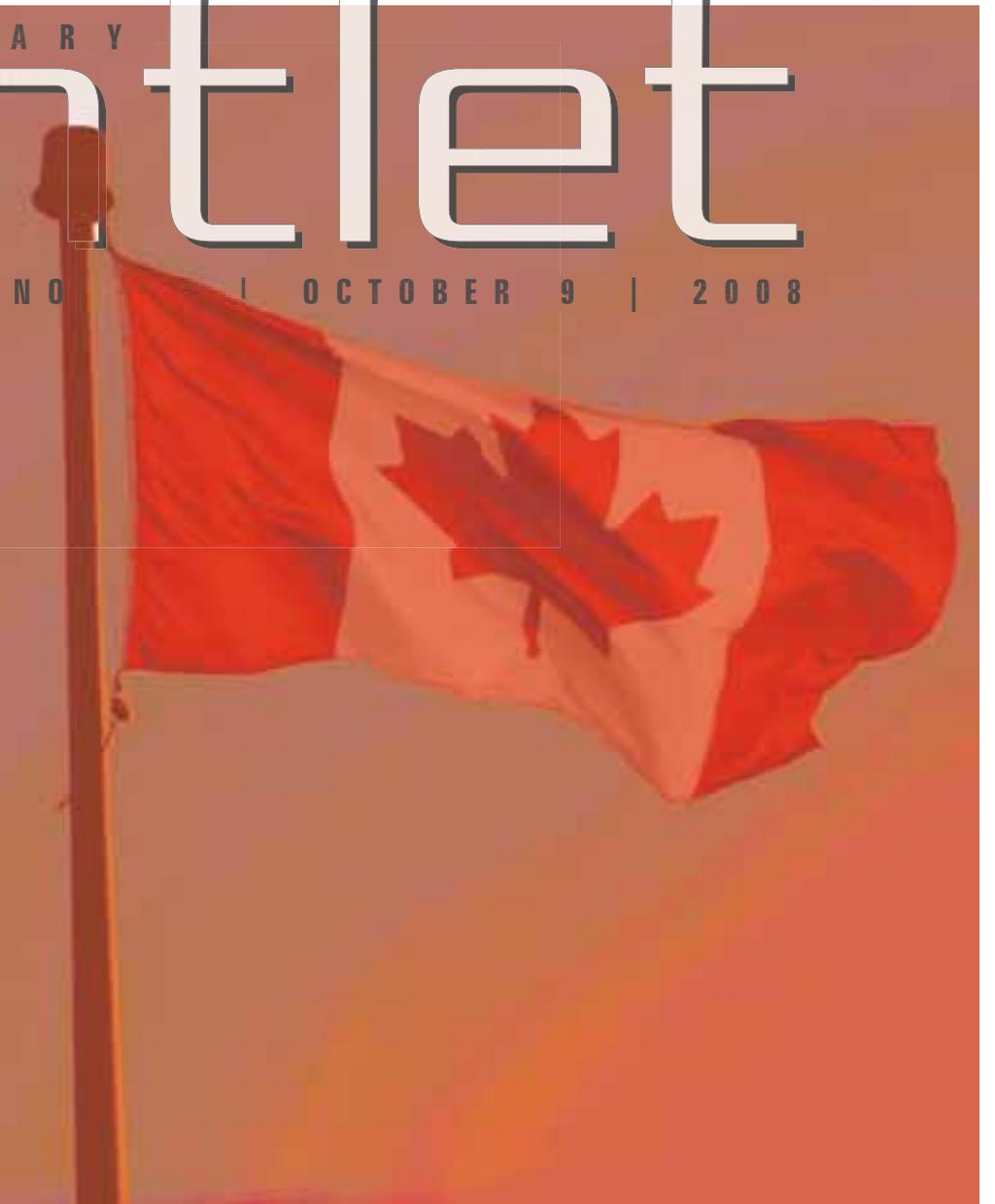
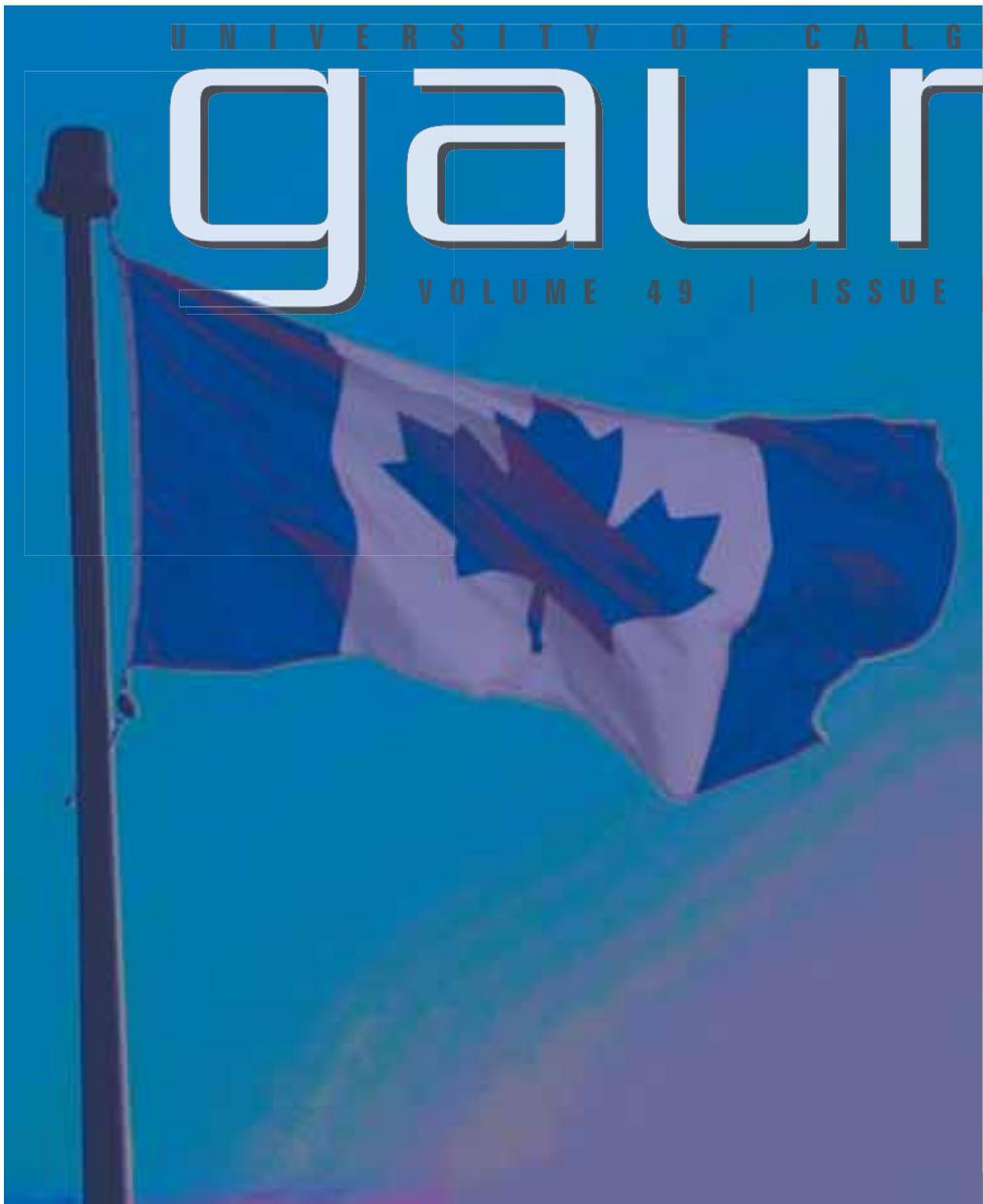


UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

gauntlet

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**VOTERS SET TO CHOOSE THEIR VERSION OF CANADA
READ ABOUT THE ISSUES, PAGES 4-18**



STUDENTS' UNION HAPPENINGS

OCTOBER 13 - 17 EVENTS:

MONDAY

Thanksgiving Day. University closed.

TUESDAY

SU By-Election Forums: October 14-15, 2008

Clubs Night at the Den:

15% off with your Club Card, 5pm - close

WEDNESDAY

SU By-Election Forums: October 14-15, 2008

25¢ Wing Night at the Den, 8pm - close

THURSDAY

Student Appreciation Night at the Den

FRIDAY

That Empty Space: Jean-Paul De Roover with Jonathan Li. 3 - 6pm MSC

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VOTE

Students' Union BY-ELECTION

VOTING DAYS:
October 21 - 23

FORUMS

October 14 - 15,
South Courtyard Stage, MSC

Tuesday, October 14

12:00 pm
Operations & Finance
Commissioners

12:30 pm
Event Commissioners

Wednesday, October 15

12:00 pm
Faculty Representatives

12:30 pm
Academic Commissioners

Call for Students' Union Quality Money Proposals

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$1.4 MILLION?

Do you have a great idea about how to spend the **Students' Union Quality Money**? Past Quality Money allocations include a \$55,000 Library Improvement Grant and \$206,000 for the Class Size Reduction Program. Proposals must be submitted by November 21, 2008.

Visit www.su.ucalgary.ca for more information.

Deadline for proposals: November 21

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Fuck snow

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We have sockey stories!

That's hockey and soccer put together. They are actually seperate stories I just thought I'd save some time, but I suppose by writing this explanation I have wasted more.



Booze and politics!

Drink along with federal election coverage.



Words say a lot.

Yeah. See entertainment for more.



Tree huggers rejoice!

We decided not killing all the trees was good. We still need toilet paper so we are running stuff on the internet including more news election coverage, Comeback Kid rocks out and sex talk.



photo to the editor

“Jammin’ on Free Bird,” by Cam Cotton-O’Brien (Rebel XTi)

When you gotta rock, you rock. We needed to rock.

Anyone can submit an original photo to the editor. Drop off your high resolution photo along with your name, contact information and a brief description including type of camera (not exceeding 30 words) to room 319 MacEwan Student Centre or email contents@thegauntlet.ca

If you come to a fork in the road take it.

UNLIMIT YOURSELF



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The rise of bleeding heart conservatism

Stephen Harper's dubious shift towards green policy

In an attempt to connect with the ever-greening Canadian electorate, Stephen Harper has decided to try his hand at bleeding heart conservatism.

At a campaign stop in Calgary on Sept. 26, Harper promised that, if elected, the Conservative government would ban the export of bitumen to nations whose environmental laws weren't as stringent as those in Canada. The immediate reaction to this statement was the provincial government's concerns that the feds, in applying such a policy, would be stepping into their jurisdiction. This may be, but there are other reasons this proposal falls flat.

Bitumen is an extremely heavy type of petroleum that is extracted from the oilsands in northern Alberta. Its extraction is incredibly costly to the environment, which is the primary reason that Harper's promise is so ridiculous. It is effectively the same as the United States harping the importance of developing democracy around the world while actively executing plans that are detrimental to that end. The Conservative pledge is hypocrisy of the highest order and can do nothing but erode Canada's cred-

ibility when it makes any statement about environmental concern.

Beyond this, the plan's environmental advantages are deceptive. Currently, most bitumen is exported to the U.S. While Canadian regulations are stricter than those in the U.S., given the volatility of the initial extraction of the material and the fact that it's processing and end use will remain detrimental to the environment, despite the tighter Canadian guidelines, the actual benefit to the environment falls far short of being meaningful progress towards a greener future.

It is worth considering that there is a pipeline currently being constructed to the coast that will allow bitumen to be shipped to other nations, possibly including China. These regulations would conceivably lead to a more environmentally friendly development in that nation. In some sense this is true, but the actual impact that this move will have is, again, hardly praiseworthy. Restricting bitumen from entering China won't greatly reduce the environmental damage of such a large nation's rapid development. Besides, it would be unreasonable to laud Harper's



policy as being a forceful move in the right direction when all it does is ban something that is not happening as of now anyways.

Lastly, there remains the dubious fact that if the processing of bitumen was limited to Canadian facilities, there would be a great number of jobs gained in this country.

In the end, the proposal seems less like a legitimate effort at positive environmental policy than a minor ploy for environmentally leaning voters or perhaps those who would stand to

gain work processing bitumen. The proposal wins a small victory by shifting the processing of the material to a more regulated location, but does not actually address the extreme environmental damage caused by its extraction and later usage. If the Conservatives actually want their environmental policy taken seriously, they will have to author a serious environmental policy.

Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Opinions Editor

Letters to the editor

In defence of housing policy

Editor, the *Gauntlet*,

["Affordable housing blues and a call to abandon ship," Chuck Day, Oct. 2, *Gauntlet*]

I understand the frustration around delivering affordable housing solutions to students. Progress is slow, the process is highly political and it seems like all anyone ever does is talk about it. I would like to take this opportunity to assure all students that the SU is doing way more than talking about it, we are acting now.

The Students' Union is advocating for the university to upgrade its on-campus housing capacity to 15 per cent of the full-time student population. This number is based on the demand for on-campus housing and the capacities of universities situated in similar housing markets.

Last year, in response to SU recommendations the university announced a new 600 bed residence facility. This facility will cost more than \$100 million and secur-

ing capital funding to build it has proved challenging. The University would like to build more residence spaces on campus but needs capital funding from the government to make it a reality.

Currently the Students' Union is commissioning an "Inter-Institutional Residence Feasibility Study" to look into an alternative form of student housing. This study will assess if an off-campus residence facility, shared by all of Calgary's post-secondary students, would be a sustainable housing initiative.

An important component of this study is a housing needs analysis of students.

Arguably this should have been done a long time ago and probably by the government, but the SU is taking the lead on this issue and gathering information. With this data we will be in a much better position to justify the need for solutions from the government and the university.

The "ship" is on course and to

"abandon ship" when we are finally gaining ground in addressing this issue would only further steer us in the wrong direction. While our ship may not sail as fast as we might like, we will arrive at our destination in due time.

If students are concerned or have questions on how the SU is actively addressing the housing issue please contact me at suvpext@ucalgary.ca

Alastair MacKinnon
Students' Union Vice-President External

Urban dreaming

Editor, the *Gauntlet*

["The U of C is going downtown," Sarelle Azuelos, Sept. 25, *Gauntlet*] So the provincial Conservatives are going to reward their incompetent "board of governor" appointees with even more money to build a second campus to spread their incompetence even further?

Another of the main reasons that this overcrowded university usually ranks last in Maclean's, is that they have a monopoly in this city of over 1 million and students have no choice.

Why not just build a second and third university instead, to give Calgary students a local choice of schools, creating some competition, encouraging this school to improve and making room for countless Calgarians who are prevented from studying? Winnipeg, Manitoba (pop. 650,000), and Spokane, Washington (pop. 250,000) each support four degree-granting universities in their cities, while the mighty oil-rich Calgary, Alberta (pop. 1,070,000), prefers to remain "stupid to the last drop" by denying tens of thousands of qualified Albertans a chance to study at a decent school of their choice within this province and city.

Jay Hind

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Golden Spatula

Kiva Ferraro for writing a kick-ass first story.

Furor Arma Ministar

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The *Gauntlet* is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire *Gauntlet* staff. Editorials are chosen by a majority of the editorial board. The *Gauntlet* is a forum open to all U of C students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the *Gauntlet* follow a three-step process which requires written decisions from the Editor, the GPS Board of Directors, and the Ombudsboard. The complete Grievance Policy is online at: <http://gauntlet.ucalgary.ca>. The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses brownie guy based ink. We urge you to recycle/pick up girls in line at Good Earth.

Letter Policy

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libellous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the *Gauntlet*," and be no longer than 300 words. The *Gauntlet* retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the *Gauntlet* office, Room 319 MacEwan Student Centre, or sent by e-mail to gauntlet@ucalgary.ca.

The Cover

photo by Paul Baker, design by Paul Baker and Ryan May



Federal Election 2008

On September 7, 2008 at 8:30 a.m., Prime Minister Stephen Harper asked Governor General Michaëlle Jean to call an election for October 14. In the interests of students on campus, *Gauntlet* news editor Sarelle Azuelos and features editor Katy Anderson interviewed candidates from the Calgary-West riding for their party's platforms on a variety of issues. Rob Anders, the incumbent Conservative candidate, was unavailable for comment. All candidates will be on campus for a forum in the MacEwan Student Centre south courtyard Thursday at 12 p.m.

Pack up the paints

arts funding

Nicole Dionne
E&P Editor

Often in Canadian politics, culture and arts takes a back seat to other issues. However, recent cuts to funding have caused a great deal of indignation in the Canadian arts community and has pushed the question of fiscal support of culture to

the front of the debate this election. Prime Minister Stephen Harper has minimized the issue and called it a fringe topic that does not affect the average Canadian.

"I think when ordinary working people come home, turn on the TV and see a gala of a bunch of people, you know, at a rich gala all subsidized by taxpayers claiming their subsidies aren't high enough when they know those subsidies have actually gone up, I'm not sure that's something that resonates with ordinary



Julia Osincuk/The Gauntlet

people," Harper told the *National Post*, Oct. 6.

Such comments have opened Harper to a lot of criticism from both the arts community and local party candidates. Activists and artists alike have pointed out the unrealistic light that Harper has portrayed the arts community in.

"The reality is that ordinary people

are actively engaged in the sector, so to characterize it as an elitist thing is misleading," said Calgary Arts Development president and CEO Terry Rock. Rock also pointed out that the average salary of an artist in Calgary in 2006 was under \$20,000.

Kirk Schmidt, an independent candidate running in Calgary-

West, pointed out that Harper's depiction of the arts community also belittles the major economic role the cultural sector plays in Canada's economy.

"The Conference Board of Canada [a private think-tank] estimated that the economic footprint of Canada's culture sector was about \$84.6 billion see ARTS FUNDING, page 9

More money needed for post-secondary students

education

Ryan Pike
AP Editor

With the federal election less than a week away, candidates in the University of Calgary's riding of Calgary-West acknowledged the importance of post-secondary education.

All five candidates challenging incumbent Conservative MP Rob Anders note the key factors in making post-secondary education affordable are providing access to as many as possible while keeping costs down, although they differ in the specifics

of how government should reach that goal.

"Education should be free for all," said Marxist-Leninist Party candidate André Vachon. "You have a situation today where education is subject to the same rules as the private economy, where if there's no money to be made at the end of it, then education suffers."

The other candidates shared Vachon's enthusiasm, noting the largest barriers are a lack of financial assistance, high interest rates for student loans and the high cost of education.

New Democratic Party candidate and U of C student Teale Phelps Bondaroff said his party aims at

reducing costs through a dedicated education transfer, grants to those with student loans and debt relief.

"We should not be discouraging people from going into education with massive rates," said Phelps Bondaroff. "I think that's what the Conservatives and Liberals have done over the past 25 years, they've essentially neglected the education system and that's a huge problem."

Liberal Party candidate Jennifer Pollock explained that her party's plan contains increases in bursaries, grants, lower interest rates for student loans and an increased grace period of two years.

"This plan was done entirely in consultation with student groups,"

said Pollock. "There are increases in the number of bursaries for students who have need. There is a change in the tax structure so students can get a grant each year that they attend rather than tax credits, which some of them can't use for years."

