

GAUNTLET



VOL. 59 | ISSUE NO. 3 | November 2018

Why students
should vote 'no'
on the 2026
Olympics

p. 4



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"Don't just survive. THRIVE."

Is that Bear Grylls? No, it's our regular contributor for all things camping, Calum. We're glad to have a resident camping columnist (calum-nist?) here. Maybe now we'll venture outside.



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Design by Tricia Lim

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Why the *Gauntlet* is endorsing a 'no' vote on the 2026 Olympic plebiscite

Calgarians will head to the polls on Nov. 13 to vote on a plebiscite for whether the city should bid to host the 2026 Winter Olympic Games. It's been a hotly divisive issue, with staunch supporters and detractors of the bid remaining vocal.

The *Gauntlet* editorial board is planting itself in the latter camp. Here's why.

For starters, there are swathes of misinformation about the city's potential bid — or for some aspects, a deliberate lack of information. Let's boil it down to the basics. The current baseline price tag for hosting the Games in Calgary is estimated to be \$5.2 billion. Of that, the Calgary 2026 bid corporation states that it will require \$3 billion in public funds, with the rest coming from ticket sales, sponsorships and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) itself.

It's worth mentioning that the full \$5.2 billion price tag is not even listed on the Calgary 2026 website, brochure or presentation. Public funds in excess of \$3 billion would still have to be used should the estimated revenue from outside the private sector not meet expectations. That does not include a potential cost overrun, which has been a reality for the past 12 Winter Olympic hosts.

For a corporation tasked with arming citizens with the information needed to make an educated vote, the bid corporation failed. In fact, Calgary's bid corporation might as well be considered a publicly funded extension of the YES Calgary team.

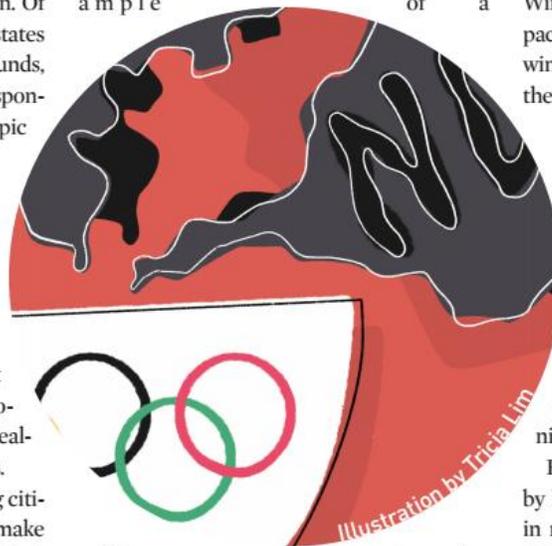
Of that \$3 billion in public funds, the Alberta provincial government has pledged \$700 million. Details have not yet been released regarding federal funding, leaving the public investment required from the city itself still up in the air.

Regardless, our sentiments about the large commitment for public funds to host the Games essentially boil down to this — public investments of this magnitude would be better spent directly on public services. Meaningful investment in our community should not be held hostage on the condition of hosting a three-week mega-event that lines the

pockets of IOC executives in their Lausanne corporate offices.

The City of Calgary itself has not yet budgeted to 2026 for its operational costs to run itself as a city. With a finite amount of resources, the funds the city must put up to host will either increase debt or have to be taken out of other projects. This means less money to go towards infrastructure, public transit, social and community services or youth programming, to name a few things the city provides.

Affordable housing is often used as an example of a



public service that could be fostered by hosting the Olympics. The spaces built for the competing athletes would be converted into affordable housing, which would admittedly benefit underprivileged Calgarians. But fostering these services should be done regardless of whether or not the Olympics are hosted. And the \$700-million pledge by the Alberta government already shows these funds are available.

Touting this affordable housing argument is also ignorant of the historic impact hosting the Olympics has had on vulnerable populations. The 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta displaced 6,000 from their homes by demolishing public housing. In Rio, officials count 304 people that were forced from their homes, though that is likely an underesti-

mate, and their plans to convert the athlete village to public housing never materialized. Social housing resulting from the Vancouver 2010 Olympics was only half what was promised.

If proponents of the Olympic bid really cared about providing affordable housing for Calgarians, they would admit that it is entirely possible to do so without hosting the games. Having affordable housing contingent on winning the bid is simply an act of class conflict.

Beyond the impact in Calgary, hosting the Winter Olympics could also specifically impact University of Calgary students, whose winter semester could commence later in the year.

Though we'll hopefully have graduated from our time here at the U of C by 2026, it's important to recognize how this would affect future students. If the school year were to start late into February, this would push the calendar back, meaning less time in the summer to make money to support yourself through the school year and taking four-month summer internship opportunities away from these future students.

Finally, the concept of the 'legacy' brought by hosting the Games should be abandoned in making a rational decision. The Calgary 1988 Olympics is often pointed to as a turning point for the city and yes, the Games did give our city international exposure.

But we no longer live in 1988. A nostalgic desire to recreate the vibe of the city during the '88 Games is not an argument we believe has merit. Today, the Calgarians that I know are still hard-working, compassionate people that live in a vibrant city and the same will be true in 2026 without the Olympics.

We can strive to be a world-class city without funding the Olympic Games. Calgarians should vote 'no' on Nov. 13 to make it clear that we believe we can catalyze social change without shelling out billions of dollars to the IOC.

Derek Baker
Gauntlet editorial board

Like spooky Twitter handles, October is over: The *Gauntlet* monthly news recap

Recaps by Ashar Memon
Photo by Matty Hume

The Students' Union is preparing to host the annual **Undergraduate Research Symposium** from Nov. 27–29, which will return this year with substantial reforms. Students are now able to choose from a list of different presentation options, whereas in previous years their only choice was a poster. The event will also last three days, instead of its previous one-day time frame. The changes come after years of complaints by students and faculty members about the format of the event.

The **University of Calgary** says it has **reduced its greenhouse gas emissions** by 30 per cent since 2008, reaching the federal government's goal of emissions reduction more than a decade earlier than its 2028 target. The reduction was guided by the U of C's 2010 *Climate Action Plan*, which has a further reduction target of 80 per cent by 2050.

Between Oct. 10–12, U of C students took to the polls to elect their new SU vice-president external, as well as a faculty representative for the Schulich School of Engineering. The position of vice-president external was vacated in April 2018, when then-vice-president external Puncham Judge resigned after an altercation with a student on Bermuda Shorts Day. **Anayat Sidhu was elected to the position of VP external** with 66 per cent of the vote after her only competitor decided against campaigning at all. Ioana Rontu won the position of engineering representative with 35 per cent of the vote, beating her runner-up by only six votes. The byelection had a voter turnout of 4.6 per cent, or 1,216 students.

The Substance Use Advisory Group, which consists of community members from around campus, including the SU and researchers from the Faculty of Nursing, is continuing its work on tackling the opioid crisis through the **Opioid Project**. Accord-



ing to the SU, the project plans to create an awareness campaign at the U of C for opioid harm reduction, as well as educate U of C community members about wellness resources and reducing the stigma around opioid users.

The SU is hosting a new series of workshops called **Stress Buster** that are meant to help students learn about and manage feelings of stress. The first half of each workshop involves a presentation by a campus community member and the second half includes a related hands-on activity. The workshop will be held every month, except for December and April. "It's just a

great way to take a break from class and do an activity," said SU vice-president student life Nabila Farid.

What does it mean to be a man? That's the question Michael Kehler, a U of C professor in **masculinities studies**, is trying to explore through his research. In an interview with the *Gauntlet*, Kehler spoke about challenging heteronormative notions of masculinity in the age of movements against sexual harassment and abuse, like #MeToo and Time's Up. He added that more could be done at the University of Calgary to support young men and encourage healthy relationships.

Students' Union joins municipal advocacy group Calgary Student Alliance

Story and photo by Matty Hume

At the Oct. 16 meeting of Students' Legislative Council, elected representatives of the University of Calgary Students' Union voted unanimously on the second reading to join the recently-formed Calgary Student Alliance (CSA). The CSA is a municipal advocacy group, with membership comprising various students' unions and associations from Calgary's post-secondary institutions.

"For many years, a lot of students' unions and students' associations have partnered on many different issues. For example, secondary suites," said SU president Sagar Grewal. "Oftentimes these partnerships come around during municipal election time as well, to kind of align what student priorities are in the city. For a while there has been some discussion about organizing this informal group that has created conversations on student priorities to form an organized body that can hopefully also outlast any single executives term."

Before SLC approved the SU's membership to the CSA, the advocacy group held their inaugural meeting to elect a chair

and vice-chair. The chair of the CSA is Garrett Koehler, vice-president external of the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Students' Association. The vice-chair is Brit Paris, president of the U of C's Graduate Students' Association.

According to Grewal, each union or association in the CSA has a single vote within the organization.

"Each member association or union has one vote," Grewal said. "Which we were glad of, because [when we considered joining the CSA], we didn't have a VP external. Not to mention that the chair and vice-chair do not have votes for their institutions or associations or unions — their secondary delegate from the association or union would be voting."

The CSA will elect new executives each June. As of right now, the SU is not considering candidacy at this time.

"I guess that's a question for the [next SU] president and next SU executive team," Grewal said.

Grewal and newly elected VP external Anayat Sidhu are the primary SU execs that will interact with the CSA. According to Grewal, CSA membership will help the SU

accomplish their own municipal advocacy goals.

"A big part of our interaction with the CSA will be — being there now as a member at the table — to contribute our ideas and our thoughts on what municipal advocacy priorities should be for students that don't just benefit our students, but rather all students, which is currently how our municipal priorities [are structured]," Grewal said. "None of our municipal priorities are ones that would not benefit others, so we thought it was a perfect fit."

Grewal said the CSA is required to meet every two months.

"We're hoping to meet a bit more frequently than that just to get everything off the ground and get people aligned," he added.

The next CSA meeting is scheduled for the end of October. Grewal said he intends to report on all CSA activities at regular SLC meetings.

"I would say the best place to hear more about it would be asking myself and the VP external," Grewal said. "I'll make sure to report on all activity during our regular council meetings."



Cost a rising concern in 2026 Olympic plebiscite

Story and illustration by Matty Hume

On Nov. 13, Calgarians are hitting the polls to tell city council whether or not they believe the City of Calgary should go forward with a bid for the 2026 Winter Olympics. The 'yes' or 'no' plebiscite is legally non-binding under the Municipal Government Act, meaning the results will be used by city council for their own consideration of the bid.

As voting day approaches, Calgarians are raising concerns over both costs and publicly available information.

On Sept. 11, Ward 7 Coun. Druh Farrell was one of three councillors who voted against continuing with the plebiscite and the bid. She said her primary concern was the access of information for Calgarian voters.

"In September, we were already running out of time to consult with Calgarians. I was assured at that point that the financial information would be released to the public no later than 30 days prior to the plebiscite and we still don't have that information," Farrell said. "I questioned the timing of consultation, information gathering and communicating. I questioned that compressed time frame in September and we haven't progressed very far since then, so I'm even more concerned that Calgarians will be unable to make an informed decision."

Kenneth McKenzie is an economics professor at the University of Calgary who specializes in public economics. According to McKenzie, the benefits of an event like the Olympics can be difficult to quantify.

"In order to justify it, you need to look for the intangible or non-quantifiable benefits that arise from the Olympics," McKenzie said. "Even though we can't quantify them does

not mean they don't have value."

In terms of quantifiable information regarding funding, McKenzie says the "economic distortion" of taxes is often missed in public discussions.

"If governments impose taxes or contrarily forgo tax cuts in order to finance the Olympics, the economic costs associated with the taxes are greater than the amount of tax revenue actually raised," McKenzie said. "That's because taxes result in a distortion of economic behaviour. They're going to finance it through higher income, corporate or sales taxes.

"All of those taxes distort people's behaviour," he added. "There will be less investment, less consumption and less hiring, and those are costs that are not included in the tax revenue raised. Anywhere from 10–20 per cent would be a reasonable guess [for the costs due to economic distortion]."

Coun. Farrell also highlighted that the outcome of Olympic funding through taxation lacks clarity on a municipal level.

"It's important to recognize that the Olympics isn't in our budget. We would need to cut in order to afford it," Farrell said. "Some priorities would have to drop off the table and we haven't had that discussion of what we would cut in order to make room for the Olympics."

The Canadian Taxpayer's Federation (CTF) describe themselves an advocacy group that presses for "lower taxes, less waste and accountable government." According to the CTF's Alberta director Franco Terrazzano, a lot of publicly available information lacks significant contingency planning.

"The Bid Committee said the cost would be \$1,600–1,800 [per Calgarian household]. It's important to remember that these numbers were released before the provincial government came in with their \$700-million commitment," Terrazzano said, referencing the gap between Alberta's commitment and the Bid Committee's expected \$1 billion from the province.

Terrazzano says the CTF ran their own cost analysis in case hosting the Games becomes a reality. According to Terrazzano, even if there are zero cost overruns,

the taxpayer cost would be just over \$2,000 per household.

"The absolute best-case scenario cost per household is just over \$2,000," he said. "The reason I say best-case scenario is that it does not include any cost overruns, any interest payments, assumes the full federal commitment level and this does not include the price of actually going to an Olympic event."

Terrazzano added that all Olympics since 1968 have gone over budget. If Calgary's 2026 Olympics reach the same percentage of cost overruns as Calgary's 1988 Games, he says the projected cost per household increases to \$6,000.

Some students at U of C share similar concerns. Fourth-year political science student Tyler van Vliet says he was initially in favour of an Olympic bid but has become increasingly dismayed as more information becomes available.

"They always overrun the budget, but what really [swayed] me is the commitments from the provincial and federal governments," van Vliet said. "I think city council probably expected a better give than that and I just don't see how it's feasible for the city, especially when we're so far in debt."

Terrazzano also expressed skepticism of pro-Olympic arguments that centre on improving Calgary's infrastructure.

"If there are infrastructure priorities, fund the priorities. Because when you tie in a whole bunch of priorities into a smorgasbord of an Olympic bid, once the costs are to increase and go over budget, things have to get trimmed down," Terrazzano said. "If there are already these priorities, why are Calgarians being held hostage over hosting the Olympics?"

Van Vliet echoed similar sentiments about new infrastructure.

"I live in the southeast. I'm waiting on the Green Line and they're leveraging programs and builds in the city that we should be getting anyway," he said. "They're saying, 'Oh we should build this for the Olympics.' No — it should be, 'We should already be building this for Calgarians.'"

Advanced voting for the Olympic bid plebiscite is Nov. 6–7. Primary voting day for the plebiscite is Nov. 13. Voting station locations are available online through the City of Calgary.



U of C Code of Conduct changes to affect employment on campus

Story by James Falls and Jason Herring

The University of Calgary is implementing changes to its *Code of Conduct* that will require U of C staff, including students employed by the university, to obtain approval from their manager before taking another job — whether that job is at the university or not.

