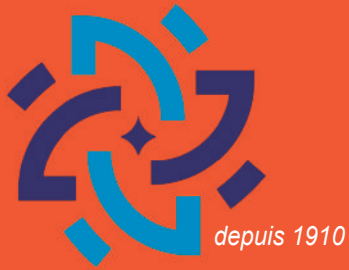


Montreal City Mission



Mission communautaire  
de Montréal

A United Church of Canada Community Ministry

2025

Annual Report



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Montréal, Québec H3A 2E4
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\*disponible en français

# Message from the Executive Director

*"A utopia is always in the process of being realized. The absence of utopia is the death of society because it would no longer have any project—any prospective goals."*

Namsoon Kang

*Cosmopolitan Theology: Reconstituting Planetary Hospitality, Neighbour-Love and Solidarity in an Uneven World*

In many ways, 2025 was a utopian year at Montreal City Mission: a year of renewed vision, emerging projects, and hospitality grounded in connection across difference. Our team continued to grow as new initiatives took shape. For the first time in its 115-year history, MCM moved beyond Montreal's borders with the opening of a satellite office in Quebec City, where a full-time lawyer and part-time United Church pastor now provide legal accompaniment to migrants while building new ecumenical and community partnerships. Exploration of new mission possibilities in the Eastern Townships also began in collaboration with church, government, and community partners.

The Maa'n program deepened its roots through a new affiliation with our neighbours at Église St-Jean, now home to the newcomer women's sewing circle and soon the catering collective. MCM's third program, Camp Cosmos, expanded from six to seven weeks, offering an ecological day camp program for local and newcomer children. Faithful to its mandate of welcome, Camp Cosmos has continued to accompany refugee families from Syria, Ukraine, and, most recently, Gaza.

More than a year of growth, 2025 was a year of horizon-expanding possibility, as MCM continued to embody hospitality, justice, and hope across regions and communities, planting the seeds for a more connected and compassionate future.

Rev. Paula Kline



## Maa'n / Ensemble *Facilitating integration and building community through concrete projects and intercultural/faith partnerships*

- ✔ Muslim Awareness Week
- ✔ Gathering at Table - Iftar
- ✔ Blue Met Literary Festival
- ✔ Outings/Cultural activities
- ✔ Solidarity Dialogues
- ✔ Power Within
- ✔ Good Neighbour Gathering
- ✔ Holistic Reconciliation
- ✔ Women Weaving their Dreams
- ✔ Peace Days
- ✔ English Classes



At Maa'n/MCM, connection is everything. This year, over 1,250 participants across more than 10 activities showed us what happens when people come together with openness and intention. Whether around an iftar table, in a solidarity circle, or out picking fruit, each gathering carried the same purpose: to move together from exclusion toward the dignity of authentic community, and foster mutual understanding. Thank you to everyone who showed up and made this year one of true belonging.

Anwar Alhjoosj  
Maa'n Program Coordinator



# Just Solutions Clinic

Building on the momentum of its 20th anniversary, 2025 was a year of significant growth and deepened impact for the clinic. We expanded our reach beyond Montreal with the opening of a new legal service in Quebec City—a major milestone in the clinic's 21-year history—now serving migrants in the capital and surrounding regions. With support from the **Department of Justice Canada**, we also produced "Beyond the Decision", an English-language guide designed to help migrants better navigate the immigration system.

The year saw a remarkable increase in our capacity, with more than double the number of interventions, and a significant expansion of our mobile legal clinics across the island of Montreal. At the same time, we continued to witness the growing precarity faced by those we accompany, including international students, individuals without status, and an increasing number of elderly migrants at risk of homelessness.

Encouragingly, a gathering of government, community, and United Church partners opened the door to exploring needs and potential responses in the Eastern Townships. As we look ahead, plans are underway to develop a new, sustainable model of financing this essential work—ensuring that we can continue to respond with agility, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to justice for all, regardless of immigration status.



Anthony Rouget, JS Coordinator

## Stats

	2024	2025
Interventions	4,831	9,960
Cases	345	736
Mobile Clinics	4	17
Neighbourhoods	3	7
Workshops for migrants, refugees & professionals	6	20
Community & Legal Partners	13	41
Students	9	12



9,960 interventions



## Launch of Research Report

On June 2nd, we launched the report titled "Experiences of access to legal services and support for migrants with precarious and no status in Quebec." Based on **interviews with over 40 migrants**, and around **50 service providers**, we shared our findings through a presentation, collaborative workshops, and a festive gathering. **110 participants in person and online!**

## Mobilisation Against Bills C-2 & C-12

We joined the pan-Canadian coalition and the Quebec Common Front to denounce Bills C-2 and C-12, calling for their withdrawal as a serious violation of im-migrants', refugees', and asylum seekers' rights. Together, we helped draft a brief to a government committee and participated in press conferences to voice our opposition and defend im-migrant rights.

