



Office of Community Engagement

Annual Report | 2016-2017

BRIGHTER WORLD
community.mcmaster.ca

McMaster
University 



Sheila Sammon

Director of
Community Engagement

Celebrating a culture shift of community engagement

A message from our Director

Community engagement is not new at McMaster. Many departments, programs and individuals have been actively engaged with local communities for years. What is new since President Deane penned *Forward with Integrity*, his vision for McMaster, is the expansion of community based research, education and service activities across campus. Our office has been in a unique position to observe a shift in campus culture toward many more coordinated and principled community engagement activities. It has been a privilege to be part of the development of new projects, to provide opportunities for capacity building among students, staff and faculty and to work closely with community partners on initiatives that contribute to social good.

Our work is guided by the foundational principle, "Relationships build communities". It has been and continues to be driven by feedback from a wide range of community and campus members. As you will see in this report, we have matched and supported requests from the community to the research interests of faculty and students and have introduced researchers to community partners. Staff from many corners of the university have actively engaged with local communities and are developing and sharing their leadership skills. Students are increasingly involved in curricular and co-curricular community based learning designed to enhance and support their academics while making meaningful contributions to local communities. Their passion and commitment to making a difference in the world and their openness to learning from and with community members is infectious.

This first year of our strategic plan has seen the establishment of the community engagement office in Hamilton Hall 103B, securing Dave Heidebrecht as office manager and hiring a coordinator, Sashaina Singh. Throughout the year we have worked with outstanding student partners and staff: Christine Yachouh, Rodrigo Narro Perez, and Tanya Kakkar. Network members mobilize and inform community engagement activities in their respective units, participate and lead working groups and provide advice and direction to the office. We have received unwavering support from Susan Searls Giroux, Vice Provost (Faculty) and David Wilkinson, Provost.

This annual report provides a brief description of the background and development of the Network for Community Campus Partnerships and the Office of Community Engagement. It offers a snapshot of the work of the Office in the 2016-17 academic year and lastly highlights some of the community engaged partnerships that exist across campus.

We look forward to another year working with you.



Sheila Sammon
Director, Community Engagement
September 2017

Change Camp Hamilton is an annual event that connects McMaster students with people, projects, and organizations in the Hamilton community



"We must also uphold above all else the obligation of the University to serve the greater good, beginning with our immediate community, our city, and extending outwards to the world at large."

*- Patrick Deane, President & Vice-Chancellor
Forward With Integrity (2011)*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Community Engagement at McMaster	6
Network for Community-Campus Partnerships	7
Network Functions	7
Mapping the Network	12
2016-2021 Strategic Plan	14
Vision and Mission	15
Principles of Community Engagement	16
Pillars of Community Engagement	17
Goals and Objectives	18
Office of Community Engagement Activities	22
Undergraduate Course & Minor	23
Community Campus CoLaboratory	24
Collaborative Projects	26
Change Camp Hamilton	27
McMaster Research Shop	28
Pathways to Post-secondary	29
Community-Campus Catalyst Grants	30
Community Engagement Across Campus	31
It takes a village	42

Commitment to the public good

Inspiring a new approach to community engagement

One of McMaster University's goals over the next decade is to enhance the connections between McMaster and the communities we serve, locally, provincially, nationally, and around the globe.¹ The Office of Community Engagement is responsible for supporting this goal locally as we work together with our partners for an inclusive, sustainable greater Hamilton.

Community engagement at McMaster University values the expert knowledge and passion that members of the community (from local to global) have about their communities and issues affecting them; it fosters ongoing collaboration between University and community partners on how to better understand and consider the issues identified as priorities by local and global communities. Community engagement at McMaster involves performing research, teaching and service for or with community members and partners for the public good.

In 2013, inspired by President Patrick Deane's *Forward With Integrity* vision for McMaster, the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships was created to facilitate the achievement of the University's community engagement goals by bringing together community involved representatives from across the university to move forward with strategic and coordinated action.^{2,3} In four short years, this innovative approach to fostering relationships and developing shared goals has led to McMaster's first community engagement strategy, while also supporting numerous initiatives across our campus and throughout the Hamilton community.

Making connections, strengthening relationships, and fostering a shared sense of purpose, the development of the Network has been a true community-building experience.

This section of the report outlines both the functions and structure of the Network.

1. McMaster University Fact Book 2015-2016

2. *Forward With Integrity*, Patrick Deane, September 2011

3. Network for Community-Campus Partnerships, Community Engagement Task Force, June 2013

2013
NETWORK
CREATED

70
LIAISONS
22
UNITS



Creating the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships

Acknowledging McMaster's commitment to community engagement, the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships was formed in 2013 in response to the strategic directions identified in 2011 by President Patrick Deane within his open letter to the University, *Forward with Integrity*.³ Since its formation, the Network has worked to limit duplication of efforts, identify synergies, and develop an understanding of McMaster's shared expertise and interests in community engagement. Early on, the Network was directed by the University to take on the following functions:

Area Liaison Serve as Faculty/area liaison, facilitating dialogue and collaboration within and between Faculties/areas and with community members and partners.

Advisor Provide feedback on ideas and proposals, serving as a sounding board for consultation and expertise related to community engagement, while assisting in the development of strategies to operationalize the community engagement directives of the University.

Sponsor Potentially participate in formal vetting of proposals and give endorsements or allocate funding, while also sponsoring community-campus events that create opportunities to interface with the community.

Knowledge Broker Share best practices and facilitate the preservation of existing knowledge in community engagement while maintaining an awareness of activities and opportunities and sharing these with Network members and partners in order to reduce duplication of efforts.

Facilitator Facilitate collaboration and dialogue across Faculties/areas, streamline processes to facilitate integration of community engagement into academic activities, and provide a forum for dialogue about challenges, opportunities, and issues.

4. Network for Community-Campus Partnerships, Community Engagement Task Force, June 2013

Inspiring a culture shift

Developing the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships

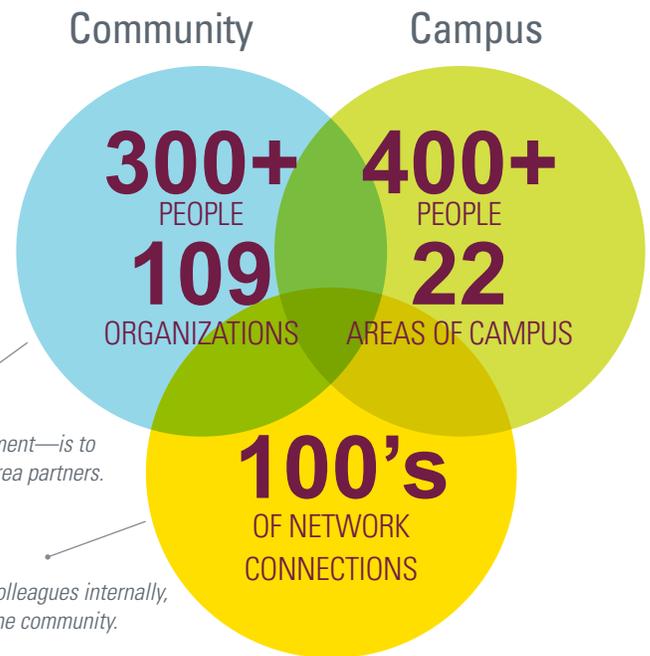
Over the past year, alongside our own projects and activities, the Office of Community Engagement has supported the ongoing growth and development of the Network through participating in, supporting, and advising on many events and initiatives. This work continues to foster relationships within the Network as we strengthen existing partnerships and imagine new and innovative approaches to community engagement.

1 | Area Liaison

Serve as Faculty/area liaison, facilitating dialogue and collaboration within and between Faculties/areas and with community members and partners.

A major function of the Network—via the Office of Community Engagement—is to serve as an initial connection point between McMaster and Hamilton area partners. These numbers reflect network connections since April 2015.

Connections made by the Network introduce colleagues internally, between campus and community, and within the community.



2 | Sponsor

Potentially participate in formal vetting of proposals and give endorsements or allocate funding, while also sponsoring community-campus events that create opportunities to interface with the community.

Impacts Unpacked, Community Engagement & Volunteer Fair, Hack the City, Community-Campus Idea Exchange, Getting Ready for Intensification, Food (In)Security, State of the Neighbourhoods, Mid-Sized Cities Forum, 100in1 Day Hamilton Workshop, Change Camp Hamilton



Change Camp Hamilton Fund, Community-Campus Catalyst Grants, Community-Campus CoLaboratory

3 | Advisor

Provide feedback on ideas and proposals, serving as a sounding board for consultation and expertise related to community engagement, while assisting in the development of strategies to operationalize the community engagement directives of the University.



Hack the City, a student-led program where students create solutions to community partner challenges, was initially imagined at Change Camp Hamilton. The Network both advised, sponsored, and connected the program to community partners.

456
ADVISORY
MEETINGS



The Faculty of Engineering has partnered with the Beasley Neighbourhood Association on an alleyway weather station.

The Office of Community Engagement has advised St. Paul's Presbyterian Church regarding their role as a community space and continues to explore potential links with McMaster partners.



The Office of Community Engagement advised McMaster's Centre for Continuing Education on how to incorporate community engagement into a new Strategic Leaders Program, actively connecting the program with community partners and co-hosting a community-campus event.