Independent candidate Kirk Schmidt supports the creation of a dedicated educational endowment from federal surpluses aimed at relaxing student debt for those who meet certain criteria and providing scholarships and grants.

"[With] a \$2 billion endowment that puts \$100 million approximately into education per year, we'd be able to relax about seven times as many loans as we already do as a govern-

ment," said Schmidt. "There'd be more incentive to staying in Canada and working and at the same time, we'd be able to help those that have incurred a lot of debt."

Randy Weeks of the Green Party shared his party's view that post-secondary education is too expensive and feels that eliminating half of student debt for graduates staying to work in Canada would go a long way towards increasing accessibility.

"Education is becoming a place where only the rich elite can afford to go," said Weeks. "Part of it is the student loan thing. Education is the mainstay of a successful country and we have very strong education policies."

What do you think politicians should be focusing on this election? Why?

campus quips



"Withdraw troops from Afghanistan. Canada is a peace-keeper."
— Syed Hassan, masters civil engineering



"Education. It's getting more expensive and it isn't affordable for everyone."
— Dmitry Nikitashenko, first-year finance



"Economy, but the campaign is mostly about attacking opponents."
— Rhonda Sim, fourth-year linguistics



"Health care system. We need an upstream approach to health that isn't solely illness focused."
— Adrienne Yee, fourth-year nursing

Military spending versus reconstruction

afghanistan

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

While the Canadian mission in Afghanistan might be on the backburner with the focus on the economy, Calgary-West candidates are busy debating the best plan of action.

Last month Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Canada would withdraw the majority of its troops from Kandahar province in Afghanistan by 2011. Currently, over 2,500 Canadian Forces personnel are deployed in the province in a NATO-led mission endorsed by the United Nations.

Calgary-West Liberal candidate Jennifer Pollock said the Liberal Party supports reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan and the development of the democratic government, but the balance between military spending and reconstruction needs to be changed. She cast doubts on the promise to withdraw the troops by 2011, pointing out Harper's promise is subjective to possible election results.

"When I went to read that press release, the language they said is we would not change the timing because that is not the will of the Parliament,"

she said. "So if they got a majority government, then they would say the will of the government has changed."

New Democrat Party candidate Teale Phelps Bondaroff strongly disagreed with the Canadian mission. He added the NDP has always opposed keeping troops in Afghanistan, citing imbalance between military and infrastructure spending and the focus on defeating the insurgency by military means instead of diplomacy as reasons for the mission's failure.

"Unlike a university degree, where four or however many years later, you have a diploma and a certain amount of credits, we don't have that system in Afghanistan and there is no end goal," said Phelps Bondaroff. "The way we're fighting it is essentially for every dollar of aid, we're spending nine fighting the war."

Marxist-Leninist candidate André Vachon called it an unjust war. He explained Canada has an international responsibility to help poor nations by bringing them up to par industrially with the rest of the world.

"Canada needs an anti-war government," he said. "We should have no Canadian troops in foreign lands and no foreign troops in Canada. We have no business there and we should get out immediately."

Green Party candidate Randy



Staff Sgt. Marcus J. Quarterman/ (CC) (BY) (NC) (ND) Except where otherwise noted, this work is licensed under <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

Over 600 schools in Afghanistan are empty due to the ongoing conflict.

Weeks agreed with Vachon, adding there are at least five countries who need peacekeeping and humanitarian aid where Canada could make a huge difference. He explained the Greens want to redefine Canada's role in the Afghan mission to a humanitarian and rebuilding policy.

"This is not a humanitarian mission at all," said Weeks. "There are over 600 schools there that have been built that are sitting empty because you can't run a school in a war zone."

Kirk Schmidt, an independent can-

didate, reminded voters that Canada is doing this as part of an international commitment and has been making progress on training the Afghan military and police force. But Schmidt added it is time for another country to take leadership there. He defended the defence spending as important for purchasing new technology needed for Canadian soldiers such as unmanned aerial vehicles and devices that detect improvised explosive devices.

"Reconstruction is exceptionally important, but it's about the lives of

Canadians first and foremost," said Schmidt. "Once we can ensure a better level of safety and security for the soldiers, then yes, we need to spend lots of money on reconstruction."

The Conservative Party of Canada website offered a preview of its stand on Afghanistan, saying the mission protects Canadians by "clearing out terrorist sanctuaries; reinforc[ing] Canada's role as a leader in the fight for democracy and human rights; and fulfill[ing] a global promise to rebuild the shattered Afghan state."

Canada's Northern frontier in a war of words

arctic

Doug Horner
Gauntlet News

An oft-forgotten Northern land is now a source of contention for federal politicians. Geologists predict there are vast stores of fossil fuels beneath its seabed and this potentially resource-rich territory is under dispute. The Northwest Passage might also soon become a viable trade route between the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean. Canada has established communities living in the region which raises the question of how to protect the rights of Northern and Inuit communities from being trampled in a race for control and resources.

Calgary-West Marxist-Leninist candidate André Vachon agreed the situation merited consideration.

"I think all these questions should be put on the table . . . and they cannot simply be the subject of a race for profit," said Vachon.

Independent candidate Kirk Schmidt recognized the significance of Canada asserting its sovereignty

over the Northwest Passage for both economic and environmental reasons. He proposed the construction of a deepwater port in order to stimulate the local economy and capitalize on future international traffic through the passage.

"We will basically be the go-between between the Pacific Rim and the European Union, which puts us in a fantastic economic situation," said Schmidt.

Liberal candidate Jennifer Pollock articulated her party's plan to approach the Arctic from within. This strategy hinges on stimulating the economies and social infrastructures of Northern communities.

"Just as Alberta has a right to their resources, the federal government would acknowledge ownership by the people of the North of their lands and waters," said Pollock.

The Liberal strategy depends on developing a higher profile in the Arctic Council, an intergovernmental forum for all Arctic countries, and committing the necessary resources to complete a Canadian bid for Arctic territory to the UN by 2013.

While the Green Party does not



Julia Osinchuk/the Gauntlet

Sovereignty and resources are both issues in the North.

mention an Arctic policy in their party platform, Calgary-West Green Party candidate Randy Weeks recognized the need to assert some kind of presence in order to protect Canada's sovereignty in the region.

"We need to go in there and start exercising our sovereignty or some superpower like Russia or the United States is going to walk

in and take over," he said.

Weeks argued the Green Party does not see the Arctic in terms of resources, it is too fragile an environment and Canada needs to scale down dependence on fossil fuels.

"Exploiting the resources up there is only a temporary fix, we need to find alternatives to drilling for more oil," said Weeks.

The Conservative party platform involves a four-prong approach to the Arctic. The Tories argue for economic development, input from Northern communities that do not include paternalistic federal policies, environmental protection and an increased military presence.

The NDP platform outlines a detailed strategy for the North. They push for international diplomacy and an acceleration of the Canadian claim to Arctic territory being made to the UN. They also advocate the bolstering of the Coast Guard with ice breaking ships and more officers stationed in the North. NDP Calgary-West candidate Teale Phelps Bondaroff expressed his party's plan to ensure that Northern communities will be involved in the process and benefits of this new Arctic resurgence. The Liberals and the NDP see success in the Arctic in terms of the success of established northern people.

"We need to be investing in Northern communities . . . essentially investing in Inuit communities and creating a strong network of people in the North," said Phelps Bondaroff.

Health care in need of improvement

health care

Morgan Haigler
News Assistant

As Canada's 2008 federal election campaign moves forward, candidates are expressing a need to improve the nation's health care systems.

Independent candidate Kirk Schmidt and Liberal Party candidate Jennifer Pollock of Calgary-West agree the overall quality of health care is good, but Canada still needs to address many serious health-care issues.

"There aren't sufficient services to offer to the people," said Pollock. "That's why we talk about wait lines. Once you get there, care is a B or B+."

Teale Phelps Bondaroff, the New Democratic Party candidate and André Vachon, the Marxist-Leninist Party candidate, believe Canada falls short on government funding.

"The government must stop paying the rich and it must increase funding for social programs," said Vachon.

Green Party candidate Randy Weeks took this idea one step further, saying that Canada's health care is in a crisis.



Julia Osinchuk/the Gauntlet

Green candidate Weeks argued for a health care system that focuses on preventing illness.

"We're not getting good value for what we're paying for," said Weeks. "It's mismanaged and it's underfunded and it's basically on critical life support. That comes from people who work directly within the system itself."

All candidates indicated an emphasis should be placed on public health care as opposed to private. Schmidt and Pollock said the Alberta govern-

ment should follow the Canada Health Act, while candidates from the NDP, Green and Marxist-Leninist parties think privatizing health care creates more setbacks.

"The problem with private facilities is essentially, they charge higher rates and they're accessible only to those who are wealthy," said Phelps Bondaroff. "We already have a problem where there are five million

Canadians without medical doctors and family doctors in the country. Those people tend to go to hospitals and are added to waiting lists to get their primary care."

Currently, the NDP wants to reverse private delivery services and form national homecare and pharmacare programs.

According to Weeks, improving the quality of life of Canadians starts

with better education, nutrition and promotion of healthier lifestyles. The party also hopes to limit the commercialization of genetically modified crops, reduce cigarette smoking through education and taxes and develop national goals for prenatal care strategies.

Vachon also supports improving health care services, saying that good health is a right and not something to be abused.

"[Health care] should not be subject to the condition that money will be made from human suffering and illness," said Vachon. "Nor should it be considered a cost. A healthy population is an investment and it's a great step forward that socialized medicine came into being."

The future of Canada's health care system may be hard to predict, but most candidates believe that increased government funding is necessary to strengthen Canada's long-term goals. Because of an increased shortage of nurses and doctors in the province, Canada needs to develop incentives that will encourage medical staff to stay employed.

Although Weeks did not mention government funding, he believes reducing the levels of pollutants will lift some of the pressures placed on the public health care system.

Green research and development a common goal

environment

Sarelle Azuelos
News Editor

Green election promises are reaching a new high this year, with all parties tackling the environmental issue in their own way.

Calgary-West Liberal candidate Jennifer Pollock hopes to create an incentive for companies to buy green technology and for Canadians to retrofit their homes.

"The whole platform in this election is designed to include the environment and the impact on the environment in every decision that's made," she said. "That starts first with, in a sense, the carbon tax itself which is an attempt to reduce carbon in the atmosphere, but also an attempt to change our economy and our society to being one that consumes less."

Green Party candidate Randy Weeks argued the focus on carbon



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

Environmental research would ensure that these areas last.

ignored other emissions dangerous to the environment. He said the Liberals watered down the original Green environment policy until it was no longer effective.

"It's un-tax what we want and tax what we don't want," said Weeks. "That's the basis of it. We want people to have jobs, why tax them?"

New Democratic Party candidate Teale Phelps Bondaroff also mentioned the important economic effects environmental policy will have. He hopes to target major polluters like "big oil" and "big cement" and not individuals for new taxes. Phelps Bondaroff explained the weakness in the Liberal Green Shift

policy was a result of it being revenue neutral.

"Every single dollar they raise in the carbon tax will be going into other offset taxes," he said. "The problem with that is the goal of the tax is to reduce carbon, so you're essentially reducing your carbon tax base if you're actually successful."

He explained the NDP plans to set a firm limit on carbon emissions to create a market for carbon shares.

"I want to see much more research and development money put towards green technologies," said independent candidate Kirk Schmidt. "There's a lot of problems that we can fix by taking the time in Canada to put money into research and coming up with solutions that are homegrown and that we can sell to other countries later on when we do develop them."

Schmidt also called for more thorough use of technologies already available, such as replacing incandescent light-

bulbs with fluorescent ones.

"Global climate change needs to be a multinational solution," he said. "Canada needs to do its part, but Canada alone cannot fix the world's problems alone."

Marxist-Leninist candidate André Vachon disagreed and said all people have a responsibility to mother nature and future generations.

"We're a communist party and so we place the interest of the working class and people first," he said. "That is not taking place anywhere where pollution is rampant and where violence is committed against nature."

All candidates agreed that reducing consumption would have a positive affect on both the environment and the economy.

"While some people don't agree with Alberta's energy climate, if the whole world uses less energy and less hydrocarbons then Alberta's economy will be stable for a longer period of time," said Pollock. "Consuming less is better for Alberta."

Alberta's precious resource gets a second look

o i l s a n d s

Jordyn Marcellus
Gauntlet News

The tarsands and the Alberta economy are inextricably linked. The more oil dredged up from the sands, the better off our province is economically. In this federal election, many political parties are focusing on the environmental concerns that are affecting the nation, which the oil plants up north and being built in Saskatchewan affect every day.

Companies working in the oilsands are criticized by environmental groups like the Pembina Institute for belching tremendous amounts of carbon and other chemicals into the air as well as consuming large volumes of water in the oil excavation process. Organizations like Greenpeace have suggested shutting down the tarsand projects entirely, saying the economic gains are not worth the severe environmental impact.

Teale Phelps Bondaroff, New Democratic Party candidate for Calgary-West, explained that his party believes that there can be job creation through environmental policies.

"One of the misconceptions with protecting our environment is that you can either have the environment or the economy, but not both," he said. "With [the NDP's] Green Collar Job program, we're saying that we can both improve the economy and keep jobs. We're going to need to retrofit things and innovate new transportation and energy technology. That's where jobs are going to be coming from. We can create a whole new sector in our economy."

Kirk Schmidt, an independent candidate, argued there is no need to shut down the oilsands. The government needs ways of cleaning up the extraction process itself, which will help lessen the current environmental damage.

"What we need to do is slow down the growth," said Schmidt. "We can slow down the production, invest money into research and develop-



John McDonald/the Gauntlet

The oilsands: an economic powerhouse no one wants to give up.

ment and we can find cleaner ways of extracting that oil. Once we've found cleaner ways, which reduce the environmental damage or leave any at all, we can then re-establish increasing production."

Green Party candidate Randy Weeks, an auditor for Canadian Natural Resources Limited, stressed his party is not opposed to the oilsands, but sees a need to broaden the Albertan economy.

"We are a one-trick pony economy," said Weeks. "Right now, it's oil. The conventional oil is going away and soon all that's going to be left is the strip-mining in the oilsands. What we would like to do is take Alberta's economic dependence on the oilsands and diversify that into other areas especially alternative energy and efficiency technologies."

Pipeline construction worker André Vachon represents the Marxist-

Leninist Party of Canada. He argued Canadian people are not receiving their fair share of oil revenue from the companies extracting resources from Canadian soil.

"The people of Canada should get to decide who gets the oil," said Vachon. "There shouldn't be deals behind closed doors, in boardrooms of the corporations or between heads of state. We're not suggesting we should just shut down production in the tarsands or we should stop producing oil and gas. It's part of the wealth of Canada and we should exploit it."

Weeks emphasized that the oil patch is not going to go away and that the Albertan economy is in dire need of a breath of fresh air.

"Oil is a hugely important commodity that we simply cannot do without right now," Weeks said. "[But the Green Party] does not want to leave Alberta's economy entirely reliant on oilsands. We need to start nurturing other technologies, other businesses and significantly diversifying Alberta's economy away from those oilsands."

Helping those in need

p o v e r t y

Chris Wanamaker
Gauntlet News

While the economy is making huge headlines in the upcoming election, the effects on poverty are almost ignored. Calgary-West candidates agreed it was a serious issue, but offered a variety of solutions.

Green Party candidate Randy Weeks calls the Conservatives' budget for social programs "scrooge-like" and accused the government of economic mismanagement.

"We forced a greater percentage of our population into poverty and created more social problems," he said.

Marxist-Leninist candidate André Vachon also criticized the Conservatives.

"The facts speak for themselves," he said. "We've cut social services. We've put people who can't look after themselves on the street."

Independent candidate Kirk Schmidt maintained that evaluating the government on poverty-related initiatives may not be possible.

"We entered this period of economic boom, especially in Alberta, where it really is beyond the government's control," he said. "Unfortunately what happened is it forced housing prices and cost of living to skyrocket, and it left quite a few people behind,



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

All Calgary-West candidates are seeking change.

so it's hard to say the government is at fault or not at fault."

Weeks claimed his party would bring back previous programs that worked or bolster existing programs.

The Greens would like to replicate successful poverty-reduction policies found in Northern Europe and other parts of the world.

According to New Democratic Party candidate Teale Phelps Bondaroff, the NDP party would tackle the problem by reducing tuition costs for post-secondary students, bringing back the federal minimum wage and introducing a living wage. They would also create a universal drug prescription cover-

age program, reduce ATM, cell phone and bank fees and re-examine existing seniors' pensions and benefits.

Liberal candidate Jennifer Pollock said that the Liberal Party has specific targets for reducing poverty over the next four years. She described a plan that would reduce the number of people living below the poverty line by 30 per cent or one million people and the number of children living below the poverty line by 50 per cent or 400,000 kids in four years by increasing the income tax benefit for those on welfare. For people who earn less than \$50,000 a year, the Liberals would provide a

see POVERTY, page 11

Self-regulation insufficient

f o o d s a f e t y

Rhiannon Kirkland
Gauntlet News

In light of the recent listeriosis outbreak that led Maple Leaf Foods to voluntarily recall items produced at their Barton Road facility, food safety has come to the forefront this election. Canadians have had their confidence in the food supply shaken and want to know if their food is safe.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative government has been moving towards a food safety system in which industry plays a greater role in testing than inspectors. Inspectors also spend more time reviewing paper work filed by companies under the new self regulatory system and less time inspecting plants. The Conservative Party defends this policy and believes that it has not hampered the ability of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to respond to the listeria outbreak. They argued the voluntary actions taken by Maple Leaf are proof that self-regulation can work.

Calgary-West candidates questioned these beliefs, claiming stricter regulations and enforcement is needed.

"We do need a lot more control

and a lot more oversight and we need a lot more protections for Canadian consumers," said NDP candidate Teale Phelps Bondaroff.

According to independent candidate Kirk Schmidt, the government should act as a watchdog looking out for public safety. He stressed that industry should never be in the final decision making process in health and safety matters.

"The industry policing itself hasn't been very successful," said Schmidt. "We do need to get government regulations back in."

Liberal candidate Jennifer Pollock said taking punitive and reactive measures after the fact is not enough. Instead, she advocated preventive measures like better enforcement of food safety standards.

"We all pretty much know what happens when people self-regulate, this is the same thing that caused the Walkerton problem," said Green Party candidate Randy Weeks. "They cut back on government water safety inspectors and left these small towns to fend for themselves and people died."

Marxist-Leninist candidate André Vachon said the government needs to stop cutting corners and worry about people's health instead.

Harper promised that an independent investigation into the listeria outbreak will take place.

Polling on campus a bittersweet victory

Jordyn Marcellus
Gauntlet News

Students at the University of Calgary have scored a victory when it comes to having a federal polling station on campus. The poll in the dining centre located near the residence buildings, will be open for regular electoral hours Oct. 14.

Unfortunately, it's only for residence students. Students who live in the Calgary-West riding will have to go to their designated off-campus polling stations along with any student who lives outside of the Calgary-West riding.

Students' Union vice-president external Alastair MacKinnon argued that this is not a strong enough effort to get students to vote.

