

# Dane Carnegie Malenfant

Email: dane.malenfant@mail.mcgill.ca

## Education

---

- 2022 - 2025      **McGill University**  
*MSc., Computer Science*
- 2018 - 2022      **McGill University**  
*B.A., Computer Science with minors in Psychology and Computer Science*
- 2016 - 2018      **University of Regina**  
*Certificate, French as a Second Language*

## Referred Publications

---

- Sun, C., Yang, W., Jiralerspong, T., **Malenfant, D.**, Alsbury-Nealy, B., Bengio, Y., & Richards, B. A. (2023). Contrastive Retrospection: honing in on critical steps for rapid learning and generalization in RL. Thirty-Seventh Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems.
- Meehan, M., **Malenfant, D.**, & Piper, A. (2022). Causality Mining in Fiction. In Proceedings of Text2Story - Fifth Workshop on Narrative Extraction From Texts held in conjunction with the 44th European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR 2022), Stavanger, Norway, April 10, 2022 (Vol. 3117, pp. 25–34). CEUR-WS.org.
- Epstein, I., **Malenfant, D.**, Parker, S., Wardrop, C. (2024). Inconsistencies in Artificial Intelligence Strategy Alignment of NATO Member States. 2024 Harms and Risks of AI in the Military. December 2, 2024

## Professional Experience

---

- 2023 - 2024      **AI 4 Humanity, Mila**  
*Consultant for Indigenous Pathfinders in AI and FLAIR*
- 2022 - 2023      **Mila - Québec AI Institute and The Neurological Institute of Montréal**  
*Research Assistant*
- 2022              *Research Intern*
- 2023              **Branches Program, Enrollment Services, McGill University**  
*Interim Program Manager*
- 2022 - 2023      *Assistant Program Coordinator*
- 2021              **RBC**  
*Cybersecurity Analyst*

## Awards

---

- 2024              Best Poster Award, Montréal AI and Neuroscience Conference              **\$300**

2024	NSERC CGSM, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada	<b>\$32000</b>
2024	Indigenous Mathematics Panel Honorarium, Office of Indigenous Initiatives	<b>\$250</b>
2023	Rathlyn Fellowship, Indigenous Studies Program McGill University	<b>\$12000</b>
2023	Strategic planning award, Enrolment Services	<b>\$100</b>
2023	Indigenous Graduate Excellence Recruitment Fellowship	<b>\$5000</b>
2022	Neuropsychology Day Runner-Up Prize, The Montréal Neurological Institute	<b>\$100</b>
2022	HBHL-IMPRESS Fellowship, McGill University	<b>\$5000</b>

### Invited Talks

---

December 2024	Indigenous in AI/ML Event. Neurips.
November 2024	AISES East Conference. Queen's University
October 2024	Lightning Talk. Montréal AI and Neuroscience Conference
March 2024	International PI Day "Unlocking Perspectives" with Dr. Edward Doolittle Panel - Winter Speaker Series. McGill University

### Supervision

---

2024 - Present	Undergraduate Le Thuy Dong <i>Emergent Pro-Social Trading Behaviour in Reinforcement Learning Agents</i>
----------------	--

### Poster Presentations

---

- **Malenfant, D.**, Richards, B. (2024). Reciprocity in Spite of Immediate and Sparse Rewards. Seventh Montréal Artificial Intelligence and Neuroscience Conference. Montréal, Québec, October 22, 2024.
- Epstein, I., **Malenfant, D.**, Parker, S., Wardrop, C. (2024). Inconsistencies in Artificial Intelligence Strategy Alignment of NATO Member States. 2024 Harms and Risks of AI in the Military. December 2, 2024

### Reviewer

---

2024	<i>Harms and Risks of AI in the Military</i>
2024	<i>Healthy Brains, Healthy Lives internship award</i>

### Committee Membership

---

2024 - Present *Mila Indigenous Pathfinders in AI Advisory Board Member*

2022 - 2024 *Mila EDI Committee Member*

### Summer Schools and Academic Trips

---

2024 *Abundant Intelligences Annual General Meeting Aeotora*  
Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārang  
Whakatāne, New Zealand

2024 *Human Aligned-AI Summer School*  
Charles University  
Prague, Czechia

### Extracurricular and Volunteerism

---

**AISES McGill**  
2023 - Present *Senior Advisor*

**Translators Without Borders**  
2021 - Present *Freelance Translator*

**Mila**  
December 2023 *Neurips Virtual Screening Volunteer*

**McGill NeuroTech**  
2022 - 2023 *Machine Learning Co-Lead*

2021 - 2022 *Machine Learning Member*

**Encode Justice Canada**  
September 2023 *Hackathon Judge*

2022 - 2023 *Outreach Coordinator*

2021 - 2022 *Content Writer*

### Skills

---

#### **Programming Languages**

C/C++, Python, Java, R, Matlab, SQL, Neo4j, Bash, Git, x86,

#### **Frameworks and Technologies**

Pytorch, Tensorflow, Numpy, Slurm, WandB, Matplotlib, Linux

#### **Natural Languages**

English (**Native**), French (**B2 DELF attesté**), Michif (Basic), Cree (Basic), Spanish (Basic)

## Affiliations

---

- 2022 - Present American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
- 2019 - Present Métis Nation — Saskatchewan (MNS)

## Interests

---

- Attending obscure and experimental electronic music venues ideally at strange locations
- Playing hide and seek with my cat
- Regular exercise at gyms with excursions like hiking or camping

## Media Interviews

---

### **Podcasts**

- November 2024 [\*Rethinking AI through Indigenous culture with Dane Malenfant from McGill University and Mila.\*](#)  
Activists Of Tech — The responsible tech podcast.  
Mélicca M'Raidi-Kechichian
- November 2024 [\*Dane Malenfant: Embedding the Indigenous Value of Reciprocity into AI Systems.\*](#)  
The World We Are Building Podcast.  
Allison Cohen

### **Articles**

- August 2024 [\*Celebrating International Pi Day with the Office of Indigenous Initiatives.\*](#)  
Office of Science Communication, McGill University.  
Christine Pilon
- May 2024 [\*Recognizing the healing power of research.\*](#)  
University Advancement, McGill University  
Sarah Lebeau
- April 2024 [\*Cultural Connections: Indigenous Mentorship Programs are Expanding Across Canada.\*](#)  
Winds of Change Magazine, AISES.  
Patrick Quinn
- March 2024 [\*Graduate students in Education and Science earn Rathlyn Fellowships.\*](#)  
McGill University Reporter, Indigenous Studies Program, McGill University.  
Mia Alunik
- October 2023 [\*Breaking barriers: IMPRESS and the transformative power of Indigenous mentorship.\*](#)  
McGill University Reporter, Healthy Brains, Healthy Lives.  
Emily Hackett

October 2022

[Exploring the path to academia.](#)

Healthy Brains, Healthy Lives.

Dara O'Connor

April 2024

**Radio**

[Native America Calling: Safeguards on Artificial Intelligence.](#)

Native America Calling.

Shawn Spruce