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TO:	Senate
FROM:	Dr. Rose Goldstein, Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations)
SUBJECT:	The Quartier de l'innovation (QI) Progress Report
DATE:	January 21, 2015
DOCUMENT #:	D14-33
ACTION REQUIRED:	☒ INFORMATION ☐ APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE:	The Quartier de l'innovation (QI) 2014 Progress Report to Senate presents highlights of the project's achievements, and also provides an overview of next year's goals and priorities.
BACKGROUND & RATIONALE:	The year 2014 was characterized by impact and engagement for the Quartier de l'innovation. This year, 43 McGill professors from 10 Faculties were actively involved in over 30 innovative projects. Of these projects, 13 new initiatives emerged in 2014. A total of 58 McGill students were engaged in the QI, actively contributing to the QI Student Working Group (SWG), research projects and internships. With outreach activities, classroom presentations and experiential learning opportunities combined, over 600 McGill students were reached as part of McGill's involvement in QI in 2014.
	Through this innovative initiative, McGill seeks to enrich the experiences of its students by increasing collaborations and partnerships with local actors. It offers students, researchers and professors opportunities to explore solutions to expressed-needs in the district, with the goal of improving the quality of life in southwest communities of Montreal.
	The QI ecosystem saw ongoing projects expand and new projects sparked thanks to both existing and new partnerships, demonstrating how connecting with community partners has a leveraging effect on grant applications and external funding opportunities.. Furthermore, SWG students are leading their own projects and activities and new internship opportunities are being developed with university and community partners.
	In November 2014, the 2nd McGill Innovation Week was a success, reaching over 1,500 individuals with its 14 events and activities, including a unique Montreal Summit on Innovation (MSI) which included 475 participants, including 57 McGill students, staff and researchers and several new partnerships. One of the year's major achievements is entrepreneurial expansion, as evidenced by the CEIM-McGill agreement and a funding contribution of $6.2 million over the next 5 years to support the creation and

development of small and medium-sized enterprises with the Centre d'entreprises et d'innovation de Montréal (CEIM), at the heart of the QI.

Following an inaugural year in 2013 of action and mobilization, the QI is now in a phase of catalyzing impact and engagement across campus and in the district. The goals of 2015-2016 will be specified and illustrated through priorities and concrete initiatives.

MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL:	N/A
PRIOR CONSULTATION:	Senior Administration, QI Executive Committee including Vice-Principals, Deans, Associate Deans, students and faculty members.
NEXT STEPS:	The report will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 2, 2015.
APPENDICES:	Appendix A: The Quartier de l'innovation (QI) 2014 Progress Report
	Appendix B: The Year 2014 in Images - PowerPoint Presentation

2014 Progress Report

The Quartier de l'innovation (QI)

Office of the Vice-Principal - Research and International Relations
McGill University

January 2015

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1. SUMMARY

The year 2014 was characterized by impact and engagement for the Quartier de l'innovation (QI). Launched in 2013 under the leadership of its founding partners, the QI is a registered not-for-profit organization overseen by a Board and managed by its Executive Director, Mr. Damien Silès, appointed in July 2014. In October 2014, the new Executive Director of ÉTS, Mr. Pierre Dumouchel, joined the QI Board. The QI's mission is to create - around knowledge institutions and based on international standards - an urban district of the highest quality. The QI collaborates with its founding academic institutions, which integrate their communities of students, researchers and entrepreneurs into its innovative ecosystem located in the southwest of Montreal. In December 2014, Concordia University joined the QI as an academic member.

Through this innovative initiative, McGill University seeks to enrich the experiences of its students by increasing collaborations and partnerships with local actors. It offers students, researchers and professors opportunities to explore solutions to expressed-needs in the district, with the goal of **improving the quality of life in the southwest communities of Montreal**.

In 2014, the QI expanded its **impact and reach** both on campus and in the district. This year, **43 McGill professors** from 11 faculties were involved in 33 innovative projects. Of these projects, **13 new initiatives emerged in 2014**. A total of **58 McGill students** were engaged in the QI, actively contributing to the QI Student Working Group (SWG), research projects and internships. With outreach activities, classroom presentations and experiential learning opportunities combined, over **600 McGill students** were reached as part of McGill's involvement in QI in 2014.

In November 2014, the 2nd **McGill Innovation Week** was a success, reaching over 1,500 individuals with its 14 events and activities, including a unique **Montreal Summit on Innovation (MSI)** which included 475 participants, 57 McGill students, staff and researchers and **several new partnerships**. The MSI – with its bold theme of converging health and creative industries, interdisciplinary steering committee and dedicated partners such as the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal and Hacking Health Canada – will have **long-term impact**, as a MSI white paper and a Hacking Health student association at McGill are underway for 2015.

In 2014, **QI walking tours showing concrete initiatives in the district** began, sparking enthusiastic participation from students, faculty and staff. Established partners like **BioFuelNet, Centech** and **McGill HPC** now work alongside new players, such as **échoFab**, **Ecofuel** and **GriffinCamp** (two new accelerators),

furthering a culture of collaboration and entrepreneurship in the district. The QI was also presented at McGill's BRAVO conference and received positive reactions.