"Elections Canada is bringing a polling station on campus and they've identified students as a key demographic that they want to increase voter turnout in," explained MacKinnon. "They've gone through all the effort of putting a polling station on campus and now they're saying that only a select group of students on campus are allowed to use that

poll... That's Elections Canada's rules and I'm disappointed in them."

Marie-France Kenny, the Alberta Elections Canada spokesperson, explained that this is still a relatively new policy for the organization.

"We haven't done polling on campus quite a lot," she said. "This is one of the first times that we're doing it [across Canada.] We need to make sure everything is fine logistically — finding locations and hiring poll workers always proves to be a challenge even for regular polling stations. We keep improving the process for everybody and students are absolutely an area where the commissioner is keen on making changes to improve the voting process."

She further noted that this is not just Calgary specific, but the same policy can be found all across Canada.

"This year, and that's the case everywhere, if you don't live in the residence and it isn't your polling station you can't vote there," said Kenny.

MacKinnon explained that because many students do not have access to cars or money to fill up their tanks,



Gauntlet file photo

Residence students are the only ones able to vote at the on-campus polling station.

the lack of available transportation to some polling stations is an issue that needs to be addressed soon.

"We've heard instances where polling stations don't even line up with public transportation," he said. "We know a lot of students don't have private transportation and when a

polling station is an hour away and you can't even take a bus there or you need to take three buses, it's ridiculous."

Kenny explained that due to the volatile nature of Canadian elections, it's hard to plan where many polls will be located.

"Once a writ is dropped, we need to find locations for polling stations," she said. "Most times it will be in a school or a church, which are a convenience to a community around it. If those aren't available, then Elections Canada has to look for offices that are within the community."

Student apathy on the rise

Caeli Hann
Gauntlet News

It is a common stereotype that when young people hear the word "government" their eardrums automatically turn the conversation to mute while their eyelids slowly grow heavy. Apathy is a common symptom shared by many young Canadians today and is becoming widespread.

In the 2004 Canadian General Election, only 61 per cent of eligible voters showed up to cast their ballots. The percentage of voters between the ages of 18 and 24 is on average 20 to 30 per cent less than the national average, according to Elections Canada. The *Globe and Mail* asserted that in Canada's General Election in 2006, 57 per cent of young voters said they were going to vote, but only 44 per cent actually followed through with exercising this civil right.

In a recent survey performed at the University of Calgary consisting of 100 students chosen at random, 65 per cent of student participants indicated that they were definitely planning to vote in the upcoming

Canadian General Election. In discussion, the main excuse most students gave for not planning to vote was inconvenience.

A report published by Elections Canada exposed that in the 2000 General Election, the main reason young adults chose not to vote was because they were "just not interested."

The vast group of students who claim they simply "do not know enough about politics to vote," and/or "don't know what each party even stands for" do not have to look far to solve the problem. There are plenty of websites aimed at informing the politically uninformed, including apathyisboring.com, a national non-partisan project that aims at reaching out past the political geeks and grasp a broader audience. It tries to engage youth with politics through things that many young people are actually interested in such as art, media and technology.

"It's about connecting the dots between technology and real life," said Ilona Dougherty, founder and executive director.

The website provides not only simple and straightforward information on what each political party stands

for, but also information on how to vote and how to get involved.

"It's really realizing that literally everything we do from the moment we get up in the morning is affected by those people in power," Dougherty added.

Water is regulated by government, along with electricity and public transport. Students cannot afford to believe that government does not really affect them, said Dougherty.

There is concern that apathy among youth is not a "life cycle effect that will ammend in time, but that young people who do not vote are in fact embarking on a lifetime of self-imposed disenfranchisement," according to Elections Canada.

To connect students with political parties, the Dominion Institute recently implemented Youth Text 2008. Students can use cell phones to text a question or comment to the Conservative Party, the Green Party, the Liberal Party and the New Democratic Party and are guaranteed a response within 24 hours.

Students can take the first step to combat apathy by casting their ballot Oct. 14

Arts funding, cont'd from page 5

and it creates about 1.1 million jobs so there's a lot that goes back to the economy which essentially goes back into the tax system and into the GDP," said Schmidt. "Establishing money for the arts is important for not just the arts and culture sector, it's actually important for the economy as a whole."

Calgary-West Green Party candidate Randy Weeks agreed that the cultural sector is an important economic component, but also pointed out that there was more to the issue than just purely financial concerns.

"There is a strong factor on how fair and enjoyable the society is and so the arts is a huge part of it," said Weeks. He added his party would not be interested in raising personal income taxes to fund the arts, but that much of the funding for programs would come from revenue gained from the implementation of taxes for carbon emissions and other pollutants.

Along with reinstating the funding that has been cut, the Liberal Party proposes to help artists deal with the fluctuating nature of the sector by changing the tax structure to allow artists to average income over time.

"The idea is that by income averaging, artists would be able to keep more of their money for themselves that they need to support themselves in other years," said Calgary-West Liberal candidate Jennifer Pollock.

Ultimately, Harper's attempt at making a populist argument for the funding cuts may have backfired and made him seem out of touch with the actual issues, said Calgary-West Marxist-Leninist candidate André Vachon.

"Culture is part of life in Canada and I think the prime minister's comments only demonstrate how uncultured the man is," said Vachon. "The artists in Canada are suffering. They are also subject to the limitations of private enterprise and that's not acceptable either. There should be massive funding of the arts in Canada."

Calgary-West -New Democratic Party candidate Teale Phelps Bondaroff said his party plans to increase arts funding by \$125 million.

"Harper is a leader," said Phelps Bondaroff. "He is for change, but it's not the change that works for this country, it's not the change that works for Canadians."

10 Year Plan to end homelessness underway

Cam Cotton-O'Brien
Opinions Editor

One of the savviest moves made to fight homelessness in this city was to ask business persons not for their money, but for their abilities.

Presenting in Murray Fraser Hall on Oct.6, Calgary Homeless Foundation president and CEO Tim Richter noted this was one of the major breaks from the past that has been made in developing Calgary's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness.

The plan is a modified version of the strategy adopted in many u.s. centres. In New York City, the chronic homeless population — those living on the streets either repeatedly or for more than a year at a time — has been reduced by around 85 per cent. The strategy marks a shift from the old methodology of dealing with the problem to

the new one of ending it and came about as agencies like Richter's grew aware that no matter what they did, the homeless situation in Calgary became more desperate.

"[Homelessness is] a moral, social and economic disaster," said Richter. "I think of it as an unnatural disaster because it is a preventable disaster."

The most important change to come with the 10 Year Plan has been the adoption of the "Housing First" strategy. In the past, emphasis was placed on treating individuals' addictions or mental illness before worrying about housing.

"Trying to treat an addiction when you don't have a house is like trying to go on a diet in Tim Horton's," said Richter. "Housing First is a great example of truth in advertising because it is what it says."

The idea behind the new approach is that it is much easier for people to deal with all the problems in their

life if they have a house to do it in. In accordance with this plan, Richter noted it is important to develop more affordable housing. The Ten Year Plan targeted the acquisition of 114 acres of land to build housing and treatment facilities on and aims at constructing 11,250 affordable housing units, including some devoted to supported living and treatment.

The methodology change in the plan is bolstered by the inclusion of the private sector.

"The private sector brings influence and they bring impatience," said Richter. "They are drivers and they are not afraid of big things."

The plan's goal is to eliminate homelessness in Calgary in seven years. The last homelessness count, conducted in May 2008, found 4,060 individuals. That is an 18 per cent rise from the previous count in 2006 and a 900 per cent rise since the inaugural count in 1992.



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

Homelessness is a moral, social and economic disaster to Richter.

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The Alberta-China trade

Rinaldi Gulinao
Gauntlet News

The shifting global economy will see China become a bigger factor in the way business and trade is conducted by Albertans.

This was the topic of discussion in a public forum organized by the University of Calgary's communication and culture faculty in partnership with Alberta Global Forum and held at the Glenbow museum Oct. 2.

The forum, "In the Eye of the Dragon: Will China Drive Alberta's Economy?" consisted of a panel of experts discussing the significance of

China's emergence and how it would affect Alberta.

"The Canadian response to Asia, particularly China, is increasingly set here in Alberta," said University of British Columbia professor and Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada co-CEO Dr. Paul Evans. "It's set here . . . because [of] the political impact of Alberta on the national scene in Canada, where many of our leaders in Ottawa have roots in Alberta and see the world in some interesting ways as a result and also because of the nature of the economy."

Oil and gas dominated Alberta supplies the U.S. with much of its energy.

Engineer and AC Capital president Alan Chan said that with the uncertain future of the U.S. economy, China, as the world's second largest oil consumer, is poised to become an even larger customer of Alberta's energy.

"The demand for oil consumption in China grows about four per cent a year," said Chan. "It accounts for 25 per cent of the global increase for oil demand."

But it isn't just China that stands to benefit from Alberta's natural resources. Alberta also imports from China valued labour.

A shortfall of 100,000 workers over the next 10 years is forecasted

in Alberta. Most of these jobs will be filled by immigrants through the Temporary Foreign Worker program.

"We receive about 40 per cent of all our new arrivals from China," said U of C anthropology professor Dr. Josephine Smart. "Most of whom arrive as independent immigrants, which means that they come with education, economic resources and international connection in that part of the world."

With these increased connections will come the possibility of more opportunities for widespread trading with China — an area ATB Financial

senior economist Todd Hirsch said needs improvement.

"Alberta's trade with China is growing," he said. "I've seen the numbers, but it's still miniscule compared to our trade with the U.S. I don't know if the Alberta-China trade is on the minds of most people in Alberta. We understand that we're getting a lot of consumer goods from China, but I don't know if people really understand that it's really very small — still a small sliver."

Evans cited the main barrier to forging lasting and meaningful trade relations with China stems from the lack of initiative at the federal level.

Poverty, continued from page 8

\$1,850 tax credit, she said.

The party platform introduces a guaranteed family supplement of \$1,225 a year. As well, it would increase the national child tax benefit, raise seniors' income supplement, and create a tax credit for people with disabilities and low income.

Vachon said the problem needs to be approached by closing the widening gap between rich and poor.

"[We would] stop handing over millions and billions of dollars to the rich, to people who are already privileged," he said.

The party wants to increase fund-

ing for social programs to reduce poverty among aboriginal people and immigrants.

"We would represent the interests of the working people," he added.

Schmidt believes the best way to approach the issue is through co-operation and teamwork.

"I would want the governing party and all MPs as well as provincial and municipal governments to meet

and plan ways to eliminate poverty and provide affordable housing," he said.

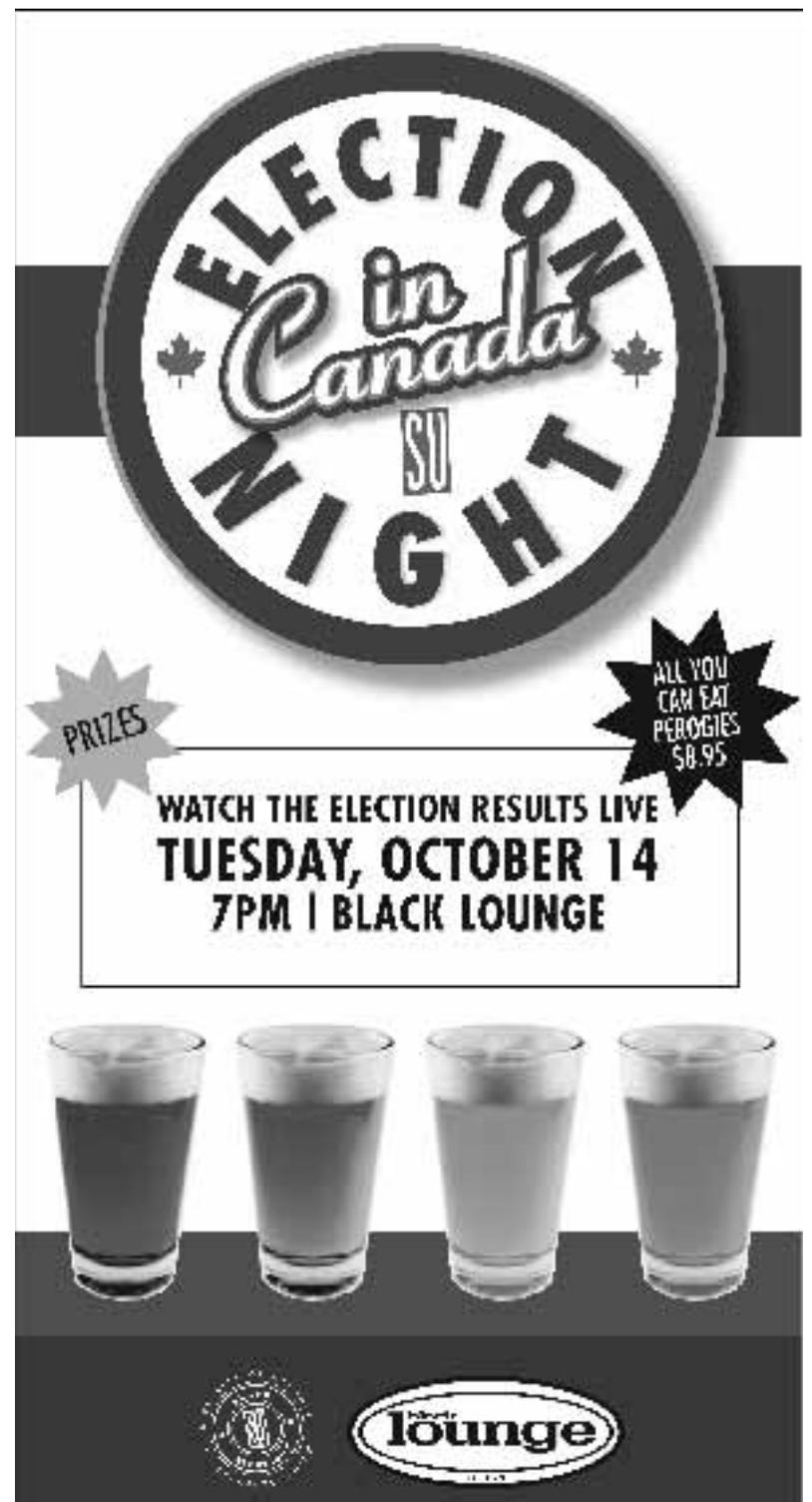


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EnCana's pipes crossed a line

Kiva Ferraro
Gauntlet News

For the ninth time since 2007, EnCana appeared in a Medicine Hat court to dispute four charges against the company filed under the Federal Wildlife Act's Wildlife Area Regulations. The charges stem from an EnCana contractor's small-diameter pipeline installation without a permit in 2005. The pipeline, intended to collect gas from a nearby plant, extends approximately 300 meters into the Canadian Forces Base Suffield National Wildlife Area, located northeast of Medicine Hat.

The NWA makes up roughly 460 square kilometres of the 2,690 square kilometres that encompass CFB Suffield and is home to a vast array of species of plants, insects, birds



Travis Brown/the Gauntlet

A small diameter pipe was installed in a National Wildlife Area.

and animals — including 14 species listed as at risk in Canada. Since 1971, the Canadian military classified the area comprising the NWA as “out of bounds” for all military training and defence research purposes in recognition of the unique ecological features of the area and the need for preservation. In 1992 the Department

of National Defence and Environment Canada signed a memorandum of understanding to establish the land as a National Wildlife Area. In 2003 the area was officially protected under the Canadian Wildlife Act.

EnCana has been involved in gas and oil exploration in CFB Suffield since the 1970s. Since then, EnCana

drilled an estimated 9,400 wells and proposed to drill an additional 1,275 wells over three years, for which regulatory hearings began Monday.

The charges related to the pipeline are an example of how EnCana operates, argued Alberta Wilderness Association vice-president Cliff Wallis. Wallis acknowledged that if considered an isolated incident, the pipeline installation is relatively minor. The larger issue is how EnCana continues to conduct operations in and around protected lands.

“The real purpose of that permit is so that first of all, there's proper planning,” said Canadian Wildlife Services former employee Gary Trottier.

Protection of the NWA under the Canadian Wildlife Act states routine maintenance of existing oil and gas infrastructure in the NWA would require a permit.

“Up until this summer there was continual push back and there was no resolution of permits for these [maintenance] types of activities . . .

EnCana has just been going in there and doing things,” said Trottier.

The pipeline in question was a new development related to a drilling program outside the NWA and was not related to maintenance work. Trottier pointed out that new developments require stricter review before a permit is issued.

According to Wallis, this incident “is the straw that broke the camel's back” and the government needs to set the standard to which companies like EnCana are held accountable.

“When [the pipeline] was being built by the contractors, they were trying to do the right thing for the environment and avoid a wetland area that was on the initial route,” EnCana spokesperson Rhonda DelFrari explained. “By doing that they mistakenly, unknowingly really, went over a small portion of the border in the NWA.”

DelFrari declined to comment on the EnCana contractor guidelines while the matter is in court.

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Mind Fights: How should we govern ourselves

Proportional representation

In 1987, a New Brunswick government won 100 per cent of the legislature's seats with just 57 per cent of the vote.

This gross misrepresentation was allowed to happen under the first-past-the-post voting system, where the party that wins the most votes captures a riding completely. Consequently, votes that are not cast for the winning party are effectively discarded.

This system is used in Canada, the U.S. and parts of the U.K., but many mature democracies, over 75, have moved towards a system of proportional representation. There are multiple types of PR ranging from single transferable vote, where you rank candidates in order of preference, to mixed member, a system that mixes FPTP with PR, and many in between. All, however, translate the number of votes into seats more accurately than FPTP.

The obvious benefit of a PR system is that citizens set a government that reflects what they asked for.

In a federal context, the 2006 federal election is a common example used in support of changing the system towards PR.

According to Fair Vote Canada, more than 650,000 Canadians voted for the Green Party, but no Green MP was elected. Meanwhile, due to concentrated support in Atlantic Canada, 500,000 Liberal voters elected 20 MPs.

Despite the regional benefits that FPTP provides — linking a candidate directly to a riding — it can create problems when parties create policies that benefit regions where their support is concentrated and ignore areas where voters traditionally support other parties.

As defined by Merriam-Webster.com, "a democracy is a government by the people; especially: rule of the majority." Stephen Harper and his Conservatives may be able to win a majority government this election — a majority government in Canada means a majority of seats, not to be confused with a majority of votes — with under 40 per cent of the popular vote. At the most basic level, this goes against the definition of democracy, as the majority of voting Canadians, 60 per cent, would have voted for other parties — these parties should form the government.

This would require a coalition — a government made up of two or more parties — a system used in many mature democracies such as Germany and Sweden. While many critics argue this leads to ineffective governments, these countries have led the way in environmental initiatives, universal health care and social programs while maintaining healthy economies.

It is true minority and coalition governments can take longer to achieve their agenda, but it could be argued this is a positive, as more discussion and compromise is needed, ultimately leading to a solution that better reflects the will of all citizens. While majority governments are able to plough ahead, if the bulk of voters have not chosen them, and by extension their agenda, then they are not acting within the best interests of Canadians.