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Advising the DeGroote School of Business and Faculty of Health Sciences on incorporating community engagement into the Integrated Business and Humanities program curriculum.
- Supporting the Hack the City student team in developing program ideas, connecting with partners, and overall strategizing.
- Helping the Student Success Centre to develop ideas and community partnerships for their January 2017 Student Leadership Conference.
- Working with the Centre for Continuing Education to develop community partnerships within the new Strategic Leaders Program.
- Advising Temple Anshe Shalom on how to connect with a broader community-wide newcomer support system, including links with potential evaluators at McMaster.
- Connecting Human Resources colleagues with community partners for a Day of Service at the McQuesten Urban Farm.
- Advising the development of the Wilson Leadership Scholar Award.
- Advising the Faculty of Engineering on development of partnerships with Hamilton neighbourhoods.
- Serving on McMaster Discovery Program advisory committee.

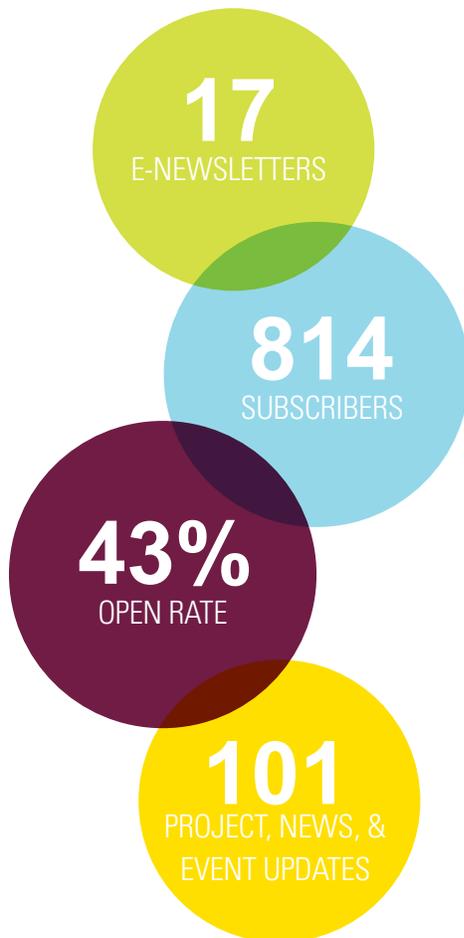
4 | Knowledge Broker

Share best practices and facilitate the preservation of existing knowledge in community engagement while maintaining an awareness of activities and opportunities and sharing these with Network members and partners in order to reduce duplication of efforts.

Dave Heidebrecht, manager of the Office of Community Engagement, is the primary knowledge broker and facilitator for the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships.



Community-Campus Updates



2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Launching *Paths to Collaboration: A Community Guide to Working with McMaster Researchers* to help community partners navigate the University.
- Creating *Community Connector 101* to provide basic information in an accessible format to community and campus partners.
- Developing a *Community-Engaged Education Toolkit* to encourage faculty, staff, and students to embed principles of community engagement into their community-engaged teaching and extra curricular partnerships.
- Sending regular community-campus updates to share information on news, events, and projects with both community and campus partners.
- Developing a senior leadership update noting Network and office priorities for each academic semester.
- Sharing the Network approach and learning from others at a meeting hosted by the University of Guelph's Community Engaged Scholarship Institute that connected colleagues from across Ontario.
- Serving as one of McMaster's representatives on Research Impact Canada, a Canada-wide knowledge mobilization network.

5 | Facilitator

Facilitate collaboration and dialogue across Faculties/areas, streamline processes to facilitate integration of community engagement into academic activities, and provide a forum for dialogue about challenges, opportunities, and issues.

Post it notes from the workshop where the Office of Community Engagement launched McMaster's first Community Engagement Strategy with partners from across campus and throughout the community.



2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosting and facilitating “Working together for an inclusive, sustainable greater Hamilton” workshop to launch 2016-2021 Community Engagement Strategy.
- Facilitating campus tours and dialogues to support improved pathways to post secondary education at McMaster.
- Canada 150 Seminar Series—facilitation of discussion of “How universities can support cultural abundance in our region”.
- Creating and facilitating working groups on Hamilton-based research, community-engaged education, and service to bring together colleagues to share ideas, develop projects, and identify challenges, opportunities, and issues.
- Facilitating partnership development within the Community Campus CoLaboratory to develop four pilot partnerships.
- Co-hosting the Evergreen McMaster Mid-Sized Cities Forum that connected McMaster researchers and Hamilton-based community partners with other academics and community partners from cities across Ontario.
- Facilitating dialogue at State of the Neighbourhoods event connecting neighbourhoods from across Hamilton to discuss common issues.
- Speaking and facilitating discussions at multiple Our Future Hamilton events focused on developing a 25-year community vision for Hamilton.
- Facilitating table discussions at Sustainability Professionals Network annual Green Jobs Networking Event.

Mapping community & campus connections

This visualization provides a map of how the office, the network, and our partners connect with each other.

Office Initiatives

Coordinated by the office, these initiatives support McMaster's community engagement goals and objectives.

Community Engagement Curriculum One of the Network's early goals was to embed community engagement more deeply into McMaster's curriculum. In September 2015, Foundations of Community Engagement, a level 2 undergraduate course was launched to teach students basic principles and theories of community engagement. In September 2016, McMaster launched an interdisciplinary minor in community engagement. Over 2017-2018, the Office of Community Engagement will be launching a toolkit for community-engaged education aimed at supporting faculty and instructors who want to incorporate community engagement into the classroom.

McMaster Research Shop Graduate students and senior undergraduates work with public, non-profit, and community organizations in and beyond Hamilton to provide plain-language answers to research questions.

Working Groups Pursue actions that address pillars of community engagement to help achieve strategic plan objectives and support community-driven priorities. Working groups take shape based on current priorities, while three groups meet regularly on the following topics:

- Hamilton-based research
- Community-engaged education
- Service

McMaster-Community Poverty Initiative (MCPI) Formed in 2007 by concerned faculty, staff, and students who were interested in expanding McMaster's role in addressing local conditions of poverty. Together with partners in the Hamilton community, the MCPI strives to use knowledge for social change.

Campus

On campus, the Network brings together community-involved representatives from across the University to move forward with strategic and coordinated action.

22
UNITS
REPRESENTED

Reporting Structure

The Office of Community Engagement sits within the Office of the Provost & Vice-President (Academic) and reports to the Vice-Provost (Faculty).



Community

In community, the Network fosters ongoing relationship-building between community and University partners through a variety of approaches aimed at developing respectful and mutually-beneficial research, education, and service partnerships.

100+
PARTNER
ORGANIZATIONS

Local
to
Global

Though focused on local partnership-building, the Office of Community Engagement is engaged in a number of regional, national, and global networks to share lessons learned and best practices. Networks include Evergreen's Mid-Sized Cities Research Collaborative, Research Impact Canada, Community-Based Research Canada, and C2UExpo.

Partnered Initiatives

Coordinated collaboratively with our partners, these initiatives support co-developed goals and objectives.

Change Camp Hamilton Inspired by the McMaster Students Union, a participant-driven dialogue developed in partnership with the City of Hamilton, Mohawk College, Redeemer University College, the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton and a growing number of community partners. Focused on introducing students to the Hamilton community, Change Camp Hamilton hosts annual events aimed at fostering an ongoing, action-oriented conversation on community, partnerships, and collaboration.

Paths to Collaboration A community guide to working with McMaster researchers. Developed in partnership with the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton, this tool helps community groups and non-profit organizations to navigate partnerships with McMaster.

Community Campus CoLaboratory A social innovation lab that helps community and campus partners by providing a collaborative, neutral environment to support partnership-building. Partnering with the City of Hamilton, Evergreen, the Hamilton Public Library, and the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton, the CoLaboratory is engaging with all six of McMaster's Faculties to develop partnered research projects aimed at benefiting the Hamilton community. Four pilot lab topics are: mobility, food insecurity, digital literacy, and business out of the box.

CityLAB Hamilton This partnership between McMaster, Mohawk College, Redeemer University College, and the City of Hamilton is an innovation hub that brings together student, academic, and civic leaders to co-create a better Hamilton for all.

McMaster's first community engagement strategy

2016-2021 plan outlines vision for
community-campus partnerships

In June 2015, the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships launched a strategic planning process to develop a 2016-2021 strategic plan. The result, McMaster's first community engagement strategy, sets the direction for the next 5 years of community engagement at McMaster.

Built on a clear vision, mission, and principles, and developed with the input of hundreds of community and campus partners, this plan identifies specific goals and objectives to support our community and University colleagues as we work together for an inclusive, sustainable greater Hamilton.

The strategic plan serves as a guiding document for the office, the network, and our partners throughout the community and across campus.

The following pages outline the strategic plan while also sharing examples of work done over the past year that are contributing towards our goals.

Vision

Working together for an inclusive, sustainable greater Hamilton

Working together	McMaster is a proactive, responsive, and collaborative partner in our community. We connect people, ideas, and communities.
Inclusive	Every person can access, contribute to, and potentially benefit from our work together.
Sustainable	Healthy social, environmental, and economic systems support thriving communities. Recognizing and valuing both the interconnectedness and limits of these systems, short-term actions and long-term planning decisions are made with the health and prosperity of both present and future generations in mind.
Greater Hamilton	We are embedded in and connected to multiple communities in and around the city of Hamilton. We also recognize that we are connected to and working with many communities outside of Hamilton's geographical and political boundaries.

Mission

McMaster University is a committed member of the greater Hamilton community and broader society and recognizes that true excellence can only be achieved when we are working together with our community partners. We are mindful of the interconnectedness of our globalized world. We value community and public engagement that is mutually beneficial, supports our academic, research, service and civic outreach missions, and collaboratively leads to meaningful outcomes and sustained actions and relationships. Regardless of the discipline, graduates of McMaster will be citizens engaged in multiple communities in multiple ways but we recognize that our relationships within the community we call home are paramount to supporting the vitality and well-being of the greater Hamilton area.

* McMaster's mission and definition of community engagement were developed by the Forward With Integrity Community Engagement Task Force (Community Engagement Task Force Position Paper, 2012).

