

The Social Economy Initiative Impact Internship Program

2015 Impact Interns



The Social Economy Initiative Impact Internship Program

Officially launched in 2012 by the Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management (MDIIM), the Social Economy Initiative (SEI) is an important vehicle through which McGill's Desautels Faculty of Management integrates social entrepreneurship and social innovation into its teaching, research and outreach activities. The SEI Impact Internship Program aims to promote academic, career, and personal development within students interested in the social economy.

The SEI Impact Internship Program provides funding for a group of twelve exceptional undergraduate students to undertake ten-week summer internships with social-purpose organizations. These outstanding interns bring valuable skills, perspective, and managerial support to contribute to **powerful social impact** and **positive social change**. In turn, these students are able to experience first-hand that working in the social economy can create both a meaningful and viable career path.

MDIIM wishes to thank its partners, le Regroupement économique et social du Sud-Ouest (RESO) and Quartier de l'innovation (QI), in facilitating the placement of four impact interns in the following organizations: Les Ateliers Sept à Nous, Share the Warmth / Partageons l'espoir, Le Salon 1861, and the Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.



MDIIM also wishes to thank KPMG, the Commerce Class of '58, and the BCom Class of '76 for their support and contributions to the SEI Impact Internship Program.

Nisan Abdulkader – Impact Intern for Equitas



Nisan Abdulkader is a Kenyan born of Yemeni origin. She has had the opportunity and privilege to live and work across four continents prior to becoming a student at McGill. Nisan is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in International Development Studies and Marketing Management. Her long term aspiration is to provide substantial equal access to knowledge and opportunities for African youth, creating a pathway to economic and social prosperity.

Equitas

Equitas is a non-profit organization that works for the advancement of equality, social justice and respect for human dignity in Canada and around the world through transformative human rights education programs. It equips local human rights defenders and educators to build more inclusive communities and to contribute to social and economic development goals through democratic participation. As an Impact Intern for Equitas, Nisan conducted research and interviews with school boards to determine needs for human rights programming, and assisted with developing a theory of change for more economically sustainable programming.

Stephanie Ambrose – Impact Intern for Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre



Stephanie Ambrose is a third-year Management student majoring in Strategic Management with a minor in Field Studies. A recent graduate of McGill's Canadian Field Studies in Africa Program, Stephanie is passionate about social business. Now an alumnus of, She has been involved with AIESEC, the world's largest non-profit, student-run organization, , most recently as Vice President of the Outgoing Global Community Development Program. She hopes to one day work in Quebec's Social Economy in the field of education.

Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre

Since 1927, Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre has provided empowering educational programming for residents of Little Burgundy from birth through adulthood. Programs range from early literacy programs for 0 to 5 year olds to life skills training for adults. During her placement with Tyndale St-Georges, Stephanie consulted with various internal departments, identified needs for external collaboration and support, and reached out to potential partners to establish new and meaningful partnerships.

Charlotte Borgognoni – Impact Intern for Fondation Montreal



Charlotte Borgognoni is a U2 BCom student pursuing a Triple Concentration in Accounting, Finance and Strategy. She lived most of her life in Italy until moving to Montreal to study Arts & Sciences at Marianopolis College. She has been involved as a consultant with McGill's Junior Enterprise Desautels, a student-run consulting firm, and has worked on a hospital management project in Kurdistan, Iraq. Charlotte is particularly interested in philosophy and in the world of technology, and currently speaks four languages (French, English, Italian and Spanish).

Fondation Montreal

The Fondation Montréal inc. is a non-profit organization with a mission to encourage the success of a new generation of promising Montreal entrepreneurs, in concert with a committed business community. Thanks to the generosity of experienced business people, its donors and volunteers, the Foundation is able to invest in newly created businesses in Montreal through start-up grants and expert advice. Charlotte's mandate focused on developing new programming for startups through the new "Zone Montreal" and promoting the Fondation Montreal's services to young entrepreneurs.

