

# Reconnecting people, community & Nature

*Living Campus*  
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## Dawson Mission: Educate, Engage, Enrich

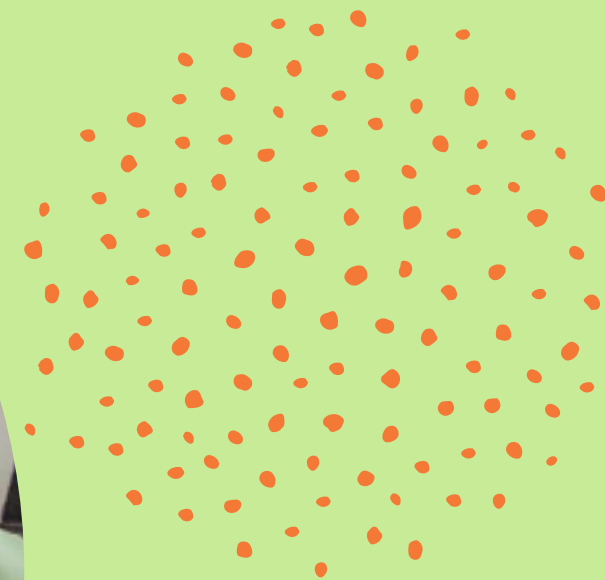
**Since 1969, Dawson has offered transformative, innovative and unique educational experiences to over 75,000 graduates!**

Today, students from across Quebec have made Dawson their first choice. With approximately 10,000 students, Dawson is the largest college (CEGEP) in the province of Quebec.

Students enjoy our heritage campus and stunning green spaces, on the western edge of the downtown core of Montreal. Our grounds have been designated an urban biodiversity zone and monarch butterfly oasis.

Our collective efforts and drive to create a more socially just and ecologically responsible community have been recognized locally, nationally, and internationally.

Dawson's 2020 GOLD rating by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, was the highest rating of all member colleges representing many countries. This designation, among other provincial and municipal awards for excellence in sustainability, has cemented our reputation as trailblazers in the field.



**Dawson's commitment to helping students learn about and contribute to environmental and societal issues is central to our mission. It defines our belief in developing a responsible citizenry who embrace the value of well-being for all.**



# We need your help.



The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the pre-existing student mental health crisis. Counseling departments at postsecondary institutions across North America are struggling to support the unprecedented challenges to the well-being of both students and staff. In addition, the 21st century brings current and future students daunting interrelated environmental economic and social challenges. Heightened youth

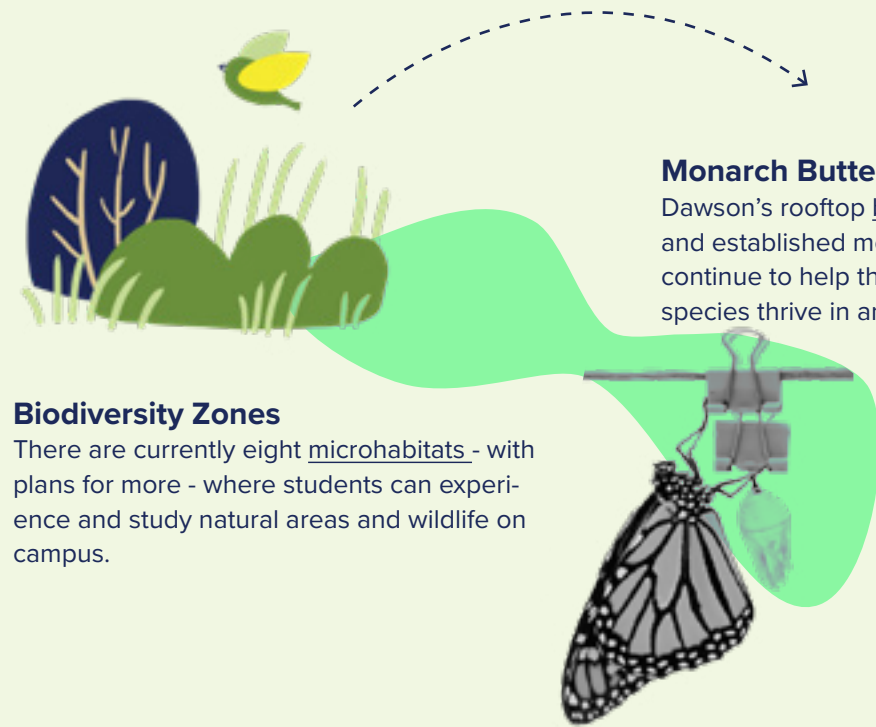
stress levels and the rapidly emerging mental health condition, coined eco-anxiety, are evidence of the growing feeling of helplessness and fear of environmental cataclysm. There is no time more important than the present for living campus programs that can cultivate hope, replace apathy with action, and help mitigate stress.