Principled community engagement

Co-developed principles and pillars guide network activities

Action-oriented principles

During the Network's strategic planning process, community and campus partners strongly recommended that a co-developed set of action-oriented principles serve as the foundation of our work together. Informed by our consultations, the principles below will guide our work in initiating, sustaining, monitoring, and evaluating community-campus partnerships. These principles are meant to be broadly applicable for any partnership, from local to global, and can be applied across all Faculties, disciplines, and sectors.

Our foundational principle: Relationships build community

We can't have community without relationships—these are the connections that build community. Any successful partnership must be built on trusting and respectful relationships guided by integrity. We realize that relationships take time to develop and thus we commit to providing opportunities to connect people across communities, sectors, and disciplines to foster a genuine and interconnected network of colleagues to work together for an inclusive, sustainable Greater Hamilton Area.

Reciprocity: From design, to participation, to the outcomes of a project, we strive to work together for mutual benefit.

Equity: We are conscious of the historical and structural inequities that exist in society and strive to provide access and opportunities to all residents and members of our communities.

Continuity: Acknowledging that different communities work on different timelines and schedules, we strive to consider both the short and long-term implications of our work together.

Openness to Learning: Change takes time. We are committed to continually learn from and evaluate our work together, reflecting on and sharing both our successes and failures to grow as individuals, partnerships, and communities.

Commitment to Act: We aspire to make a positive difference in our community by sharing and acting on our knowledge to contribute to the greater social good.

Institutional Principles

Multiple overlapping strategies are required in order to integrate community engagement into the mission and vision of the University. The following principles, developed in 2012 by the Community Engagement Task Force that created the Network, aim to guide this integration into all Faculties and administrative areas:

1. Community engagement will be aligned with all facets of the mission of McMaster University.
2. The University will value collaborative endeavours such as research, teaching, service and advocacy activities with community stakeholders.
3. McMaster University will value working with the community for mutual benefit, build relationships based on reciprocity, trust and respect, and recognize global interconnectedness.
4. The University will respect that there are multiple definitions of "community" and that different disciplines/communities will experience, value and learn about CE differently.
5. The University will support, recognize and reward community engagement among faculty, staff, students, alumni and retirees.



The Office of Community Engagement supports relationship-building by facilitating events that bring together community and campus partners.

Building capacity

A variety of approaches are needed to support community partners as well as McMaster students, faculty, and staff who are interested in developing skills and competencies for principled, sustainable, and reciprocal partnerships.

- Community Engagement Minor & Course
- President's Award for Community Engaged Scholarship
- Creating Office of Community Engagement
- Change Camp Hamilton
- Student Partners

Sharing information

This pillar focuses on improving awareness of the work of community-engaged individuals, research and education outcomes, available resources, and upcoming opportunities and events.

- Community Connector 101 Document
- Daily News Stories
- Community-Campus Update E-Newsletter
- Social media platform development

Pillars of Community Engagement

The Office of Community Engagement is responsible for facilitating partnership opportunities through the management and coordination of the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships. Through working groups and other activities, the Office's mandate will be achieved through pursuit of four pillars.

Reducing barriers

A major barrier to any partnership development is that people (both partners and colleagues at McMaster) do not know where to go, who to talk to, or what resources exist to support partnership building. There is a need to improve access to (and awareness about) both physical spaces (on and off campus) and virtual spaces that can help partners use these pathways to navigate community-campus partnerships.

- Paths to Collaboration document
- Reduced rate parking passes
- Making campus available for 100in1Day Hamilton
- Promoting availability of McMaster's community spaces, including the Centre for Continuing Education's downtown classrooms

Facilitating dialogue

Organized in partnership with community and campus partners, face-to-face meetings on specific themes or topics support relationship building and ongoing relationships that can lead to potential partnership opportunities.

- Community-Campus Idea Exchange
- Strategic plan launch
- Mid-Sized Cities Forum
- Change Camp Hamilton

Shared purpose

Strategic goals

The Office of Community Engagement strives to build bridges towards alignment, partnership, and collaboration on projects that contribute to our vision. Four goals and related objectives are driving our efforts between 2016-2021.

Goal 1 | Establish the principles of community engagement as the foundation of community-campus partnerships.

OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 Uphold both the institutional and action-oriented principles in all of our work, partnerships, and resources.
- 1.2 Embed the principles into undergraduate and graduate curriculum where it relates to community engagement.
- 1.3 Share principles across disciplines and communities to ensure that all community and University partners are aware of and can consider how to apply these principles in their partnerships.
- 1.4 Incorporate principles into the research ethics process as appropriate.
- 1.5 Encourage the adoption of principles within the University's formal and informal policies and frameworks.
- 1.6 Recognize and reward work done by faculty, staff, students, and community partners that aligns with the principles.

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- The President's Award for Community-Engaged Scholarship was approved this year. The inaugural award will be given in 2018.
- The Office of Community Engagement oversees a community engagement minor and the Foundations of Community Engagement level 2 course.
- Supported by the MacPherson Institute, the office developed a community-engaged education toolkit over 2016-2017 that will support faculty and staff to embed principled approaches to community engagement into their teaching.
- The office has initiated conversations with McMaster's Research Ethics Office regarding how to direct researchers and students to the principles when they submit an ethics application.



Students in CMTY ENGA 2A03, Foundations of Community Engagement, visit the Hamilton Farmers' Market.



Office of Community Engagement staff deliver a workshop on the principles of community engagement to a group of student leaders.

Goal 2 | Build bridges between the University and the greater Hamilton community, embedding the University in the community and inviting community into the University.

OBJECTIVES

2.1 Improve access, navigation, and openness: a. To McMaster's main campus, including the use of available spaces on campus by community members and partners. b. To McMaster's virtual spaces. c. Between people, places, and spaces.

2.2 Develop a clear protocol for community engagement of which both community and University partners are aware.

2.3 Support regular opportunities for community-campus connections such as events that are hosted both on McMaster's main campus and at satellite campuses, as well as events hosted in community settings.

2.4 Explore emerging opportunities that support community-campus connections.



In partnership with Evergreen's 100in1 Day Hamilton, McMaster's campus was made available to community members, including a group of middle school youth taking part in the Hamilton Community Foundation's ABACUS Grad Tracks Program.



One James North, one of McMaster's new downtown campuses, opened in 2016 in the heart of downtown Hamilton.

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Partnering with Evergreen, McMaster faculty, staff, and students took part in 100in1Day Hamilton, a global festival of citizen engagement.
- The Office of Community Engagement was formed in summer 2016 to support partnership development, create opportunities for community-campus connections, and to serve as the first point of contact for partners connecting with McMaster.
- McMaster officially opened its downtown centre, One James North, in September 2016. Home to the Centre for Continuing Education, classroom spaces are available to be booked for community partner use.
- Developed collaboratively with the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton, *Paths to Collaboration* was created as a guide to help community members and partner organizations navigate McMaster.

Goal 3 | Align with neighbourhoods, community groups, governments, and institutions to partner on joint ventures and collaborative projects that respond to community-driven issues and priorities.

OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Aspire to respond to community-driven issues and requests through collaborative approaches that align with the University's areas of strength in research, education, and service.
- 3.2 Align funding opportunities and distribution strategies with partnership development and collaborations.
- 3.3 Develop a rapid response mechanism to respond to short-term community requests.
- 3.4 Negotiate curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities with community partner priorities and projects.
- 3.5 Increase McMaster's presence as an active, collaborative, and supportive partner within the community.
- 3.6 Encourage McMaster faculty members to proactively engage with communities beyond the campus as public intellectuals by contributing their expertise and knowledge to public dialogues and action plans.



McMaster faculty, students, staff, and community partners discuss food insecurity at the 2017 Idea Exchange

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Community Campus CoLaboratory—a social innovation lab—was formed to bring community and campus partners together to tackle complex challenges in areas of shared interest.
- The Community-Campus Catalyst Grant fund provided over \$10,000 in small grant funding to support new community-campus partnerships.
- The McMaster Research Shop was launched to provide rapid research responses to community partner requests.
- CityLAB Hamilton was approved by City of Hamilton councillors as an innovation hub for students from McMaster, Mohawk College, and Redeemer University College to work on city-driven projects.
- Change Camp Hamilton aligned with the City of Hamilton's Our Future Hamilton visioning process, identifying 234 action recommendations that directly informed the City's 25-year vision and 10-year strategic plan. The Change Camp Hamilton small grant fund supported 6 new student-community partnerships.



Mayor Fred Eisenberger opened up Change Camp Hamilton 2016 by speaking to new principles of cooperation developed to support partnerships between the City of Hamilton, McMaster University, Mohawk College, and Redeemer University College.

Office of Community Engagement staff have travelled from coast-to-coast to share our work and learn from others, including Community 2 University Expo in Vancouver.



Goal 4 | Assess and learn from the outcomes and impacts of our work on an ongoing basis

OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Involve the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships in ongoing evaluation of and reflection on partnerships and collaborative projects to support continued learning.
- 4.2 Create an evaluation structure that considers outputs that are valued by different communities (e.g. academic publications, community action plans, strategic plans).
- 4.3 Communicate about our impact and outcomes of McMaster's community engagement initiatives:
 - a. Across all areas of the University
 - b. Across the greater Hamilton community
 - c. Nationally and globally
- 4.4 Recognize, celebrate, and reward the success of community-campus partnerships.

