



## McGill University - Branches Virtual Open House 2021 report

### Indigenous Community Outreach

#### 1. Brief description of the event

Tune into a panel discussion with current students eager to share their experiences. Chat live with both students and staff about McGill's First Peoples' House, getting involved in campus life, living in Montreal and much more. We look forward to meeting you there! The first 5 Indigenous prospective student registrants will receive a McGill University hoodie.

#### 2. Event date, time & location

Saturday, October 16, 2021 (11am-12noon) via Zoom

#### 3. McGill staff

Jeffrey Morneau, Indigenous Recruitment Officer, Branches

Kakwiranoron Cook, Indigenous Outreach Associate, Branches

#### 4. Number of participants

Six names were listed in attendance on the Zoom screen for essentially the entire session. It is unknown if their information was captured anywhere else but according to Hiba, zero had registered for the session by the Friday preceding the Open House. Four first and last names were indicated while two listed only first names. One most certainly was an Inuk student.

#### 5. How it went

Jeff and Kakwira co-presented a slideshow about the admissions processes and considerations for Indigenous applicants as well as the robust Indigenous student life at McGill and how that has historically (i.e. pre-pandemic) complemented the academic journeys of Indigenous students, and what might be on the horizon as we emerge from the pandemic. No current Indigenous registered students were available to join us to provide student testimony, but given the collective experience of Jeff and Kakwira a strong overview was offered, front loading the financial opportunities that would be available

to McGill Indigenous students. Questions were posed in the chat generally around identity questions and documentation which both Jeff and Kakwira responded to. Nobody inquired about the hoodies as incentives. For future virtual events, might we suggest creating a list of questions to pose to participants who keep their cameras off and communicate only through chat, so that we may capture contact points and origin (basis of admission) at that juncture.

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## **Black Community Outreach**

### 1- Short description of the event

This panel discussion is an opportunity for future students to learn about Black McGill students' personal experiences attending university, living in Montréal, the black experience on campus and getting involved. Our panelists will share how attending McGill allows them to become leaders in our society as well as in their communities thus, building Black Excellence.

### 2- Event date, time & location

October 16<sup>th</sup> 2021, 1PM-2PM

### 3- McGill staff & students

Camille Georges, Black Community Outreach Associate, Branches-ES

Edouarda Taguedong, Black Community Outreach Ambassador

Mérodie Lirette, Student Recruitment Associate, ES

Teresa Toloso & Dushime-Pierre Caleb, student speakers.

### 4- Number of participants

Around 17. Some participants joined late; others left before the end.

### 5- How it went

The panel discussion was facilitated by the Black Community Outreach Associate. Our two student speakers answered a few questions about the student life experience at McGill and living in Montreal. They shared their experience as a black student in a predominantly white institution, the resources available, ways to get involved and the vibrant black community at McGill.

Participants asked questions about how to get involved with the difference black student associations and other clubs in general. They also asked questions in regard to eligibility and admissions criteria which Mérodie was able to answer. Participants also asked questions on the environment as a black person at McGill, to which our student speakers gave advice and honest answers on how to navigate the challenges associated racism on campus. Participants asked for the student speakers' contact information to continue the conversation and comments such as "this was the best booth, thank you" was expressed.