## Public Consultation

As in 2022, the clinic **submitted a brief** to the Quebec National Assembly during consultations on Immigration Planning for 2026–2029, where we emphasized that behind the numbers are people, and that sustained funding for legal organizations, particularly for legal representation, is essential.

## Legal Information Resources

"Beyond the Decision" Booklet - with the support of **Department of Justice Canada**

100 printed and distributed copies

120+ visits to online version

Info sheets - with the support of the **Ville de Montréal**

10 legal information sheets available on the JS website on key immigration topics

442 visits to the Info Sheet webpage in 2025

[www.solutionsjustes.org](http://www.solutionsjustes.org)

## Access to Justice for Im-migrant Women and 2SLGBTQIA+ Im-Migrant with Precarious/No Status

Work continued in 2025 on this project thanks to support from **Women and Gender Equality Canada** through: 19 semi-structured with 32 professionals from women's shelters and community groups, as well as lawyers and researchers working with these populations. A report will be published and a campaign launched in 2026.



# A Season of Growth

The 53rd season of Camp Cosmos was one of our most successful, marked by record-breaking registration and a deepened commitment to inclusivity.

Returning to Selwyn House School, we saw unprecedented demand with waitlists for every age group. To accommodate as many families as possible, we extended daily hours and added an extra week of programming.

Our community reflected the diversity of the city, with over 14 languages spoken among campers and staff. This vibrant mix enriched every aspect of camp life.

Through the *Amazing Kids At Camp* initiative, funded by the **Erskine & American/Mountainside Trust Fund**, we waived registration fees for over 25 children, ensuring newcomer families could access a welcoming summer experience.

With support from the United Church Nakonha:Ka Region **Rosemary Lambie Fund**, campers engaged with indigenous perspectives through visits to the First Nations Gardens and a workshop at the McCord Stewart Museum's "Indigenous Voices of Today" exhibition.

Additional support from the **St. James Special Projects Fund** helped make the Camp Arts Program possible.

Our specialized programs thrived. Notably, the *Eco-Influencers Pilot Project*—launched by our Youth Leadership program with funding from the **United Church of Canada Foundation**—saw youth volunteers develop digital literacy and teamwork skills by creating environmental content for social media.

Emily Bickert, Camp Director



## MCM Receives Peace Builders Award

This year, MCM was honoured to receive the 2025 Peace Builders Award from the **Peace Network for Social Harmony** at Montreal City Hall. In accepting the award on behalf of the team, ED Paula Kline reflected on the meaning of hospitality, especially in our work with migrants and the interfaith community.

Citing philosopher Jacques Derrida, she recalled that genuine hospitality means staying open to *"the unexpected guest, the unannounced visitor"*, beyond any formal system of welcome. In Montreal and beyond, welcoming people in all their diversity is an act of peace that transforms communities and strengthens the social fabric.

This award is an encouragement to continue working alongside our interfaith and intercultural partners, in the spirit of a more just and inclusive society.

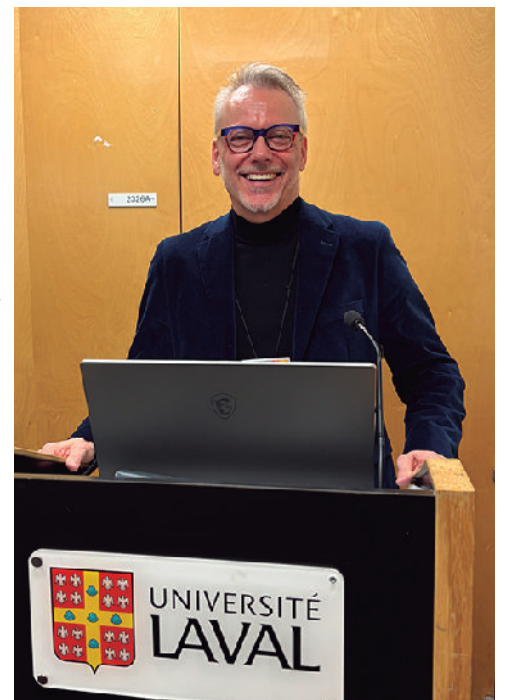
Bravo to the stellar MCM team, and many thanks to Brian Bronfman and the Peace Network.

