

FACE SCHOOL FACT SHEET N° 6

DECEMBER 2021



FACE SCHOOL REHABILITATION

Building profile

The final building profile report was submitted at the end of September. This step documented the condition of the main components, systems and equipment of the FACE School and site. The exercise aimed to more accurately evaluate the condition of the site and produce recommendations to rehabilitate and maintain the building.

Real estate analysis

The final real estate analysis report was submitted at the end of September. For the FACE school, the goal was to create different school renovation scenarios. With other members of the school team, we chose the option that met the most criteria, such as the functional requirements for the Fine Arts program and requirements governing the preservation of built heritage. The selected option will be developed during the next project phase.

Next step

The Société québécoise des infrastructures (SQI) is drafting public tender documents to select a team of professionals (architects and engineers) who will develop the plans and specifications for the project. These calls for tender will be issued in the coming weeks.

Ongoing building monitoring

The facades and interior of the building will continue to be inspected until the FACE School rehabilitation is complete. This monitoring will keep people safe and ensure that any necessary corrective work is carried out quickly.

RELOCATION

FACE Elementary School – 4835, rue Christophe-Colomb

It's confirmed! The Centre de services scolaire de Montréal (CSSDM) has now received the authorizations and funding to move students and staff to this transitional school, which is scheduled to take place for the 2024-2025 school year.

Major rehabilitation work is ongoing on this building. Phase I (gutting and selective demolition) is complete. Phase II (exterior envelope repairs and seismic retrofit) should be completed in spring 2022. Phase III of the interior and exterior renovations will begin once the Phase-II work is complete.

FACE Secondary School – 4251 Saint-Urbain option

The CSSDM is continuing the process to secure funding from the MEQ to rehabilitate this transitional school.

Students and staff could potentially move to this transitional site for the 2024-2025 school year.

Many workshops with members of the school team (CSSDM and CSEM) have been held since winter 2021. These consultations informed the architects' design to ensure that the transitional building meets the needs of the secondary educational program. We will present the design plans once they are finalized.

HERITAGE JEWEL

Built in 1913-1914 and completed in 1924, the FACE School building has high-value heritage qualities.

The school was designed by the brothers Edward and W.S. Maxwell, influential architects who created many important buildings in the city, such as the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA). The FACE School building is also a rare example of neoclassical monumental architecture.

More than 100 years after its construction, the building on University Street can be admired for remarkable architectural features:

- Noble materials (terracotta, granite, marble, woodwork)
- Original decor and furniture in the library
- Impressive wood paneling in the auditorium
- Bas-reliefs and commemorative plaques from the *Montreal High School* and *High School for Girls* (1913-1979)

The FACE School building is part of the Mount Royal heritage site. It is also at the intersection of Sherbrooke East and University, an area of exceptional historical value.

This building, which has borne witness to Montreal history, must be rehabilitated according to best conservation practices. This will ensure that it continues its unique educational mission as long as possible into the future.

Famous alumni

Did you know that many public figures attended the *Montreal High School*, *High School for Girls* and FACE School ?

Montreal High School and High School For Girls :

- Oscar Peterson (jazz pianist and composer)
- Christopher Plummer (actor)

FACE School :

- Mitsou Gélinas (singer songwriter)
- Rufus Wainwright (singer songwriter)
- Marilou Wolfe (actress)
- Kamala Devi Harris (first woman to be elected Vice-President of the United States)

Write us!

If you have questions about the FACE School relocation and rehabilitation project, you can email us at projetface@cscdm.qc.ca.

You can also visit projetface.cscdm.ca to learn more about the history of the project and read our previous newsletters.