



A home away from home

Attending a large university can be scary at first, but rest assured there is wonderful support network here to make you feel at home.

Contact us at:
 McGill's First Peoples' House
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 or on the web at www.mcgill.ca/fph

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McGill and Montreal – a great university, a special city

McGill is built upon land that was a traditional meeting place for many First Peoples. The First Peoples' House honours our ancestors whose historic territory included the island of Montreal known in Mohawk as Tiohtiá:ke — “place where the nations and their rivers unite and divide.”

For more than 185 years, McGill has distinguished itself as one of the world's great public universities renowned for outstanding students, professors and alumni. First Nations, Inuit and Métis students from across North America, including Mohawk, Innu, Mi'gmaq, Cree and Ojibway, study alongside students from around the world in programs ranging from social work and education to law and medicine.

The First Peoples' House attempts to provide a sense of community and a voice to Aboriginal students who have left their home communities in order to pursue their education. Our services include, an Aboriginal Community Outreach Coordinator, accommodation, a resource centre, food program, visits by elders and guest speakers and community celebrations.

“The First Peoples' House is like a big family to me. They have supplied me with the support to achieve more than just academic success.” –
 Alexa McKenzie, Innu, Mani-Utenam, Quebec, Faculty of Law

Quebec First Nations chief receives top salmon conservation award

The Atlantic Salmon Federation (ASF) presented its top conservation award to Chief Guy Condo of the Gesgapegiag Band of Quebec in May of 2010.

Presented during meetings of Directors from both Canada and the United States at ASF headquarters near St. Andrews, the award honours Chief Condo for his leadership in bringing about a four-year suspension of gill netting at the mouth of Quebec's Grand Caspédia River. The suspension that began in 2009 is allowing many more salmon to reach the spawning areas of this river that is so important to the culture and economy of Quebec and the rest of Canada.

When Chief Condo recognized that the salmon resource on the Caspédia River was in decline, he surveyed band members to gauge their willingness to put on hold their right to fish for subsistence in exchange for job creation and economic development. With the overwhelming support of his band members, Chief Condo negotiated with local camp owners and the Quebec government a four-year suspension of the gill net fishery. By the time the 2009 run of salmon arrived, negotiations had been concluded and the spawning runs of the Grand Caspédia River were unimpeded by gill nets. This suspension, combined with a voluntary live release rate of more than 90% by anglers, will ensure the future health of the river

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and serves as a role model to be emulated on other Atlantic salmon rivers throughout eastern Canada.

Chief Condo received a beautifully sculptured leaping salmon, created by renowned wildlife artist DeCoursey Taylor. The award is named in memory of T.B. “Happy” Fraser of Montreal for his many contributions during his lifetime. It was first presented in 1975. Since then ASF has honoured 40 people, who, like Chief Condo, have contributed significantly to the protection of the iconic wild Atlantic salmon.

The Atlantic Salmon Federation is an international, non-profit organization that promotes the conservation and wise management of wild Atlantic salmon and their environment. ASF has a network of seven regional councils (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Maine and Western New England). The regional councils cover the freshwater range of the Atlantic salmon in Canada and the United States. ♦