



STUDENTS
DESERVE
SECONDARY
SUITES

pg. 2

CAMPUS
FOODIE CLUB
CELEBRATES ALL
THINGS FOOD

pg. 5

LOCAL PLAY
TELLS YOU
*HOW TO NOT
GET LAID*

pg. 6

VOL. 57 | ISSUE NO. 10 | Aug 4, 2016



DINOS AT THE OLYMPICS

Pg. 8

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 the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire Gauntlet staff. Editorials are chosen by the 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: thegauntlet.ca. The Gauntlet offices are located on Treaty 7 land.

The Gauntlet is printed on recycled paper and uses an ink that could really just use a hug right now. We urge you to recycle and your summer ring by reminding him that it could never last using the Gauntlet.

The Cover
Design by Samantha Lucy

Advertising

The Gauntlet's local and national sales are managed by FREE media, an agency representing the campus press in Canada. View our Ad Sheet online for rates and publication dates. Questions about the Gauntlet's ad policy can be directed to Ron Goldberg at 403-262-9486 or online at ryc@freemedia.ca

Students deserve secondary suites

On July 4, Calgary city council spent most of the day processing 18 secondary suite applications. Based on current by-laws, to legally rent out a secondary suite — a self-contained basement or backyard dwelling attached to an existing residence — homeowners must propose their suite to city council on a case-by-case basis.

If that sounds absurd, it's because it is. People who likely need the money earned from renting out their basements have to take time off work to ask for the right to do something with property they already own.

It's a ridiculous system and one that will remain in place despite some recent attempts at reform. Coun. Shane Keating's proposal to redefine secondary suite zones and processing, and Coun. Andre Chabot's pitch for a plebiscite were both voted down on July 25.

This isn't a new story. Council has debated secondary suites for years with next to nothing to show for it. Even Keating's failed proposal was flawed, leaving some communities surrounding the University of Calgary without changed zoning — but at least he tried something.

Because of the difficult and time-consuming process of getting a secondary suite approved, homeowners



SAMANTHA LUCY

with illegal secondary suites are often dissuaded from trying to obtain approval. This means most of Calgary's secondary suites are illegal and exist in an underground market where tenants don't have basic renter's rights, leaving some in potentially dangerous environments.

Students deserve housing that's safe and affordable. Not everyone can afford to live on campus, and though vacancy rates are rising in Calgary, the average price of rent remains high. As a result, many students and other low-income Calgarians are forced to live in substandard conditions because it's the only thing they can afford.

Demand for more affordable housing certainly exists. A 2014 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation study found that there are over 16,000 illegal secondary suites in the city. It's a thriving market, and one that won't go away.

Opponents of alternative housing express concerns about reduced property value and the people who will be brought into the community. Last week, residents in the affluent Rosedale community stood in opposition of a proposal that would bring affordable housing to the area. This, like the recent debate over the southwest BRT line, illustrate that this is a class issue — some residents don't

want lower-income individuals to have access to housing in their communities. And it's typically councillors representing affluent wards who vote down secondary suite reform.

It's wrong that those who oppose secondary suites because of class concerns and worries about losing the homogeneity of a neighbourhood can prevent people who need this housing from accessing it. People who rent secondary suites aren't people who want to destroy a community. They're people who aren't in a position to buy a home but still need somewhere to live.

Other cities in Canada don't have this problem. In fact, the only other Canadian city still caught up in similar debates is Burnaby, B.C., a relatively small city compared to Calgary. It's embarrassing that our city is consistently failing to do anything to help residents obtain a basic necessity.

Secondary suite legalization isn't a solution to all of the city's housing problems, but it would make the lives of many students and low-income Calgarians easier and more comfortable. It shouldn't take years of debate to realize that.

Jason Herring
Gauntlet Editorial Board

Summer Den

DRINK SPECIALS THURSDEN PRICING

MAY 27	JUNE 17
JULY 22	AUGUST 26

THE DEN EST. 1969

STUDENTS SU UNION

@DenBlackLounge

NEWS

SECONDARY SUITES »

Calgary city council rejects two proposals on secondary suites

Scott Strasser
News Editor

Calgary city council voted down two proposals regarding secondary suite reform on July 25, maintaining the city's stance on the issue and its strategy for handling it.

Coun. Shane Keating's proposed method for easing the secondary suite application process was voted down 8-7, while Coun. Andre Chabot's proposed plebiscite to go alongside the October 2017 municipal election was voted down 9-6.

Following the votes, Calgary mayor Naheed Nenshi — a long-time supporter of secondary suite reform — called the meeting a "failure."

"Nothing changed," Nenshi said. "Eventually, council is going to have to come to grips that this really is a failure. We have failed as a council."