“If you want to take another job, you have to get your manager to approve that before you can take any other employment,” said U of C general counsel Karen Jackson at the Oct. 9 meeting of the Students’ Legislative Council.

The changes come in response to amendments to the provincial *Conflict of Interest Act*, passed in December 2017.

Jackson added that there’s no room for

revision, despite many university stakeholders such as the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees (AUPE) being critical of the changes.

“Unfortunately with the code, we don’t have much room to really do any changes. A lot of what’s in the material [of the *Code of Conduct* revisions] was dictated by the Office of the Ethics Commissioner,” said Jackson.

Jackson also clarified that students currently employed elsewhere will have to disclose their employment and have it approved when the code comes into effect. Students are exempt from the policy, however, if they accept a job that starts after their employment with the university ends.

Students’ Union president Sagar Grewal asked Jackson if internships and practi-

cums would fall under the policy. Jackson said that they would not, as long as the job is part of an academic requirement.

Kevin Barry is the chair of AUPE – Local 52, the branch of the AUPE that represents workers at the U of C. He said AUPE is largely frustrated with directives passed down by the Ethics Commissioner, not with U of C policy.

“[The U of C and AUPE] are both concerned that the Ethics Commissioner continues to go down this route. We’re not sure why they’re reaching as far and as wide as they are,” Barry said. “We recognize that the university is being dictated to on this and they really don’t appear to have a whole lot of choice on this matter.”

Barry added that the AUPE considers the changes to the *Code of Conduct* to be “definitely problematic.”

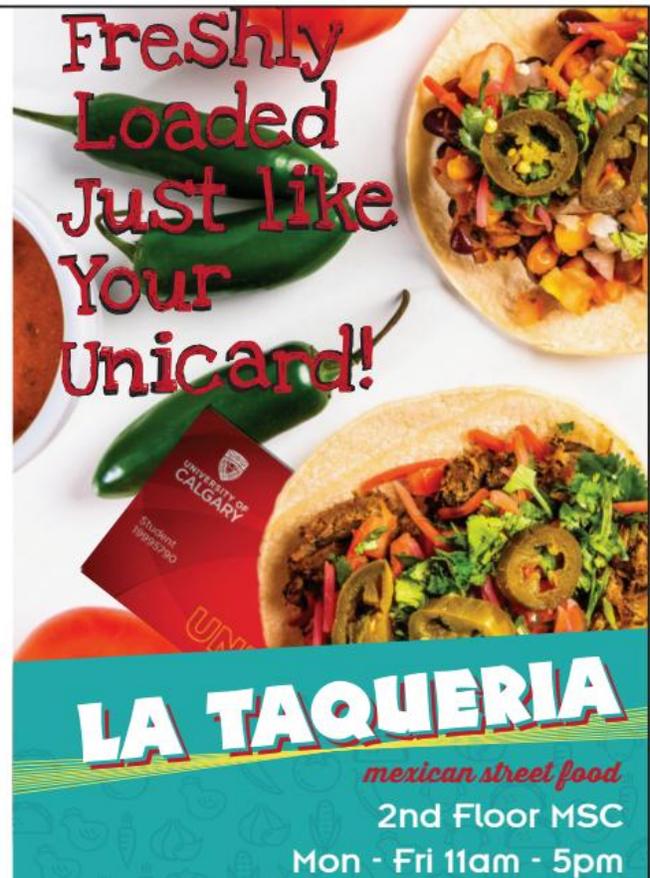


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Computer science undergrads prepare for 'hackathon' competitions on campus

Story by Justin Schellenberg
Photo by Mariah Wilson

The University of Calgary will host two 'hackathon' competitions this school year, helping students bridge the gap between their education and future careers.

In February 2019, the Computer Science Undergraduate Society (CSUS) will host their annual event, CalgaryHacks.

Going into its third year, CalgaryHacks will bring in students from around the country. Last year's event saw almost 200 participants from as far away as the University of Toronto take part. The event gave competitors 24 hours to create an application that could use small devices that can connect to the internet to solve problems.

Jack Xie, vice-president of non-academic events for CSUS, describes hackathons as sprint-like programming contests where people from diverse backgrounds come together, trying to create something that is practical and innovative.

"The hackathon [is] a great way to hone your programming skills and to learn more about what it is to work in a team and develop a project like you would in your career," Xie said.

Xie said that participants don't necessarily have to be knowledgeable in computer programming. The competition requires

experience in many avenues, including web development and graphic design.

"For someone who has no coding experience, they could come into this and do a lot of things as well," Xie said.

Last year's winning team created an app designed to be a home monitoring app capable of providing a report of various conditions in a household through the use of sensors.

Kourosh Banaeianzadeh, one of the winning team members, described the event as a great way to learn time-management skills.

"You don't want to waste time, because you may not be able to finish," Banaeianzadeh said. "You want to keep it simple and to the point, so it can tackle one specific purpose."

Banaeianzadeh, who was competing in his second CalgaryHacks competition, said the event was overall a great experience and one he would possibly do again.

"You get together with friends to solve a problem while not having enough money, time or sleep," Banaeianzadeh said. "You do have to take the next day off to just sleep but it's definitely worth it."

Another hackathon being held on campus this school year is the U of C Health Hack 2018. The is run by Innovation 4 Health and is a hackathon program that focuses on innovation in human and veterinary

health care.

Jeremy Fan, a biological sciences student at the U of C who has competed in multiple hackathon competitions, said that these types of events are good for helping participants learn important collaboration skills, as well as how to handle high pressure situations.

"You get to not only learn more about the technology that you're using but you get to learn a lot about how you handle stress yourself," Fan said. "It really forces a student out of their comfort zone."

Xie said that as well as providing hands on experience in the computer programming world, these hackathons are a good way to connect participants with people in the industry, potentially leading to future job offers.

"To get potential recruiters looking at you and to build these connections early on gives you a real good foot in the door so to speak with the industry," Xie said. "It bridges the gap between academics and your career."

U of C Health Hack 2018 will take place over 72 hours, from Nov. 23-25. CalgaryHacks 2019 will be a 24-hour competition from Feb. 17-18.

Information for Health Hacks 2018 is available at innovation4health.com and info on CalgaryHacks can be found at the CSUS website.



Private advantage: a Q&A with Support Our Students

Spurred by the concerns of Alberta parents, Support Our Students (SOS) is a non-profit advocacy group that aims to bring an equal public education experience to each student and reduce the privilege of competitive private schools. The *Gauntlet* interviewed SOS communications director Barbara Silva to find out more about the organization's goals.

Interview by Chloe Chan. Photo by Mariah Wilson.

The Gauntlet: How long have you been part of SOS?

Barbara Silva: SOS started very loosely as a group of parents back in March of 2015, so a little over three years. We became a formalized non-profit society back in 2016.

Gauntlet: Why did you and the other parents start this group? What does it stand for?

Silva: Originally, we started the group before the 2015 election because we heard that [then Alberta] Premier Jim Prentice was going to be introducing some budget cuts to education. As parents, we were concerned with some of those frontline issues: class sizes, lack of resources, the over dependency of fundraising, and not enough teacher aids or support for kids in classes. So we got together because we wanted to highlight that the budget cuts were not going to help at all with those struggling.

Gauntlet: How do those issues affect parents and students?

Silva: After years of doing advocacy and actually contacting other advocates around the world, we realized that all those things really just highlight and widen inequities that exist within our system. What happens when we rely so heavily on fundraising is that schools at higher socioeconomic levels tend to be able to provide more resources for their students. So schools with parents who have English as a first language, have a higher socioeconomic status [and] can fill out grant applica-

tion are at an advantage. Those schools have playgrounds, computers and do more field trips. That provides a completely different education experience for kids that come from wealthier families than kids who don't.

Then, when you throw in what wealth tends to look like, you see other marginalization. We know that [Indigenous] kids are not having the same educational experience. We know that kids with disabilities are not having the same educational experience. We know that English as a Second Language (ESL) or English language learners are having a different experience. When we rely on things like fundraising, we widen a lot of the inequities. Our more marginalized communities suffer even more and at the same time, we provide more advantages to our students that are already advantaged and that hurts our society in the long run.

What we're trying to highlight through our work is that even though we might think about it being about overcrowded classrooms, there's also the deeper underlying issue of providing equitable access to all kids and funding public education in a way that makes it accessible to all kids.

Gauntlet: How is your organization working towards achieving better equity?

Silva: We have, over the past few years, worked on meetings with Members of the Legislative Assembly, school trustees and the Minister of Education himself [to put] forward policy proposals. Our main focus right now is educating the public on what public education should look like, what it does look

like right now and to educate people on the growing push towards privatization. There's this idea that you should get whatever you can afford and we don't think children should have to afford a public education. We think that education is a right — a basic human right — and we need to build it around our most marginalized kids.

Gauntlet: You have been doing a survey of schools for the past few years. What does your survey show that they currently look like?

Silva: We tried to do the survey last year and we didn't get a lot of participation. For us, that shows that schools and school boards are really scared to share this type of information. We are based on a competition model where schools get funding based on how many students they get — nobody wants to rock the boat if they're doing okay.

What we have seen is that schools rely very heavily on fundraising. Some schools can raise \$80,000 per year, if not more, and some schools have zero fundraising capabilities and raise nothing. So year over year, the gap widens between schools that can fundraise and those who can't.

The other thing we noticed in the survey we did two years ago, is that there's a rising need — and this also translates into post-secondary education — for mental health support in schools. So, when we talk about what we think public education should look like, one of the things we talk about is having wrap-around services in schools. Making sure the physical and mental needs of students are

being met in addition to academic needs.

Gauntlet: Recently there was the controversy regarding the Webber Academy's use of supplemental materials asking students to identify a "positive effect" of residential schools and SOS criticized Alberta's minister of education David Eggen's response. What about the response could have been improved?

Silva: Our biggest issue with the response Eggen gave was that he didn't actually use the word "racist." That resource was just that — racist. Instead, he used the word "hurtful," and it was hurtful, but what is also hurtful to marginalized communities is when we don't call out acts of racism when we see them. So while that document was indeed hurtful, it was also racist.

It is also an example of how systemic racism exists in our education system. That document was around for eight years [and] had been used year over year. Teachers had seen it, students had seen it and no one recognized this as inappropriate until now. When it comes to this specific issue of systemic racism and bias in our system, we would like for the minister to do two things: first, make sure there are educational advocates on his anti-racism advisory council that he's starting and second, ensure that in the same way that they developed school board policy to protect LGBTQ students that they develop the same type of policy for anti-racism policy and to work at the school board level.

Gauntlet: How would you want people like Eggen with a lot of influence in regards to public education to fix, or at least improve, our public education system?

Silva: What we wish Eggen would do around education is, first and foremost, redefine what public education should look like. For us, that means being a visionary and we need somebody in a position of power to re-envision what public education should look like and we think that that must be rooted in universality. Currently, we have a system that is exclusive — we exclude people based on their ability. We exclude kids based on if they're an elite athlete or musician. We exclude kids based on languages. We exclude kids on many different levels — we exclude them on socioeconomic barriers and we do a lot of that un-

der the public umbrella.

We would like the minister to present a vision that moves us away from exclusivity and privatization and is more rooted in universality. Step one would be to review the funding model and stop funding schools that pick and choose who goes to them. If schools can pick and choose, if they are not universally accessible, then they're not a public school.

Gauntlet: Can you clarify what you mean when you say we exclude based on athletic ability, language and other factors?

Silva: Within the public school system, we have schools for high-performing athletes. Those come with fees, maybe \$1,500, and you have to apply to it. We also have schools that teach alternative programs, like music schools. In Edmonton, they have the Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts. So that's another school that would require auditions and interviews. We consider those barriers that some kids will have to get over. So for example, if you manage to be an elite athlete by grade nine or grade 10, that means you've had the means to become an elite athlete. Therefore, that school probably wouldn't be very well representative of kids who are newcomers to Canada, who are ESL [or] who don't have the means to play extracurricular club sports in a way that they become elite athletes. In other words, there is a socioeconomic component to being an elite athlete.

We have language programs, where if your child is dyslexic or has autism or has Aspergers, they're often counselled out of language programs because it's deemed "too academic" for those kids — "too difficult." And schools will tell you we don't have the resources to meet your child's need, that this is an added element that will cost you.

Gauntlet: How would schools like that differ from a school having an honours math program?

Silva: There are a few ways in where it's different and some ways where it's not. If we could start collecting some race-based data on that, you would find that honours math programs in high school are not as racially diverse as society is, so kids are similarly academically streamed in that way. The difference is that at least kids of differing abilities and talents are in the same school setting and

so we might be moving them into different classrooms, but they're still part of the same school community. So if they leave, for example, an Advanced Placement math class, then they might go to a music class and meet kids from a different interest level as them. It's still one diverse community, not just culturally, but also interest wise.

Gauntlet: What would you say to people that disagree and say they like the ability to choose between charter, private, boutique and public schools?

Silva: Our major problem with private schools is that they are publicly funded and they shouldn't be. Of course, parents should be able to choose to send their children into a private school. Those people have already decided they are okay with the privatization model, so if they want to leave the public system and move to the privatization model, they should leave the funding behind.

To people that want choice within the public system, we would say that they have actually been marketed privatization under the public umbrella, so what they call "choice" is actually exclusivity. The reality is that the choice ultimately lies with the school. Parents don't really have "choice," they just choose to apply. It's the school that chooses whether or not you get in. If you believe in public education as the ultimate equalizer and that it should be a level playing field, then it has to be equitable and accessible to all students. Private school kids don't have to choose between a music program or an arts program or a physical education program or a language program. They get all of that because it would be unacceptable to those parents to have to choose.

So don't buy into the idea that choice is great. Choice is actually the lower option. The best option is to have it all and we should be demanding to have it all for all our children. We live in a country with two official languages. Why every single child doesn't have access to language programs in both official languages is shocking to me — it doesn't happen in any other country in the world. Why is French immersion the bastion of higher socioeconomic class, higher educated, more engaged parents?

This interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.

Calgary community farm faces eviction due to ring road expansion



Story by Justin Schellenberg. Photo by Mariah Wilson.

Calgary's largest urban farm is facing eviction to make room for the city's ring road expansion. But according to the group's director, the displacement isn't necessary.

Grow Calgary, which claims to be the largest community farm in Canada, has been growing crops beside the Trans Canada Highway near Canada Olympic Park for six years. It was recently given an eviction notice by the Government of Alberta requiring it to vacate no later than Dec. 31, 2018.

"This is a really crippling blow to us," said Grow Calgary executive director Paul Hughes.

The not-for-profit farm works with more than 50 social agencies in the city, including the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter, providing fresh produce for those in need.

Hughes said the farm has provided over 300,000 meals worth of food to these groups over the last six years.

According to Hughes, only a small part of the land used by Grow Calgary is needed for construction plans and they have already cleared out of most of that space.

"They have asked us to get off the transportation utility corridor land that they need to build the road," Hughes said. "We said, 'Okay, have it, build your road.' They haven't been able to demonstrate why they need the extra space."

