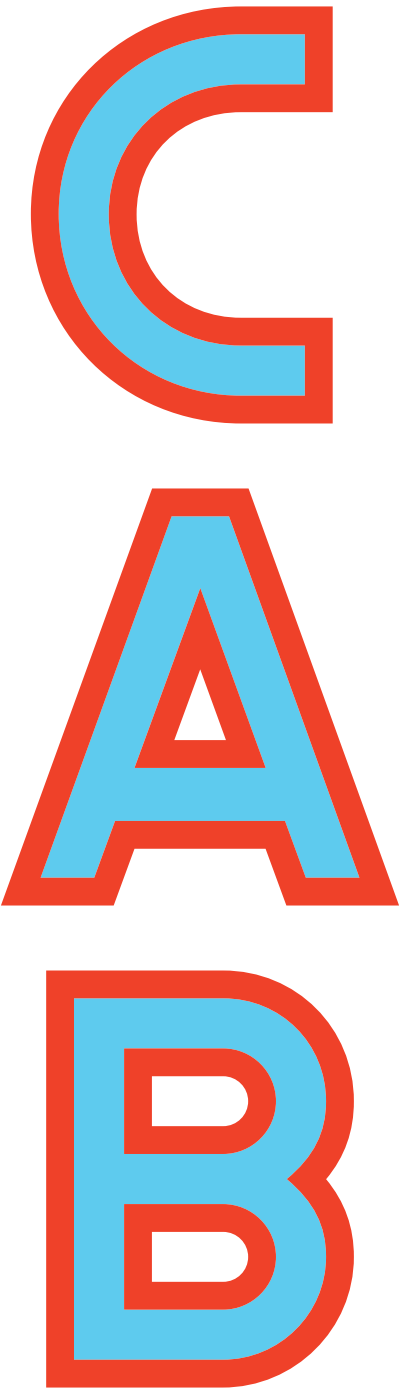




A Word from Anne-Marie

I write this on behalf of our entire team — a team that has grown wonderfully this year — but above all, on behalf of our founding members. We have been carrying this project together for several years, and have made the CAB what it is today.

What an extraordinary year we have had. A year of significant expansion, with the start of construction work on the CAB, the acquisition of a second building for our artist studios and residences, which allows us to further our mission of supporting artistic creation; and finally, the acquisition of a large plot of land next to the CAB, which will be transformed into a garden and mobility hub.

Art, just like nature, is beneficial, and we want to offer both. We want to create spaces where our community can gather, exchange ideas, and stay connected. There is no mission more beautiful than this.

Our real estate project is now complete, and today we are managing major construction sites, made possible in part thanks to the public funding we received this year. First, the announcement of major funding from Infrastructure Canada, followed by the awarding of a significant grant from the City of Montreal for the renovation of artist studios. A heartfelt thank you for the trust placed in our project, as well as for the recognition of its relevance in Montreal, in Quebec, and in Canada. With all three levels of government now involved, the CAB has become a true societal project.

Innovation is at the heart of the CAB. How can we rethink artistic models? How can we build a unique organization, something different from what exists in Montreal? How can we execute a major transformation and renovation project, while challenging established norms and conventional ways of doing things? These are all important questions we face every day. It is thanks to a team of talented, passionate, courageous, and committed people that we can create new paths. Thank you all.

After dreaming of the CAB for several years, it's exciting to watch it slowly become a reality. Our shared vision has developed and manifested in a collaborative and intuitive way. This is a labor of love that we carry with generosity and deep conviction. Despite all the changes and uncertainty the future may hold, we move forward with the knowledge that our path, and our process, are the right ones for us.

A very big thank you to Joe, our founder and mentor, who guides us with his beautiful values. Thank you to our Board of Directors, with us from the very beginning, attentive witnesses to every evolution and chapter of our story. Your expertise is invaluable to us.

This year, we proved what we are capable of achieving when vision, passion, and execution come together. I am extremely proud of our accomplishments.