Secondary suites are housing units inside single-family homes that typically consist of a basement with a separate entrance, kitchen and bathroom.

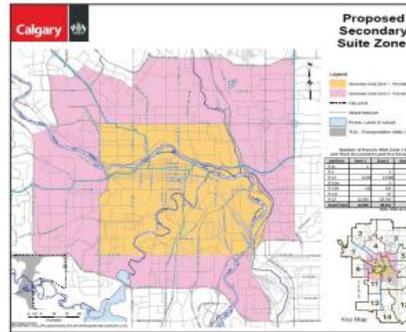
Zoning and land use restrictions in Calgary make most secondary suites illegal. A 2014 Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation study found that there are over 16,000 illegal secondary suites in Calgary.

To legalize a secondary suite, homeowners must undergo a lengthy approval process that includes acquiring a building permit, paying a \$1,000 registration fee and arguing their case before city council.

City council currently goes through each secondary suite application on a case-by-case basis. Approving or disapproving 20 or more applications can eat up much of a city council meeting and is a strategy often debated among council members.

Students' Union vice-president external Tristan Bray said the SU supports the legalization of secondary suites, as they provide another affordable living option for students.

"We know there are many students living in illegal secondary suites," Bray said. "[Secondary suite legalization] really has an impact on their affordable housing options near the university and their safety."



Zoning and land use restrictions make most secondary suites illegal.

Opponents of secondary suite reform argue that suites need to be examined closely to ensure they are up to fire, health or safety codes.

"There seems to be concerns among some councillors and community associations that legalizing secondary suites will make their communities less safe," Bray said. "That's the main concern and pushback."

/// Eventually, council is going to have to come to grips that this really is a failure. We have failed as a council.

— Calgary mayor Naheed Nenshi after the July 25 meeting

One of the rejected proposals on July 25 was a plebiscite alongside the October 2017 municipal election to ask Calgarians for their feedback on secondary suites. According to council, the plebiscite would have cost the city roughly \$400,000.

Bray said the SU didn't think the plebiscite was necessary, as

there is already significant poll data that show Calgarians support secondary suite legalization.

"On the plebiscite, we feel it's really only delaying a real solution," Bray said. "In 2011 the SU commissioned a poll and it demonstrated the majority of Calgarians support the legalization of existing secondary suites. In 2015 there was another poll on

secondary suites that also showed Calgarians support secondary suites. We already know the city generally feels about this."

Coun. Keating's plan to ease the approval process for secondary suites was also rejected.

Keating wanted to redefine the city's secondary suite zones and give each boundary its own rules

and regulations. Under his plan, secondary suites in the inner-city would have been legalized, while suites in the outer portion of the inner city would have been made a "discretionary use." They would be approved on a case-by-case basis by City of Calgary staff instead of council members. Any secondary suites outside of those two zones would have followed the current application process.

Bray said the SU supported Keating's motion, though with some amendments.

"Our main concerns were around the \$1,000 fees, as it discourages existing illegal secondary suite owners from registering their suite," Bray said. "The second concern we had was around the zone. We would have liked to see the permitted use zone expanded to include communities around the U of C, as that's where most students are."

The SU asserts that around 20 per cent of U of C students rent off campus and roughly a quarter of those students live in secondary suites.

short form

What are your thoughts on secondary suites in Calgary?



"As long as they're safe, I think they're fine."

— Jerry Yang
second-year mechanical engineering



"If it's with the right [tenants] I think they're a good option."

— Phil Tot
second-year mechanical engineering



"I don't know enough about them to have an opinion."

— Megan Slotboom
fourth-year geology



"It's a really long and unnecessary process."

— Jillian Verbeurgt
fourth-year geophysics



MELANIE WOODS

Campus Ticket Centre closes, UPass services relocated to Tech Stop

Scott Strasser
News Editor

Due to a lack of student use and revenue, the University of Calgary's Campus Ticket Centre has been shut down.

"With the trend that's happened recently of online ticketing, the outlet was just no longer viable," said associate director Parking and Transportation Services Susan Austen. "[The ticket centre] did have ongoing expenses. They had payments for the space, staff and other miscellaneous costs associated with it."

Located in MacHall across from Stör, the Campus Ticket Centre sold lottery tickets, tickets for TicketMaster events and Calgary Transit passes.

The most popular service the Ticket Centre provided was distributing stickers for the UPass. Austen said that service will relocate to the Tech Stop, attached to the U of C bookstore.

"The UPass remains a high priority for the university. It's a very important program for us," she said.

The Tech Stop is currently open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., but will extend its hours when the fall semester begins and most students pick up their UPass sticker.

Austen said the parking office located on the north side of McMahon Stadium also performs UPass-related services and is open five days a week.

