

COMMUNITY UNIVERSITY
TELEVISION-CONCORDIA'S

A N N U A L

R E P O R T

The logo for CUTV is displayed within a black rectangular frame. The letters 'CUTV' are rendered in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. The background of the frame is a dark blue with a fine, grainy texture. The letters have a slight drop shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

CUTV

NOVEMBER 4, 2024, 7 PM

CUTV'S MANDATE

1. To provide **facilities, equipment and training** through which members of Concordia and Montreal communities may gain the knowledge of, and experience with, **video and TV production**, programming, distribution and management.
2. To foster a **democratically-run, membership-driven**, and **socially-conscious community** which produces **alternative programming** by and for those who are not adequately served by the mainstream media.

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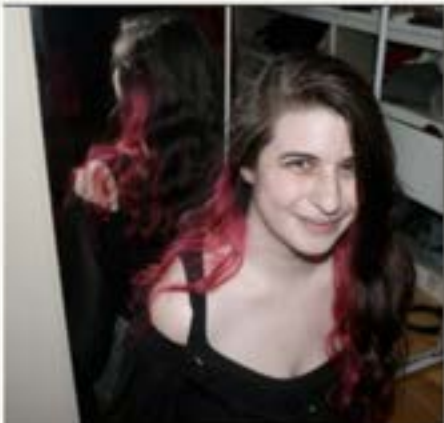
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Allison O'Reilly



Emma Austin



Mackenzie Smedmor



Isabella DiFederico



Nicolas Chevalier

Not pictured:

Sara-Claudia Ligondé, Saeid Alinezhad

A Message from the Chair

In my two years of serving as a board member for CUTV, I have witnessed so much growth and positive change. This little community station has so much power, and I'm so proud of what this small team has accomplished. So with this dedicated pages, I'd like to highlight some folks that helped make some great things happen.

Firstly, I'd like to shout out the fantastic folks behind Local 514, Savanna Craig and Aude Simon, who have worked tirelessly to cover pertinent issues in Montreal and Canada at large, including pro-Palestine activism, Indigenous issues, and social justice activism. A few weeks ago, Savanna moved on to a new journalism position, leaving CUTV after years of hard work and dedication. Thank you for everything you've done and good luck with your future endeavors, Savanna!

I'd also like to shout out another departed staff member who has contributed so much to the CUTV community. Sophia Hirst-Barsoski was our Station Manager for two years, and did it with grace and an infectious positive attitude. Thank you Sophia for your dedication to CUTV, and we can't wait to see you accomplish amazing things in the future. Stepping into the role as our new Community Engagement Coordinator is Hana Joosse! After impressing us with a stellar application and interview, we were happy to welcome Hana with open arms and already he has hit the ground running, quickly acclimating to the job and fitting in nicely.

Lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't highlight Emma Austin, our former board president. After working at CUTV as station manager, Emma rose to the occasion and stepped in as the head of the board. During her tenure, she has implemented many important initiatives, including updating policies, creating membership surveys, and developing a standardized staff review system. Her hard work did not go unnoticed, and it was a pleasure to work with her on the board these past two years.

Sadly, my tenure on the board is coming to an end, but I'm so excited to see what CUTV will accomplish in the coming years. A huge shout out to Dru Oja Jay, who in the past few years as Executive Director has allowed CUTV to grow and achieve many things thanks to his support and guidance steering the ship. I have faith that CUTV will continue to grow and make a positive impact on the Concordia community.

Allison O'Reilly, Chair 2023-24

EDUCATION & EVENTS

Technical Training, Grassroots Activism, and Community Building

Since our last AGM, CUTV has hosted 6 events, including the following:

Intro to **Videography** with Dina El Sabbagh
(November 23, 2024) 10 participants

Wireless **Microphone Tutorial** with Silas Goodman.
(March 7, 2024) 10 participants

Grassroots Journalism 101
(March 9, 2024) 40 participants

Art & Activism with Stefan Christoff
(April 4, 2024) 7 participants

Volunteer Social for new and old CUTV volunteers
(October 10, 2024) 20 participants

Screening of **Yintah**, Q&A with the director Michael Toledano
(October 11, 2024) 90+ participants

6

Events

177

Participants

We're excited to start new educational programming with our new Community Engagement Coordinator, Hana, including monthly technical and theoretical workshops, and social events.