Despite Grow Calgary's efforts to clear the way, the provincial government is still requiring their eviction, though they have said they are working to help the farm relocate.

"Alberta Infrastructure appreciates Grow Calgary's urban farming activities and is working to identify a new location and support the moving of their operation," read a statement attributed to Alberta's deputy minister of infrastructure Shannon Flint.

Hughes said the government has not been forthcoming with information on possible new locations.

"The province has offered a spot but they can't tell us if there is any electricity there [or] any water there," Hughes said. "They have not offered to help at all with getting us back on our feet."

Hughes has been aware of the possibil-

ity of eviction for many years, saying he attempted to initiate a stakeholder engagement process with the government four years ago.

"They refused 20 formal requests," Hughes said. "We have tried to engage for many, many years — we've tried to invite them out, we've tried to talk to them. It's really tough to get any answers out of them."

Grow Calgary has worked with the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business as well as the Hunter Hub to produce a plan for their expansion.

Hughes said the plan, which calls for unused land in the city to be turned into sustainable farm land, has also been ignored by the city.

According to Hughes, the next move for Grow Calgary will be to try and get the courts involved.

"We're looking at getting an injunction — just to get in front of a judge and get all of this on the table," Hughes said. "We feel like we have a responsibility to all the volunteers and everyone who has been working here to make sure we survive and thrive."

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Higher Education



Universities across the country have taken drastically different approaches to legal cannabis

By Jason Herring, Matt Gergyek, Karen-Luz Sison and Zak Vescera

This story is a collaboration between the *Gauntlet*, the *Fulcrum*, the *Charlatan* and the *Ubysey*.

Higher education

After nearly a century of cannabis prohibition, Canada will now be the second country worldwide — after Uruguay — to make the drug legal at a national level, meaning that consumers of cannabis are now in an unprecedented era of freedom.

“I don’t want to overstate it ... but I can’t think of any other major widespread change in Canadian law since the Charter,” said Ottawa-based lawyer Joël Dubois.

But for many post-secondary students, university policies are tighter than expected and the future of cannabis on campus is still hazy at best.

Most campuses have placed total bans on recreational cannabis use on campus, while a few outliers have taken a more liberal approach. Others fall somewhere in between.

Considering post-secondary aged students are perhaps the largest users in the country, it isn’t surprising that university campuses have become a hot spot for cannabis policies. Statistics Canada data from 2012 shows that a third of 18- to 24-year-olds reported using cannabis in the past year, higher than any other age group.

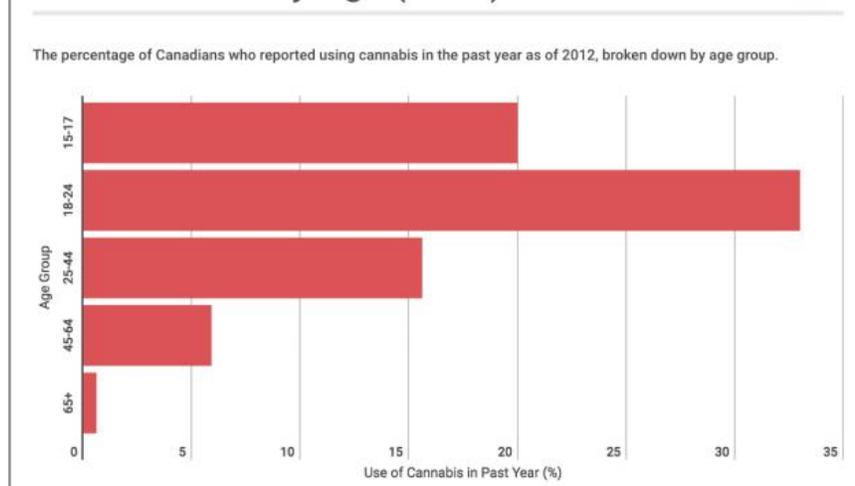
A 2017 study by *Maclean’s* sheds light on the consumption habits of post-secondary students more directly. About 37 per cent of all university students in Canada self-reported ever using cannabis. Students at Quebec’s Bishop’s University came out on top, with 60 per cent reporting having ever used, followed by Nova Scotia’s St. Francis Xavier University and Acadia University sit at 56 and 53 per cent respectively.

On the opposite side of usage, just 23 per cent of students at the University of Manitoba said they had ever used cannabis, slightly below British Columbia’s Simon Fraser University at 25 per cent.

As a result, universities have looked to a mix of federal, provincial and municipal laws for cues on how to approach consumption, storage and growth of the drug within campus boundaries.

The Cannabis Act (aka Bill C-45) is the federal law that now governs all things cannabis, allowing individuals over the age of 18 to consume cannabis and carry and share up to 30 grams. The Act will also allow Canadians to grow up to four plants at

Cannabis Use by Age (2012)



Sourced from Statistics Canada (2012)

home and prepare edibles.

But as expected, not all provinces and territories are taking the same approach to legal cannabis. With university policies now in place as well, post-secondary students are faced with navigating an especially complex environment surrounding cannabis use.

Two of the only aspects of legalization nearly all provinces and territories were able to agree on was a minimum age for consumption and whether consumers can grow their own cannabis at home.

All provinces and territories have set the legal age at 19, except Alberta, which opted for 18, and Quebec, whose newly elected Coalition Avenir Quebec government plans to increase the age to 21 (the legal age is currently set at 18). All provinces and territories will allow people to grow cannabis at home except for Manitoba and Quebec.

When it comes to legal smoking areas, disagreement between provinces and territories only increases. New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Manitoba have limited legal smoking spaces to private properties and residences.

Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories have both followed suit with certain exceptions for public spaces. P.E.I. will allow smoking in designated hotel rooms and campgrounds, while the N.W.T. will allow public smoking when areas are not being used for events.

Ontario, Nova Scotia and Nunavut

will allow cannabis to be smoked in areas where tobacco can be smoked, along with private property. Quebec has taken the same approach, excluding university and CEGEP campuses.

Alberta and British Columbia have the loosest provincial restrictions of all, designating only cars, areas frequented by children and tobacco-restricted areas as illegal.

To make things even more complicated, some municipalities have come up with their own rules for cannabis use within city limits, breaking the country up into a sort of jigsaw puzzle of varying and conflicting cannabis laws. As university policies come into effect, campus regulations add an extra layer of consideration to the already complex policy puzzle.

Nipping it in the bud

By far, the most common approach to cannabis legalization among Canadian post-secondaries has been to enact a blanket ban of on-campus use, sale or growth of the substance.

Many prominent schools across the country, including McGill University, the University of Calgary and the University of Regina have completely banned cannabis, though their motivations for doing so vary.

At McGill in downtown Montreal, administrators released a set of interim guidelines for pot use that rank among the most restrictive in Canada. Not only will

McGill prohibit the smoking and vaping of cannabis on campus like other Canadian schools, but they also explicitly prohibit the use of all other forms of cannabis, including edibles and topicals.

McGill, the university with the seventh-highest self-reported student cannabis use in Canada, said they took a conservative approach to legalization with plans to recalibrate after stakeholder consultation this fall.

For the time being, students can simply leave campus to light up a legal joint, as Montreal's bylaws permit cannabis to be smoked wherever cigarettes are allowed. That might soon change, as the newly elected CAQ Quebec government plans to ban smoking pot in public.

Beyond Montreal, many campuses banning recreational cannabis consumption have cited restrictive municipal or provincial regulations.

A similar policy emerged at the University of Calgary, with the school deferring not to the rules set in place by Alberta, but the more stringent bylaws passed by the City of Calgary that ban recreational cannabis use in public spaces.

"The key is we have a municipal bylaw. We are following that municipal bylaw. The bottom line is there is no acceptable place or space on campus to consume recreational cannabis," Linda Dalgetty, U of C vice-president finance and services, said.

Some schools are still ironing out their policies. The University of Ottawa decided on Oct. 15 — just two days before legalization — to permit cannabis consumption in its downtown campus, though staff and faculty are still forbidden from consuming during workdays. This goes against other campus policies in the city, as both Carleton University and Algonquin College have placed total bans on cannabis use.

Many universities are stepping away from smoking on campus altogether. Among them is the University of Regina, which became a smoke-free campus in August and simultaneously prohibited advertising or sale of tobacco and cannabis products.

Rob Cunningham, a senior policy analyst at the Canadian Cancer Society, identified a spike in smoke-free campuses as

"Universities and colleges are wondering how they're going to respond to [legalization] in part because they have many underage students on campus and they don't want students smoking cannabis on campus,"

**- Rob Cunningham,
Canadian Cancer Society**

legalization approaches.

"Universities and colleges are wondering how they're going to respond to [legalization] in part because they have many underage students on campus and they don't want students smoking cannabis on campus," Cunningham said.

The first smoke-free campus in Canada was Halifax's Dalhousie University in 2003. But after McMaster University in Hamilton announced a smoke-free policy in late 2017, more campuses quickly began to follow suit.

"The smoking prevalence around 19- to 24-year-olds in Canada is higher than any other age groups — young adults," Cunningham said. "That's all the more important as to why campuses should be smoke-free."

Members of the advocacy group Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy (CSSDP) have advocated for lenient cannabis policies on Canadian campuses, citing data that says that prohibitory measures against drugs often don't serve their intended purpose.

"I know, just from broader drug policy, that a prohibition use to any substance use issue doesn't eradicate the substance use itself — it just pushes it underground," Stephanie Lake, CSSDP co-secretary, said.

Though cannabis use is now banned on most campuses across the country, how post-secondaries plan to enforce those bans is unclear.

At the U of C, administrators don't plan to penalize students caught lighting up, and include a line in their policy that says that those who report cannabis use in order to seek medical assistance won't face disciplinary action.

"Ultimately, if people are smoking cannabis, they will be asked to put out the joint because it is not legal on our campus," Dalgetty said.

McGill's policy, on the other hand, says that consuming cannabis on campus "could lead to a disciplinary process either under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures or the relevant policy or collective agreement." It's unclear, however, how the school would enforce bans on discrete methods of use, like topical creams.

Even among campuses taking liberal approaches to legalization, like the University of British Columbia, one guideline is consistent — students won't be allowed to light up in their on-campus residences, which are typically considered units rented by students from their university. In most cases, including at the U of C, cannabis bans in residences are consistent with existing smoking bans.

"The residences are on campus and as landlords, we've chosen to also follow a no cannabis policy for residence," Dalgetty said. "We already have a no smoking policy for residence and we feel that that's appropriate."

However, for some students, bans in residences and on campus, coupled with restrictive provincial or municipal legislation, leave them with no legal means of consuming a substance that will be legal across Canada on Oct. 17.

Hitting the gym, but not the blunt

Collegiate athletics are also making no big moves to allow cannabis in locker rooms or on the field.



Photo by Louie Villanueva

U Sports, Canada's national university sports organization, announced in a press release that there will be no change to their current ban on non-medicinal cannabis use for athletes.

Currently, under U Sports policy, athletes can be suspended and have their names publicized for violating anti-doping rules.

Cannabis will be "one of the many substances that are legal in Canada, but prohibited in sport," said Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sports (CCES) president Paul Melia in a statement.

The CCES is a national advocacy organization for drug-free sport that implements the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) in the Canadian sports community, including university sports.

"It may not be a popular option, but the most effective way for an athlete to avoid a violation for cannabis is to abstain from using it during their athletic career," he said.

The CADP follows an international list of prohibited substances in sport enforced by the World Anti-Doping Agency that includes THC — the psychoactive

part of cannabis that CADP says could give athletes an unfair advantage. As the enforced list stands outside of Canadian jurisdiction, this means that the ban on cannabis still stands regardless of legalization.

Taking the high road

As most Canadian schools and collegiate organizations move to ban pot, the UBC is taking the high road.

At UBC, students will be able to smoke cannabis anywhere they're currently allowed to smoke cigarettes. And while they can't smoke in residences or on residence property, they can keep it in their rooms permitted that it's properly labelled.

That's because unlike other Canadian schools, UBC acknowledges that prohibition simply won't work — both because it's impossible to enforce and because its students advocated for an educational, harm-reduced approach to legalization.

"What I think we will see from the bans from universities that want to eliminate cannabis is that they won't be effec-

tive and that they'll simply force people to use cannabis in such a way that evades the surveillance of the institution," said M-J Milloy, a researcher with the BC Centre on Substance Use.

These concerns are especially pronounced at UBC Vancouver because it spans a whopping 1,000 acres. When drafting updates to Policy 15 — UBC's current smoking policy — it was noted that banning cannabis would likely push users into surrounding neighbourhoods.

"Compared to other universities, we have additional complexities when it comes to implementing a full smoking ban," UBC university counsel Michael Serebriakov said. "They [users] are going to go somewhere, and it's likely that they would have gone out to our neighbouring communities and cause some tension there."

Similar concerns arose at the University of Lethbridge, which is designating five spaces where smoking and vaping will be permitted on campus, much like the policy that will take effect at UBC's Okanagan campus in Kelowna.

"Our campus is not in a downtown core. It's skirted by thick grasses, long grasses," said Mark Slomp, executive director of stu-

dent services. “We didn’t want to drive students to the fringes of our campus, places where fires could happen.”

Even in Ontario, which had adopted fairly strict laws around cannabis use, there are signs of change. The U of O announced this week it would be reversing an earlier decision to keep campus cannabis-free and “will allow smoking and vaping of cannabis wherever tobacco is permitted by law,” until a permanent policy is adopted in early 2019, they said in an email to students.

The only exception is that faculty and staff are not permitted to consume cannabis during the workday—restrictions consistent with policies at UBC and other schools with lenient policies.

“The University’s primary goal is to ensure that our approach on smoking and vaping cannabis on campus is reasonable, consistent with public health priorities and in the public interest,” reads a statement from the university.

Beyond the impossibility of enforcing a ban, students consulted by UBC pointed out that campus bans on cannabis are unlikely to be respected by students.

Max Holmes, vice-president academic and University Affairs for UBC’s Alma Mater Society, says the student union advocated for a smoking policy that doesn’t go beyond BC’s relatively loose provincial guidelines.

“We’re really making sure that we have a campus that obviously promotes healthy consumption while at the same time making sure that we’re not burdening the campus with too much regulation on this,” Holmes said.

Instead of advocating for a ban, students advocated for a harm-reduction approach to cannabis use. Canada’s Lower Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines, a set of principles for improving safe cannabis consumption, are among the sources in the draft policy.

It’s one of the few universities taking those steps. Kira London-Nadeau, a master’s student at the University of Montreal and a board member of Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy (CSSDP) says most schools are taking a hardline view on cannabis without consulting students.

“There’s been so many education efforts or policies that have been made

“One thing I think we should all be looking out for in regards to cannabis on campus is does it reduce the use of alcohol and binge alcohol consumption for members of our campus,”

**- M-J Milloy,
BC Centre on
Substance Use**

without consulting youth,” said London-Nadeau. “We end up with these policies that stigmatize a whole group of cannabis consumers.”

