



# Memorandum

**Office of the Vice-Principal  
(Research and International Relations)**  
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**TO:** Senate

**FROM:** Dr. Rose Goldstein, Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations)

**SUBJECT:** Update on the Quartier de l'innovation (QI)

**DATE:** May 15, 2013

**DOCUMENT #:** D12-63

**ACTION REQUIRED:**  INFORMATION  APPROVAL/DECISION

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**ISSUE:** Update on the Quartier de l'Innovation

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**BACKGROUND  
&  
RATIONALE:**

In 2010, McGill and École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS) embarked upon a collaboration to create a unique innovation hub and urban environment in the heart of downtown Montreal, called the Quartier de l'innovation (QI). Today, the QI is becoming a reality. The initiative aims to leverage McGill's research and training strengths in order to forge partnerships between academia, students, community organizations, and government, as well as to develop the means to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across all sectors, based on the QI's four pillars: Industrial, Education and Research, Social and Cultural, and Urban.

The QI is an important McGill initiative that is part of our goal to transform our approach to innovation, public service, and the intersections between the two. Senators can act as advocates for the project, and we wish to keep them well informed about major QI initiatives and accomplishments.

To this aim, Dr. Rose Goldstein, Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations), will share details on the progress being made in relation to the QI's governance, mandates, and community engagement. In particular, she will highlight past QI-related events such as the Montreal Summits on Innovation, and the QI official launch, which takes place on May 13; the support of student and community leaders (e.g. Students Working Group and QI Ambassadors); initiatives to identify the QI's concentrations (e.g. in culture, urban planning, social innovation, industrial partnerships, etc.); and concrete projects that are now underway or in development (e.g. BioFuelNet Canada, incubation infrastructures for students, the Centre for Aerospace Professional Education, etc.). Dr. Goldstein will also briefly review the creation of a new Standing Committee on Innovation, which will be chaired by Dr. Phil Barker, who led the initial internal QI planning committee and is now a member of the QI Steering Committee.

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**MOTION OR  
RESOLUTION  
FOR APPROVAL:** N/A

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**PRIOR  
CONSULTATION:** Principal, Provost, Vice-Principals, Deans, Associate Deans Research, Chair of Innovation Steering Committee, students, and faculty members

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**NEXT STEPS:** N/A

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**APPENDICES:** Appendix A: PowerPoint Presentation

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# QUARTIER DE L'INNOVATION

Presentation to McGill Senate

May 15, 2013

Dr. Rose Goldstein

Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations)



McGill

ÉTS

Le génie pour l'industrie

# AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MCGILL

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**The Quartier de l'innovation is a real opportunity for the McGill community, positioning us to:**

- Create a new environment for innovation and synergy between the academic, industrial, and social communities
- Capitalize on the full potential of our research excellence and international reputation
- Enhance our standing in Montreal and across Quebec



# GETTING YOUR BEARINGS





# A PROMISING DISTRICT

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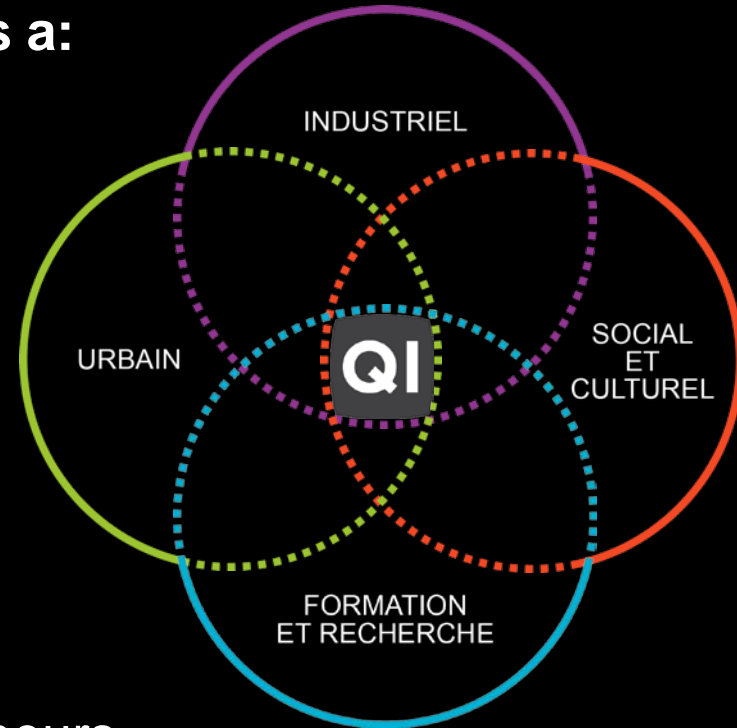
## The QI is located in an area:

- Renowned as an dynamic industrial hub in the 19th century
- Positioned at a convergence of technological businesses
- Rich with cultural and artistic creativity, but largely unknown to the public
- Facing sizeable urban planning challenges
- Comprising three of Montreal's poorest neighbourhoods and served by numerous non-profit organizations
- Experiencing significant real-estate development

# VISION 2025

**In 10-15 years, the QI will be known as a:**

- Hub of mobilization for academic institutions as well as industrial, social, and cultural actors
- “Ecosystem” that encourages social, cultural, and technological innovation
- Model of sustainable development
- Catalyst for the growth of entrepreneurs, SMEs, cultural, and social organizations



# OUR OBJECTIVES

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## **Our goal is for the QI to:**