INTRO TO VIDEOGRAPHY

with Dina El Sabbagh



THURSDAY, NOV. 23
5-6:30 PM



2110 RUE MACKAY
4TH FLOOR

CUTV
Workshop



GRASSROOTS JOURNALISM 101



10AM-5PM
SATURDAY MARCH 9TH
FRIGO VERT

CUTV

ART AND ACTIVISM



THURSDAY APRIL 4, 2024

TIME: 5-6:30 PM



LOCATION: CSU ART
NOOK, 7TH FLOOR OF THE
HALL BUILDING

with Stefan Christoff

CUTV



MOVIE SCREENING YINTAH



ENGLISH VERSION WITH FRENCH SUBTITLES
FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION WITH ONE OF THE FILMMAKERS

CUTV

WIRELESS MICROPHONE TUTORIAL

with Silas Goodman



THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH AT
5-6:30PM



2110 RUE MACKAY
4TH FLOOR

EMAIL INFO@CUTVMONTREAL.ORG
TO REGISTER!

CUTV
Workshop



CUTV VOLUNTEER SOCIAL

OCTOBER 10 2024
6:30 PM

FRIGO VERT
1440 RUE MACKAY



EQUIPMENT

Recently, Fraser has implemented a new POS system for contactless payments. It is now easier than ever to pay for your membership or late fees. We have seen a noticeable uptick in rental inquiries in response to more on-campus engagement.

OUR MOST POPULAR RENTALS

Sennheiser Lav mics - 106 loans

Sony A7S2 (body) - 27 loans

Canon 80d - 18 loans

Zoom H6 28 - loans

Canon EFS 19 loans



1146
Total Loans

NEW EQUIPMENT

Sony ZVE10

Aperture Mini LED lights

Zhiyun Gimbal stabilizer

Zoom H6 Essentials

Bluetooth Lav mic kit



MEMBERSHIP METRICS

160

New Members

142

New student accounts

33

Renewed community accounts

18

New community members

15%

increase in membership

31%

increase in active renting memberships

222

Active accounts

Community
Members: 11.3 %

Student Members: 88.6 %

LOCAL 514 REPORT

With a focus on amplifying the voices of underreported communities, Local 514 covers municipal politics, diaspora, indigeneity and more in Montreal.

Local 514 is a Montreal news series featuring local voices on issues that affect us all, but are still underrepresented in mainstream media. The web series mainly focuses on social issues, including but not limited to imperialism, racism, environment, feminism and indigeneity. The series provides community input on how these issues can be addressed.

Local 514 began in January of 2021, and will soon be celebrating its fourth year of coverage. Local 514 first started as a web series, before moving to live streams twice a week. It has now gone back to its original web series format.



Our audience and coverage continue to grow. Last AGM, we announced that one of our videos went viral internationally, with 12 thousands of views at time.



Recently, a lot of our coverage has gained thousands to millions of views specifically on the Palestine protests in Montreal and the genocide in Gaza.

Many corporate media outlets continue to fail the pro-Palestine movements by mislabelling them as pro-Hamas while glossing over and occupation that goes back decades. We cover protests, accurately showcasing what protesters are calling for, critique government response, report accurate numbers and continue to follow the movement as it develops.



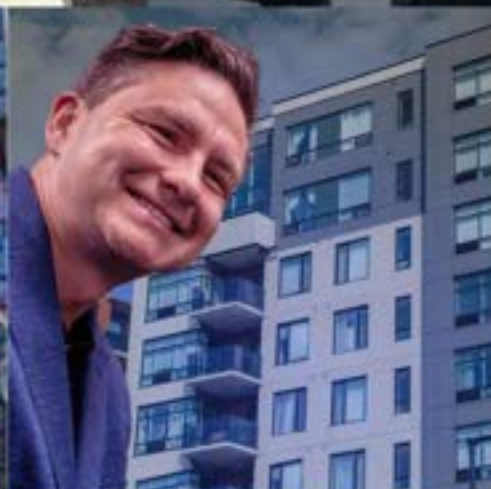


THE YEAR IN PICTURES





FEATURING LOCAL514, THE BREACH, METROPOLIS, L'ORGANE, AND THE GRASSROOTS COVERAGE FUND





METROPOLIS

In 2023, CUTV and Local 514 also launched a web series called Metropolis. The monthly and soon to be bi-weekly podcast, covers Montreal-based politics and issues. The show holds discussions with local activists, journalists and people involved in politics, as well as provides media critique and media literacy.

