

# Dawson Social Science Week 2022

Time	Monday, February 7	Tuesday, February 8	Wednesday, February 9	Thursday, February 10	Friday, February 11
8:30	<p><b>Managing our personal resilience and well-being during the pandemic and beyond</b></p> <p>Dr. Tina C. Montreuil, director of Childhood Anxiety and Regulation of Emotions Laboratory C.A.R.E. McGill U.</p>	<p><b>Stress, School and How to Cope</b></p> <p>Yanina Chukhovich, First-Year Office Casey Benzu, First-Year Office Anna Marczewska, Academic Skills Patrick Bennett, Academic Skills</p>		<p><b>Gun violence, moral panics, and community responses to violence</b></p> <p>-Beverley Jacques, director DOD Basketball -Dr. Ted Rutland, Concordia U. -Svens Telemaque, Author and Spoken Word Artist</p>	
10:00	<p><b>Radicalization Leading to Violence: Prevention and Disengagement Strategies</b></p> <p>Dr. Marian Misdrahi, Dawson College</p>	<p><b>Indigenomics: Taking a Seat at the Economic Table</b></p> <p>Carol Anne Hilton, Indigenomics Institute and Founder of the Global Center of Indigenomics</p>	<p><b>The Gendered Digital Turn: Canadian mayors on social media</b></p> <p>Katherine Sullivan, Université de Montréal</p>	<p><b>TBD</b></p> <p>Environmental Seminar Anna Liisa</p>	
11:30	<p><b>Let's Talk Neurodiversity</b></p> <p>MSS Diverging Minds, McGill Medical Students' Society</p>		<p><b>Algorithmic Policing in Canada: Privacy &amp; Bias in the Era of Big Data Policing</b></p> <p>Michel Fournier-Simard, Dawson College</p>	<p><b>Stress, School and How to Cope</b></p> <p>Yanina Chukhovich, First-Year Office Casey Benzu, First-Year Office Anna Marczewska, Academic Skills Patrick Bennett, Academic Skills</p>	
		<p><b>12:00-1:45</b></p> <p><b>Fighting for a Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada</b></p> <p>Dr. Samir Shaheen-Hussain, McGill University</p>			<p><b>12:30-1:45</b></p> <p><b>Peace and Self Panel</b></p>
1:00	<p><b>System Change With A Smile: Climate Reality Project Canada</b></p> <p>Matthew Chapman, Québec Regional Coordinator for the Community Climate Hub initiative of the Climate Reality Project Canada</p>		<p><b>Dawson Campus Sustainability</b></p> <p>Sustainable Dawson</p>	<p><b>Film Screening and Q&amp;A:</b></p> <p>Mary Two-Axe Earley: I Am Indian Again</p> <p>Courtney Montour, Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) filmmaker from Kahnawà:ke</p> <p>*Sponsored by Peace Centre and Community Life</p>	<p>*Sponsored by Peace Studies</p>
2:30	<p><b>Designing Safe, Universally Accessible and Sustainable Streets</b></p> <p>Bartek Komorowski, Planning Advisor in Security and Sustainable Development, Montreal</p>	<p><b>On the Buckskin Babes: The Urban Moose Tanning Project</b></p> <p>Autumn Godwin and Dayna Danger</p> <p>*Sponsored by Peace Centre and Community Life</p>		<p><b>Film Screening</b></p> <p>No Ordinary Man: an in-depth look at the life of musician and trans culture icon Billy Tipton</p>	
			<p><b>3:00-3:45</b></p> <p><b>Unpacking the N-Word</b></p> <p>Overture with the Arts</p> <p>*Sponsored by Campus Life &amp; Leadership</p>		
4:00	<p><b>From Upstairs to Downstairs: Uncovering the Hidden Lives of Servants in Montreal, 1880-1914</b></p> <p>Dr. Elizabeth Kirkland, Hist. Dept. Dawson College</p>	<p><b>Science Fiction Prototyping: Problem Solving and Story Values</b></p> <p>Andrew Katz, Dawson Eng. Dept. Joel Trudeau, Dawson Physics Dept.</p> <p>*Sponsored by S.P.A.C.E.</p>	<p><b>FFPSE: The First People's Storytelling Exchange</b></p> <p>Michelle Smith, award-winning Métis filmmaker, media artist and educator Alexandrea Matthews, Dawson C. LSJ Kahawihson Horne, Dawson Alumni and Concordia BA grad</p> <p>*Sponsored by Peace Centre and Community Life</p>	<p><b>Q&amp;A with director Chase Joynt</b></p> <p>Chase co-directed <i>No Ordinary Man</i>, a feature-length documentary about jazz musician Billy Tipton.</p>	