## Roger Snelling 2SLGBTQIA+ Project

In 2025, supported by the United Church **Good Samaritan Fund**, the Roger Snelling Project of MCM continued its commitment to accompanying 2SLGBTQIA+ seniors with dignity, care, and recognition. In life trajectories often marked by marginalization or isolation, the program remained a space of attentive and compassionate presence. End-of-life accompaniment continued to be a central focus, offering sustained support to individuals and their loved ones in complex situations shaped by identity, isolation, and the need for recognition. Partnerships with the Aeterna funeral home and Église unie Saint-Jean helped sustain spaces of meaning, memory, and spiritual presence through life celebration ceremonies and pastoral accompaniment.

The program also contributed to ongoing reflection on expanding access to adapted services, including the assessment of needs and potential initiatives in Quebec City and Sherbrooke. This work was further enriched through engagement in research and academic dialogue including:

- *Dignity, Discernment, and Hospitality: Toward the Development of a Reflective Tool / Conversation Guide in the Context of Medical Assistance in Dying (Care and Hospitality Conference, Université Laval)*
- *Theology of Thresholds: Revisiting Liminality from the Margins (Study Day on Fragility, Precarity, and Social Recognition, Université Laval)*



## Resonance2025

### Seeking Deeper Connections in a Secular World

Held June 5–7 at the Palais des congrès – Montreal Convention Center, RESONANCE2025 was a resounding success. The event brought together over 130 participants from three United Church regions, the ecumenical and interfaith communities, students, and the wider secular public. Over three days, attendees engaged in meaningful dialogue through workshops, alongside a rich variety of sensorial experiences, including jazz, dance, film, and Tibetan singing bowls.



## greenfaith Montréal



Our local Montreal Green Faith Circle, led by MCM board members Wendy Evans and Megan McQuirter, continued to be active in 2025 with online gatherings and book studies, as well as participating in climate justice rallies and the annual interfaith eco-action day, and organizing 'Candles for Cop 30' in the St. James Square. The Circle also offered workshop leadership at the 2025 Résonance Conference.



# MCM Financial Report/Rapport financier 2025

## Statement of financial position as at December 31st

## Revenues & expenses year ended december 31st

	2024	2025		2024	2025
Current Assets			Grant & donations	927,546.78	1,364,410.68
Cash	397,246.80	296,664.28	Interest & other	13,362.65	30,266.5
Donations & other receivables	10,134.35	76,358.92	<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>940,909.43</b>	<b>1,394,677.18</b>
GST & TVQ Receivables	14,673.36	6,451.86	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>952,575.91</b>	<b>1,415,282.22</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>422,654.51</b>	<b>379,475.06</b>	Surplus/Deficit	(11,666.48)	(20,605.04)
Liabilities					
Account Payables	32,427.86	38,480.75			
Deferred revenue	365,228.22	305,827.26			
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>397,656.08</b>	<b>344,308.01</b>			
Net Assets					
Unrestricted Fund					
Invested In capital Assets	14,545.09	25,931.45			
Restrired for contingencies	20,000	20,000			
	<b>34,545.09</b>	<b>45,931.45</b>			
	<b>432,201.17</b>	<b>390,239.46</b>			

Figures are subject to final 2025 audited financial statement  
2025 audit will be available in June upon request  
MCM is insured by HUB International

## MCM Board / Conseil d'administration

Julia Green	<i>Chair</i>
Kim Neverson	<i>Secretary</i>
Phillip Masarelli	<i>Treasurer (Dec - Present)</i>
Adedeji Sunday Akintayo	
Nicole Ives	
Masoud Nasiry	
Logan Littlefield	
Bruce Gilbert	
Echo   Jiang Tingxwan	<i>(November - Present)</i>
Megan McQuinter	<i>(November - Present)</i>
Paul Kine	<i>Ex Officio</i>
Anwar Alhjojo	<i>Ex Officio</i>
Wendy Evans	<i>(Jan - November)</i>
Madeleine Buck	<i>(Jan - July)</i>
Royal Orr	<i>(Jan - July)</i>

