



* Absent from photo: Antony Bell.

A Look Back on the 2021–2022 Academic Year

It has been another year of excitement, and not just because of the ongoing pandemic. We are pleased that CIRM is now under bi-faculty leadership, with **Nik Luka** (Faculty of Engineering), CIRM Interim Director from 2020 to 2021, joining **Pascal Brissette** (Faculty of Arts) at the head of the centre.

Society continues to face complex issues that cannot be addressed by a specialist working within rigid disciplinary frameworks—climate change, pandemics (both COVID and others to come), the issues around Black Lives Matter, and Truth and Reconciliation all require large-scale foundational changes. It is vital to bring together multidisciplinary teams that will tackle complex questions by cross-referencing data, methods, and concepts, thus working in truly transdisciplinary ways to combine different kinds of knowledge to take meaningful action, including direct interventions and recommendations for other stakeholders. This is where centres like ours come in, acting as starting points and spaces for mobilizing interdisciplinary projects that link people from different fields.

For the Faculty of Engineering, CIRM represents an opportunity to deepen the practitioner's capacity for engagement, which starts by training students well in collaborative work. Co-leadership

between two faculties also represents a transformation for a university that aims to recognize non-conventional contributions to the scientific community.

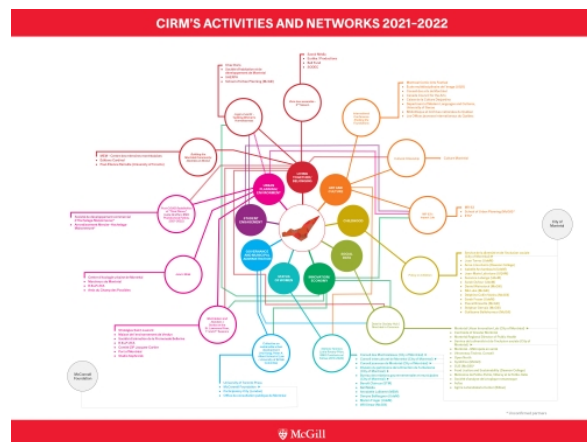
CIRM's bi-faculty alliance between Arts and Engineering implies collaborative activities not only in courses, programs, and research, but especially in the events we organize. We want to be a permanent bridge where links are strengthened and nurtured through various projects. We are here to help researchers and administrators find each other and establish a fruitful discussion, and then stay the course after the one-time research project is complete to keep nurturing relationships with partners and reignite them through other projects. Our past year's activities have demonstrated our capacity to do so and our resilience in this regard, even in the face of global hardship and transformation, with pre-pandemic projects being adapted and completed, and new opportunities seized.

Pascal Brissette and Nik Luka
Director and Associate Director, CIRM

News

Updated map of activities and networks

CIRM's network brings together nearly 60 partners around 13 projects on themes such as living together, culture, urban planning, innovation, governance, etc. Discover the projects and partners from 2021–2022 below. [A text version is also available.](#)



[View the map](#)

2022–2023 BMO postdoctoral fellowship

Congratulations to Sam Victor, who will be undertaking a postdoctoral fellowship at CIRM during the next academic year! Currently completing his PhD in Social Anthropology at

Popular science through comics initiative

As part of the *Shaking the Foundations* Conference, CIRM and the **Montréal Comic Arts Festival** (MCAF) invited affiliated researchers and comic artists to get familiar with popular science through comics during a training session given by **Martin PM**, comic artist and popular science writer.

It was followed by a series of short meetings during which researchers and comic artists were able to explore their intellectual and stylistic affinities.

Each pair formed during this activity produced a short science-based comic strip that will be exhibited in October 2022.

[Discover the participating projects](#)

Soixante-trois ans de conférences philosophiques (1933-1995) pilot project

At the 89th Acfas Conference, from May 9 to 13, **Julien Vallières** (CIRM / McGill) and Elisabeth Doyon (UQAM) presented the

Cambridge University, he will then be working under the direction of Professor [Hillary Kaell](#) (CIRM / Anthropology and Religious Studies, McGill) on a research project entitled *Centre St. Jax: Religious Persuasion, Heritage Churches, and the Social Value of Sacred Space in Downtown Montréal*. An interview with him will be published on our website at the start of the next semester.

[View the map](#)

results of a [pilot project](#) focusing on corpus extraction and analytical indexing text mining from Acfas print archives. Both researchers are part of our [Laboratory for Collective Narratives and Discourse Analysis](#). Their project benefitted from financial support from CIRM and UQAM's Institut des sciences cognitives.