## What is living campus?

- A platform that integrates high-impact educational approaches and sustainability to promote **well-being for all**
- Recognition that our entire campus is a learning lab
- A place where real-world student-driven projects thrive
- The expression of Dawson's commitment to the improvement of society
- An explicit demonstration that Nature matters
- A campus that stresses positive relationships and helping ourselves, each other and the planet
- An environment that incubates hope



### Monarch Butterfly Nursery

Dawson's rooftop butterfly nursery and established monarch-friendly gardens continue to help this threatened species thrive in an urban setting.

### Biodiversity Zones

There are currently eight microhabitats - with plans for more - where students can experience and study natural areas and wildlife on campus.

### Climate Action Projects

Dawson has committed to being carbon neutral forever and continues to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and planting thousands of trees to offset the remainder. We work with international partners to reforest marginal land and create long-term employment for farming families.



### First Peoples' & Peace Centre

The knowledge of the Peace and First Peoples' Centres needs to be further introduced into project design and extra-curricular projects. Both Centres can offer rich, practical projects to staff and students.

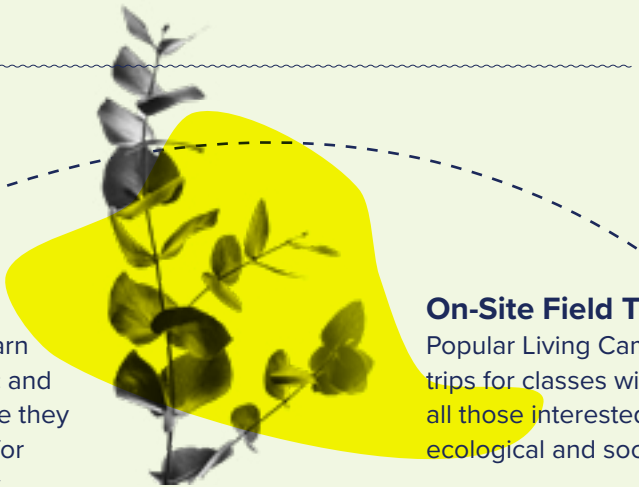
### Sustainable Happiness Certificate

Dawson is working with national and international partners to expand the outreach of this unique certificate, where positivity, health and sustainability meet to counter isolation and build resilience.



### Urban Agriculture & Rooftop Gardens

Students study rooftop honeybee hives and learn about food security. They participate in organic and rooftop gardening. They also share the produce they grow with external community partners caring for those in need and with the Dawson community.



### On-Site Field Trips & Tours

Popular Living Campus tours and on-site field trips for classes will be scaled to accommodate all those interested in learning more about our ecological and socially responsible activities.

### Peace Garden

The college's signature project after a tragic event encompasses an entire corner of our city block, houses thousands of flowers and is Dawson's largest biodiversity area. It is used for teaching, leisure and recreation and is recognized by the city of Montreal for its importance.



### Community Partners

Local, national, and international partners share best practices in sustainability. We collectively multiply our influence to build strong student and professional networks.