Another objection to a PR system is that it can be hard to understand. The different systems of PR vary — from ranking parties in order of preference to both choosing regional candidates and ranking a party's list of candidates. Despite the difficulty, the systems are often intuitive and if not, can be taught easily through public education systems. And, while this may be considered elitist, if someone isn't able (or willing) to understand the voting system, perhaps that's indicative of their understanding of Canada's political system as a whole.

If Canadians are looking for a government that reflects the votes they cast, they should join the chorus of voices calling for a citizen's assembly to look making proportional representation work for Canada.

Katy Anderson



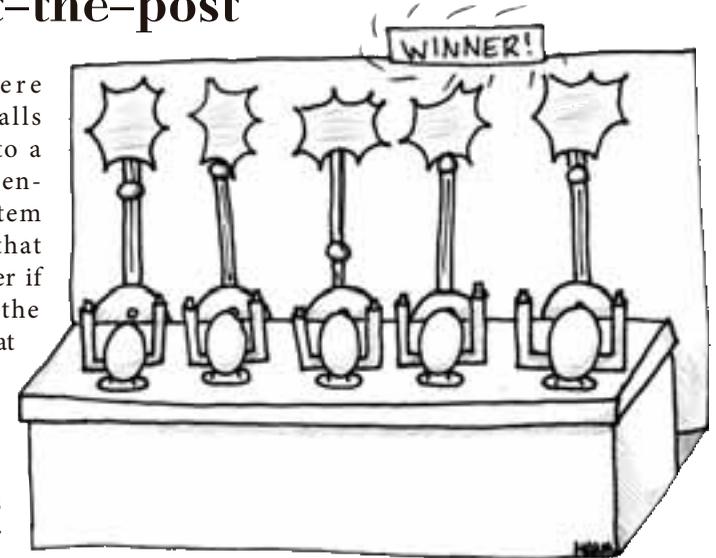
First-past-the-post

Recently, there have been calls for a switch to a proportional representation electoral system in Canada — calls that will likely grow louder if the Greens capture the 10 per cent of the vote that polls have shown is out there for them in this election but don't win any seats. But though PR systems sometimes show a higher voter turnout than non-PR ones, effective government is often sacrificed for higher fringe party representation that skews the national debate.

There is a heavy emphasis put on the voter turnout argument for the pro-PR crowd. But PR is not the panacea people assume it is. New Zealand switched to a mixed member proportional system after the 1993 election, where 85.2 per cent of voters turned out. The 1996 election saw participation rise to 88.3 per cent and then subsequently drop for the next two to 77 per cent in the 2002 election. The most recent election in 2005 saw 80.9 per cent participation, still lower than the turnout before the change.

This may also have to do with the complexity of the New Zealand system — a common problem for PR systems and a huge turnout for potential voters. New Zealand operates a two-tiered system and voters get two votes: one for the upper tier, operating on the proportional system, and one for the lower tier, operating using the plurality system. The upper tier is composed of representatives from parties receiving at least five per cent of the vote (or two or more lower tier representatives) and the lower tier is for the local electorate representative. The two votes do not need to be for the same party and sometimes complications arise after the votes have been tallied when parties are left with overhang seats (more than they are proportionally entitled to) or underhang seats (less than they are entitled to). This is much more complicated than Canada's current system of voting.

PR systems also invite the participation and inclusion of frightening fringe parties into government. In Germany, there's been a rise in neo-Nazism represented in the National Democratic Party of Germany (NPD), which has won seats in state elections thanks to proportional representation.



Though the party did win enough votes to earn the seats in the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern state election, every other party participating condemned the NPD. In Italy, proportional representation has seen regionalist parties, advocating for more regional autonomy, form the country's governing coalition. These situations lead to the kind of vote pandering which sees regions in a country gaining benefits at the expense of the country as a whole.

Canada's first-past-the-post system is not perfect. But when presented with a clear mandate — in Canada, a majority government — at least parties are free to follow their agenda. The splintering of parties along ideological lines like in PR leads to petty bickering like that in this election among the current crop of mainly left-wing parties in Canada, the Liberals, the Greens and the NDP and by the split in the '90s between the Conservatives and the Reform Party. Every political party has a spectrum of opinions, but splitting them along this spectrum sacrifices effective government work for minor arguments along ideological lines.

Britain's government commissioned a report into their electoral system in 2007 and examined the possibility of a proportional representation system. Beyond finding that PR does not increase voter turnout, the report also found that "coalition or minority government is prevalent where proportional systems are used and this can be viewed as either representing a greater diversity of input to policy-making, or a drag on effective government."

Canada's first-past-the-post system is increasingly called into question, but the alternatives are hardly preferable when voter turnout will not increase and when we will be faced with more ineffective minority governments.

Jon Roe

Voting blind

The perils of mandatory voting



Soon enough the federal election will be over and we will be able to switch from arguing about politics to arguing why nobody gives a shit about politics. Three of the last four Canadian federal elections have set the record for lowest voter turnout and while the 2006 election reversed the historic trend, still less than 65 per cent of eligible voters bothered to cast their ballot. With the current campaign deficient in dramatics and overshadowed by a momentous battle south of the border, there is not much to suggest that voter turnout will improve this time around. Perhaps then, it is time to confront this issue head on; to do something drastic — perhaps it is time to make voting mandatory — but, then again, perhaps not.

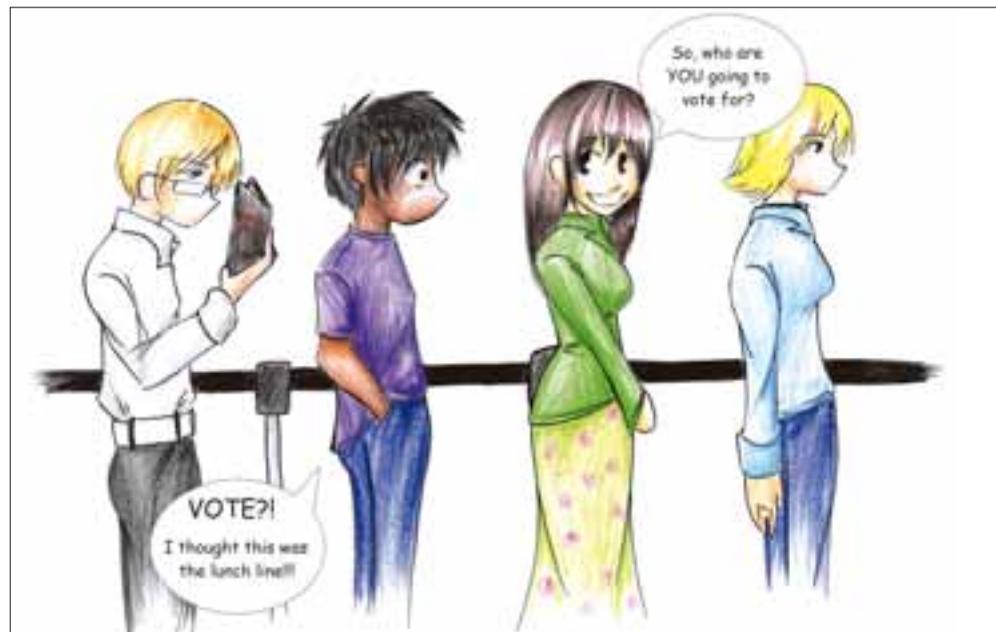
Currently, there are over 30 states around the world practicing some form of mandatory voting. Australia, for example, instituted compulsory voting in 1924 in response to the

59 per cent voter turnout during the 1922 federal election (only two per cent less than the 2004 Canadian low). The Australian law makes it mandatory to vote in all elections, under penalty of a \$20 fine. While this punishment may seem like a small deterrent, it nonetheless has the desired effect: Australian voter turnout hovers around 90 per cent. Belgium too, has compulsory voting legislation and is even stricter than Australia. Failure to vote in four elections within a 15-year period can lead to a Belgian citizen being stripped of his or her right to vote in the future. This however, is probably not a major concern to the apathetic non-voter.

This issue can essentially be reduced to the question of whether voting is a civic duty or a civil right. The Australians believe it to be a civic duty — much like paying taxes — but is it? If the majority of people stopped paying taxes it would constitute a serious crisis for the government. On the other hand, if the majority do not vote, there would still be a Parliament elected and able to govern. Furthermore, when women and minorities fought for the franchise, they were demanding the right to vote, not the duty to do so.

The institution of mandatory voting is the wrong method for addressing low voter turnout. The key to a strong democracy is not a high turnout, but an informed electorate. Mandatory voting would ensure that those citizens not interested in politics would vote. But do we really want this demographic exercising this right? These

people abstain from voting because they are uninformed and largely apathetic about politics. It is doubtful that forcing them to vote will magically stoke their inner political fire, bringing to the fore an informed passion for politics. Instead, they are more likely to vote for the party representing their favourite colour for example, (perhaps green, orange or even red, but not blue) than take the time to learn the issues. These people aren't currently voting



Jen Grand/the Gauntlet

and that's the way it should be.

There are other ways to try and engage the apathetic non-voters than mandating voting. One need only look at the 2004 American Presidential election for inspiration. During that election Sean "The Puff Diddy" Combs, with his Vote or Die campaign, personally threatened to kill anyone who didn't vote. Though undoubtedly terrifying, the campaign sought to inform young voters of the issues and was somewhat successful.

In the end, Combs did not even have to carry through with his threat of mass murder.

While it may be ideal to have a higher number of informed voters taking part in Canadian elections, making voting compulsory will not accomplish this. As long as a large segment of the population remains ignorant of the issues, it is best that they remain on their couches while the more politically responsible of us exercise our democratic right.

You have no excuse



We, the proud youth of the Great White North, are many things. We are engineers, writers, scientists, singers, labourers, farmers and students. One thing we ain't is voters.

According to a recent poll prepared by the Innovative Research Group only 50 per cent of 18- to 25-year-old Canadians plan to "definitely vote" in the upcoming election, down eight per cent from 2005.

What's worse, of the 58 per cent who claimed, in 2005, that they would "definitely vote" only 44 per cent did. If this trend continues in 2008, youth at polling stations across the nation will be few and far between.

Here at the U of C, during su elections, this plague of supposed apathy causes tremendous problems. If people aren't voting, the legitimacy of the entire democratic process is thrown into question. In the 2006 Canadian federal election, 14.9 million votes were cast out of a population of 30 million. The reason we like to give for the low

turnout is that people just don't care.

But is this the case? Not according to the youth that were polled. Of the 18 to 25-year-olds who claimed that they were either "not likely" or "not at all likely" to vote, the top reason given, at 30 per cent, was not apathy, it was that they "don't know enough (yet)."

Wow, great answer. Sure, it sounds a lot better than "don't care/not interested" (11 per cent) but there isn't really a difference. The Internet provides continuous updates on what the candidates are doing and where they're headed. Want to know what spending promises the parties have made? It's on the Internet. Want to know where any of the candidates were campaigning today and what they talked about? It's on the damn Internet. Want to know what foibles the current prime minister has made over the last 20 years of his life (and I really hope you don't)? That's on the Internet too!

If you care to find out, it's there and it's easier to access than ever. Half an hour a day for a month, which we all can spare, is enough to bring you up to speed on the issues and allow you to make a reasonably informed vote.

But let's give those polled some credit. They want to know more before they cast their ballot, and even though

the information is out there, they can't get to it. What's the problem?

Simply stated, the problem is that we've been conditioned to expect bite-sized reporting from the media while simultaneously being told to recognize the importance of politics. It's a catch-22. The media gives us exactly what we want: deliciously edible, bite-sized, juicy morsels of election coverage that give us no good idea of who to vote for. Then, after sliding down off the sugar high of uninformative speech clips, we're left to discuss with our fellow youth how little we know about the parties and how we're in no position to make an informed decision on something as high profile and important as politics.

So we don't always know as much as we ought to and we probably never will. Politics are huge and yes, we're busy, but we've still got to vote. If someone tells you that people who don't know the issues shouldn't vote, tell them to go to hell. This is a democracy — judge the system how you like, maybe you'll go out and help elect a bad government, but at the very least, help elect someone.

Who knows, maybe after you resolve to vote you'll miraculously find the time to educate your decision.

No complaints here

Didn't vote? Then shut up



"I hate my sister."

"I hate this weather."

"I hate the government."

No one really likes a complainer, but you can complain about your sister's annoying habits all you want. You can't choose your family. Sure, you can complain about a solid week of rain if you want to. You can't decide whether or not there will be sunshine tomorrow. However, you can vote on who controls your country. If you are eligible to vote and you choose not to exercise this right, you are forfeiting your entitlement to complain about the government.

Okay, so yes, technically, you have a right to complain about whatever you want. That's the beauty of freedom of speech. However, if you choose not to vote, don't expect anyone to listen to your complaints.

"My friends suck." So get new friends. "I hate smoking." So quit.

"I'm so out of shape." So then exercise! If you are not willing to take action in changing a problem that you have control over, then you should stop complaining. Your friends, your bad habits and your fitness level are all results of your own choices. Similarly, if you are not willing to vote, you are choosing not to contribute in the simplest way to our democratic system. Voting is not only a choice, but a right.

We are lucky enough to live in a democratic country. However, for a democracy to function properly, it must rely on citizens to participate. We should appreciate that voting is now a fundamental right, not just an elitist privilege. People fought hard for us to be able to vote. If you neglect this choice, you are ignoring over 100 years worth of Canada's progress for universal suffrage.

There are no longer any valid excuses for eligible voters not to cast their ballots. "I don't know anything about the parties." Log off your Facebook account for 10 minutes and google "Canadian Political Parties." In fact, you don't even have

see COMPLAINING, page 15

The failure of Canada's New Left



Ryan Pike
From the Cheap Seats

Don't let the pundits fool you, Canadian federal politics has always been a coin flip. Ever since the first federal election in 1867 — when 268,000 voters decided between John A. MacDonald's Conservatives and George Brown's Liberals — Canada has faced a two-horse race. One hundred-thirty-one years and 39 elections later, the choice is still the same, albeit a bit more complicated.

Political discourse in Canada has largely been a choice between the "right" and the "left," for the most part referring to the amount of government involvement in the economy. In recent years, perhaps due to the development of the oilsands and the involvement of more young voters, the discussion has shifted from the economy to the environment.

At least, it has for Canada's "New Left."

A lot has been written in the past several weeks about the rise of the Green Party in the last decade and it must be noted that their increasing electoral support roughly corresponds with polls reflecting voter interest in the environment. Over the same period, the Liberals and the New Democrats have increasingly made the environment a key issue, culminating with Stéphane Dion's much lauded — and much

criticized — "Green Shift," unveiled in June.

The environment is important, especially in this election. CBC's D. Simon Jackson, in a column cleverly titled "It's the environment, stupid," parroted other pundits while declaring this Canada's first environmental election. A Dominion Institute poll this week declared 27 per cent of young voters think it's the single biggest issue, edging out education. Canada's left-wing parties, concerned with balancing the environment with the economy to various degrees, have seen Canadian voters flock to them in the past decade — growing from 48 per cent in 1993 to a combined 52 per cent in 2006. So why doesn't Canada have an environmentally-focused government?

The answer lies in public perception. For roughly their entire history, the Conservative Party (in its various incarnations) has trumpeted the need for economic security and not much else. In a time where Canada's biggest economic partner, the United States, is embroiled in housing market collapses, bank bailouts and the news media shouting "recession" at every turn, it's not hard to imagine Canadians finally listening to a unified voice on the subject.

On the other hand, the three parties concerned with the environment — the "New Left" — spend nearly as much time squabbling with each other as they do advocating for clean air and water. Even members of Stéphane Dion's own Liberal party criticized his "Green Shift" and labeled it poorly thought-

out and infeasible. At a time when the vote for the now-united right has stalled out at around 36 per cent of Canadians, the Conservatives are able to form government because of the pettiness of the left, while the environment continues to be an afterthought.

In a way, the situation is reminiscent of John A. MacDonald's National Policy, aimed at creating a national railway system. MacDonald was forced to leave office in 1873 due to a bribery scandal, but came back to power five years later and was able to finish the job because his Conservatives played up uncertain economic conditions. The toll taken on the environment, First Nations people and Chinese migrant workers were largely forgotten due to the economic importance of the railway. The same brand of ignorant pragmatism is seemingly at play today — while it's extremely unfortunate that developing the tarsands is wreaking havoc on the environment, the current incarnation of the Conservatives are able to stay in power because they're much more effective at selling the importance of the economy than the "New Left" is selling the environment.

Right-wing supporters in Canada spent the aftermath of the Brian Mulroney years whining about how their voices weren't being heard in economic matters because their voice was fractured. The gradual uniting of the right-wing parties quieted their concerns, allowing them to form government. Until Canada's "New Left" can develop a unified voice, the environment will continue to be ignored.

Complaints, continued from page 14

to log off your Facebook. If you're too engaged in Facebook Chat, simply search "Canada Election" on the Facebook homepage.

"But voting is so inconvenient." Did you know you can vote by mail? We haven't quite reached the point of online voting yet (give it a few years), but you can still register to vote by special ballot. You can even register to vote in advance if you know you will be busy on election day.

"I'm just one vote. I don't even matter." According to Elections Canada, 12 per cent of Canada's population is between the age of 18 and 24. After taking into account those who are not citizens, that is around 2.5 million votes.

Consider Florida. The official Florida count of the 2000 Presidential Election revealed that George W. Bush won Florida by only 537 votes. In the 2004 Presidential Election, Bush won the popular vote by only 2.4 per cent. Every vote does count.

Voting is not gambling. When you cast your ballot, you are not just another citizen blindly playing government roulette. Ballots are all counted, one by one. If you don't vote, then your vote is not counted.

"All politicians are dishonest idiots anyway." This is not always true and whether you like it or not, one of those idiots is going to become prime minister. You

may as well have a say in who best represents your interests. If none of the candidates appeal to you, feel free to submit a blank ballot. Legally, you can't submit a spoiled or defaced ballot, or write your own candidate for prime minister across your ballot, but I don't think they could catch you in the anonymous act of voting.

You might not always get what you asked for, but if you voted, at least you tried. If anything, vote so you can complain with a clear conscience. We live in a fantastic democracy where you have a right to complain about whatever you want. However, if you don't vote, stop whining about the government. No one wants to hear it.

off the page

Don't forget to register to vote.

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Of cash and owls

Balancing environment and economy as Canada goes to the polls

Jesse G. Hamonic

Right on the Money



Within one year, the Dow Jones Industrial Average has slid from an all-time record high of 14,000 to a horrible 10,000 points. As most Canadians have shifted from the what if, to the how bad will the very probable recession be mindset, all four political parties seem to be stuck in the mud, ignoring the precarious economy.

Although this election has been one of the most boring in recent memory, its outcome may greatly impact the future.

"In good times, people think about ways to save polar bears; in bad times, they wonder if polar bears taste like chicken," the National Spokesman for the Congress of Racial Equality Niger Innis jokingly said at a Frontier Centre for Public Policy luncheon this week.

In essence, Innis' joke is right, people do shift their preferences when conditions change. A year ago, the economy was going strong, Canadians felt secure. Today, with a global financial panic, jobs are at stake and Canadians' confidence is shaken.

Although the environment is

important, it is of little comfort to have carbon emissions fall when people are losing their homes because they are jobless. When families are sitting at the dinner table, discussions are not about saving owls or global warming, it is about whether they will be able to buy food for their kids tomorrow.