- Provide broad promotion and support of innovation
- Accelerate the development of technological, social, and cultural organizations
- Promote the development of innovative initiatives that highlight the expertise of our partners and institutions
- Create bridges and opportunities in order to increase the exchanges involving the QI's four pillars



# OUR IDEAS AND PROJECTS

- BioFuelNet Canada
- CLUMEQ
- Creativity Hub
- Centech Incubator
- Laboratory of Urban Culture
- Initiatives in Social Innovation
- Living Lab School Complex
- Urban Planning
- Professional development for aerospace companies (McGill-ÉTS)
- 24 h de l'innovation



# INCUBATION

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**Centech has now opened its programs to the McGill entrepreneurial community.**

- Technological incubator located in the QI, created by ÉTS in the 1990s
- Now welcomes applications from McGill students, graduates, and researchers
- Two start-up created since January 2013:
  - **Temperpak** – led by three students from the Faculty of Engineering, launched in February
  - **Percutaneous Mitral Valve Repair** – led by Dr. Renzo Cecere and one student, launched in April

# SOCIAL INNOVATION IN THE QI

**The Social Economy Initiative (SEI) is working closely with QI to engage and strengthen social economy organizations in the community surrounding the district:**

- Desautels Faculty of Management is integrating social entrepreneurship and innovation into its teaching, research, and outreach.
- New training and collaborations with local partners and non-profits, such as Impact Internships
- An I-Lab in social innovation, incubation in social entrepreneurship, and securing funds dedicated to social economy and social innovation



# LABORATORY OF URBAN CULTURE

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**Under the leadership of Prof. Will Straw, the Laboratory of Urban Culture will be a place where:**

- The community and artists can share knowledge and expertise.
- Artists can exhibit their works.
- Universities can showcase the talents of their students and researchers.
- The community as a whole can benefit from the QI's innovative and creative activities.

# URBAN PLANNING IN THE QI

**Under the leadership of Prof. Raphaël Fischler, urban planning in the QI is focusing on specific projects, including:**

- Innovation in energy use in the built environment
- Indicators of urban sustainability and innovation (collaborations with the City of Montreal)
- Urban food systems (collaborations with Macdonald Campus)
- Urban ICT applications





# NEW TRAINING PROGRAMS

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## **CAPE: Centre for Aerospace Professional Education**

- New joint program between ÉTS and McGill, pre-launched January 31
- Provides ongoing professional development through high-level non-credit continuing education
- Designed for engineers and professionals in the Quebec aerospace sector
- Focused on the companies hiring aerospace professionals in Quebec or internationally

# ENGAGING OUR PEOPLE

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## **New and Redesigned McGill Committees**

- McGill QI Steering Committee
- McGill Innovation Committee
- Students Working Group

## **ÉTS and McGill Committees**

- McGill-ÉTS Comité Conjoint
- 14 project-specific committees

# McGILL STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

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## **McGill Students Working Group**

- 16 undergrads, graduate students, and PhD candidates

## **Internships**

- Pilot of “Impact Internships” program with SEI
- Other opportunities in areas of culture, urban planning, and collaboration with SMEs

## **Entrepreneurship**

- Access to a technological incubator

## **Events and activities**

- L'École de l'innovation citoyenne, 24H de l'innovation, C2-MTL, etc.

# OUR AMBASSADORS

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**Eric Bergeron**

President and CEO  
Optosecurity

**Pierre Boivin**

President and CEO  
Claridge Inc.

**Jean-François Bouchard**

President and Senior Partner  
Sid Lee

**Lyse Brunet**

General Manager  
Avenir d'enfants

**Madeleine Careau**

President and CEO  
Montreal Symphony  
Orchestra

**François Côté**

Executive Vice President  
TELUS

**Marcel Côté**

Founding Partner  
KPMG/Secor

**Daniel Lamarre**

President and CEO  
Cirque du Soleil

**Michel Leblanc**

President and CEO  
Board of Trade of  
Metropolitan Montreal

**Monique Leroux**

Chair, President, and CEO  
Desjardins Group

**Sir Terence H. Matthews**

Chairman and Founder  
Wesley Clover

**Andy Nulman**

President and CEO  
Just for Laughs

**Danny Ritter**

Partner  
RSM Richter

**Martine Turcotte**

Vice Chair, Quebec  
Bell

# ONGOING STEPS



## Consensus building

Appearance before  
the OCPM

## Definition of concepts

May 2012  
Funding from all three  
levels of government

## Collaborative activities

Participation in C2-MTL  
and organization of the  
Montreal Summit on  
Innovation – Aerospace

## Validation activities

Ongoing  
Definition of the QI business  
model (mission, objectives,  
governance, etc.)

October 2012  
Montreal Summit on  
Innovation on Innovative  
Districts

December 2012  
Introduction of and meeting  
with QI Ambassadors

April 2013  
Summary of mandates

Official Launch  
of QI  
May 2013

## Concrete projects

- BioFuelNet Canada
- CAPE
- Laboratory of Urban Culture
- Creativity Hub
- Social Innovation in QI
- Urban planning with the City of Montreal
- Connecting with SMEs
- Entrepreneurship and incubation for McGill students



# QI OFFICIAL LAUNCH

- **More than 250 persons from different sectors**
- **Dynamic presentations of several projects**
- **Many politicians present with positive words towards McGill's involvement in the QI**
- **Extended press coverage:**



# QI OFFICIAL LAUNCH

Visit us at: [www.quartierinnovationmontreal.com](http://www.quartierinnovationmontreal.com)





**THANK YOU!**

**MERCI !**