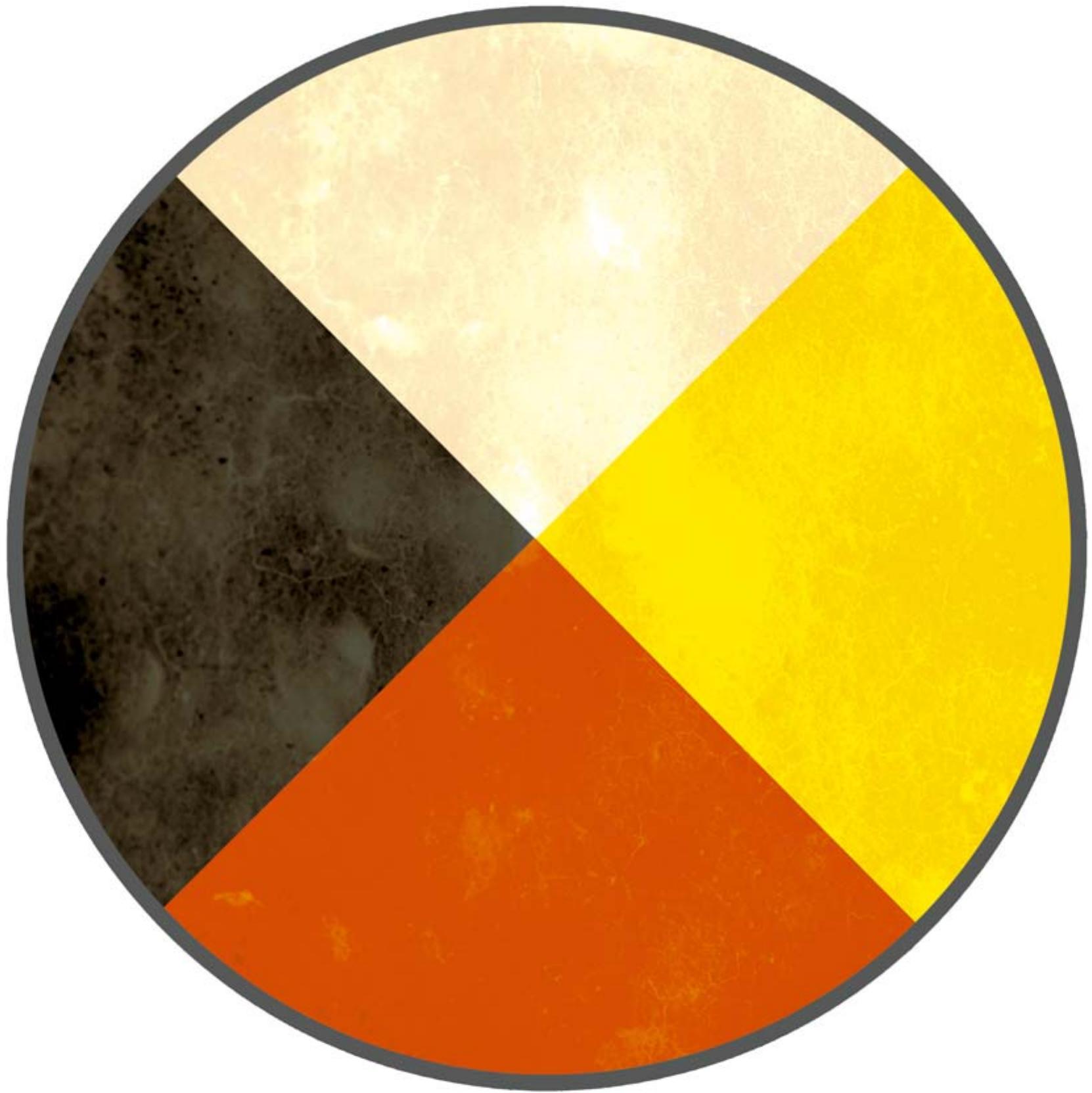


U N I V E R S I T Y O F C A L G A R Y

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Golden Spatula



Usman Rizwan

"Ronald Reagan's acting career pales in comparison to that of Vincent Price."

First, to all of you who wrote in last week: no, the Golden Spatula award is *not* the title of that famous sitcom from the early 1950s that had brief appearance of both Ronald Reagan and Vincent Price. Rather, it is a chance for us to recognize journalistic renunability. This week we, the Gauntlet, would like to thank *Usman Rizwan* for committing to entering — where most undergrads turn and flee — into the tower-sanctum known as the Gauntlet, and for copy-editing, intellectual discussing and general personal qualityness. Thanks Usman — may your dreams not be shattered upon graduation!

Furor Arma Ministrat

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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 libelous 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 Students' Centre, or sent by email to editor@thegauntlet.ca.

Sixty years too many

Sixty years is a long time for any relationship. This week Queen Elizabeth II marks her 60th year on the throne, and Canadians are once again given the opportunity to consider the point of keeping Her Majesty around. Happy occasions aside, we the Canadian people are growing tired of the monarchy, and we're even more disturbed about its future. The time has come to sit Elizabeth down and end it once and for all. In this case, it's her, not us.

Monarchists across Canada consider themselves lucky that Elizabeth has been more or less a success, at least compared to her predecessors. Her assumed role has been to wear colourful clothes, nice hats and wave in the agreed-upon style. Her political views are unknown, and she never gives interviews. Canadians tend to view her in exactly the way she acts: a celebrity with no formal power. This impression, well easy to understand, is mistaken and costly.

Elizabeth, after all, is Canada's head of state. Less than a quarter of Canadians know this, with many assuming that either the prime minister or the governor-general (who is the queen's representative) is in charge. The fact that Elizabeth's head-of-state status is so poorly known among Canadians shows two things: that people don't understand her role, and that she won't be missed.

Supporters of the crown claim



that the monarchy is a source of national identity, often stating that the queen is necessary to distinguish Canada from America. But the monarch's distinguishing role is entirely misplaced. Canada already has a number of attributes that separates it from America — the queen doesn't usually spring to mind.

Another common refrain from monarchists is that the Crown acts as a check against an out-of-control government. This claim is touted with such regularity that it's easy to take it as fact, but it's deficient. There is no reason that another check can't serve the role just as well. The con-

stitution itself can be written to provide limits on power.

If there were such a crisis, why would Canadians entrust the outcome to a foreigner whose political convictions are completely unknown to us? Why should we think that Elizabeth — or even more troubling, her heir Charles — should be the one to take on such a task?

Canadians should be allowed to decide who should fill that role, rather than the undemocratic monarchy that was forced upon us.

While trying to dilute the Crown's role on our lives, monarchists say that the queen is "just a symbol" or that she has

"no real power." Although these two points are in fact false, even if the Crown were just a symbol there are good reasons to abolish the monarchy. In a multicultural society such as Canada, it is an injustice that our head of state is also the Defender of the Faith in Britain. The faith in question is one particular brand of one particular religion, yet Canada does not (and should not) preference one religion over another.

It will be no easy task to overthrow the monarchy in Canada. The consent of the federal government and every provincial government is necessary to become a republic, and that of course will take work. There is, however, reason for optimism. While many Canadians view Elizabeth positively, when she dies Charles is set to take over, and his reputation is much poorer. The majority of Canadians favour ending Canada's relationship with the monarchy, and the percentage in support is likely to rise considerably when Elizabeth dies.

The time has come, then, to make preparations for a Canadian head of state. The conversation ought to begin now to decide just how best Canada can move forward. It will be progress indeed: toward a true democracy, toward real equality for citizens, and toward a Canada that is finally able to call itself an independent country.

Gauntlet Editorial Board

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Remembering missing and murdered women

Aboriginal women over-represented in homicide rate

Katrina Power

Gauntlet News

In Canada, there are over 600 cases of Aboriginal women who have disappeared or been murdered over the past 30 years. Feb. 14 is a day to remember the missing women, and move towards changing the patriarchal and racist attitudes prevalent in society.

According to the Native Women's Association of Canada's database, Aboriginal women represent approximately 10 per cent of the total number of female homicides in the country, despite the fact that they make up just three per cent of the total female population.

The majority of these disappearances and deaths occur in Manitoba and Alberta.

"I talk to people about the numbers of missing and murdered women in Canada and they're dumbfounded," said Suzanne Dzus, the head organizer for the Calgary branch of the Memorial March for Missing and Murdered Women.