The podcast is continuing to evolve, but its focus remains on connecting Montrealers to municipal issues and activists, here in Montreal, and to offer members of the community the opportunity to analyze mass media products critically.

With these web series and shows, CUTV works towards encouraging Concordia and the Montreal community to collaborate with us. Local 514 promotes a learning structure.



L'ORGANE

Creating opportunities for students to get involved with journalism and video creation at Concordia in French

With the support of a new Board of directors elected in March 2024, and building on the Memorandum of Understanding with CUTV, l'Organe continued to develop its capacities and **officially relaunched** last September. Following a successful internship as part of the Beat the Odds program, Nathan Pupo-Greene was hired as video production coordinator.

L'Organe has acquired new pieces of equipment to **support student media creation**, and hosted 5 events since September 2024, including a launch party, 3 trainings, and a community meeting. L'Organe's Instagram content has cumulated over 3000 views and has 141 follower, and we've produced and published 11 videos, 20 articles in Les Pages Francos, a partnership with The Concordian student newspaper.

35

Volunteers
recruited

5

Events

141

Followers

11

Videos

3000

Instagram
views

20

Articles



GRASSROOTS COVERAGE FUND

Supporting independent media production

The Grassroots Coverage Fund is a **micro-grant program** for video creators, designed to minimize the amount of time applying and reporting. **Rapid response coverage** allocates up to \$200 for coverage of events, press conferences, actions, demonstrations on short notice. The Fund also provides project funding, covering up to \$1500 in costs for **larger-scale productions**.

RAPID RESPONSE

Our rapid response funding has covered many demonstrations, rallies and protests in Montreal, including COP15 protests, Concordia TA/RA rallies, student encampments, justice for Nicous Spring march, Guinean refugee march, ASFA strike, marches for Palestine, housing solidarity, Iran, trans rights, rent strikes, tuition hikes protests, vigils, police brutality protests, and Amazon workers rally.



DOCUMENTARIES

We've funded short **documentary** projects on topics including racial profiling by police, the realities of black girls, AirBnB, a video podcast on women's creativity, a documentary about the Montreal underground music scene, Sudanese diaspora interviews, and a video series on Chinatown.



\$28,180

Allocated to
projects

69

Projects
approved

PROJECT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We've covered and funded **events**, like book signings, panels for ASFA, People Over Profit, Populist, a livestream of an activist teach-in, housing livestream, screenings of the Alex A***** show, and a disability speaker series.

We've funded **interviews** with speakers including Celeste Trianon, K. Maro, Amy Miller, Alex Popovic, and Spike Lee.

We've supported **video projects** by many organizations and grassroots media groups in the Concordia and Montreal community, including videos for CEED, Brique par Brique, Unrigged, and The North Star.

THE Breach

The Breach—which CUTV has played a crucial role in launching three years ago—has had quite a year. Its coverage has focused on three crucial issues: the genocide in **Palestine**, the rise of **Pierre Poillievre** and the cost of **housing**.

The Breach's unique investigations aren't just read and discussed; they are **wielded by social movements** fighting for crucial, life-saving changes in Canada's political systems and media institutions.

Everyone knows that the media are biased, but Breach reporters brought a whole roll of receipts, documenting the ways corporate media outlets downplayed a vicious campaign of destruction that is still targeting civilians.

We also got to **hear directly** from journalists in the newsrooms where those decisions were made. In aggregate, it was a damning portrait of power twisting the truth into unrecognizable knots.