The launch of the 2nd **Social Economy Initiative (SEI) Impact Internship Program**, which matches students with local social enterprises, saw another cohort of interns contribute to the development of **social innovation in the QI.** Moreover, Natalie Voland, QI board member and President of Gestion immobilière Quo Vadis, presented a keynote address at **SEI Homecoming 2014** about the exciting Salon 1861 initiative to repurpose a historic and underutilized church in the QI for social innovation, social entrepreneurship, and community engagement. A second collaboration with the **Social Equity and Diversity Education Office** (SEDE) for its annual **Community Engagement Day** (CED) brought over 70 participants to the district.

The **QI ecosystem** saw ongoing projects expand and new projects sparked thanks to both existing and new partnerships. An assessment of opportunities to **catalyze social innovation opportunities** in the QI (April 2014) as well as the programming of the Laboratory of Urban Culture (December 2014) were published. Those reports propelled new collaborations for Salon 1861, which now works with students, staff and faculty from the **School of Architecture**, **Faculty of Arts, Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management** (MDIIM) and **Regroupement économique du Sud-Ouest** (RÉSO) among others. The QI initiative demonstrates how connecting with community partners has a leveraging effect on grant applications and **external funding opportunities**, notably through Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Industry Canada and private donors. New projects such as Science Futures, meant to enrich science education in southwest schools championed by the **Faculty of Education**, have been presented at Je Vois Montréal.

One the year's major achievements is entrepreneurial expansion, as evidenced by the CEIM-McGill agreement. On November 10th, the Honourable Maxime Bernier, Minister of State, announced a **funding contribution of up to $ 6.2 million** over the next 5 years to support the creation and development of small and medium-sized enterprises at the **Centre d'entreprises et d'innovation de Montréal** (CEIM), in the heart of the QI. This partnership will provide McGill students and faculty access to an array of **support, expertise and resources to incubate and grow their start-ups** (offering a saving potential of up to 75% for start-up costs) and will foster **industrial collaborations through research contracts**. McGill students and entrepreneurs now have valuable services available to them and at present, 15 projects are underway under this agreement, enabling new opportunities for CaPS, MUBEC and IDEA.

This year, the QI Student Working Group launched its first major initiative, the **Quartier de l'innovation Projects Fund** (QIPF) crowdfunding campaign, in collaboration with University Advancement. McGill

students were also key to the success **McGill Innovation Week**. QI Student Working Group members have been active in writing articles on different QI pillars and projects via the **McGill Reporter**.

Developing experiential learning opportunities for McGill students is of utmost importance for the QI's growth and community engagement. The neighborhoods are rich with arts and culture organizations, non-profit organization, small start-ups, and SMEs that are eager to collaborate with passionate, talented students. One of the goals of the QI is to bring these diverse actors together to **create opportunities that would otherwise not exist**, thus creating links between both internal and external partners and students/interns. Ongoing collaborations with **McGill Career Planning Service** (CaPS), the **School of Continuing Studies** and **RÉSO** will enable future internship opportunities in the district.

In 2014, communications expanded in scope and scale. A growing social media and online presence, with a Facebook page that has thus far reached **205 enthusiasts**. Liaising with foreign delegations and university representatives has increased the QI's external visibility on **local, national and international scales**. Accordingly, a larger number of articles, videos and press releases, from influential media outlets such as **Le Devoir**, **Les Affaires** and **La Presse** as well as **Canal Savoir**'s web episode on the QI, have brightened the spotlight on QI projects, partners and communities.

Following an inaugural year 2013 of **action and mobilization**, the QI is now in a phase of catalyzing **impact and engagement** across campus and in the district. 2014 has seen a significant increase in innovative projects, partnerships, outreach activities and communications – an increase that is shaping the innovative landscape of our institutions, our communities and the city we live in.

2. KEY 2014 METRICS

Metrics	2012	2013	2014
Engaging People	**10**	**256**	**657**
Students reached	3	222	614
Professors involved	7	34	43
Faculties Involved	N/A	7	11
Students Reached	**N/A**	**222**	**614**
Internships and research projects	N/A	18	35
Classroom presentations	N/A	9	74
QI Student Working Group	N/A	20	23
Participation in outreach activities	N/A	175	482
Outreach Activities	**200**	**1025**	**1643**
QI Official Launch	N/A	250	N/A
McGill Innovation Week (includes MSI)	200	700	1,510
Community Engagement Day	N/A	75	70
QI Tours	N/A	N/A	63
Innovative Projects	**7**	**20**	**33**
Projects led by McGill	2	10	21
Projects led by ÉTS	2	3	5
Joint ÉTS-McGill Projects	3	7	7
Entrepreneurship Referrals	**1**	**3**	**20**
Referrals to CEIM incubator	N/A	2	15
Referrals to CENTECH incubator	1	1	5
Partnerships and Collaborations			
Private, Public and NPO partners	2	23	36
Presentations to national and international partners	N/A	N/A	11
Communications	**N/A**	**28**	**38**
External press publications	N/A	15	17
Internal press publications	N/A	7	10
Press releases	N/A	6	6
Video/Audio	N/A	N/A	5
Online presence			
McGill QI Website Page Views (Annual)	N/A	6 806	11,012
McGill QI Website Page Views (Highest Month)	N/A	435	3,226
Social Media (Likes on FB Page)	N/A	N/A	205

