertakings, as are citizens' rights to participate in decision making for the management of urban affairs.

Over the past few years, MUEC has developed an expertise in the fields of Collective and Active Transportation, Greening and Urban Agriculture, and Participatory Democracy and Citizenship.

As part of the Greening and Urban Agriculture sphere of action, MUEC developed a project entitled *La Ville en vert*, in collaboration with the Office municipal d'habitation de Montréal (OMHM). This three-year adventure, based on the participation of renters and OMHM professionals, aims to create cool islands of vegetation that also improve the environment of low-income housing complexes in Montréal. *La Ville en vert* is funded by the Institut national de santé publique du Québec through the Green Fund of Action 21 of the 2006–2012 Climate Change Action Plan.

La Ville en vert includes 10 participatory projects and 30 technical interventions that incorporate installations for urban agriculture, perennial planting beds and numerous tree plantings. This greening project aims to foster best practices for reducing urban heat islands, for increasing building renovation projects, and for increasing opportunities for residents to participate in the management of their outdoor spaces.

www.urbanecology.net

JULY JUILLET

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
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28	29	30	31			

SOLIDARITY IN HEALTH WORK

TITLE: Transnational Health Interventions in Northern Haiti

RESEARCHER: Pierre Minn, Ph.D.,
Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts

Pierre Minn's research focuses on the social and moral dimensions of transnational health interventions in northern Haiti. Minn has been working in Haiti since 1997; his previous research includes an analysis of local illness classifications in the context of environmental degradation and poverty, and a study examining medical humanitarianism and health as a human right for Haitian nationals in a Dominican border hospital.

In his ongoing research, Minn is particularly interested in the interface between international health organizations and biomedical practitioners in impoverished settings. His PhD thesis, "Where They Need Me: The Moral Economy of International Medical Aid in Haiti," is based on fieldwork carried out in Cap-Haïtien, Haiti from 2007 to 2009. There, Minn conducted ethnographic research on medical aid in a large public hospital, where over 40 international agencies and organizations carry out diverse health interventions.

His study examined the tensions between material and intangible gifts and services, the roles of young Haitian health professionals as they simultaneously implement international programs and negotiate pressures to emigrate, and the moral and emotional dimensions of international aid as experienced by providers, recipients and administrators. In even the most dedicated and thoughtful aid interventions, Minn found that resentment coexisted with gratitude, and suspicion alongside trust.

"Community" is a central component of health care interventions around the world, both as the target for various programs and as a way of thinking about the new groups and relationships that form when resources such as medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and health workers travel to distant sites. Overall, Pierre Minn found that strengthening communities and fostering positive changes involves acknowledging and directly addressing the tensions inherent to working across inequalities.



SARA MALIK, UNTITLED (2001)

LINOLEUM BLOCK PRINT Doing many different things in many different contexts – helping people build competencies on equity, anti-racism, and the politics of social justice; being a supportive friend and sister; messing around with colour, composition, and sound – sara malik is, more than anything, shy. In her artwork, sara says things she finds difficult to say aloud. This untitled piece examines the dubious social practice of first disregarding certain bodies, experiences, and ideas that might dissent meaningfully from the mainstream, and then centering them as objects of beauty, entertainment, or curiosity that are passive and have no power to change us.



JULY JUILLET

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
	1 Canada Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Ramadan (July 9 - August 7)	10	11 World Population Day	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

GROUP: Universities Allied for Essential Medicines– McGill Chapter

Universities have an important role as innovators of medical technologies and therapeutic drugs, many of which are instrumental in treating diseases that affect resource limited communities around the world. Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) is an international student group that recognizes this role and aims to encourage universities to adopt Global Access Licensing (GAL) principles. GAL principles ensure that medicines and biomedical technologies developed in publicly funded research centers are made accessible and affordable in the Global South. Additionally, UAEM works to hold university medical research accountable to the needs of the majority of the world's people by promoting neglected disease research.