"For a group that makes up so little of the population to be so over-represented in disappearances and murders, it's not something to be proud of. And this isn't just the Highway of Tears. I can give you a list of names of 93 women who were murdered in the Calgary area in the past 15 years alone."

Calgary's lack of awareness concerning its homicide rate is one reason why Dzus brought the march to the city in 2008.

"Nowadays everyone is so desensitized to these kinds of events that you can just not think about it," said Dzus. "But it's not that,



Chris Bizzy/ Flickr

An organizer marches at the 19th Annual Missing Women's Memorial March in Vancouver.

it's not just what's happening on tv. This is happening in your province to women who live in your city."

Dzus said media reports often label, dehumanize and devalue life.

"If we see anything in print at all we'll see 'she was a hooker' or 'she was a drug addict.' Remember, these women have a family and they're real," she said.

Dzus stresses that the dehumanization and the violence against women is cyclical and doesn't end with First Nations.

"If you think you'll never be affected by it, if you're willing to just let it happen to another area of society, don't think it won't come back to you," said Dzus. "If it can happen to one, it can hap-

54

per cent of Aboriginal women reported experiencing potentially life-threatening forms of family violence. This includes being beaten, choked, stabbed and sexually assaulted. This is three times higher than non-Aboriginal women.

88

per cent of murder cases that have been cleared by charges of homicide. No charges have been laid in 40 per cent of cases.

53

per cent of missing and murdered women and girls were mothers, leaving more children in foster care. This poses the risk of children not being able to access culturally appropriate programs and services.

153

number of murder cases that have been identified in the Native Women's Association of Canada's Sisters In Spirit database between 2000 and 2008.

pen to all of us at some point in time."

Mount Royal University student Leita McInnis became personally involved with the cause this year after seeing a presentation by Dzus.

"I was so angry with the injustice and lack of social outcry for these missing and murdered women that I decided that rather than fuming and complaining I should take action," said McInnis.

McInnis urges other students to attend the event because it is "a great place to show that the way things are going when it comes to women's rights, prevalence of domestic violence and the racism behind unsolved crimes is unacceptable."

She said that the march is "a way to demand change while still honoring the women we have lost."

Attendees for the event range in age, ethnicity and gender, but the group is reaching out to men in particular.

"If we don't engage men in this issue it will never end. That's the bottom line," said Dzus. "Women aren't dying at the hands of women, they're dying at the hands of men."

The missing and murdered women are commemorated every February at the Calgary event, which draws 275-400 people each year. Other marches are happening nationwide in cities such as Vancouver, Victoria, Regina and Winnipeg as well.

Family and friends of victims are encouraged to bring posters and placards with pictures to shine a light on the life of their loved one.

The Calgary event will take place at the Scarborough United Church. A guest speaker starts at 6:30 p.m. The march begins at 7:00 p.m.

How do you think awareness about the large number of missing and murdered Aboriginal women can be raised?

campus quips



"That's tough. I think person to person. Understanding can be reached when people connect one to one."
– Peter J. Vooys, fifth-year drama



"There is so much stigma represented in the media. More on campus could be done."
– Jonathan Brower, fourth-year communications



"We are always hearing negative stories in the media. It would be better to highlight women who are beating the odds."
– Ella Kinloch, kinesiology alumna



"Anything social-media related."
– Saloni Dholakia, second-year education

Mysteries of the Old North Trail

Lauren Den Hartog
Gauntlet News

Running north and south along the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains, the Old North Trail was an important transportation corridor for the Blackfoot people for many generations. Today, numerous archeological sites dot the historic route, which runs from the Yukon all the way to New Mexico.

The distribution of these sites has intrigued University of Calgary PhD student Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer.

She has spent the last two years looking at the distribution of archeological sites of the Late Precontact Blackfoot people of southern Alberta and Montana along the Old North Trail in order to better understand how particular sites were chosen.

Last year, she was awarded the prestigious Vanier Scholarship for her research on the Blackfoot.

Traditionally, researchers have relied on an ecological model to explain the location of sites, Amundsen-Meyer said.

"Where is the water, where is the wood, where are the bison?"

But a second theory — the landscape model — suggests that



Courtesy of Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer

Amundsen-Meyer conducting field work along the Old North Trail.

the location of sites was due to their spiritual significance to the Blackfoot.

"Rock, trees, the sky — whatever it is, everything has a spirit," she said.

The Blackfoot believed the availability and renewal of resources was controlled by their relationship to the spirits.

"Yes, resources are important, but the Blackfoot were hunter-gatherers who relied completely on nature to provide for them," she said. "In that sense, they're very much connected to their world and their landscape."

According to Amundsen-Meyer, Blackfoot stories, which fea-

tured their Creator, Napi, were used to encode morals, ideas and codes of behaviour. They also included a series of named places. In order to keep the spirits happy, she said, the Blackfoot travelled to each of these named places to tell the associated story.

"If we could actually find evidence that those oral traditions are there and relate to site distribution, that's huge because that, for the Aboriginal people, is finally getting their view into what we're doing."

Traditionally, Blackfoot territory included parts of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana, although Amundsen-Meyer ac-

knowledged some groups might disagree with that view.

"They were probably one of the most powerful confederacies on the plains," she said.

The confederacy includes the Siksika, the Piikani and the Kainai.

While completing her undergraduate degree at the U of C, Amundsen-Meyer first became interested in plains archeology.

"The landscape idea appealed to me because so often we look at an individual site and then you're missing how all those things are related together," she said.

She has previously completed archeology work in the Caribbean and has worked as a consultant for the oil and gas industry.

According to scientific data, the Blackfoot have inhabited parts of North America for at least the last 1,000 to 1,500 years, but Amundsen-Meyer said there are starting to be more ties to previous archeological cultures that are up to 2,000 years old that appear to be Blackfoot.

"The Blackfoot would say they've been here since time immemorial," she said.

Amundsen-Meyer has also been in conversation with members of the Blackfoot community, including Lorna Crowshoe, who grew up on the Piikani Reservation in southern Alberta.

"I think she's uncovering ground, so to speak. I think it's see OLD NORTH TRAIL, page 6

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Mysteries of the Old North Trail continued from page 5

pretty critical and important to our Blackfoot community," said Crowshoe about the research Amundsen-Meyer is currently doing.

She said the relationship between academia and First Nations has often been strained because the importance of oral knowledge is often not recognized by scientists.

"The big concern is everybody is always accepting science as the written truth and gospel," Crowshoe said.

"Our knowledge is all oral and it's stored somewhere."

Still, she recognized that developing a relationship between academia and First Nations is an important step in helping First Nations people preserve their culture and language.

"This process and undertaking needs to take place. The relationship needs to develop," said Crowshoe.

"I think that's critical for us as Blackfoot people because we have to sustain our culture and

our language and this is an important process in which to sustain that."

Amundsen-Meyer said an opportunity to speak to some Blackfoot elders would be especially useful.

"I'm trying to understand the stories and the ways of behaving and the appropriate ways of understanding the environment and treating the environment," she said, adding, "I'm never going to fully understand because I'm not Blackfoot."

Police improve aim through Quiet Eye

Josh Rose
Gauntlet News

Thanks to kinesiology researcher Joan Vickers from the University of Calgary and police psychologist Bill Lewinski, the Calgary Police Service's police training program is now even more cutting edge. Vickers and Lewinski found that elite shooters in high-pressure life or death situations make the best decisions because of where they focus their eyes and attention.

Called the Quiet Eye, it is the exact spot where individuals fix their attention before making a critical move. It has been studied in hockey, biathlon, surgery and now police shooting.

In a study published in *The Journal of Human Movement*, Vickers

compared the reactions of police rookies to those of veterans from large cities where SWAT officers are known for effectively dealing with violence. Researchers had a person move suddenly from behind a desk with either a gun or a cell phone and the officer had to decide whether to shoot. Sixty-five per cent of rookies shot the person when they held a cell phone compared to the 18 per cent of veterans. It was also discovered that the shooting accuracy for rookies was as low as 54 per cent compared to the veterans' 75 per cent.

Using her eye-tracking technology, Vickers determined that the only difference between the decision-making ability and shooting accuracy of the rookies and veterans was not in their physical ability but in their focus on the target.



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International student fees questioned

Erick Maleko
Gauntlet News

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, comprised of 26 students' unions across Canada, is lobbying the federal government to reduce fees for international students. The federal government and university administration say international students are not taxpayers, and therefore should not receive subsidized rates for tuition.