The ticket centre had three part-time staff who have been offered packages and will receive other resources from the U of C human resources department.

According to Austen, the Students' Union will decide who takes over the lease.

July 27 was the Ticket Centre's last day of operations. Parking and Transportation Services managed the Campus Ticket Centre for 20 years.

MACHALL»

MacHall injunction verdict still remains unknown

Scott Strasser
News Editor

Though a verdict was expected by the end of July, the fate of MacHall's ownership remains uncertain.

Control and management of the building is currently the subject of an ongoing legal dispute between the University of Calgary and its Students' Union.

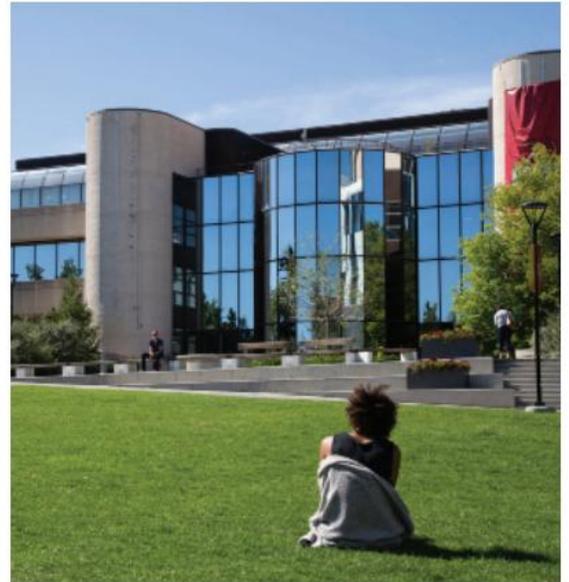
The SU believes they are the 55 per cent majority co-owners of MacHall, as stated in the original 1969 building agreement. U of C administration points to the 1999 License of Occupation, Operation and Management Agreement (LOOMA) as justification for their ownership claims.

The SU currently operates MacHall under the 1999 LOOMA, and obtains 15 per cent of its revenue through rent cheques from MacHall's third-party tenants. According to the SU, that equals close to \$2 million per year. The SU seeks an injunction to retain control of MacHall under the currently extended LOOMA for the duration of the ongoing lawsuit.

SU president Stephan Guscott said MacHall remains important to the SU's future.

"Having seen the positive impacts from behind the scenes that [MacHall] does for students, I think this building is what sets us apart and allows us to be such strong advocates and representatives of students to make sure they have a high quality of life on this campus," he said.

The two sides have already been to court twice this spring. Following the second hearing on June 3, Justice Kim D. Nixon —



EMILIE MEDLAND-MARCHEN

A verdict was first expected by the end of June.

The Court of Queen's Bench judge presiding over the MacHall injunction application — said her decision would be finalized by late June. She later delayed her verdict until mid to late July.

But as July turned to August, Nixon's decision hadn't been publicized.

"Things are kind of in a holding pattern right now," Guscott said. "Things could change, or things could not change. It's been two months since the last court date and we're still waiting for a decision. Hopefully it'll be a detailed decision."

U of C president Elizabeth Cannon gave her thoughts on MacHall before a presentation at Student Legislative Council on August 2.

"We're all waiting for a decision from Justice Nixon and that's all we can really say right now,"

Cannon said.

Until a verdict is finalized, the SU will continue to operate the building under the 1999 LOOMA.

"Inherently the current agreement stays in place, so things will still stay the same for students," Guscott said. "Whatever decision [Justice Nixon] makes, we hope that it'll keep the best interests of students at heart. And we think that's by having the SU manage the building, as we have for the past 47 years."

The university asserts that if administration assumes control of MacHall, the building will remain fully open and operational, and that the SU would continue to run all businesses they currently operate and continue to collect revenues from doing so.

BRIEFS

U of C students sue trampoline park

Three University of Calgary students are taking a local trampoline park to court for a small civil claim.

U of C student Masha Manina is suing Extreme Air Park after experiencing what she called "inhumane" customer service.

"The main reason for why we started this wasn't because of the money," Manina said. "It was because of the horrible customer service. I know good customer service and I know weak customer service, and this level of customer service — I've

never seen in my life."

Manina said she attended Extreme Air Park last year for her birthday. She said she paid a \$100 non-refundable deposit that was to be kept by the park if she didn't show up.

After arriving with less than the minimum eight needed for a birthday party designation, Extreme Air Park declined to return Manina's \$100 deposit, though an employee promised she wouldn't be charged.

"He said that was okay and we could just pay for drop-in. I asked if we would get a charge. He said no, we wouldn't get a charge," Manina said.

Extreme Air Park could not be reached for comment.