Harm-reduction advocates like CSSDP see legalization as a chance to improve universities’ education around substance use, and potentially even as a substitute for more harmful drugs.

“One of the largest threats to our university community ... is alcohol use,” said Milloy. “One thing I think we should all be looking out for in regards to cannabis on campus is does it reduce the use of alcohol and binge alcohol consumption for members of our campus.”

Alternative methods of consuming cannabis like vaping could help users use the drug more safely — but universities like McGill and McMaster are banning these as well.

“There’s still some science to be done on vaping and its potential risks, but it does seem to present a safer profile than taking in the smoke and those carcinogens from smoking cannabis,” said London-Nadeau.

Most schools are granting medical cannabis accommodations on a student-by-student basis in conjunction with the school’s accessibility services department.

Medical accommodations are protect-

ed under the federal Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes regulations passed in 2016, which guarantees reasonable access to cannabis for medical purposes for those authorized for use by their doctor.

“The Supreme Court of Canada has recognized that Canadians have a right to use medical cannabis,” said Milloy. “I’d like to see our institutions facilitating that right rather than trying to ban it.”

UBC isn’t completely alone in taking the high road. The University of Lethbridge also consulted students and concluded an outright ban was unlikely to work, while the University of Victoria has signalled it will likely also designate smoking areas on campus.

But Milloy says most Canadian schools have missed the mark on harm reduction.

“Instead of using legalization as an opportunity to educate and inform university communities about lower-use guidelines we’re trying to ban cannabis entirely,” said Milloy.

Ultimately, campus prohibition may fail before it begins.

“If people see others just using and breaking those campus policies on campus, that just perpetuates what we’ve seen already with cannabis — which is a lack of respect for policies that aren’t effective or realistic,” said London-Nadeau.

Smoked out of residence

A hotspot for potential cannabis use are residences, where universities have to balance their dual roles of educator and landlord — and where enforcing a ban on cannabis is uniquely complicated.

Carleton University, in Ottawa, is one of many schools banning cannabis use in residence. Students of legal age in Ontario will be allowed to possess a maximum of 30 grams, but they will not be able to consume it in their dorms.

Laura Storey, director of Carleton Housing and Residence Life Services, said in a statement that the school considers residences a public space and workplace,

where cannabis use is banned under Ontario provincial law.

If students are found to be keeping cannabis in their dorms, Storey said the department will “follow up and treat each situation on a case-by-case basis.”

Storey also said residence fellows — students hired to be responsible for each residence floor community — were trained on handling situations with cannabis prior to the school year in light of impending legalization. She said the department would provide residence fellows with more information in the weeks leading up to federal legalization.

But, at Carleton, residence fellow training happened before the release of the school’s official cannabis policy, so training on encounters with cannabis was modelled after residence fellow practices in encountering alcohol on residence — such as calling the campus safety department.

According to multiple Carleton residence fellows, the housing department instructed them not to speak with media about their training.

Sue, a residence fellow whose name has

been changed to protect her identity, says residence fellows were told more specific training would happen closer to legalization. However, she said she is unsure about how to enforce rules with somebody who is drunk versus somebody who is high.

“I don’t feel entirely prepared to deal with it, but I feel like the training from other aspects will definitely enable me to look at that situation,” Sue said.

Jacob Howell, president of the Rideau River Residence Association (RRRA), a campus group representing the interests of Carleton residence students, says students will likely find ways to consume cannabis around campus regardless of a ban.

“I would prefer if there was a way, like us collaborating with the university for students to safely consume that without being worried about getting in trouble with the police or school administration,” he said. “Not doing that just leaves a lot of room to be confused or be upset.”

Howell added that the RRRA will be working on awareness campaigns for residence students to become more informed about the effects of cannabis usage.

The challenge for schools will be to inform students about the new policies, and on the west coast, Vandita Kumar, president of the UBC Residence Hall Association, agrees.

“Also, it’s worth noting that a lot of people don’t actually read their residence contracts. So they don’t really know the nitty-gritty details,” she said.

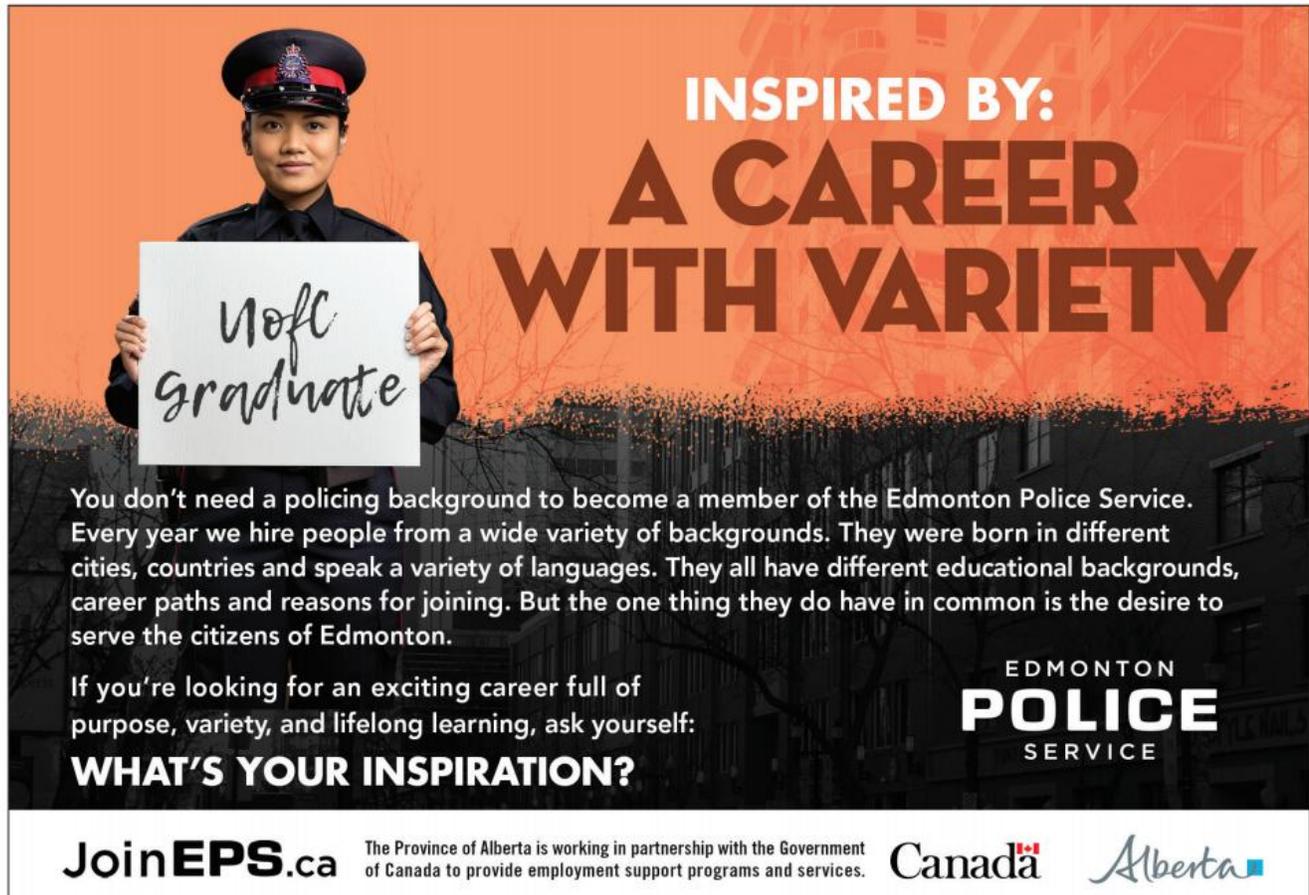
She added that residence community managers will send out an email blast with updates, but “people actually engaging with the content is something different entirely.”

“It’s such a complicated thing to actually put into legal form and especially in a residence contract. They don’t know what this policy or the legalization of cannabis is going to look like. I imagine this is like a trial or pilot year for them — that’s the impression I got,” she said. “We won’t really know the concrete problems until it becomes legal in October.”

“I feel like no one has a tangible idea of what this is going to look like.”

—With files from

Temur Durrani and Kristy Koehler



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Students working for university shouldn't require manager approval of other employment

By Gurman Sahota

Gaining work experience while earning your degree is a task that most university students must balance. Part of becoming an adult during your time as an undergraduate student is learning to uphold shifting priorities personally and professionally. Maintaining part-time employment allows students to fund their studies, as well as gain experience that can be utilized beyond school into their respective career paths.

The University of Calgary provides many of these part-time roles to students, from desk jobs at Active Living to research positions under a professor's supervision.

However, compensation from a single part-time role is often not enough to cover expenses. To simply make ends meet, many students have to look for additional jobs to supplement their income to continue their education. But it may soon become more difficult for students to hold multiple jobs if they're working on campus.

Proposed Code of Conduct revisions for the U of C will now require employees, including students working for the university, to gain approval from a manager to hold additional employment. The amendments to the code were mandated by changes to the provincial Conflict of Interests Act in December 2017. This requirement, however, is highly concerning for students.

"If you want to take another job, you have to get your manager to approve that before you can take any other employment," said Karen Jackson, the U of C's general counsel, at the Oct. 9 Students' Legislative Council (SLC) meeting.

Jackson said that the change stems from the province's Ethics Commission, which holds universities and their employees to the same standard as ministerial or public service employment. This shift in perspective is the driving force in the amendment. Despite the fact that Jackson also mentions that many stakeholders, including the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees, were not happy about these amendments, she says there's no room for changes.

"Unfortunately with the Code, we don't have much room to really do any changes. A lot of what's in the material [of the Code of Conduct revisions] was dictated by the Office of the Ethics Commissioner," said Jackson.

It's a lacklustre response, as was the acquiescence of members of SLC. Though members posed questions

to clarify what the requirement would entail, such as whether employment held before the amendments are made would have to be disclosed — and it does — no one directly raised concerns.

Several concerns should be raised for students employed by the university. If the policy truly cannot be changed back to its previous iteration where students did not require a manager's approval to hold other employment due to provincial regulation, reversing that regulation should immediately become an advocacy priority.

This amendment not only undermines the personal autonomy of students but also makes U of C positions less accessible to those who cannot afford to live off of a single part-time role. It provides an unnecessary hurdle to clear for capable applicants seeking employment at the U of C compared to those who are able to afford only having one job.

As someone who has continually worked multiple jobs to fund my education, needing an employer to give me permission to seek out additional employment sets a dynamic that crosses the boundary from professional to personal. It is my choice to work as much or as little as I can. Having another person dictate what students can and cannot do with their personal time discredits their freedom of choice.

Furthermore, this poses the question of what occurs when a manager denies an employee seeking additional employment due to a perceived conflict of interest. Will there be an appeals structure in place? Can people who already have a part-time role also be denied a potential role with the U of C because of their existing employment? What does acquiring disclosure and management approval for student employees truly gain for the institution, beyond further disconnecting itself from the student experience, which includes student employment?

Having multiple jobs as a student doesn't necessarily mean that your work with the U of C will suffer. In its previous iteration, you did not have to disclose other employment unless it became an issue and management approval was never required.

While this provincial mandate and resulting university policy change may have been the province's response to conflicts of interests in administration, it will now affect student employment. The policy disenfranchises U of C students who are also employees who cannot sustain themselves in singular roles.

TMX needs to go through

One of the most divisive topics in Canadian politics is the now-federally owned Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion project. No matter what region of the country you're from or which political camp you call home, you likely have a strong opinion on the project. How the expansion pans out will likely contribute to the fate of the federal government and Alberta's provincial government elections near.

However, the unfortunate reality is that a strong oil industry means a strong Canadian economy, which is necessary to continue being a climate leader.

One argument by critics of the pipeline is that Canada will never be able to meet its commitments to the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement if the pipeline is built. In this accord, Canada's goal is to reduce carbon emissions by 523 megatonnes per year by 2030. This argument, however, improperly assumes that pipelines will automatically hike up carbon emissions and fails to consider Alberta's implementation of a carbon levy. The program is supposed to be an Alberta-created project that encourages cleaner energy alternatives. The soon-to-be-implemented federal carbon tax will do the same thing, only on a national scale.

On the surface, it may seem like Canada investing in a fossil fuel project would automatically disqualify the country from being a climate leader. This would

only be looking at the issues from a surface level. When you look at renewable energy on a global scale, there has been constant growth each year. A 2017 *BBC* report states that renewable energy will continue to grow at 2.6 per cent annually until 2040. Contrasting this with 2016 statistics from the Canadian government that show that 17.4 per cent of Canada's energy comes from renewable sources like hydroelectricity compared to 13.4 per cent globally demonstrates that Canada will continue to be a clean-energy leader. The Trans Mountain pipeline expansion could, at \$7.4 billion in revenue, be used to further grow these renewable energy sources.

The toughest issue facing this project is the lands on which it will be built — unceded Indigenous territory. Canada has historically and continuously marginalized Indigenous peoples and has had difficulty finding effective methods of reconciliation. The land rights of these groups need to be respected by the federal and provincial governments.

This doesn't mean the project can't be built. But the government must engage in a respectful dialogue with Indigenous leaders about pipelines going through Indigenous land.

We live in a reality where Canada is still very reliant on a strong fossil fuels industry. The industry has spurred economic growth and supported social services across the country. But that's not to say that we don't need to make a bigger

commitment to shifting to renewable energy sources. It's time for governments on the provincial and federal level create a bigger incentive for energy companies to figure out ways to go green.

It's also important for those same companies to take more serious measures to achieve this goal. The oil industry in Alberta is a vital part of Canada's economy and Canadians must recognize this.

That's why the Trans Mountain project's halt will likely be the nail in the coffin for Alberta Premier Rachel Notley's government, which is a shame, as a United Conservative government is unlikely to attempt to promote environmentally friendly solutions to Alberta's oil dependents.

A completely sustainable energy sector is possible and achievable, but unfortunately, it'll take a lot longer for Canada to get to that point than most of us would like. Until then, the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion is necessary, both in terms of Canada's economic prosperity and future climate initiatives.

Evan Giles

**HEAL
TO-HE**
What does the
Trans Mountain pipeline
mean
for Alberta

Illustrations by Tricia Lim

We don't need to pursue TMX

Amid the recent economic turmoil, working-class Albertans are suffering. If we're going to provide well-paying jobs to those who are hurting to feed their families, we have to do away with the political theatre. Asserting that the Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion will bring prosperity to Alberta is just that — theatre.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley's argument in favour of the Trans Mountain Pipeline can be summarized as follows: In order to fight climate change and bring back the economic heyday of Alberta, we need a pipeline to ship Al- bertan oil to Asian and West Coast markets, which will increase oil production and, directly and indirectly, create countless jobs.

**HEAD-
HEAD:**
Does the Trans
pipeline dilemma
mean for
Albertans?

On the surface, it sounds great, especially with reports about projected increases in oil demand, most relevantly in China.