Sarah Colton – Impact Intern for Donald Berman UP House



Sarah Colton is currently in her final year of her BCom degree, majoring in Human Resource Management and Labour-Management Relations. She will be graduating in December 2015 and is excited to pursue a career in non-profit human resource management or non-profit consulting. Sarah has acquired experience working in a non-profit setting with the YWCA, United Way/Centreaide, YOUths Leadership Development Group, and the War Child Chapter of McGill.

Donald Berman UP House

Donald Berman UP House is the first ICCD Clubhouse in Quebec, founded on the realization that recovery from serious mental illness must involve the whole person in a vital and culturally sensitive community. Members and staff work together in an open environment to keep UP House functioning. They prepare daily meals, publish the newsletter, maintain the premises, collate statistics, orient new members and guests and do many other important activities. Sarah spearheaded the development of a comprehensive volunteer program to help capitalize on existing resources and engage members of the student and corporate community.

Adam Fischer – Impact Intern for CoPower



Adam Fischer a third year student finishing a triple concentration in Entrepreneurship, Marketing and Sustainability. He participated in a student run competition to build a net-zero energy solar powered home (Solar Decathlon) and has always valued opportunities to grow as a person and pursue sustainability related initiatives. In his final semester, he will be going on exchange in Argentina with hopes to further his learning by working on solar projects with SunPower in Chile before coming back to Montreal to graduate.

CoPower

CoPower is a Benefit Corporation (BCorps) whose online platform allows individuals to pool money with like-minded investors and access clean energy investment opportunities. Using CoPower's platform, investors can monitor the performance of their investment, including the investment returns and your positive impact on the environment and the local community. Over his ten weeks at CoPower, Adam worked on a market analysis of energy efficiency firms as well as a survey of energy efficiency firms in the Canadian market.

Rhian Foley – Impact Intern for Jeanne Sauvé Foundation



Rhian Foley is originally from Newfoundland but has lived all over Canada, with her home base currently being in Alberta. She has recently graduated from McGill with a double major in Economics and International Development Studies and a minor in Management. Her interest in the social economy was sparked in her later years at McGill and she was able to take a range of classes that encouraged her to continue pursuing this interest through numerous clubs, charities, and start-up projects.

Jeanne Sauvé Foundation

The Jeanne Sauvé Foundation was established by the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé, the first woman to be Governor General of Canada and Speaker of Canada's Parliament. Its organizational mission is to help prepare young adults develop their potential and skills to be used towards making a difference and building a better future. Through their flagship initiative, the Sauvé Scholars Program, the Foundation is an incubator for leadership, innovation, and social entrepreneurship. As an Impact Intern for the Jeanne Sauvé Foundation, Rhian spearheaded an in-kind sponsorship campaign for the Foundation and also provided support in communications and building their online contact database.

Joelle Kattan – Impact Intern for Artistri Sud



Joelle Kattan is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce, with a triple concentration in Accounting, International Business, and Strategic Management. Her passion for travelling led her to explore many destinations around the world, and drove her to spend a semester studying abroad in Paris. Joelle has always been eager to give back to the community through charities and non-profit organizations. As she pursues her career after graduation, she intends to remain committed to supporting charitable initiatives.

Artistri Sud

Artistri Sud is a non-profit organization based in Montreal that empowers female entrepreneurs around the world through training programs in small business development, cultural asset management and livelihood strategies. As an Impact Intern for Artistri Sud, Joelle's main tasks involved developing and implementing a strategic partnership plan, performing accounting work, and managing their online outreach platforms.

Lili Lafrance-Jones – Impact Intern for Salon 1861



Lili Lafrance-Jones is a third year marketing and managing for sustainability student in the Desautels Faculty of Management. She is very interested in social entrepreneurship and learning about how for-profit companies can adhere to socially responsible missions and practices. She is passionate about travel, environmental protection, sustainable development, nutrition and health as well as yoga and fashion. After graduating from McGill she hopes to work in a field that will allow her to match her marketing skills with her passion for sustainability.