Table 2: Innovative Projects in the QI

#	Project Name	Lead	Year (start)	Status	Pillar	Students
1	24 hours of Innovation	ETS	2012	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	Y
2	Centre for Aerospace Professional Education (CAPE)	ETS-McGill	2012	ON-GOING	Industrial	N
3	Network of Laboratories in Aerospace Research	ETS-McGill	2012	ON-GOING	Industrial	N
4	The Creativity Hub	ETS-McGill	2012	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	N
5	Maison des étudiantes de ETS (Real estate project)	ETS	2012	ON-GOING	Industrial	N
6	BIOFUEL.NET Canada	McGill	2012	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	N
7	McGill HPC	McGill	2012	ON-GOING	Industrial	Y
8	Montreal Summit on Innovation	McGill-ETS	2012	DONE	Industrial	Y
9	QI Numérique	ETS	2013	ON-GOING	Industrial	N
10	École de l'innovation citoyenne and LUDIC	ETS	2013	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	Y
11	Salon 1861	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	Y
12	Laboratory of Urban Culture (Programming in 2014) [within Salon 1861]	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	Y
13	LEGADO	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Urban	Y
14	Social Economy Initiative (SEI) Impact Internship Program	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	Y
15	McGill Innovation Week [led by SWG]	McGill	2013	DONE	Reseach & Education	Y
16	McGill-CEIM Partnership Innovation Québec	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Industrial	Y
17	Percutaneous Mitral Valve Repaira: a start up in the QI (Centech)	McGill	2013	HOLD	Reseach & Education	Y
18	McGill Biodesign Platform	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	N
19	Urban Microcosm Experiment	McGill	2013	ON-GOING	Urban	Y
20	The Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in QI and la Maison de l'innovation	McGill-ETS	2013	ON-GOING	Industrial	Y
21	Canadian Center of Innovation for Manufacturing	ETS	2014	HOLD	Industrial	N
22	Telus bicycle kiosks	ETS - McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Urban	Y
23	Arts and Ideas in Motion (AIM): Mediated Cities and Mobile Urban Stage (MUSe)	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Urban	Y
24	Masters of Architecture (professional) design studio class	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Urban	Y
25	Facility for Architectural Research in Media and Mediation (FARMM)	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Urban	Y
26	RECODE proposal	McGill	2014	DONE	Social & Cultural	Y
27	Social Innovator's Integration Lab (SIIL) [within Salon 1861]	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	Y
28	Assessment of Social Innovation in the QI Report	McGill	2014	DONE	Social & Cultural	N
29	Food Deserts in QI	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	N
30	Quartier de l'innovation Projects Fund [led by SWG]	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	Y
31	Montreal Summit on Innovation 2014 White paper	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	Y
32	Science Futures - Science et Innovation dans mon école [Phase 1 : School Complex]	McGill	2014	ON-GOING	Reseach & Education	N
33	Musikiosk: A soundscape intervention evaluation	McGill-ETS	2014	ON-GOING	Social & Cultural	Y

Projects in 2014 (Recap)	Total	Ongoing
Projects led by McGill	21	17
Projects led by ETS	5	4
Joint ETS-McGill Projects	7	6
New Projects in 2014	13	10
Projects linked to Social and Cultural Pillar	9	7
Projects linked to Research and Education pillar	9	7
Projects linked to Industrial pillar	9	7
Projects linked to Urban pillar	6	6
Total Projects	**33**	**27**

3. KEY 2014 PROJECTS, ACTIVITIES AND STAKEHOLDERS BY PILLAR

The Industrial Pillar

The QI is a connector for all the different components available within the industrial community. From discovery to commercialization, the QI will support all aspects of the innovation process by the development of new approaches, ideation sessions, incubation, education programs and events in collaboration with our partners. Its role will essentially be to increase productivity and facilitate the creation of new businesses through innovative means. As 46% of students in the province of Quebec want to start their own business (BMO, 2013), the QI is a unique organization as it connects the academic community and industry to offer concretized business opportunities for young budding entrepreneurs. A wide range of resources for entrepreneurs, including access to two existing incubators – Centech and *Centre d'entreprises et d'innovation de Montréal* (CEIM) – two new accelerators in 2014 (EcoFuel and GriffinCamp) a fabrication laboratory (échoFab catalogued as an "Operating Fab Lab" by MIT) and several other facilities are available for potential entrepreneurs in the district. This industrial microcosm is also connected to investors, financial angels and a network of experts.

The CEIM-McGill Partnership - Innovation Québec with NRC

On Nov 10th, 2014, the Honourable Maxime Bernier, Minister of State, announced a funding contribution of up to $ 6.2 million over the next 5 years to support the creation and development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

This partnership will:
1) Provide McGill students and faculty entrepreneurs access to an array of support, expertise and resources to incubate and grow their start-ups: offering a saving potential of up to 75% for start-up costs
2) Foster industrial collaborations through research contracts and internships

In order to help path-breaking innovations reach the marketplace, McGill University and the CEIM have agreed to collaborate on the development of a network of highly-qualified entrepreneurs and business leaders who can be called upon to help jump-start the commercialization process by bringing their talents and experience to the start-ups served by this partnership. The expertise and experience inherent in this network will not only help early-stage start-ups expand their reach, it will also enhance McGill's innovative capacity and build important bridges into key sectors of the innovation economy. Together, McGill and the CEIM will act as a platform, bringing together key players in the local and global entrepreneurial ecosystem. Through a series of conferences and special events targeting strategic themes and sectors, both at the CEIM and on the McGill Campus, this partnership will help students, researchers, entrepreneurs, investors, and other stakeholders forge valuable connections and accelerate the pace of innovation on campus. There are currently 15 new McGill projects in the pipeline with CEIM, representing various sectors such as medicine, science, information technology, transportation and engineering.