International students pay tuition fees three times higher than domestic students. Additionally, most student visas do not come with a multiple entry permit. Each time a student leaves the country the student has to re-apply for another visa. International students are also not allowed to work off-campus unless they have a work permit visa, an application process that costs \$150.

These difficulties are faced by the 190,000 international students attending post-secondary institutions across Canada.

"With 30,000 students attending [U of C] it can be very tough getting a job on campus. Therefore, by not being able to work off-campus my chance of getting a job is almost next to none," said first-year international student from Malaysia Nazmi Sharaani.

Reasons for high international student fees are due to the fact that the government subsidizes up to 80 per cent of domestic student fees.

"The premise is that post-secondary education is a public good and each student is subsidized by the taxpayers of Alberta and Canada to get their education," said associate vice-provost enrolment David Johnston.

The government defines a domestic student as any student who is a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident, in other words, a tax-paying member of society.

"A positive aspect for international students in Canada is that they are allowed to work. There are many countries where international students are not allowed to work at all, and we feel that this is one of the advantages of being an international student in Canada," said Johnston. "You have opportunities that you don't have elsewhere."

Johnston said that the university would prefer not to charge international students high fees, but that is currently not an option.

The SU believes, however, that subsidizing part of international student fees should not be viewed as fiscal drainage. Instead, it should

been the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism representing Calgary Southeast, Jason Kenney.

// Not only does it benefit international students but it also substantially benefits our economy by equipping us with a much needed supply of trained labour. It also helps diversify our culture.

be viewed as an investment.

"Alberta and Canada are world leaders when it comes to retention rates of international students. Thirty-three per cent of the people who come here as international students end up seeking residence after they've completed their education," said SU vice-president external Matt McMillan. "Not only does it benefit international students but it also substantially benefits our economy by equipping us with a much-needed supply of trained labour. It also helps diversify our culture."

There has not been much interest in lowering international student tuition. McMillan said the political will for an issue to be addressed depends on if election votes will be garnered.

"Unfortunately international students are not eligible to vote," he said.

While the reduction of international student tuition fees is far from fruition, introducing multiple-entry student visas and the reducing work permit application fees for international students are efforts that are deemed within reach.

"Unavailability of multiple-entry visas to some students is a very archaic and western system. You'll notice that students from developed countries get multiple-entry visas while ones from developing nations don't," said McMillan. "I had a friend who went to her mother's funeral in Mexico and wasn't allowed back in the country because she had a single-entry visa."

McMillan said lobbying has been done with almost a third of parliament members in Ottawa about this issue, with hopes the \$150 work permit fee will be dropped.

One of the most prominent advocates of these efforts in Ottawa has



Gauntlet File Photo

Matt McMillan wants decreased tuition for international students.

Millan. "Now another way to have a competitive advantage when it comes to luring these trained foreign workers is having a lower international tuition fee. We can

foresee this and therefore must act on it because when the labour shortage arrives it is going to hold catastrophic consequences for the economy."

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BLACKSTONE

Albertan television series sheds light on life within aboriginal communities

by Sean Willett



courtesy Carmen Moore

Not everyone in Canada knows what it's like to live on a reservation. Due to a lack of education on modern aboriginal issues and the unfortunate pervasiveness of negative stereotypes of First Nations peoples, most citizens are unaware of the internal strife and conflict present in some aboriginal communities. *Blackstone*, an Albertan television show created by Gil Cardinal and Ron E. Scott, hopes to address this

by telling a story of corruption and community politics from a First Nations point of view.

Centred on the fictional First Nations community of Blackstone, the series chronicles citizens' struggles dealing with problems such as a corrupt chief and a struggle for power. The episodes can be fairly graphic and uncompromising, and have a feel similar to HBO programs such as *The Sopranos* or *The Wire*.

Currently in its second season,

the show's cast features First Nations actors from across the country, including Calgarian Michelle Thrush, who won a 2011 Gemini Award for Best Actress for her performances with the series — the second aboriginal woman to receive the honour. Co-star Carmen Moore was also nominated for the same category. "This was huge," explains Thrush, "to have two aboriginal women in one category, in our very first season." The

show also won the Award for Best Opening.

"I've been working in this industry for close to 25 years, and *Blackstone* has really changed the game for everything," says Thrush. "It's one of the most popular shows ever with native communities."

Yet *Blackstone* was far from a guaranteed success when it first began, facing a limited budget and an uncertain future. "When we first began *Blackstone* we all did

it from a place in our hearts," remarks Thrush. "We went in and we weren't being offered what we normally get as experienced actors."

Since the series was not backed by a major network, the budget was too low to provide the cast with salaries that were the industry norm — but the actors were not deterred. "All of us took a very low rate, just because we really believed in the script," Thrush says.

One of the biggest reasons for *Blackstone's* success among aboriginal viewers has been its willingness to talk about issues often ignored by society at large. These are issues that affect many First Nations peoples, such as flaws in the child welfare system, the lack of adequate running water in reserves and corrupt local politics. "That's what we're looking at in *Blackstone* — the things that aren't spoken about over coffee downtown," Thrush laughs.

However, Thrush also takes care to emphasize how these problems are far from universal. "Our communities make up so many different types of human beings," she explains, "and I don't like laying things down and saying that this is how aboriginal life is." She stresses that while some communities are faced with the issues present in *Blackstone*, they are by no means shared by all. "There are a lot of communities that are really getting through the b.s. that has been placed on them by history."

Despite this, the show remains an invaluable tool in helping to do away with misconceptions surrounding aboriginal life. "There is so much ignorance out there," says Thrush, "and that's what I've had to deal with my whole life." The way non-aboriginal viewers have reacted to *Blackstone* has been incredibly positive, she explains. "Non-native viewers are like, 'Wow, I never realized that,' or, 'As a non-native person watching this show, I totally get things I didn't understand before.'"

With its uncompromising look at aboriginal life and growing popularity, *Blackstone* is broadening perspectives by dispelling myths — and taking a step towards a better future for First Nations peoples. This is a future that Michelle Thrush hopes to see come about soon. "Things are changing. Our youth are growing up and there are so many powerful new things happening out there, and we really need to be able to find our place, to demand our place, in this society."

Wedded bliss? More like wedded hit-or-miss

Mount Royal alum's *The Homemaker* challenges domesticity and young marriage in Calgary

Alicia Ward

Gauntlet Entertainment

We all know *that* girl — you know, the one who's still with her boyfriend from Grade Eight and finds herself contemplating more white dresses than Fibonacci squares during midterms — and the one that you may have tried to talk out of leaving school in pursuit of the nuclear family.

Director and playwright Brooklyn Ritchie was also concerned about some of his female friends who were dropping out of university to pursue romantic relationships. For Ritchie, who graduated from Mount Royal University three years ago, there are two conflicting "Calgarian Dreams" — big-business success versus suburban domestic bliss. In his play *The Homemaker*, he explores these two very different lifestyles and the desires behind them.

The Homemaker, presented in Calgary by emerging-artists company Ronin Theatre, involves two sisters whose grandmother has recently passed away and left a sizable inheritance for both of them. The younger sister intends to use the money to finance an education at a ballet school. The eldest sister, however, strikes a deal with her father that will allow her

to keep all the inheritance money for herself if she gets married soon.

"What's more important: Settling down with a family early or [obtaining] post-secondary education and starting your career?" asks Ritchie, both vocally and through his play. While he does not attempt to give a definitive answer to the question, he does offer up his own opinion on settling into domestic life too quickly.

"You can always get married," says Ritchie. "You're only in your early twenties once. If you're in your early twenties, why don't you do 'early-twenties' things? Why don't you travel or get your education while you are young?"

Perhaps the prevalence of couples willing to devote themselves to each other for a lifetime is a good sign for humanity — or perhaps the option of divorce has made early marriage too easy.

"[Divorce] is so common," says Ritchie, whose own parents are divorced. "[Young couples] think, 'Oh, we're never going to get divorced.' I think that's one half of it, and I think the other half of [them] thinks, 'Well, if it doesn't work out, there's an easy out.'"

Ritchie has found creative inspiration in both this grim reality and the contrasting ide-



als of settling into domestic life early or pursuing an education and career first — a choice faced by himself and many Calgarians.

"People can essentially be whatever they want in Calgary. It offers a lot of opportunities, as opposed to, say, a smaller centre," remarks Ritchie.

"[People] want that suburban life. They want to live 45 minutes away from the city and they don't want to go downtown very often. They want the white picket fence, they want the spouse, two-kids-and-the-dog sort of thing. I have noticed that even more in Calgary than other cities that I've visited," observes Ritchie.

