



McGill

School of
Communication Sciences
and Disorders

École des
sciences de la
communication humaine



June 4, 2020

Dear students in the incoming Year 2 class,

I am writing to you to provide some updates about our planning for the fall term. I know that you are busy now, starting your on-line summer classes. You may not want to think too carefully about the upcoming fall term but we have no choice about planning early and flexibly in these uncertain times!

The university has informed you that most courses will be taught through remote learning during Fall 2020. You might have heard that students do not need to be present on campus due to the remote learning format: *this is not actually true for our school*. **Professional students in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences must be on campus to participate in clinical skills training.** The university recognizes that certain courses and skills cannot be taught remotely. Therefore you will need to be present to complete clinical labs and practicum in order to finish your program on time.

We are planning some on-campus in-person learning experiences for the Year 2 class. These labs and clinical practice activities will allow you to become comfortable with campus life and the procedures required to assure your health and safety. You will be better prepared for clinical practicums in off-site health care and educational sites as well.

The first in-person activities that we have planned include laboratory activities that are taught routinely, but adapted to minimize the number of trips that you need to make onto campus. Specifically, in SCSD 616 Audiology, you will attend 4 labs in our school and complete two days of hearing screenings off-site, under supervision and with strict health and safety protocols in place. For SCSD 683 Practicum & Seminar III, 6 students will complete telehealth practicums from our on-campus clinic. Other students will be placed in other sites in the Montreal area.

We anticipate additional on campus activities that involve meeting your advisor in small groups and meeting your peers for social activities. More about these in another message. In the meantime, I wish you success with your summer courses. I hope to talk with you later in the summer to receive feedback and answer your questions.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Rvachew, Ph.D., S-LP(C), ASHA Fellow
Associate Dean and Director