U of O research shows university still pays off

The University of Ottawa conducted a study that shows obtaining a university degree still leads to higher earnings in the future.

The study looked at incomes of 620,000 graduates from 14 Canadian universities between 2005 and 2013.

According to the study, university graduates from 2005 earned \$45,200 — in inflation-adjusted terms — in their first year after graduation. That figure continued to rise annually, eventually increasing by a total of 66 per cent to \$74,900 in 2013.

**Great job,
valuable experience,
too little pay?**

SUPER Work can help! The Students' Union Program for Education Related Work (SUPER Work) is a \$1000 wage subsidy award for U of C students earning less than a competitive wage at a summer employment position related to their degree program.

Applications will be accepted
Mar. 7 - Sept. 9, 2016



www.su.ucalgary.ca/superwork
Students' Union Program for Education Related Work

CLUB PROFILE »

Campus foodies club celebrates all things food

Scott Strasser
News Editor

For many students, attending university means moving out of mom and dad's house and learning to cook for the first time. A University of Calgary student club wants to help ease that transition.

UC Foodies is a Students' Union-registered club devoted to all things food. The club explores Calgary's culinary scene and teaches students how to cook.

The club was originally called "Best Friends Foodever." Health sciences students and UC Foodies co-presidents Amanda Boadie and Rebecca Ng founded the club in 2013 after overhearing students discuss their lack of cooking knowledge.

"We heard two of our classmates talking about how they live at home with their parents and they don't know what they're going to do when they move out because they don't know how to cook their own meals," Boadie said. "We thought about it a bit and realized a lot of students have this problem — they don't know how to cook or they don't know how to plan a meal or even grocery shop."

Now with around 20 members, the club meets once a month for



UC Foodies take a break from cooking to order some pizzas for one of their club's monthly events.

COURTESY UC FOODIES

potlucks or outings to various restaurants in the city.

"We [recently] went out to this Thai restaurant, called Juree's Thai Place," Ng said. "For our food outings we kind of poll our club members and ask them what things they're interested in and we'll try to organize that maybe once a month, depending on how busy people are."

UC Foodies also organizes and participates in events such as an *Iron Chef*-style event in partnership with the U of C Community

Garden Club, a cupcake-baking contest called Cupcake Wars and Foodiepalooza, a week-long celebration of food during the winter semester.

The club also holds an annual Christmas dinner, where members learn the ins and outs of preparing a large-scale turkey dinner.

"We usually cook a turkey and make a bunch of side dishes, like a typical Christmas dinner," Ng said. "We try to use that opportunity to teach [members] about different cooking skills."

While teaching members cooking skills and meal preparation are UC Foodies' priorities, the club also included food sustainability initiatives in the past. Members recently attended a conference at the University of Toronto to learn about food waste reduction.

"A few of our executives went to Toronto and listened to the conference and some of the ideas that were there. There was a lot of focus around food sustainability and reducing food waste," Ng said.

Ng said the club hopes to get

involved with food waste reduction initiatives again in the future.

One UC Foodie member is Ng's sister Emily, a recent Werklund School of Education graduate.

"It's been really interesting. Amanda and Rebecca are both very creative in coming up with ideas to get people together and try new foods. They try to teach us different [culinary] techniques as well," she said.

For more information on the club, visit facebook.com/UCalgaryFoodies

TEXTBOOKS »

Students' Union vice-president academic plans social media campaign for University of Calgary bookstore

Claudia Wong
Gauntlet News

This September, a University of Calgary Students' Union campaign will try to create awareness of the high cost of textbooks and advocate for open educational resources (OER) on a provincial level.

Students leaving the U of C bookstore this fall will be asked to have their photograph taken with their textbook receipt and a whiteboard with a comment on the price. The photos will be sent to Alberta leaders, like premier Rachel Notley, through social media.

SU vice-president academic Alicia Lunz will oversee the campaign. Lunz has also reached out to other universities in Alberta to start similar initiatives.

"We don't know how this campaign will be received [by the government], but a presentation at the University of British Columbia's Festival of Learning on #textbookbrokeUBC [is what] inspired this," Lunz said.

The B.C. government already



The SU's social media campaign is inspired by last year's #textbookbrokeUBC movement.

provides OER funding, so the UBC campaign was to advocate for continuing the funding. Alberta does not currently have OER funding in place.

OER are free, openly-licensed learning materials that can be downloaded online.

"B.C. and Manitoba are ahead of us in terms of OER," Lunz said.

According to Lunz, Alberta's lack of OER funding could be due to ambivalence towards the movement. While there are cost-

saving benefits for students, OER face challenges beyond issues with quality.

"Publishing companies are moving away from concrete textbooks," Lunz said. "The trend is online, interactive textbooks."