2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Office of Community Engagement initiated an evaluation process to examine how the office develops partnerships and what outcomes result. This work will continue over the course of the 2016-2021 strategic plan with results being shared locally and beyond.
- Office of Community Engagement staff travelled to C2UExpo 2017 to share the story of the development of the network model with partners from across Canada and beyond. Additional projects including the McMaster Research Shop and Change Camp Hamilton were also presented.
- This report captures a number of community engagement projects—both within the Office of Community Engagement and across the University—and will be shared broadly with community and campus partners.
- Building on existing community engagement awards, the President's Award for Community-Engaged Scholarship was approved in 2017. The inaugural award will be presented in 2018.



Ayesha Khan, an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour Life Sciences Program, received the McMaster Students Union's 2016-2017 Community Engagement Teaching Award.

Office of Community Engagement Activities

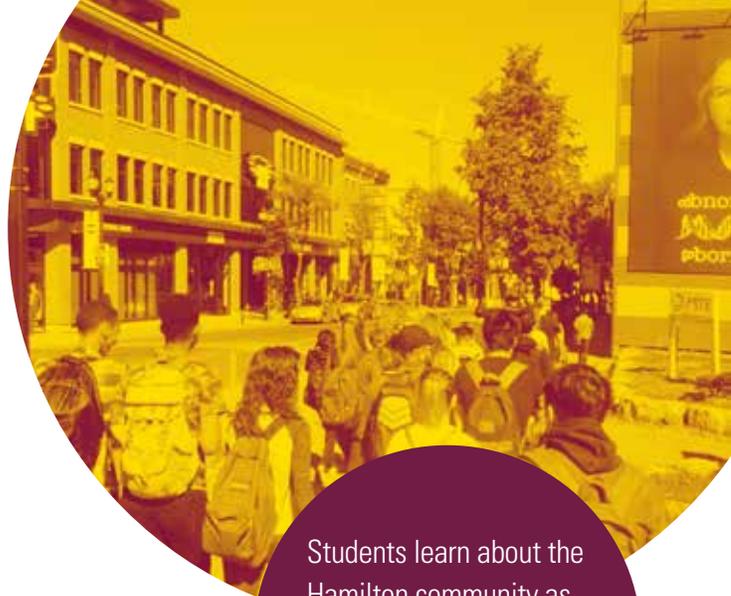
Formed over the summer of 2016, the Office of Community Engagement has spent the past year moving McMaster's community engagement strategy forward, while also developing office infrastructure—including moving into a physical space in Hamilton Hall and creating permanent staff positions to support our work.

While a major aspect of our work is to have introductory discussions and advise on partnerships early on, the following pages provide details on projects that have taken shape within the office, often as a result of years of work and engaging with community and campus partners.

Whether building capacity through the undergraduate curriculum, bringing partners together in various forums, or developing a social innovation lab to co-develop solutions to community-identified challenges, we strive to foster the network and inspire collaboration in all that we do.

Developing strong foundations

Inspiring principled approaches to community engagement within the undergraduate curriculum



Students learn about the Hamilton community as part of Foundations of Community Engagement undergraduate course.

Foundations Course

The Community Engagement Foundations Course (CMTYENGA 2A03) has been offered for the past two years during both fall and winter semesters. Capped at 40 students per term and designed to enroll students from across Faculties, it is co-taught by Kim Dej, Associate Professor School of Interdisciplinary Science and Sheila Sammon, Professor Emerita, School of Social Work. The course has become increasingly popular with approximately 45 students who were placed on a waitlist in 2016-2017.

The Foundations course was designed by a committee composed of campus and community participants to be interdisciplinary, not project/placement based and focused on principles and skills for engagement. Feedback from community partners provided us with the motivation to create a course where students were exposed to the complexity of community work, understood and respected the knowledge that exists in the community and who had the beginning skills for effective and ethical community engagement.

This year, the Office of Community Engagement was also involved in the consultation process for the new Integrated Business and Humanities (IBH) undergraduate program. This innovative new

program requires students to enroll in a community engagement course in their first year of study to prepare them for Community Engagement Consulting in their second year. Karen Balcom, Associate Professor of History and Gender Studies, a member of the Network for Community Campus Partnerships is developing the course in consultation with the Faculty of Business and will teach the first offering in January 2018.

Interdisciplinary Minor in Community Engagement

This is the second year that the Community Engagement minor has been offered to undergraduate students. A total of 10 students have declared the Minor in Community Engagement upon graduation. The minor is designed to provide a foundation of knowledge and skills for participation in communities regardless of one's primary field of study and allows students to deepen and expand their understanding of communities and develop skills for principled and effective engagement. The interdisciplinary nature of the minor allows for a broad knowledge base from which to establish relationships with a range of communities both locally and globally.

Illuminating solutions

Community-Campus CoLaboratory pilots social innovation lab

The Community-Campus CoLaboratory uses a social innovation lab approach to foster innovative, interdisciplinary, and cross-sectoral research and education partnerships. Partnering with the City of Hamilton, Evergreen, the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton, and the Hamilton Public Library the CoLab is bringing together McMaster researchers, community partners, and residents to develop solutions to shared challenges in four areas: mobility, food security, digital literacy, and business out of the box.

Over the course of our 2016-2021 strategic plan, the CoLab will engage with community partners, residents, and faculty staff and students from all six McMaster Faculties and other units to explore whether this approach can foster innovative, interdisciplinary, and cross-sectoral research and education partnerships. Based on the outcomes of this pilot, decisions will be made regarding the sustainability of the Community-Campus CoLaboratory.

1 | Business out of the box

Building on work done by Scadding Court Community Centre in Toronto, this lab is exploring the potential to use retired shipping containers as spaces for new small businesses to take shape. Looking at a few different locations across Hamilton, the project will be developing a prototype box with plans to launch a pilot in summer 2018.

2 | Food security

This lab will be looking at issues of food insecurity in Hamilton, developing ideas on potential interventions that might identify possible solutions to the challenges that relate to food insecurity.

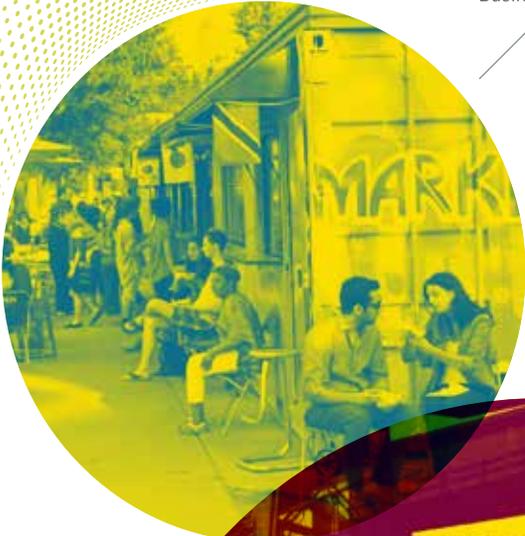
3 | Digital literacy

Focused on addressing gaps in capacity for working with various digital tools and technologies, this lab connects the McMaster and Hamilton library systems to explore what is needed to increase digital literacy amongst Hamiltonians.

4 | Mobility

Led by Evergreen CityWorks, this lab is focused on a shared desire for sustainable, inclusive, diverse, and accessible mobility for all Hamiltonians. Building on ideas developed at the March 2017 Bay Area Transportation Summit, the lab will be focusing on a small number of specific projects over 2017-2018.

Business out of the box



Used worldwide as an approach to addressing complex and systemic social challenges, social innovation labs involve three steps: convening a diverse group of stakeholders, developing ideas to address shared challenges, and prototyping ideas through pilot projects that address an issue at a systems level.



Mobility



Digital literacy



Smart collaboration

The Office of Community Engagement takes a proactive approach to developing new community-campus partnerships. Over 2016-2017, the office was involved in a number of exciting collaborative initiatives.

McMaster-Community Poverty Initiative

The McMaster Community Poverty Initiative (MCPI) was formed in 2007 by concerned faculty, staff, and students who were interested in expanding McMaster's role in addressing local conditions of poverty. Recently, the MCPI has transitioned to be housed under the McMaster Office of Community Engagement with staff support from the office.

In March 2017, the MCPI hosted a Food (In)Security panel event where Speakers discussed their perspectives, experiences and advocacy in relation to food security, talked about the work they do and shared ideas on how students can take action and participate in improving food security. The event had 75 people in attendance and was co-sponsored by the McMaster University Office of Community Engagement, Residence Life – McMaster University, OPIRG McMaster, and Karam Kitchen.

The MCPI also sent several advocacy letters during the past academic year. The first letter was in support the Mayor of Hamilton's proposal for a \$50 million fund for poverty reduction. The second letter was in support of Bill 6, a bill to bring social assistance rates into line with the cost of living in communities across Ontario.

CityLAB Hamilton

McMaster is partnering with the City of Hamilton as well as Mohawk College and Redeemer University College to launch CityLAB Hamilton, a curriculum-based innovation hub where students, city staff and community stakeholders will co-create solutions that support the city's strategic priorities. Following on a worldwide movement to create more meaningful learning experiences to engage young people, CityLAB Hamilton will offer post-secondary students the chance to

collaborate, design, launch and test real projects that address issues confronting Hamilton (e.g.: climate change, healthy neighbourhoods, municipal excellence).

100In1 Day Hamilton

Facilitated by Evergreen, 100In1Day is a global festival of citizen engagement that takes place in cities across Canada. Over 2016-2017, the McMaster Office of Community Engagement, Academic Sustainability Programs Office and Political Science program facilitated a formal McMaster partnership with Evergreen for 100In1 Day Hamilton. As a result, McMaster faculty, staff, and students were encouraged to take part in the event on June 3, 2017, while McMaster also opened its campus up to community as part of the festival. Students and staff participated in the event by facilitating interventions across campus and throughout Hamilton. The office also assisted the Hamilton Community Foundation's ABACUS youth with hosting booths on campus for their 100In1 Day interventions.