But these reports rely on a few assumptions, namely that subsidies for fossil fuel production and other forms of

state intervention on behalf of the industry will continue.

Those assumptions ignore the inconvenient realities about China's clean energy boom and cheaper sources of oil from neighbouring countries like Russia. Beyond economics, pro-pipeline arguments neglect to consider intense grassroots pressure for bold climate policy, the undeniable employment benefits of a green transition, international commitments to greenhouse gas emission reductions and resilient Indigenous rights movements.

TMX's projected return of \$18.5 billion to government coffers by the Conference Board of Canada was based using old oil price forecasts from 2012. The touted creation of 34,000 jobs includes a supposed calculation of every single direct, indirect and induced job resulting from the pipeline itself.

This was your typical PR campaign. The increased budget deficit as a result of the \$4.5-million federal purchase is hardly mentioned, and the huge strides toward automation in Alberta's industry make it so that innumerable jobs have ceased to exist and wouldn't come back even if there were another oil boom.

Meanwhile, a Columbia Institute report found that a transition to a net-zero carbon economy would create 3.9 million construction jobs alone and 19.8 million when counting induced and indirect jobs as a result of spending and supply-chain work. The Canadian Labour Council in

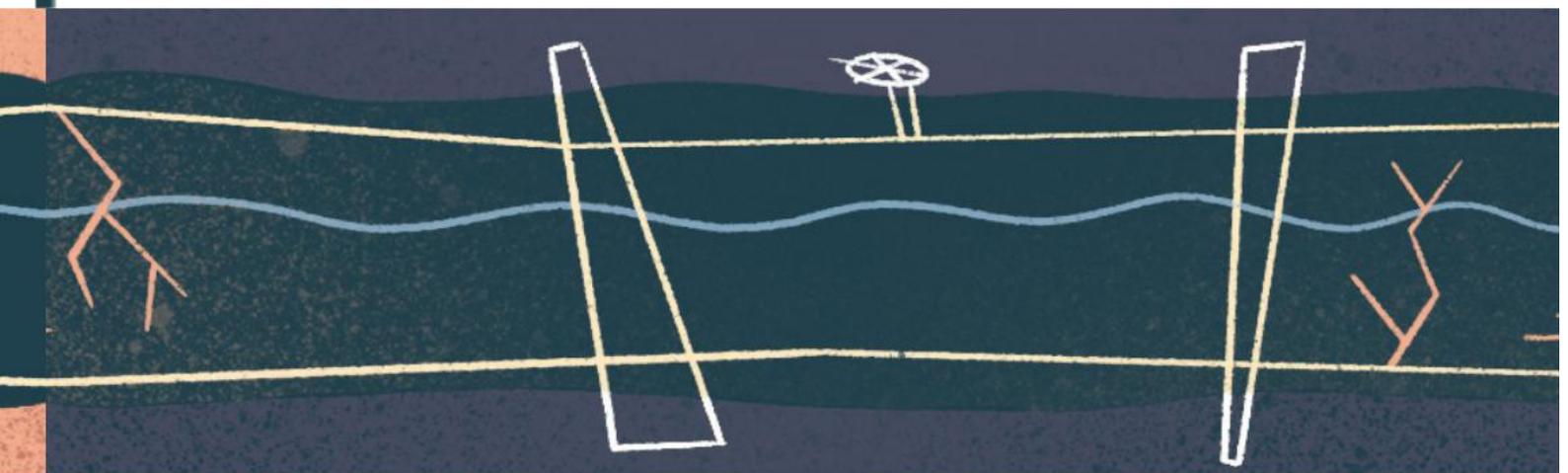
coalition with environmental groups is pushing for the more modest goal of one million climate jobs.

Why not jump on this wave and employ millions of Canadians while phasing out an industry which has gutted Indigenous economies and ecosystems, contaminated Indigenous peoples' traditional food sources and poses an existential threat to the survival of organized human life on earth?

What shouldn't be a debate is hotly contested. We should already be discussing how to intelligently implement this transition to ensure all workers and peoples are thriving. We should be working to spur the growth of worker co-operatives so that the energy industry of the future is democratically accountable and profits, jobs and wealth remain local. We should be looking at precedents for state economic overhauls in times of emergency. We should be engaging in meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and not creating conditions that leave no choice but to work for corporations decimating their historical land.

Notley should use her position to pressure the federal government to implement Canada's next clean energy boom instead of playing within a narrow range of policies acceptable to multinational corporations. Only mass popular demand will get our politicians to create policies that are in the interest of individuals — not shareholder return.

Mateusz Arya Salmassi



Kenney's aversion to public consultation indicative of opportunistic intentions

By Kayle Van't Klooster

Conservative parties have had it pretty easy the past couple of years. In Ontario, all the Progressive Conservatives had to do to ascend to power was criticize the former Liberal government, despite only releasing their platform mere days before the election. The same could be said for Donald Trump, whose 'platform' was an assortment of slogans, unhinged tweets and repealing anything Obama ever touched.

Now, United Conservative Party Leader Jason Kenney has mimicked this same strategy: attack or dismiss every government's actions while not offering any specifics of his own.

Then came Kenney's statement on Oct. 9, finally providing insight into what a UCP government would actually do. He proclaimed that he'd refuse to be "bogged down" by anything as trivial as public consultation, which is unfortunate as his role as a public official demands that he do just that.

You know, listen to people.

Furthermore, he said he will launch a "Summer of Repeal" in an apparent effort to bring Albertan environmentalism, workers' rights and LGBTQ rights back to square one. Rather than offer any of his own solutions to the problems facing Alberta, such as its economic reliance on oil, Kenney opts for the easy road, blaming every problem imaginable on the actions of the Notley government.

This is not a platform.

It's not productive nor feasible to repeal every legislative action of the past three years. But when it comes to the NDP's more popular achievements, like the minimum wage increase, it again gets murky. In these cases, Kenney pitches ideas like a differentiated minimum wage for youth but refuses to commit to any solid proposals.

In addition, Kenney also promised to appoint a 'minister of de-regulation.' Whether that is actually his plan or if it's just a soundbite designed to excite his small-government, free-market base is

anyone's guess. But what is clear is just how foolhardy that action would be. Setting or repealing regulations should be the job of the appropriate minister tasked with managing that specific sector. Appointing a de-regulation minister is redundant and would be a waste of public funds.

It's indicative of Kenney's view on the whole election. He's an opportunist and a careerist at heart. He would never have left his position in the federal conservative party if he didn't think he would easily win in 2019. He's counting on the pendulum to swing back from the NDP "fluke" and usher him and his party into power.

That's why he made the decision to come to Alberta almost immediately after the 2015 election. He saw an easy road to the premier's office. Kenney's actions betray how he really thinks about the people of this province — that we aren't engaged enough to care about the hard facts of governance and will vote blindly. It's time Alberta shows him that we do care — and so should he.

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Canada Summer Jobs grants should be available to all students regardless of age

By Kristy Koehler
Photo by Mariah Wilson

Recently, I received an email from a Liberal member of Parliament's mailing list promoting the success of the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program. While I don't deny that the program has been expanded greatly through Liberal leadership, I do have one issue with it — eligibility for the program ends at age 30.

Certainly, the argument that young people need opportunities they wouldn't otherwise get is understandable. There absolutely needs to be protection from employers hiring older, experienced people as cheap labour and denying young people the chance to learn new skills.

But what about those of us who are over the age of 30 hoping to switch careers? What about the young single mothers who have never been employed, but whose children have grown and now have the opportunity to go back to school? They are denied the opportunity to gain experience in their desired field on the basis of their age. Older students need opportunities as well.

The CSJ program should be available to all of us who can demonstrate full-time undergraduate student status, irrespective of age.

I've been in the service industry all my life, so finding experience in another field is

difficult. I'm no less a student because of my age. As a full-time undergraduate student, I'm making the same commitment to my education as someone younger — perhaps even more because I don't have the opportunity to live at home. I have bills and obligations, so for me, the choice to go back to school represented a serious financial consideration.

During the school year, I found an excellent volunteer opportunity in my field of study. The organization received funding to provide summer jobs to students and wanted to hire me. Unfortunately, I did not qualify on account of having just turned 31. My application for an exemption was denied, despite citing my career goals and relevant experience.

A job that would have given me a huge step up in what I hope will be my career going forward was given to someone else on the basis of age. The person given the job was not in my field of study — they were from another academic program entirely, but were able to be used as cheap labour even though they had no interest in ever working in the field that employed them. The argument that employers may try to use older students who are experienced as cheap labour doesn't take into account the other problems with the program — that employers use the students as cheap labour despite them having no interest in the 'meaningful work' promised by the program. This isn't to blame the employers, especially non-profits

who need all the assistance they can get.

The provincial government funds programs for students of any age. The Summer Temporary Employment Program (STEP) is the provincial equivalent of the CSJ program and the Serving Communities Internship Program (SCiP) is a shorter program, specifically geared towards the non-profit sector. However, provincial programs are more expensive for employers to participate in, so many employers only apply for CSJ grants. CSJ covers 100 per cent of the provincial minimum wage for jobs in the non-profit sector, while STEP reimburses only \$7 per hour in either the non-profit or private sector.

Still, if the province can fund older students, why can't the federal government follow suit? CSJ is a program which discriminates on the basis of age. The age limit deprives employers of hard-working, passionate individuals with much to contribute to the workplace. By extension, older students looking to enter the workforce or change careers are deprived of the opportunity to do so.

Proponents of the age limit will say that not finding work will hinder young people's future employment prospects and makes them a detriment to society. But having many under-employed adults is just as detrimental. Young people still have time. Older students, like myself, are running out of it.



Story by Frankie Hart
Illustration by Tricia Lim

For the past six years I've looked forward to October for WordFest, where my dad and I hang out and bond over books. Over the years I've seen changes in authors', audience size, venue, events and theme. Though the festival is always evolving, it always brings something worthwhile. This year I tried going to events I normally wouldn't, revisited my favourites and got lit and literary. (Not sorry.)

Here's how I spent WordFest's Imaginarium:

Literary Death Match:

Literary Death Match (LDM) is a reading series that has occurred over 480 times around the world and hosted by WordFest six times. Four authors (Dave Bidini, Ali Bryan, Benjamin Hertwig and Joshua Whitehead) face off with one-on-one readings in the first two rounds, with winners facing off in the finale, which

may lead into sudden death. Three authors judge based on literary merit (Patrick Weekes), performance (Jordan Tannahill) and intangibles (Alice Kuipers).

This year's LDM was off-kilter in the best way. Highlights included Bidini's reflections on his neighbourhood hash dealer becoming premier, Bryan's acknowledgement of the orgasmic power of IKEA hot dogs, Hertwig prefacing his intense poem, "A Poem Is Not Guantanamo Bay," with an explanation of why he refers to his club soda as "Schwep-pee-pee," Whitehead's rhythmic, trance-inducing delivery of *RuPaul's Drag Race* references and the complete disregard of proper chair usage by all three judges.

Whitehead took home the W after the authors were confronted by host Adrian Todd Zuniga's cruellest sudden death challenge yet — math.

This event is likely the most accessible to anyone interested in attending WordFest that is unsure of where to start. Though it will include a fresh batch of

authors next year, Zuniga's electric and literary reference-packed hosting always glues the show together. I'm not convinced that he ages, so there'll probably be another 400 shows.

Friday Night Showcase: True Crime & Suspense:

Just in time for Halloween, this event explored the experience of writing true crime and suspense as both fiction and non-fiction. *A Killer Harvest* by Paul Cleave is about a boy who receives an eye transplant from his father, who was a detective killed during an investigation. Robyn Harding's *Her Pretty Face* is inspired partially by Karla Homolka and focuses on adult female relationships. Iain Reid's *Foe* explores the concept of feeling restrained in a marriage, set at a rural farm. The only non-fiction book of the group, *The Real Lolita* by Sarah Weinman, looks into Sally Horner and the influence of that case on Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*.

The authors discussed the appeal of the genre, how fiction provides closure in ways that the news does not, the compulsive nature of true crime writing, daydreaming about murder, readers being worried about your personal life and feelings of responsibility versus exploitation.

On closure, Weinman said, "I don't like closure because it's impossible to get. Even when there's justice, it doesn't make up for someone who died and isn't coming back."

Adult Spelling Bee:

A cross between a spelling bee and an amateur strip competition, this was by far the most unhinged event at the festival. There was a strict no-photo policy. Audience members were encouraged to snitch on anyone breaking the rule, for which they would be rewarded with a free drink. Comfort of the participants came first, though some participants were... notably comfortable.

Due to a, "What happens at adult spelling bee stays at adult spelling bee" policy, the most specific detail I can give is that no one spelled a single word right. I heavily advise you to not make the same mistake I did in attending this event alone.

Bionic Women Writers:

In discussing their books, this panel of four authors ended up discovering many links between each other, from hybrid forms and Indigenous issues to river motifs.

Chelene Knight's *Dear Future Occupant* tries to locate a concept of home while hopping from prose to poetry, essay and flash fiction surrounding her own childhood memories. The pieces she read focused on her relationship with her mother, who was dealing with addiction while raising two kids. Knight also spoke about her work as editor of *Room Magazine*, which she said creates a safe space for women to speak in a raw way.

Paula Morris read an essay about her mother from *False River*, a book she said was inspired partially from "eavesdropping and pilfering from women's conversations." The book has pieces from

various places around the world. Morris spoke specifically about her experience of being in Louisiana during Hurricane Katrina, where during the evacuation, a woman took the opportunity to leave her husband and take their kids instead.

Unraveling Oliver by Liz Nugent flips through seven different narrators in a story centring on uncovering the dark past of a man after an act of domestic violence. Nugent said she enjoyed writing from most of the narrator's perspectives and found it somewhat liberating to write a morally reprehensible character.

Katherena Vermette's *River Woman* was meant to be a poetic break from that depressing writing, though she found it also came out depressing, as well as angry and political. *Métissage*, the five-part poem she read, harkened back to the early days of the Hudson's Bay Company and bodily connection to land. In discussion, she spoke about the notion of Métis nationhood and reconciliation between identities of Métis and Canadian.

Nugent noted that all four women came from colonized backgrounds — "but we never stopped telling stories," she said.

Dick Lit's Festival Edition:

Going out with a bang, this iteration of WordFest's trivia night was not only the festival edition — it was also the PowerPoint edition and the last time it would be hosted by the eponymous Richard. The introduction of the PowerPoint brought visual-based questions as teams were challenged to identify celebrity noses, various animal poops and guess the prices of doors. In forming your trivia team, remember that the best team name receives a bonus. A bonus that my team — CAPITALISM = CLIMATE DEATH — was unjustly robbed of.

WordFest Presents Tanya Tagaq:

The "Imaginarium" was brought to a close in an event that was a conversation-therapy session hybrid, an intense reading and a brief concert. I can think of no better host than Vivek Shraya for Tanya Tagaq's multidisciplinary event, a fellow musician and author. Rapport between Tagaq and Shraya built fast, as

Shraya commended Tagaq as a "possibility model" for racialized people, Tagaq later said to Shraya, "I genuinely like you, I'm not just lying!"