But not everyone approves of the SU's social media campaign. U of C bookstore director Brent Beatty said it is a misguided approach.

"This attempted social awareness campaign has been done at



SCOTT STRASSER (LEFT) EMILIE MEDLAND-MARCHEN (RIGHT)

other campuses in previous years with little to no success," he said. "The bookstore is 100 per cent committed to driving down the costs of course materials and currently has many programs in place to reduce the cost to the students, including OER."

Government funding was awarded to the U of C's OER working group, who is now hiring a fellow, as well as a research assistant. They will advocate for OER and encourage U of C professors to

peer-review OER material.

"Tons of OER are out there online for first years, but the issue is to 'Canadianize' books out there and get them peer-reviewed by professors," Lunz said.

Lunz hopes the campaign will make Albertan leaders more aware of the cost of textbooks and eventually save students money.

"The overarching goal is to open up a conversation with the provincial government on OER and the cost of textbooks," she said.

LOCAL THEATRE »

Local play tells you *How to Not Get Laid*Rachel Woodward
Entertainment Editor

In 2012, Matt Dewald took the stage at the Calgary Fringe Festival to co-star in his play, *How to Not Get Laid*, an hour-long, side-by-side analysis of male and female endeavours to find a partner. The play stole the show and will return to the Calgary stage this month due to popular demand.

"It was a Fringe show in 2012, and it ended up selling out. It was a big hit. People really loved it. Ever since then, people have been telling me to do the show again," says Dewald. "It's written as two one-person shows happening simultaneously."

Dewald says each character tells a story of their pursuit of the opposite sex, and the trials associated with it.

"There's two characters, so the guy will come out and speak and they alternate the whole show and they don't have a scene together until the end," Dewald says.

Dewald wrote the play in 2012 and says it's the most vulnerable

work of his theatre career to date.

"I've been doing theatre for 23 years now. That show I did in 2012 was easily the most vulnerable I've ever been in the theatre," he says. "It is a very honest piece. All the stories are true, and I've written it in a way that it's still theatrical, but it's based on real life."

The production will return as a stand-alone show playing August 5, 6, 12 and 13 at the Loose Moose Theatre. Dewald will direct the show in his directorial debut.

"What's different this time is I'm still vulnerable, it's still very honest and I have more of a passion for directing than I do for acting — I want to direct professionally. It's a lot of fun. It's still me being vulnerable but just in a different way," Dewald says.

The show will star Chris Bugg and Caitlynn Medrek.

Also returning this year from the 2012 production is a partnership with the Calgary Sexual Health Centre. The organization will set up a booth in the lobby of the theatre to provide information about available resources.

Dewald feels the partnership is perfect, given the show's subject matter.

"Their agenda is to share and provide Calgarians with information about sex and sexual health. They have a centre in Calgary just off 14th Street, and they provide free counselling, condoms [and] pregnancy tests. They are a resource and counselling center for Calgarians," he says. "Since we are talking about the theme of sex, the partnership made sense. We can help spread the word that they're around."

The Calgary Sexual Health Centre will also provide "love kits" containing condoms, lubricant, a business card and show info to the audience.

"Everyone is handing out handbills for their shows and we are handing out condoms. It's a cool partnership," Dewald says.

How to Not Get Laid runs on August 5, 6, 12 and 13 at the Loose Moose Theatre.

Tickets for *How to Not Get Laid* are available at brownpapertickets.com



Chris Bugg will star in this year's production. COURTESY MADISON MCIVER

LOCAL FESTIVAL »

Annual Kite Festival takes flight

Rachel Woodward
Entertainment Editor

Calgary skies will fill with kites come mid-August.

In an attempt to spark conversations for a new online community, Realzim eSociety will host Calgary's inaugural Kite Festival on August 13 at Shaw Millennium Park.

Realzim eSociety is an online community and networking centre founded by Yogesh Srivastava with the intent to create a safer space to form connections online. The festival aims to foster connections in the same way.

"I feel that a kite festival is so apt to what we are doing, and what we are doing is creating an opportunity for people, businesses and leadership to get together in an open space to talk to each other," Srivastava says. "A festival with kites brings people together from various ethnicities and all hierarchies in an open ground to give flight to their ideas."

The festival was originally scheduled to occur during the Calgary Stampede this year, but was delayed due to poor weather.

A feature of the festival is the 300 kites that Realzim eSociety will distribute to attendees who register for



300 kites will be given to attendees.

COURTESY KITE FESTIVAL

their organization.

"We are hoping to make this a colourful evening, not only in terms of the kites but in terms of the people and the event," says Srivastava.

Director of Global Network & Operations at Realzim eSociety Narjis Shahzad says the event will not only help engage the community in discussion, but will celebrate all that Calgary has to offer.