## Monday, February 7

**8:30-9:45**

### **Managing personal resilience and well-being during the pandemic and beyond**

Mental health issues are increasingly impacting the well-being of a greater number of individuals, leaving few unaffected. Despite its challenges, the pandemic provides us with some opportunities of which to promote resilience. Research suggests that by increasing mental health literacy and teaching concrete applicable strategies, we can actually increase people's awareness and promote the reliance on more preventive actions; while empowering them in their ability to care for their well-being. As such, the proposed webinar will explore the many benefits of mental health literacy as well as to provide concrete tools to build a more resilient self to move away from helplessness into a greater sense of mastery over daily challenges.

**Dr. Tina C. Montreuil** is the director of Childhood Anxiety and Regulation of Emotions Laboratory C.A.R.E. Research Group. She is a recent awardee of the regarded Canadian Child Health Clinician Scientist Program that offers an interdisciplinary mentorship to early-mid career researchers working on improving child health and well-being. She has gained recognition as a child well-being (i.e., emotion regulation, stress and anxiety), and parenting expert. Montreuil's areas of expertise include the promotion of well-being, social-emotional development and learning, prevention - early intervention and mental health literacy/advocacy. Her research also focuses on investigating the role of emotion regulation, attitudes, and beliefs on the intergenerational transmission mechanisms of child development and mental health issues. She has developed a perinatal intervention aimed at developing resilience and well-being in expectant parents, Parents & Babies, with a team of Canadian researchers.

**10:00-11:15**

### **Radicalization Leading to Violence: Prevention and Disengagement Strategies.**

Dr. Marian Misdrah

The general objective of the presentation is to foster a field-based understanding of the challenges and strategies regarding the prevention of radicalization leading to violence in the Canadian context. Through concrete examples and the main theoretical perspectives, we will lead the participants to reflect critically about what is and what is not radicalization, the current strategies to prevent this worldwide phenomenon, and our role as a society to prevent it.

**Marian Misdrahi** holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Montréal. From 2015 to 2020, she has worked for the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence. Besides her duties at the Centre, she has participated in the Countering Violent Extremism-focused International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) – sponsored by the U.S. State Department. She has also taken part in various conferences and workshops, both at the national and international level, pertaining to violent radicalization and its prevention. Finally, as a specialist in social inequalities and discrimination, she has worked as a researcher on homelessness and mental health and the police racial profiling of young offenders in Quebec, among other things.

**11:30-12:45**

### **Let's Talk Neurodiversity: Promoting Greater Awareness of the Spectrum of Neurodiversity and the Neurodivergent Community**

MSS Diverging Minds

Through collaboration with neurodivergent individuals, family members, professionals and neurodivergence-associated organizations, our club's mission is to hear their voices, understand and listen to their experiences and illustrate their strengths and struggles through educational and interactive workshops, awareness events and volunteering opportunities available to high school, CEGEP and university students focused on educating oneself to further support the inclusion of neurodivergent people within society and provide an inclusive safe space for discussion centred around the topic of respecting, accepting and supporting this community.

Let's Talk Neurodiversity, a workshop created by MSS Diverging Minds is targeted to CEGEP and university students, with the goal of promoting greater awareness of the spectrum of neurodiversity and the neurodivergent community. Through this workshop, we highlight neurodivergent individuals' stories, strengths, and challenges encountered in everyday life through personal testimonials of advocates in the neurodivergent community and interactive discussions to develop empathy, respect, and acceptance of the community among the student population. Over the course of the session, we will explore what defines neurodiversity and neurodivergence, the misconceptions and societal issues faced by neurodivergent individuals, the media's portrayal of neurodivergence, and so much more. The workshop additionally aims to encourage involvement with community organizations that promote awareness, support, and inclusion of the neurodivergent community.

**MSS Diverging Minds**, founded in 2019, is an initiative created by McGill medical students that aspire to raise awareness and acceptance of the neurodivergent community within the student population through communication with neurodivergent individuals and advocates.