Anne-Marie Barnard
Executive Director



Photo : Nora Azouz, Journal des Voisins

The CAB is Under Construction

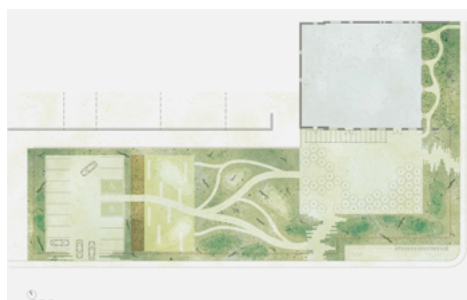
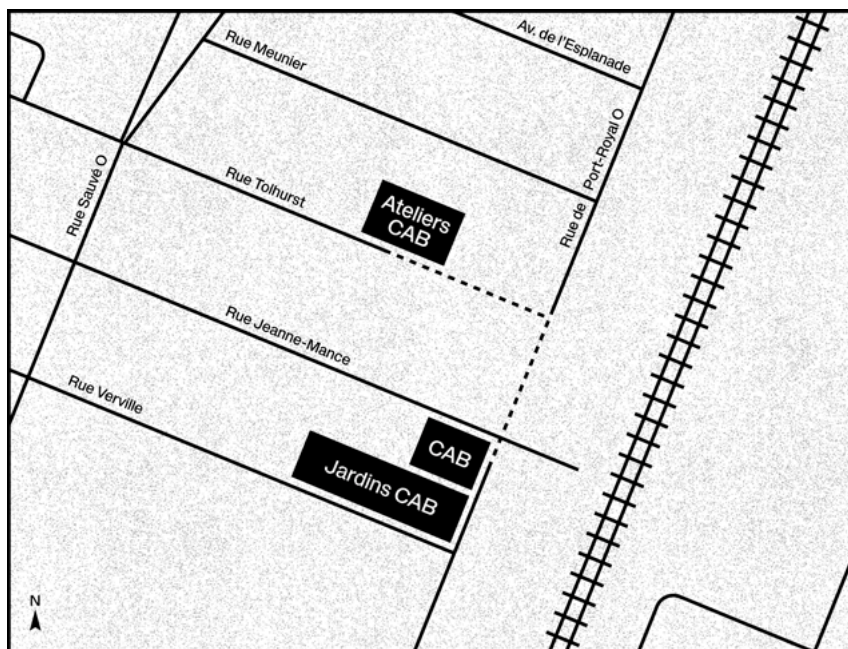


The CAB is part of a large infrastructure project with a \$25M budget, which aims to be carbon neutral. We are currently at the 25% advancement rate in the construction process. We began breaking ground in October 2024 and completed the deconstruction of the existing building this summer. During this deconstruction period, many materials were carefully dismantled and stored for use at later phases in the project. This includes the wooden floors, which have already been reintegrated, the cement blocks, bricks, and the steel beams of the old building.

We were granted exceptional permission from the Régie du bâtiment du Québec to build our four-story wooden structure. The first of its kind for a public cultural building in Quebec! This structure, which uses wood manufactured in Quebec, is currently being built. Our project has also allowed for innovations in ecological technology, which have been pioneered by our structural engineers, Latéral Conseil, and our architects, Atelier Barda. The development of our freins sismique is one example, designed in collaboration with the University of Sherbrooke and specifically adapted to the characteristics of our large wooden structure.

The CAB has gathered a group of very talented professionals and consultants in their respective fields to come on this journey with us. Each of our collaborators has been an invaluable part of the innovation that pushes our project forward. We're very grateful for all that we have accomplished together so far.

We Have a Campus



In December 2024, we purchased a two-story building one street away from the CAB at 9797 rue Tolhurst. This building will house the Ateliers CAB, a space for artist studios and for residencies related to the CAB programming. For the renovation of this building, we were awarded a \$4.2M grant from the program “Support for renovations for buildings that house artists’ studios” from the Ville de Montreal. This grant will allow us to turn the nearly 25,000 square foot building into a space for creation, with 20 artist studios, a woodshop, educational studio, collaborative working areas, and a space for the reuse of materials. We will also be bringing the building up to regulation and making it accessible.

In addition to the Centre d’art CAB, the project has expanded with two new spaces, which catalyzes the creation of an artistic campus in Ahuntsic-Cartierville.

To create a cohesive visual language between the two buildings, we chose the same team of professionals to carry out the work, led by Atelier Barda, the architects of the CAB.

With this new building also comes new potential for communal green space, in the form of the lane around the back of the building. We worked with our neighbors, with whom we share the land, as well as with the Société de développement commercial of Ahuntsic-Cartierville and landscape architects Nouveaux Voisins, to create a plan to transform the alleyway into a green space that can welcome the community, artists, and visitors.

Additionally, in July 2025, we acquired a 26,000 square-foot plot of land next to the CAB, at the corner of Port-Royal and Verville. Once the Centre is open, this space will be rewilded, providing green outdoor areas for visitors and the community to enjoy and allowing the CAB to extend its programming to the outdoors. To realize this rewilding, we are again working with landscape architects Nouveaux Voisins.