Tagaq kicked off her shoes, somehow giving the grandiose venue of the Bella Concert Hall the atmosphere of a casual living room chat. *Split Tooth*, her debut book, is composed of prose, poetry, memoir and contains writing up to 20 years old, much of it taken from Tagaq's personal journals.

Split Tooth contains illustrations from Jaime Hernandez, stemming from Tagaq's love of the Hernandez brothers after her discovery of *Love and Rockets*.

"When Jaime said yes, I almost peed. He called me and I tried to be normal," Tagaq commented.

The conversation between Tagaq and Shraya often walked the line between a book discussion and a group therapy session. On the subject of privilege in empathy, Tagaq explained the importance of protecting yourself, that people who seem kind will take from you until they suck you dry and that a truly equal relationship where you can let your borders down is a beautiful privilege to have.

Tagaq and Shraya also spoke on racial topics, such as the importance of taking charge of their own sexualities, as the sexuality of people of colour is often fantasized and representation is lacking. Tagaq urged the audience to be aware of Indigenous injustices and hopes her art provides a way to humanize Indigenous people and to provide representation beyond Pocahontas.

Tagaq did readings from throughout her book, most notably a section viscerally detailing her eighth-grade experience right down to frosted eyeshadow and a section referred to as "the fox blowjob story." Her vocal awareness lent itself to the readings, her every word was intentional and her rhythmic delivery tied into the throat singing she performed in between pieces.

At the end of her last reading, she performed some throat singing alone and somehow didn't even need to leave her chair to mesmerize the entire audience, who gave her a standing ovation.



Calgary welcomes new Central Public Library

Story by Thomas Johnson
Illustration by Chloe Chan

After 14 years of planning, funding and construction, the Calgary Central Library opens its doors this November. The highly anticipated four-storey, 240,000-square-foot facility, which replaces the existing downtown Calgary Library branch, has gained international recognition, including being featured as one of *Architectural Digest's* 12 most-anticipated buildings of 2018.

"Public libraries everywhere are becoming hubs for 21st century learning and engines for economic vitality, workforce development and engaged citizens," says Karen Lamola, the communications associate for the Calgary Public Library Foundation.

The replacement of the over-50-year-old existing downtown branch is long overdue, says Lamola.

"The new Central Library recognizes the diversity of our city with spaces for artists, authors and historians in residence, Indigenous placemaking, adult learning, newcomers and early learning for children," Lamola says.

"The new Central Library will forever change the landscape of our evolving city and help elevate Calgary onto the global stage."

While the initial pitch for the New Central Library was in 2004, it took seven years before it was officially approved. The first stages of construction — a \$25-million encapsulation of the Red Line CTrain track, which will pass through the library — began in May 2014. Upon its completion in September 2015, construction on the library itself began.

Designed by Norwegian-American architectural firm Snøhetta, the library's exterior was drafted to replicate the Rockies, with the facade and archways recalling chinook clouds and the terracing of the plaza designed to emulate the surrounding foothills. Approximately \$2.45 million, or one per cent of the total budget, was used for public art.

The Calgary Public Library Foundation hasn't been timid about the new branch's potential, expressing confidence that their new branch will help catalyze Calgary's continued quest to become a renowned cultural hub.

"The new Central Library will offer state of the art equipment, programs and services to serve Calgary's rapidly growing population,"

Lamola says. "The new Central Library is a bold step forward in transforming the Calgary Public Library into the best public library system in the world and creating and enduring legacy for generations of Calgarians."

The grand opening takes place on Nov. 1, though the following day promises to be grander. On Nov. 2 the Calgary Public Library Foundation will host the Lit Gala at the newly opened library, a fundraising event to host a Spotlight Speaker Series. Craig Dykers, one of Snøhetta's founding partners and the project's lead architect, will be present to explain the features of the new Central Library.

"This project has been in the works for quite a long time and we are excitedly counting down the few weeks until the grand opening," Lamola says. "The Calgary Public Library Foundation has partnered with some of the best talent in our city to feature breathtaking performances, exquisite culinary delights and engaging exhibits on every level of the library. This is a celebration Calgarians will not want to miss."

Information on the Lit Gala can be found at thelitgala.ca. Info on the new library can be found at yycnewcentrallibrary.com.

Off the wall: Forgotten films of the 1970s

The 1970s were a strange time for movies — a time where experimentation reigned and directors and producers alike took chances on uncompromising, off-the-wall ideas resulting in some of the strangest and most unique films ever created. While this spirit of experimentation still lives on in movies like Boots Riley's dark comedy *Sorry To Bother You* (2018), the '70s were an era which led to numerous idiosyncratic works that live on as cult favourites today. These films represent their era perfectly.

By Troy Hasselman



House (1977)
Nobuhiko Obayashi

Where the other films on this list are quirky and unique in their own right, they make sense in the era they were produced in. However, it's difficult to imagine a movie like *House* existing in any time period. Before making *House*, director Nobuhiko Obayashi consulted his young daughter for ideas for a horror movie and was able to inject a child-like logic to the film which centres around six women attempting to escape a possessed house that is attempting to devour them.

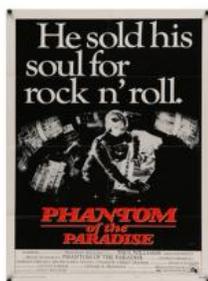
The deliberately cheesy effects, widely nonsensical plot and dark slapstick comedy of the horror scenes lends *House* a strange charm. The scares used in the film include a watermelon that turns into a human head, possessed light fixtures, a cat that shoots lasers from its mouth and a river of blood that appears in a living room. The style and tone of the film is truly unlike any other and manages to accomplish its task of creating a horror film that could come from the mind of a child while remaining unsettling.



Zardoz (1974)
John Boorman

Following the success of his previous film, *Deliverance*, director John Boorman was given free reign to make any kind of movie he wanted. He responded by making a sci-fi epic about a wastelander named Zed who kills others in an effort to appease a giant bust he worships named Zardoz. Zed is played by Sean Connery, who wears thigh-high boots, French braid and what appears to be a red loincloth attached to a gun belt in one of his first roles after his tenure as James Bond.

Zardoz comments on larger issues such as religion, class divisions and masculinity, but any messaging from the film is secondary to the chaos unfolding on screen. Its plot is confusing and muddled but greater focus should instead be paid to the mind-boggling set pieces, costumes and action sequences found throughout the film. *Zardoz* captures an era of film-making in which a director with a vision, \$1 million and a sand dune-sized pile of cocaine could make any project they put their mind to.



Phantom of the Paradise (1974)
Brian de Palma

Part comedy, part tragedy, part horror, part musical and part revenge tale, Brian De Palma's story of a disgruntled composer and his quest for vengeance on a conniving music executive defies categorization. It draws partial inspiration from classic literature such as Johann Von Goethe's *Faust* and Oscar Wilde's *Portrait of Dorian Grey*. *Phantom of the Paradise* re-contextualizes them in the glam-rock era with a plot revolving around the opening of a rock club called "The Paradise" by a mysterious, Phil Spector-inspired producer named Swan.

The opening of this club leads to a bizarre series of events involving unrequited love, deformed faces, androgynous rock stars, Faustian bargains, stardom, explosions and, of course, music. The soundtrack to *Phantom of the Paradise* — composed by Paul Williams — complements the constantly shifting tone of the film by covering an array of genres including doo-wop, surf rock, glam rock, balladry and even goth rock. With its overblown style, shifting themes and eye-popping set pieces and costumes, *Phantom of the Paradise* is a film that rivetingly captures the glorious excesses of the '70s.



Brewster McCloud (1970)
Robert Altman

Robert Altman's absurdist comedy follows the titular Brewster McCloud, a reclusive young man living in a fallout shelter underneath the Houston Astrodome who spends his time building wings to fulfil his dream of flight. McCloud becomes a suspect in a murder investigation and spends the bulk of the movie on the lamb from a Steve McQueen-inspired "super cop" sent from San Francisco specifically to investigate him. The movie includes a bizarre cast of characters, such as a profane anthem singer played by Margaret Hamilton of *Wizard Of Oz* fame, some of the most bumbling cops ever set to film and a hilariously indifferent Astrodome tour guide, played by Shelley Duvall.

Brewster McCloud is less a movie and more an extended series of vignettes riffing off its ridiculous premise. During production, Altman threw out the script and had actors improvise the entire film, resulting in the comedic equivalent of jazz. The free-wheeling nature of the film goes along with many others of the period by focusing more on spectacle than plot, making for something mostly nonsensical but too entertaining to not be enjoyable.



Sky, rock, river, medicine: an interview with Joshua Whitehead

Story by Thomas Johnson
Photo courtesy Danni Black

Publishing poetry or prose often means baring your soul. It's an experience Joshua Whitehead, a University of Calgary PhD student, is intimately familiar with.

"I think there's a different approach with poetry and prose. In prose, you can hide behind your characters more, they're more fully-fleshed, whereas with poetry it's almost voyeuristic," says Whitehead of the writing process for *Johnny Appleseed*, his Governor General's Award-nominated debut novel. "You lay everything bare. It's more of a strip-show than prose."

Whitehead, a two-spirit Oji-Cree, has garnered notable acclaim for such a young career. *Johnny Appleseed* is a fiction finalist for the 2018 Governor General's Literary Awards, alongside works by authors like Miriam Toews

and Rawi Hage. His first book, *Full Metal Indigiqueer* (2017), was shortlisted for several national awards, including the Indigenous Voices Award for Significant Poetry (English), the Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry and the Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Poetry. The latter nomination, however, was withdrawn by Whitehead, citing the difference between two-spirit and the English 'Trans' as his quandary with the nomination.

"For [*Full Metal Indigiqueer*], I was nominated for the Lambda in the trans-poetry section, which I didn't personally feel comfortable with," Whitehead says. "There's so many trans-Indigenous women in my life that have mentored me, so I felt that was a space that wasn't mine to claim."

Johnny Appleseed, by comparison, sees Whitehead carving a space of his own.

"The thing about Johnny is that he's

the better parts of me. He has some incredibly painful moments from my life and putting him into prose made him into a real-life character. I always talk to him in first-person," Whitehead says. "Making him into a character helped deal with that pain."

"Within Cree [culture], we have animations, we can make things animate," he continues. "We consider sky, rock, river to have a spirit. Johnny and his grandmother have a conversation in the book where she says, 'Humiliation is just the humility you love so much transformed.' I really like to think of Johnny in that way — take these painful memories and animate your pain, turn it into something loving and medicinal."

Unlike the naked and personal narratives of *Indigiqueer*, Whitehead is buried deeper in *Johnny Appleseed*, hidden within its titular character. As opposed to the half-decade it took to refine his

poetry, *Appleseed's* manuscript was written over the course of a year. While his poetry revelled in its stark vulnerability out of necessity, the greater margins of a novel enabled Whitehead to expand and flesh out his ideas.

"I think prose is a little easier to imbue. You can fictionalize it and draw it out over several chapters, whereas poetry is more secluded into a one- or two-page thing. You can't use metaphor and simile and writing techniques as you can in prose," he says. "With prose, I felt that if you treat the character as a person, nurture what they need and attune to their emotions — I felt like I became more fixated on Johnny fantastically. With poetry, I can come in and out, but Johnny took centre-stage in my life. There's a cool collaborative nature between your character and yourself."

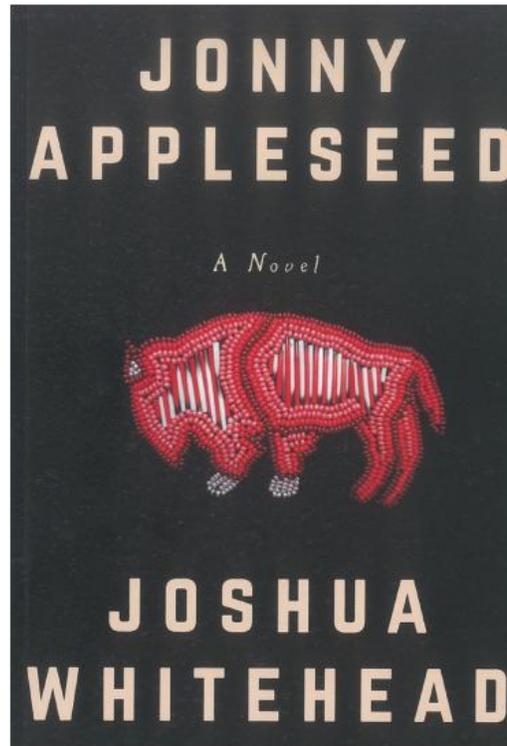
As his career flourishes, Whitehead finds himself as both a product and catalyst of Canada's shifting literary landscape. Earlier this year his U of C compatriot Vivek Shraya received wide acclaim for her book

I'm Afraid Of Men. While both novels are differ drastically spiritually and stylistically — and while it would be reductive and unfair to the authors to lump them

into the same category — both provide narratives from the unblinking eyes of those sidelined by traditional, tired outlooks. This new guard, which has long been kept silent, seems intent on seizing the spotlight.

"I think right now, we're in the midst of a new wave of Canadian literature. We're shifting from that old guard of white males writing and rewarding themselves and awarding themselves. This is the first time [the Governor's General Awards list] has ever seen two-spirit writers on the list. We have myself, we have Billy-Ray Belcourt, Darrel McLeod. We're getting crazy recognition for marginalized folks," Whitehead says. "I think we're starting to see a dialogue forming and new voices of folks that wouldn't have been heard even in the last couple of years. I take it as a hopeful thing and it's energized and humbling to see my kin in those spaces. I'm very happy to be part of it."

The winners of the 2018 Governors General's Literary Awards were announced on Oct. 30.



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7. Lié - *Hounds* (Mint Records)
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9. Marie Davidson - *Working Class Woman* (Make It Rain / Ninja Tune)
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13. tanner menard, Andrew Weathers - *wanna live in the world w/a whole face* (Full Spectrum)
14. IDLES - *Joy as an Act of Resistance* (Partisan)
15. Nick Klein - *The Bathroom Wall* (Bank Records)
16. Forward Strategy Group - *Further, Too Far EP* (MORD)
17. Orit Shimoni - *Lost and Found on the Road to Nowhere* (Self-Released)
18. Exploded View - *Obeys* (Sacred Bones)
19. DJ Dine & Dash, Silkq - *Moxam 310* (Self-Released)
20. Knife Knights - *1 Time Mirage* (Sub Pop)
21. Amanda Gardier - *Empathy* (Green Mind Records)
22. Brodie West Quintet - *Clips* (Self-Released)
23. VOXX - *Urban Decay* (Self-Released)
24. Jonathan Kreisberg, Nelson Veras - *Kreisberg Meets Veras* (New For Now Music)
25. Burning Spring, Cuddlefish - *Split 7"* (Debt Offensive)
26. PRO-V - *Planète Sauvage* (Self-Released)
27. Adrean Farrugia, Joel Frahm - *Blued Dharma* (Gb Records)
28. Housepanther - *Club Soda Lows* (Self-Released)
29. Mike Nigro, Andrew Osterhoudt - *Latitudes* (Constellation Tatsu)
30. Gordon Grdina's The Marrow - *Ejdeha* (Song-lines)

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U Sports announces transgender inclusion policy for varsity athletes

Story by Kristy Koehler
Photo by Mariah Wilson

On Sept. 26, U Sports announced its new transgender inclusivity policy for student athletes. The policy states that athletes at any of the U Sports 56 member universities “will be eligible to compete on the team that corresponds with either their sex assigned at birth or their gender identity, provided that the student-athlete complies with the Canadian Anti-Doping Program.”