Under these circumstances, it is mind boggling that our politicians are turning a deaf ear to Canadians concerns and are instead trying to push their own unpopular agendas. Perhaps we need Bill Clinton to visit Canada and yell on a bullhorn, "it's the economy stupid."

Things could be worse, all political parties could be trying to sell tax increases. Luckily, there is one leader, Stephen Harper who is bucking the trend, the only politician advocating a reduction in taxes.

If a corporation that you worked for was about to go bankrupt, what would your preference be: A, accept a slight pay cut and keep your job, B, agree to current wages and pray to God that your employer doesn't move operations to another country or C, demand a pay raise, lose your job and be stuck unemployed.

Canada faces exactly this same problem. Our tax policies aren't invisible. This great country is not an island. All policies enacted can either encourage or discourage foreign investment. We are compet-



ing in a global market.

The Liberals wanting to enact Green Shift, the NDP advocating an increase to corporate taxes and the Green's trying to hike the GST up all lead to option C, a situation where corporations go bankrupt or move to other countries. Either way, Canadians are out of work. The Conservatives are pushing for option A, understanding that we compete in a global marketplace, they want to cut taxes and fight to keep jobs in Canada.

It is unfortunate that more parties have not come to grips with reality. A simple rule: during an economic downturn, you do not increase taxes. It is discouraging that none of the parties has altered their campaigns to deal with the economy.

Cutting taxes is no panacea, but it alleviates financial stress. Increasing taxes on the other hand just adds fuel to an economic fire.

On Oct. 14, Canadian students have a big decision to make. Most of us will

be graduating in the near future, looking for employment thereafter. If the economy moves into a recession, new graduates with little work experience will have an extremely difficult time trying to find a job.

For the good of the economy, it is disheartening that our politicians cannot put their intransigence aside. Come graduation, if finding employment is a priority, do remember to think about the economy before you make a trip to the ballot box.

Topplin' trees The insincerity of the green movement

Laura Bardsley

2 Legit 2 Quit



Caring about the environment is the new black. Just like the clothing and accessories of the modern day hipster, the ideals of peace, love and protecting Mother Earth are back like a bad cold. The old ideas of the hippy movement have combined with technology to create a love child named the green movement. Solar panels, wind power, hybrid cars — they're all part of the new trend. In this coming federal election, every single party (except the Conservatives) that participated in the debates has a new and improved green plan. But are these plans legitimate? It seems

like they're just a ploy to grab the popular vote.

The Liberal Party has a huge Green Shift plan. According to their website, thegreenshift.ca, this "bold plan" promises to cut income taxes, put a price on pollution, fight poverty and position Canada to be a leader in the 21st century global economy.

"Our plan is as powerful as it is simple," the website says. "We will cut taxes on those things we all want more of, such as income, investment and innovation, and we will shift those taxes to what we all want less of: pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and waste."

Yet, according to an article on davidssuzuki.org, when he was acting Environment Minister, Dion presented his "Project Green" and was criticized by environmentalists for acting too timid and lacking meaningful regula-

tions. Then too timid, now too bold? Not surprisingly, government reports failed to show significant progress towards reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions during Dion's brief time in office. Also, according to the Conservative Party website, although the Liberal Party held power for 13 years, greenhouse gas emissions actually went up 27 per cent.

The Conservative party are also unlikely to follow through with its green plans.

"[We are] turning the corner with a practical, achievable plan to clean up Canada's air, land and water and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," their website, conservative.ca says. However, the Conservative Party showed their disinterest in the support of the environment when they killed the Clean Air and Climate Change Act (Bill C-30), which, as reported by voteforclimate.ca, left

Canada without emission reduction policies after the party had held office for a year.

NDP leader Jack Layton included this promise in his platform: "[We will] make big polluters pay. We will put a price on carbon through a 'cap-and-trade' carbon pricing system which establishes hard limits on pollution and a tough charge on polluters who exceed the limits."

Unfortunately, the promises of a "cap-and-trade" system (the government sets the total amount of pollutant that companies can emit, companies can buy and sell emission allowances as long as they stay under the cap), would go along with the Western Climate Initiative, a system that won't come into effect until 2012. This means that an NDP government would sit around for four years, waiting for the system to commence.

The only legitimate political party to have always cared about the environment is the Green Party. Regrettably, the environment has been their only concern for the last few elections. This election, they've opened up with a platform including economic and social concerns, but barely. In the quick overview of their platform on votefortomorrow.ca: "The most urgent threat is the climate crisis... We must also invest in peace. And we must shockproof our society against unforeseeable events by building in resilience."

The green movement doesn't seem so legitimate anymore. It is a plausible, sustainable ideal which calls for more care of what humans are taking from the planet. However, using it to gain the popular vote is a sad ploy. Hopefully the next trend doesn't consist of fossil fuels made out of koala bears.

The return of freak power

Giving the status quo a kick in the caboose



Andrew Rininsland
Damn Dirty Hippy

Let's get it straight right here: unless you vote Conservative, you are a member of the freak power demographic here in Alberta.

By this I mean that unless you subscribe to the Conservative dogma of environmental inaction and even closer ties with our best buddies to the south, your voice is largely unrepresented by our federal politicians. These are issues important to Canadians and especially Albertans: as American markets become increasingly unstable and as more and more of the Greenland ice-shelf slides closer towards the bottom of the Arctic Ocean, we are needing leadership in government that understands the crises of the modern era with open eyes and new thinking.

In his article "The Battle of Aspen," Hunter S. Thompson talks about his efforts to mobilize the biker and slacker skier population of Aspen, Colorado. He and others were able to get enough people riled up about the increasingly-commercialized planning of that town that they came within six votes of winning the office of sheriff. This involved knocking on doors, driving people to polling stations, being very loud and making people aware of what was at stake. Relying on the most apathetic in a population to use their franchise in order to gain power may seem like a fool's game, but the potential is huge because, goddamn, aren't there a lot of them? And wasn't it Willie Nelson who said that pot would be legal if only all the stoners would go out and vote?

In a sense, the student vote is quite similar. We have things to do that don't involve the seemingly-meaningless bureaucracy of the nation state — whether that be studying for midterms, working a job to pay student loans or playing XBOX. The people who make the decisions about the country live in Ontario anyway, right? As somebody who has done most of his adult political participation in Alberta, I am quite familiar with the despair that accompanies having progressive views in this

province. But dropping out from the political process means that our demographic isn't valued by the people who drive decisions in the political process. Why do you think senior citizens get whatever the hell they want? Of course the Canadian Pension Plan is an issue during elections — largely because Baby Boomers, the largest and most active voting demographic, are moving progressively closer to retirement age. If our demographic was active enough in the voting process, like baby boomers, senior citizens and the religious right, don't you think that we would have some power in the political bargaining process as well?

I've talked to a lot of students who are apathetic about voting and believe all the parties are the same. So they vote Green, perhaps because they identify with environmental values or perhaps in protest to the existing parties. Or they like that the Green Party has supported proportional representation from the beginning, which would only give our generation more franchise by allowing us to vote for parties that represent our beliefs and not those of our parents.

The Green Party is a viable choice this year. With Elizabeth May bringing one of the few intelligent viewpoints to the leader's debate, it is likely that for the first time in Canadian history, Green MPs will displace ones from the status quo parties. I also think it might happen in Alberta. This province almost always has the highest Green Party-voting population in Canada and it makes sense, if only because that party embodies many of the concerns relevant to Albertans right now. For one, the Green Party has some of the most innovative environmental policy in the country, designed to be economically feasible. They don't see the climate crisis as financial armageddon, they see it as an opportunity for Canada to become a world leader in producing and exporting green technology. As well, their fiscal policy is somewhat more conservative than that of the NDP, making them a viable option for those concerned about the environment but not willing to support the economic beliefs of the other two parties.

In the last provincial election, Alberta had a stunningly-low voter turnout, enabling the Progressive

Conservatives to gain a massive majority in Edmonton. A full 59 per cent of the eligible voting population did not exercise their right to say, "Hey, I really don't like the way this province is heading." Nor did they say that they liked how the PCs are doing things.

What the silent, apathetic majority wants is anybody's guess — and note that we students are often all lumped into that group despite the 39 per cent of us who actually do vote — but I have an inkling that if the disillusioned masses turned out in droves, if this election catches our interest enough and makes us mad enough about the way the country's heading to get off our couches and onto the streets, if we do get out there and if we in the 18-25 voting demographic actually realize that there are more of us than them and that we have the ability to determine the direction our nation and planet is heading, we may just see a revival of freak power the likes of which have not been seen before in this province.





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Quit hatin' dem Rhinos

Roman Auriti
Reality Shots



“Don’t run for Parliament.” According to the Rhino Party website, Brian Gardner (a Rhino Party activist) stated that “Rhinos should cycle for Parliament or walk for Parliament, because running is dangerous.” This is just a taste of a myriad of party platform ideas, which unlike the mainstream parties, are letting party activists suggest parts of its political platform.

This is a far leap from what an individual would consider to be ordinary politics, but this is what the Rhinoceros Party has been famous for. Established in 1963 by Jacques Ferron and bolstered by a number of artists in 1970, the Rhinoceros Party of Canada soon developed a comedic platform advocating deMOCKracy and a variety of satirical political ideologies. According to a cbc.ca article titled “The Rhinoceros Party,” some of these included banning Canadian

winters, providing higher education by building taller schools, and paving the Bay of Fundy to create more parking in the Maritimes. The party also “promised not to keep any promises” and claimed that its mascot, which was a rhinoceros from a zoo east of Montreal, was actually the party leader. She was appropriately named Cornelius I. The Rhinoceros Party also believed that a rhino was an appropriate symbol for politicians because they are “thick-skinned, slow-moving, dim-witted, can move fast as hell when in danger and have large, hairy horns growing out of the middle of their faces.”

Unfortunately, the Rhinoceros Party was laid to rest in 1993 when the Liberal government passed Bill C-114, which stated that in order for a political party to be a registered party, it must run candidates in at least 50 ridings, at a cost of \$1,000 per riding. Because the Rhino Party was created on a satirical basis that served to amuse Canadians into voting with impossibly outrageous political schemes, the party immediately died due to Bill C-114.

Democratic nations all around the world have felt the changes instigated by fascism before, but has Canada ever

felt the same sting? Not only was the Rhinoceros Party affected by Bill C-114, but other small political parties like the Rhino Party would’ve felt financial hardships as well.

So did the Rhino Party deserve to be crushed under the political weight of the Liberals in 1993? Sure, they may have been frowned upon by just about every Canadian citizen, but this doesn’t mean that Canadian Rhinos needed to be mercilessly decapitated. Chances are that there is a little bit of “Rhinoism” in everybody. Who wouldn’t have entertained the idea of paving Manitoba to create the largest parking lot in the world or ending crime by abolishing all laws? The Rhinoceros Party deserved to be a part of Canadian politics just as much as the Liberals or Conservatives because they reflected an aspect of politics that no one has really thought about.

So please, bring back the Rhinos. Not only would they pledge to rename Canada Nantucket — as from the limerick, “There once was a man from Nantucket” — but they would also promise not to screw their voters over by promising not to keep any promises.

SU View

Getting’ Green with Your SU

Alex Judd

VP Operations and Finance



This year, the Students’ Union is going green. From our events to our business operations, SUstainability is what we’re all about. We’re taking big steps to reduce our eco-footprint and we want to help you do the same.

Currently, the Students’ Union Sustainability Board is funding a composting pilot project, revamping its sustainability policy and using recommendations from last year’s waste audit to reduce the organic, plastic and paper waste generated by MacHall.

When it comes to sustainability, everyone can make a difference and students are often among the most engaged, conscientious and innovative groups. In spite of their enthusiasm though, a lack of funding or resources can prevent students from getting their projects off the ground. That’s where the SU comes in, with two new events designed to foster community and action around sustainability.

Green Café is a casual venue for members of the campus community to discuss and collaborate around sustainability and it will help participants gain information and resources to assist with project development

and implementation. Representatives from the SU and the Office of Sustainability will be present to answer questions, offer advice and facilitate discussions. If you have an eco-friendly project you’ve always wanted to try, questions about how to get involved or take action on a particular issue, or simply want to meet other environmentally-minded people, join us in That Empty Space every second Tuesday to help us drink coffee and save the planet.

Our second project, My Market, is a student-led farmer’s market happening the first Tuesday of every month in the MSC North and South Courtyards. Throughout the day, fresh produce and fair trade goods will be sold. Unlike a traditional farmer’s market, however, students are invited to sell and trade their own secondhand items, arts and crafts, garage sale style. Student artists can book time or space to perform or sell their own work and SU clubs can book tables to advertise for events and attract new members. Contact uofcmarket@gmail.com for questions and bookings.

Last but not least, the SU has a Sustainability Fund that provides students with grants for their own projects, with a downloadable application form on our website. Hopefully, with all these exciting opportunities to get involved, you can join us in going green.

The SU View and its corresponding headline are published without Gauntlet editorial revision.

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So there's an Iron and Wine concert tonight in the ballroom, and there's no metal kids in moonboots this time 'round. I'm kinda bummed about that. What I'm not bummed about is this coming election! YAY VOTING! Even though most of the students I've talked to would much rather wear an Obama shirt and make fun of Palin instead of partaking in Canadian politics. If you have your Obama shirt already, or want to spread the word about Tina Fey's rendition of Palin, bring your TLF to MSC 319 or e-mail them to tlfs@gauntlet.ucalgary.ca. All submissions must include your name, ID number, phone number and signature. Submissions judged to be sexist, racist, homophobic or attacks of a personal nature will not be printed.

Have some free time during the day? Ever been interested in performing live theatre? If so come down to the drama dept. on Friday Oct. 10 between 3-6 and audition. Email bjagoard@ucalgary.ca for more info.

Developing a used textbook site for you! have an opinion? We want to know. Email goddess.peace@hotmail.com to give user-interface suggestions!

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL's a good cause. But not today. Tomorrow, perhaps.

"Played my music and the people came And the woman wooed and the woman laid"

www.ChrisGheran.com

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ccGirl is back in class! Check out her blog about her adventures in the Faculty of Communication and Culture at www.comcul.ucalgary.ca/ccgirl.

"Give me control of a nation's money supply, and I care not who makes its laws." - Mayer Rothschild

- Noble.Savage

Leanne Wong, Happy Birthday!! May your drinks be endless, Your friends hilarious, but not too sloppy as to set you up with random asians... and your chicken fingers plentiful!

- Shauna, your 2nd fav. white chick

"At seven I wanted to be Napoleon. And my ambition has been growing ever since."

- Salvador Dali

You know the line up at GoodEarth is too long when you can use a brownie to pick up a lady. We were not worthy to stand behind the brownie dude.

- pikism #54

- ftw

- First things First

"If you're feeling down low and blue, just listen to Stan Bush and his Transformers crew -- You've got the touch! You've got the powahhhhhh! Yeah!"

- The Dinos Phantom

Hey TJ, I saw you and your orange and blue stripes in MacHall too. However, I'm probably not the only girl that was wearing boots that day. Wanna find out more? Email london_calling4@hotmail.com.

- BB Girl (possibly)

Dear Cal Naughton Jr., Richie Aujla is the greatest man alive and I love him with a fiery passion that burns deep in my loins.

- Luc Nguyen

Dear washboard woodson I miss our after practice fun!!

Dear Waldie, age is catching up to you. I'm sorry to say your pink bandanna can no longer hide your receding hair line.

Canadian Conference on Student Leadership. The University of Calgary. November 13-16, 2008. Attend as a conference delegate. Registration is \$200 + GST (conference funding available from the SU) or \$175 + GST (submit a conference program proposal). OR you can be a CCSL volunteer. For more information, e-mail Gareth McVicar, Coordinator (Student Leadership Programs) at gmcvicar@ucalgary.ca.

All the true hipsters dress the really indie on wednesdays.

- fly on the wall

Where can I get more information on the 5 girls who played the empty space on the 3rd? They sounded pretty good from the outside.

- rssvalb@hotmail.com

Dear Policy Review Committee, Back Off.

- Love From SAA

Politics - Poly - Meaning many; Ticks - Meaning blood sucking parasites.

Fun shall overcome on Oct 21! I for one-welcome our sack people overlords. Little Big Planet - only on PlayStation 3.

The heat of my sexual frustration is definitely attributing to global warming.

Submit TLFs. Chamonn now.



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Soccersaurs down and out in doubleheader

Fraser Valley and Trinity Western hold Dinos scoreless over the weekend

DINOS vs CASCADIES
0 vs **2**
men's soccer

Austin Paladeau
Gauntlet Sports

Coming off their most dominant offensive performance of the year — a 4-0 drubbing of the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns — the University of Calgary Dinos men's soccer team looked to carry their momentum forward against two tough opponents last weekend.

First up for the Dinos was an afternoon match against the Trinity Western University Spartans, who entered play Saturday sporting a record of 4-2-1 in Canadian Interuniversity Sport Canada West competition.

The game started off with both sides fiercely attacking the ball. Unfortunately for the Dinos, the opening minutes would be their strongest, as TWU slowly began to take control of the match. By the 25th minute, the Spartans had essentially overpowered the Dinos end, with Calgary unable to alleviate their offensive pressure. Calgary goalkeeper J.P. Crescenzi fought valiantly to keep his team in the game, but the Dinos would find themselves down 1-0 after a goal by TWU forward

Daniel Lowen in the 43rd minute.

The second half began much like the first half ended — with the Dinos on their heels and an aggressive Spartan squad looking to add to their lead. Crescenzi was forced into making a strong save early off the foot of Cochrane product Patrick Kelly and was almost beat again moments later by Lowen, who put the ball off the side of the net. The Spartans would go up 2-0 in the 65th minute off a goal by Adrian Kecec, which appeared to have gone off a Dinos defender attempting to clear the goal line. The final pound of dirt would be tossed on the Dinos grave 13 minutes later, as Jordan Hart would provide the game's final tally. On a rainy day in Calgary, the Dinos playoff hopes all but vanished alongside their ability to produce offence.

"We come out strong, but we just don't seem to finish," said fifth-year Dino Lauren Ramos. "After we get goals scored on us, it's tough for us to come back. We are not a mature team. This was just a very frustrating loss."

Sunday's game against the University of the Fraser Valley Cascades provided a chance at redemption for the beleaguered hometown heroes. Calgary came out much stronger to open the game, peppering UFV goalkeeper Kristjan Johannson with several quality chances, including a fantastic try by rookie Dino Alex Hanne. Despite noticeably picking up the quality of their play



Sean Oakes/the Gauntlet

Down for the count. UFV and TWU kept the Dinos scoreless over the weekend.

from the day before, the Dinos still struggled to find the back of the net, although it was not for a lack of trying. Sophomore Dino Sean Makin booted three shots, while Jeremy Jenkyns attempted four. All told, the Dinos launched 17 shots — 11 on net — but were held scoreless by the fantastic goalkeeping of Johannson.

"We just don't generate enough chances," said Dino midfielder Brian Delaney. "Their goalie made a few good saves, but we aren't putting away our chances."