The CAB Welcomes its New Team Members

With the construction on Port-Royal, the CAB team has moved to temporary office spaces on Beaumont avenue in Parc-Ex. It is in this new space that the CAB has welcomed its new members, with the team doubling in number from its three core employees; Anne-Marie Barnard, Victor Shiffman, and Ila Ceriello. Chloe Latour joined the team as the Communications Manager; Roxanne Arsenault as the CAB's Director of Artistic Programming; and Marguerite Ranger as the Photographer/Videographer. In true CAB spirit, this expanded team is convivial and collaborative, bringing new energy to the project. We know that their expertise will help the CAB realize its mission to support artists and the community, as well as show and document the process.

On top of this expanded team, we have continued our research, our meetings, our discussions with many players in the local and international arts community. This has helped us advance our reflections on the needs and opportunities for the CAB to better support the artistic community.

Our small team is also supported by many external partners and collaborators, giving us access to a wide range of expertise and helping us bring numerous projects to life. We thank them wholeheartedly.



An Open Door for Artists and Community Gatherings

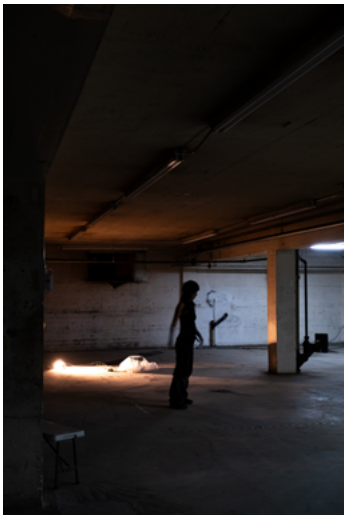
In the last year, the CAB has accommodated various activities in the Ateliers. Several artists have occupied the space as temporary studios, including Emile Picard, JUNKO, Dean Baldwin, Patrick Bernachez, and Moridja Kitenge Banza.

This new building also allowed us to host certain artistic events throughout the year. Eli Kerr occupied the space in April to document new work with Joyce Joumaa for the upcoming Venice Biennale. We also had Ouri, a French musician, use the space in June for a week-long self-lead residency in service of her newest album. In September we welcomed La Serre, a performance art organization based in Ahunistic, for their festival DOUZE DOUZE. As part of this festival, the organization presented performances by Jossua Satinée and Camille Huang before an audience of more than 70 people from the neighbourhood and beyond.

This September, the CAB invited collaborators and friends to a BBQ on the construction site. For the occasion, we commissioned Canadian artist Dean Baldwin to build a structure for the outdoor kitchen using materials salvaged from the old building and to devise a menu for our guests. The evening, with its atypical context, brought everyone together for good food, speeches, and an impromptu conga line.

As for external programming, the CAB also helped with the production of "Faustus in Africa!" a collaboration between the Handspring Puppet Company and William Kentridge. The show draws on aspects of theatre, puppetry, drawing, music and video and is a reworking of the production originally created in 1995.

In parallel, the team has been working on developing programming for the Centre's inaugural show and working on evolving the distinctive and innovative artistic model for the CAB.



Announcement of the Project and Public Financial Support



In October 2024, the CAB held its first press conference at 333 Port-Royal, just before we began breaking ground on the construction project. This press conference focused on the CAB being awarded a \$10.2M grant as part of the “Green and Inclusive Community Building” program from the federal government as well as a \$1.4M grant from the *Ministre des Ressources naturelles et des Forêts* of Quebec. It was also the first public announcement of the project. Many people and press attended, including Canadian Minister, Melanie Joly; the previous Mayor of Ahuntsic-Cartierville, Émilie Thuillier; and many major media outlets. From this press conference, the CAB received media coverage on CBC, Le Devoir, Global News, CityTV, Renew Canada, Journal Métro, Voir Vert, and Journal des Voisins.

In March, Anne-Marie Barnard participated in a conference as part of *Rendez-vous Maestria 2025* by the *Conseil des métiers d'Arts* du Quebec. The panel she participated in focused on creation spaces for artists and the challenges they are facing in the province today. Given the CAB's mission, Anne-Marie is particularly well-positioned to discuss these issues. She also addressed the importance of highlighting the process through its documentation and public presentation. We believe that by making the process visible to everyone, many people will benefit.

Un lieu où les choses
A place for things to
passent. happen.