He hopes that the Calgary performances of *The Homemaker* will inspire dialogue among those who view it and cause young-adult audiences to reflect on their own life choices.

"Theatre is so intimate," comments Ritchie. To him, "theatre calls [the audience] to action in a more direct way" because of how viewers are physically present for creative dramatic performances.

More than just inspiring those who view it, theatre gives narrative power to those who realize it. "There are a lot of emerging artists in [Calgary] theatre. They're bringing in the younger demographic," says the 26-year-old Ritchie. "When these emerging artists are being allowed to write plays and direct plays... we're able to tell our stories.

"The creators of theatre have a responsibility. It's about creating story," he explains.

Although Ritchie himself has a strong personal opinion on the young-marriage debate, his art serves a broader purpose. *The Homemaker* is part cautionary tale, part social commentary — and all parts unmissable.

The Homemaker runs at the EPCOR Centre's Motel Feb. 10 and 11 at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on the 11th. Visit epccentre.org for discounted student tickets.

CJSW ON-AIR GUIDE

	sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat	
5:30	cjsw echo chamber	some velvet mornings	morning joy	syncopation nation	morning joy	my two cents flat	tea time with annie (continued)	5:30
6 am								6 am
6:30								6:30
7 am	alternative radio	breaking the tethers	am mixtape	the morning after	soapbox derby/ the get up	big friday	democracy now!	7 am
7:30								7:30
8 am	counterspin						bunte welle german	8 am
8:30	eritrean radio							8:30
9 am	hrvatski radio croatian							9 am
9:30								9:30
10 am	radio pilipino filipino	make believe ballroom	outside the lines experimental / classical	instant gratification: revoked!	mind folk'd roots	up for it	calgary vietnamese radio	10 am
10:30								10:30
11 am	buscando america spanish	students' union weekly	spooning & forking	alternative radio	democracy now!	narrowcasted news	hellenic melodies greek	11 am
11:30								11:30
12 pm	radio gb	open eyes and empty skies	the via lactea caboose	freewheelin' sponsored by republik	pillage the people/ my public shame	contramandatum sponsored by beatroute magazine	speaking in tongues roots	12 pm
12:30								12:30
1 pm	deztination worldwide	the new classics	white lodge/ black lodge	off duty trip	truffle shuffle	my allergy to the fans sponsored by tubby dog	double entendre preserves	1 pm
1:30								1:30
2 pm	knotted roots						music to my ears	2 pm
2:30								2:30
3 pm	mental illness	aubrey's shindig sponsored by the drum & monkey	electric company	halfway home sponsored by local 522	alternative to what?	road pops sponsored by fird weekly	level the vibes	3 pm
3:30								3:30
4 pm	breaking techniques	french transe en danse	desi vibes	carnival mix	that's so gay!	musiquarium	voice of ethiopia	4 pm
4:30							radio oromia	4:30
5 pm	mind grapes	south louisiana gumbo roots	tombstone after dark roots	the blues witness roots	folkcetera roots	the dubble bounce	oh africa!	5 pm
5:30								5:30
6 pm	katharsis	yeah, what she said fat beat diet	artslink	writer's block	noise experimental / classical	full moon funkalcious	nocturnable	6 pm
6:30						dirty needles		6:30
7 pm	that's classical? experimental / classical	the spin evolution	radio boys in the shortwave mystery	good character req./ estate sale	funk senden	what will the neighbors think?	megawatt mayhem metal	7 pm
7:30								7:30
8 pm								8 pm
8:30								8:30
9 pm								9 pm
9:30								9:30
10 pm	translucent dreams	before the dawn heals us	twilight banter	thee soundcheck from heck/ sleeping aids and razor blades	bass ackwards metal	dna	attention surplus disorder	10 pm
10:30								10:30
11 pm	sunday night groove school	the third rail	insomniacs anonymous	late night waltz	rage cage metal	the mix up		11 pm
11:30								11:30
12 am	straight on 'til morning					tea time with annie	nightmare dlerium	12 am
12:30								12:30
1 am								1 am
1:30								1:30
2 am								2 am
2:30								2:30
3 am								3 am
to 5:30								to 5:30

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MUSIC MIX | BEATS | NEWS / SPOKEN WORD | JAZZ | MULTICULTURAL



Kate Bush

50 Words For Snow

(Nov. 21, 2011, Fish People)

Released a scant six months after Kate Bush's previous album, *50 Words For Snow* is reminiscent of 2005's *Aerial*, with a significant exception: it captures not the airy lightness of summer, but rather the melancholy of the cold winter months. With her teenage son "Bertie" as the only other artist appearing on the album, her trademark husky, earthy and surreal voice floats through and captures it. Accompanied by Enya-like vocal stylings,

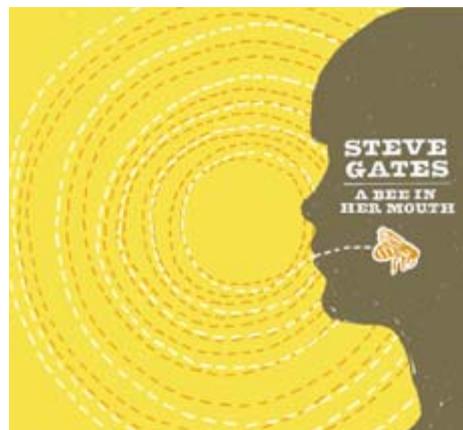
quiet jazz and an emotionally wrenching piano, *50 Words For Snow* carries itself at a measured pace — and although it is not her best work, it is an immensely profound release nonetheless.

Bush, famous for her bizarre lyrics and unique arrangements, creates a winter wonderland on the track "Misty," where having an affair with a snowman brings with it the same emotional resonance that any torrid romance would. Metaphorical lyrics comparing feelings of hurt to actual flesh-and-blood pain add to the album's poignancy.

The titular track is more aptly named than it would seem. Bush actually lists 50 words for snow, some of them outlandish and others recognizable. They range from the gentle and soft to the almost violent and nonsensical.

The real gem of the album, however, is the final, sweet, redemptive love song "Among Angels." With delicately carved verses and blunt protestations of a frosty love, it is truly the epitome of Kate Bush's latest release. *50 Words For Snow* is evocative, haunting and intricately made — and like its conclusion, a treat worth savouring.

Manal Sheikh



Steve Gates

A Bee in Her Mouth

(Feb. 28, 2012, independently released)

Steve Gates is a singer-songwriter from Halifax, Nova Scotia and *A Bee in Her Mouth* is his debut full-length album. It was recorded in a makeshift studio in an apartment with the help of his friends in the East Coast arts community. With roots like that, it's hard not to develop warm feelings for this album.

The album starts with "Proud Convey It," a song of pride tainted with an uncertain-

ty that Gates need not feel — *A Bee in Her Mouth* is worthy of both pride and praise. His music is complex, filled with intricate orchestration involving an astonishing variety of instruments.

This album features accordions, cellos, clarinets, trumpets and tambourines. Gates provides the album with its skeleton; that is, acoustic guitar and vocals on all tracks. His voice has an honesty and consistency to it. His guitar work is played simply and charmingly written — in fact, the best parts of *A Bee in Her Mouth* arise when Gates strips away some of the album's complexity, revealing his humble, beautiful music.

Two songs are particularly impressive, letting the work of Steve Gates shine. "Keepin People Out" has all the elements of a classic folk song with darkly satirical additions from recent headlines. "Lost Balloons" is a song of love, comfort and longing that weds country music to the gorgeous imagery associated with East-Coast music.

A Bee in Her Mouth may be complex and at times a little unfocused, but it is nonetheless a promising display from a new artist.

Alastair Starke

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Inlayers: contemporary dance for dummies

Abstract dance production encourages audience participation through social media

Alicia Ward
Gauntlet Entertainment

A performance that's labelled an "interactive online reality dance show" may sound like a combination *Jersey Shore/Dancing with the Stars*-themed video game or something equally nauseating, but *Inlayers* is, thankfully, not.

Taryn Javier and Jenn Doan are two Canadian artists who thrive off dancing, collaborating and exploring, and their project and performance *Inlayers* touches on all three through a collision of social media and contemporary dance.

Inlayers explores how information exchange through social media can reveal the processes involved in creating contemporary dance, and in a very real and interactive way — audience members actually submit their own ideas to the performers through social media. The dancers then begin to create movement while being filmed and journaling.