**1:00-2:15**

**System Change With A Smile: Climate Reality Project Canada**

Matthew Chapman

If you want to make lasting change, it must be attractive. This talk and (crowd-sourced) panel will highlight individuals and organizations nudging the levers of political and social power while having a good time and living the change they want to see in the world.

**Matthew Chapman** holds degrees in Fine Arts, Education and Business Administration and has worked for nearly a decade in grassroots environmental advocacy. Matthew Chapman does his best to live the change he wants to see in the world: recognition of and reconciliation from past wrongs, equality of opportunity for all, and regenerative practices that halt and redress harm done to our biosphere. He is the Québec Regional Coordinator for the Community Climate Hub initiative of the Climate Reality Project Canada.

**2:30- 3:45**

**Designing Safe, Universally Accessible and Sustainable Streets**

Bartek Komorowski

This presentation will provide students with an overview of basic concepts underlying the planning and design of streets. Streets will be presented not only as infrastructure for the movement of people and goods but also as public spaces and a locus of various social activities. Three themes will be addressed in depth: safety and Vision Zero principles; universal design principles to enable users of all ages and abilities; and sustainability and the ecological role of streets in the context of climate change. Students will be introduced to the different stakeholders and professions that contribute to shaping our streets.

**Bartek Komorowski** is an urban planner by training and has worked in the field of active mobility for 14 years. He holds degrees in Cognitive Science (B.Sc.) and Urban Planning (M.U.P.) from McGill University. He is currently a team leader at the City of Montreal's Urban Planning and Mobility Department. His team is responsible for developing design guidance for Montreal's streets, managing programs that support the implementation of pedestrian and shared streets as well as safe streets around schools. Bartek is also a board member of the Winter Cycling Federation, which organizes the annual international Winter Cycling Congress.

Prior to joining the City, Bartek spent 7 years as a Project Leader in the Research and Consulting department at Vélo Québec, Canada's largest cycling advocacy organization. He is a coauthor of Vélo Québec's 2020 design manual, *Aménager pour les piétons et les cyclistes* (Planning and Designing for Pedestrians and Cyclists).

**4:00-5:15**

**From Upstairs to Downstairs: Uncovering the Hidden Lives of Servants in Montreal, 1880-1914.**

Dr. Elizabeth Kirkland

A short walk from Dawson College will bring you to some of Montreal's biggest mansions where Canada's wealthiest families lived, worked and played. My earlier research focused on the women who lived in these houses and the private worlds they created therein. Now my curiosity has turned to the servants who also lived in these homes but were often literally hidden behind back staircases, up in the attics, or underground in basements. Yet it wasn't just the mansions - servants worked in smaller homes, in hotels, in public houses, in hospitals and orphanages. Who were these thousands of girls, boys, women and men who laboured long, hard hours and yet rarely emerge in traditional sources? This talk will explore the research methods (aka private investigation skills!) that go into finding and uncovering the lives of these hidden Montrealers. What we find when we look in some unusual places are lives filled with all the complexities of the human experience: joys and sorrows, love and friendship, loss and grief, hope and despair.

**Dr. Elizabeth Kirkland** has been a faculty member in the Department of History and Classics at Dawson College for more than a decade. She loves teaching history courses but has a soft spot for the Methods courses as well, (especially QM!) Thanks to ongoing research grants, she is able to spend half her working time as a researcher with the Groupe d'histoire de Montréal. Her research interests focus on the history of women and gender, particularly within Montreal. Her current research energies are divided between two different projects. The first of these looks at the experiences of young women and girls who migrated to Montreal to work as domestic workers (i.e. servants) from 1820-1920. The second project explores the tragedy of young death in turn-of-the-twentieth-century Montreal: infant mortality, childhood accidents, juvenile illness and disease, suicide, and the clustering of deaths during the First World War.

## Tuesday, February 8

### 8:30-9:45

#### **Stress, School and How to Cope**

Yanina Chukhovich, Anna Marczewska, Patrick Bennett, First-Year Office and Academic Skills

Levels of stress are reportedly on the rise among CEGEP students. Have you been feeling overwhelmed lately by your academic or personal life? Do you find yourself struggling to manage all of your responsibilities for the first time? Has a recent setback in one of your classes made you feel like you will never be able to succeed despite your best efforts? You are not alone; many students experience these thoughts. But it is possible to build resilience and reduce feelings of self-doubt. The Academic Skills Centre and The First Year Students' Office will be offering tips and strategies related to reducing stress, mindfulness and relaxation, time management, and more. This is an opportunity for all to learn about stress and the brain, and explore different ways to cope with the stressors inherent in our lives.