The goals of the UAEM are consistent with McGill University's commitment to engage in research "judged to be excellent when measured against the highest international standards and by providing service to society in those ways for which we are well suited by virtue of our academic strengths" as articulated in McGill's mission statement. GAL principles would create a framework that is transparent, and promote making generic versions of medical technologies, with the potential for further development into drugs, vaccines or medical diagnostics, available in resource-limited countries. In addition to promoting GAL principles, UAEM empowers students to address the medical access gap and the global innovation crisis. As conscientious students and global citizens, UAEM's members understand the importance of accessibility to drugs and adequate health care as a basic human right that should not be denied to any other citizen.

www.essentialmedicine.org

AUGUST AOÛT

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HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELLNESS

TITLE: Access to Health Care Services for Aboriginal Peoples in Montreal

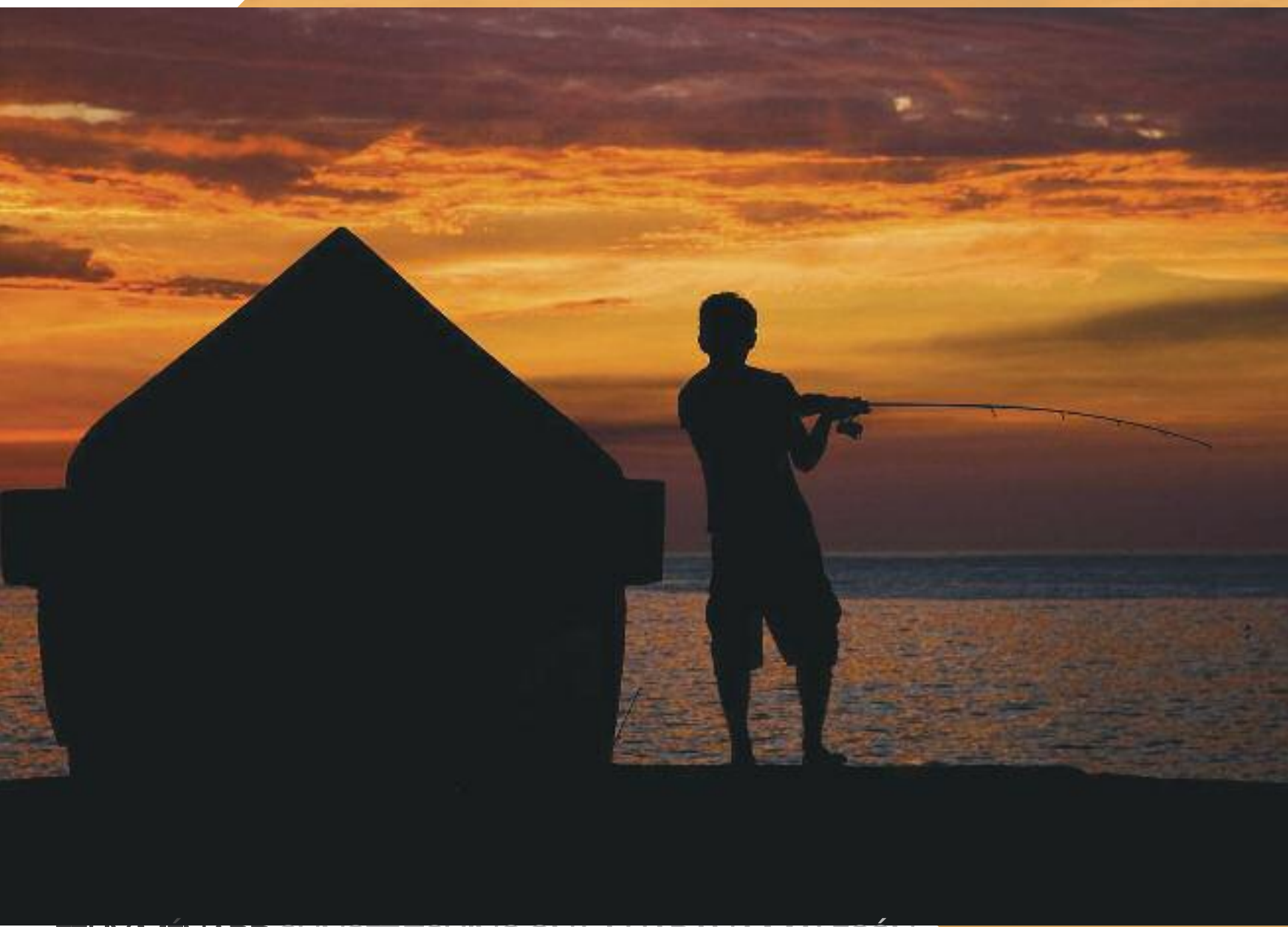
RESEARCHER: Mary Ellen Macdonald, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Division of Oral Health and Society, Faculty of Dentistry