And while **political upheaval** is widespread, Pierre Poillievre's Conservatives have been the overwhelming beneficiaries. The Breach's reporting helps us understand how the new Conservative have targeted their messaging and what their real agenda is.

The Breach's articles aren't just read or discussed, they're wielded by movements fighting for a just, viable future.

564,000
Visitors

CTV NEWS

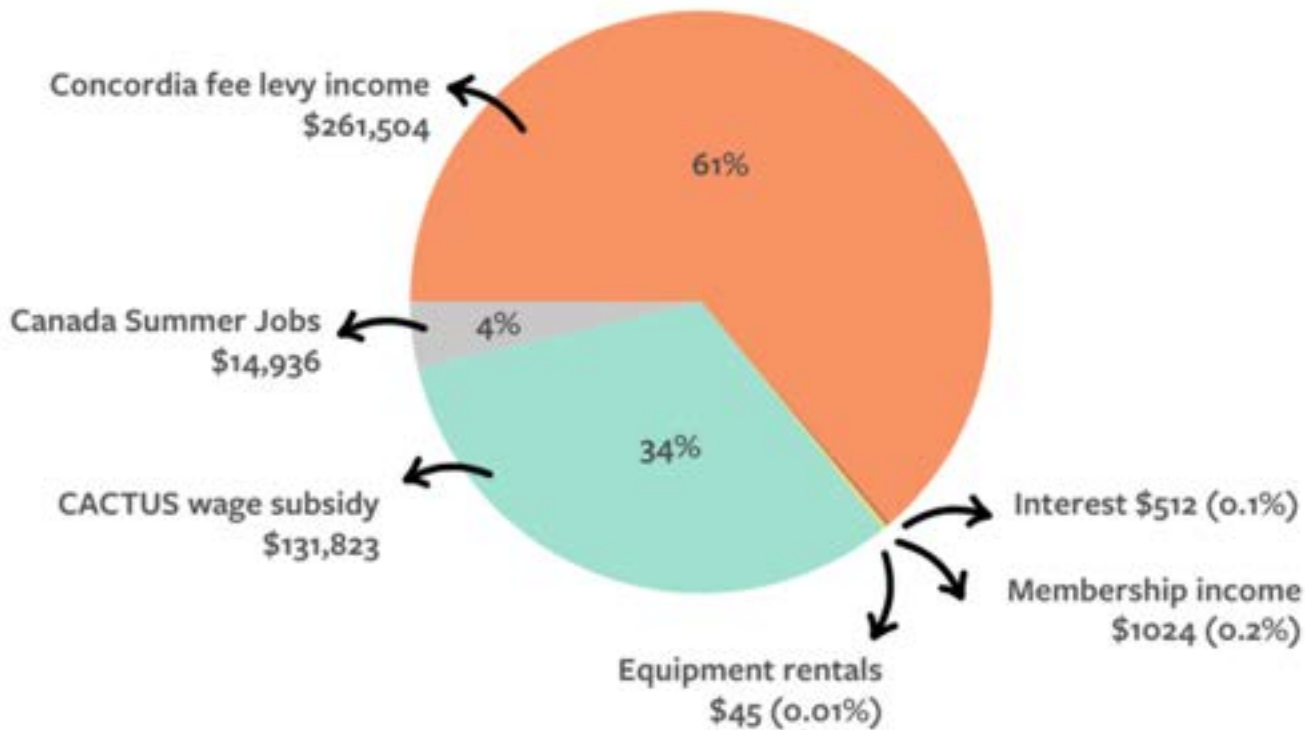
CTV suppresses Palestinian speech.

CTV has featured 62% more Israeli than Palestinian guests, including several Israeli state officials. When Palestinians are invited, "they're essentially brought on to cry," not express political opinions, a journalist at CTV told *The Breach*.

Breach tore the media into a neighbourhood in Gaza strip.

