**Dr. Ursula Eicker** holds the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Communities and Cities, at Concordia University. A physicist, she has directed a number of international projects in the fields of energy-efficient buildings and neighbourhoods, as well as sustainable energy systems. She joined Concordia's Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science in June 2019.

# Name an innovative idea that drew your attention or that you or your organization implemented:

### - In your community

A flat rate for mobility services for new condos, so that nobody needs a private car anymore (idea from Jalon Montréal, discussed with Concordia's Next Generation Cities)

## - Within your organization

A zero-carbon urban modeling toolkit, that allows us to show the benefits and ways of moving toward zero carbon districts

# What life lesson would you like to pass along or what piece of advice would you like to give to your children?

Do more long term thinking and always think of the entire life cycle of a product or a process to make decisions

# Can you name a person or public figure who stood out during a crisis (at any particular period in history) and who would make a good model for the current time?

### Why is that?

Hermann Scheer, the "inventor" of the German feed-in tariff, that brought solar photovoltaics into the markets worldwide

## Name an act of social solidarity that recently moved or surprised you.

Crowdfunding to pay medical bills for the jazz guitarist Pat Martino

# Which book (either fiction or non-fiction) do you consider essential reading during a crisis,

## or to help people emerge from a crisis?

Happy Cities by Charles Montgomery (Doubleday Canada, 2013)

Dr. Eicker appears in this Concordia University video about reinventing and reimagining cities and communities: https://www.concordia.ca/next-gen/cities.html