



Memorandum

Office of the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

James Administration Building, room 419
845 Sherbrooke Street W. Montreal (QC) H3A 2T5
Tel: (514) 398-2995 | Fax: (514) 398-8257

TO: Senate

FROM: Dr. Martha Crago, Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

SUBJECT: Extension of the Strategic Research Plan 2013-2017

DATE: November 23, 2017

DOCUMENT #: D17-23

ACTION REQUIRED: INFORMATION ENDORSEMENT

ISSUE McGill's *Strategic Research Plan (SRP) 2013-2017* was endorsed by Senate and the Board of Governors until December 2017. As the University embarks on the process to renew the SRP, Senate's endorsement is requested to extend the current SRP until December 2018.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

An SRP is a requirement to apply for funding to the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and to nominate Canada Research Chairs (CRCs). Each university must prepare an SRP, which demonstrates how it will use funding from the CRCs to attract and retain world-class experts. Similarly, demonstrating alignment to an institutional SRP is a requirement of the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) applications. As such, the SRP is an essential institutional document that the University needs to have in place to fulfill its research mission.

The current SRP (2013-2017) was endorsed by McGill's Senate in November 2012 and by the Board of Governors in February 2013 for a five-year term. Its content remain relevant while a new plan is being developed. It includes five core commitments—Ideas, Innovation, Sustainability, Collaboration and Partnership, and Social Engagement—as well as seven thematic areas (“Areas of Research Excellence”):

- Examine fundamental questions about humanity, identity, and expression
- Strengthen public policy and organizations, and create a deeper understanding of social transformation
- Capitalize on the convergence of life sciences, natural sciences, and engineering
- Support health research and improved delivery of care
- Unlock the potential of the human brain and the entire nervous system
- Advance knowledge of the foundations and applications of technology in the Digital Age
- Explore the natural environment, space, and the universe.

PRIOR CONSULTATION	At the beginning of her mandate in July 2017, the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation) initiated a process for the development of a new SRP. This process includes collaboration with Faculties and consultation with the University community.
SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS	The current SRP already recognizes Sustainability as a core McGill commitment: sustainability is a central component of much of the research at McGill, where faculty and student researchers study all aspects of the subject. Sustainability will remain important throughout the consultation process to establish the new Strategic Research Plan.
IMPACT OF DECISION AND NEXT STEPS	<p>A valid SRP is a requirement to apply for funding to the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and to nominate Canada Research Chairs (CRCs).</p> <p>The extension of the SRP 2013-2017 will be presented to the Board of Governors for endorsement at its December 12, 2017 meeting.</p>
MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL	<i>Be it resolved that Senate endorse, on the recommendation of the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation), the extension of the McGill Strategic Research Plan until 31 December 2018.</i>
APPENDICES	Appendix A: McGill Strategic Research Plan (2013-2017)
