April 1, 2021

Re: Accessibility - Campus de la Montagne de l'Université de Montréal

Dear commissionaires,

The poor level of accessibility of the existing Université de Montréal campus is shocking. This normally shouldn't concern a healthy able-bodied young adult such as myself or my family, but even I have had to spend many hours accessing the main campus by foot from it's only accessible access point at the Queen Mary gate, in order to use strollers or to transport a bicycle with a flat tire. As a professor, I have close colleagues with mobility issues with whom I have been unable to adequately collaborate. I have also had students recovering from injuries who have struggled to pursue their studies while recovering due to the difficulty in using and lack of frequency of the existing campus shuttle.

There is no vision in the proposed campus plan to transform campus accessibility and there is a failure to consult with the campus community on accessibility needs. The approval of the proposed campus plan must be contingent on a commitment to perform a consultation and develop an accessibility plan. As underground passageways are critical to campus accessibility this plan can not exclude consideration of internal passageways on campus.

The development of an accessibility plan is also urgent given that this and other proposed plans, such as STM's *Refonte du réseau bus* may preclude necessary accessibility improvements. As an example, frequent bus service along Chemin du Tour could provide frequent accessible transit to campus, but is incompatible with the *Axe de vie* in its proposed form.

To conclude, I agree with many of the values and elements presented in the campus plan. The Université de Montréal would benefit greatly from expanded built volume, community space, and green space, while recognizing its *patrimoine*. However, the current state of campus accessibility and this plan do not reflect the values of openness and care that either the University or the Ville de Montréal need to demonstrate.

Sincerely,

Alan Robinson