On the other end, Crescenzi played another strong game despite allowing two goals and absorbing the loss. The 2-0 setback dropped the Dinos to second

last in the conference with a record of 1-7-2, while with the win UFV improves to 4-3-2 and inches closer to the final playoff spot.

The Dinos enjoy a bye next weekend and will resume play against nationally ranked University of British Columbia and University of Victoria on October 18 and 19 at the West Varsity soccer pitch. Both games go at 2:15 p.m.

Goyette guides women's hockey squad into new ACAC season

Brad Halasz
Sports Editor

Physically demanding practices and intense off-ice training is how University of Calgary Dinos women's hockey coach Danielle Goyette plans to prepare her team for Canadian Interuniversity Sport league play as they hope to join in the 2009-10 season.

Until then, the team will enter another season in the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference with a championship title in mind.

"For me, my goal is to push the players harder off the ice for the training," said Goyette. "I want to be able to compete with all the teams over there. This season that's

what it's all about, getting to the next level."

The Dinos proved their ability last year as they reached the ACAC finals, but ultimately lost to the Grant MacEwan Griffins three games to one.

This year Goyette and the Dinos plan to go one step further.

"My goal this year is to win the conference," she said. "I always set my goals high because if you're happy to finish third, that's what you're going to get."

Goyette — who enters her second season as head coach — says that the team's roster problems from last year have been rectified.

"We had a lot of players play

defence that were forwards because we didn't have enough defence," she said. "Now I have regular defence and people will be more comfortable on the ice because they will be playing their natural position."

This year's incarnation of the team will have 11 first-year players, but Goyette says that is a promising statistic as they will add a fresh look to the squad.

"The young players on the team are going to bring excitement and they have natural talent and skills, that's what we were missing last year," she said.

To balance out the youthfulness of the first-year players, there will be 13 returning from last year. If

the team plans to be a contender in the CIS next year, Goyette says it will be up to the initiated to guide the youth.

"We have 11 players that have never trained [at this level] before, and 13 returning players that know what it takes and know what it is like."

When Goyette joined the Dinos as head coach last season she started the quest to join the CIS Canada West division — with the goal of doing so in three years.

The team is one year into that push, but the strength of third- and fourth-year CIS players is a problem that needs to be addressed, according to Goyette.

"We need to push each other

because I want to make sure that when we go to the CIS, we don't go just as a participant," she said.

Like her team, Goyette feels more comfortable in her role as coach this season.

Hiccups and administrative tasks that would slow her down last year come and go with ease.

"I'm more comfortable because I know what I have to do with rules and how the league works," she said. "Last year was new for me. It was kind of hard."

The Dinos first game of the season is against the Red Deer College Queens on Oct. 16 in Red Deer. Their first home game is Oct. 18 against Red Deer at the Olympic Oval. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Roberto Luongo: O captain, my captain!

Daniel Pagan
Sportspinions



Something is rotten in the city of Vancouver. An announcement made by the Canucks general manager Mike Gillis has shocked hockey fans. No, it is not the Canucks' unusual pre-season exhibition victories. No, the rumours about Mats Sundin becoming a Vancouver Canuck have not come to fruition. It's the news that Roberto Luongo has been declared the new Canucks captain that is causing a stir in the NHL.

It makes sense: he was the one who led the Canucks to a Northwest Division title in the Western Conference in 2006-07 after the team failed to make the playoffs in the previous season. Sounds good, but wait, there is a catch. He is the current Canucks goalie and the

NHL happens to look down on the practice of appointing goalies as captains. They happen to have this small, pesky rule, named the "Durnan Rule," which prohibits goalies to act as captains or assistants.

This rule was instated because of several incidents during the 1948-49 season when Montreal Canadiens goalie Bill Durnan kept leaving his crease to argue calls with the referees. Opposing teams argued that his actions gave the Canadiens unscheduled timeouts during strategic times in a game.

Goalies can't cross the centre line — that conflicts with the duties a captain has such as talking to the referees, facing off against the other team's captain in pre-game faceoffs and rallying the players on the bench.

The Canucks are going around this rule by naming Willie Mitchell and Mattias Ohlund alternate captains, ensuring these duties fall to these two alternates instead. Mitchell will deal with the officials

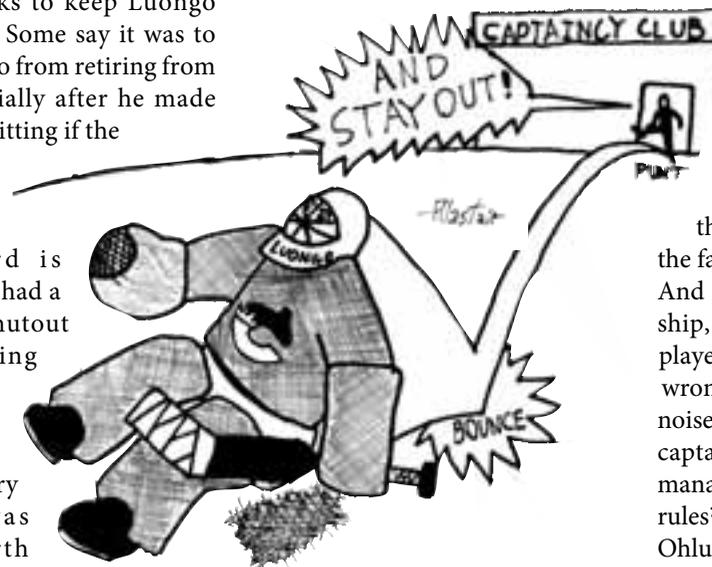
while Ohlund will deal with the ceremonial aspects.

So why was Luongo chosen as captain? Speculation has run rampant. Some say it was an attempt by the Canucks to keep Luongo in Vancouver. Some say it was to prevent Luongo from retiring from hockey, especially after he made noise about quitting if the NHL increased the size of the nets.

His record is impressive, he had a three-game shutout streak spanning 210 minutes (a Canucks record). In the 1997 NHL entry draft, he was drafted fourth overall by the NY Islanders, which at that point made him the highest drafted goalie in NHL history. He was nominated for the Vezina Trophy twice, once

with Florida in 2004 and again his first season in Vancouver in 2007.

Even without any awards, he is a goalie to look out for this season, as Calgary fans should know by his 6-0



shutout win over the Flames in last week's pre-season game. With all his achievements, he makes a great leader by example. After the departure of other great

players and captains, like Markus Naslund and Trevor Linden, he is also now face of the Canucks.

The entire argument is moot if the Canucks are not going to challenge the Durnan rule. Even with a new unofficial captain rank, he'll still be the team mascot and that was the point when Gillis made him captain: not because they need someone to argue with the referees, but because he is the face of the Vancouver Canucks. And if he can demonstrate leadership, unite the team and rally the players in the locker room, what's wrong with that? Why go and make noise about appointing a goalie the captain if the Canucks coach and management will not challenge the rules? Why not appoint Mitchell or Ohlund instead, when they are seen as rising stars on their own? These questions need to be answered soon. But even so, the NHL wouldn't care or change the rules until more teams are willing to challenge them.

Women's soccer team in last playoff spot with four games left



Chris Pedersen/the Gauntlet

Dinos midfielder Lindsay Burrowes (#13) takes the free throw.

DINOS vs CASCADES
1 vs 0
women's soccer

Chris Pedersen
Gauntlet Sports

Get ball, pass, shoot, score — the most important aspects of many sports and ones the Dinos women's soccer team are figuring out just in time for a push towards the playoffs. On a windy weekend in Calgary, the Dinos scored plenty of goals, but lost their first game to the Trinity Western University Spartans 4-2 and won the second game 1-0 against the University of the Fraser Valley Cascades. The win puts the Dinos into the sixth and last playoff spot with only four games remaining.

A late second half surge by TWU deflated Calgary in the first game.

The teams traded goals in the first half with Calgary getting early goals by Katie McKilligan and Tessa Miller. Miller's third goal of the season and third in three games bounced off the TWU post before squeaking by the netminder. Her efforts were good enough to

get her a Dinos female athlete of the week nod.

In the second half, the crowd witnessed superb offensive chances by both teams, which ultimately saw TWU put away two goals to take the game. In the 59th minute, Alexi Foster blew a shot behind Dinos goalkeeper Courtney Heffernan. Thirty minutes later, Nikki Wright dove through the air and headed the ball into the net to put the game away for good.

The Dinos defence was caught napping on the Foster goal as they believed her to be offside. Foster capitalized on the mistake for the game-winning goal.

The Dinos did not give up in the second half as they produced numerous chances to score. They were thwarted by excellent goalkeeping and perhaps a little bad luck.

The second game of the weekend was a defensive battle from start to finish as extremely windy conditions hampered passing. The Dinos managed to produce five shots on net with UFV only mustering two.

"The wind was the same for both teams," said Fraser Valley head coach Colin Miller. "It's never easy, you ask any coach, any conditions pertaining to wind make it very difficult to play. But

it was not [the main] contributing factor for us."

The Dinos came out of the gate flying and grabbed the crucial early lead in the game. Lindsay Burrowes' corner kick bounced off a UFV defender and past the bewildered netminder. UFV was barely able to mount any offensive charge throughout the game and were lethargic on the pitch.

"I think it was a combination of their back four playing well and our front players not getting forward quickly enough," Miller said about his team's lack of offence.

Despite the wind and the defensive play, it was an entertaining battle. The crowd enjoyed excellent skirmishes for the ball, wild headers off goal kicks and a full effort by both teams.

"I didn't think we deserved to get beat, I didn't think we deserved to win, a draw would have been a fair result," said Miller.

The next Dinos game is Oct. 18 against the University of Manitoba Bisons at the Calgary West Varsity soccer pitch. The final four games will be crucial to the Dinos as they contend for a playoff spot.

The Dinos have a bye this weekend and will resume play against the University of Manitoba and the University of Regina on Oct. 18 and 19 at the West Varsity soccer pitch. Both games go at noon.

Dinos pressure not enough to thwart strong T-Birds



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

It's a stretch! The Dinos will look to end the season on a high note with four games remaining.

DINOS **2** vs **3** T-BIRDS
field hockey

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet Sports

Just like the ancient 300 Spartans versus Persia in the Battle of Thermopylae, the University of Calgary Dinos field hockey team constantly forced the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds into defensive mode and made its offence fight for each inch of the field.

It ended in a close defeat, however, as the Thunderbirds held off to win 3-2 Sunday after winning 3-0 Saturday.

Coach Jenn Swagar still held her head up with a smile, noting the Thunderbirds had to fight hard for their victory.

"We like to push the pace and use pressure to force errors," said Swagar. "They're a strong team that really works on offensive postures. Other teams respect that, but the Thunderbirds usually do not have pressure against them."

The Dinos made their return to Hawkings Field after a series of away games to face the Thunderbirds, who were hoping to continue their field hockey dominance.

With the help of their triple threat, forwards Chelsea and Kathryn MacPherson and Victoria Pearson, the Thunderbirds were able to sweep the scoreboard.

Swagar admitted the Dinos made some critical errors that cost them the game.

"We gave the ball away in our circle and it went to the back of our net," said Swagar. "And the other goal was when the UBC players snuck behind my defence and goalie and touched the ball into the net."

On Sunday, the Thunderbirds were seeking their second win in a row and hoping to improve to seven wins on the season, good enough for first place in the Canada West division.

Among the crumbled brown and yellow leaves and wind, the Thunderbirds offence put constant pressure on the Dinos defence in the first quarter.

The first hole in the Dinos' wall came when Thunderbird forward Elise Milosevich flew through the defence and scored in the 11th minute.

After Milosevich scored again in the 28th minute, the T-Birds led 3-0.

In the second period, the Dinos marched back onto the field with their heads held high.

Their determination paid off with two quick goals scored in the 44th and 49th minute.

Serena Lockhart scored the first goal, while Kaelyn Barrie scored the second in an offensive flurry.

However, their efforts proved ineffective as the Thunderbirds held off the Dinos until the end.

Swagar is pleased with the improving offence and defence of the team, especially with Barrie, who scored her first goal as a Dino.

She pointed out the team needs to work on their mental facilities and emotions, since it is still a young team that gets stressed out easily.

"We need to be more confident," said

*-Jenn Swagar,
Dinos head coach*

Swagar. "They are really emotional and have to believe in themselves and their basics. They get really deflated when they make mistakes or do not execute."

The two victories gave the Thunderbirds a commanding lead in Canada West field hockey, with 21 points. The Dinos now have a 1-7 record.

The Dinos will host their rival University of Alberta Pandas when they pay a visit to the Hawkings Field this weekend.

Swagar has a simple but efficient plan for the four remaining games versus the Pandas and University of Victoria Vikes: win.

"We have to try and clean up the basics and put the pressure on them with our speed."

The Dinos host the University of Alberta Pandas October 11 and 12 at Hawkings Field. Both games go at 1 p.m.

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Sport shorts: football returns, athletes of the week

Brad Halasz
Sports Editor

Basketball this weekend

The University of Calgary Dinos women's basketball invitational tournament gets underway this Friday.

You can catch the University of Toronto Varsity Blues take on the University of Windsor Lancers at 5 p.m. and stay to watch the Dinos take on Memorial University of Newfoundland Sea-Hawks at 7 p.m. in the Jack Simpson gym.

On Saturday, Memorial will play Windsor at 5 p.m. while the Dinos take on Toronto at 7 p.m.

The Jack Simpson gym will host two matinee games on Sunday as Memorial will play Toronto at 11 a.m. and the Dinos take on Windsor at 3 p.m.

The Dinos will head to Toronto for the Ryerson Invitational the following weekend before traveling to Winnipeg to take on the University of Manitoba Bisons in the first Canada West conference game of the season Oct. 24.

Women's volleyball tournament

Fresh off a championship title from the University of Regina Cougar Invitational, the University of Calgary Dinos women's volleyball squad was not as dominant losing to the host University of British Columbia Thunderbirds 3-2, and Trinity Western University Spartans 3-1 over the weekend in the West Coast Classic at UBC.

On a positive note they swept the Simon Fraser University Clan three sets to none in the round robin.

Men's volleyball

The University of Calgary Dinos men's volleyball team has only lost one set in three pre-season games this year.

They hope to carry that momentum to the University of Regina Invitational this weekend before hosting the Husky Dino Cup Oct. 16-18 in the Jack Simpson gym.

The Dinos host their Canada West conference season opening series against Saskatchewan on Oct. 24 and 25. Both games begin at 8 p.m. in the Jack Simpson gym.

Dinos football

Dinos football returns after a bye

week for the last home game of the regular season as they host the University of Regina Rams at McMahon Stadium on Saturday at 1 p.m. .

The Dinos remain in sixth spot in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport top-ten ranking — the highest they have been since 2003. Both the Dinos and the Rams boast a 3-2 record and have playoffs in their sights.

The game will mark the first time the Rams have visited since 2004.

Dinos athletes of the week

Men's hockey powerhouse forward Torrie Wheat was named the Dinos male athlete of the week for his six goal effort in two games last week.

He registered a natural hat trick in a

game against the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds.

He currently leads the Canada West scoring standings.

Soccer phenom Tessa Miller received Dinos female athlete of the week honours for her two-goal, three-assist performance in a two game sweep over the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns last weekend.

The wins were the first of the season for the team.

ACAC athletes of the week

First-year faculty of science student Eric Allard received an Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference male athlete of the week nod for his domi-

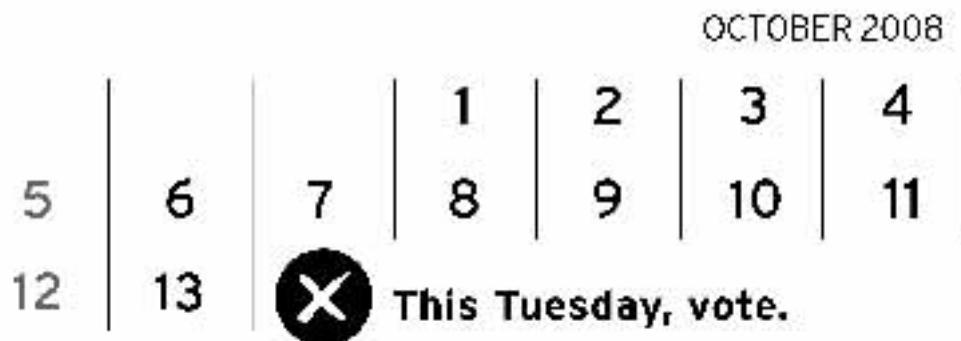
nating performance at the ACAC golf championships in Red Deer.

He captured individual gold, beating his opponent Rob Sakamoto of Lethbridge College by four strokes.

Lauren Diederichs received female ACAC athlete of the week as she won the individual women's golf championship with a par-72 round on the final day.

She won the title by 11 strokes over second place teammate Ashley Nantes

The Dinos women's golf team swept the podium clinching their second title in as many years. The men and women's wins mark the fifth time in seven years the Dinos golf squads have won the team championships.



A federal general election is taking place on October 14, 2008.



For information on where and when to vote, check your voter information card. It tells you where and when to vote. You'll get through the voting process more quickly if you have it with you.

You will find the voting hours for your polling station on your voter information card or at www.elections.ca by clicking on "Voter Information Service".

If you haven't received this card, you are probably not on the voters list. To register, all you need to do is go to your polling station on election day, where you must prove your identity and address.

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The 40th Federal Election Drinking Game



Canadian federal politics are boring. You know it. We know it. But you have to find out who won, right? Well, the people that brought you the *Sarah Palin-to-English Translator*, *Russian Federal "Election" Bingo* and *Where in the World is Walter Mondale?* are back with a way to make enduring TV coverage of the federal election fun — a drinking game! Simply drink when a phrase is used or a person appears and you can be a winner, just like the Non-Partisan League! [Editor's Note: The Gauntlet does not endorse the Non-Partisan League. We're very partisan. Go Revolutionary Worker's Social Credit League of Western Canada!]

Take one drink when...

- The economy (and its fundamentals) are mentioned.
- The environment or the Green Party are discussed.
- A Conservative Party spokesperson discusses the election.
- A Liberal Party spokesperson discusses the election.
- An MP (or candidate) from a party other than the Liberals or Conservatives discusses the election.
- Pundits discuss "the role of Quebec" in the election.
- "National Energy Program."

Take two drinks when...

- A shot of a party's campaign headquarters features an empty podium and the phrase "We'll hear from (name) any minute now . . ." is used.
- Somebody mentions the Conservative Party and "western alienation."
- The winner is declared 15 minutes into the coverage.
- A friendly debate turns into an argument between pundits.
- Someone comments on the quality of the maps during election coverage.
- A sports metaphor is used to describe a party's chances in the election.

Take three drinks when...

- A commentator pronounces Stéphane Dion's name incorrectly.
- "Recession" is mentioned more than five times.
- Arctic sovereignty or territory ridings are discussed.
- "Alternative energy."
- Specific references are made to Bloc Québécois policies other than Quebec sovereignty.
- "Sovereignty association."
- A joke is made about Stephen Harper's campaign tendency to wear sweaters.

- A Conservative or Liberal Party MP (or MP candidate) appears on camera that is NOT the party leader.
- A party leader appears before the winner is declared.

Take three drinks when...