Both Doan and Javier hope that by revealing their dance work in rehearsals this performance-interlaced experimentation will make contemporary dance more accessible to non-dance audiences.

"I was feeling a little frustrated

with the inaccessibility [of dance]," confesses Javier. "I wanted to find a way to take contemporary dance outside the theatre and really open it up."

Doan states the difficulties of attracting non-theatre-going audiences. "Contemporary dance on stage can be very abstract and very movement-based — the actual process [that] we are going through as dancers with Taryn comes from story, comes from personal experience."

But in a society so privileged as to have computer, tablets and smartphones at its fingertips at almost any time, have we been disconnected from our bodies and our physical responses? Working with dance in concert with social media raises the question.

"I think that disconnection from our body stems from a lot of other things. That is definitely one aspect . . . but not the root of our disconnection from our bodies and understanding our physical and emotional reactions or responses," explains Doan.

Javier and Doan hope that *Inlayers* will connect with audience members' physical responses, though. They believe that citizens in a technological society have not lost the capacity to



courtesy Vernon Rubiano

Calgary's own "interactive online reality dance show," *Inlayers* allows non-dance audiences to understand abstract movement.

connect to their bodies in a mental, emotional and physical way.

"I think there's a shift in how peo-

ple are exchanging information, and I do think that with this project we've kind of tapped into that shift," says Javier.

Screen-to-screen communication represents a significant part of how our generation relates. It is through this form of interaction that Doan and Javier's audiences are able to become intimate with the dancers.

"I think that a lot of dance people go into a dance show looking for a narrative, a story, and it's easy to hold on to a story — storytelling is an ancient tradition.

"I feel that body language is communication. Over 90 per cent of our communication is body language," explains Javier. "If you go to a dance show and you have any sort of physical response, whether it's positive or negative, your body responds — an

intake in breath, you don't really want to watch it, you feel squirmy — that dance has spoken to you and you are speaking back."

The entire *Inlayers* team has experienced work and dance throughout the world and across Canada, but they all have convened back in Calgary to create this project. Those looking for a dance show to see in Calgary have limited choices, but *Inlayers* stands out, both as an introduction to abstract art and an entertainment piece in itself.

"The more dance you go see, which is what we are trying to make happen, the more you can intellectualize and the more you can take from it," says Javier — no G.T.L. or sparkly costumes required.

Inlayers shows at 148 10th Ave. N.W. Feb. 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. Visit inlayers.ca for tickets.

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Concert review: LMFAO's not sorry for party rocking

RedFoo electrifies *sans* SkyBlu, *avec* animal-print legwear at the 'Dome

Wyatt Anton

Gauntlet Entertainment

On Feb. 7, the ridiculously dressed and afro-ed one-half of LMFAO took Calgary for a shuffle. Minus co-conspirator SkyBlu, who dropped the Canadian leg of the tour due to back issues, RedFoo, fresh off a Super Bowl performance and obviously suffering vocally from a hangover still managed to keep the energy high and the crowd on its feet.

Without a doubt there was not a single set of neon leotards left in the greater Calgary area as costume-clad teenyboppers and drunken college kids alike invaded the Saddledome for the performance. Even the stalwart chaperones couldn't help but have a little fun listening to the infectious tunes and watching the crowds wiggle, shuffle and bounce all over the 'Dome.

The opening acts catalyzed the audience's energy early in the night. Cherrytree Records up-and-comers Rye Rye and Natalia Kills set the evening's tone with their pop/hip-hop mix and sultry onstage presence, and the latter would lend vocal assistance to Far East Movement and LMFAO later on. L.A. group Far East Movement, heavy on the bass, flexed their hip-hop prowess. Their set also featured a live drummer as well as their expected contingent of beat machines. These accoutrements helped back them up on their hit song "Like a G6," as well as on well-done homage to old-school rap "So What?" The trio finished their set by debuting a single off their new album called "Dirty Bass," which was well-received.

RedFoo's set was kicked off with the blatantly untruthful "Sorry for Party Rocking" made even more untruthful given



Red's croaking voice. He apologized for this (too much partying) and his partner's absence, but this was clearly a non-issue as he turned the venue into one giant dance club.

Young and old were swept up in the absurd and often overly sexualized songs that were complemented by a live drummer and guitarist, the latter of which looked as out of his demographic as a guy could be, but added a visceral feel to the otherwise electronic-based music.

The crowd largely stayed on their feet throughout the entire 90-minute set as one club-banging hit rolled out after another. Nine-year-olds in freshly purchased LMFAO swag sang along to "I'm in Miami Bitch" and "I Am Not a Whore" without missing a word — granted, the lyrical com-

plexity of these songs makes singing along not much of a feat in itself, but this was still somewhat shocking. In the meantime, in the stairways and on the floor fans in their tightest eighties gear bumped and grinded along with the beats.

Props and dance numbers onstage took the performance to another level. The backup dancers were easily as impressive and ridiculous as they appear in LMFAO's music videos, and despite the self-inflicted sore vocals, RedFoo didn't miss a beat or shuffle onstage. Glow sticks and flashing lights were tossed out into the crowd pre-show, as well as the plethora of streamers and a life-size inflatable zebra, plenty enough to keep anyone fascinated without pharmaceutical enhancement.

"Party Rock Anthem" and "Champagne

LMFAO's RedFoo was shocked to learn that thousands of Albertans with questionable tastes in music would indeed pay money to count each thread in his ridiculous zebra-print pants.



Images by Colin Snyder/the Gauntlet

Showers" were performed after a brief delay that purposely and predictably had the crowd screaming for more, while hit single "Sexy and I Know It" served as the night's apex, leaving the crowd Speedo-satisfied. Respect definitely has to be given to RedFoo, who kept the show cranked up to eleven all night despite his infirmities.

The show went off as it should have despite its drawbacks, namely the absence of SkyBlu — which, in the grand scheme of things, was hardly recognized. Everyone seemed to get what they came for and then some, while the massive array of spandex costumes kept heads turning and tongues wagging, quite fitting given the music's subject matter. LMFAO's Calgary concert deserves nine pairs of ill-fitting animal-print pants out of ten.

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NEW UNIVERSITY TELEVISION

Living with forever

Accepting a life with chronic illness

Andrea Llewellyn
Gauntlet Features

I didn't realize how much I had taken for granted until my second academic year, fall 2007. While I have tried to remind myself that there are much worse things than developing chronic pain syndrome, I have certainly had some lows along my journey.

There are many people who would rather pretend to be a "normal" person (without health issues) than admit to the limitations and challenges they face daily. These people are referred to as the "walking wounded" by some health practitioners. But what is the definition of "normal"? According to Statistics Canada, in 2006, 14.3 per cent of Canadians (4.41 million) managed a disability — fast forward four years, and 4.27 million Canadians aged 12 and up suffered injuries severe enough to limit their activities in 2009–2010, costing Canada \$93 billion a year (in both direct health costs and indirect productivity losses). It really is not if you will develop a disabling health condition, but when.

I took for granted the usual things: my body, health, future goals, and daily things like physical comfort and energy levels. Since I was diagnosed with chronic pain syndrome I have had to give up caffeine, alcohol, late-night partying, competitive sports and anything else where I could fall. I have also had to deal with the physical reminder of ranging levels of pain and constant discomfort.

After my diagnosis, I felt like I lost myself as a person. In 2005, I had placed second in Canada for wrestling in the 65 kg weight category. That year, I started university, paying tuition completely on scholarships, and was one of the

top students in my class.

Six months later, after a whiplash injury and a concussion, I couldn't even recognize myself. I often compared how I felt to the grief one feels after the death of a person — I had a 10-year plan to go to the Olympics twice and then retire, and this illness was not part of that plan. I was in serious denial about my situation, unwilling to identify myself as disabled. Perhaps it's because I didn't want the stigma, but also because I didn't want to admit the all-round effect my condition has had on my health.

The development of CPS was difficult to come to terms with, and it was also difficult for doctors to understand what was wrong since I was very young to have developed this type of nervous system disorder. There are a lot of people out there who believe pain is not something that can impair a person. The common assumption is that you get used to the pain, you heal and you move on. But when your nervous system is impaired and there is nothing to heal, what then?