Centech
Centech is a business incubator created by l'École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS) in the 1990s to help students and graduates who want to start their own companies. Centech has now opened its programs to the McGill entrepreneurial community, as part of several new initiatives through the QI. McGill students, graduates, and researchers have access to the ÉTS business incubator, with funds available for prototyping and the launch of the new companies. In 2014, five student entrepreneurs were referred to Centech for their start-ups, however, for various reasons, none have confirmed an agreement with Centech at this time.

Creativity Hub – Maison de l'innovation
Offering a real window on the creative process, the Hub will serve to organize meetings and training sessions for professionals and companies around the process of idea-generation and

innovation. For instance, universities will be invited to take up challenges around applied research projects. Professors will lead creative workshops to familiarize companies with the concept of idea management. Citizens, organizations and companies will also benefit from access to creative professionals to stimulate the development and application of innovative ideas. This approach will also be used in the university environment to study the initial stages in the creative process in greater depth and measure their impact on concrete projects. Activities will be transferred to the Dow Planetarium once ÉTS has completed the conversion. The DOW planetarium will be renovated so that we can hold international conferences hub, summer schools and events related to innovation and entrepreneurship there. It will also have a new vocation which will feature an innovation market where students, aspiring entrepreneurs and businesses can share and explore opportunities to collaborate and innovate as a collective. This market would be linked primarily with ETS and McGill but should include other universities and partners in the community.

The Social and Cultural Pillar

The Social Economy Initiative Impact Internship Program in QI

The Social Economy Initiative (SEI) at McGill University – housed in the Desautels Faculty of Management – integrates social entrepreneurship and social innovation into teaching, research and community outreach activities. Launched in summer 2013, the SEI Impact Internship Program (SEI IIP) was created to meet outreach and teaching goals and is an integral part of the Social and Cultural Pillar of the QI. Through this innovative program, undergraduate students are matched with social enterprises in Montreal and the QI. They linkages are facilitated by the McGill QI Team and its collaborators, notably *Regroupement économique du Sud-Ouest* (RÉSO). In the summers of 2013 and 2014, half of the program cohorts found remunerated 10-week internships in social economy organizations in the QI district. The overall experience was seen by students as rewarding, confidence-building and an incredible insight into the workings of the larger social economy. Similarly, this experience was seen by partner organizations in the district has invaluable.

Salon 1861

Salon 1861 is an example of a socially responsible project undertaken by a variety of partners – private, community and academic – that will protect the architectural heritage of the St-Joseph Church in Little Burgundy and help it to become a destination for social and cultural entrepreneurship. This is an example of multifaceted project that links students, researchers, professors, community organizations, residents and more in the district. QI partner and Board member, Natalie Voland (CEO of Quo Vadis, a certified Benefit Corporation) has stated: "The concept of Salon 1861 – where actors from different fields of expertise and strong links with academia and the community in each phase can be found – has really been inspired by the QI's vision. The Salon 1861 will be at the heart of community and will be a real destination for cultural and social innovation in the district". Salon 1861 will offer experiential learning opportunities for McGill students once it is launched in spring 2015.

The Laboratory of Urban Culture Programming

Included within the ecosystem of the Salon 1861 will be the Laboratory of Urban Culture. After its official launch in winter 2015 – with an opening ceremony in partnership with McGill University – the Laboratory of Urban Culture will become a unique space in the QI: a prestigious place full of history and a place for experimentation in which community, student, academic and artistic communities may share their knowledge and expertise. It will be a space for artists to exhibit their work and where universities will showcase the expertise of their students and researchers. A report for the Laboratory of Urban Culture's programming has been completed in December 2014. Monthly outreach activities featuring professors, graduate and undergraduate students in Communications, Canadian Studies, Architecture, Cinema, etc. as well as community partners will be showcased at the Laboratory of Urban Culture. In brief, the Laboratory of Urban Culture will bring together local residents, students and researchers to promote innovative and creative activities that will benefit the entire community. This concept is a tremendous opportunity to integrate the McGill Student Body, researchers, faculty members, local actors and residents.

An Assessment of Opportunities to Catalyze Social Innovation in the QI

Under the leadership of the Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management and the QI, "An Assessment of Opportunities for McGill University to Catalyze Social Innovation within the Quartier de l'innovation" (Glencross) was published in April 2014. Its identifies the most

significant opportunities for McGill units to contribute, through existing teaching, research and outreach activities, to social innovation. It recommends a series of concrete, practical follow-up actions or projects that would move McGill units, as well as organizations active in the QI, towards collaborations that leverage the strengths of each and use social innovation to address social problems in the QI district.

The Social Innovators' Integration Lab

The proposed Social Innovators' Integration Lab (SIIL) will be a shared observatory and clearing house for social innovation and entrepreneurship within the Salon 1861 ecosystem, in the QI district. Leveraging partnerships with the QI non-profit organization, local community organizations coordinated through the Regroupement économique et social du sud-ouest (RESO), and Gestion immobilière Quo Vadis, researchers from the Desautels Faculty of Management of McGill University will establish a long-term anchor presence for the multi-dimensional creation and transfer of knowledge through SIIL, with the overarching goal of understanding better and fostering social innovation and entrepreneurship. The proposed project aims at understanding and supporting social innovation and entrepreneurship by developing a Social Innovators' Integration Lab (SIIL) which will be a physical and virtual space animated by the partners for this proposal to document and develop resources useful to multiple actors, including social innovators and entrepreneurs, the organizations that support them, as well as academic researchers and students.