Mid-Sized Cities Partnership

Comprised of more than 20 academics from 14 colleges and universities from across Ontario, the Evergreen Mid-Sized Cities research collaborative is contributing thought leadership on key mid-sized city issues. In May 2017, the Office of Community Engagement partnered with Evergreen to co-host a Mid-Sized Cities Forum. Oriented towards co-developing a shared research agenda, the event included: a panel discussion with leaders from four Ontario mid-sized cities sharing their experiences and best practices in their communities, a series of rapid research presentations by researchers sharing their findings on issues from aging to infrastructure, and a brainstorming session to develop ideas on what issues the research collaborative could work together on in the future.

Change Camp Hamilton

Creating space for students, residents, and community to exchange ideas and imagine solutions

Change Camp Hamilton is an annual event organized by the Office of Community Engagement in partnership with the McMaster Students Union, the City of Hamilton, the Social Planning & Research Council of Hamilton, Mohawk College, Redeemer University College, and a growing group of community partners. Change Camp brings residents, post-secondary education institutions, community organizations, and the City of Hamilton together in a conversation focused on community, partnerships, and collaboration—the goal being to build partnerships, facilitate a dialogue to inform broader discussion around social action and volunteering and to encourage community members to provide input on community-campus initiatives.

March 2016 marked the second annual Change Camp Hamilton event, bringing together participants to discuss how participants could move Our Future Hamilton, the City of Hamilton's visioning initiative, forward. The event resulted in the creation of an extensive Change Camp Hamilton report with 234 action recommendations that contributed directly to the City's new 25-year vision and 10-year strategic plan. Building on this outcome, Change Camp events have shifted towards project-oriented workshops complimented by small-scale catalyst grants to inspire new community-campus partnerships. In 2017, Change Camp will be focusing on fostering cross-neighbourhood partnerships between residents, students, and community organizations.

450+
PARTICIPANTS

234
ACTION IDEAS

30+
COMMUNITY
GROUPS

60%
OF PARTICIPANTS
ANTICIPATE NEW
PARTNERSHIPS

6
PROJECTS
FUNDED



McMaster students have partnered with the Stinson Neighbourhood Association to build a community garden



Change Camp Hamilton principles of collaboration were shared at the Our Future Hamilton Summit. in April 2016



Co-creating ideas for Our Future Hamilton

Serving the greater good

McMaster Research Shop reimagines student learning

The McMaster Research Shop works with non-profit and community organizations in Hamilton to answer their research questions. Teams of McMaster student Research Associates collaborate with requesting partners to complete small scale and plain language research reviews. Notable partnerships from 2016 include:

Hamilton Arts & Letters Students designed an online survey to assess the magazine's quality and impact and engaged in quantitative and qualitative data analysis. The team produced a final report of findings that will be used to support future grant applications.

Hamilton Burlington Trails Council Students searched for national and international examples of greenways (bike paths and trails) that have been successfully integrated into urban centres, and developed a report of recommendations for moving forward in Hamilton. The material will be used to inform government officials and the broader public.

Industry Education Council The team reviewed literature on engaging parents of children in grades 6-8 to encourage planning for and pathways to post-secondary education, and co-facilitated a focus group with community partners to learn about best practices already being implemented in Hamilton. Students prepared a report of local and North American examples and steps for creating and expanding parent engagement strategies in Hamilton. The material is being circulated to community partners engaged in parent engagement, and will be presented at a community meeting in the Fall of 2017.

Industry Education Council
Hamilton Code Clubs



10
PROJECTS
COMPLETED

40+
STUDENT
RESEARCH
ASSOCIATES



Hamilton Arts & Letters



Hamilton
Waterfront Trail

"The Research Shop was a wonderful experience as it helped me to build on knowledge and skills gained during school, interact with many different individuals, learn about a new research topic, and provide something which is useful to the community partner."
— a Research Shop student volunteer



Xperience Annex youth engagers visiting campus



Grad Tracks participants hosted 100in1 Day Hamilton interventions on campus



Positive comment board

Improving pathways to McMaster

Opening campus to Hamilton youth through partnership

Over 2016-2017, the Office of Community Engagement responded to requests from our partners at the City of Hamilton's Xperience Annex and the Hamilton Community Foundation's ABACUS Grad Tracks Program to open up McMaster's campus to youth navigating pathways to post-secondary education.

Xperience Annex

In January 2017, the McMaster Office of Community Engagement organized a campus tour for partners working with the City of Hamilton's Xperience Annex. The goal of the tour was to provide youth engagers (staff working with the Xperience Annex) with information about McMaster that would be helpful for 18-29 year-old youth considering post-secondary education, while also getting a sense of the pathways and tools available to youth who have experienced barriers to post-secondary education.

Following the tour—which included details on campus admissions, a residence visit, and a course drop-in—a group of McMaster and community colleagues listened to the experience of the youth engagers. Overall, the engagers found the tours very informative, but there was an acknowledgement that while many resources exist for potential students, most communications materials and recruitment programs are primarily aimed at students entering post-secondary directly from high school. There are no clear resources for those taking non-traditional routes to post-secondary, especially for youth who have faced barriers to post-secondary education.

Hamilton Community Foundation: ABACUS Grad Tracks Program

In the winter of 2016, the Hamilton Community Foundation (HCF) launched their ABACUS initiative to Advance Post-Secondary Access. Over the next 10 years, ABACUS will serve as HCF's flagship priority, with an overall investment of over \$10 million. The Grad Tracks Program, one aspect of ABACUS, is a pilot early-intervention program designed for disengaged students in grades 6, 7, 8 and transition into grade 9.

As part of Grad Tracks' goals of inspiring students to feel that they can aspire to post-secondary, the Office for Community Engagement assisted with designing a campus tour for the youth in the Grad Track program, and in May 2017, the students visited McMaster and were able to engage in fun, educational on-campus activities. They enjoyed their time at McMaster so much that only weeks later, the office was able to help them host their 100in1Day Hamilton interventions on McMaster's main campus. Both of these experiences have led to further conversations with HCF about potential for other ABACUS grantees to visit the McMaster campus as part of their program.

Sparking ideas

The community campus catalyst grant fund

This year the McMaster Office of Community Engagement made \$10,000 available to support McMaster University faculty, staff, students and their community partners through a new Community-Campus Catalyst Grant Fund with grants available for up to \$1000 each. The fund was established to support new partnerships that align with the goals of McMaster's Community Engagement strategy. Proposals that involved collaborative projects with community partners working towards mutual benefit and pursuing outcomes aligned with McMaster's community engagement goals and objectives were prioritized for funding. The Office for Community Engagement received a total of 19 proposals and was able to fund 12 projects that involved new community-campus partnerships. Our 2017 Community-Campus Catalyst Grant Fund grantees include:

McMaster 24 hour film festival

Secondary school youth have recently been engaged in McMaster's 24 Hour Film Festival (M24). This project consists of creating a formal engagement strategy for youth in Hamilton to engage in M24 by increasing awareness and participation from a larger and more diverse group of individuals and teams.

Indigenous student housing

Raising awareness of urban housing issues affecting Indigenous post-secondary students: This project will raise awareness of the unique housing needs of Indigenous post-secondary students through an online and print media campaign that will empower Indigenous students to inform stakeholders of their housing needs in order to not only access higher education but to also succeed in their studies.

McMaster crisis intervention training

The goals of this project are: 1. Develop a partnership with the Hamilton Police Service in assisting students in crisis. 2. Educate staff and faculty on how to best address and resolve incidents of students in crisis both on and off campus. 3. Provide immediate assistance to students in crisis. 4. Provide yearly Crisis Intervention Training for McMaster Staff. 5. Reduce the isolation that those in crisis feel by providing the appropriate support and response.

Engaging community speech-language pathologists to plan a role emerging student placement system in underserved organizations in Hamilton

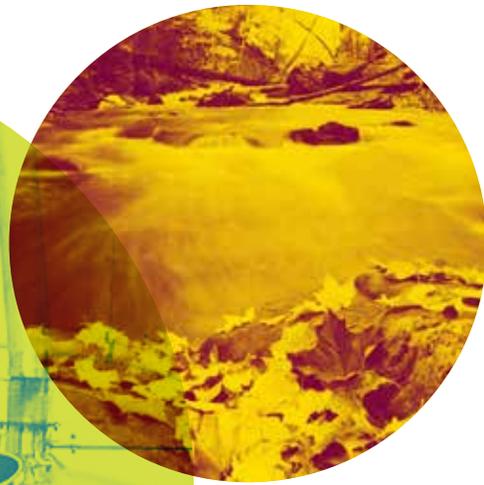
This project seeks to bring together community speech-language pathologists in order to develop a practical and reliable system to place students in underserved organizations where speech-language pathology services are not currently available.

Development of a brief child and youth mental health intake questionnaire for use in children's mental health agencies in Hamilton

This project extends a partnership combining research expertise from the Offord Centre for Child Studies (OCCS) with system planning skills and experience from the Lynwood Charlton Centre (LCC). This initiative will address an evidence gap in children's mental health by providing a practical, affordable, standardized approach to collecting information that serves the needs of clinicians, administrators and researchers.

Brewing with MERIT: water sustainability internships

This project aims to bring together students from McMaster University and highly knowledgeable, experienced professionals in the local brewing industry. This collaboration has huge untapped potential to develop innovative solutions to inefficient water use in the brewing process.



The McMaster Water Network Student Chapter is partnering with Merit Brewing to explore water sustainability within the brewing process

\$10,000

CATALYZING NEW PARTNERSHIPS

Coder dojo Hamilton

This project's goal is to create an accessible, inclusive space to provide self-directed tech education to Hamilton-area youth. This will be achieved through the creation of new learning materials and iteration on existing ones, the development of an engaged and robust volunteer network, and promotion of the program to school and libraries, as well as tech meet-ups, startups, and technology employers.

