



McGill



BRANCHES

*Pick Your
Path
(Indigenous)*

Program Guidelines



Welcome to Pick Your Path (Indigenous) in this guideline, you will find the following:

Program Description:

- 1) Overview
- 2) Pick Your Path (Indigenous) Goals and Objectives
- 3) Program Components

Program Delivery:

- 1) Roles and Responsibilities, and Expectations
 - a) Mentors
 - b) Mentees
- 2) Before Pick Your Path (Indigenous)
- 3) During Pick Your Path (Indigenous)
- 4) After Pick Your Path (Indigenous)



Program Description

Overview:

Pick Your Path (Indigenous) - CEGEP is a 6-month mentorship program that will take place from October 2022 - April 2023, offered by McGill University in collaboration with *Dawson College's Journeys: A First Peoples Transitioning* program and *John Abbott College's Crossroads* program.

Indigenous CEGEP students are paired with a mentor, a McGill student or alumnus in a similar field of educational and career interest. Mentees will have the opportunity to receive educational support from their mentor throughout the academic year and have personalized insight into the university experience and their degree/career of interest. Mentees will have the opportunity to meet with McGill faculty, staff, and students to learn more about the university experience, and to expose mentees to potential educational and career paths. Mentees will also have the opportunity to participate in workshops aimed at offering tools for academic success.

Goals/Objectives:

The PYP (Indigenous) goal is to offer culturally relevant mentorship for Indigenous CEGEP students to encourage the pursuit of higher education. PYP (Indigenous) aims to reduce barriers to higher education and increase access to university for Indigenous CEGEP students.



Program Components:

PYP (Indigenous) contains 5 phases: planting the seeds, the sprouting, the seedling, the sapling, and finally, the tree.

1. Planting the Seeds:

Phase one: planting the seeds is an introductory phase that takes place in the month of October and is dedicating to establishing and building the mentee and mentor relationship. In this phase, mentees will be introduced to the McGill University campus.

2. The Sprouting:

Phase two: the sprouting is the second phase that takes place from November to February. This phase is dedicated to introducing mentees to various potential educational and career pathways. Mentees will have the opportunity to explore different academic fields at McGill university and meet with various McGill faculty and students. An example of some of that academic fields that PYP mentees will explore is medicine, law, business, education, and social work.

3. The Seedling:

Phase three: the seedling is the third phase that takes place in February and is dedicated to helping the mentees develop an action plan for reaching their educational and career goals.

4. The Sapling:

Phase 4: The Sapling is the fourth phase that takes place in March. This phase will be dedicated to supporting the mentees



as the academic year ends and they prepare for the following year, whether that be in CEGEP, university, or other.

5. The Tree:

The final phase of PYP (Indigenous is the tree, this phase will be dedicated to celebrating the mentors and mentees and all their hard work and participation in PYP.

Program Delivery:


For Pick Your Path (Indigenous) 2022-23 the program will be delivered in a hybrid format with on-line and in-person components. For participants, both the mentors and mentees will receive a zoom link for on-line meetings in their welcome kits.

Mentors, mentees, and PYP staff will use Discord, an instant messaging social media platform, to communicate throughout the PYP program.

Roles and Responsibilities, and Expectations:

Mentors:


Mentor responsibilities include being available to meet their mentee(s) between October 2022 and April 2023 and being available to reply to the mentee whether that be through discord, emails, or another form of messaging. Mentors will meet bi-weekly with their mentees. Mentors are required to assist with the organizing of bi-weekly meetings with their mentees. Mentors should aim to



understand the needs of their mentees. Mentors are expected to assist the mentee during workshops and with PYP projects and assignments. Mentors are expected to be communicative for the duration of PYP with PYP staff by sending updates, notifying staff of absences, and meeting tri-weekly with PYP staff for check-ins. The tri-weekly sessions are aimed at collecting PYP, mentee, and mentor feedback. Mentors will also communicate with PYP staff if they require any support. Mentees are required to fill an end of program survey for PYP once the program is completed. Mentors are expected to behave appropriately and communicate with the mentee and parent(s)/guardian(s) with respect and in compliance with the McGill Student Code of Conduct.

Mentees:

Mentee responsibilities include being available to meet their mentor between October 2022 and April 2023 and being available to reply to their mentor whether that be through discord, emails, or another form of instant messaging. Mentees will be required to meet bi-weekly with their mentors. Mentees are expected to assist the mentor in the organizing of the bi-weekly meetings. Mentees are expected to work with their mentee during workshops and with PYP projects and assignments. Mentees are expected to be participative and engaging throughout the PYP program. Mentees are required to send updates to PYP staff by agreeing to notify PYP staff of any absences and being communicative and reachable for the duration



of PYP with staff and their mentor. Mentees are expected to reach out to PYP staff if they require any extra support. Mentees are expected to fill an end of program survey. Mentees are expected to behave appropriately and communicate with the mentor with respect and in compliance with the McGill Student Code of Conduct.

Before Pick Your Path (Indigenous)

Before the start of the Pick Your Path program mentees and mentors will each have an orientation event for PYP, they will also receive welcome kits that will include resources, readings, and anything else they may need to know for their positions.

Mentors:

For mentors, the orientation event will include a meet and greet with PYP staff and fellow PYP mentors. The mentors will participate in a mentorship training session, introduction, and overview of PYP (Indigenous), and other important information pertaining to the PYP program.

Mentees:

For mentors the orientation event will include a meet and greet with PYP staff, and fellow mentees. The mentees will receive an introduction and overview of PYP (Indigenous), and any other important information pertaining to the PYP program.



During Pick Your Path (Indigenous)

During PYP, mentors and mentees will participate in a series of workshops aimed at introducing mentees to various potential educational and career fields with the help of their mentor, PYP staff, McGill faculty, and students. Mentors and mentees will have the opportunity to participate in workshops that are aimed at offering tools for academic success. Mentors and mentees will also have the opportunity to participate in cultural and social events throughout the PYP program as well! Some important information to remember for PYP (Indigenous) is that mentors and mentees will be required to be communicative and participate in mentor and mentee bi-weekly meetings.

After Pick Your Path (Indigenous)

At the end of Pick Your Path (Indigenous) 2022-23, mentors and mentees will have a final check-in with PYP staff and will fill an end of program survey for the PYP program.

We look forward to meeting and working with you,
and helping you *Pick Your Path!*