The Urban Pillar

Facility for Architectural Research in Media and Mediation (FARMM)

In the Facility for Architectural Research in Media and Mediation (FARMM), a dozen students will work on a digital Building Information Management model and designs for the restaurant and incubator space that will be housed in Salon 1861. Furthermore, Professor Michael Jemtrud will integrate his Masters of Architecture Design Studio class into the QI by researching the Tansey site in Pointe- Saint-Charles. This course will culminate with an exhibit, vernissage and awards for students in Salon 1861.

Architectural Study of St-Joseph Church

Mark Ramsay Elsworthy (Graduate student, Architecture)'s graduate thesis on the architectural and historical preservation of the church is vital to the Salon 1861 project in the QI. Under the supervision of Prof. Nik Luka (Architecture and Urban Planning) and Julia Gersovitz (Architecture),

Mark completed a feasibility study and historical contextualization of the St-Joseph Church for Quo Vadis in March 2014.

The Research and Education Pillar

Science Futures – Science et innovation dans mon école

The Science Futures project aims to enrich science education in four schools in the Southwest of Montreal and to ignite a love of science in youth. The school would put a special emphasis on science, math and the arts to promote student interest in those disciplines and would create an environment aimed at fostering optimal engagement in students to prevent drop-out. In order to improve science literacy skills and help students succeed in school, Science Futures will:

- Use creative techniques and programming based on best practice to engage students
- Provide ongoing professional development and support for busy teachers, some of whom have had little science training
- Leverage talented McGill students to provide the individual coaching that is a lifeline for at-risk students
- Welcome students into the McGill community to help them envision a career path that includes higher education
- In the long-term, recruit at-risk youth to enroll in science programs or to become the science teachers of the future

This will be done through an innovative teaching and learning approach. McGill is leading the Sciences Futures projects, with its partners: The Montreal Science Centre, ÉTS, the Commission Scolaire de Montréal and the English Montreal School Board.

Quartier de l'innovation Projects Fund (QIPF)

The McGill QI Student Working Group (SWG) is championing the Quartier de l'innovation (QI) Projects Fund, to raise funds to kick-start projects in the QI district that are centered on social, cultural, urban and research innovation. In brief, the crowdfunding campaign goal is to raise

funds to support the hiring of an intern for the 2014-2015 academic year, who will develop a long term strategic plan for the QIPF. The intern will be mentored by Prof. Nii Addy from the Desautels Faculty of Management and deliverables will be monitored by the SWG and the QI Team. The internship will focus on developing the strategic implementation and financial viability of the Fund, which we anticipate will be presented in spring 2015. The QIPF is a student-led initiative and will provide unique opportunities for McGill students to develop innovative projects in the district and contribute to improving the quality of life in the community.

QI in the Classroom

Since winter 2014, the QI has been integrating the class curriculum at McGill University and has presented in 4 classes. The McGill QI Team presented in Professor Richard Shearmur's class on creativity and cities (in the Urban Planning department) as well as in Associate Professor Nii Addy's class on the social context of business (at the Desautels Faculty of Management). These QI presentations have been complemented by those of Natalie Voland, QI partner and Board member leading the Salon 1861 project. These presentations which have garnered positive reviews and provided another channel to engage students in the QI.

Outreach Activities

Community Engagement Day

Since 2012, the Social Equity and Diversity Education Office (SEDE) at McGill University organizes an annual Community Engagement Day (CED) at McGill University. This is a full day of volunteer activities for students, faculty and staff organized in partnership with a variety of McGill and community partners. CED projects aim to facilitate collaborative relationships and provide opportunities for members of the McGill community to be involved with existing projects happening around Montreal – learning about societal issues and challenges facing communities in Montreal while doing something to address them. Since 2013, the McGill QI Team collaborates with SEDE to ensure that the McGill community gets involved in the QI district with various community partners and organizations. Each year, over 500 volunteers partake in CED and over 70 participants are actively involved in activities as well as organizations in the QI.

McGill Innovation Week

Created in 2013, McGill Innovation Week (MIW) is an opportunity to raise awareness regarding the QI and McGill's activities surrounding innovation and entrepreneurship on campus as well as

to reach out to various communities, student associations and internal stakeholders. Under the leadership of the McGill QI Team and in collaboration with the VP Communications and External Relations, MIW is a "chance to showcase innovation as an economic driver and demonstrate how institutions can work together to create new and exciting things[i]". In November 2013, the university's inquisitive spirit was on display during a weeklong celebration of innovation and creativity. More than 700 people were reached through this inaugural week featuring 5 events (including over 100 students from all over campus and around 15 professors directly involved from various faculties). During the first week of November 2014, MIW focused on several interesting topics, such as student engagement, social entrepreneurship, artistic and cultural innovation, international development, collaborations between health and creative industries, and on how these themes foster and expand innovative processes and projects, both at McGill University and in the QI district. In 2014, McGill Innovation Week included 14 activities and drew in over 1,500 participants. Students were key collaborators in making the week a success.