Student volunteer placement with Stewards of Cootes Watershed

The project will establish an ongoing partnership that will involve McMaster students. Students will help to clean up local watersheds, participate in researching the causes of creek contamination, and assist with advocacy by engaging with government, businesses, policy makers, and residents in the vicinity of the affected areas.

Creating practice-informed assessment tools for preschool speech and language programs

The goal of this partnership is to develop a valid and reliable assessment tool for use by speech-language pathologists in the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) Preschool Speech and Language Program that can be used to collect accurate program evaluation data (> 50,000 children/year).

City-wide dissemination of "Fountains of Uke": Hamilton's Inter-generational Music Program

Fountains of Uke seeks to instill self-confidence, happiness and well-being in participants (elementary students and seniors living in long-term care facilities). One goal of the project is to evaluate the impacts of program participation on the psychosocial status of the senior residents.

Re-imagine EcoHouse

One of Green Venture's flagship programs is their Eco House, which is a 150-year-old house and 2-acre property that has been retrofitted with infrastructure and educational material to demonstrate sustainable living. The goals of this project are threefold: (1) introduce students to Green Venture (2) engage students in the work that Green Venture does, and (3) create a new environmentally-friendly display for Green Venture's Eco House.

Hamilton LGBTQ needs assessment

The goal of this project is to conduct a more comprehensive needs assessment of Hamilton's LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, intersex, two-spirited, queer or otherwise minority sexual or gender identity) communities than has yet been achieved.

A campus-wide commitment

Community engagement activities from across McMaster

Community engaged research, education, and service activities that are intended to bring benefits beyond the campus have a longstanding history at McMaster University. Whether it is exemplified through faculty members working with community partners to develop community-based research projects that address some of the major challenges of our times, students participating in learning opportunities in and with communities, or staff developing partnerships with communities near and far, McMaster is deeply committed to community engagement.

This section of the report provides a snapshot of just a few of these initiatives as shared by each area of the McMaster community. The projects highlighted in the following pages have been developed through the energy, creativity, and commitment of leaders from across our campus and reflect the broad range of community engagement activities taking place independently across the University in pursuit of our shared goal and common commitment of working together for an inclusive, sustainable greater Hamilton.

Arts & Science

The McMaster Discovery Program

The McMaster Discovery Program is a free, university-level, non-credit course offered to adults living in Hamilton who experience barriers to accessing higher learning opportunities. The program aims to create opportunities for local residents to take part in a process of learning and discovery, to inspire a passion for lifelong learning, and to foster engagement and mutual learning between McMaster and the communities it aspires to serve.

ARTSSCI 3EH3: Exploring Hamilton Inquiry

This course encourages students to ask questions and explore topics focused on the City of Hamilton. Through the exploration of Hamilton from a number of disciplinary perspectives, including cultural, economic, and geological, students will have an opportunity to gain insight into the city that McMaster University calls home. Students connect with local politicians, decision-makers and members of the community throughout the course to assist in exploring the challenges and successes of this dynamic and changing city.

ARTSSCI/ISCI 3IE1: Urban Placemaking

This one-unit module explores the concept of urban placemaking, a collaborative process of animating public and private spaces to strengthen the social and cultural fabric of a city. Students investigate the use of arts-based practices, environmental resources, social enterprise, and civic engagement tools to reimagine underutilized properties.



Exploring Hamilton inquiry

Athletics & Recreation

McMaster Athletes Care (M.A.C.)

M.A.C. mobilizes the 800 student-athletes who compete on Marauder varsity teams to provide them with opportunities to give back and engage in meaningful volunteer experiences. Student-athletes act as mentors for youth in the community, teaching them the importance of leading a healthy, active lifestyle, while also developing their teamwork, communication and leadership skills. The vision of the program is to utilize sport as a tool to make a positive impact in the lives of at-risk youth, while breaking down barriers that may exist to both organized sport and post-secondary education.

Marauders in the Classroom

Marauders in the Classroom is a one-hour presentation offered to elementary school age youth, led by members of the McMaster varsity football and varsity women's rugby teams. Our student-athletes meet with youth to lead an engaging and interactive presentation. Topics covered include teamwork, leadership, goal setting, wellness and how each of these apply to their lives as student-athletes both on and off the field. Last year our Marauders visited over 10 local elementary schools, speaking to approximately 1,000 youth.

Think Pink Campaign

As part of the Canadian university wide campaign to end the fight against breast cancer, each year Marauder student-athletes organise a week long event to raise funds and awareness for the cause. With a record number of student-athlete volunteers donating their time to the efforts and increased support from the local Hamilton community, the 2017 Think Pink campaign was the most successful in Marauder history raising over \$8,000 in support of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.



The Centre for Continuing Education offers rooms and space to community groups and organizations. In 2016, a total of 75 bookings were made with costs being taken on by McMaster and CCE.

DeGroote School of Business

Centre for Continuing Education (CCE)

Campus Educational and Other Collaborations

CCE developed a new Big Data Analytics certificate program in collaboration with the MacData Institute which will prepare graduates for work in this important field. CCE is working with the Faculty of Social Sciences to co-develop a new MyOWNMac pathways for adult learners as part of McMaster's access strategy.

Two New Community-focused Leadership Programs

In September 2016, CCE launched the Leadership in Community Engagement Program in partnership with the Hamilton Community Foundation to professionals in the City who work in community contexts. CCE also successfully developed and delivered the new McMaster University Strategic Leaders Program, which includes community engagement as a core component.

Local Community Involvement

CCE is an educational partner in the City of Hamilton-led Xperience Annex initiative and also participated in the 100in1Day Hamilton partnership with Evergreen. CCE has also been involved in YWCA Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, the City of Hamilton's Snow Angels recognition program, and Supercrawl 2017.

Degroote Commerce Society - IMPACT Committee

DeGroote Impact is a committee operating under the DeGroote Commerce Society and its purpose is to motivate and bring together McMaster students to participate in events that bring awareness to important issues in our community. The goal is to provide every DeGroote business student with chances and opportunities to get involved through charitable actions and with non-profit organizations to strengthen the community.

Research on Refugee Integration

Dr. Benson Honig and Dr. Brent McKnight from DeGroote School of Business are working with a team of colleagues in Nursing/Faculty of Health Sciences and Humanities. This multidisciplinary research team will examine the service implications and mandate expansion that various settlement agencies are undergoing. Related to issues such as health care and gender, this work will have implications for future service planning and delivery. The research team will examine factors related to the organizational, cultural and political integration of Syrian immigrants, as well as related determinants of health and gender specific issues.

Partnership with World Vision Canada

In 2015, Drs. Kai Huang and Yufei Yuan from the DeGroote School of Business, along with Dr. Rong Zheng of the Faculty of Engineering received funding from the SSHRC Partnership Development Grant program for their project entitled "Assessing the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian aid operations via data analytics". The research team inclusive of graduate students and in partnership with World Vision Canada (WVC) is working to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian aid allocation and distribution. Through the application of state-of-the-art analytics techniques to the WVC Last Mile Mobile System data and other digital data the team is working in conjunction with the partner to evaluate the performance of humanitarian operations.

Faculty of Engineering

Beasley BLINK and Weather Station Project

This is a partnership between the Beasley Neighbourhood Association (BNA) and McMaster Engineering Faculty. Engineering students volunteered on two projects initiated by the BNA that combined the design and installation of a weather station in the Elgin street alley, and in-class Arduino lessons at Dr. Davey Elementary school.

Venture and LEAP - Girl Initiatives and Indigenous Outreach

In May, Venture and LEAP alongside the Women in Engineering society introduced a new conference specifically for female students in grade 11. The overnight conference introduced 36 girls to Engineering at McMaster. The girls were able to participate in a mini lecture series, hands on workshops, guest speakers, panel discussion, and a bonfire with undergraduate Engineering females, followed by an overnight stay in Mary Keyes Residence. In 2017, the outreach team was also able to reach over 376 indigenous students through travelling workshops, March break camps and Hamilton Regional Indian Centre visits. Through our outreach initiatives we were able to engage Indigenous youth through hands on, interactive workshops and inspire them to actively pursue STEM based fields in education.

IMPACT project - In-class Experiential Human Design Engineering

The IMPACT Project is a co-designed educational initiative of Drs. Fleisig, Kajiura and Vrkljan. Since 2013, this interdisciplinary collaboration has engaged students from Engineering, Science, and Health Sciences to design innovative assistive devices for community clients. The IMPACT Teams design devices to help clients living with challenges (arthritis, stroke, cerebral palsy, dementia) to improve their quality of life and address their specific needs. This project drives student creativity, innovation, and community engagement.

Faculty of Health Sciences

Studying proposed supervised injection site

Master of Public Health students engaged with Hamilton Public Health Services to complete a needs assessment and feasibility study for a proposed supervised injection site. A report on this work will inform Hamilton City Council's decision on how best to respond and will go to the Board of Health in December 2017. The MPH Program Director co-chaired and four MPH faculty along with a PhD Health policy student served on the Scientific Advisory Committee for this project.

Improving health information seeking within Hamilton

The Health Sciences Library in collaboration with the McMaster Health Forum has been engaged in community based activities with the Hamilton Public Library. The intent of these activities has been to raise awareness of strategies and tools to improve health information seeking within the community. Sessions focused on obtaining information related to healthy aging and a special topics series have taken place at multiple public library branches within the city.

Making Hamilton an age-friendly city

Considering Canada's aging population, accessibility has become a top-of-mind issue for municipalities. Led by occupational therapist and professor, Lori Letts, students within McMaster's Occupational Therapy program have partnered with the Hamilton Council on Aging (HCA) on a series of evidence-based projects, including: evaluating neighborhoods for walkability and safety; the development of an age-friendly guide to some of Hamilton's recreational trails; an assessment of local transit; and an evaluation of apartment building accessibility.