**Yanina Chukhovich** is the acting Social Services Officer at the First-Year Students' Office. She holds a Master of Social Work from McGill University and has supported individuals in working on various personal issues and challenges in CLSC, hospital, and community settings.

**Casey Benzu** is the social work technician at the First-Year Students' Office. She is a former Dawson College student, from the Social Services Program. Casey has experience working with young adults in different settings and guiding them through difficult life challenges.

**Patrick Bennett**, a born and raised Montrealer, has been working at Dawson College since 2013. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Honours English Literature and a Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics, both from Concordia University. He feels like he learns as much from students as they do from him.

### 10:00-11:15

#### **Indigenomics: Taking a Seat at the Economic Table**

Carol Anne Hilton

The Indigenomics Institute is the leading research, education, and engagement platform for supporting the rebuilding and design of Indigenous economies of Indigenous peoples worldwide. The Institute works to facilitate the realization of Indigenous modern political, economic, legal and community development objectives. Indigenomics is a dialogue and design platform to bring attention and focus to the growing Indigenous Economy. Indigenous economic growth is good for everyone. It is through dialogue and connecting that solutions-based collaborations can occur to address the challenges and overcome systemic economic barriers.

**Carol Anne Hilton**, founder of the Global Center of Indigenomics, is committed to increasing the visibility and inclusion of Indigenous business and economic growth globally. With over 20 years of experience in community, business development and economic design, Carol Anne is focused on multi-generational Indigenous wealth creation. Carol Anne is now focusing her expertise, skills and strategic insights across a broad range of social, ecological and economic projects driving multi-generational impact nationally and globally.

### 12:00-1:45

#### **Fighting for a Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada**

Samir Shaheen-Hussain

In the award-winning book, *Fighting for a Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada* (foreword by Cindy Blackstock, afterword by Katsi'tsakwas Ellen Gabriel), social-justice activist and pediatric emergency physician Samir Shaheen-Hussain exposes the Canadian medical establishment's role in the displacement, colonization, and genocide of Indigenous Peoples — colonial genocide. Through meticulously gathered government documentation, historical scholarship, media reports, public inquiries, and personal testimonies, the assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill University connects a recently abolished draconian medevac practice in the province of Quebec with often-disregarded crimes committed against and medical violence inflicted upon Indigenous children across Canada for more than a century and a half: fomented smallpox epidemics and avoidable tuberculosis deaths; experiments and abuse in residential schools, Indian Hospitals, reserves, and communities; forced sterilization; child abduction and disappearances. Drawing on the innovative work of Indigenous scholars and activists, Shaheen-Hussain argues that a broader decolonization struggle calling for reparations, restitution (including land reclamation), and self-determination for Indigenous Peoples is critical to achieve reconciliation in Canada.

**Samir Shaheen-Hussain** has been involved in anti-authoritarian social justice movements — including Indigenous solidarity, anti-police brutality and migrant-justice organizing — for nearly two decades. He is a member of the Caring for Social Justice Collective, and has written or co-written about state violence and health care for several publications (see below). *Fighting for a Hand to Hold: Confronting Medical Colonialism against Indigenous Children in Canada* was awarded both the Concordia University First Book Prize and the Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-fiction by the Quebec Writers' Federation in November 2021. Samir is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill University and works as a pediatric emergency physician in Tio'tia:ke (Montreal).



**2:30-3:45**

### **On the Buckskin Babes**

Autumn Godwin and Dayna Danger

Hide tanning is the process of changing the protein structure of an animal's skin into leather. There are several methods to stop the decomposition of an animal's hide such as the rawhide, vegetable, brain, and aldehyde tanning methods however it is a laborious endeavour. Animal hides are skinned, fleshed, and dehaired with tools and undergo soaking and smoking processes to transform into leather. These tanning practices have historically been done by Indigenous people, often women, Two-spirit, or Matriarchs of a family. Hides provide clothing and jewelry for families and communities. Hide tanning is most commonly done outside of urban city centers. A resurgence of land-based practices and initiatives have started to form in cities and urban centers. Join Dayna Danger (Metis-Saulteaux-Polish, Winnipeg) and Autumn Godwin (nehithaw, Montreal Lake Cree Nation), members of the Buckskin Babes Hidden Tanning Collective. As we carve out spaces for Indigenous cultural practices to thrive, they will share their experiences of hide tanning, collective organizing, and community reciprocity in urban spaces.