Montreal Summit on Innovation

An international event organized by the QI, the Montreal Summit on Innovation (MSI) brings together local and international experts to exchange on themes related to innovation. The first three editions of the MSI were based on the themes of aerospace, innovative districts and smart grids and sustainability and were organized in partnership with the Montreal Council on Foreign Relations (MCFR). For the fourth edition, examining the potential for collaboration between the health sector and creative industries, the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal co-organized the summit. Since 2013, the MSI is included in McGill Innovation Week. On November 6th, 2014, "Health and Creative Industries: An Inspiring and Winning Partnership" drew nearly 500 people in attendance, including 57 McGill students, staff, and researchers as well as many local politicians, artists, hackers, scientists, business leaders, and international experts.

In 2012, the Montreal Summit on Innovation on innovative districts launched similar summits in other countries. For its third edition, following the conference held in Liège (November 2013), the QI was presented at the "Sommet international de l'innovation" in Compiègne on November 27-28th, 2014.

Governance

The QI Board and NPO Executive Director

As of June 2013, the QI has been incorporated as a non-profit organization and the registration its regulations and bylaws completed. Its Board of Directors is composed of a variety of Montreal stakeholders representing one or more of the QI's four pillars. The QI is engaging well-known individuals in their own fields with a totally diverse network of actors within the South-West of Montreal. The chair of the board is Jean-Pierre Desrosiers.

The QI NPO announced the appointment of Damien Silès as Executive Director in June 2014. Mr. Silès took up his duties with the QI on July 16th, 2014. Previous to this nomination, Mr. Silès served as General Manager of the *Société de développement social de Ville-Marie*. With a solid educational background in international trade, he also served as Membership and Sales Director for the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal. Twice named *Personnalité de la semaine* by La Presse-Radio Canada (in 2011 and 2013), he was a finalist in the *Prix Personnalité Arts-Affaires* in 2012. Furthermore, Damien worked in South America for several years, notably for an Ecuadorian foundation, where he developed national and international markets for local artisans.

The QI Executive Steering Committee at McGill University

The objective of this committee is to seek input from the senior leadership of key McGill stakeholders to oversee the strategic decisions regarding the major aspects of the Quartier de l'innovation (QI). Representatives of each function will also participate to ensure coordination of actions resulting from decisions made by the committee. The committee includes Vice-Principals, Deans, Associate Deans, student representatives and faculty members and meets monthly. Any McGill subcommittees formed for the project report to the QI Executive Steering Committee. In 2014, 3 new professors – from the faculties of management, engineering and science – joined the committee. Furthermore, 3 students representing SSMU, PGSS and MCGSS are part of the committee and are also members of the QI Student Working Group (SWG).

The QI Student Working Group at McGill University

As young ambassadors of the QI, Student Working Group (SWG) members are actively engaged in shaping QI projects, research and outreach activities. Students are important actors and benefactors of the QI, hence the creation of the SWG among other student-oriented initiatives. The SWG seeks input from McGill University students on how to better improve communication

channels and visibility around QI projects. By participating in the SWG, members gain valuable insight and experiential learning that can serve academic, professional and personal development. SWG membership also offers opportunities for student-faculty interaction, which is strongly related to student collegial satisfaction.

In sum, the SWG serves to:

- *Engage with the QI district and involve students within the QI*
- *Explore and create new student-led initiatives and/or projects within the QI*
- *Raise awareness of the QI within the general Student Body at McGill University*
- *Encourage conversations between the McGill QI Team and McGill students*

4. APPENDICES

Appendix A: The QI NPO Board of Directors

Appendix B: The QI NPO Executive Director

Appendix C: The QI Executive Steering Committee at McGill University

Appendix D: McGill Professors involved in the QI

Appendix E: The QI Student Working Group at McGill University

Appendix F: Grants and Proposals for External Funding

Appendix G: Press Release 2014 (38 items)

Appendices are available upon request. Please contact:

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More information about QI at www.mcgill.ca/qi

QUARTIER DE L'INNOVATION
The Year 2014 in Images

Background for McGill Senate Presentation on January 21, 2015

WHAT IS QUARTIER DE L'INNOVATION ?

The QI is a **"living laboratory"** located in Montreal's historic South West district.

Through this innovative initiative, McGill University seeks to enrich the experiences of its students by **increasing collaborations and partnerships with local actors**.

It offers **students, researchers and professors** opportunities to explore solutions to expressed-needs in the district, with the goal of **improving the quality of life in the southwest communities of Montreal**.

OUR 2014 PRIORITIES - *Reminder*

The Montreal Summit on Innovation
Connecting Health and Creative Industries, November 6th 2014

