

# FUTURE CONCORDIA

Concordia is reflecting on how best to fulfill its academic and research mission, provide an enhanced student experience and deliver outstanding administrative and operational services in a post-pandemic environment.

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# About the project

At this pivotal time in our history, we have been thrust into remote learning and, for the most part, the remote delivery of services. After a year of continuous adaptation, we are in an opportune position to reflect on learnings from this extraordinary experience and to use this knowledge to shape our collective future.

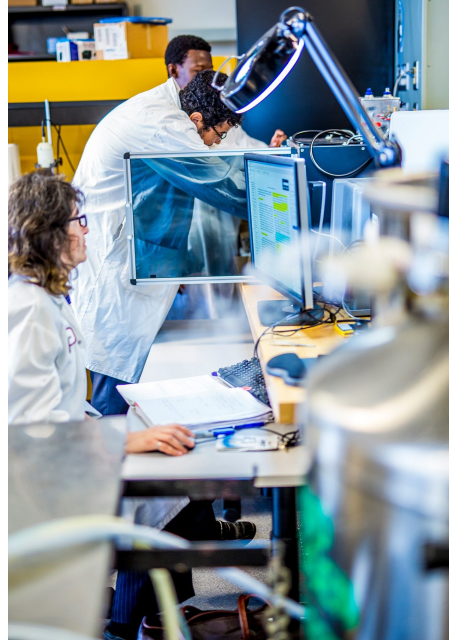
Our goal is to develop a vision for the Concordia of the future — how can we imagine new approaches to working, to teaching and learning, to our spaces, our services to students and our connections to local and global communities.



The following guiding principles will inform the group's work:

- the primacy of the health and safety of the Concordia community
- alignment with Concordia's next-gen strategic directions
- equity, diversity, accessibility and decolonization
- environmental solutions and financial sustainability
- supporting student success and the student experience
- creativity as well as a healthy tolerance for risk-taking, failure and discomfort
- agility, flexibility and responsiveness
- service excellence

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## Working group mandates

The role of the project's working groups is to develop and evaluate options on how best to define the future of Concordia within each of their respective focus areas by thinking institutionally, representing the community and becoming project ambassadors.

### Teaching and learning

An outcome of the pandemic has been renewed interest in strengthening and investing in our teaching and learning approaches, technologies and learning environments. Led with the faculties, [consultations](#) with Concordia stakeholders will be undertaken in order to build an appropriate strategy to adequately support future investments in teaching and learning.

A leadership committee comprised of representation from the Advisory Committee on Teaching and Learning (ACTL) has been struck to oversee this federated approach to building the plan.

ACTL leadership team:

- Sandra Gabriele, Vice-Provost, Innovation in Teaching and Learning
- Ali Akgunduz, Associate Dean, Academic Programs, Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science
- Sandra Betton, Associate Dean, Professional Graduate Programs, John Molson School of Business
- Rachel Berger, Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Development, School of Graduate Studies
- Philippe Caignon, Associate Dean, Student Academic Services, Faculty of Arts and Science
- Elaine Cheasley Paterson, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Faculty of Fine Arts
- Hannah Jamet-Lange, Coordinator, Academic and Advocacy, Concordia Student Union
- Lourdu Reddy Allam, Vice-President, Academics and Advocacy, Graduate Students' Association

### Research and impact

Collaboration is not new for researchers, but the pandemic has changed the way the world conducts research together. The Research working group is tasked with defining how Concordia will build on this momentum and change how we collaborate with our international colleagues.

Working group co-leads:

- Mamoun Medraj, Associate Dean, School of Graduate Studies
- M.J. Thompson, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Fine Arts

### **Student experience**

The COVID-19 pandemic drove much of Concordia's operations to transition remotely, including the delivery of student services. The Student experience working group is tasked with leading the reflection on how Concordia can stay responsive and agile in such an evolving context.

Working group co-leads:

- Rebecca Tittler, Research Administration Coordinator, Loyola College for Diversity and Sustainability
- Alice Isac, Experiential Learning Lead, Office of the Provost

### **Work, workplace and workforce**

This working group will evaluate what the future of work might entail at Concordia. Such a reflection, and the decisions that will shape our approach, will need to take into consideration the workforce (who our employees are), the work (what our employees do and why) and the physical workspace (where our employees conduct their work).

Working group co-leads:

- Linda Campione, Project Director, Future Concordia and Return to Campus Initiatives
- Teo Blackburn, Director, Concordia International

### **University outreach**

This working group is tasked with leading the reflection on how Concordia can enhance its engagement with external communities and partners locally and globally in a context where traditional practices and approaches are being reassessed.

Working group co-leads:

- Shauna Janssen, Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre, Faculty of Fine Arts
- Kristina Ramsay, Alumni Officer, Global Networks, University Advancement

### **Campus space**

The COVID-19 pandemic prompted a swift pivot to remote teaching, learning and working and is accelerating institutional reflections about the role of physical campuses in post-secondary education. The Campus space working group is tasked with defining what this means for Concordia.

Working group co-leads:

- Barbara Henchey, Director, Office of the Dean and Strategic Development, John Molson School of Business
- Angela Tsafaras, Manager, Planning and Academic Facilities, Faculty of Fine Arts

# Project team

## Project co-leads

- Anne Whitelaw, Provost and Vice-President, Academic
- Michael Di Grappa Vice-President, Services & Sustainability

## Steering committee

- Nadia Hardy, Interim Deputy Provost and Vice-Provost, Faculty Development and Inclusion
- Paula Wood-Adams, Interim Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies
- Philippe Beauregard, Chief Communications Officer
- William Cheaib, Chief of Staff and Associate Vice-President, International
- Carolina Willsher, Associate Vice-President, Human Resources
- Laura Mitchell, Executive Director, Student Experience

## Project team

- Linda Campione, Project Director, Future Concordia and Return to Campus Initiatives
- Céline Fortin, Senior Lead, Planning and Summer Programming
- Rima Said, Project Support

Have your say

## Join the conversation to shape Concordia's future!

Send your questions, comments and suggestions to [future@concordia.ca](mailto:future@concordia.ca).

GET INVOLVED