**Autumn Godwin** is nehithaw iskwew from Montreal Lake Cree Nation, located on treaty 6 territory in Northern Saskatchewan. As part of her journey to explore her Indigenous identity, Autumn returned to her ancestral lands to reconnect with its cultural practices. Her work is inspired by her community and is grounded in reclaiming language, ceremony, and emancipatory practices. Her goal is to pass on this traditional Indigenous knowledge to her children and to the next 7 generations. Currently enrolled in her Masters with Concordia University's Individualized Program, Autumn is pursuing research about Indigenous cultural resurgence.

**Dayna Danger (they/them)** is a Two-Spirit, Indigiqueer, Métis-Saulteaux-Polish visual artist. Danger was raised in Miiskwaagamiwiziibiing, Treaty 1 territory, or so-called Winnipeg. They are currently based in Tiohtiá:ke/Mōniyāng, or so-called Montreal. Through utilizing the processes of photography, sculpture, performance and video, Danger creates works and environments that question the line between empowerment and objectification by claiming the space. Ongoing works exploring bdsm and beaded leather fetish masks negotiate the complicated dynamics of sexuality, gender, and power in a consensual and feminist manner. Their focus remains on Indigenous and Métis visual and erotic sovereignty. Danger has exhibited their work most recently at the National Gallery of Canada with *Àbadakone | Continuous Fire | Feu continuuel* and was long-listed for the 2021 Sobey Art award. Danger was featured on the cover of Canadian Art's June 2018 Kinship issue. Danger has participated in residencies at the Banff Centre for the Arts and at Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art. In 2021, they began a doctorate at Concordia University that focuses on hide-tanning stories and bush skills, culture camps, passed on from their Saulteaux great-grandmother, Madeline McLeod (Campbell).

**4:00-5:15**

### **Science Fiction Prototyping: Problem Solving and Story Values**

S.P.A.C.E. Joel Trudeau and Andrew Katz

Science fiction prototyping, or SFP, is a design process that relies on science fiction to imagine, design and communicate about the future. How will the technologies of today and tomorrow impact our lives as individuals, a society and a civilization? SFP forecasts vivid answers to this question that can then inform and potentially guide our actions moving forward, allowing us to imagine how we will live in the future and what we can do today to shape it. In this talk, SPACE certificate coordinator Joel Trudeau (Physics) and SPACE fellow Andrew Katz (English) will present SFP as one example of imaginative worldbuilding and discuss how this kind of fictional prototyping can be used to imagine speculative solutions to a contemporary issue or possible alternative futures. To concretize the method, and if time and format allow, attendees will also be guided through a process of scenario creation as input for their own SFPs.

**Joel Trudeau** has taught in the Physics Department at Dawson College since 2004. His background is in Theoretical Cosmology but his interests and activities involve ideas across a range of knowledge domains. In 2007 he founded SPACE (Sciences Participating with Arts and Culture in Education), an initiative that seeks to expand academic discussion and collaboration across and within disciplines at Dawson College and beyond. He is also the project lead of the Dawson AI Artificial Intelligence initiative, part of a team building the infrastructure and curriculum needed to implement a comprehensive plan for AI education. His work lies in the domain where sciences, arts and technology overlap. Over the years he has been involved with Physics and Science Education research with a special focus on design-based, active and experiential learning. With colleagues at Dawson, he is involved in the enterprise of creating next gen curriculum that develops the critical technical and transversal skills needed for solving the pressing, emerging and potential future problems we all share.

**Andrew Katz** grew up in Montreal. After graduating from McGill medical school he went on to complete his Masters in English and Creative Writing at Concordia, and since 2006 he has been teaching English and Creative Writing at Dawson College, where in 2013 he won the Director General's Award for Teaching Excellence. He has been involved as a SPACE coordinator and fellow since 2008, and he uses his background in both the sciences and the arts to help students across the disciplines explore connections within and beyond their primary fields of study. He is also a published picture book author; his first picture book, *How to Catch a Bear Who Loves to Read* (2018), published simultaneously in French as *Comment attraper un ours qui aime lire*, was nominated for the 2020 Prix Peuplier, an Ontario Library Association Forest of Reading award. His second picture book, *I Just Want To Be Super! (Je suis Super Nino!)* was published in both English and French in 2020 and won an Independent Press Distinguished Favorites Award. His next picture book, *A Starlit Trip to the Library (Voyage de nuit à la bibli)* will be published in Fall 2022.