### Well-Being Projects

Meditation, mindfulness and group building exercises are offered to reduce stress and anxiety in a busy world.

Living campus projects engage students in real-world learning that reconnects people, community and Nature. **These projects are vulnerable** as they land outside our government-funded basic educational mission and often take place outside the classroom.

# 3 ways you can help.

- 1** Donate the equivalent of the cost of a coffee per week or more to our Monthly Giving Campaign
- 2** Become a Dawson Well-Being for All Champion with a minimum \$1000 contribution
- 3** Arrange a legacy gift that solidifies our objectives long-term and meets your estate planning needs

\*You can cancel donations and pledges any time.



# 1

## Donate what you can!

Help bring Nature back into the urban setting and develop innovative projects where students can experience positive emotions and connect with others – all while helping each other and the planet!

Donate the equivalent of the cost of a cup of coffee per week and make a huge difference in our monthly giving campaign. Credit card payments or direct deposits are convenient methods to contribute.

*Note: Charitable receipts for tax purposes are provided at the end of the year.*



# 2

## Well-Being for All Champion

Undesignated funds are important to implementing Living Campus as we can quickly pivot towards projects and activities that are time sensitive, unforeseen, or deemed important opportunities to continue to cultivate exciting learning that connects people, community and Nature.

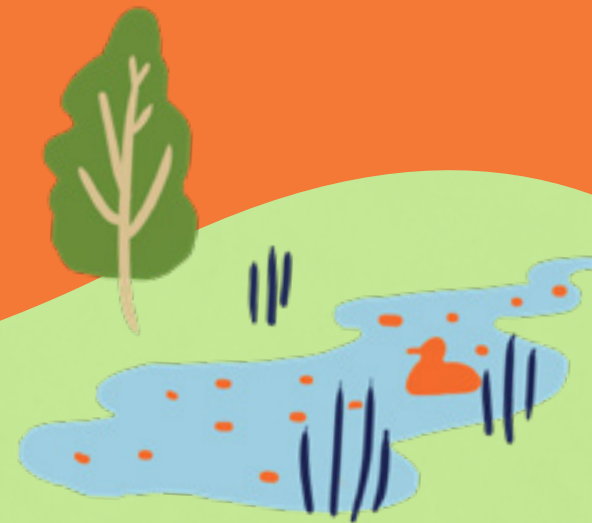
Become a Dawson Well-Being for all Champion by donating \$1,000 per year or more in support of Dawson's Living Campus projects.

*Note: Charitable receipts for tax purposes are provided at the end of the year.*



Ten years ago, a group of 32 students in one class set out to raise \$100,000 to grow the college's Peace Garden. They began an incredible journey to support the project and all it symbolized. They were joined by a second group of students who were inspired to mobilize an entire community. Together, and with support of hundreds of community members, friends and neighbors, they reached their goal.