"It is a celebration of valuing culture and diversity in Calgary, and making it go from the best city in the world to the best city for the world," she says.

Besides kite flying, the family-friendly festival will include face-painting, henna, food trucks and live music from local band Das Corazones. Kite flying demos and workshops will also be provided to attendees. Srivastava says that the choice to fly kites is

symbolic of larger goals to help grow ideas in the community.

"Flying a kite is almost like giving flight to your idea. To get it to lift up into the air, you have to be alert and cognizant so that it stays up there. It requires connectivity," he says.

Srivastava hopes to have a strong turnout of students at the event. He believes students hold power in online spaces and discussion.

"I do believe that students can be such an important driver or purposeful engagement because they have the enthusiasm. They are the enablers of positive change," he says.

This year's annual Calgary Kite Festival will occur on August 13 at Shaw Millennium Park at 2:00 p.m.

For more information on the Calgary Kite Festival, visit calgarykites.com

NEW MUSIC »



BADBADNOTGOOD

IV

July 8, 2016 (Innovative Leisure)

The first album by Toronto jazz quartet BADBADNOTGOOD, released nearly five years ago, was filled with stretched-out jam covers of tracks by rappers like Nas and Ol' Dirty Bastard. While the musicianship was impressive, the band's early work was mostly enjoyable for the novelty of hearing new takes on hip-hop classics.

Now on their fourth album, BBNG write all of their own music, and it's other artists who collaborate with them — including rapper Ghostface Killah and Canadian producer Kaytranada. The result makes *IV* the band's best work yet and a unique take on contemporary jazz.

The album opens with a one-two punch in "And That, Too" and "Speaking Gently." The former progresses with a tentative curiosity, building in intensity before returning to its

sparse core. "Speaking Gently" balances on a strong electric piano melody, but reaches another level with a show-stealing saxophone solo from Leland Whitty.

Two ballads highlight *IV*, "In Your Eyes" being the most impressive. The hazy song wouldn't feel out of place in a *James Bond* movie, and BBNG's crisp instrumentation is a perfect backdrop for Charlotte Day Wilson's sultry vocals. Later, Sam Herring of Future Islands lends his voice to the contemplative "Time Moves Slow."

As a whole, *IV* is less heavy than BBNG's previous work. The absence of jam tracks helps the album feel more contained, with each song focused within a tight composition.

There are some more upbeat moments on the album, including the title track, which evolves into a monstrous post-bop groove before giving way to a lone tenor saxophone. Then the band gives rapper Mick Jenkins a strong backbeat with "Hyspop of Love."

BBNG turns established musical tropes on their head. The jazz on *IV* is delightful in its unpredictable nature, which seems to only have grown since the quartet started working within tighter compositions. Even the album's ballads are compelling and feel wholly original. *IV* is a great record from a band that's just starting to show how good they can be.

Jason Herring

CONVENTION »

Animethon brings cosplay, maid cafés and all things manga to Edmonton

Cynthia Kwan
Gauntlet Entertainment

The longest running annual anime convention in Canada will take place August 5-7 at MacEwan University in Edmonton. Partnering with the Telus World of Science and its Sherlock Holmes exhibit, this year's Animethon features a theme of "mystery."

From maid cafés to gaming tournaments and cosplay shows, Animethon aims to cover everything anime and manga.

The convention boasts a long list of international guests, including renowned fashion model AKIRA, Japanese rock band Another Story, Taiwanese cosplayer Misa Chiang and cross-dressing wrestler sensation Ladybeard.

"[Ladybeard is] an Australian pro-wrestler who dresses up in maid's costumes and plays in a rock band," says Animethon director of public relations Vicki Lau. "He will be selling tote bags and art books as well."

Fifty vendors will also be at the convention selling merchandise and artwork along with manga and anime collectibles.

Animethon is run solely by volunteers. Started in 1994 by the Banzai Anime Klub of Alberta, the non-profit convention grew from a one-day event to the popular three-day convention it is now.

"We all are volunteers that work here and we're essentially fans who are making a convention for fans," says Lau. "Because of our passion for the community and this type of pop culture, we



The convention will feature over 50 vendors. help build each other and help build the community."

This year, the popular cosplay contest will introduce the Cross-Play event. The contest will spotlight attendees cosplaying as a different gender.

Japanese model AKIRA will hold a fashion show featuring Japanese Lolita style and DJ Lotus Juice will play a concert on Friday night. The convention will also feature autograph and Q&A sessions with various guests.

"Besides the concerts and dances, there will also be a masquerade ballroom dance. We also have the anime music video contest. You can win prizes in different categories," Lau says.