## Wednesday, February 9

**10:00-11:15 am**

### **The Gendered Digital Turn: Canadian mayors on social media**

Katherine Sullivan

Women continue to occupy lesser positions of power at all political levels in Canada, although scholars still argue on the accessibility of municipal politics to women. However, no previous study has systematically examined the gender ratio of mayors across Canada, as well as their active use of social media platforms in a professional capacity. Using novel data, this presentation will offer a glimpse into the variation in social media adoption and active use by gender outside of an electoral campaign.

**Katherine Sullivan** is a Ph.D. candidate in political science at l'Université de Montréal. After examining candidates' use of Twitter during the 2014 Quebec elections during her Masters in communication (University of Ottawa), Sullivan's work now focuses on gender performance, municipal politics and social media.

**11:30-12:45**

### **Algorithmic Policing in Canada - Privacy & Bias in the Era of Big Data Policing**

Michel Fournier-Simard

One of the most crucial issues of our times for social scientists is to understand how the "fourth industrial revolution" of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Deep Learning (DL) is transforming our democratic societies. We are only beginning to understand how new surveillance and automatization instruments challenge the relationships between the State, its citizens, and the entities developing these technologies. As the police enact the State monopoly of legitimate violence over a given territory, the way it engages with technological innovations to enhance this power - or not -, and how society responds, are crucial dynamics illustrative of the challenges AI poses for policy makers. Why are algorithmic biases more concerning in policing than in other policy areas? What are the privacy implications of police dragnet surveillance practices? Is police accountability possible in the era of big data policing?

**Michel Fournier-Simard** teaches in the Political Science Department since 2020. He is currently completing his Ph.D. at McGill University, where he specializes in algorithmic policing. His dissertation titled "The Politics of AI: the Case of Canadian Policing" focuses on Predictive Policing in Vancouver, Automatic Licence Plate Readers in Montreal, and AI-Induced Body-Worn Cameras. Michel holds a Master's degree in Comparative Political Sociology from Sciences Po – Paris, and a B.S. in Political Science & History from the University of Ottawa – summa cum laude. His doctoral research was notably supported by the Wolfe Chair in Scientific and Technological Literacy and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. His Ph.D. dissertation to be defended in 2022 is titled *The Politics of AI: The Case of Canadian Policing*.

**1:00-2:15**

### **Campus sustainability at Dawson**

Chris Adam

This talk will explore the ways in which Dawson works towards sustainability while explaining what is meant by "sustainability". It will also introduce students to the various initiative that have been undertaken by the community such as the Dawson gardens, carbon neutrality, Living campus, etc.

**Chris Adam**, Coordinator of Sustainable Dawson, has been a passionate and dynamic educator for over 35-years. In 2006, he spearheaded the drive to establish Action Conservation, Dawson's first stab at a sustainability program. Two years later, the initiative was transformed into Sustainable Dawson, with a firm commitment, clear objectives and benchmarks to measure how the College could meet the challenges of moving to a green campus and enriching students' learning experience through pedagogical engagement.

**3:00-3:45**

### **Unpacking the N-Word**

Overture with the Arts

This presentation seeks to help students and educators address the often uncomfortable, but necessary topic of racism. "Unpacking the N-Word" explores the origins and evolution of the N-Word. Through an Edutainment style that combines slam poetry, stand-up comedy and audience interaction, participants will learn to put one of the most loaded words in the English language into proper historical context.

**Overture with the Arts** uses the arts as a vehicle for education, OWTA incorporates multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary elements to foster an environment of learning, sharing and, of course, fun! Drawing on the passion and talents of our team of instructors, Overture with the Arts provides engaging workshops, guest speaker sessions, industry mentorships and performance showcases.