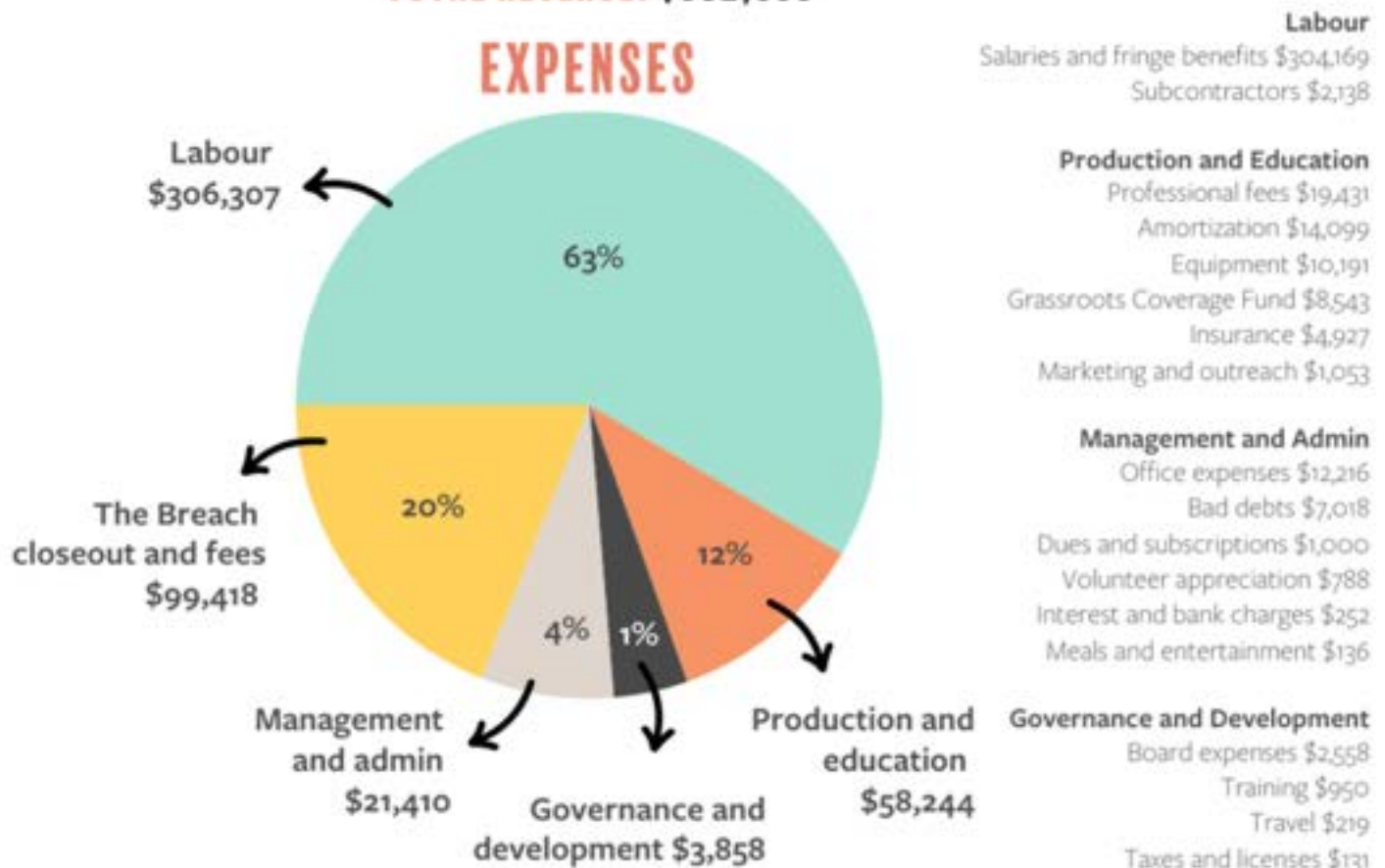
FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE



TOTAL REVENUE: \$382,938

EXPENSES



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$489,237

The Breach
Closeout and fees \$99,418

CUTV UP AND COMING

“Tech bro, can you spare \$100 million?”

How do we follow up the “**Rebuild Community Media**” campaign where, in partnership with a broad swath of allies, we **won key changes** to the legislation that governs community broadcasting?