The policy adds that it does not require that athletes undergo hormone therapy “in order for them to compete in the gender category that is consistent with their gender identity.”

Additionally, student athletes are only eligible to compete on teams of one gender in any academic year — an athlete may not compete on a men’s team in the fall semester and a women’s team in the winter semester or vice versa.

The policy has been many years in the making and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) was an integral part of its formation. As early as 2007, CCES began the foundational work for the policy, along with Sport Canada, AthletesCAN and the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity. Together, these groups conducted an inquiry — the first of its kind in Canada — on trans inclusion in sport.

In 2012, CCES released a document called “Sport in Transition: Making Sport in Canada More Responsible for Gender Inclusivity.” Then, an expert working group convened and their findings led to the 2016 release of a report titled “Creating Inclusive Environments for Trans Participants in Canadian Sport.”

The U Sports policy was guided by that report, and Paul Melia, president and CEO of CCES is pleased with the outcome.

“The CCES is pleased with the inclusive

nature of the new U Sports trans inclusion policy,” Melia said in a statement. “It offers student athletes the opportunity to compete in sport in the gender with which they identify and ensures that athletes don’t have to choose between sport and living as their authentic selves.”

The caveat to this inclusion policy is that athletes who choose to undertake a transition that involves hormone therapy are still bound by the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) standards for prohibited substances. Due to WADA’s stringent rules on the permissible levels of testosterone in the body, as well as other hormones that may be used for transition, these standards are especially prohibitive for athletes opting for hormone therapy. Athletes can apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption, but it is unclear how many of these applications are actually approved.

The University of Calgary athletic director Jason Kerswill is very supportive of the policy.

“It’s even more progressive than the IOC [International Olympic Committee] which is something that I think we should be proud of,” said Kerswill. “I’m hoping that if we do have trans athletes who want to participate, they feel free to come in here and talk about what that looks like for them and we’ll be extremely supportive.”

Kerswill hopes for some more information and tools from U Sports to help athletic directors across the country work through any potential issues, especially where it pertains to being able to give athletes correct information regarding anti-doping standards. Kerswill wants to make sure that all athletes are eligible to compete for the Dinos.

“We’re encouraging them to contact CCES and to have those discussions and take it from there,” Kerswill said.

Several universities, including McGill and the University of Saskatchewan, have also expressed their solidarity with the policy and their intent to abide by it.



The fierce history of Rex, the University of Calgary's beloved mascot

Story by Kristy Koehler

In late August, the *CBC* took to Twitter to incite an inter-university rivalry. Using the hashtag #CdnMascotMadness, the public broadcaster pitted 16 well-known university mascots against one another.

Rex, the beloved red dinosaur mascot from the University of Calgary, seemed like a shoe-in for the win on account of his fierceness, but was ultimately knocked out in the first round. However, he wasn't always fierce — and he wasn't always Rex.

In 1964, two years before the U of

C officially gained autonomy from the University of Alberta, the dinosaur mascot was adopted to pay homage to the plethora of paleontological sites in the area. The bipedal, lizard-meets-snake creature was far from fierce — or anatomically correct.

In the '70s, a more aggressive dinosaur figure was launched to represent the athletic teams but it was complicated and difficult to use in merchandising. As a result, the Students' Union decided to make their own mascot. The SU spent \$3,000 in the early '80s to bring their mascot to life and a naming contest coined a moniker for him — Dexter.

In the Sept. 10, 1982 issue of the *Gauntlet*, then-SU president Dave Singleton wrote:

"One of my personal goals this year is to boost the level of school spirit here on campus. It is my belief that the Students' Union's recently acquired Dinosaur Mascot will be a giant step forward in this area. The yet-to-be-named mascot will be appearing at many of our activities, as well as at athletic and community events. It is my hope that he will become a recognized symbol of the University of Calgary."

A few incarnations later, a renaming from Dexter to Rex and a spat between the university and SU over the rights to the mascot led to the current version of Rex. Unveiled in 2013, the Rex we know came from a desire for a modern, recognizable icon to represent the university that would be simple to use across campus.

While Rex was eliminated from the *CBC*'s mascot competition in the first round, the way in which so many students, faculty and alumni leapt to his defence was a testament to the power symbols like mascots hold. Not only do mascots lend their jollity to sporting events, they provide a connection to the institution as a whole.

Courtney Burton, a U of C student who once brought Rex to life as the person inside the dinosaur, believes that having a visible school mascot is incredibly important.

"Having a tangible connection to the teams is important. Having a mascot with a personality gives people a reason to get excited about sports and I think Pack the Jack and the Crowchild Classic are great examples of that," Burton said. "People go to see the games but having a representative of the team there to take pictures with and interact with gives them an even stronger reason to rally with the team.

"I think with our school especially



Photo courtesy Dinos Athletics

in addition to the sports games, having Rex at induction and at other school related events creates a great campus community, because everyone knows and recognizes Rex," she added.

Burton took her role as Rex to heart.

"For me, being Rex was really cool because the campus community felt stronger than it did when I was just walking to and from class everyday," she said.

One of Burton's favourite stories comes from the Crowchild Classic.

"I was there as Rex for the 50th year celebration so I got to go up to the boxes and take pictures with Alumni who still felt connected to the university even though many of them were at the university when Dexter was the mascot," Burton recalled. "It was super cool to know that there was a strong connection to not only the school but the sports teams as well and Rex was a catalyst for it."

Burton wants students to embrace Rex.

"[He] is probably the most polite, sportsman-like, cheerful character I have ever had the pleasure of portraying and I encourage everyone, if they see Rex around the university, to take a picture with him because he's one cool dude," she said.



Photo courtesy Dinos Athletics



Photo by Mariah Wilson



Minimalist camping good for the soul

Story by Calum Robertson

Two lines from Joni Mitchell's "Woodstock" embody the core motive behind why many embrace the form of getaway known as minimalist camping. "I'm going to camp out on the land / I'm going to try and get my soul free."

Minimalist camping eschews excessive comforts and instead takes a simpler approach. It emphasizes not just living on the land but also depending on it to provide the means for shelter, food, water and warmth. The idea is not to enter the wilderness and attempt to dominate nature but rather to live in harmony with it and to find your place in the forest.

There are many different techniques for minimalist camping, resulting from humanity's storied history of survival. The how-tos of minimalist camping vary based on the camper's experience, location and personal choice. But why would someone choose to forsake the pleasures of civilization for a weekend battling the elements in the apparent middle of nowhere?

As someone who has embarked on minimalist camping trips, I can attest that these trips feel liberating. They provide a moment to reset and move forward. Too often during life in the city our time becomes occupied with anxiety and stress.

A healthy way of escaping, and resetting, can be found in the forest.

I often find my sense of priorities are altered in the wilderness. The outside world of city life and the university grind melts away as my focus turns to constructing a shelter. I am able to witness nature in its authenticity, far from any busy city bustle. My first waking thought is of fire. It is a source of heat, sanity and cooking. The quest to light a suitable blaze becomes my world. Then, basking in the glow, I can properly begin my task of survival and questing for food.

Perspectives vary and change as we walk through life. University can drastically alter and influence these perspectives. We may begin to drift away from looking after ourselves and our internal balance. Minimalist camping resets us, bringing our minds back to a more primal and instinctive state. Papers and projects are no longer life-or-death situations — keeping dry in a rainstorm or finding clean water are, as they were for our ancestors in the centuries before lecture theatres, D2L and deadlines.

While the survivalist lifestyle may not sound appealing for an extended period of time, it certainly does offer a temporary escape and an opportunity to recharge. If ever I find my focus shifting, getting caught up in the minor details, feeling

as if the world is closing in on me, I look to the woods. A weekend of puttering about, sampling stream water and eating berries while watching the sunset over the mountains works wonders on the human mind and soul.

Joni Mitchell speaks truth — depending on the land and becoming a part of the thriving ecosystem all around you does indeed set your soul free.

Safety concerns can be lessened by planning ahead. Plan where you'll camp and how you'll obtain water. Carry emergency food rations, as well as base food to supplement your wild diet.

By setting your soul free, I do not mean shuffling off the mortal coil whilst in the great outdoors. Always plan ahead. Once I have my plan, I find I can relax and fully commit to the trip, knowing I have a backup in case events start heading south. The daily toil shifts dramatically, creating a simple, idyllic headspace that I often dwell in for weeks afterwards. My school days seem less stressful and life less daunting when I return from excursions to the woods.

If you find yourself wishing for escape, a reset or a fresh perspective, I recommend heading out to the wilderness. Bring the bare essentials and let nature comfort and provide the rest for you.

FSC offers intercultural competency quiz

Story by Kristy Koehler

The University of Calgary's Faith and Spirituality Centre (FSC) is now offering The Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), a quiz that assesses intercultural competence, defined by the FSC as "the capability to shift cultural perspective and appropriately adapt behaviour to cultural differences and commonalities." This is done through 50 questions that begin with your ability to identify with your own cultural identity.

FSC manager Adriana Tulissi says that many people are unaware of the things that actually make up cultural identity.

"Growing up in Canada, we are so rooted around ethnicity as being culture," she said, adding that simple things like eating dinner together with your family are part of your cultural makeup.

"The IDI understands culture in a broader sense of culture, not only ethnicity but education and values," said Tulissi.

Test-takers are placed on a continuum, ranging from denial to adaptation. Those in the denial stage tend to stay within their own cultural group and mainly see superficial differences like 'this food looks and smells different than mine.'

The next spot on the continuum, polarization, is more of an 'us versus them' mentality. People placed in this range may have an uncritical view of their own culture and an overly critical view of other cultures, or the other way around — an overly critical view of their own culture and a romanticized view of other cultures, particularly if they belong to a dominant group.

Tulissi says that most people fall within the next stage — minimization.

"This is a transition mindset between the monocultural mindset and the intercultural mindset," she said. "Minimization is where people see a lot of cultural commonalities. They may make comments like, 'Deep down, we're all just the same.' For folks in minimization, they either lack the awareness

or understanding to see the deeper cultural differences, so they might say that a bow, a handshake or a kiss on the cheek, they're all just the same."

People in the acceptance stage are aware of deeper cultural meanings but may not be aware of how to use the information and adapt their behaviour to suit different situations, whereas people in the final stage, adaptation, know how to do that. For example, they may operate differently in a professional setting with a German person than with a Japanese person, understanding that cultural differences play a huge role in how business deals are conducted.

What happens after you learn where you fall on the continuum?

"The thing that sold me on IDI is that it gives you a 21-page development plan. So they actually say, 'These are all the things you can work on.' That is, in my opinion, the magic of the IDI," said Tulissi.

The development plan offers goal-setting and reflection opportunities. A debrief must be scheduled with a qualified administrator so that results can be interpreted.

The IDI also tests what happens when people are placed into stressful situations. People may revert to an earlier spot on the continuum when stressed. The development plan helps determine what those stress triggers are and how to avoid them.

Research shows it takes 30–50 hours of intentional work, or three to nine months, to move one spot on the continuum, so engaging with the development plan is important in order to grow and progress.

The great thing about the IDI, according to Tulissi, is that is that the goals and development plan are realistic.

"It meets [participants] where they're at and pushes them just outside of their comfort zone so they can start growing," she said.

The test is also entirely confidential.

"This isn't about shaming, this is not going on your record, it is purely a tool for students to learn and grow and develop," Tulissi said.

Tests can be scheduled online at the Faith and Spirituality Centre's website. There is a nominal charge of \$11 USD, a fee that includes the test and a one-on-one debrief with a qualified administrator.

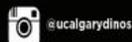
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SU Good Food Box provides fresh produce

Story by Kristy Koehler

Fresh fruits and vegetables are now readily available on campus thanks to the Students' Union's Good Food Box. The SU's Campus Food Bank is providing the boxes as an official depot for the Community Kitchen Program, an initiative that aims to provide people with access to fresh, affordable fruits and vegetables. Produce is purchased from local farmers and sellers, packed up in boxes by volunteers and delivered to depots across the city.

There are three sizes available. The small box contains 20 pounds of produce and costs \$25, the medium contains 30 pounds for \$30 and the large box contains 40 pounds for \$35.

Campus Food Bank

co-ordinators Monique Dyson and Valerie Lennox both tout the value for dollars and convenience factor of the Good Food Box.

"I think it's incredibly beneficial," Lennox said. "Getting 40 pounds of produce for \$35 is a really good deal and for a lot of university

students who don't have a whole lot of extra spending money, it helps out a lot and gets you the nutrients that you need."

"It's convenient for students who live on residence," said Dyson, adding that even the closest grocery store can be difficult for campus residents to access, especially when trying to haul a heavy load of fruits and vegetables home.

The SU doesn't make any revenue from the program but provides their own volunteers to ensure that students have access to healthy food. They also purchase three small boxes from each order and provide them via lottery system to students who have accessed the food bank in the last order cycle.

Order deadlines and forms are available online on the Students' Union website.



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Ambiguous Olympic advocacy group emerges on campus

Story by Frankie Hart

In anticipation of the Nov. 13 Olympic plebiscite, a new stance on the issue has emerged, culminating in an advocacy group — Who's To Say? Calgary 2026 (WTSC2). WTSC2 hopes to appeal to Calgarians who, like them, feel very confused and anxious about the Olympic debate. Their leader, Malory Maeby, felt this group would especially connect with ambivalent university students.

"It's an overwhelming time! Students are too busy stressing about midterms to think about fiscal responsibility and legacy," Maeby explained. "We partially act as a support group to those who feel inadequately qualified to have an opinion on the debate."

WTSC2 has been speaking to students at tables in MacHall for weeks, handing out stress balls with images of people shrugging on them. They also have brochures available with more information on their positions, the main subject being financial risk.

"The Olympics cost a lot of money. We know that for sure. What we don't know is literally anything about budgeting or basic economics," Maeby said. "When we heard that Tokyo was seven times over their budget for 2020, we were like, 'Whoooooaaa!' Money really be like that sometimes."

The brochures detailed other topics of debate, such as concerns regarding doping vs. 'dope-ness.' Ultimately, the main goal of WTSC2 is to find someone who actually knows what they're talk-

ing about to figure out what the right decision is.

"The question we beg is: who's to say? Who do we think is actually knowledgeable enough to make this decision? Seriously, we don't know. We're taking suggestions," Maeby said.

