

Report of the Community Engagement Committee

The Community Engagement Committee is chaired by the Community Affairs Commissioner (CAC), Claire Grenier. The Committee is this monster conflation of Community Affairs (addressing problems and headaches) and Community Engagement (learning through experience is wonderful milieus with great humans). This year, a few projects were identified as central to the Committee's work, both by students and by the Milton-Parc neighbourhood.

Project 1: Renewing and revisiting our commitments to Milton-Parc under the Community Actions and Relations Endeavour (C.A.R.E.) Agreement

The C.A.R.E. agreement is about to be 10 years old! Many community members, some McGill Administrators, and some students & student leaders have a vested interest in revisiting this Memorandum of Understanding to see how these groups can work together for a happier neighbourhood. Setting up consultation sessions for this work will be one of the major projects of the Committee.

As part of this consultation, an Airbnb impact study will be conducted to see how much of this acute rise in housing prices is being caused by students, and how the information around this phenomenon can be better communicated.

Project 2: Open Door Shelter

With regard to the introduction of a new homeless community in Milton-Parc, the Community Affairs Commissioner will be working with Open Door shelter and Solidarite Milton-Parc to explore how students are best-suited to support this underserved group. The Commissioner will also be working with a McGill professor and the CCMP, with the support of the VP External as needed.

One idea for a service to this community was to work with the Faculty of Dentistry toward a mobile dental clinic for the homeless community. The Dean of Dentistry has shown interest in this project.

Project 3: Waste Reduction

Aside from the standard noise complaints and drunken conduct, residents have cited poor waste management as a major grievance in the community. The Committee resolved to continue the work of the Trash2Treasure project, exploring long-term sustainability options like selling off some of the collected items at a discounted price to incoming students. The idea of adding a September collection to the May collection was proposed, and will require a further financial assessment.

Otherwise, the Committee will be flyering around Milton-Parc with information about the correct days for garbage, recycling, and organic waste pickup, which is always appreciated by residents.