



McGILL UNIVERSITY First Peoples' House

Best practices & challenges
in recruitment and
retention

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Best Practices in Recruitment

1. Outreach programs
2. Partnerships with Athletics
3. Admissions criteria
4. Reserved seats in Medicine
5. Aboriginal Affairs Workgroup

Dedicated Native Recruiter

- Aboriginal Community Outreach Coordinator
- I serve as a link to the University:
 - Campus tours
 - Program selection
 - Admission requirements
 - Orientation
 - University involvement



Law High School Outreach

- Law student volunteers
- Kahnawake Survival School
- Supplement negative experiences with those more positive
- Discussions/exercises about law and social justice; everyday relevance
- Mentorship



Indigenous Access McGill



- Support for those studying in Health Sciences and Social Work
- Mentoring and Tutoring
- Study skills, writing skills, library research
- Summer support program – 2 weeks
 - Mini-courses, field placement visits, introduction to support services

<http://www.mcgill.ca/socialwork/iam/>



McGill Lacrosse

- Recruiting/Outreach
- Lacrosse game at Pow-Wow
- Camp for prospective high school players



Admissions for Aboriginal Applicants

- In addition to basic requirements:
 - Welcome, but not required, to submit:
 - Letters of recommendation
 - Curriculum Vitae (CV)/ Résumé
 - Personal statement



Admissions to Medicine

- 4 seats reserved yearly for First Nations and Inuit of Quebec
- Université de Laval, McGill University, Université de Montréal, Université de Sherbrooke

<http://www.mcgill.ca/medicine/admissions/criteria/firstnations/>

Aboriginal Affairs Workgroup

- Dean of Students (Chair)
- Associate Dean of Students
- First Peoples' House Coordinator
- Director of Admissions
- Indigenous Access coordinators
- Dean of Admissions for Law and Medicine
- Dean of Continuing Education
- Director of First Nations and Inuit Education

Best Practices is Retention

1. First Peoples' House
2. Mentoring
3. Accommodation
4. Eberts Scholarship (\$6000/year)
5. Sense of community
6. Aboriginal Students' Network

A Home Away From Home





A room at the First Peoples' House



Potluck Thanksgiving Feast

Christmas
Dinner &
Gift
Exchange



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Movie screening with McGill Aboriginal Health Interest Group



McGill Pow Wow 2007



Canadian Aboriginal Festival, Toronto



Honored Alumni

Challenges & Solutions

1. Self-identification →
 2. Competitive entry/limited enrolment →
 3. Bridging the gap →
 4. Aboriginal academic programs →
 5. Family Housing →
- Welcoming message on application
 - Admissions committee
 - Bridging program (Cont. Ed.)
 - Law/Social Work cultural immersion
 - Aboriginal Affairs Working Group

Eagle Spirit High Performance Camp