When it comes to chronic pain disorders, the pain begins to affect your entire life. Many health professionals compare it to chronic fatigue syndrome, as the body starts reacting in similar ways. You become easily tired, lose energy and become overwhelmed by too much stimulus. It is also a musculoskeletal disorder because the muscles start to create trigger points (hyperirritable palpable nodules present in taut bands of skeletal muscle fibre) and physical limitations. The nerves start to behave incorrectly and develop incorrect pathways that reinforce the pain.

The pain has an effect on mental health and everyday activities. The brain becomes distracted by

the pain and discomfort, which can create a problem with attention, memory and learning, or even completely limit the individual's ability to function for variable periods of time. This can lead to depression, anxiety and other mental health problems, which can in turn worsen the pain in a very cyclical manner.

My symptoms at first were unbearable pain and having difficulty both sleeping and staying awake. I missed classes and, when I did attend class, I would either fall asleep or be so distracted by discomfort and pain that I was not able to absorb what was being taught. Each day the headaches were different, as was the physical muscular pain. It left me emotionally unwell — I was sure I was going crazy. Today I have improved through treatment, but if something emotionally upsets me or if I fall badly on a patch of ice, it can ruin my entire day and take a few days to bounce back. I often feel like a robot that requires frequent adjustments, oil and re-programming.

Throughout this personal battle I felt alone, despite being a member of 30 per cent of the population that is affected by chronic pain of some degree. Chronic conditions are often downplayed, so even if many suffer from them, it is difficult to find a common support system. Many patients, particularly those with chronic pain, are expected to just deal with the condition on their own — to "just get over it." But chronic symptoms need management through lifestyle change and medication.

The Constitution of the World Health Organization (1946) states that good health is a state of complete physical, social and mental well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Yet due

to the limitations we set up within our society, our attitude toward illness and disability is as much a part of what makes a disability limiting as is the health condition itself.

Davis DeSouza is a business student at the University of Calgary in his last year who also faces chronic illness, though he keeps his daily challenges private most of the time.

"When it comes to being a diabetic, a lot of it is about your personal choices and how well you want to take care of yourself. I remember getting a handbook when I was diagnosed, and it just had a guy on the front of it juggling balls — that is what it is like when you have dia-

DeSouza. "The Children's Hospital in Calgary is really hands-on because they have to make sure your parents know what to do, because they are responsible for you for the next 10 years, and that you know what to do, and that you are developing the skills to be able to use when you are older."

But DeSouza explains that being diagnosed as a child also meant teasing, a strict schedule and meal plan, as well as unresolvable questions and concepts like the meaning of permanent disability. "When I was [diagnosed at] seven years old, I thought I would just take a couple needles for a couple months. I

/// [Chronic illnesses] are not just physical, and people can't see what is going on. It's not, 'I'm on a diet, I use insulin.' It's not, 'he just has to watch what he eats.' It affects every moment of every day; it affects everything.

— *Davis DeSouza, diabetic and fourth year business student*

betes, you are juggling all of these different things and you have to keep them all up in the air. As soon as I drop the ball on one part, it's all gone," he said.

DeSouza was seven years old when he was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, and he attributes his ability to cope as an adult to the care he received as a child.

"One of the better parts of being young when you are diagnosed is your support system. I don't think I would have the same understanding of how to take care of myself," said

thought by school next year I would be fine — you don't really understand forever when you are seven years old." However, it is the psychological aspect of teasing and misunderstandings that is often the most difficult part, DeSouza adds. He explains people don't understand that diabetes affects more than the physical body.

"It's not, 'I'm on a diet, I use insulin.' It's not, 'he just has to watch what he eats.' It affects every moment of every day for the rest of my entire

see FOREVER, cont'd on page 14

Living with forever, continued from page 13

life. There are rare times where it is not with me mentally. It affects your mood, your weight, your looks, how you feel about yourself and how you feel about others. It affects everything.”

DeSouza is not alone in feeling misunderstood by people lacking the experience of a chronic health condition, but he expresses that people with chronic conditions also have difficulty understanding others with chronic conditions because everyone’s experience is unique.

Megan McLelland is a pedagogy alumna from the University of Calgary now working as a gym teacher. She is thankful it was during her fourth year in university that she found out she had Crohn’s disease. As a varsity athlete on the U of C women’s soccer team and an active member of the faculty of Kinesiology, she explains that the two months of school she missed almost set her back an entire year, but instead she was able to get by on deferrals and understanding from her professors. The mentality of “we will help you finish” was McLelland’s

greatest support during her last academic year.

“I was really lucky because my professors helped me get through it. That was what made the difference — they respected me as a student and they didn’t want me to lose that year if I could avoid it.”

Crohn’s disease is the chronic inflammation of the intestines. McLelland believes she is lucky that her form of the disease is quite manageable at the moment, but it was very difficult at first. Some people have a slow development of symptoms over years before it becomes a problem. It was only five days after the first symptoms presented that McLelland was hospitalized, and it was a few weeks before she left the hospital, and a few more until she could return to school. McLelland lost 14 kg in a matter of weeks. Five years later, she believes she has the disease under control, due in part to her lifestyle choices.

“In reflecting on the past, what I’ve learned is to give yourself the time just to be. Step back, you don’t need to keep going 100 per cent.

Percentage of chronic disease costs to total health costs, 1998



Source: Health Canada, *The Economic Burden of Illness 1998*

Needing constant medical attention for these illnesses causes our health care costs to rise. But, with more lifestyle changes and common understanding about the special needs of chronic illness patients, costs can be lowered.

When having an off-day, I am running to the washroom every hour just because my body is trying to get rid of something. I can’t focus, and I am irritable,” McLelland explains. “Yoga gives me my own space in the morning. It was so important for me to find my own space because before I never did, it was always ‘go, go, go!’”

More than just lifestyle changes,

McLelland has also re-learned the meaning of physical activity and, as a former athlete myself, I have had similar lessons.

“When I was younger, physical activity was organized sports and it essentially was training for sports. It is now about being active for life,” she added. “I need to keep myself in reasonable shape for my health.”

Though McLelland has had a positive experience with colleagues and professors being helpful and understanding, DeSouza’s experience at school has had its challenges. DeSouza describes an unfortunate situation where a professor became verbally abusive during an exam in 2011 while DeSouza’s body was going into shock from low blood sugars.



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"I had asked if I could stop writing and come back when I felt better, and I was basically treated like I was trying to cheat. It was degrading and I don't think I was treated with any dignity or respect — I am not a cheater," explains DeSouza. He adds that more understanding and trust about chronic conditions would go a long way to preventing further experiences in either academics or the workplace. "It's not just physical and people can't see what is going on. He [the professor] couldn't see that my body was in shock and [that] it affected me mentally."

Since being diagnosed with our chronic conditions, DeSouza, McLelland and myself have put a lot of thought towards our futures. McLelland wonders about when she and her new husband will be able to have children and how many she can physically cope with. DeSouza privately worries about his potential future dream career as a pilot, the cost of affording insulin and other medical devices, and how it will play into his future relationships.

But DeSouza says he doesn't worry more than anyone else would about future decisions. He has had to grow as a person to be smarter about the decisions he makes. There are decisions we choose; sometimes we make the wrong decision and it costs us. But each of us has our own needs based on social, economical, demographical and geographical circumstances.

Colleen Braun, a clinical psychologist, educator and organizational consultant based in Calgary,

has been involved in the treatment of individuals with chronic health conditions. Through her years treating patients, she knows the lack of understanding chronic illness sufferers face. She believes as a society that we need to give people the freedom to meet their needs in an equal manner, rather than impose strict limitations and force people to live around them.

"When we create structures — architectural structures, educational structures or even human resource structures — we should design them so we are not having to single out people with disabilities," she said.

Still, the majority of people don't seem to understand chronic health conditions or how to be respectful. Braun believes it has a lot to do with fear and denial about our vulnerability and mortality.

Disability has as much to do with how we look after our needs and ourselves, Braun adds, including how we engage with people, and behave regarding each of our specific needs.

"Everyone has problems, and when you have a chronic illness, that just adds another dimension, so in order to treat the chronic illness you have to help the person deal with the other problems in their life. Then the strategies or the medications that are available will be more effective," Braun explains.

"If you are trying to push a boulder up a mountain, that isn't going to work. But if you are able to chip off a lot of it, it is going to make it easier to get it up there."

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Rwandan genocide, Canadian complacency

Kimberly Richards
Gauntlet Opinions

Two weeks ago, Léon Mugesera — a Rwandan man charged with inciting the 1994 Rwandan genocide — was deported after spending 19 years of refuge in Canada. Mugesera is the poster child for genocide suspects hiding in Western countries. Mugesera's trial is highly anticipated, as he will be the first *genocidaire* tried by Rwanda's judicial system, indicative of Rwanda's recovery.