The Laboratory of Urban Culture and The Salon 1861

Mapping Social Innovation and Impact Internships in QI

The QI Industrial Ecosystem and collaboration with existing partners

Continued student mobilization through the Student Working Group and concrete activities:
- **Internships and research projects**
- **QI Campus Innovation Fund**
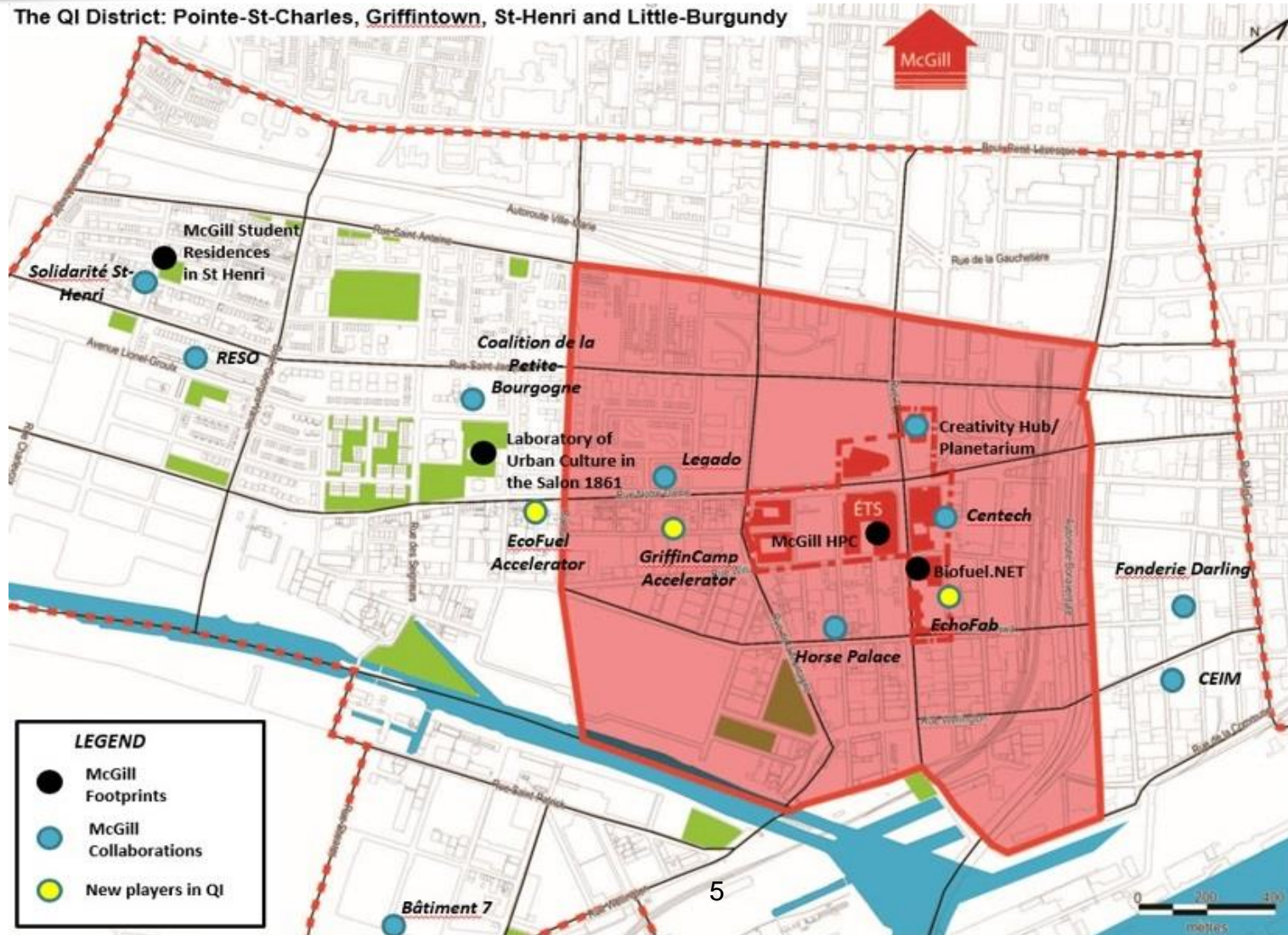- **McGill Innovation Week**

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014: IMPACT AND ENGAGEMENT

- Over **1,500 individuals** were reached throughout McGill Innovation Week, including 475 participants at the Montreal Summit on Innovation

- Over **600 students** were reached as part of McGill's involvement in QI, including 58 students actively engaged in QI, through the Student Working Group, internships and research projects

- **11 faculties and 43 professors** from McGill University involved in QI projects

- **33 innovative projects** were either ongoing or completed, 21 of which were led by McGill University and 13 of which were new initiatives

- The QI NPO Executive Director, Mr. Damien Silès, was appointed in July and new members joined the QI

- Several **grant applications and external funding** opportunities emerged in 2014

- A major achievement for entrepreneurship is the CEIM-McGill partnership, which will fund and support McGill start-ups and industrial collaborations

- New and on going collaborations with **36** private, public and non-profit organizations

- Communications expanded in scale with **38 publications** (articles, press releases and videos) highlighting QI and McGill activities

The QI District: Pointe-St-Charles, Griffintown, St-Henri and Little-Burgundy

McGill

Solidarité St-Henri

McGill Student Residences in St Henri

RESO

Coalition de la Petite-Bourgogne

Laboratory of Urban Culture in the Salon 1861

Legado

Creativity Hub/ Planetarium

Centech

EcoFuel Accelerator

GriffinCamp Accelerator

ÉTS

McGill HPC

Biofuel.NET

Fonderie Darling

EchoFab

Horse Palace

CEIM

LEGEND

- McGill Footprints
- McGill Collaborations
- New players in QI

Bâtiment 7

5

QUARTIER DE L'INNOVATION

THE QI NON-PROFIT

Mr Damien Silès,
Executive Director QI

Created in June 2013, the QI non-profit organization appointed Mr. Damien Silès as Executive Director in July 2014. In October 2014, the new Executive Director of ÉTS, Mr. Pierre Dumouchel, joined the QI Board. New QI members joined in 2014.

McGill University and ÉTS – the QI's founding partners – have supported the development of the QI non-profit on a variety of projects, activities and initiatives during the year.

STUDENT MOBILIZATION
The QI Student Working Group

As young ambassadors of the QI, **Student Working Group** (SWG) members are actively engaged in shaping QI projects, research and outreach activities.