Gaming stations will be present at the convention, where patrons can compete and play popular video games in tournament settings. Lau says that the convention has

sponsorships with gaming corporations like Microsoft and Bandai Namco. *Pokemon Go* will feature prominently, with eight Pokestops and two gyms in the area.

"I think it's going to be really packed because everyone is crazy over *Pokemon Go* right now, including me. It really brings people together," says Lau. "I've met so many people [through the game]. It's really nice to have that interaction with other fans in the community to know you're not alone. It used to be the geeky thing to do and it's really satisfying to know that a fandom is growing"

Pre-registration tickets are sold out, but day passes to the convention can be purchased at the door. Daily tickets cost between \$25 and \$35.

For more information, visit animethon.org

COURTESY ANIMETHON

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT »



COURTESY KAITLYN RAFTZ

Ben Plotnick is Calgary's own fiddler off the roof

Rachel Woodward
Entertainment Editor

the world. Plotnick is currently working with Rye & Fairy Tales and Double Cuts. He says his sound has evolved immensely through collaboration.

Calgary native Ben Plotnick is a classical violinist and fiddler. He's known for his work with the Calgary Youth Orchestra and the Calgary Fiddlers. Both of Plotnick's parents are involved in music as teachers and musicians, so his passion began in his childhood.

"It's basically been the only job I've ever had. In various capacities, I started playing classical music when I was a kid, and when I turned 18 I went to school and intermittently played in pubs on the weekends and things like that," he says. "I have been playing and teaching for pretty much my entire professional life."

Since 2006, Plotnick has released three albums, the most recent being a compilation of his solo work.

His work has evolved over his career after working on various projects with musicians around

"I spent a long time as a freelance musician, so I spent a long time playing different styles of music and adapting to whatever the gig might be," he says.

Even though Plotnick has travelled and made music abroad, he says Calgary is always a great place to return to.

"I always like coming back to Calgary and it's a pretty cool scene. It's definitely smaller and it always feels like it's looking to get off the ground, like it's about to get there," he says. "I've heard about the start of a bunch of new venues and I feel like it's about to hit that point where it really explodes."

Plotnick's music can be found on his website, as well as your favourite music-streaming service.

For more information, visit benplotnick.com

STAFF PICKS » AUGUST 4 - 11

Saturday, August 6:

The annual Floating Lantern memorial celebrates and memorializes those affected by the bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The event will feature live music, performances and lanterns available for purchase and release with a \$5 donation.

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Place: Olympic Plaza

Saturday, August 6:

Studio Bell will celebrate local talent at this year's Rock the Walk. The event will showcase live music from Calgary bands, as well as artisan vendors and food trucks for attendees.

Time: 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Place: Riverwalk Plaza, East Village

Wednesday, August 10:

Afrikadey! celebrates its 25th anniversary this year with its annual festival of art, dance and music. The event offers an exploration of culture throughout Africa with film, literature and music.

Time: Various times

Place: Various locations

Thursday, August 11:

Happenings 5 will be a culmination of artistic talent featured at Arts Commons this season. The artists will speak alongside live music and panels discussing experimental art. There will also be opportunities for attendees to create their own art at designated stations.

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: Arts Commons

Follow us on Snapchat!

Scan the code or search:

@GauntletUofC

OLYMPICS »

A short history of the University of Calgary Dinos at the Olympics

Emilie Medland-Marchen
Sports Editor

The Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro will see seven former University of Calgary Dinos compete for their country — the most that have suited up for the games in 20 years. To celebrate this achievement, the *Gauntlet* took a walk through the history of Dinos alumni who became Olympians. We narrowed down the list to five all-star players and teammates who embodied the spirit of the games — as well as the legacy of athletic excellence at the U of C.

Hayley Wickenheiser*Women's hockey*

Hayley Wickenheiser is a household name in Canadian women's hockey. Wickenheiser decided to return to university in 2010 to complete her degree in kinesiology. Thankfully, she chose the U of C and played under head coach and former Olympian Danielle Goyette.

Wickenheiser dominated the CIS and Canada West, as was expected from an Olympic medallist. She earned the first Canada West CIS player of the year distinction ever for the U of C, which paved the way for others to follow in her footsteps. While studying in Calgary, Wickenheiser earned two more Olympic golds at the 2010 and 2014 Olympics in Vancouver and Sochi, respectively. In 2010 she was a leading goal scorer, recording 11 points in five games. With her fourth gold medal win in 2014, she became one of only five athletes to win gold in four consecutive Winter Olympic Games.

While playing for the Dinos, Wickenheiser was known for her leadership. Her name on the Dinos roster established the U of C as a top developmental school in Canadian women's hockey — since then, the program has highlighted the Dinos athletics department.