[Watch the video](#)

Upcoming Events



Montréalers and Islanders conferences-experiences —season 2

Saturday, June 11 and 18 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Following the success of the first season, [available as a podcast](#), CIRM welcomes you once again to the shores of the St. Lawrence for another series of two conferences-experiences about the river and the metropolis as part of the [thematic week](#) organized by [Stratégies Saint-Laurent](#).

These events will combine field visits with interdisciplinary and multisectoral discussions. Hosted by [Kregg Hetherington](#) (Anthropology, Concordia) and [Laurent Vernet](#) (CIRM / Centre d'exposition, U. Montréal), they will provide an opportunity for collective reflection on Montréal's river-related issues from the perspective of underground waterways and culture. [Details and registration \(mandatory\)](#).

“A Tower on the Mountain”: Interwar Montréal through the lens of Ernest Cormier’s life and work screening and discussion

Fall 2022

The [McEwen School of Architecture](#) is partnering with CIRM for an evening dedicated to the documentary produced by filmmaker [Paul Carvalho](#) and professor [Aliki Economides](#) (CIRM / McEwen School of Architecture), as well as guests. Date and panellists to be confirmed.

Photogenic Montréal: Activisms and Archives in a Post-industrial City seminar

Fall 2022



Anouk Bélanger (CIRM / Social and Public Communication, UQAM) will host a multidisciplinary discussion about the latest book by Martha Langford and Johanne Sloan, both professors of Art History at Concordia University. Date and panellists to be confirmed.

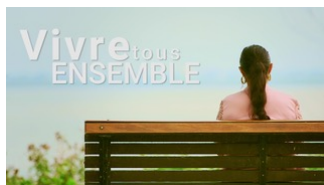
Current Project

Monitoring bulletin using text mining

The **Laboratory for Collective Narratives and Discourse Analysis** team took part in a recent webinar by **Montréal in common (MIC)** to present a new information tool for the **Data for Society Hub**, spearheaded by CIRM. Participants discussed the development of a monitoring bulletin using text mining to help civic and municipal actors better understand Montréal communities. The presentation of the project was followed by a critical assessment of the lessons learned by the team.

MIC Webinars are spaces for sharing learnings and knowledge for communities of practice working on issues of mobility, food, open data, and urban innovation in Montréal. [View the upcoming schedule or watch previous sessions.](#)

Reminders



Vivre tous ensemble web series—season 2

Savoir Média and Eurêka! Productions, with CIRM's support, have produced 12 short videos relating the journey and experience of immigrants belonging to as many communities based in Montréal and throughout the province. This original web series offers an authentic foray into the heart of the immigrant experience. Our member **Tassos Anastassiadis** (History and Classical Studies, McGill) shares his expertise on the Greek diaspora. [Watch the episodes \(in French\).](#)



Policy on Children report submitted

The advisory committee mandated to advise the City of Montréal on actions that could promote the fulfilment of children's potential submitted a report entitled *Explorations des rôles possibles de la Ville de Montréal pour une politique de l'enfant* to the municipal administration. Led by CIRM and conducted with the collaboration of the city's Department of Diversity and Social Inclusion, this project is the work of seven experts and their teams from three Montréal institutions. Dissemination activities will be announced at a later stage. [Read the report.](#)

Billboard

Call for papers: *Metropolitan Governance: Models, Policies and Political Processes* — submitted by Mariona Tomàs

- Special issue of the journal *Frontiers in Political Science*
- Edited by Mariona Tomàs and Robert Pyka
- Deadlines: September 27 for the abstract and December 26 for the manuscript

Publication: *Se faire une place dans la cité : la participation des groupes religieux à la vie urbaine* — submitted by Annick Germain

- Edited by Annick Germain and Frédéric Dejean
- Presses de l'Université de Montréal, May 2022

Video: *La Traversée workshop on geopoetics* — submitted by Licia Soares de Souza

- As part of the 25th anniversary of the Association internationale des études québécoises
- Related to Licia Soares de Souza's lecture *La géopoétique urbaine de Montréal dans la littérature québécoise*

Le CRIEM invite ses membres et partenaires à lui soumettre tout appel à communication ou à contribution, événement et lancement de livre, portant en tout ou en partie sur Montréal et ses enjeux, qu'il·elle·s souhaitent voir apparaître dans cette section.



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