**Can we do the same?**

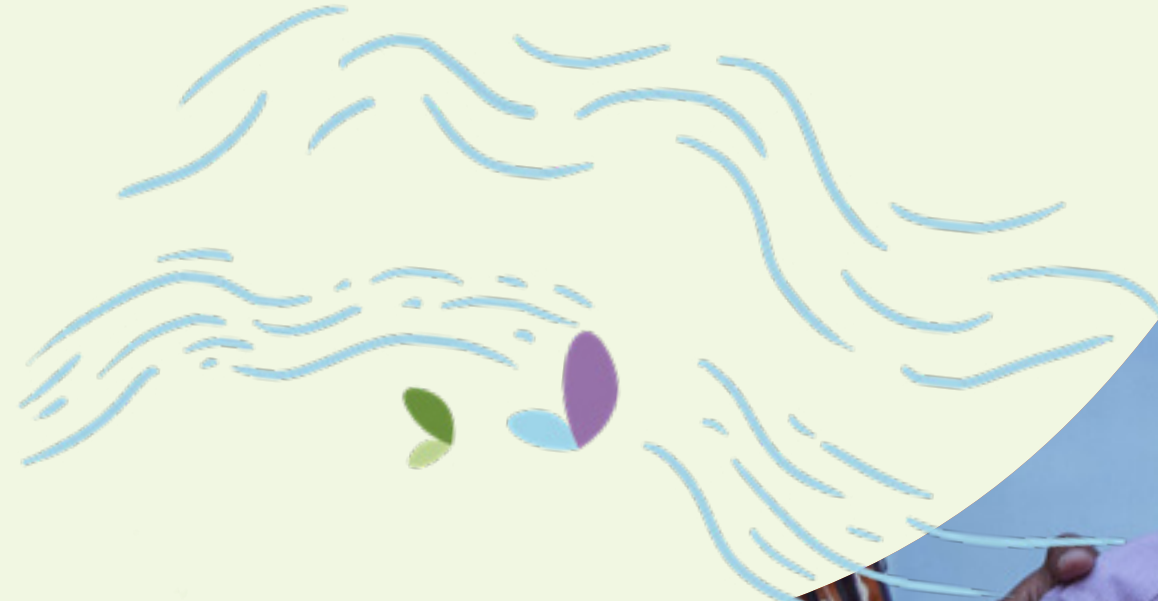




# 3

## Legacy Gifts

We always protect the ones we love. We can also protect the planet we love by leaving a legacy gift. Dawson invites Nature into our urban setting as an inspiration for learning and as a cornerstone of Living Campus. Make a powerful impact with a gift that honours a loved one, or your own commitment and that of your family, through financial and estate planning.



*Note: Charitable receipts for tax purposes are provided at the end of the year.*





# Donate today!

**Join a determined Dawson community in supporting Living Campus projects.**

*“Living campus helps our students explore the aboriginal peoples’ culture and connection to nature. These shared experiences contribute to the indigenization of the College and make me feel hopeful about reconciliation.”*

**Tiawenti:non Canadian** – Coordinator  
First Peoples’ Centre, Dawson College

*“This process of connection to self, others and the natural world is core to encouraging the behavioural change we all need to see in our communities for our planet and future generations to not only survive, but to thrive... this should be taught in every school in every country”. (ref. Sustainable Happiness Certificate).*

**Angela Watt** – Co-Founder – Resonate Together, Scotland  
Named Top 100 European Women - Social Enterprise – 2021

*“I am proud to support the innovation and leadership at Dawson directed towards a healthier environment and just society. You are trailblazers!”.*

**Living Campus Donor** – 2021





## Donation Impact

<p><b>\$2.50/wk</b> supports 10 monarch butterflies</p>	<p><b>\$2.50/wk</b> buys 26 trees annually to offset greenhouse gases</p>	<p><b>\$5.00/wk</b> supports 3 Living Campus tours for students and guests</p>
<p><b>\$5.00/wk</b> buys 25 Sustainable Happiness Journals for students</p>	<p><b>\$5.00/wk</b> supports 1 well-being workshop for students</p>	<p><b>5 people</b> donating <b>\$2.50/wk</b> maintains 1 biodiversity zone on campus</p>
<p><b>10 people</b> donating <b>\$5.00/wk</b> can support a Peace Centre or First Peoples' workshop series about important current topics</p>	<p><b>25 people</b> donating of <b>\$2.50</b> per week can support replanting and maintenance costs of the Peace Garden for one year</p>	<p><b>30 people</b> donating <b>\$2.50/wk</b> keeps 80,000 rooftop honeybees healthy &amp; buzzing yearly!</p>







A stylized night landscape illustration. The top half is a dark blue sky filled with numerous small, light green stars. A single yellow and green butterfly is in flight in the upper right. Below the sky is a large, bright orange ground area. On the right side of the orange ground, there is a cluster of colorful plants: a purple rock, yellow and blue foliage, and several small blue dots. At the bottom of the image, there is a light green curved shape representing a hill or ground level.

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