Quo Vadis / Salon 1861

Gestion immobilière Quo Vadis inc. is a Benefit Corporation real estate developer with the goal of preserving and restoring historical and architectural significant buildings. They are currently restoring a historical church in Little Burgundy, Le Salon 1861, which will house cultural, community, academic, and entrepreneurial activities. During her time there, Lili worked was responsible for creating promotional material and information regarding Le Salon 1861's co-working space, event hall, sponsorship and membership materials. She also met with various stakeholders and potential partners to establish future collaborations within the project as it moves forward. The Quo Vadis team was so impressed with her work that she has been hired to work with them following graduation!

Maude Oliver – Impact Intern for Share the Warmth / Partageons l'espoir



Maude Olivier was born in Montreal and decided to stay in her hometown city to pursue studies at McGill, pursuing a major in International Management and a minor in Political Science. She will be pursuing a Master's degree in International Development in September 2015 to gain further insight of the area where she would like to work in. Maude has always been attracted to the non-for-profit sector and in 2011 completed a social economy internship in Mali, within the Quebec Without Borders (QWB) program.

Share the Warmth / Partageons l'espoir

Share the Warmth is a local social enterprise. Its mission is to foster the overall development and success of children and youth, while promoting food security and access to healthcare services. As an Impact Intern for Share the Warmth, Maude worked on communication for events as well as helping out and working directly with community members in the organization's cafe and boutique.

Catherine Perras – Impact Intern for Les Ateliers Sept à Nous



Catherine Perras was born and raised on the south shore of Montreal but developed a strong interest for international affairs, eventually leading her to choose the international management program at McGill. During her time at McGill she became involved in projects related to social entrepreneurship and contributed to the launching of an NPO working towards improving the quality of life of physically disabled children in developing countries. After her internship she will travel to Latin America to continue working with social businesses while improving her Spanish.

Les Ateliers Sept à Nous

Sept à Nous is a collective founded in 2009 who have acquired and are now converting an industrial building in Pointe-Saint-Charles in a community space. The 'Bâtiment 7' will bring together citizens, local residents, and social economy actors to learn, work, and address social challenges together. During her placement with Sept à Nous, Catherine supported the development of a business plan for the organization's future activities as well as conceiving and administering a questionnaire for potential tenants in the area.

New for 2015: International Placements

Alexandra Konkina – Impact Intern for The Grameen Creative Lab



Originally from Russia, Alexandra Konkina is a third-year student pursuing studies in Organizational Behavior and Anthropology. She has cultivated an interest in the social economy largely thanks to McGill's course on Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Her curiosity toward social business has cultivated her desire to pursue more in-depth theoretical and experiential work within the field. This perspective has been broadened through her interest in anthropology and fascination with human behavior and social psychology

Monika Potocki – Impact Intern for The Grameen Creative Lab



Monika Potocki is a compassionate and creative individual. She has been actively involved in the Desautels Business Conference on Sustainability, AIESEC McGill, and other initiatives focused on sustainability and social economy needs. She will be graduating with a BCom degree with a triple concentration in Strategy, Managing for Sustainability, and Organizational Behaviour in December 2015. After graduation, she would like to pursue a project manager career relating to these fields.

The Grameen Creative Lab (Wiesbaden, Germany)

The Grameen Creative Lab was founded as a joint venture between the Yunus Centre in Bangladesh and circ-responsibility, a CR consulting company in Germany. The Grameen Creative Lab's vision is to serve society's most pressing needs through the acceleration of social business. In addition to being immersed in the Grameen Creative Lab's social business activities, both Alexandra and Monika worked on preparation for the 2015 edition of the Global Social Business Summit. Alexandra primarily worked on content for the event website and communications while Monika conducted research and analysis of new formats and rating proposals of partner organisations for the event.