\*Sponsored by Campus Life & Leadership

**4:00-5:15**

**FFPSE: The First People's Storytelling Exchange**

Michelle Smith, Alexandra Matthews, and Kahawison Horne

This presentation will feature Michelle Smith and Alexandra Matthews (LSJ, Dawson), and Kahawison Horne (Dawson Alumni and Concordia BA) who will share their experiences working on the First People's Storytelling Exchange, a five-year project that shares stories from Indigenous students with the goal of improving the postsecondary experience for future generations. Over 100 First Nations, Métis and Inuit students and their families shared stories of education in college, university, in community and on the land in talking circles, story exchanges and filmmaking workshops. What barriers do Indigenous students face in terms of education equity? What is the role of community in education? How do students envision a more inclusive and responsive post-secondary education, and what is already happening now?

**Michelle Smith** is an award-winning Métis filmmaker, media artist and educator born and raised in St. James, Manitoba. She is a founding member of the Dawson First Peoples Initiative, Indigenous Education Council and Intercollegiate Decolonizing Network and teaches Cinema-Communications at Dawson College. She has directed and produced numerous documentary films and interactive media. She uses diverse media and participatory strategies to explore issues around Indigenous identity and resurgence, self-determined education and intercultural experience. She is Principal Investigator for the First Peoples Post-secondary Storytelling Exchange ([fppse.net](http://fppse.net)) and coordinated the Journeys First Peoples Transition program for four years. She is Vanier scholar, currently doing a PhD at McGill on the topic of Indigenous educational sovereignty.

She will be accompanied by Alexandra Matthews (Dawson College, LSJ) and Kahawihson Horne (Dawson Alumni and Concordia BA grad) who also worked on the project.

## Thursday, February 10

### 8:30-9:45

#### **Gun Violence, Moral Panics, and Community Responses to Violence**

Beverley Jacques, Dr. Ted Rutland, Svens Telemaque

Since the fall of 2019, the Montreal police have devoted increasing attention to incidents involving guns. They have created a series of new anti-gun squads and channelled an ever-increasing number of stories involving guns to the Montreal media. This presentation questions the current focus on incidents involving guns. It compares police and media stories about guns to actual statistics and describes the excess attention as a "moral panic." The effect of the panic, the presentation argues, is to deflect attention from growing demands to reform and defund the police – demands that resulted in the largest protests against police in the city's history in 2020. The effect is also to deter attention from community initiatives that, research shows, are much better at reducing violence of all kinds. Fredrick Douglas said: "It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men".

**Beverley Jacques**, a serial social entrepreneur with several community projects. Founder and director of D.O.D. Basketball, a sports, community and social organization seeking to engage youth from all walks of life to work together to build a stronger and kinder Montreal. Jacques is also a co-founder of Coalition Pozé, a Montreal Black activist coalition seeking to get guns off the streets and to increase funding to youth centers and programs and to improve the lives of Black youth in Montreal. Seizing opportunities since his birth and grateful to be!

**Svens Telemaque** is one of the most in-demand speakers regarding youth empowerment in the U.S., Canada, The Caribbean, and Africa. After multiple arrests and various feats with death, he decided to start anew. In 2007, Svens co-founded L'art Selah, a poetry collective that provides a platform for writers and infuses listeners with hope. In 2014 he released his first book entitled *Pen of a Ready Writer*. Svens has been recognized as a regional finalist for Start-Up Canada and awarded the Community Leadership Award from Montreal Community Cares, amongst other honours.

**Ted Rutland** is an associate professor at Concordia University. His research focuses on the racial politics of urban planning and policing in Canadian cities, and frequently publishes journal articles and opinion pieces about public security and police violence in Montreal.

### 10:00-11:15

#### **Environmental Seminar**

**TBD:** Title coming soon!

### 11:30-12:45

#### **Stress, School and How to Cope**

Yanina Chukhovich, Anna Marczewska, Patrick Bennett, First-Year Office and Academic Skills

Levels of stress are reportedly on the rise among CEGEP students. Have you been feeling overwhelmed lately by your academic or personal life? Do you find yourself struggling to manage all of your responsibilities for the first time? Has a recent setback in one of your classes made you feel like you will never be able to succeed despite your best efforts? You are not alone; many students experience these thoughts. But it is possible to build resilience and reduce feelings of self-doubt. The Academic Skills Centre and The First Year Students' Office will be offering tips and strategies related to reducing stress, mindfulness and relaxation, time management, and more. This is an opportunity for all to learn about stress and the brain, and explore different ways to cope with the stressors inherent in our lives.