This year, 23 students participated in the SWG, championing projects such as:

- McGill Innovation Week programming

- QI series in the McGill Reporter and other articles

- QI Projects Fund – which will help students fund innovative projects in QI

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MCGILL INNOVATION WEEK

In November 2014, the 2nd **McGill Innovation Week** was a success, reaching over **1,500 individuals with its 14 events and activities**, including a unique **Montreal Summit on Innovation (MSI).**

McGill Innovation Week is a an opportunity to raise awareness about innovation and entrepreneurship on campus and in the QI, as well as to reach out to various communities and stakeholders.

McGill students were key to the success McGill Innovation Week!

MONTREAL SUMMIT ON INNOVATION 2014

On November 6th, **Health and Creative Industries: An Inspiring and Winning Partnership** drew nearly **500 people** in attendance, including 57 McGill students, staff, and researchers as well as artists, hackers, scientists, business leaders, and international experts.

Dr. Rémi Quirion – Quebec's Chief Scientist – hosted explored **Montreal's next generation of scientists and innovators.**

The SMI 2014 edition was led by McGill University

HACKING HEALTH DESIGN CHALLENGE 2014

Four MUHC health practitioners were among the finalists presenting at the Montreal Summit on Innovation's **Hacking Health Design Challenge** that mobilized over 275 people after the SMI 2014.

INTERNSHIPS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS IN QI

Developing experiential learning opportunities and fostering community engagement for McGill students is of utmost importance for the QI.

Internships:

- The 2nd Edition of Social Economy Initiative (SEI) **Impact Internship Program in QI** matched students with social enterprises located in the district

- Several collaborations with McGill Career Planning Service (CaPS), McGill's School of Continuing Studies, CEIM, NRC and RÉSO are **fostering internship opportunities in the QI**

Research Projects:

- The QI demonstrates how connecting with community partners has a leveraging effect on grant applications and external funding opportunities
    - 28 students had the opportunity to complete research projects in the QI, as exemplified by Mark Elseworthy's architectural and patrimonial study of Saint-Joseph Church (Salon 1861), realized in the context of his Master's

ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN QI

From discovery to commercialization, the QI supports all aspects of the innovation process. McGill students and entrepreneurs have access to an array of resources in the QI, such as a fabrication lab, incubators and accelerators, with:

- CEIM incubator
- Centech incubator
- échoFab Fabrication Lab
- Ecofuel accelerator
- GriffinCamp accelerator

Thanks to the CEIM-McGill agreement with 6.2 M, McGill students and faculty entrepreneurs now have **access to an array of support, expertise and resources** to incubate and grow their start-ups: offering a saving potential of **up to 75%** for start-up costs.

This year, 15 referrals from McGill were made to CEIM and 5 to Centech.
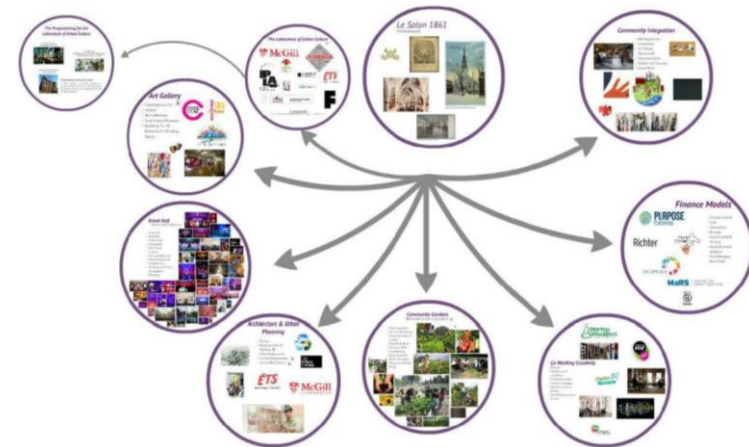
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INNOVATION IN QI

The Salon 1861 is a socially responsible project that will protect the architectural heritage of the St-Joseph Church in Little Burgundy and turn it into a destination for cultural and social innovation as well as social entrepreneurship.

This ecosystem will enable several projects with students, professors and external partners, such as:

- The **Laboratory of Urban Culture**, which includes arts and cultural players as well as student groups within the McGill community

- The **Social Innovators' Integration Lab** (SIIL) – an open platform for mapping in social innovation and entrepreneurship

- Urban gardening and agriculture projects, in collaboration with **MacDonald Campus**

THE CREATIVE ECOSYSTEM OF LE SALON 1861

COMMUNICATIONS IN 2014

Communications expanded and increased external visibility of QI projects, partners and communities on **local, national and international scales.**

- **38 publications** (articles, videos and press releases) from influential media outlets such as Le Devoir, Les Affaires, La Presse and Canal Savoir

- 11 presentations to national and international partners

- **11,012** McGill QI Website Page views

- 205 QI SWG Facebook Page Likes

CONCLUSION

One of the goals of the QI is to bring diverse actors together to **create opportunities for our students, researchers and professors that would otherwise not exist**, thus creating **bridges** with internal and external partners.

Following an inaugural year 2013 of action and mobilization, the QI is now in a phase of catalyzing **impact and engagement** across campus and in the district.

The year 2014 has seen a significant increase in innovative projects, partnerships, student mobilization, outreach activities and communications – an increase that is **shaping the innovative landscape** of our institutions, our communities and the city we live in.

THANK YOU!

MERCI!