Faculty of Humanities

The Centre for Community-Engaged Narrative Arts (CCENA)

CCENA held its first gathering on March 1, 2016 and developed a number of projects over the last year. CCENA understands society to be formed of various interpretive communities, whose outlooks and objectives are formed by the narratives through which they imagine themselves, their relationships, and their purposes. The Centre's focus is guided by the goal of discerning, studying, and building critical and cultural literacies in a way that is attentive to direct engagement and reciprocity with existing communities, both real and virtual. By thinking narrative alongside "arts" in the plural, we aim to attend to the ways in which imaginative, creative, expressive communities are composed in and through their relationships and responsibilities to each other.

L.R Wilson Institute Canada 150 Series

A public lecture series sponsored by the L.R. Wilson Institute for Canadian History on Canada 150 and Confederation, promoting critical thought about our past, present, and future. Speakers addressed a variety of issues including the impact of Confederation on Indigenous peoples, Confederation in the context of 19th century North American nation-building, and the environmental impact of Confederation.

Gandhi Peace Festival

The Faculty of Humanities co-sponsored the annual one-day Gandhi Peace Festival held on Oct 1, 2016 at Hamilton's City Hall. The Festival theme, "Refugees and Sarvodaya - Opening Our Hearts and Homes," prompted reflections on the global refugee crisis and its local effects on the city of Hamilton. Students from the Centre of Peace Studies and English and Cultural Studies participated in large numbers as Festival attendance was incorporated into their course projects.

Faculty of Science

Learn CC Initiative

In collaboration with the City of Hamilton, the McMaster Centre for Climate Change has established a Local Education and Action Resource Network on Climate Change (Learn CC). Learn CC provides a forum or tool that allows citizens to report actions they are taking to help mitigate and adapt to climate change and also report local climate change impacts that they noticed.

McMaster Biology Greenhouse

The McMaster Biology Greenhouse plant collection gets visitors excited about nature and science. We reach out to the university and broader communities through visiting hours, group and camp tours, and social media. Our plant "sales", in which people who make a small donation receive a plant, and titan arum flowerings have each attracted 500+ people. In summer 2017, we hosted and supervised a student initiative "Hamilton's Youth Discovery Project" offering 8 hands-on labs to over 25 homeschooled children.

MacEngaged

The MacEngaged initiative aims to motivate and guide students early in their academic careers to propose and implement unique, achievable, and impactful projects using content learned in the classroom as the catalyst for civic benefit, service, and engagement. Through this experience student teams are provided with guidance from teaching assistants and peer mentors to identify a specific challenge in a local or global community. Then, they develop an implementable solution to the identified issue.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Scholar in Community

The 2016 fellow, Tina Moffat (Anthropology), partnered with Neighbour-to-Neighbour (N2N) Hamilton to help N2N establish a research and evaluation framework for their new Hamilton Community Food Centre (HCFC), and to critically investigate current questions and issues related to the Hamilton Community Food Centre program evaluation tools.

Experiential Education Community Partnerships

Partnerships with community organizations provide hands on skills development and integration of classroom theory in real world scenarios. In the 2015-16 academic year, Experiential Education worked with close to 90 community partners in 78 unique organizations.

Research Shop

Created by the Faculty of Social Sciences, the McMaster Research Shop is a novel blend of community engagement and platform for experiential learning. In the Research Shop, graduate and senior undergraduate students undertake "rapid research" to answer questions posed by community organizations that address key needs of the organizations. The students learn valuable research skills and knowledge of how to work with community organizations, while the organizations get answers to questions they don't have the capacity to address themselves. Between May 2016 to March 2017 the Research Shop contracted over 40 students across 6 faculties to work on 11 projects with 13 community partners.



School of Graduate Studies

Indigenous Undergraduate Summer Research Scholars (IUSRS) program

In 2017 McMaster hosted 18 Indigenous undergraduate scholars from various universities across Canada to participate in a two-month intensive summer program - IUSRS. Participants were matched with a faculty supervisor and took part in Indigenous Knowledge programming, and grad-school prep workshops alongside academic research. IUSRS is a program within the McMaster Indigenous Research Institute (MIRI) with support from Indigenous Student Services, the Indigenous Studies Program, and the School of Graduate Studies, in partnership with the Six Nations Indigenous Elder and Youth Council.

The Summer Institute of Awesome

From April-June 2017, a group of interdisciplinary Graduate Students provided weekly volunteer support for a total of 167 hours of service to local Hamilton school programs (after school clubs, tutoring/mentoring, and breakfast programs). Sponsored by Student Open Circles and the School of Graduate Studies.

SPICES grants

Student Proposals for Intellectual Community & Engaged Scholarship (SPICES) are grants awarded to Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows by the School of Graduate Studies. Successful proposals support new initiatives that address a community need or opportunity. These are passion projects imagined through and implemented by grad students and postdocs themselves. Awardees have one year and up to \$3800 to deliver their initiative. 8 proposals received funding in 2017 (55 funded SPICES projects since 2013).

Graduate Students Association

Club Recognition

The Graduate Students Association of McMaster University began accepting clubs under services we offer. Clubs that we offer include, but are not limited to, McMaster University Chapter of SIAM, Life in Computing & Software, and the Gilbrea Student Group. All clubs offered through the GSA are open to the internal and external members of McMaster's community.

Leagues

The GSA softball and soccer leagues have been a long standing tradition at McMaster, but are worthwhile to mention, as each year they bring together 800+ participants from the internal and external community to enjoy the communal activity of league sports.

The Phoenix

The Phoenix Bar and Grill is also a long standing tradition at McMaster as it has been owned and operated by the GSA since 1969. The Phoenix is home to the largest patio in Hamilton and 25 craft beers on tap. This is not only a spot for students, faculty, and staff to enjoy, but it is also open to the broader community for their casual dining needs, parties or catering events.



*Nibwaakaawin Teg -
Karahakon Katweiens'tha*

Indigenous Studies Program & Indigenous Student Services

N7/McMaster Youth Movement

Indigenous Student Services (ISS) supported the creation of the N7/MYM council to create opportunities for engaging Indigenous youth in sports and recreation as well as providing role models and mentors from McMaster Indigenous students and student athletes. For example, in partnership with McMaster Athletics, J.C. Hill student athletes from Six Nations of the Grand River were able to play an exhibition game during the half times of Marauder Basketball games. The teams were given tours of the athletic facilities and team rooms; met with Marauder student athletes; and a meal was hosted at the Ceremonial Room of L.R. Wilson Hall.

President's Retreat - August 2016

ISS assisted the MacPherson Institute in planning and hosting the President's Retreat on Six Nations of the Grand River Territory for the first time in McMaster history. The event also served as an opportunity to announce the selection of Louise McDonald (Clan Mother, Akwesasne Mohawk Nation) as a MacPherson Distinguished Scholar.

Nibwaakaawin Teg - Karhakon Katweiens'tha (Indigenous Gathering Circle)

The Indigenous Gathering Circle, commissioned by the President's Office, was officially opened on September 23, 2016. The event was attended by over 100 students, staff, and community members from throughout the region. The Gathering Circle is a tangible representation of McMaster's commitment to Indigenous students and the Indigenous nations of this traditional territory. Nibwaakaawin Teg is 'The place where wisdom resides' in Anishinabewewin and Karhakon Katweiens'tha is 'Learning in the forest' in Cayuga.

MacPherson Institute

Grenada International Partnership

McMaster University, the PETNA Foundation, T.A. Marryshow Community College (TAMCC), and the Government of Grenada have combined strengths to develop greater institutional capacities and access to higher education through a five year, international partnership. Focused on improving the quality of education, the partnership capitalizes on McMaster's strengths in the pedagogy of teaching and learning to further the development of teachers, improve the learning environment, and promote teacher excellence at TAMCC.

MacChangers

MacChangers, a partnership between the Faculty of Engineering and MacPherson Institute, is an extracurricular activity that provides resources, coaching and support to interdisciplinary teams of undergraduate students as they develop their research projects and propose innovative solutions that will contribute to positive change both locally and globally.

McMaster Child and Youth University (MCYU) in the City

MCYU in the City is a community engaged education initiative that invites undergraduate and graduate McMaster students from across campus to work in teams to create and present workshops for Hamilton's youth and their families. Broadly, this innovative outreach program integrates the pure and applied sciences along with the humanities and social sciences into inquiry based learning workshops. The workshop themes include cultural and social connections, health and well-being, sustainability, food security, disease prevention and active living. Workshops are designed to inspire youth ages 7-14 to love learning, think bigger, and pursue a post-secondary education. In collaboration with our community partners, such as Hamilton Wentworth School District, Boys and Girls Club, City of Hamilton, Social Planning and Research Council and Our Future Hamilton, we have held more than 75 workshops over the last 3 years.

McMaster Library

Human Library

McMaster Library, in partnership with Faculty of Humanities' Common Reading Program, opened the Human Library on September 6th, 2017. This year's Human Library theme was igniting, inspiring and nurturing an inclusive community across our differences, on campus, where we work, live and study and in our lives beyond campus. The interactive nature of the Human Library facilitates direct dialogue and conversation as a means for discussion and learning. Our community partners are the Hamilton Public Library, Empowerment Squared, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion, and a variety of McMaster and community activists.

Open Library

In partnership with Hamilton Public Library, the McMaster Library makes available books (free of charge!) to students on campus. The books have been weeded from the HPL collections. In addition, HPL participates in the annual Library Carnival day and registers students for HPL borrower cards. At last year's event, 100 McMaster students received HPL cards.