As a medical anthropologist, Mary Ellen Macdonald has been concerned with the accessibility of health care services for vulnerable members of the Montreal community for over 10 years. Her research has focused largely on Montreal's urban Aboriginal population and has developed in close partnership with other McGill-based researchers and students and the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal (NFCM).

The NFCM is a community-based organisation that, for 37 years, has acted as a health and social service referral point for urban Aboriginal peoples in Montreal. Together, the NFCM and Macdonald have sought to better understand health issues experienced by Aboriginal peoples, as well as to design solutions to improve access to health care services. An important part of this project has been to increase the awareness of McGill health professions students of the day-to-day activities of the NFCM.

Health services can be experienced as inaccessible for many reasons. For example, barriers such as physical accessibility (e.g., stairs), social setting (e.g., neighbourhood) and cultural inclusion (e.g., language) greatly impact the experience of accessibility and impede service utilization. From their work, it is clear that many Aboriginal community members are not fully utilizing health care services in Montreal. In fact, many often avoid services—including treatment for important health problems—because of experiences of stigma, racism and discrimination. For example, in their work on tuberculosis they found that Aboriginal clientele often feel excluded from current models of care and avoid mainstream health services as a result. Further, their work identifying community health priorities suggests that there is significant unmet oral health needs in this community.

Through her research, Macdonald has had many opportunities to observe the devastating real-life consequences of social practices like exclusion and marginalization. Re-thinking community means paying attention to these experiences and working together to promote social change.



FELIX MENARD SUNSET FISHING ON LA HABANA MALECON

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY FELIX spends his time tinkering dedicatedly, loving photography, studying forever, building the internet, looking at art, consulting for a living, cat caring, conspiring and bike riding.



GROUP: The Native Friendship Centre of Montreal

The Native Friendship Centre of Montreal (NFCM) is a non-profit, non-sectarian, autonomous community development agency whose principal mission is to promote, develop, and enhance the quality of life in the urban Aboriginal community of Montreal. The NFCM, being a part of a regional and national initiative that bridges the gap between two cultures, is the only service and referral point in the Greater Montreal Area dedicated to serving the Aboriginal population consisting of the 10 First Nations of Quebec, the Inuit and Métis of Montreal as well as people from across the Americas. The 10 First Nations of Quebec include the Cree, Mi'qmaq, Naskapi, Algonquin, Montagnais, Abenaki, Mohawk, Attikamekw, Huron and Malecite.

Through its programs, activities and services, the NFCM aims to uplift the quality of life of the urban Aboriginal population of Montreal; those migrating to or in transition by safeguarding their health, social, and legal conditions; and by assisting these individuals in the achievement of their dignity and their quality of life. The NFCM is mandated to assist Native people who are making a transition to the urban community and improve the quality of life of the urban Aboriginal population of Montreal by providing access and referral to health and social services, through central, suitable, and appropriate facilities where cultural, educational, recreational and social activities can be held.

AUGUST AOÛT

DIMANCHE SUNDAY	MONDAY LUNDI	TUESDAY MARDI	WEDNESDAY MERCREDI	THURSDAY JEUDI	FRIDAY VENDREDI	SAMEDI SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 International Transgender Rights and Education Day	8	9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People	10
11	12 International Youth Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 International Day of the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER SEPTEMBRE

SD	ML	TM	WM	TJ	FV	SS
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					