**Yanina Chukhovich** is the acting Social Services Officer at the First-Year Students' Office. She holds a Master of Social Work from McGill University and has supported individuals in working on various personal issues and challenges in CLSC, hospital, and community settings.

**Casey Benzu** is the social work technician at the First-Year Students' Office. She is a former Dawson College student, from the Social Services Program. Casey has experience working with young adults in different settings and guiding them through difficult life challenges.

**Patrick Bennett**, a born and raised Montrealer, has been working at Dawson College since 2013. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Honours English Literature and a Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics, both from Concordia University. He feels like he learns as much from students as they do from him.



## 1:00-2:15

### Film Screening and Q&A with Film-maker Courtney Montour

**Mary Two-Axe Earley: I Am Indian Again** shares the powerful story of Mary Two-Axe Earley, who fought for more than two decades to challenge sex discrimination against First Nations women embedded in Canada's *Indian Act* and became a key figure in Canada's women's rights movement.

Using never-before-seen archival footage and audio recordings, Mohawk filmmaker Courtney Montour engages in a deeply personal conversation with the late Mohawk woman who challenged sexist and genocidal government policies that stripped First Nations women and children of their Indian status when they married non-Indian men.

Montour speaks with Cree activist Nellie Carlson, Mary's lifelong friend and co-founder of Indian Rights for Indian Women, and meets with three generations in Mary's kitchen in Kahnawà:ke to honour the legacy of a woman who galvanized a national network of allies to help restore Indian status to thousands of First Nations women and children.

**Courtney Montour** is Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) from Kahnawake. She works in the documentary film and digital media fields exploring issues of Indigenous identity. She directed, wrote and co-produced *Flat Rocks* (2017), a short documentary revealing how the development of Canada's St. Lawrence Seaway forever changed the landscape and the livelihood of the Kahnawake Mohawk community. Her first documentary *Sex Spirit Strength* won Best of Festival and the Emerging Filmmaker award at the 2016 Yorkton Film Festival. She has directed episodes for several documentary series including *Mohawk Ironworkers* (2016) and *Skindigenous* (2021). Courtney co-created and coordinated McGill University's Indigenous Field Studies course, held in Kahnawake, for 8 years. Passionate about educating, the course surfaces the intergenerational effects of colonization and Canadian policies on contemporary Indigenous society.

## 2:30-3:45

### Film Screening of *No Ordinary Man*

Richard Brody of *The New Yorker* writes that "*No Ordinary Man* challenges the very basis of cultural production, eschewing the familiar accumulation of biographical and historical information and instead questioning the process by which such information is gathered," and *IndieWire* describes it as a film that reinvents Transcinema. The film encourages us all to think critically about documentary film production, but is also a moving tribute to a trans hero, a man who lived his life as a musician, father, and husband without anyone knowing the daily challenges he faced to occupy those roles. The film was produced by a Montreal production company--Parabola Films--and co-directed by Aisling Chin-Yee (of Montreal) and Chase Joynt.

## 4:00-5:15

**Q&A with director Chase Joynt, co-director of *No Ordinary Man***, a feature-length documentary about jazz musician Billy Tipton, which *Indiewire* described as "the future of trans cinema."

**Chase Joynt** is a director and writer whose films have won jury and audience awards internationally. His next documentary feature, *Framing Agnes*, will premiere at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. With [Aisling Chin-Yee](#), Chase co-directed *No Ordinary Man*, a feature-length documentary about jazz musician Billy Tipton, which was presented at Cannes Docs 2020 as part of the Canadian Showcase of Docs-in-Progress. Since premiering at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2020, *No Ordinary Man* has been hailed by *The New Yorker* as "a genre unto itself" and *Indiewire* as "the future of trans cinema." The film has won 9 awards on the international festival circuit, including being named to TIFF Canada's Top Ten. Joynt's first book *You Only Live Twice* (co-authored with [Mike Hoolboom](#)) was a Lambda Literary Award Finalist and named one of the best books of the year by The Globe and Mail and CBC. Most recently, Chase directed episodes of *Two Sentence Horror Stories* for the CW, which are now streaming on Netflix. Photo by [Wynne Neilly](#).

**Friday, February 11, 2022**

**12:30-1:45**

**Peace and Self Panel**

Presenters TBD

\*Sponsored by the Peace Centre