The trial also sheds light on Canada's justice system. The Canadian government contributed significant funds into the redevelopment of Rwanda's justice system. Every notable news source in Canada reported the verdict that Mugesera was to return to Rwanda on Jan. 23, 2012, and the decision was enthusiastically applauded by the majority of Canadians. But the Canadian government's willingness to grant Mugesera and his family permanent resident status has gone largely unexplored and under-interrogated by the media. Such an investigation provides insight into the blind-sightedness of Canadian immigration and the repercussions for Canada's justice system.

In 1992, Mugesera delivered a speech in Gisenyi, urging members of the Hutu party to exterminate Tutsis and dump their bodies into rivers. According to court

documents, killings took place the next day. These small-scale occurrences in 1992 were a prelude to the more than 800,000 Rwandans slaughtered in 1994. Mugesera, a professor of linguistics, and his family of five escaped from Rwanda and flew to Canada. Mugesera completed his graduate studies at Laval University, like many other Rwandan political activists, and had remained in touch with high-ranking Canadian bureaucrats who helped him gain refugee status.

Key among Mugesera's Canadian connections was Alain Landry, the former assistant deputy minister of citizenship. Landry's name was used in support of Mugesera's refugee application and Mugesera was granted easy entry. Mugesera had many colleagues in Canada and it was believed that he and his family would adjust well to the country. Mugesera was welcomed back to Laval University and he lectured there for several years as a linguistics professor. His acceptance reveals poor communication between the Department of Immigration, and the Department of Foreign Affairs, the latter of which was aware of the conflict escalating in East Africa and Mugesera's role in authoring the genocide.

This mistake made by Canadian immigration in the early 1990s resulted in two decades of expensive legal repercussions. Canadian taxpayers have expressed their dissent

in hundreds of comments on related CBC and CTV news pages for incurring the cost of Mugesera's numerous trials. The question has never been whether or not Mugesera was guilty, but rather what

order in 2005, Mugesera has been able to stay in Canada because it was believed he would face capital punishment if he were to return to Rwanda. In 2007, Rwanda's death penalty for convicted war crimi-

ing its war criminals. But Canada's precarious position as arbiter of justice raises an important question: What right does a European or North American state have to choose who to bring to justice and how? It is tragic that this question has emerged in Rwanda, given that the international community did so little to intervene in the mass slaughter in 1994.

Mugesera's Canadian lawyer, Guy Bertrand, maintains that Mugesera will not receive fair trial back in Rwanda and is being turned into a "modern-day Hitler" as proof there was a mastermind behind the genocide. Bertrand believes that evidence will be fabricated and witnesses will utter false testimony when Mugesera stands trial in early April. He believes that President Paul Kagame will go to any length to convict him so as to set a legal precedent.

But few Canadians appear to be concerned about the legality of Mugesera's trial in Rwanda. It is clear that he is not wanted on Canadian soil any longer. There are few who are sympathetic to a *genocidaire*. In Canada, justice seems to be a lesser concern than economics.

Conversely, dozens of Rwandans waited to see Mugesera arrive at the airport in Kigali. It is here — where victims of Mugesera's speeches are able to witness this war criminal charged for his crimes against humanity — that justice is restored.



nation should try him, and how.

The Canadian government inadvertently assumed the role and responsibility as judge of Rwanda's justice system when it was forced to determine if this war criminal would receive fair treatment there. Although the Supreme Court of Canada unanimously found Mugesera guilty of crimes against humanity and issued a deportation

order in 2005, Mugesera has been able to stay in Canada because it was believed he would face capital punishment if he were to return to Rwanda. In 2007, Rwanda's death penalty for convicted war crimi-

nals was dropped. Canada's decision to deport Mugesera is a vote of confidence that the Rwandan judicial system is now capable of conducting a fair and impartial trial. Mugesera's eviction from Canada will likely commence a new era where genocide trials abroad cease, and Rwanda resumes responsibility for enacting justice and punish-

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Patrick Straw
VP Operations and Finance



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and the food court vendors eliminated styrofoam containers in favor of the new corn-based compostable clamshells. These clamshell containers, and whatever organic food material happens to be clinging inside, can be deposited into the waste bins marked "organics". These bins can also receive wooden chopsticks, food waste, cardboard and napkins.

The bins marked "landfill" are still necessary to collect plastic cutlery, plastic wrap, tinfoil and other non-compostable material.

The styrofoam free initiative has been in the works for a long time. Respondents to a 2010 survey indicated that they preferred biodegradable containers (93%) and were

willing to pay more for their meals if necessary (77%). After consultation with students, food court vendors, suppliers and with the support of the student Eco Club, the Student Centre was officially styrofoam free in September of 2011.

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These clamshell containers, and whatever organic food material happens to be clinging inside, can be deposited into the waste bins marked "organics".



The Students' Union advertisement is provided by the SU and published without Gauntlet editorial revision.

Missing gender difference's relevance

Nicole Dionne
Production Editor



Here is a brand of rhetoric within feminism that I find incredibly troubling. It is one that embraces dichotomy, reinforces old myths about gender identity and runs counter to common goals of feminist movements. An example of this sort of rhetoric is Eve Ensler's 'girl cell' monologue presented at TEDtalks, India in November 2009. Ensler describes the 'girl cell,' which amounts to an embodiment of feminine stereotypes. She argues that everyone has a girl cell within them and that it is integral to the survival of humankind that we foster and express our girl cells. Ensler's view — while certainly dramatic and biologically perplexing — is not an isolated or fringe one within feminism. Well-meaning feminists I've spoken to, both on campus and through my

regular internet haunts, feel particularly invested in incorporating 'feminist principles' into current institutions or doing away with those institutions altogether to invent new ones based on these principles. Like Ensler's girl cell, feminist principles are ideas, attributes and traits that have been historically prescribed to those of us born with ovaries. Institutions, organizations and any other collection of humans or their endeavours that do not embody these traits are seen as sexist, perpetuating patriarchy or misogynistic.

If the irony of this viewpoint doesn't immediately make your head explode, let me lay it down for you. Women are a diverse group of people with a multitude of personalities, values and aspirations. Reinforcing a feminism/masculine dichotomy of traits and principles alienates women who don't conform to attributes traditionally seen as feminine. It is not empowering to reinforce stereotypes that limit the bounds of what it means to be a woman. Furthermore, ac-

cepting this idea negatively impacts non-gender-normative individuals by perpetuating myths of gender dichotomy and determinism. The truth is that gender itself is culturally constructed. There

or pervasive view. Classification of what constitutes as feminine is culturally defined and not a reflection of true human condition.

Many of these dichotomizing ideas come from well-meaning



are no traits or attributes that are inherent or instinctive to women over men or vice versa. Cross-cultural analysis has shown that even the idea that there are only two genders and that they align with biological traits is not a universal

feminists. What they're responding to is that historically, within our own culture, attributes that have been categorized as feminine have also been imbued with a negative stigma. Women themselves have been viewed as weaker and

lesser, and men who embody feminine traits have been similarly seen as inferior. To some extent, this way of thinking still persists today. Many institutions that currently exist were founded during that period of exclusion. That is what my well-meaning feminists take issue with and are trying to combat.

The way to combat this, however, isn't to indiscriminately emphasize and extol what has been historically considered feminine. Doing so only reinforces and perpetuates myths of gender dichotomy and determinism, confining women to a particular set of traits. The correct solution is to altogether repeal the gender-charged classification systems applied to personality and attributes. Let's wipe the slate clean and evaluate these attributes and principles and decide if we want to include them into our institutions on their own merits — not due to their association with an archaic system based on misinformation about gender. After all, before we are 'masculine' or 'feminine', we are human.

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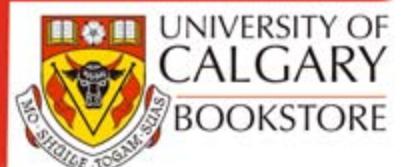
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Documenting a wrestler's olympic dream

A new innovative documentary allows an interactive audience experience

Andrea Llewellyn

Gauntlet Sports

The *Sticking Place* is more than just a sports film or documentary. The interactive web-based documentary, created by Canadian filmmakers Josephine Anderson and Brittany Baxter, is a personalized exploration of the life of a female free-style wrestler who recently made the Canadian national team. Leah Callahan is the ideal candidate for a film of this nature. She is humble, spirited, principled and strong-willed — the making of a Canadian heroine.