- Stephen Harper hugs someone. Finish your drink if it's not his wife or one of his children.
- A commentator ignores a question to begin discussing either Barack Obama or Sarah Palin.
- A commentator compares Sarah Palin to Kim Campbell.
- A commentator compares Stephen Harper to Brian Mulroney.
- A commentator compares Stéphane Dion to Pierre Trudeau.
- A commentator ignores a question to plug the upcoming hockey game.
- "I've Got a Crush on Harper" video discussed or shown.
- A commentator begins vetting potential Liberal Party leadership candidates immediately after a Stéphane Dion speech.

- The Green Party wins a seat.
- Sidney Crosby is mentioned while Nova Scotia is being discussed.

Finish your drink when...

- A commentator compares Stephen Harper to Ben Mulroney.
- A commentator compares Stéphane Dion to Justin Trudeau.
- A commentator ignores a question to plug the upcoming hockey game on a network other than CBC.
- The Green Party wins more than two seats.
- The Bloc wins enough seats to form the opposition.
- Jack Layton shaves off his moustache.
- Stephen Harper channels Ronald Reagan, declaring it "Morning again in Canada."
- Sidney Crosby is mentioned not in reference to Nova Scotia, but in an attempt to hold the audience's attention.

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GPS general meeting

THE GAUNTLET PUBLICATIONS SOCIETY will hold its Annual General Meeting on **Thursday, Oct. 30 at 5 pm in REC 228 Upper Room.** Any Gauntlet member may attend. All questions should be directed to Business Manager, Evelyn Carr at 403-220-7880.



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Festival highlights the importance of words

Word Festival preview

Amanda Hu
 Entertainment Editor

Words are a connecting fibre among a plethora of art forms. In celebration of the artistic staple, WordFest: the Banff-Calgary International Writers Festival, is preparing for its

13th instalment. Organizers hope to present a variable buffet of word-centred art and continue to dispel some long-held myths about literature.

“A lot of people still have an image of going to school and reading being nerdy or related to studying and we don’t think about it as much when we’re adults,” festival director Anne Green says. “I think that the festival is a fantastic way to break their pre-conceptions. Books are very cool and the written word is just about at the heart

of everything we do. The festival is a great opportunity to hear the words in the writers’ own voice.”

This year’s incarnation bridges far beyond the pre-conceived confines of a traditional reading, presenting unconventional, yet still word-driven works like the Moving Stories series — a set of feature short films based on a number of literary works — and various musical performances that dabble in the hip-hop, afro-beat and jazz genres, just to name a few. Green

says that it is this atypical approach that fosters an intimate yet unintimidating festival atmosphere.

“It’s interesting, because I think the festival appeals to a much broader demographic than the literary community,” she says. “People who go to all the literary events see people at WordFest that they don’t see anywhere else. That’s what the festival is here to do because it is quite populous based and it’s not just about the literati.”

In addition to informing the masses on an often-misunderstood art, the festival provides an unparalleled venue for publishers and writers to

course, you have to make choices on what you think is an interesting program, because of course the pieces have to get together. If you have 100 fantastic writers, but none of them have anything in common, then we can’t really build an interesting program.”

With such careful thought paid to the festival’s composition every year, there is little surprise regarding its staying power in Calgary and ability to evolve with the changing environment over its 13-year history.

“I think it’s a reflection of the community that has totally changed itself,” Green says. “It’s a very vibrant,

From audience to author

Samantha Warwick takes her love of swimming as literary inspiration

Word Festival author interview

Matthew Rochon
 Gauntlet Entertainment

With WordFest on the horizon, author Samantha Warwick eagerly awaits her opportunity to enlighten and inspire young writers. She will soon join some of her peers at the Art Gallery of Calgary in an event dubbed “Alberta Bound,” featuring Warwick, along with other popular Albertan authors, reading excerpts from their books and participating in some Q & A with the audience.

Warwick, who was born in Montreal and presently lives in Calgary, will be reading from her debut novel *Sage Island*, inspired

by true events and reflective of Warwick’s life-long passion for swimming. It tells the story of a 19-year-old girl in the “roaring ’20s” who finds her release in swimming — a liberation that eventually leads her to the 21-mile Wrigley Ocean Marathon.

Warwick has been in attendance at WordFest every year since 2005. Most of those previous appearances, however, as a fan. It is at this event that Warwick was able to hear inspiring words from some of her favourite authors, including Margaret Atwood, Michael Crummey and Charlotte Gill. With her role reversed, she now has the chance to be a source of inspiration and an instigator of imagination. Not to say that she also won’t be one of those glued listeners. Warwick plans to absorb some

of the stirring book babble.

“This year, I’m looking forward to Claudia Dey, Steven Galloway, Lee Henderson and Meg Wolitzer, among others,” she says.

The writer has actually competed in a number of long-distance swimming races herself and coached competitive swimming for seven years. She currently gets her release on a recreational swim team.

Warwick will also moderate a panel of two editor/writer teams titled “Keys to the Biz.”

“[It] should be interesting for writers as it will discuss the sometimes tumultuous relationship between author and editor,” she says.

Sage Island is available at bookstores everywhere.

“Books are very cool and the written word is just about at the heart of everything we do.”

-Anne Green,
 WordFest director

promote their books to audiences on a much larger scale, though Green says that performing to a highly-varied group requires very extensive planning.

“We sit down and we look at what’s on the table and then we have the cornerstones and then we start to fill it in,” she explains. “Of course, I want to bring the very best of what’s available to the community, so I start with trying to do that and then, of

buzzing place and not to say it wasn’t when the festival started. I think the growth we’ve seen in Calgary is tremendous and the profile of Calgary has changed as well. I think that the program has developed and we really try and affect our community and what’s going on around us.”

WordFest: the Banff-Calgary International Writers Festival runs from Oct. 14–19. For schedules, passes and more, go to wordfest.com.

Artist breaks down preconceptions

Adrian Stimson
visual arts preview

Jordyn Marcellus
Gauntlet Entertainment

Students and lovers of all art at the university are going to get a special treat this weekend. Multi-media visual artist Adrian Stimson will be on hand at the Nickel Arts Museum on Friday, as part of the University of Calgary Fine Arts Department's Visiting Artist Lecture Series. As he goes about his lecture, he'll discuss his current exhibition *Old Sun* — mounted at the Truck Contemporary Art Gallery starting Oct. 10 — his own process of creating art and even observing student's work.

"It's a real pleasure to visit the university," says Stimson. "I'll be visiting with the artists in residence, doing some studio visits as well. That gives the students a chance to interact with myself as an artist and look at their work and comment it."

Stimson, who is a member of the Siksika Nation in southern Alberta, has used bits and pieces of an old school known as the Chief Old Son Residential School in the *Old Sun* exhibition. His art reappropriates

imagery from white history and then recreates and reconceptualizes it into a more comedic criticism of the colonial conquest of the aboriginal peoples of Canada.

This is brought out most evidently when Stimson adopts the fishnet stocking, g-string and buffalo corset of his Buffalo Boy character. The character is a campy trickster who co-opts the imagery of Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show, turning that imagery and historical iconography on its ear.

"The colonial critique infuses my work, especially my performative work with Buffalo Boy," explains Stimson. "It uses Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Shows as a base, but a lot of my performances are more contemporary and speak to current events, playing on the whole west image and identity in relation to the first nation or the Indian construction. I will be speaking to that intent and why I play in that realm."

The character was created during his work in the masters of fine arts program at the University of Saskatchewan as Stimson researched the imagery and mythologization of the west and of the Aboriginal people and, he says, is a hoot to play.

"It's fun, for me anyway," he says. "I was doing a lot of research into the



courtesy Adrian Stimson

This is serious business.

construction of images and how the romanticization of Aboriginal people were constructed and how that continues today. It's a static sort of way that it doesn't show the contemporary side of Aboriginal people. I like to mix that up and throw in my own sort of comment on the contemporary scene."

This is the last performance of Buffalo Boy as we know it as he will be killed off at the Boris Roubikane Theatre in *Buffalo Boy's Last Stand: The Battle of Little Bighorn*. It shows the crossroads he's at currently — maturing as an artist and as a person.

"This performance will be a kind of

eulogy for Buffalo Boy," says Stimson. "It's a funeral of sorts. Through the three different movements, and the three different acts of this performance, will be the eulogy."

Adrian Stimson performs *Buffalo Boy's Last Stand: The Battle of Little Bighorn* on Oct. 11.

Rockers Shai Hulud weather the career storm

Shai Hulud
music interview

Darren Young
Gauntlet Entertainment

Having gone through more roster changes than a McDonald's franchise, Shai Hulud is pressing forward with or without permanent members. The metal-core band has never recorded more than one album with a single vocalist nor do they currently have a consistent body behind the drum kit. This is a probable explanation for the mere three studio albums the band has released in its 13-year career. Regardless, these three albums have gained them a tremendous following, not to mention the slough of bands that cite Shai Hulud as a major influence.

"I typically expect the worst in people," says guitarist Matt Fox. "Joking aside, but to be in a band like Shai Hulud you have to really be into what our band is about. You have to pretty much give up your life and live

in poverty in a van. It's a lot to ask of people and because of that there is a high turnover rate."

Some speculate that constant member changes have taken their toll on the band, making it difficult for them to put together new material and tour. Earlier this year the band released *Misanthropy Pure*, their first studio album since 2003's *That Within Blood III-Tempered*. Fox concedes that he did not want to take five years to follow-up *That Within Blood*, but insists it was the band's decision to take a break.

"Any hiatus we've taken, we've always made the call ourselves," says Fox. "We parted ways with our singer in 2003. It was a mutual decision. We knew what we were getting ourselves into and we knew that we may be derailing ourselves for a year or two or three."

During this hiatus, Shai Hulud changed their name to The Warmth Of Red Blood, recorded a three-song demo, changed their name back to Shai Hulud, signed to Metal



courtesy Metal Blade

Rubble is particularly good for intense band photos.

Blade Records and finally released *Misanthropy Pure* in May 2008. *Pure* has been described by many as a combination of the different sounds heard on their first two albums. Their first album, *Hearts Once Nourished With Hope and Compassion*, is notable for

its aggression, while *That Within Blood* is more melodically structured. Fox, on the other hand, says that *Misanthropy Pure* is an updated version of the last album with a shot of adrenaline.

"We wanted the last album to be a really heavy and pissed-off album," he

explains. "The music was very melodic and very intricate, but it didn't have the punch that we wanted. So we said, 'Let's take the melody and the intricacy of the last album and kick it in the ass.'"

Currently, Shai Hulud is on the road in support of *Misanthropy Pure*. Following the tour, Fox is hoping to get to work on some new material and hopefully channel even more aggression into the next set of Shai Hulud songs. The band may not be in a rush at this point, but Fox hopes fans do not have to wait five years for more music.

"I was talking to Metal Blade the other day and I really don't want to piss them off," says Fox. "They said, 'You have some time. We'll let you know when we want you to go in and record an album.' The pressure is coming from us, because we don't want the people who like this band to wait."

Shai Hulud plays the Warehouse on Oct. 12. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Porpoises can't talk

Said the Whale plays music, does things in boats and meets new friends

Said The Whale
music interview

Phylicia Tran

Gauntlet Entertainment

British Columbia outfit Said the Whale's moniker invokes nautical notions and for good reason. The guys and gal have been working hard to distinguish themselves in Canada's ever-growing music scene and record a partially new album, all the while sustaining their careers by slugging it on tugboats.

After the release of *Howe Sounds* in June, an extension of their 2007 EP *Taking Abalonia*, the group has been gearing up to head out on the road to showcase the oven-fresh album which is a collection of songs about youth, the seasons and what happens to the heart after being slightly broken. Embarking on their sixth tour in early October, their first stop is in Calgary where we're sure to find ourselves showered in nautical indie bliss.

"A lot of our songs have to do with Vancouver and the ocean and where we live," says guitarist Tyler Bancroft. "We definitely have a love affair with Vancouver and its surroundings. It's hard not to let that come through in our music."

A large portion of music was recorded over the span of several years with the initial pairing of



courtesy Frontside

Loungin' around in a boat.

Bancroft and lead vocalist Ben Worcester. With the addition of three new members, a lot of organization and even more hard work, they've managed to put together a collection of well-rounded tunes for our listening pleasure.

"Some of the songs that are on the *Howe Sounds* part were actually written before some of the songs on the *Taking Abalonia* part, but some were written much after," explains Bancroft. "We've done a whole bunch of tours already with that stuff, but

I guess it's only gone into stores in June, so it does kind of seem like we're touring the record all over again."

Whether they're recording at home or working obscenely long shifts at random day jobs to be able to afford independent touring, the band still has a little adventure in them despite where they are.

"We try and kind of explore the cities that we're going to as much as possible, taking advantage of the fact that we get to drive across our beautiful country time and time again," he

says. "On our days off, we'll go do something instead of chilling out. We'll go exploring. Not everyone can say that they can do that."

Certainly not everyone can say that they've got catchy melodies, impromptu clapping and sea-bound lyrics down to a science — just a few of the things that have secured Said the Whale a loyal fan base that is growing with each cross-country show they play. Nevertheless, living on the road has its perils, and if you're familiar with Canadian winters, you

know it's not always the easiest getting here and there with snow blowing every which way.

"We've only done one tour that was in the dead of winter," recalls Bancroft. "We ended up getting stranded in Swift Current... we were trying to get to Medicine Hat and we just couldn't do it. There was too much snow blowing across the roads from the prairies and for us B.C. boys, this is just unacceptable and terrifying!"

No matter how brutal the weather may be, if there's one thing they appreciate most, it's the support and inspiration that comes from being able to meet and play with fellow musicians, whether they're local acts or friends from abroad.

"Within Vancouver, there are just a few bands that we started playing shows with when we started the band and they've all been so welcoming and such amazing people to hang out with," explains Bancroft. "We're definitely inspired by them all the time. The best part about being on tour is playing a show with a band you've maybe heard of or maybe never heard of. Regardless, you usually get to hang out after. You drink some beer and jam on some guitars in some random hotel room wherever you are and that's how you get to know them the best. You get to really see the talent shine through. Canada has a shitload of talent."

Said the Whale plays the Gateway on Oct. 9. Doors open at 8 p.m.

Calgary singer takes overseas success back home

Kaley Kinjo
That Empty Space

Veronika Lancaster Deliyannakis

Gauntlet Entertainment

Kaley Kinjo's been kicking around the Calgary scene for a while both as a solo artist and with his self-titled band.

He's been on tour in Japan with his brother while they were getting back to their Japanese roots. Closer to home he has also played in several festivals. Kinjo won the best performance and second runner-up in the songwriting competition at the Calgary Folk Music Festival, setting a new record as the first person to win anything in two categories at the Calgary Folk Music Festival in 2007.

His musical versatility seems to come from a broad interest in music. He picks and chooses from ska, indie, folk, rock and even reggae to oddly colour his music resulting in a poignant, bitter and sarcastic mood set to such an upbeat tone for a subtle underlying message. Kinjo says there is no central theme or idea so he can make a lot with what he has.

"I tend to write music that's upbeat and sounds happy, but the lyrics are a bit more dark and pessimistic and kind of angry," he explains. "I would name it, well a lot of my music is sort of acoustic pop rock."

His debut album hasn't been officially released, but there may be a few copies hanging about at concerts to spread the goods to a select few before everyone else. Kinjo says the hype around the disc is building.

"I've been compared to Jack Johnson, but I've also been told I sound like Sublime," he says. "I tell people it's like Jack Johnson meeting Sublime over drinks."

Kinjo plans to go back to Japan in the fall if possible and do some more radio shows as well as to release his CD in Canada and Japan. The singer even hopes to own his own recording company and to be able to help other artists in the future. For now, the Calgary *chanteur* is focused on the experience.

"Obviously everyone has fantasies of becoming rich and famous and selling lots of CDs, going on tour, but I'd like to travel a lot with my music, with friends and just to share it," he says.

You can check out Kaley Kinjo and Lindsey Ell at That Empty Space on Oct. 10.



courtesy Kaley Kinjo

What a dapper gentleman.

A veritable visual feast fit for a king

Olivia Komorowski
Art Action



Upon us is a time of turkey feasting dinners, pumpkin pies and candy intended for costumed children — which can result in an undesired increase in your waistline. The only solution is to satisfy your cravings for pleasure with something calorie-free and active. The perfect plan: fat-burning strolls through art galleries and bookstores to fill your mind with artistic goodies. Just steer clear of the free wine and cheese.

The University of Calgary's own art gallery, the Nickel Arts Museum will be fortunate enough to host the show "The Regina Five Years" by Ted Godwin this month. This respected artist taught at the University of Regina and was named an Officer of the Order of Canada for his important contributions to Canadian art and was part of a North American avant-garde movement. The show focuses on works created during a dynamic time in the '60s when Godwin worked with a group of artists, the Regina Five. At the time of the works, this Calgary-born artist was hit with an explosive need to try new ideas and push his own boundaries and those of society.

An event that also prides itself on being cutting edge and unexpected is the Mountain Standard Time festival, a biennial event that brings together over 30 artists in a variety of exhibitions, discussion and workshops. You can check out the opening reception of "Art Snob Solution Phase 2: The Age

of Mechanical Reproduction" tomorrow night, featuring the Cedar Tavern Singers from Lethbridge. It exhibits a gamut of works, including videos and objects that "evoke a love for and a satirizing of both the ambitions of Modern Art History and the dry ethos of folk and lo-fi indie music." The show starts at 8 p.m. at Stride Gallery, 1004 MacLeod Trail SE.

On the thought of festivals, it doesn't get much bigger than this for literary arts: WordFest, the International Writers Festival, is running Oct 14-19. The festival's mandate is to enhance quality of life by having literary events that are accessible and populist to all age groups. In other words, even the average Joe can get some literary love. Last year, over 12,000 people participated in the event that has hosted well-known writers such as Margaret Atwood and Timothy Findley. One of the 65 events is the Poetry Bash, a WordFest favourite. See it Oct. 17 at 9 p.m. at Vertigo Theatre.

An art exhibit with enough attention to stand on its own is the unique and quirky "The Art of Dr. Seuss Retrospective Art Tour" at ARTEVO Galleries 514-11th Ave. SW. It's getting a lot of attention because rumours have surfaced that Dr. Seuss, whose real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel, had an extensive secret collection of mature works created for his own pleasure. The works, including nudes that have been shown to select people, are less erotic than we may have hoped. Critics say they have maintained their true whimsical Seuss nature. Nonetheless, this may entice you to see the show, featuring over 200 images, in a whole new light.

If you are hesitant to the whole

concept of visiting different venues, or perhaps you don't need to watch your girlish figure, you can shelter yourself from the harsh winds at Art Central, the all-in-one arts complex in downtown, on 1st St. and 7th Ave SE. This art hub has a café with espressos that could impress even the snootiest of coffee snobs, a diner inspired restaurant and dozens of galleries, studios and shops. Among them are three that are sure to please.

If you are a fan of environmentally friendly art, Darcy Lundgen at Da.De Gallery has your fix. This stylish guy shreds junk mail and magazines to create texture for his canvases and then covers them in green friendly paint, creating abstract designs. Lundgen considers his art progressive for Calgary's taste.