After tallying votes from members of the group, WTSC2 announced that there was only one contender deemed qualified enough to take on the decisive task of choosing whether Calgary should bid: a magic 8-ball. The group held a meeting in which Maeby shook the 8-ball to make a choice once and for all.

The ball read, "better not tell you now."

The group collectively shrugged and then continued with their uncertain agenda.





Interview: Professor Tim Sinclair talks studying marine biology at University of Calgary

Story by Evan Lewis
Photo by Mariah Wilson

Tim Sinclair has been researching marine wildlife and teaching at the University of Calgary for the last 15 years. The *Gauntlet* sat down to talk with professor Sinclair about his job and why the field of marine biology has become increasingly important in Canada in recent years.

The Gauntlet: Tell us a bit about what you do here at the university.

Tim Sinclair: What? What university? Where am I? Is this a warehouse? These ropes are so tight. Please, I just remember leaving work and then it's just a blur. Who are you? Why do you keep writing all this down? Stop writing!

Gauntlet: It sounds like teaching is a passion for you. What can students expect from your classes this semester?

Sinclair: What? No, my name is Ilia

Hadzhiev. I'm not a teacher, I'm a dry cleaner. You've got the wrong person. Please, I'm the wrong person.

Oh God, is that blood on the floor? Oh God, please don't hurt me, I don't want to die.

Gauntlet: Your doctoral thesis was written on the effects of Vancouver shipyard pollution on green sturgeon crab off the coast and you've acted as a consultant for a number of shipping bylaws that have been written since. What has that experience been like?

Sinclair: I'm never going to see my family again, am I? I'm never going to hug Anka again. I'll never see Nikolai graduate.

Gauntlet: Merging the scientific with the political can be a real challenge but you seem to have done it very well. Any tips for other scientists wanting to get involved with law-making?

Sinclair: You have so many knives on that desk. Blood is so dark when it dries like that. Why is that knife so curved? Why is it

so rusted? No, please, don't pick it up.

Gauntlet: And why is it important for everyone, not just marine biologists, to be aware of what's going on in our oceans?

Sinclair: My father died like this in the war. I never thought my life would end like his. My mother wouldn't have wanted me to die like him. Please, don't hurt me. Please, please, plea- AAAAAAAAAAIIIIIGGGH.

Gauntlet: Is there anything you want to add before we wrap up here? Any fun fish facts?

Sinclair: Oh God. I didn't know there was so much blood in me.

Gauntlet: That's a really interesting one! Well, we appreciate you giving us your time today. It's been a pleasure speaking with you.

Interview edited for clarity and brevity. Hope you had a happy Halloween!

Four tips for navigating the construction on campus

Story by Evan Giles

Remember when the University of Calgary didn't look like a construction site? Me neither. It seems like forever ago when you could pass the Social Science building and say, 'I still don't know how those engineers made that Prairie Chicken look like a chicken,' or the days when you could just cut across the grass to avoid people walking too slow on the pathways. Oh grass, how I miss you. Here are some tips to help you navigate to your next class.

1. Hop the fence:

This one is a no-brainer. How else are you going to avoid the awkward encounter with that person that ghosted you? Since we used to be able to dash across the grass, the logical next step is to hop the fence. If that doesn't appeal to you,

think of all the upper-body strength you'll acquire from constantly hopping the construction fences. It's a win-win, if you ask me. I guarantee you that no one will get in your way after you hop the fence. Well, maybe security, but that's beside the point.

2. Body-checking:

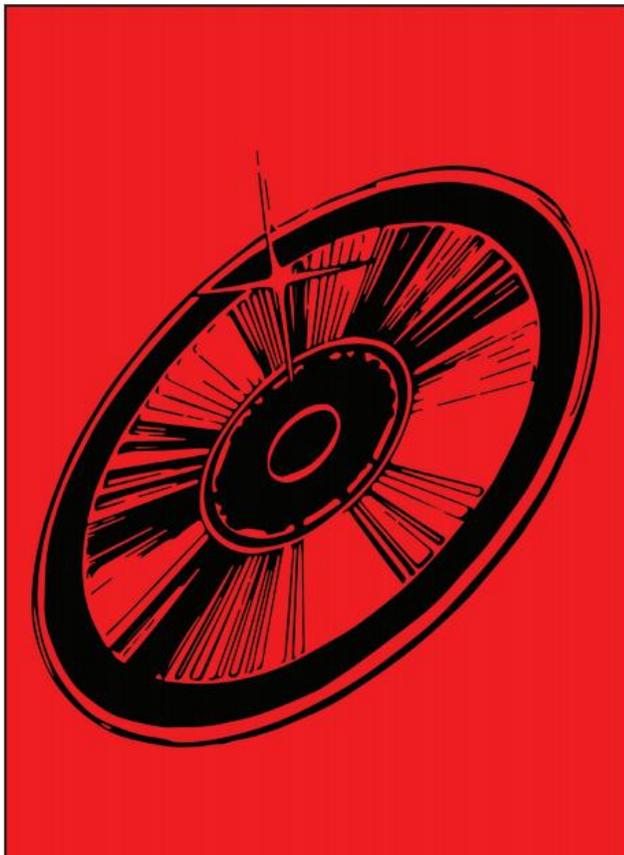
If climbing fences intimidates you, body-checking might be a better option. Since you're clearly the most important person in the world, other people don't matter to you. Body-checking is a sure-fire way to make them get out of your way. To improve your form, watch Don Cherry compilations about how to effectively lay the body, like a "good ol' Ontario boy." Side effects may include getting into fights with strangers, possible injury due to incorrect form, getting caught by security and pending assault charges.

3. Tear it down:

Tired of the stress of university, the high tuition fees or just want to stick it to 'the man'? You're in luck, because there's no better way to tear down the hierarchical institutions than literally tearing them down. I think that's what Ronald Reagan was talking about with the Berlin Wall. This is your best option, especially when it comes to improving physical strength. However, the odds of you getting visited by security are very high.

4. Drop out:

Your back is against the wall, and you're all out of options. As Wayne Gretzky once said, "For every shot you don't take, an angel loses its wings," or something like that, so shoot your shot. The current construction on campus is scheduled to be completed around 2020. So wait it out, but make sure you let your profs know. I'm sure they'll understand.



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Generic tweet outlines to let your friends know you're #woke!

Story by Frankie Hart
Photo by Mariah Wilson

Unsure of how to enter the scary world of Twitter drivel? Want your peers to know that you're hip and have good praxis? Hoping to flex on those trolls that called you a 'centrist coward'? Here's some fool-proof methods of tweeting that will impress your friends and let your mcm/wcw know that you're ready to be their #wokebae.

Quote-tweet + 🙄 :

Hop over to the 'Moments' page and find the saddest headline at that moment. Find a tweet about it, retweet and add the 🙄 emoji. This is a surefire way of letting your followers know that you not only stay on top of the news, but you have something to say about it! An actual nuanced opinion or research

into the topic takes time that you just don't have. Simply adding a downtrodden emoji conveys the gist of your feelings.

Plus, what if you stated your opinion and it was wrong? That's how you stay #slept.

Thinking about [topical situation]. Not looking good! #yikes:

Your page can't be solely filled with retweets or people will think you have no original ideas! This formula is great for when there's an intense twitter fight that you want to weigh in on, but don't want to become a part of.

Let everyone know that it's been on your mind, but only comment on it to the extent that they'll interpret your stance for you! That's twice the impact for none of the work. For good measure, add a hashtag. This is Twitter, after all.

Break out the thesaurus on a smarter person's tweet:

Find an account of someone who seems to know what they're talking about that people agree with. An easy trick is to take what they say and simply reword it in your retweet! If they have a popular tweet that says something like, "the gingerbread man is a class traitor, don't support him just because of his performative allyship," you can retweet it and write, "smh gingy fake af." This creates the illusion that you've expanded upon the conversation, when really you've contributed nothing at all.

Sprinkle in some Twitter-isms:

Be sure that when you proof-read your tweet that you include at least one word from Urban Dictionary. Keep tabs on what the kids are saying these days! Stan a skinty legend and spill the tea all over your receipts, sis, because that's a mood!

Stick these weed-o-scopes in your pipe and smoke 'em!

By Riley Martens

Scorpio
(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)
Oh Scorpio, oh Scorpio!
How unabashed is thou.
You reap what you sow. And because of Trudeau, your face is aglow and through grass, you mow.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)
You are the archer. You aim high. But you get higher.

Capricorn
(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)
You are a long-term planner. The kind of person with an actual schedule and something called 'priorities.' Some might say you are too uptight because of this. Those people just haven't seen you at the right times. Like at 4:20.

Aquarius
(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)
You have the capacity to awaken your inner being and to dream of a better world, where nature and man live in peace. A green utopia where there are no line ups, shortages or tax. It will take you over half an hour to share this idea with your friends and they still won't know what the hell you're talking about.

Pisces
(Feb. 19 – March 20)
You have a deep drive to right all the wrongs of this world. To end all war. To represent the oppressed. To feed the hungry. And after legalization, there's definitely more of the hungry.

Aries
(March 21 – April 19)
As an Aries, you are a pioneer, a maverick and a trailblazer. This week especially, you're blazing all the trails. You will be the first in your friend group to buy weed. I mean you already had some, but this time it's legal.

Taurus
(April 20 – May 20)
As a Taurus, you are the go-getter. You're the safe and secure provider — probably because you are the only one with a job. You will be providing more than usual this week. Pass the blunt.

Gemini
(May 21 – June 20)
Am I seeing double? You have the power to get two birds stoned at once. Be sure to use it wisely.

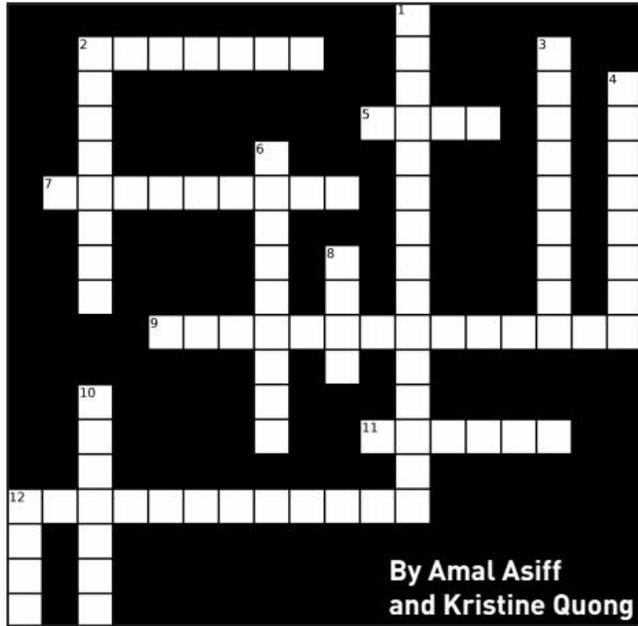
Cancer
(June 21 – July 22)
Your friends and family will all get sick this week. Thankfully you are well versed in medical knowledge because you read half a Wikipedia page. CBD is the cure all.

Leo
(July 23 – Aug. 22)
You are the queen of the zodiac signs. Your aspirations can only be royal. Your standards are high. Your grades are higher. And you are the highest, socially speaking.

Virgo
(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)
You have an urge to do work — the artistic kind. With the floodgates of inspiration now open you can pursue your passions of handless basket weaving and folk song writing. You'll put special emphasis on the pot-tery.

Libra
(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)
You represent the scales. The scales of the universe. It's like a metaphor for balance or something. Maybe harmony? You will seek to resolve conflict and encourage teamwork. Those joint decisions are now a little more lit-eral.





By Amal Asiff and Kristine Quong

Congratulations to Jasper Ravanello and Finn Shaw for being the first students to submit last month's puzzles!

Send a photo of a completed crossword or criss-cross puzzle to humour@thegauntlet.ca to be congratulated in our next issue. Be among the first three submitters to win a *Gauntlet* mug!

Netflix crossword

ACROSS:

- 2. Two words: Peter Kavinsky. (Abbreviate this long title.)
- 5. The question is not where, but when?
- 7. This show will make you want to grab some milkshakes at Pop's.
- 9. A princess, an elf and a demon walk into a bar.
- 11. Cambridge defines this word as "a person who has a very strong interest in a particular activity."
- 12. "You gotta be forking kidding me!"

DOWN:

- 1. "Shante, you stay," is an

iconic phrase used in this reality TV show.

2. Grab a tissue box for this heartfelt hit that shows you the importance of generational love.

3. "I'm Beyoncé always."

4. Have you ever baked and made a Pinterest fail? This show rewards those aspiring to have the baking skills we all want.

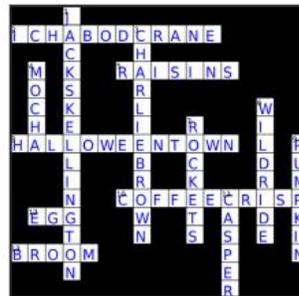
6. This blind hero is known to protect the streets of *Hell's Kitchen*.

8. *Cocos nucifera*, without the nut.

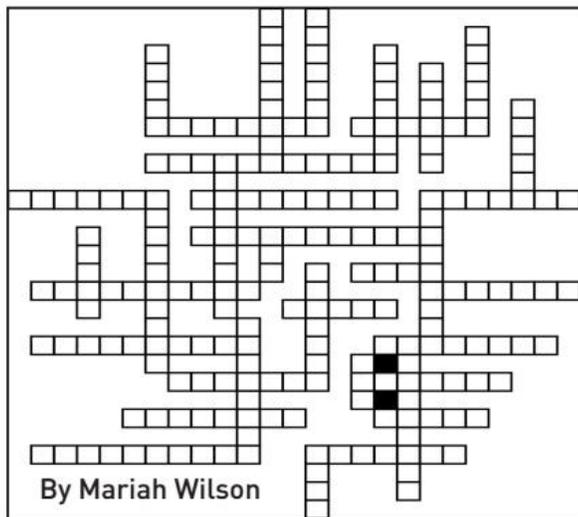
10. A character from this famous sitcom has the alias Regina Phalange.

12. This Greek god of thunder has captured hearts since 2011.

Oct. Solution:



Midterm diversions criss-cross puzzle



By Mariah Wilson

Instructions: Each line of the puzzle contains a certain number of boxes. Count each to see which words they correspond to. Place words into the grid so that they fit together, like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle.

- 3 letters:** DIY, Poi
- 4 letters:** Polo, Yoga
- 5 letters:** Chess, Darts, Magic, Poker
- 6 letters:** Baking, Dating, Debate, Hiking
- 7 letters:** Archery, Drawing, Netflix, Origami, Puzzles, Reading, Topiary, Walking, Yo-yoing
- 8 letters:** Crafting, Kayaking, Shopping, Studying
- 9 letters:** Animation, Astronomy,

Taxidermy, Traveling, Whittling
10 letters: Beekeeping, Ice Skating, Soapmaking, Working Out
11 letters: Needlepoint, Photography

Oct. Solution:

