

Thomas Daniel Green

In 1882, Thomas Daniel Green became one of the first Indigenous students to graduate from McGill.

Montreal, QC, 1882," Notman & Sandham
May 6, 1882, II-65038.1 McCord Museum
© McCord Museum

This handbook is dedicated to the Indigenous people and students of Tiohtià:ke. We hope that looking at some of the art, pictures, and history of the First Nation people will give you an appreciation for Indigenous history at the university and serve as a reminder of the importance of solidarity with Indigenous people.

Letter from the Editors

Greetings! McGill welcomes you with open arms.

Thank you for taking the time to look at the student handbook. Here, you will find important information regarding your time at McGill, how to get involved with the SSMU, and what Montreal has to offer. You will find many resources for support of all kinds, whether it be going to the Student Wellness Hub or finding information regarding your transcript and choosing the right classes. We are here to help and guide you along the way.

This handbook was made during one of the most uncertain and worrisome times in our history. COVID-19 has meant that we have not been able to come together as a community and enjoy the McGill experience that has been so life-changing for so many students.

This upcoming school year will be my third and final year at McGill, and I can safely say that this university has been my home. Coming as a transfer student from an American university, I felt that integrating into McGill would pose some challenges but it has actually been quite the opposite. I have been fortunate enough during the COVID-19 pandemic to do what I have wanted: make new friends, take fascinating courses, and find work opportunities through the university. Do not believe that you won't find your place at McGill; you will surely find your way eventually, even during the pandemic.

As in-person classes come back in the Fall, there is much uncertainty and confusion as to how McGill will deliver classes and what kind of activities will be able to take place. It is my job to present information for incoming and returning students to understand what has and has not changed at the university. I hope that this handbook will be useful and I wish you the best of luck as we move towards a post COVID-19 environment at McGill.

- Mathieu Lavault

Mathieu Lavault (he/him/il), **CONTENT EDITOR**
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Wendy Gamboa (she/her/elle) **MANAGING EDITOR**



Letter from the President

Greetings SSMU Members,

On behalf of the SSMU Executives, it is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 2021-2022 Academic Year!

I am Darshan Daryanani, a fifth year student pursuing a Bachelors of Arts Joint Honours Degree in Political Science and International Development Studies with double minors in Communication Studies and Social Entrepreneurship. This year, I am excited to serve and represent you as President of SSMU!

After more than a year of remote learning, I hope that there is a renewed sense of excitement and safety to return to campus for an in-person student life experience. This year, we are excited to welcome you to our beloved Gerts Bar, our newly-renovated University Center, and the 3501 Peel Building, where we can finally re-engage with each other and restore the on-campus McGill experience that we have missed for so long.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the SSMU's Students First approach. As your student union, we are here to speak out for you and advocate for your interests and rights. On the local university levels, this means being your representation to the McGill administration. We will work hard for fairer academic justice processes, better quality instruction, and better services for students. On the broader level, we are also strong advocates for accessible quality public education. Together, 24,000 strong, we can move one step closer to ensure all students receive fair and equitable treatment.

Over the last four years, I have learned the significance of a shared goal and the true power of students' solidarity. I am inspired by the tenacity of students in adapting to a virtual reality, and the limitless resilience that McGill students have in the face of adversity. This year, my goal is to continue the work of building a strong community that can better advocate for students' interests, especially for those who are marginalized, and to bring back student life. After all, we, the student body, make McGill what it is.

I look forward to meeting you at our annual Activities Nights, at Gerts, and even on the bi-weekly Legislative Council! I would like to wish you all the best for this academic year!

Best wishes,

Darshan Sanju Daryanani
(he/him/il)

**PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY
OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY (SSMU)**



First Week

WELCOME FELLOW MCGILLIANS !

	<p>Check McGill Key Academic dates both online and in this handbook. (mcgill.ca/importantdates/key-dates)</p>
	<p>Enter your Montreal address and emergency contact information on Minerva.</p>
	<p>Set up your McGill email account (mcgill.service-now.com/).</p>
	<p>Join the Facebook group for the entering class of 2021-2022 (facebook.com/groups/mcgill2122) and follow Campus Life & Engagement on social media (mcgill.ca/firstyear/undergraduate/pre-arrival/social-media) to stay up to date on summer programming.</p>
	<p>Register for McGill Pre-Registration Orientation (PRO), which is important for getting into your classes. (mcgill.ca/firstyear/undergraduate/orientation-week/mcgill-pro-pre-registration-orientation)</p>
	<p>Create your first-year budget by going to the Student Budget Plan (mcgill.ca/studentaid/finances/build-your-budgets). For inquiries regarding financial aid, go to the McGill's Financial Aid programs (mcgill.ca/studentaid/scholarships-aid/future-undergrads/need)</p>
	<p>Submit your personal documents (mcgill.ca/legaldocuments/) and final grades (mcgill.ca/accepted/nextsteps/finalmarks) to Enrollment Services. International students should also submit their study permit and CAQ (mcgill.ca/internationalstudents/pre-arrival/immigration-documents).</p>
	<p>Are you a non-Quebec Canadian? Notify your provincial Ministry of Health that you will be studying outside your province. You must bring your current provincial health card when you are at McGill.</p>
	<p>Think you may need any accommodations? We encourage you to reach out to the Office for Students with Disabilities (mcgill.ca/osd/).</p>
	<p>Taking prescription medication? Bring as much as you are allowed with you to Montreal, or find what you take at a pharmacy in the city. If you need the assistance of a medical professional on a regular basis, find clinicians off-campus. (wellnessmap.mcgill.ca/healthmap/)</p>

Service Point

RESOURCES

3415 McTavish Street
(514) 398-7878
mcgill.ca/servicepoint

Service Point is your first point of contact as an incoming student at McGill. Due to the pandemic, delivery of some functions has been adapted, but its job remains the same: to assist you and answer all your questions.

How to use Service Point:

In-person appointments for incoming or returning students

Book an appointment (mcgill.ca/servicepoint/contact)

Alternatively, if you need to pick up documents, meet with the Commissioner of Oaths (for signing documents regarding your claim for Quebec Residency tuition status), or anything else related to student services, book an appointment [here](http://mcgill.ca/servicepoint/idcard) (mcgill.ca/servicepoint/idcard).

You must take these things into account before entering Service Point in person:

- Book an appointment.
- Wear a mask. You can find masks offered by the university [here](http://mcgill.ca/servicepoint/idcard) (mcgill.ca/servicepoint/idcard).
- Present your McGill ID if you have yours already. If you are going to Service Point to obtain it, then you must present a valid government-issued identification (e.g. your Study Permit).

WHAT TO DO :

McGill ID mcgill.ca/servicepoint/idcard

In person appointments for for incoming or returning Students

Book an appointment to get your McGill ID (Crucial step to gain access to buildings and events)

Alternatively, if you need to pick up documents, meet with the Commissioner for Oaths (for signing documents regarding your claim for Quebec Residency tuition status), or anything related to student services, book an appointment at: mcgill.ca/servicepoint/idcard

QUESTIONS ABOUT LEGAL DOCUMENTS

Service Point will help you figure out what papers you need for concerns like how to apply for Quebec resident tuition.

STUDENT EXCHANGES

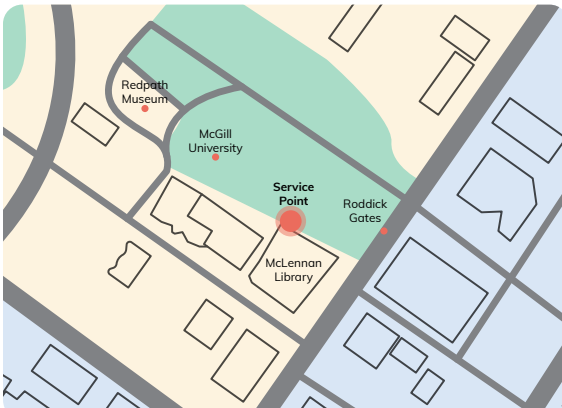
They'll help you understand mobility funding and steps to studying abroad.

UG ARTS & SCIENCE COURSE WITHDRAWALS Want out of a class? Talk to Service Point to start the process.

MINERVA PIN RESET

Forgotten your Minerva pin or need to reset it? Service point has a direct link: mcgill.ca/students/servicepoint/pinreset.

↓ FIND SERVICE POINT ON CAMPUS



Pandemic

GUIDELINES

It has been more than a year since the pandemic hit the world and McGill. Since McGill suspended in-person classes on March 13, 2020, classes have been delivered remotely. McGill has taken extra precautions to make sure that students and staff are safe. It is not yet clear exactly what student activities will take place in-person, as the situation is changing so rapidly. Here are answers to some frequently asked questions about the pandemic and McGill.

Please note that this FAQ is current to June 2021. For up-to-date information on McGill's COVID measures, visit mcgill.ca/coronavirus/.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

ACADEMICS

Are in-person classes mandatory?

For Fall 2021, McGill has promised to bring back in-person classes to the fullest extent possible under city and provincial guidelines. Students will be expected to be present on campus. However, very large lectures will likely be delivered remotely. Following provincial guidelines, students on the McGill campus will have to wear a *procedural* mask at all times when inside a building. If you have any concerns regarding your immunocompromised status, you can reach out to OSD to discuss learning accommodations for this upcoming year. (mcgill.ca/coronavirus/)

Why are classes offered in person this fall amidst the pandemic?

On May 31, the Quebec Minister of Higher Education indicated that universities needed to prepare for an in-person Fall term, whether it be with no physical distancing in classrooms and common areas or with one metre of distance. For Fall 2021, it will be important that laboratories, tutorials, conferences, and other activities are done with a live audience.

How can SSMU support you during the pandemic?

It's SSMU's job to ensure that students are given safe and accessible learning environments during this year of transition. If you are faced with unsafe learning conditions—either in-person or online, contact the Vice President (University Affairs) (ua@ssmu.ca), the SSMU Student Rights' Researcher and Advocacy Commissioner (srrac@ssmu.ca), or the Accessibility Commissioner (accessibility@ssmu.ca) for support. Every student is entitled to a safe and accessible learning environment,

and SSMU remains in discussions with McGill about how to best ensure these conditions.

What if there is another wave of the pandemic?

The administration has said that they planned for flexibility this fall in case anything happens. McGill and its faculty are working together to prioritize what most needs to be in person. Furthermore, McGill has put many measures in place regarding the operation of its *HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) systems* that are in line with recommendations from public health agencies. Reach out to the team at SSMU if you have questions or concerns about your learning conditions. (mcgill.ca/facilities/covid-19/covid-19operation-hvac-systems)

How will students know whether their classes are virtual?

For Fall Registration, there will be indicators on Minerva that will show what mode of delivery courses will use. Although some lectures will be online, there will still be an in-person component to most classes, so be in Montreal by September. If you're concerned this system of learning may be inaccessible to you, you can contact the Office for Students with Disabilities.

Will in-person lectures be recorded?

While some professors have done this in the past, the administration is looking at building up their recording system capacity to make it possible for more lectures to be recorded. This will depend on the needs of each faculty and instructor in the fall. While some lectures will be recorded, do not expect smaller classes to be available. SSMU remains in communication with McGill's Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) to ensure that students have accommodations that may be required.

Exams and Finals: How will they proceed?

McGill believes that for both midterms and finals in Fall 2021, there will be a combination of in-person and remote examinations to take into account the sizes of different classes. It might not be possible to administer large examination sites like the Fieldhouse for all classes.

How will students manage both in person and virtual activities?

McGill will continue to offer quiet study spaces in the libraries on campus as well as flex spaces where students will be able to participate in remote learning activities. Public health guidelines permitting, SSMU will likely also provide additional study spaces to students who want to access them. Again, stay tuned for information about the availability of spaces!

Will there be extracurriculars offered on campus?

For now, McGill is primarily focused on academic activities. Information is limited regarding extracurricular activities at the time of publication. As the situation surrounding the pandemic improves, extracurricular activities will be occurring. Keep up with the MRO Communications emails that McGill sends and the SSMU Listserv for more detailed updates about what will be occurring in the fall.

VACCINATION

Will you need to be vaccinated?

There is a high chance that all at-risk people will be vaccinated before school starts in the Fall. McGill has said that they will not require students to show proof that they have been vaccinated before starting classes. The university also is not sure whether it will have a vaccination center or not, as they are currently discussing this with the Quebec government. If you want to get vaccinated, book an appointment on the [Santé Montreal](https://santemontreal.qc.ca) website (santemontreal.qc.ca). As of May 14, 2021, all adults can register, regardless of residency or citizenship. You do not need Quebec or Canadian health insurance to book a vaccination appointment. Vaccines are free.

Will classes still occur if most students are not vaccinated?

McGill has devised five scenarios for different kinds of public health situations. However, as per the government announcements of early June, the University is now working with two plans for the fall: realistic and optimistic. The University is currently following the realistic plan based on one metre of physical distancing. It will be characterized by the mandatory use of the mask and the limitation of Non-essential gatherings and events. The optimistic plan will be triggered by the vaccination of 75% of people aged 16 to 29 years old who are living in Quebec. Conversely to the realistic plan, this plan will allow for no distancing and fewer restrictions on events. Regulations on the use of the mask are still being discussed. Details can be found [here \(mcgill.ca/coronavirus/return-campus-fall-2021/return-mcgill\)](https://mcgill.ca/coronavirus/return-campus-fall-2021/return-mcgill). The administration believes that students will be able to do in-person classes and activities even if public health restrictions are still in place and vaccinations are still rolling out. McGill follows a framework of safety guidelines. The Quebec government has said that there is a great likelihood that most Montrealers will be vaccinated by the end of the summer. If vaccination goes according to plan, McGill students can expect to have a semester with more in-person learning than in the 2020-2021 year.

Is there any financial support for students during COVID-19?

Yes, to acknowledge the financial difficulties experienced by students during the pandemic, the Government of Quebec has announced a \$100 lump sum payment per term for all full-time CEGEP and university students enrolled in the Fall 2020 and/or Winter 2021 terms.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND TRAVEL

What should I expect as an international student?

When coming back to Canada, follow the guidelines set by the Government of Canada so you are up to date as to what the requirements are. McGill is working closely with the federal government to make sure that international students will be able to enter Canada, have all their government documents, and understand quarantine requirements. (canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/coronavirus-covid19/students.html)

RESIDENCES

What are my options if I want to live on campus?

Student residences will be open in Fall 2021 and accommodation will be guaranteed to all eligible first-year students who have requested it.

Emergency Support

Always dial **911** in cases of emergencies. After contacting the police, call **McGill Security Services** if you are on campus.

MCGILL SECURITY SERVICES

DOWNTOWN LOCATION

Burnside Hall, 805 Sherbrooke St. West,
Room 120, Montreal, Qc H3A 0B9
campus.security@mcgill.ca

General Inquiries: **514-398-4556**
Emergencies: **514-398-3000**

MACDONALD LOCATION

Laird Hall, 21111 Lakeshore Road, Room 101,
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Qc H9X 3V9
macdonald.security@mcgill.ca

General Inquiries: **514-398-7770**
Emergencies: **514-398-7777**

DRIVESAFE

(514) 398-8040
drivesafe.ssmu.ca
drivesafe@gmail.com

SSMU DriveSafe is a service offered by the SSMU. Their patrols will drive you home safely to anywhere on the Island of Montreal or in the Mohawk Territory of Kahnawake. Unless otherwise stated, the service is free and is operational every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11 PM - 3 AM (Fall and Winter Semesters).

WALKSAFE

(514) 398-2498
walksafe.ssmu.ca
executive@walksafe.ca

SSMU Walksafe is a volunteer service that offers free and confidential accompaniment for people walking by themselves. Volunteers will go with you anywhere you need on the Island of Montreal.

MSERT

(514) 398-5216
msert@ssmu.ca
msert.sus.mcgill.ca

The McGill Student Emergency Response Team (M-SERT) is a volunteer service given by the SSMU for those students who need emergency first aid services. They support first aid coverage to all those in residences, Frosh, and on and off campus events.

MCGILL WELLNESS HUB

Brown Student Services Building
3600 McTavish Street, 3rd floor,
Montreal, Quebec H3A 0G3

514-398-6017
mcgill.ca/wellness-hub

The McGill Wellness Hub is a centralized location for health and wellbeing on campus. The Hub offers resources for physical and mental wellness.

If you are interested in talking to someone, **book your appointment** (mcgill.ca/wellness-hub/contact-us) with a Local Wellness Advisor. They are trained professionals but not therapists. They are able to provide wellness advice and help you navigate support resources whether on the McGill campus or outside of it depending on your situation. Each faculty has wellness programming you can be a part of and each department works on wellness awareness. If you are looking for **mental health** resources go to **page 84-85**.

MCGILL SPORTS MEDICINE CLINIC

(514) 398-7007
mcgillathletics.ca/sports
475 Ave Pins W, Montreal, Quebec H2W 1S4

To make an appointment with a physiotherapist, athletic therapist, massage therapist, click **here** (mcgillathletics.ca/sports/2018/8/20/sport-med-book-appointment).

See **page 78-91** for additional support resources.



YELLOW DANCER™ BY MI'GMAQ ARTIST, JON LABILLOIS