Outreach Activities

The library provides tours and guided lectures to interested groups from the community. In addition, R. Stapleton, Archives and Research Collections Librarian, visited Westdale Secondary School to teach a 2-hour class for a Holocaust Studies course. Library staff have given lectures on library collections to local associations e.g. Ancaster Historical Society, Burlington Historical Society, Hamilton Association for the Advancement of Literature, Science and the Arts, Ruthven National Historic Site, Flamborough Historical Society.

McMaster Students Union

Cupcakes and Community Change Event

This event encouraged students to submit ideas for Ward One's Participatory Budget process. By offering students support and cupcakes for submitting ideas, we were able to get the highest number of submissions from McMaster students compared to previous years.

Municipal Advocacy Week

Coordinated by the Vice-President of Education and the Community Engagement Coordinators, Student Representative Assembly and MSU members participated in lobbying meetings with municipal stakeholders.

#YesLRT Campaign

A campaign run to encourage students to send emails to councillors expressing their support for Hamilton's Light Rail Transit (LRT) project.

Student Affairs

Food For Thought

Food for Thought is a partnership between a number of McMaster groups and has worked with farmers from Backyard Harvest during the Summer gardening and cooking series. Food for Thought offers a series of fun and interactive classes for McMaster students of all cooking and food experiences. We provide opportunities to discover and experience how to cook healthy, affordable and delicious meals.

Community Engagement & Volunteer Fair

The Community Engagement and Volunteer Fair welcomes over 50 not for profit and charitable organizations from the Greater Hamilton Area onto campus. At the Fair, students uncover opportunities to gain skills and experience while helping others reach their goals and build better communities. Showcasing on- and off-campus, local and regional opportunities to get involved, attendees of this fair will develop meaningful connections, and enhance their resumes.

Leadership Summit for Women

The Leadership Summit for Women is an annual community-wide event that brings together women, trans* individuals, and allies from the Hamilton community. Presented in partnership with Mohawk College, Alumni Association, The YWCA Hamilton, Workforce Planning Hamilton and McMaster University, this event provides the skills, space, and support for all participants to reach their full potential as individuals and as collaborative members of a community. Those who participate are driving the creation of a more just and equitable society.

University Advancement

Educational Programming

The McMaster Alumni Association/Office of Alumni Advancement offers a series of programs that are open to the Hamilton community to participate in ranging from lectures, workshops, professional development activities and online programming. The Association has enjoyed a long history of Hamiltonians who volunteer and attend our programs.

Hamilton Alumni Community IMPACT awards

The McMaster Alumni Association introduced an award in 2011 which recognizes and celebrates McMaster graduates who positively impact the Hamilton community while reflecting the University's values of integrity, quality and teamwork. The 2016 award recognized Matt Alderson '89, Karen Hill '03 and Bryce Kanbara '70 during Homecoming Week festivities.

Six Nations student visit

The McMaster Alumni Association/Office of Alumni Advancement provided funds as well as hats, mittens and scarves to a group of junior high students from Six Nations during a February 2017 visit to McMaster. The students enjoyed a talk and dinner with the members of the Indigenous Studies Program and Indigenous Student Services, followed by watching the McMaster Marauders play basketball.

Vice-President Administration

Community Day of Service

On May 19, 2017 Facility Services held its second bi-annual Community Day of Service Event. The purpose of the event is to enable McMaster Facility Services employees to learn about the local community by volunteering in a local community organization. 44 Facility Services Employees volunteered at various locations around Hamilton including the YWCA, The Eva Rothwell Centre, Ronald McDonald House, Mission Services, and Goodwill.

Building Community - An Educational Priority

McMaster's Residence Life Office (RLO) has made Community Engagement one of its key priorities. Following the principles of community engagement developed by the Network for Community-Campus Partnerships, the RLO offers meaningful opportunities for students to develop connections with on and off campus communities. Students are challenged to consider issues identified as priorities by communities and perform service for the public good.

Hamilton Immigrants Working Centre (IWC)

Hospitality Services participated in IWC's community employment panel discussions and partnered with their Job Search Workshops Program to provide information about the hospitality industry as well as taking program participants on tours of McMaster's facilities. Hospitality Services have hired and continue to hire many of the centre's clients including approximately 12 Syrian Refugees—3 are now in permanent positions.

Vice-President Research

Open Doors Hamilton: McMaster Nuclear Reactor

McMaster's Nuclear Reactor opened its doors to the community, inviting guests in to learn more about one of Hamilton's most unique yet least known industries – medical isotope research, development, and production. Visitors also learned from the "neudose" team, about the satellite they are building to launch into space to understand the effects of different types of radiation on future space travellers.

The Forge

The Forge is Hamilton's startup incubator and McMaster University's on-campus entrepreneurship initiative. Forge company, Mathstronauts, caters to the educational needs of youth by offering STEM outreach and programming. Through a weekly after-school program, they help students develop understanding of numerical and mathematical processes while inspiring curiosity about the natural and physical processes of our world. Students (ages 10-15) obtain the basic yet fundamental skills of problem solving, critical thinking and guided reasoning.

McMaster Institute for Transportation & Logistics (MITL):

One of many research institutes and centres supported by the Office of the Vice President Research, MITL is working with the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce to investigate the merits of "complete streets" as related to traffic patterns in Hamilton. MITL is also supporting the City in its efforts to establish Hamilton as a continental logistics hub. MITL members travelled with senior City officials to the UK to study the Magna Logistics Park to investigate best practices and identify opportunities for Hamilton's airport land development.

It takes a village

Thank you to our liaisons and all of our community and campus partners

The stories and projects shared in this report are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the number of community-engaged research, education, and service partnerships that McMaster faculty, staff, and students are involved in. The Network for Community-Campus Partnerships and Office of Community Engagement have been honoured to have supported many of these partnerships, while many more have been developed independently of our efforts. Collectively then, this report reflects McMaster's commitment to serving our community, reminding us that while we can and should be proud of what we have accomplished together, there is still much to do.

Co-created with hundreds of community and University partners, our vision of working together for a sustainable, inclusive greater Hamilton is an ambitious one. Aging, poverty, climate change, affordable housing, youth employment. The issues we face here in Hamilton are also the issues we are facing as Canadians and around the globe.

Whether tackling these issues, or the multitude of others facing our communities and our global society, it takes a village to kindle the optimism and solutions that will lead to a brighter world.

Reflecting on the many amazing initiatives that McMaster colleagues are working on with partners across the Hamilton community and beyond, we have full confidence that our village is up to the task. Thank you to all of our colleagues and community partners who have committed time, energy, and resources to this effort. We look forward to continuing to foster connections, relationships, and ideas as we strive to serve the greater good.

Network Liaisons 2016-2017

Sheila Sammon, Director
Dave Heidebrecht, Manager
Sashaina Singh, Project Coordinator
Christine Yachouh, Student Partner & Project Assistant
Rodrigo Narro Perez, Project Assistant
Tanya Kakkar, Student Partner
Cara-Jane Dempsey, Senior Administrative Assistant
Office of Community Engagement

Susan Searls Giroux
Office of the Provost

John MacLachlan
Arts & Science Program

Nicole Grosel
Athletics & Recreation

Lorraine Carter
Monica Moryta
Centre for Continuing Education

Patrick Byrne
CityLAB Hamilton

Anna Danielova
John Medcof
DeGroote School of Business

David Latulippe
Faculty of Engineering

Briano Di Rezze
Sandra Moll
Olive Wahoush
Faculty of Health Sciences

Karen Balcom
Catherine Graham
Faculty of Humanities

The Office of Community Engagement would also like to acknowledge and thank our Provost David Wilkinson, and our President Patrick Deane for their ongoing support in championing community engagement at McMaster.

Kathleen Martin Ginis
Faculty of Science

Tina Fetner
Faculty of Social Sciences

Kim Dej
Foundations of Community Engagement

Andrea Cole
School of Graduate Studies

Shawn Hercules
Graduate Students Association

Josh Dockstator
Indigenous Studies Program

Rob Heenan
Daniel Wilding
Institutional Research and Analysis

Beth Levinson
MacPherson Institute

Suzanne Ferenczi
Amber Metham
Gay Yuyitung
McMaster Industry Liaison Office

Kris Knorr
Kathy Ball
McMaster Library

Cynthia Belaskie
Sheila Cranmer-Byng
Alise de Bie
Ailsa Fullwood
McMaster Research Shop

Stephanie Bertolo
Ryan Deshpande
Blake Oliver
McMaster Students Union

Pamela McIntyre
Sherisse Webb
Research Office for Administration, Development and Support

Anna Magnotta
Jeremy Sandor
Student Affairs

Sean Beaudette
Office of the Vice-President Administration

Lori Dillon
Office of the Vice-President Research

Gord Arbeau
Erica Balch
University Advancement

Jeff Druery
Deb Garland
Benson Honig
Maureen Hupfer
Working Group Liaisons

Sarah Anstett
Shannon Biss
Seanna-Lin Brodie-Keys
Danelle D'Alvise
Pina Del Monte
Grace Pollock
Lynn Stewart
Research Facilitators Working Group

Cynthia Bishop
Jennifer Dunk
Louise Gazzola
Justine Hamilton
Vicki Lowes
Rowena Muhic-Day
Sandra Preston
Jennifer Richardson
Lorie Shimmell
Sarah Wojkowski
Experiential Education Working Group





**Office of
Community Engagement**

Hamilton Hall 103B
McMaster University
1280 Main St. W.
Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8
905 525 9140 ext. 26279

Connect with us:

<http://community.mcmaster.ca>
community@mcmaster.ca
Twitter: @McMasterCE
Facebook: [facebook.com/McMasterCE](https://www.facebook.com/McMasterCE)