To be honest, the answer a year ago was probably “that’s enough for now,” But through an unlikely cascade of events, CUTV and The Breach have found themselves at the centre of a brand-new organization that is managing \$100 million per year to Canadian journalism organizations for the next five years. The **Online News Act** was a decidedly mixed bag. It left a very damaging loophole that allowed Facebook to avoid paying for some of the revenues that it drained from Canadian media through its advertising. But it also got Google to play ball, injecting a huge amount of money into Canadian journalism.

The **Canadian Journalism Collective** (CJC) was created by a number of independent outlets who felt that the management of these funds needed to be more **transparent, democratic and mindful** of the needs of small independent producers than other parts of the industry had planned.

A similar deal in Australia—which Canada’s plan was explicitly based on—had cut out hundreds of smaller outlets until a last-minute lobbying push.

Through expert positioning and a bit of luck, the CJC became the representative of Canadian news ecosystem, and CUTV has been at the table, providing input on policies and **shaping the direction** of this exciting new organization.

In 2025, the CJC will elect a board that represents the full diversity of the Canadian media, carrying on the work.



Canadian Journalism Collective

Collectif Canadien de Journalisme

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Know your role, and exceed it

After four years, one thing that makes working at CUTV gratifying is understanding our **role in the media ecosystem**. Our little station is, if we're wildly successful, an early stop on a longer path. Case in point: after just short of four years, Savanna Craig has moved on to a full time reporter position at the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network. She is not the only one; Neha Chollangi, who landed in Montreal as a part time video journalist in 2023, has been pursuing her passion for feature writing at local investigative journalism mainstay The Rover.

But perhaps even more gratifying is when we transcend our role in that same ecosystem, and our impact is way out of proportion to our modest role. Case in point: CUTV played a key role in setting up the Canadian Journalism Collective, a new organization that will manage **\$500 million** in contributions to media organizations over the next five years. Thanks in part to our leadership, new precedents will be set in democracy and transparency when it comes to news funding, decisions that will shape the **news industry nationally** for years to come.

The quieter milestones carry a unique flavour of satisfaction, too. After just about two years of work by CUTV staff, the **TV monitors** are now broadcasting CUTV's extensive catalogue of grassroots coverage to thousands of passers-by on campus. We're looking forward to **expanding this network** in the coming months and years.

Over the past few years, we have made some tough choices, because we can't do it all. Case in point: our computer lab was getting old, and our equipment was uneven. But thanks to a partnership with **I'Organe**, we have been able to **invest** in new cameras, a powerful editing suite, and a number of smaller upgrades.

Room for **improvement** reveals itself everywhere. We're chipping away at improving the space, streamlining volunteer participation, and **building community**. But the larger picture is of a maturing organization that knows its role but doesn't let that limit its **larger potential**.

Dru Oja Jay, Executive Director

CUTV STAFF



Dru Oja Jay
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hana Joosse
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Fraser Place
EQUIPMENT & STUDIO

L'ORGANE



Monique Willis-Cains
FINANCE COORDINATOR



Clement Lechat
L'ORGANE COORDINATOR



Nathan Pupo-Greene
VIDEO PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

LOCAL514



Aude Simon
JOURNALIST/EDITOR



Savanna Craig
JOURNALIST/REPORTER

METROPOLIS



Kalden Dhatsenpa
SHOW HOST

CONTACT

Executive Director - Dru - dru@cutvmontreal.org

Board of Directors - board@cutvmontreal.org

General Inquiries - info@cutvmontreal.org

Community Engagement - Hana - outreach@cutvmontreal.org

Equipment and Studio - Fraser - equipment@cutvmontreal.org

Finance - Monique - finance@cutvmontreal.org

L'Organe - Clément - organe@cutvmontreal.org

Local514 - Aude - local514@cutvmontreal.org

Call the station: (450) 231-7019

Address: 2110 Rue Mackay V-403 (4th floor) Montreal QC

Fall/Winter 2024 Hours:

Tuesday: 10am – 6pm

Wednesday: 1 pm - 6 pm

Thursday: 10am – 6pm

Thanks for being a member of CUTV!

The logo for CUTV, featuring the letters 'CUTV' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letter 'V' is stylized with a red and blue outline, giving it a 3D or double-exposed appearance.

CUTV