To create the film, the team used an innovative new documentary format, where the viewers are involved in how they view the film and interact with the story. Anderson said they chose this style because of the intimate nature of the story.

"I feel like there is so much potential for the user and for viewers to engage with stories in a different way. [It's different] than a traditional film that you can watch on the television or in a theatre," she said. "You really get to be involved, click around, make things happen and explore the story in a way that matters to you instead of just having to follow along as the filmmaker decides."

Callahan's brother, who knew the filmmakers, mentioned that Baxter was interested in using the wrestling superstar as a subject for a film. The film has since changed Callahan's life.

"It was a whirlwind from there," she said. "I had no idea what I was getting myself into — I definitely opened up with them and was really honest. In October, I had to deal with a lot, just going into Olympic trials knowing that there is a movie being made about me. Whether I won or not was going to be a big part of it."

The two filmmakers began preparing for the film in April and were filming by June.

"We did a bunch of summer shooting in Callahan's home town, MacKenzie, British Columbia, and we went over to Calgary and filmed her there as well. So we filmed actually all over Western Canada," Anderson explained.

Because Callahan began to be-



photo courtesy of Monique Smith

Leah Callahan (centre) with filmmakers Josephine Anderson (left) and Brittany Baxter (right).

come comfortable with Baxter and Anderson, she felt more at ease with the filming process.

"The process was really cool because I could be as open as they needed me to be, so I don't think anything will be misrepresented," said Callahan. "The girls [Baxter and Anderson] were pretty discrete at Olympic trials. It wasn't like there was a big film crew around me."

Callahan still felt the film added external pressure that worried her on top of the challenges she faced leading up to trials in Winnipeg last Dec. 15–18. But looking back on it, she felt the film allowed her to overcome those pressures in a different way, like journaling, that ended up benefiting her in the long run.

"It was kind of good because I dealt with all that external pressure with my sport psychologist, which I think really helped my preparation a lot," she said. "There were some serious obstacles in the last four months leading up to trials that I maybe wouldn't have dealt with as fully, or even as openly if the film wasn't being made about me."

By December, Callahan had overcome the obstacles and focused entirely on Olympic trials. Baxter and Anderson knew there was a risk that Callahan might lose the Canadian Olympic trials, but they were willing to take that chance.

"We really thought that her story was so compelling that it didn't really matter if she won or if she lost,

that people would still be interested in her story and her journey," Baxter expressed.

Callahan bested Ohenewa Akuffo, 10-time national champion, and qualified for the 2012 Olympics in London, England.

"Being part of and witnessing that journey took away a lot of the risks because we saw her change and unfold before our eyes," said Baxter.

The Sticking Place was made possible because of the financial risks

taken by Anderson and Baxter. The duo has had to pay for flights to film all over Western Canada at tournaments and at the University of Calgary, the home of Callahan's training centre. Luckily, they have had generous support with an initial Filmmakers Assistance Program grant from the National Film Board of Canada. The team was further funded by Kickstarter, the online pledge system. This fall, they finished a funding drive and raised \$20,000 to help with the costs in-

curred with building a professional website.

"We were pretty excited initially and now it is basically [trying to find] a way to build the community and fundraise at the same time," Baxter explained. "Kickstarter is great in terms of trying to help you out. We were featured on a couple of their recommended pages throughout the process of our fundraising campaign."

To prepare for the fundraising, they filmed videos promoting the film and bringing a taste of Callahan's story to life in order to prove that although these 25-year-old filmmakers are young, they are serious and very capable.

"People were willing to step it up and really come behind the film to support it because they could tell from the videos that [Callahan's] story was extremely meaningful and that it would matter to them," said Anderson. "They believed in the quality of our work."

The Sticking Place will be finished in June this year and will be featured at Interactive Film Festivals. The filmmaking duo is also looking into a web app that will allow viewers to watch the film on various devices.

Check out thestickingplace.ca for more info on Leah Callahan's story.



Michael Issakidis/the Gauntlet

Riders fly at the Burton Canadian Open

The fourth annual Burton Canadian Open took place at Canada Olympic Park in Calgary from Jan. 30–Feb. 4. The Canada leg was the second stop of the Burton Series, which will continue on to Europe, New Zealand and America. The event provides the opportunity for riders around the world to showcase their skill in the slopestyle and halfpipe events. Queralt Castellet of Spain won the women's halfpipe title and Ryo Aono of Japan took the men's title. "I am very excited to win tonight as this was my first time at the Canadian Open," said Castellet in a press release.

The collegiate battle of Alberta

Melissa Gervais
Gauntlet Sports

The most storied rivalry in Alberta is Edmonton versus Calgary. It's the Stampeders, Flames and Roughnecks against the Eskimos, Oilers and Rush.

Rivalries are most commonly geographical by nature but can be fuelled by a botched call, a bad trade or a dose of trash talking. Competitive sports of all types have healthy rivalries that make the games more exciting — professional sports leagues are not the only place that host gritty rivalries.

The University of Calgary assistant athletic Director Ben Matchett said the battle of Alberta is alive at the post-secondary level.

"It's historical and always a good time when the Dinos and the Pandas or Bears get together," said Matchett.

The University of Calgary emerged as an independent institution in 1966 when it ceased to be a branch of the University of Alberta, as had been the case since 1945. Both Matchett and his U of A counterpart Matt Gutsch agreed that the intra-provincial rivalry gained prominence after the 1966 codification of a separate collegiate institution.



Gutsch explained the rivalry from an Edmontonian perspective: "It's one of those long-standing things. It's as old as anyone can remember and I expect it to be around long after any one of us is around. That's for sure."

Gutsch and Matchett both maintain that this rivalry is friendly and somewhat familial.

"I think it's vital to have rivalries like that. Those are the big games everyone gets pumped up for, especially the fans and the students," Matchett added. "You always want to prove your school or team is bet-

ter than the other school or team. It happens everywhere."

Dinos women's basketball associate coach Claire Mitton said fans are important to project the rivalry.

"Fan support is huge. They are the extra player when competing," she said. "Showing up in the team's colours is great."

When the U of C heads north, a raucous crowd awaits. The same can be said when the U of A comes to Calgary on a road trip. The CIS edition of the battle of Alberta shows that the Calgary versus Edmonton rivalry is alive and well.

The Dinos this week

Thursday, February 2

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Dinos 87, U of M 79 (in Winnipeg)
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Dinos 87, U of M 69 (in Winnipeg)

Friday, February 3

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Dinos 98, U of M 89 (in Winnipeg)
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Dinos 73, U of M 52 (in Winnipeg)
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Dinos 3, Trinity Western 1 (in Calgary)
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Trinity Western 3, Dinos 0 (in Calgary)
MEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 3, U of S 2 (OT in Saskatoon)
WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 5, U of S 3 (in Calgary)

Saturday, February 4

MEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 3, U of S 0 (in Saskatoon)
WOMEN'S HOCKEY: Dinos 5, U of S 1 (in Calgary)
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Dinos 3, Trinity Western 1 (in Calgary)
MEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Trinity Western 3, Dinos 1 (in Calgary)

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NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAYS

THE STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Days are Monday, February 13 to Wednesday, February 15, 2012 (and Thursday, February 16 if necessary) and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the Students' Union, MSC 251 between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm on Nomination Days.

Offices Available	Number of Vacancies
President	1
Vice President Academic	1
Vice President External	1
Vice President Operations and Finance	1
Vice President Student Life	1
Faculty Representatives, Arts	4
Faculty Representative, Education	1
Faculty Representatives, Haskayne School of Business	2
Faculty Representative, Kinesiology	1
Faculty Representative, Law	1
Faculty Representative, Medicine	1
Faculty Representative, Nursing	1
Faculty Representatives, Schulich School of Engineering	2
Faculty Representatives, Science	3
Faculty Representative, Social Work	1
Faculty Representative, Veterinary Medicine	1
Board of Governors Student at Large Representative	1
Senate Student at Large Representative	2

Chief Returning Officer: Rabiya Mansoor
Students' Union, MSC 251 (cro@su.ucalgary.ca)

Dated at the University of Calgary in the City of Calgary, Province of Alberta, this 30th day of January, 2012.



As of January 30, 2012, nomination packages will be available online at www.su.ucalgary.ca or at the SU main office. Visit www.su.ucalgary.ca for more information.

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