Curtis Allen Myden*Men's swimming*

Curtis Myden is an example of excellence, both in competition and the classroom. A three-time Olympian, Myden won two bronze medals in the 200-metre and 400-metre individual medleys in 1996 and followed with another bronze in 2000. As a Dino, Myden dominated the CIS in swimming and remains one of the top athletes among the U of C's illustrious swimming alumni.

Myden won the CIS national championship title in 1997 and quickly followed up with a Borden Ladner



Hayley Wickenheiser captained Canada's women's hockey team in 2010.

COURTESY VANCITYALLIE.COM

Gervais Awards for the top CIS male athlete the same year. He graduated from the U of C with a Bachelor of Science in 1999.

A celebrated student as well as a swimmer, Myden was named an Academic-All Canadian each year he competed and later went on to earn his MD in 2006. Myden now practices as an orthopedic surgeon in Kelowna, BC.

Karl Tilleman*Men's basketball*

When you look into the history of the Dinos athletics program, Karl Tilleman's name repeatedly appears. He was a Canadian Interuniversity Scoring Champion, four-time Canada West All-Star, World University Games gold medalist — and to top all that off, a two-time Olympian.

Tilleman played for the Dinos between 1981 and 1984, collecting male athlete of the year awards from both the U of C and the city of Calgary along the way. When he moved on to

compete for the Canadian national team at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul he broke the record for the most three-point baskets ever scored in an Olympic game. That record still stands today.

One of the highlights of Tilleman's career was at the 1983 World Student Games in Edmonton. Canada's performance at the games is remembered as one of the greatest in the history of Canadian basketball. Tilleman led his team in scoring to defeat the United States and Yugoslavia before earning a gold medal. It remains the only Universiade medal that Canada has ever won in basketball, known in the history books as "the miracle on wood."

By all accounts, Tilleman was a miracle. After his stellar varsity career, he was drafted to the NBA as a fourth round pick for the Denver Nuggets. He remains the only Dinos basketball player to ever be drafted to the league.

In 1984, Tilleman's #30 jersey was retired by the university. It remains a

testament to the greatest basketball player to have ever walked through the U of C's halls.

Tom Ponting, Jon Cleveland and Mark Tewksbury*Medley swimming*

Tom Ponting, Jon Cleveland and Mark Tewksbury exemplify the strength of the U of C's swimming program, which throughout the '80s and '90s rivalled the best in the world.

At the 1992 Barcelona Olympics the Dinos swimmers came together to compete for a bronze medal in the 4x100m medley relay behind the U.S. and the Unified Team, consisting of 12 of the 15 former Soviet republics. At the time, the Americans set the world record in the event, while the Canadians were a mere 2.73 seconds shy of first.

The medley event consists of four swimmers on each team swimming a 100-metre leg of the relay using a different stroke. Although Ponting

didn't swim a leg in the final, he was a major addition to the team in the qualifying heats. The backgrounds of Ponting, Cleveland and Tewksbury in the butterfly, the breaststroke and the backstroke, respectively, led to them earning the medal for Canada. And when they came together, it secured the fifth ever Olympic medal for the Dinos athletics department.

Dana Antal, Kelly Bechard and Collen Sostorics*Women's Hockey*

The women's hockey final at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City is arguably one of the most important moments in Canadian sporting history. Women's hockey was introduced to the Olympic Games in 1998, and after losing out on a gold medal to American rivals in Nagano, the Canadian women's hockey team was out to prove that they were the strongest players in the world.

The talent-stacked team contained 10 returning members from '98, including captain Cassie Campbell. Her leadership efforts — alongside scoring powerhouses Hayley Wickenheiser and Caroline Ouellette — secured the win for Canada.

More than just a gold medal, the game was a match between nations. It pitted the two strongest women's hockey teams in the world against each other, battling it out on the ice as long-standing rivals. The Canadians versus the Americans. Underdogs against reigning champions.

On this historic team were three Dinos athletes — and one future Dino in Wickenheiser. Dana Antal, Kelly Bechard and Collen Sostorics all played for the U of C before joining 2002's Team Canada roster. Sostorics added her skill on defense while Bechard and Antal played as forwards alongside future Dinos head coach Danielle Goyette.

While Antal, Bechard and Sostorics are all outstanding hockey players in their own right, their efforts on the stacked 2002 team are an example of what happens when individual athletes work together to achieve something greater. Returning to compete against the U.S. women's team after suffering such a disappointing loss in 1998 was no easy feat, but fighting for the gold in a 3-2 showdown highlighted the strength and perseverance of the Canadians. The fact that three Dinos athletes, a future Dino and a future head coach were all there to celebrate the moment reflects the legacy of excellence in the Dinos women's hockey program.