"I feel like we are on the verge of something new and different," he says. "People are becoming more open to trying different things, but there is still a large conservative feel."

Lundgen is a multi-talented artist, making blueprints for home designs, interior design and fashion. He's now working on a chandelier sculptural piece integrating used Evian glass water bottles designed by Christain Lacroix. You can stop by to see the artist in action, working at the gallery, but be prepared.

"It's a total mess in here," he says. "I always work on the floor."

However, if you would rather go to an art opening, visit Keystone Gallery on Oct. 15 to see Mychael Barrett's new show. His work is assured to be a crowd pleaser.

"The U of C people might like his work, especially those in the english department," says director Daniel Lindley.

Some of the works make refer-

ence to well known artists such as Shakespeare, Monet, Russo and David in a cartoon style. One of his works, "Love Over London," has even been featured in *Galleries West Magazine*.

Another artist at the complex that works in a cartoon style is Chris Peterson at the Nation Gallery. His current show, inspired by a trip to Paris, contains acrylic works of masquerades, quirky characters and his own outings. He hunts down antique

frames to showcase his works and uses saturated colours and iconic symbols to evoke the feel of authentic Paris.

Finally, don't forget that Art Central is alive with musicians, gallery openings, events and lots of free food on ever first Thursday of the month.

If all that doesn't keep your waistline trim, you may just have to hit the gym (gasp!).

Check out next week's *Gauntlet* for theatre and dance things!

Beverly Hills Chihuahua chokes

Beverly Hills Chihuahua m o v i e r e v i e w

Katherine Zelt
Gauntlet Entertainment

Talking dog gets lost. Talking dog finds talking dog friend. Talking dog finds home and lives happily ever after. Though by no means an original story, it is indubitably a pleaser to an audience of under 12-year-olds.

When Chloe (voice of Drew Barrymore), a spoiled, shallow, Harry Winston-sporting Chihuahua gets dog-napped and thrown into a dog-fighting pen during her Mexican vacation, she befriends Delgado (Andy Garcia), a German shepherd with a tortured soul and a mysterious past who helps her escape from Diablo (Edward James Olmos), a vicious killer Doberman. Meanwhile, fellow Chihuahua Papi (George Lopez), the mangy pet of the 90210 estate's landscaper, embarks on a mission to save Chloe despite her obvious dislike for him.

As atrociously cliché as the movie is, there are some laughable moments

including one scene in particular with Chloe and Delgado wandering in circles through the outskirts of Mexico City when they suddenly find themselves defended from a seemingly fatal wild cat attack by a pack of hundreds of Chihuahuas that appear out of absolutely nowhere. It is when Chloe and Delgado are led back to the Chihuahua's hideout — conveniently the Mayan Ruins — we are introduced to the phrase "no mas" or "no more" — meant to be a mantra for Chihuahuas or any other small victimized beings to find their inner bark and stand up for themselves.

Disney's efforts to teach people to have faith in each other — but more importantly in themselves — is commendable, but with the age range the movie targets, audiences likely won't see past the doggie booties and doggie cashmere. The Mexican theme of the movie was fun, but making light of dog-fighting is not so funny and for someone who absolutely loves dogs, *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* goes a little too far.

Beverly Hills Chihuahua is in theatres everywhere.

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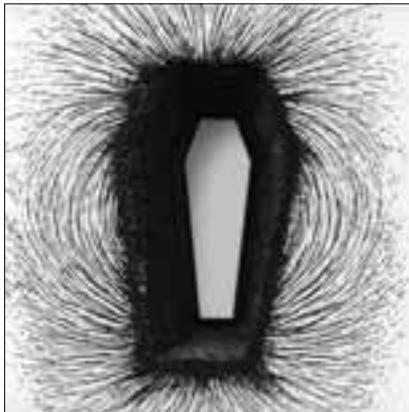
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ALBUM REVIEWS **S p u n**



Metallica
Death Magnetic
(Warner)

Metallica attempted to channel the violent heavy metal energy that powered '80s albums like *Ride the Lightning* and *Master of Puppets* on their new album *Death Magnetic* and succeeded, mostly. Though, as a whole, *Magnetic* is nowhere near as well put together as *Lightning* or *Puppets*, it is better than their recent efforts and much better than their terrible last album, *St. Anger*.

In the five years since *St. Anger*, Metallica has continued to move their sound away from the more mainstream efforts they put out in the '90s. It works out well on *Death Magnetic* and they seem to have recaptured their ability to thrash. They manage to string

together both head bang-worthy riffs and screaming guitar solos on "Broken, Beat & Scarred" and the opener "That Was Just Your Life." Unfortunately, *Magnetic* lacks the top-quality power metal ballad, like "One," that helped Metallica's rise to mainstream relevance. They try on "The Unforgiven III," which isn't too bad of a song, but largely miss the mark. The production quality of *Magnetic* also sets it above *St. Anger*. The album sounds appropriately harsh and not too tinny like *Anger*, which sounded like drummer Lars Ulrich was playing a set of trashcans.

When bands have been operating for over a quarter of a century like Metallica, they will constantly be compared to what they've produced before. *Death Magnetic* stands by itself as an above-average heavy metal album, but is not nearly as good as the band's best efforts decades ago.

..Jon Roe



Tori Amos
Live At Montreux 1991/1992
(Eagle Records)

This retrospective CD serves as a virtual time capsule, capturing two mesmerizing performances of Tori Amos singing and playing solo piano at Switzerland's Montreux Jazz Festival.

The first half of the disc features a then unknown Amos from 1991. Recorded months before the release of her first album *Little Earthquakes*, the unsuspecting audience is treated to fresh takes of newly-written gems. Although new to audiences at the time, her

vocals sound genuine and urgent while her piano playing is simply brilliant.

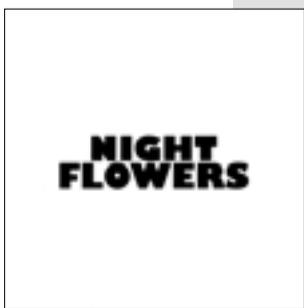
The second half is from 1992, a few months after the success of *Little Earthquakes*. Only a year later, it reveals a less innocent and more polished musician. Amos is more at ease while fiercely dynamic.

While the bulk of both sets contain tracks from *Little Earthquakes*, live cover versions of Led Zeppelin's "Thank You" and "Whole Lotta Love" plus a sensitive rendition of Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit" are little treats in between Amos' stylings. She masterfully reinterprets these songs, making them sound like her own compositions.

On the companion DVD, the evolution between the two shows is even more evident. Looking less like the girl next door and more like the sensuous diva, her innocent smiles become more sneer-like and she is not above berating certain audience members for talking during a song.

What is most evident about both concerts is simply the power and majesty Amos can demonstrate all by herself. During the applause for her 1991 *a capella* version of "Song For Eric," she tells the crowd, "You've gotta do something when you don't have a band."

..Ken Clarke



Night Flowers
Night Flowers
(Unsigned)

The increasingly difficult challenge for indie rock bands to separate themselves as respectable, creative and unique artists has been and continues to be a make-or-break factor for a band's success. Unfortunately for Night Flowers, efforts to distinguish themselves from other Canadian indie rock bands are not particularly effective on their debut album.

While a combination of dancy-rock melodies,

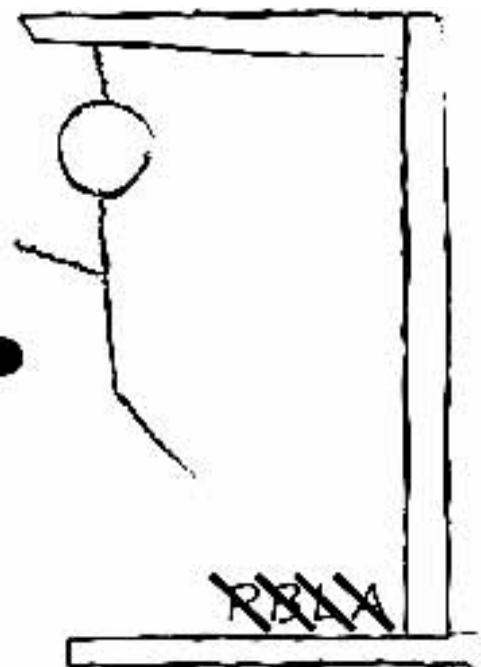
slightly aggressive distortion and intermittent harmonies litter the tracks throughout the Toronto-based band's first EP, the distortions fail to complement or highlight the already-mediocre vocal harmonies — wafer-thin vocals are particularly noticeable on the latter portion of the last track, "Knock on Wood." Though Night Flowers' debut is not entirely characterized by poor compositions — there are a few nicely detailed instrumental and guitar arrangements on "Man of the People" and "Knock on Wood" — the remaining three tracks on the album leave listeners wanting

more imaginative melodies and thoughtful lyrics from the band.

This EP exposes, magnifies and reminds us of the tricky challenges of inventing and re-inventing great music when creativity is increasingly difficult to uncover in the transient world of indie music. Despite Night Flowers' not-so-stellar debut, the ever-changing face of indie music is particularly advantageous for this Toronto-based band: there is still potential for Night Flowers to broaden and expand their musical and artistic horizons in the future.

..Jennifer Trieu

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TOP 20 for the week of
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*Dedicated Canadian Artist
25 Domestic Local Artist

- 1 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 2 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 3 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 4 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
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- 7 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 8 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 9 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 10 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 11 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
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- 13 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
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- 18 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 19 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 20 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)

ELECTRONIC

- 1 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 2 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 3 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 4 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 5 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)

POP/ROCK/INDIE/ALTERNATIVE

- 1 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
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MYX'S PICKS

- 1 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 2 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 3 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 4 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)
- 5 **THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.** *Survivor* (feat. Jay-Z)

SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY

SHEGLANK'D SHOULDERS

I was thinking the other day how when I was in junior high school I used to hang out in the back of my lunch room at Calgary's Bluff...
...and I was thinking about the other day how when I was in junior high school I used to hang out in the back of my lunch room at Calgary's Bluff...
...and I was thinking about the other day how when I was in junior high school I used to hang out in the back of my lunch room at Calgary's Bluff...

ARTISTAL PENDING DATE

FRI. OCT. 24 TO FRI. OCT. 31

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON

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THEATRE

Unity, 1918 continues at the Martha Cohen Theatre Oct. 9–11 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18–\$55 at Ticketmaster

Join **Margaret Cho** at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium for a beautiful revolution Thurs., Oct. 9. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$28.50–\$45.50 at Ticketmaster

Comedian **Gerry Dee Jack** will be at the Singer Concert Hall on Fri., Oct. 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$31.50 at Ticketmaster

Ready for a fusion of music, spoken word, and theatre? **Blanche** will be presented at the Engineered Air Theatre on Sat., Oct. 11 at 8 p.m. and Sun., Oct. 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 at the door.

Word Fest presents the 2008 Banff-Calgary International Writers Festival Oct. 14–19. Events, tickets, locations are all available at www.wordfest.com

The perilous play **Skydive** will be showing at the Max Bell Theatre from Oct. 14 until Nov. 2. Tickets are \$30–\$45 at Ticketmaster.

CONCERTS

Amon Amarth will be channeling some serious Thor at the Warehouse on Thurs., Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$28 at Ticketmaster.

Toby Keith tries to prove he's more than just white trash with money at the Pengrowth Saddledome on Thurs., Oct. 9. Show starts at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$39.75–\$79.75 at Ticketmaster.

Rock out with **Said the Whale** and **Nine Mile** at SAIT's The Gateway on Thurs., Oct. 9 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at Ticketmaster.

Hedley will be reciting famous last words at Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium on Fri., Oct. 10. Show starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$29.50–\$34.50 at Ticketmaster.

Grupo Niche will be spicing up the Jack Singer Concert Hall on Sat., Oct. 11 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$52.50–\$73.50 at Ticketmaster.

Kalan Porter will be down in heaven at the Stampede Casino on Sat., Oct. 11. Show starts at 9 p.m. and tickets are \$40.95 at Ticketmaster.

You won't be able to hear **Through the Noise!** This rowdy tour will be hitting up the Warehouse on Sun., Oct. 12 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 at Ticketmaster.

Grab your cat-o-nine-tails and join **Flogging Molly** in a free-for-all at MacEwan Hall on Mon., Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$27.50 at Ticketmaster.

Get your international gypsy punk fix with **Gogol Bordello** at MacEwan Hall on Tues., Oct. 14. Show starts at 7 p.m. and tickets are \$25 at Ticketmaster.

Get out your dunce cap and be proud with **Slightly Stoopid** at the Warehouse on Wed., Oct. 15. Show starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$25 at Ticketmaster.

SPORTS

Our **women's basketball** team has three home games this weekend! Fri., Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. they'll clobber the Memorial University of Newfoundland. Sat., Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. they play against Toronto's Varsity Blues and Sun., Oct. 12 at 1 p.m. they'll be taking on Windsor. All games take place at the Jack Simpson Gymnasium.

THINGS TO DO

1. **Write a to-do list.** Fun fact: to-do lists are an awesome way to procrastinate! It's a great way to fool people into thinking you're being productive. The more doodles and ornate lettering you use, the more time you waste!
2. **VOTE!** If you don't vote, *Gauntlet* news editor Sarelle Azuelos has pledged to slap you like the silly bitch you are. While you're at it, check out her section, which has some tasty info on the candidates.
3. **The Dead Mile.** It's that time of year again! Join gory, groaning, grotesque undead legions as they lumber the streets of Calgary in search of braaaaains! Google some fake blood recipes, take some scissors to your clothes and start practicing your moans.

MISC.

The Dinos **football** team will be marching all over Regina's Rams at McMahon Stadium on Sat., Oct. 11 at 1 p.m.

The Dinos **field hockey** team will be wiping Hawkings Field with Alberta on Sat., Oct. 11 at 1 p.m. and again on Sun., Oct. 12 at 1 p.m.

Our **men's hockey** team will be melting the ice against Alberta at Father David Bauer Arena on Sat., Oct. 11 at 1 p.m.

CSIF and QAS present **Film 5+** on Fri., Oct. 10. Eleven short independent films from the Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative in Halifax will be shown at CSIF's Sofa Cinema. Check out www.csif.org for more info.

The forth annual **Calgary Zombie Walk** will be swarming streets Sat., Oct. 11. Dress up like a rotting corpse and join in! All details are available at www.calgaryzombie.com

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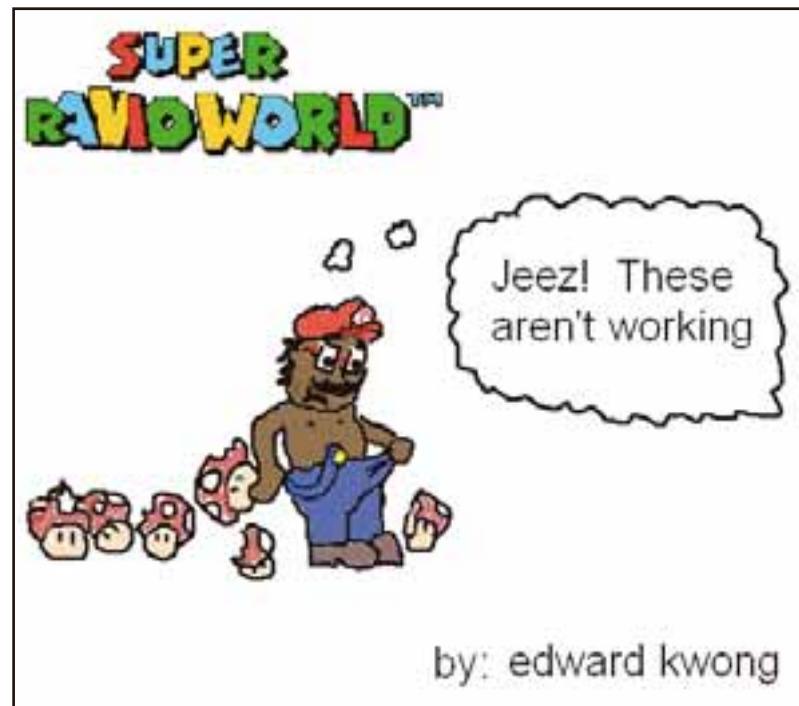
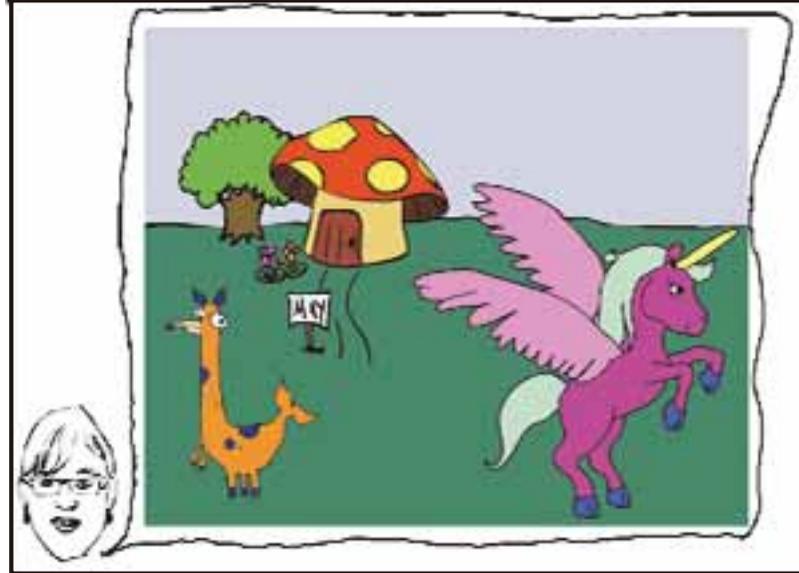
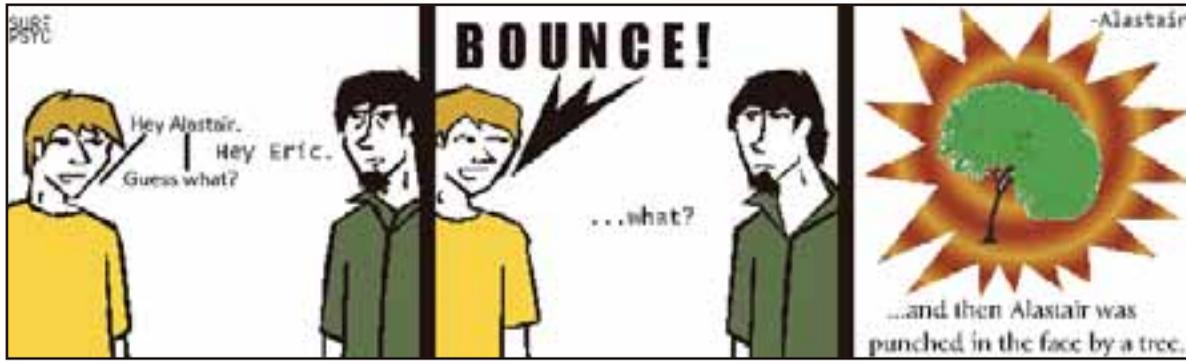
CJSW'S ANNUAL FUNDING DRIVE RUNS FROM FRIDAY OCTOBER 24 TO FRIDAY OCTOBER 31.

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