## Staff/ Personnel

Paula Kline	<i>Executive Director</i>
Anwar Alhjojo	<i>Assistant Director/ Coordinator of Maa'n</i>
Anthony Rouget	<i>Legal Coordinator</i>
Marta Pereira De La Infanta	<i>Assistant Legal Coordinator</i>
Anwa Nofal	<i>Outreach Coordinator</i>
Haoussa Thiam	<i>Bookkeeper</i>
Layla Omar	<i>Administrative Coordinator</i>
Norman Robert Boie	<i>Project Manager</i>
Darla Sloan	<i>Community Liaison</i>
Sanae Moussafir	<i>Legal Admin Assistant (Mar-Present)</i>
Richard Goldman	<i>Supervising Lawyer</i>
Peter Butler	<i>Caseworker</i>
Louise Olivier	<i>Caseworker</i>
Claudia Limoli Cubria	<i>Caseworker(Oct - Present)</i>
Élizabeth Collin-Paré	<i>Caseworker (Sept - Present)</i>
Muzhgan Haydari	<i>Project Manager</i>
Catherine Blais Delisle	<i>Project Manager</i>
Solène Mouchel	<i>Advocacy Agent</i>
James Bugden	<i>IT</i>
Socrate	<i>K9 Emotional Support Agent</i>
Noémie Beauvais	<i>Caseworker (January - July)</i>
Ryan Faulkner	<i>Caseworker (September - December)</i>

## Students/Étudiant(e)s

<b>Social Work:</b>	
Blanca Maselli	<i>McGill</i>
Jessica Dinelle	<i>McGill</i>
Manuela Guzman Yepes	<i>UdeM</i>
Maria Vega Barbosa	<i>McGill</i>
Mathilde Munger	<i>UdeM</i>
<b>Law:</b>	
Kendra Magner	<i>UdeM</i>
Catherine Shi	<i>UdeM</i>
Yara Nader	<i>McGill</i>
Laurence Banville	<i>UQAM</i>
<b>Political Science &amp; International Studies:</b>	
Maelissa Buteau	<i>UQAM</i>
Isabella Solano	<i>McGill</i>
Noa Bojgienman	<i>UdeM</i>

## MCM Donors/Donateurs 2025

### Foundations / Funds / Fondations / Fonds

Brian Bronfman Family Foundation  
Charities Aid Foundation Canada  
Fondation Chagnon  
Fondation du Grand Montréal  
George Hogg Family Foundation  
Paypal Giving Fund  
S. Allan and Linda Stephens Fund  
Somers Family Foundation  
Soryl Rosenberg Fund  
Valerie & David Shannon Fund

### UCC Foundation / Funds

Bhal Jun Fund  
Erskine & American/Mountainside Fund  
Kelley Trust Fund  
UCC Nakonha:Ka Region - F&E Board  
Good Samaritan Fund  
United Church of Canada Foundation

### Corporations & Organisations

Celebrations inc.  
Emmanuel College  
Fiera Capital  
Lily Endowment inc.  
McGill School of Religious Studies  
Muslim Association of Canada  
Montreal Diocesan Theological College  
Plan International Canada  
PLEDJ  
Power Corp

### Government / Gouvernement

Assemblée Nationale du Quebec  
Canada Summer Jobs  
Canadian Heritage  
Justice Canada  
Patrimoine Canada  
Ville de Montréal  
WAGE Canada

### Churches & Religious Organisations / Églises et Organismes religieux

Congregation of Notre-Dame - Visitation Province  
Congrégation SS.CC.J.M. de Joliette  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Fonds Marie Francois  
Les Capucins du Québec  
Oeuvres Marie-Anne-Lavalée / Soeurs Oblates  
Franciscaines de Saint-Joseph  
Howick United Church, Howden Outreach Fund  
Huntingdon United Church Women  
Lakeshore Trinity United Church  
Merging Waters Pastoral Charge  
Mount Royal United Church  
Mountainside United Church  
Riverside United Church  
Roxboro United Church  
St. Andrews UC for Women  
St. James United Church  
St. Lambert United Church Women  
Summerlea United Church  
Valois United Church  
Wesley United Church

# MCM Donateurs / Donors 2025

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Rhona Achtman  
Adedeji Sunday Akintayo  
Aziza Alaoui  
Marielle Albert  
Dorothy Alleyne  
Carol Jean & Peter Colin Almond  
Gloria Amirault  
Emile Anderson  
Rachad Antonius  
Emily Antze  
Imad Balkis  
Helen Barfurth  
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Joseph Berger  
Renate Bidner Sutherland  
Ingrid Birker  
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William G. Blevins  
Claire Borel  
Frederick Braman  
Barbara Bryce  
Virginia Bryce  
Jens C Bungardt  
Peter Butler  
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Sandra & Peter Dawes  
Andrea Dawes  
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Nancy Gilbert  
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Duncan Johnson  
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Marguerite Kephart  
Amir Khadir  
Janet Kline  
Paula Kline  
Julie Klucinskas  
Mark Knudson  
Caroline Korzec  
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Eric Lamoureux

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Ronit Yarosky  
Jesse Zink

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